Giacomo Meyerbeer - Robert Le Diable (2006)



CD1 1. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 1. Ouverture 2. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 1. Versez à tasse pleine 3. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 1. Jadis régnait en Normandie 4. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 1. Qu'on arrête un vassal insolent! 5. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 1. O mon prince! 6. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 1. Va, dit-elle, va 7. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 1. Je n'ai pu fermer sa paupière! 8. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 1. Courage! Ta nouvelle 9. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 1. Le duc de Normandie 10. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 1. O fortune à ton caprice 11. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 1. J'ai perdu; ma revanche! 12. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 1. Malheur sans égal! 13. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Entr'acte 14. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 2. Que je hais les grandeurs 15. Robert le diable, play 16. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 grand opera in 5 acts: Act 2. Il me délaisse acts: Act 2. Approchons sans frayeur! 17. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 2. Idole 18. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 2. Courage! Allons montrez-vous de ma vie 19. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 2. Avec bonté voyez ma peine 20. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 2. Mon coeur s'élance et palpite 21. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 2. Oui! Dans ces combats guerriers 22. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 2. Chorus 23. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 2. Ballet 24. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 2. Quand tous nous chevaliers 25. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 2. Voici le signal des combats CD2

1. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 3. Du rendez-vous voici 2. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 3. Ah! L'honnête homme! 3. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 3. Encore un de gagné!... O mon fils! 4. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 3. Raimbaut! Dans ce lieu solitaire 5. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 3. Quand je quittai la Normandie 6. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 3. O ciel le bruit redouble

play

7. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 3. L'arrêt est prononcé! 8. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 3. Mais Alice, qu'as-tu donc! 9. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 3. Fatal moment, cruel mystère 10. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 3. Qu'a-t-elle donc? 11. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 3. Voici donc les débris du monastère 13. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 3. Nonnes, qui reposez 14. Robert le diable, grand

opera in 5 acts: Act 3. Voici ce lieu témoin CD3

1. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 4. Douce ivresse la tendresse 2. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 4. Mais n'est-ce pas cette jeune 3. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 4. Du magique rameau 4. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 4. Du magique rameau 4. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 4. Ou suis-je? 5. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 4. Robert, toi que j'aime 6. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 4. Mon coeur s'émeut 7. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 4. Quelle aventure! 8. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 5. Malheureux ou coupable 9. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 5. O ciel, que donc es-tu? 11. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 5. Je t'ai trompé, je fus coupable 12. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 5. A tes lois je souscris 14. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 5. Mon coera in 5 acts: Act 5. Mon coera in 5 acts: Act 5. Non fils, ma tendresse assidue 15. Robert le diable, grand opera in 5 acts: Act 5. Chantez, troupe immortelle play

Robert - Alain Vanzo Bertrand - Samuel Ramey Albert - Jean Philippe Marlière Raimbaud -Walter Donati Isabelle - June Anderson Alice - Michèle Lagrange Hérault - Michel Philippe Une Dame d'honneur - Martine Mahé Un prêtre - Fernand Dumont Orchestre et Choeur National de l'Ópéra de Paris Thomas Fulton - conductor, July 1986

Robert le diable (Robert the Devil) is an opera by Giacomo Meyerbeer, often regarded as the first grand opera. The libretto was written by Eugène Scribe and Casimir Delavigne and has little connection to the medieval legend of Robert the Devil. Originally planned as a three-act opéra comique, "Meyerbeer persuaded Scribe to change (the opera)...to a five-act grand opera". The dramatic music, harmony and orchestration of Robert, its melodramatic plot, and its sensational stage effects (especially the ballet of the nuns) made it an overnight success and instantly confirmed Meyerbeer as the leading opera composer of his age, compelling Frédéric Chopin, who was in the audience to say "If ever magnificence was seen in the theatre, I doubt that it reached the level of splendour shown in Robert.....It is a masterpiece...Meyerbeer has made himself immortal"

The opera was the first new production by the new manager of the Opéra, Louis Véron, and its success underwrote his policy of commissioning similar works, which were to include Meyerbeer's Les Huguenots, Fromental Halévy's La Juive, and Daniel Auber's Gustave III.

The opera premiered on 21 November 1831 at the Paris Opéra, and was the work that brought Meyerbeer international fame. The success owed much to the opera's star singers - Nicolas

Levasseur as Bertram, Adolphe Nourrit as Robert—and to the provocative "ballet of the nuns" in the third act, featuring the great ballerina, Marie Taglioni.

The opera - under the title of The Fiend-Father in a version by Rophino Lacy - was first presented in London at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane on 20 February 1832 and in its original version at the Haymarket Theatre on 11 June of that year. Lacy's version was given in New York on 7 April 1834.

The 1984 revival by the Paris opera (with Rockwell Blake (Robert), Samuel Ramey (Bertram), Walter Donati (Raimbaut), Michèle Lagrange (Alice) and June Anderson (Isabelle))was the first in that city since 1911, and the first at the Opéra since 1893".

Synopsis: The opera is based loosely on the medieval legend of Robert the Devil, many versions of which allege that the Duke Robert the Magnificent of Normandy (father of William the Conqueror) was the devil.

Act 1

Robert and his mysterious friend Bertram are carousing in Palermo. The minstrel Raimbaud, not recognising Robert, sings a ballad referring to him as 'Robert the Devil'. Raimbaud begs for pardon and tells Robert that he is engaged to marry Robert's half-sister Alice. Alice enters and tells Robert she bears a message from their dying mother. Robert tells her to keep it till later and asks her to take a letter to his own fiancée, the Princess Isabelle. Bertram challenges Robert to a game of dice, at which Robert loses his entire possessions.

Act 2

The Prince of Granada challenges all comers for the hand of Isabelle, but Robert has been led astray by Bertram and does not respond.

Act 3

Bertram reveals that he has undertaken to obtain Robert for the devil by the end of the day, and this is echoed by a chorus of demons. He tells Robert that he can regain his fortunes by the aid of a magic branch, which can make him invisible. He leads Robert to the ruins of a convent, where the branch can be found. A ballet takes place of the ghosts of debauched nuns, rising from their coffins, led by their abbess.

Act 4

The invisible Robert enters Isabelle's chamber as she is preparing for her marriage with the Prince of Granada. He is intending to abduct her, but she admits that she loves him. In despair, Robert breaks the branch and the spell it has created, and is taken into custody.

Act 5

The Cathedral of Palermo. Against a background of chanting monks, Bertram reveals to Robert that he is Robert's true father and is willing to renege on his obligation to deliver him to the devil. Enter Alice, with news that the Prince refuses to marry Isabelle. She also reads her mother's message, which is to shun the man who betrayed her (Bertram). Midnight now strikes, and the time for Bertram's coup is past. Bertram falls down into hell, and Robert falls into the arms of Isabelle.

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