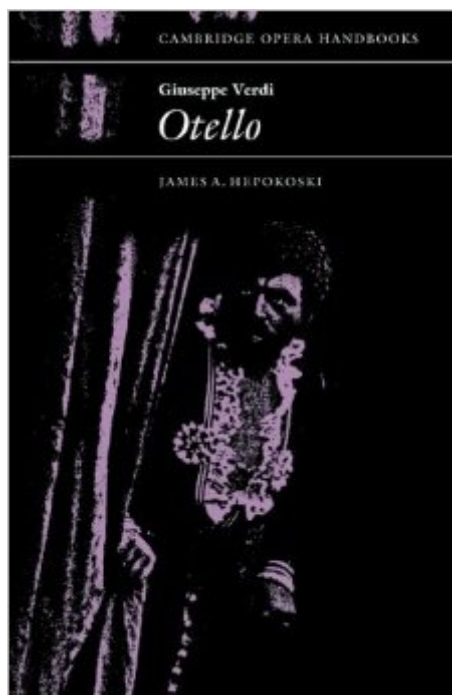


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Giuseppe Verdi: Otello (Cambridge Opera Handbooks)



Synopsis

James Hepokoski provides a reliable summary of what is currently known about *Otello*, along with an interpretation of the significance of the work within Verdi's career. The book begins with a detailed synopsis which interweaves some of the specific stage action from the 1887 Milanese premiere. There follows a close consideration of how the opera was actually written: Arrigo Boito's derivation of the libretto from Shakespeare and the subsequent textual revisions; Verdi's composition of the opera from 1884 to 1887 and an overview of the revisions of the opera for Venice in 1887 and Paris in 1894. A further chapter outlines Verdi's own ideas for the performance of *Otello* and this is followed by William Ashbrook's summary of the opera's stage history up to the present. Professor Hepokoski continues by suggesting a new model for understanding the musical structure of *Otello*. The book concludes with a study of the opera as a work of Shakespearean adaptation.

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In depth discussion - very useful for my MFA project on Translating Shakespearean Heroines into opera ones.

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