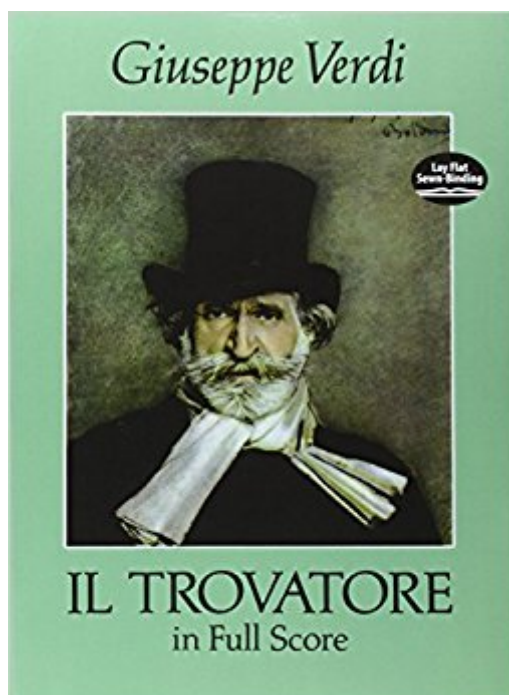


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Il Trovatore In Full Score (Dover Music Scores)



Synopsis

Since its first performance at Rome's Teatro di Apollo on January 19, 1853, *Il Trovatore* has been one of Giuseppe Verdi's most successful operas. Within three years of its premiere, the opera was presented in over 150 opera houses in Italy alone, and performed as far away as London, Madrid, Odessa, Warsaw, Bucharest, Alexandria, Calcutta, Mexico City, and Rio de Janeiro. "When you go to India and the interior of Africa, you'll hear *Trovatore*," Verdi wrote to a friend. "Il *Trovatore* was not just a success," one critic wrote, "it was a fashion." Certainly the plot, based on a Spanish play set in the fifteenth century, has elements of strong melodramatic appeal: a baby stolen at birth, mistaken identity, a Gypsy's curse, jealous rivals for the love of a beautiful woman, sworn revenge, armed conflict, and a tragic end. But clearly it is Verdi's music that lifts *Il Trovatore* into the first rank of popular operas. Supremely melodic, vigorously paced, Verdi's score for *Il Trovatore* is filled with arias and vocal ensembles of thrilling power. It is grand opera at its most stirring, especially rich in opportunities for bravura singing. Now music lovers can savor and study in detail Verdi's scoring of this perennial operatic favorite with this finely made full-score edition.

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Customer Reviews

Il Trovatore (The Troubadour) has a convoluted (some might say silly) and hard-to-follow plot with more twists and turns than a mountain path, but it also has some of Giuseppe Verdi's best-beloved music, including those Big Tunes for operatic gypsies, Azucena's aria "Stride la vampa" (an account

of punishment by flame) and the Anvil Chorus. Verdiphiles can check it all out (including those anvil parts) in this Dover reprint of a full orchestral score. The usual caveats apply: the full score is better suited to the music student than to the working singer or accompanist, and this is a reprint of an older score and so may contain errors corrected in more recent editions. Still, for the price, it's a bargain indeed.

An Italian composer of the Romantic era, Giuseppe Verdi (1813–1901) wrote operas that remain standards of the repertoire more than a century after his death. His most popular works include Rigoletto, La Traviata, and Aida.

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