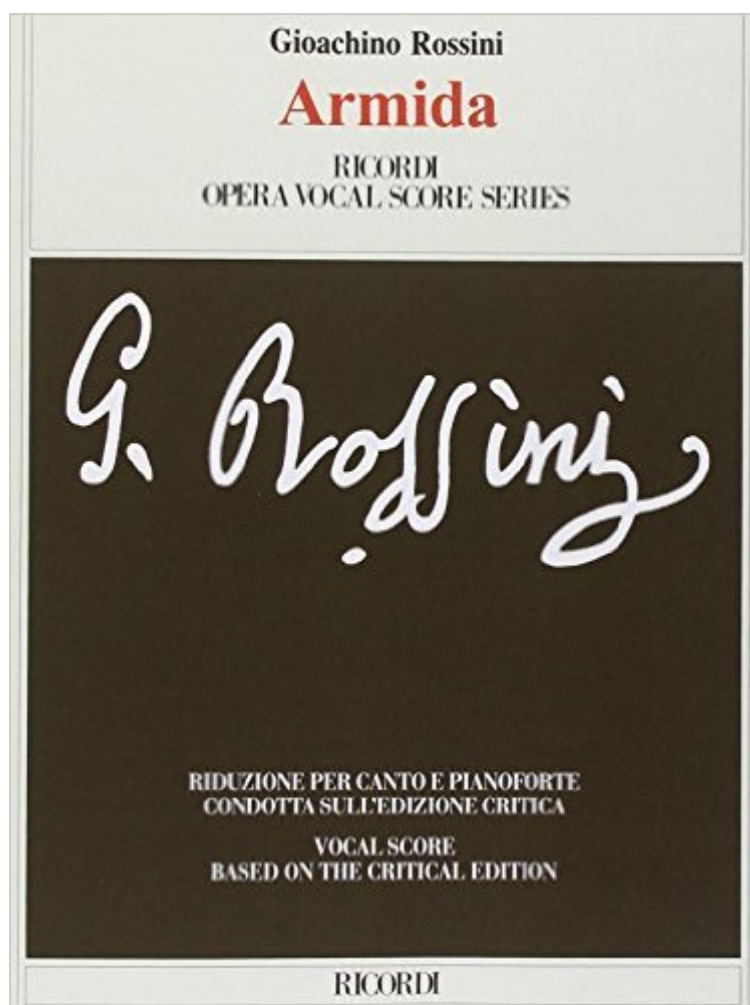


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Armida (Ricordi Opera Vocal Score)



Synopsis

Rossini's third opera seria for Naples, *Armida*, first performed November 9, 1817 and among his most unusual and beautiful stage works, is based on Tasso's epic poem *Gerusalemme liberata*. From the performer playing *Armida*, Rossini demands singing of both spectacular virtuosity and great dramatic power. Some of his most sensual music occurs in *Armida*'s duets, two of which feature prominent introductions for solo violin and solo violoncello. Included in the large cast are six tenor roles (although they can be taken by four tenors, as they were at Naples). A highlight of Act III is the stirring trio for three tenors. *Armida* also requires two basses and gives conspicuous parts to men's and women's choruses. Unique among Rossini's Italian operas is a large ballet, which occupies much of Act II, and the magical scenic effects called for in the staging. The critical edition presents *Armida* in its original form, reintegrating passages missing from the autograph score and restoring cuts made in printed editions. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Book Information

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This score of Rossini's "Armida" is a revelation. For serious musicians and opera fans in general, this is Rossini at his finest. The music is magical and enchanting because Rossini for the first and only time delves into the supernatural. The Ricordi edition is excellent and will go far in making this

opera known to serious musicians and opera lovers (especially fans of Rossini). Coinciding with the recent Met premiere of the opera starring Renee Fleming and Lawrence Brownlee, this is a timely publication of a fascinating and beautiful Rossini score. Definitely FIVE STARS!!!!

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