

Gaetano Donizetti - Le Convenienze ed Inconvenienze Teatrali (1997)

Written by bluesever

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CD1 01. Act I Cori, Attenti E A Tempo Entrate 02. Ah, Vicino E Il Bel Momento 03. Brava! Ma Veramente La Cabaletta 04. Dica Un Po Signor Maestro 05. Si Lei Vuolere Per Mia Cavatina 06. Ottimamente 07. Mascalzoni! Sfaccendati! Piu Creanza, Piu Risopetto 08. Che Invenzione Sublime! 09. Che Credete Che Mia Moglie 10. Or S'e Parlato Di Arie E Di Rondo 11. Quel Ciglio Amoroso 12. Mio Dio Son Rovinato 13. Oh Povero Me, Povera La Mia Musica 14. Livorno, 6 Gennaio 15. Qual Scena E Questa 16. Dunque Andiamo, Amici Cari
CD2

01. Quest'abito Vi Dico Che Sta Male 02. Bona Tempora Currunt! 03. Ah! Tu Mi Vuoihi! 04. Assisa A Pie' D'un Sacco 05. Arrivano Le Naiadi Invitate Da Minerva 06. E Puoi Goder Tiranno 07. Signori L'aria Di Baule' 08. Il Mio Sogno E Debutare 09. Viva Il Gran Romolo 10. Son Guerriero 11. Vergine Sventurata
Corilla Scortichini - Daniela Dessy Procolo Cornacchia - Franco Sioli Luigia Scannagalli - Laretta Perasso Mamma Agata - Simone Alaimo Guglielmo Antolstoinoloff - William Matteuzzi Biscroma Strappaviscere - Giuseppe Lamazza Prospero Salsapariglia - Armando Ariostini Orchestra Sinfonica Estense Coro del Teatro dell'Opera Giocosa Antonello Allemandi, 1981

Le convenienze ed inconvenienze teatrali (Conventions and Inconveniences of the Stage), also known as Viva la mamma, is a dramma giocoso, or opera, in two acts by Gaetano Donizetti. The Italian libretto was written by Domenico Gilardoni, adapted from Antonio Simone Sografi's plays *Le convenienze teatrali* (1794) and *Le inconvenienze teatrali* (1800).

The title refers to the convenienze, which were the rules relating to the ranking of singers (primo, secondo, comprimario) in 19th-century Italian opera, and the number of scenes, arias etc. that they were entitled to expect.

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The opera was originally a one act farsa based on *Le convenienze teatrali*; this version premiered at the Teatro Nuovo, Naples on 21 November 1827. Donizetti revised it and added recitatives and material from *Le inconvenienze teatrali*; this final version premiered at the Teatro alla Cannobiana, Milan on 20 April 1831.

Convenienze had its first major modern revival in 1963 in Sienna, and has subsequently appeared in a number of translations and under various titles, most notably as *Viva la mamma*, a German adaptation presented in Munich in 1969 .

In the UK, the first staged performance was not given until 9 April 1976 by an amateur company, the Harrow Opera Workshop,[1] but that performance had been preceded by a 1969 BBC broadcast under the name of *Upstage and Dowstage* and in 1972 Opera Rara produced the one-act version in English as *The Prima Donna's Mother is a Drag*. In the US, the first production was given in Terre Haute, Indiana on 2 April 1966.

A 2004 production at the Opera of Monte Carlo starred June Anderson. In October 2009, the opera was performed at La Scala as *Le Convenienze ed Inconvenienze Teatrali*, under the direction of Marco Guidarini.

Synopsis

Time: 18th century Place: "A provincial Italian theatre"

A regional (and mediocre) operatic troupe is rehearsing a new work -- *Romulus and Ersilia* -- and faces numerous obstacles. The Prima Donna acts every bit the diva, refusing to rehearse. The German tenor cannot master either the lyrics or melodies. In the midst of much quarrelling, various singers threaten to walk out. The situation turns more dire with the arrival of Mamma Agatha (a baritone role), the mother of the Seconda Donna. She insists on a solo for her daughter and even issues detailed demands on the musical arrangement of the aria. When the German tenor refuses to go on, he is replaced by the Prima Donna's husband. The show eventually collapses, and rather than pay back all the investors (whose money has already been spent), the company flees the town under cover of night.

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