



Verdi: The Operas and Choral Works: Unlocking the Masters

By Lederer, Victor. Levine, Robert, Series editor.

Amadeus Press. 1 Paperback & CD(s), 2014. soft. Book Condition: New. Giuseppe Verdi's career forms one of the loveliest arcs in musical history, notes Victor Lederer; the passion of Verdi's works resonates universally, while the sophistication of his middle and late operas satisfies the most demanding ears and tastes. Lederer, also the author of several books in Amadeus Press's Listener's Guide series, surveys every one of the master's 28 operas and his greatest choral pieces, showing Verdi's growth as a musical dramatist in pursuit of authentic human truths. After describing the chaotic milieu in which Verdi learned his craft, Lederer offers act-by-act analyses of the early masterpieces Nabucco, Ernani, and Macbeth, while the neglected operas from the composer's self-described "years in the galleys" are covered together. Lederer then takes readers through the magnificent sequence of operas from Luisa Miller onward, including the fine but underrated Stiffelio. The late operas Don Carlo, Aida, and Otello and Falstaffthe twin Shakespearean masterworks that crown Verdi's oeuvreare discussed at length in their own chapters. Lederer also examines Verdi's monumental Requiem along with the choral Quattro pezzi sacri, his sublime final achievement. The book includes an album-length Naxos audio CD, with 19 key selections from...



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