

Luigi Cherubini – Ali Baba (1963)

Written by bluesever

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CD1 1. Sinfonia 2. Act One: Speme Non V'è, Tutto È Perduto 3. Act One: Sesamo! Sesamo!... Apriti! 4. Act One: Sposa Sarà 5. Act One: Amico Fedele D'infanzia Mia 6. Act One: Dio, È Nadir! 7. Act One: Ah, Fortuna Insperata [play](#) 8. Act One: Il Kadì Qui M'invia 9. Act Two: Con Cura, Zela Ed in Silenzio 10. Act Two: L'irato Aboul-Hassan 11. Act Two: Danze CD2 1. Act Two: Io Non Credo Ai Miei Occhi! 2. Act Two: Presto, Andiamo 3. Act Three: Mille Ducati! 4. Act Three: Andiamo, Che Ognuno Si Svegli 5. Act Three: O Cielo! Sola Io Sono 6. Act Three: Al Solo dire 7. Act Three: La Speranza Per Noi Svanì 8. Act Four: Almen Ho Soddisfatto 9. Act Four: Qual Mistero È Mai Questo? 10. Act Four: È Questa L'ora? [play](#) 11. Act Four: Danze Listen 12. Act Four: La Gente Mia!

Ali Babà - Wladimiro Ganzarolli Delia - Teresa Stich-Randall Morgiane - Orianna Santunione Nadir - Alfredo Kraus Aboul-Hassan - Paolo Montarsolo Calaf - Piero de Palma Ours-Kan - Lorenzo Testi Tamar - Agostino Ferrin Phaor - Virgilio Carbonari Orchestra e Coro dell Teatro alla Scala di Milano Nino Sanzogno - conductor, 1963

Opera in four acts, preceded by a prologue. Libretto by Eugène Scribe and Mélesville.

World Premiere, 22/07/1833 Opéra, Salle de la rue Le Peletier, Paris Conductor: François Antoine Habeneck

Time and Place In Isphahan and surroundings, also near Erzurum, in legendary time

Synopsis

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Nadir, who is completely penniless, has given up his hopes of marrying Délia whom he loves. Her father, the merchant Ali-Baba, has promised her to the rich customs supervisor Aboul-Hassan. One day, however, Nadir discovers the hideout of a robber band. Suddenly a rich man, he has become a potential son-in-law again. Before giving his final consent, however, Ali-Baba demands to be shown the secret entry to the treasure cave. Ignoring all warnings, he enters the cave, only to be caught by the robbers immediately. In the meantime, the robbers have seized one of Ali-Baba's caravans, including Délia, as well as forty bales of valuable coffee – all smuggled goods intended by the merchant to be saved from the vengeful Aboul-Hassan. Instead of killing Ali-Baba, the robber chief Ours-Kan agrees to release him for a large sum of money. Masked as peaceful tradespeople, he and his deputy, Tamar, introduce themselves to Ali-Baba's house and deliver the ransom letter to Nadir. Secretly, however, they are planning a nightly assault; forty further robbers are hidden within the coffee bales. Though they are overheard by a maidservant, who then warns Nadir, the situation appears hopeless since the guards have been sent away and replaced by Ours-Kan's people. Hope is in sight, though, when Aboul-Hassan turns up with a troop of soldiers, seizes the 'bales' and orders them to be burnt.

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