

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 *Aida* (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



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
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



8.660291-92

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Playing Time
105:10



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Booklet notes and synopsis in English
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Printed & Assembled in USA
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