

Behzad Abdi's opera *Rumi* fuses traditional *dastgāh* (the Iranian modal system) and the Persian *Sama* dance with Western classical music, and can be considered the first national opera of Iran. The libretto was written and conceived by the renowned Iranian theatre director and puppeteer, Behrouz Gharibpour, based on the life and writings of the 13th-century Persian scholar, poet, theologian and mystic, Jalāl al-Dīn Rūmī. The legendary story of Shams and Rumi is one of the most significant tales in the history of Iranian mystical literature and is brought vividly to life by the award-winning composer's exotic, lyrical and at times intensely dramatic score.

Behzad
ABDI
 (b. 1973)
Rumi (2009)
 Opera in two acts

Libretto by Behrouz Gharibpour (b. 1950)

Based on the life and writings of Jalāl al-Dīn Rūmī (1207–1273)

Shams	Homayoun Shajarian, Tenor
Rumi	Mohammad Motamedi, Tenor
Amir Touman	Mohammadreza Sadeghi, Baritone
Soltan al-Olama	Hossein Alishapour, Tenor
Sheikh Attar	Ali Khodaei, Tenor
Wife of Rumi	Maliheh Moradi, Mezzo-soprano

Credo Chamber Choir • Bogdan Plish

National Symphony Orchestra of Ukraine • Vladimir Sirenko

WORLD PREMIERE RECORDING

CD 1
 1-7 Act I

46:25 CD 2
 1-8 Act II

57:54

A full track and cast list can be found inside the booklet • The Persian libretto and an English translation can be accessed at www.naxos.com/libretti/660424.htm
 Recorded: 21 December 2009 at Dom Zvukozapisu (The House of Recording), Kiev, Ukraine
 Edited: 12 February 2010 at Pop Studio, Tehran, Iran • Producer: Alexander Hornostai
 Engineer: Andrii Mokritskyi • Editors: Andrii Mokritskyi and Hamid Adab
 Cover: An Ottoman-era manuscript depicting Rumi and Shams (late 16th/early 17th century)



8.660424-25

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Playing Time
 1:44:19



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 Booklet notes and synopsis in English