

After the success of *Aida* in December 1871, and despite his enormous popularity, Verdi retired as an operatic composer. It took the young publisher Giulio Ricordi and composer and librettist Arrigo Boito a number of years to entice him to embark on what was originally called *Jago*, and only later known as *Otello*. Verdi retained a reverence for Shakespeare, and had already composed *Macbeth*. With *Otello*, completed in November 1886, and triumphantly received, he created a masterpiece from a play that, as Bernard Shaw noted, had all the ingredients of an Italian opera.



**Giuseppe
VERDI**
(1813-1901)

Otello

Lyric Drama in Four Acts • Libretto by Arrigo Boito
after Shakespeare's *Othello*



Otello Robert Dean Smith, Tenor
Desdemona Raffaella Angeletti, Soprano
Jago Sebastian Catana, Baritone
Cassio Luis Dámaso, Tenor
Roderigo Vicenç Esteve, Tenor
Emilia Marifé Nogales, Mezzo-soprano
Lodovico Kristjan Mõisnik, Bass
Montano Michael Dries, Bass
Herald Enrique Sánchez, Baritone

Orfeón Donostiarra • Chorus-master: José Antonio Sainz Alfaro
 Los 'Peques' del León de Oro • Chorus-master: José Antonio Elena Rosso
 Oviedo Filarmonía

Friedrich Haider

CD 1	1-10 Act I	31:03	CD 2	1-8 Act III	36:27
	11-20 Act II	33:29		9-15 Act IV	30:58

Recorded at the Auditorio Príncipe Felipe, Oviedo, Spain, 22nd August-8th September 2007; 18th-26th August 2009
 Producer: Joachim Krist • Engineer and Editor: Fernando Arias • Booklet notes: Keith Anderson
 Cover design (Paolo Zeccara): adaptation of a photograph by Alena Klenková from a production of *Otello* by the Slovak National Theatre Bratislava (2011): Stage director: Josef Průdek, Stage design: Milan Ferencčík
 Thanks to: Fundación Musical Ciudad de Oviedo; Ayuntamiento de Oviedo; Auditorio Príncipe Felipe, Oviedo
 The libretto may be accessed at www.naxos.com/libretti/660357.htm



DDD

8.660357-58

Playing Time
2:11:57



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 Booklet Notes and Synopses in English
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