

Written for the Opéra in Paris, Gaetano Donizetti's *La Favorite* contains some of his most famously enthralling arias. While its much-reduced Italian version has continued in popularity, this superb production from the Donizetti Opera Festival in his birthplace of Bergamo returns the work to its rarely heard 1840 French grand opera origins. Set in 14th-century Spain, the tragic story is of a pious novice (Fernand) who falls in love with a noble lady and abandons the cloister, meeting her in secret. He becomes a war hero and asks the King for her hand, later finding out to his horror that she is Léonor de Guzman, the King's beloved mistress.



FONDAZIONE  
TEATRO  
DONIZETTI

Gaetano  
**DONIZETTI**  
(1797–1848)

**DONIZETTI OPERA**

# La Favorite

Opera in four acts (1840)

Libretto by Alphonse Royer (1803–1875) and Gustave Vaëz (1812–1862)

Léonor de Guzman	.....	Annalisa Stroppa, Mezzo-soprano
Fernand	.....	Javier Camarena, Tenor
Alphonse XI	.....	Florian Sempey, Baritone
Balthazar	.....	Evgeny Stavinsky, Bass
Don Gaspar	.....	Edoardo Milletti, Tenor
Inès	.....	Caterina Di Tonno, Soprano
Un seigneur	.....	Alessandro Barbaglia, Tenor

**Coro Donizetti Opera • Coro dell'Accademia Teatro alla Scala**

(Salvo Sgrò, Chorus master)

**Orchestra Donizetti Opera**

**Riccardo Frizza**

CD 1	1	Prélude	6:06	CD 2	1	–	8	Act II (cont'd)	33:22	CD 3	1	–	7	Act III (cont'd)	22:23		
	2	–	10	Act I	35:40		9	–	14	Act III	19:08		8	–	17	Act IV	39:29
	11	–	16	Act II	23:29												

A detailed track list can be found inside the booklet

The French libretto and an English translation may be accessed at [www.naxos.com/libretti/660549.htm](http://www.naxos.com/libretti/660549.htm)

Recorded: 15 and 18 November 2022 during the Donizetti Opera Festival, Teatro Donizetti, Bergamo, Italy

Producer: Alberto Dellepiane • Engineers: Rino Trasi, Vera Zanotti • Editor: Rino Trasi

Booklet notes: Courtesy of the Fondazione Teatro Donizetti

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8.660549-51

Playing Time  
2:59:46



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Booklet notes in English  
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