



SOPHIA LOREN STARS IN THIS EXTRAVAGANT FEATURE FILM OF THE CLASSIC OPERA ON DVD

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SOPHIA LOREN IS **LA FAVORITA** by Gaetano Donizetti

"La Favorita is all beautiful... every note is a masterpiece."

- Arturo Toscanini

A FEATURE FILM OF THE 4-ACT GRAND OPERA
LIBRETTO BY ALPHONSE ROYER, GUSTAVE VAEZ & EUGENE SCRIBE

SUNG BY PAOLO SILVERI, FRANCA TAMANTINI, AND GINO SINIMBERGHI
THE ROME OPERA ORCHESTRA & CHORUS CONDUCTED BY NICOLA RUCCI
WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF THE ROME OPERA CORPS DE BALLET

This spectacular Hollywood-style Feature Film version of the Donizetti classic showcases the alluring Sophia Loren in one of her first starring roles. Along with the voices of La Scala and the Rome Opera stars, Loren and her cohorts transform the classic opera into an extravagant production of the under-appreciated work that is considered to be Donizetti's greatest achievement in tragic opera.

THE PLOT:

Castille, Spain 1340

After a young monk and the King's mistress fall in love, the story weaves its way through Love, Jealousy, Deceit, Ambition, Politics, & War as the young lovers try to fulfill the destiny of their love... all leading to an emotional finale.

VIEW is proud to present a sparkling new print of this recently discovered film on DVD, directed by Cesare Barlacchi, starring the gorgeous Sophia Loren, & performed by La Scala & The Rome Opera. Donizetti's *La Favorita* has *"flowing melodies"* & *"moments of true inspiration"* (Kobbe Opera Book)... and this spectacular new Opera DVD introduces a young Sophia Loren on the brink of international fame.

Fernando	tenor
Father Balthazar	bass
Leonora di Gusman	soprano
Inez	soprano
King Alfonso XI	baritone
Don Gasparo	tenor



"La Favorita is all beautiful;
the last act... every note is a masterpiece."
-Arturo Toscanini



VIEW DVD# 2413 \$19.98

Length: 90 Min plus
Addition Bonus Features, b&w
Sung in Italian
with English Narration

**FULL OPERA SYNOPSIS PRINTED
ON THE INSIDE OF THE DVD COVER**

ABOUT SOPHIA LOREN

Born Sofia Villani Scicolone, Italian actress Sophia Loren (performing here as Sofia Lazzaro) is one of the most beloved entertainers of her generation. Her first role as Loren came in 1952s *Aida*, where she starred in the title role to critical acclaim. Other early Italian films included *L'oro di Napoli* (The Gold of Naples) and *Due notti con Cleopatra* (Two Nights with Cleopatra).



While her star was rising in the European film community, she did not break through to mainstream American audiences until the late 1950s in films such as *The Pride and the Passion* with Frank Sinatra & Cary Grant, as well as her role in John Wayne's *Legend of the Lost*.

In 1961, she starred in the Italian film *La Ciociara* (in English the film was retitled *Two Women*). Her gritty role thrust her into the upper echelon of iconic international actresses and earned her Best Performance at the Cannes Film Festival, as well as the Academy Award for Best Actress.

She continued to act, working with movie stars such as Marlon Brando, Charlton Heston, Charlie Chaplin, & Peter Sellers throughout her storied career. Still occasionally acting in films, such as Rob Marshall's *Nine* (2009) with Daniel Day-Lewis, Penelope Cruz, Marion Cotillard, & Nicole Kidman, Loren is one of the most beloved & enduring actresses of the post WWII era.

ABOUT GAETANO DONIZETTI



Born in Italy, Gaetano Donizetti (1797-1848) composed an estimated 70 operas during his prolific career. Shaping his pieces along symphonic lines, his writings added a dramatic weight that paved the way for future Italian masters such as Verdi. His most famous opera is the renowned *Lucia di Lammermoor*, though his most recognizable composition is the beautiful tenor aria *Una furtiva lagrima* (A furtive tear) from the opera *L'elisir d'amore*. Donizetti was also a distinguished conductor throughout his career, most notably conducting the premiere of Rossini's *Stabat Mater*. One of the foremost composers of Bel Canto opera (alongside Bellini and Rossini), the originality & profundity of his music created a vibrant tapestry of human emotion that masterfully communicated both larger thematic themes and the inherent moral nature of the characters.

DVD BONUS FEATURES



- Sophia Loren Biography
- Gaetano Donizetti Biography
- Digitally Mastered Audio & Video
- Instant Access to Each Act
- Digital Dolby Stereo Audio
- DVD Recommendations

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