

Rossini's opera *Maometto II* is probably better known in its French adaptation as *Le siège de Corinthe*. It is a tragic story of love and betrayal, in which the Venetian Anna Erisso falls in love with a man she supposes to be an ally of her father, but who is in fact the Turkish Sultan Mehmed II in disguise. In this version, revised for Venice in 1822, Rossini adapted the opera to the more conventional tastes of the Venetian public, who demanded a happy ending. The tragic suicide of Anna is replaced by the victory of the Venetians over the forces of the Sultan, and she survives to marry her father's lieutenant, who is loyal to her father and country.



WORLD PREMIERE  
RECORDING

Gioachino  
**ROSSINI**  
(1792-1868)

**Maometto II**  
(1822 Venice version)

Libretto after Cesare Della Valle

ROSSINI  
IN WILDBAD  
*Belcanto Opera Festival*

Maometto .....	Denis Sedov, Bass
Calbo, a Venetian general .....	Anna-Rita Gemmabella, Contralto
Anna Erisso .....	Luisa Islam-Ali-Zade, Mezzo-soprano
Paolo Erisso, her father .....	Massimiliano Barbolini, Tenor
Condulmiero, another Venetian general .....	Antonio de Gobbi, Bass
Selimo, Maometto's friend .....	Cesare Ruta, Tenor

Czech Philharmonic Choir, Brno • Jan Ocepek, Chorus-master  
Czech Chamber Soloists, Brno • Ivan Matyás, Artistic Director • Brad Cohen

	CD 1	71:58	CD 2	26:12	CD 3	68:30
1 Sinfonia	10:11	1-3	Act I cont.	26:12	1-9	Act II
2-8 Act I	61:47					

Recorded live on 15th, 17th and 20th July 2002 in Kurhaus Bad Wildbad,  
during the ROSSINI IN WILDBAD Festival (Artistic Director: Jochen Schönleber)

World première recording of the 1822 Venice version

Producer: Siegbert Ernst • Engineer: Wolfgang Rein • Editor: Dr Max Forster (SWR)

Booklet Notes: Reto Müller and Jochen Schönleber • A co-production with SWR

New edition based on the Bologna manuscript by Till Weibel and Brad Cohen © O.F.L. Medienvorlag, Calmbach

A full track list can be found on page 3 of the booklet

The Italian libretto may be accessed at [www.naxos.com/libretti/maomettosecondo.htm](http://www.naxos.com/libretti/maomettosecondo.htm)

Cover picture: Stage design for *Maometto II*, Act I, Scene I, by Sanquirico,  
for a production at the Teatro alla Scala, Milan in 1824

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Playing Time  
2:46:40



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Czech Philharmonic Choir, Brno • Czech Chamber Soloists, Brno • Cohen

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