

At a late stage in its composition Meyerbeer changed the name of his opera *L'Africaine* to *Vasco da Gama* and completed it the day before he died in 1864. Changes were then made by the Belgian musicologist and composer François-Joseph Fétis who prepared a performing version from the extensive score material, retaining the title *L'Africaine*, before the opera's première in April 1865. The plot concerns the famed Portuguese navigator and his series of love entanglements cast as a magnificent *grand opéra*. This production is based on the critical edition of the full score and reflects Meyerbeer's original intentions.

Oper Frankfurt

Giacomo
MEYERBEER
(1791–1864)



L'Africaine – *Vasco da Gama*

Opera in five acts (1865) • Libretto by Eugène Scribe (1791–1861)

Vasco da Gama	Michael Spyres, Tenor
Sélika	Claudia Mahnke, Mezzo-soprano
Inès	Kirsten MacKinnon, Soprano
Nélusko	Brian Mulligan, Baritone
Don Pédro	Andreas Bauer Kanabas, Bass
Don Diégo	Thomas Faulkner, Bass
Anna	Bianca Andrew, Mezzo-soprano
Don Alvar	Michael McCown, Tenor

Chor der Oper Frankfurt

Tilman Michael, Chorus master

Frankfurter Opern- und Museumsorchester

Antonello Manacorda

CD 1 1–11 Ouverture • Act I 47:53 CD 2 1–17 Acts II and III 74:42 CD 3 1–16 Acts IV and V 78:09

A detailed track and cast list can be found inside the booklet.

Recorded live during performances from 2 March to 2 April 2018 at Oper Frankfurt, Germany

Recording supervisors: Felix Dreher, Christian Wilde • Recording producer and editing, mixing and mastering: Felix Dreher
Live sound: Margit Baruschka, Paul Baron • Wireless microphone technicians: Teresa Kunz, Lennart Scheuren, Felix Straday

Booklet notes: Matthias Brzoska, Tobias Kratzer • Publisher: Critical Edition of *Vasco da Gama*, 2018 by Jürgen Selk
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Cover: Michael Spyres as *Vasco da Gama* (photograph by Monika Rittershaus)

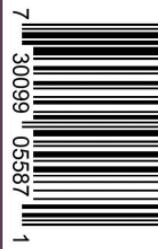
Stage director: Tobias Kratzer • Set and costume design: Rainer Sellmaier



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Playing Time
3:20:44



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Booklet notes and synopsis in English
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