

## **MSC: Opera Exotica Synopsis, Session 3**

SYNOPSIS: Verdi's *Aida*

Amneris, daughter of the Egyptian King, is in love with Radames, who has been named commander of the Egyptian army to fight the threatening Ethiopians. Radames, however, loves Amneris' slave Aida, daughter of Amonasro, the Ethiopian King. Taken prisoner in the ensuing battle, Amonasro persuades Aida to lure Radames in to revealing battle plans, but the conspiracy is overheard by Amneris. She denounces Radames, who is condemned as a traitor by Ramfis and the high priests. In his dark tomb Radames discovers Aida who has hidden herself to die with him.

Recommended examples on YouTube:

### **Verdi: *Aida* San Francisco Opera (starring Luciano Pavarotti)**

Note: This is a very good performance from 1981 of a conventional production.

Cast:

Margaret Price [Aida]

Stefania Toczyska [Amneris]

Luciano Pavarotti [Radames]

Simon Estes [Amonasro]

### **Verdi *Aida* Arena di Verona 16 06 2023**

Note: Another strong performance outside at the arena [2023] in a spacious modern production.

Cast:

Anna Netrebko [Aida]

Olesya Petrova [Amneris]

Yusif Eyvazov [Radames]

Roman Burdenka [Amonasro]

### **Verdi- *Aida* (full opera with English subtitles), 2004**

Note: This also is a festival production complete with elephants & horses in the Act 2 triumphal scene, but don't expect them to sing! It is the only current full production that I found on Youtube with English subtitles.

Production:

The Opernfestspiele Sankt Margarethen ( the cast is listed in the credits at the end )