



DDD

8.660377

Playing Time  
54:00

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Booklet notes and synopsis in English  
Made in Germany

*L'épreuve villageoise* (The Village Trial) – which, in its original form as *Théodore et Paulin*, was first performed before Marie Antoinette at Versailles – was one of André-Ernest-Modeste Grétry's most popular works. For a century after its 1784 première it enjoyed huge acclaim across Europe and even travelled to the New World, where it captivated audiences in New York. Grétry was a master of eighteenth-century *opéra comique* and this crisp and lively farce centres on a clever farmer's daughter and her two competing suitors. Employing divergent stylistic registers – finesse and naiveté, music reminiscent of popular song, and extended ensembles – Grétry fashioned a score of sophisticated wit and huge charm.



André-Ernest-Modeste

GRÉTRY

(1741-1813)



Pernod Ricard

**L'épreuve villageoise**

An opéra bouffon in two acts (1784)

Libretto by Pierre Desforgés (1746-1806)

Edition: Opera Lafayette

WORLD PREMIÈRE RECORDING

Denise ..... Sophie Junker  
Madame Hubert ..... Talise Trevigne  
La France ..... Thomas Dolié  
André ..... Francisco Fernández-Rueda

**Opera Lafayette • Ryan Brown**

A full track and cast list can be found on pages 2 and 3 of the booklet

The French libretto and an English translation of the libretto, including the spoken dialogue omitted from this recording, can be found online at [www.naxos.com/libretti/660377.htm](http://www.naxos.com/libretti/660377.htm)

Recorded at Dekelboun Hall, The Clarice, University of Maryland, USA, on 25th and 26th January, 2015

Producer: Barbara Wolf • Engineer: Antonino D'Urzo

Editors: Antonino D'Urzo and Ryan Brown • Booklet notes: Julia Doe and Nick Olcott

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