

First performed at the Teatro Regio, Turin, on 5 March 1876, Lauro Rossi's penultimate opera *Cleopatra* caught the public's attention in the wake of Verdi's *Aïda* (1871). Like that better-known work, it contains some wonderful arias and set pieces, including a marvellous Act 1 banquet scene, Cleopatra's Act 2 aria, the thrilling ensemble that closes Act 3, and the confrontation between Cleopatra and Octavian in Act 4, all making for compelling listening. From the brooding opening scene in which Diomedes foretells the fall of Egypt to Cleopatra's death scene, this gripping grand opera by one of Italy's forgotten masters springs vividly to life in this revival recorded at the 2008 Macerata Sferisterio Festival.



Lauro  
**ROSSI**  
(1812–1885)  
**Cleopatra**

Recorded by



Cleopatra .....	Dimitra Theodossiou
Marco Antonio .....	Alessandro Liberatore
Ottavio Cesare .....	Paolo Pecchioli
Diomede .....	Sebastian Catana
Proculejo .....	William Corrò
Ottavia .....	Tiziana Carraro
Carmiana .....	Paola Gardina

**FORM – Orchestra Filarmonica Marchigiana**  
**Coro Lirico Marchigiano ‘V. Bellini’**  
**David Crescenzi**

**CD 1 [1–7] Act I / [8–12] Act II 47:56 • CD 2 [1–9] Act III / [10–17] Act IV 57:14**

A full track list can be found on page 4 of the booklet

The Italian libretto may be accessed at [www.naxos.com/libretti/660291.htm](http://www.naxos.com/libretti/660291.htm)

Recorded live at the Sferisterio Opera Festival, Macerata, Italy, 24 & 29 July 2008

Producer: Alberto Dellepiane • Engineer: Rino Trasi • Editors: Rino Trasi, Vera Zanotti

Booklet notes: Paul Campion • Cover photo by Alfredo Tabocchini

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Playing Time  
**105:10**



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