

With its carefully planned yet complex dramatic structure and skilful transformation of a tale of heroic conflict between two enemies into a drama of impossible love, *Maometto II* is considered Rossini's most radical and innovative opera. Against the background of the violent and cruel tumult of war as the Venetian colony of Negroponte is invaded and defeated by Sultan Mehmet II 'the Conqueror', in 1470, Rossini contrasts this clash of civilisations with the tender emotions of a doomed romance expressed in some of the most beautiful melodies he ever wrote. Heard here in its original Naples version – the more conventional 1822 Venice version with its overture and happy ending can be heard on Naxos 8.660149-51 – this is a movingly tragic drama in which the suicide of the main female role is not without a grim relevance even today.

 Deutschlandfunk Kultur

**Gioachino
ROSSINI**
(1792–1868)

Maometto II

Opera seria in two acts (1820)
Libretto by Cesare della Valle (c.1776–1860)

ROSSINI
in WILDBAD

Maometto II	Mirco Palazzi, Bass
Paolo Erisso	Mert Süngü, Tenor
Anna Erisso	Elisa Balbo, Soprano
Calbo	Victoria Yarovaya, Mezzo-soprano
Condulmiero / Selimo	Patrick Kabongo Mubenga, Tenor

Camerata Bach Choir, Poznań • Chorus-master: Ania Michalak

Virtuosi Brunenses (Karel Mitáš, Artistic Director)

Antonino Fogliani

CD 1 1–13 Act I	59:34	CD 2 1–2 Act I (contd.)	28:31	CD 3 1–13 Act II (contd.)	55:37
		3–8 Act II	31:31		

Recorded: 15, 20, 23 July 2017 at the Trinkhalle, Bad Wildbad, Germany for the XXIX ROSSINI IN WILDBAD Festival
(Artistic director: Jochen Schönleber) • A co-production Rossini in Wildbad – Deutschlandradio Kultur
Producer: Roland Kistner • Engineer: Norbert Vossen • Editor: Stefan Lang
Booklet notes: Stefano Piana • Synopsis: Reto Müller • Cover photo: Duet Anna and Maometto, Act II, No. 7
(Elisa Balbo and Mirco Palazzi at the XXIX ROSSINI IN WILDBAD Festival
(Stage director and designer Jochen Schönleber) © Patrick Pfeiffer Photodesign)
Critical edition by Hans Schellevis for Bärenreiter-Verlag, Kassel
The Italian libretto may be accessed at www.naxos.com/libretti/660444.htm

NAXOS

DDD

8.660444-46

Playing Time
2:55:13



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