



LUIGI MANCINELLI



Luigi Mancinelli

(1848-1921)

ERO E LEANDRO

Opera in Tre Quadri (1897)

Libretto: Tobia Gorrio (Arrigo Boito)

Chronology of Performances

derived by Jakob Lehmann

Mancinelli's Ero e Leandro was well received all around the world at the turn of this century, yet after 1903 it fell into disfavor. One reason for this may have been the stagecraft required to mount the production, with a stone tower being destroyed by lightning as a centerpiece of the finale. It has three main characters, against a cast of thousands, dancing exotically in two of the three acts. With today's more tolerant audiences with regard to sensuousness coupled with the more readily believable special effects, Ero e Leandro would have been a terrific revival for its hundredth anniversary at the Metropolitan Opera (1999). Its music is simply gorgeous, truly an Italian version of Tristan and Isolde (from which Mancinelli deliberately quotes). The scene in which Hero (Ero in Italian) awaits the arrival of Leander, as he swims across the Bosphorus, is as powerful as anything in Italian opera, bar none. (John C. Mucci)

These are all productions of this opera which can be found in the sources. This chronology is subject to change and will be altered and corrected periodical. Although I have stated every detail which has been found, the list is fragmentary due to the lack of reliable information material. Given are only local or cast premieres. Unknown data are left blank whereas uncertain information is followed by a question mark. Unless other information is given, all performances were conducted by the composer. The gap between the performances in 1913 and c.1969 is very denotative, and a modern staging is lacking completely. Maybe there is somebody brave enough to tackle a revival. It would be very interesting to hear this music, which was so successful in its own time, today.

Date	City – Theatre	Ero	Leandro	Ariofarne	Prologo
1896-X-08	Norfolk and Norwich Festival Opera	Emma Albani	Edward Lloyd	Robert Watkin- Mills	(not yet composed)
1897-XI-30	Madrid – Teatro Real	Hariclea Darclée	Emilio de Marchi	Giovanni Scarneo	Virginia Guerrini
1898-I-01 Arturo Toscanini	Turin – Teatro Regio	Cesira Ferrani	Pietro Zeni	Agostino Lanzoni	Giuseppina Zeppilli- Villani
1898-I-15	Venice – La Fenice	Amedea Santarelli	Giovanni Apostolu	Vittorio Arimondi	Aurelia Kitzù Arimondi
<i>1898-II</i>	<i>Rome –Argentina</i>	<i>Anounced, but</i>	<i>propably</i>	<i>never</i>	<i>realized</i>
1898-VII-11	London –Covent Garden	Emma Eames	Albert Saléza	Pol Plançon	Ernestine Schumann- Heinck
1899-I-26 O. Anselmi	Genoa – San Carlo Felice	Febea Strakosch	Albert Saléza	Pol Plançon	Louise Homer
1899-III-10	New York – Metropolitan	Emma Eames	Albert Saléza	Pol Plançon	Eugenia Mantelli
1899-IV-6	Boston – Theatre	Emma Eames	Albert Saléza	Pol Plançon	Eugenia Mantelli
1899-VI-20	London – Covent Garden	Febea Strakosch	Albert Saléza	Pol Plançon	Louise Homer
<i>1899-fall</i>	<i>Milan – La Scala</i>	<i>Anounced, but</i>	<i>propably</i>	<i>never</i>	<i>realized</i>
1900-III-01 Ettore Perosio	Napoli – San Carlo	Karola Amelia	Amedeo Bassi	Constantin Nicolay	Anna Berti- Cecchini
1902-V-8	Lisbon – Sao Carlos	Adelina Stehle	Giuseppe Anselmi	Oreste Luppi	Cloe Marchesini
1902-XI-23 unknown	Warsaw – Wielki	Salomea Kruszelnicka	Giuseppe Anselmi		
1903-III-04	New York – Metropolitan	Johanna Gadski	Emilio De Marchi	Edouard de Reszke	Ernestine Schumann- Heink
1904-II-27	Rome – Costanzi	Karola Amelia	Fiorello Giraud	Luigi Rossato	Elisa Bruno
1905-IX-2	Rio de Janeiro – Lirico	Matilde de Lerma	Fiorello Giraud	Gaudio Mansueto	R. Verger
1913-IV-10 unknown	Barcelona – Liceu	Cecilia Gagliardi	Luca Botta	Domenico Viglione- Borghese	Virginia Guerrini
1969? Vittorio Gui	Turin? – RAI	Margherita Rinaldi	Veriano Lucchetti	Guido Guarnera	Anna Maria Rota

Notes

This chronology was derived from various sources.

In the following the most important are given in alphabetical order.

All websites were visited on February 12th, 2012.

Gherardo Casaglia, *Amadeus Almanacco*,

<http://www.amadeusonline.net/almanacco.php>

Thomas G. Kaufman, „Verdi and his major contemporaries“, New York/London, 1990, p. 579 ff.

Luigi Mancinelli, „Mancinelli's Ero e Leandro – Analysis by the Composer“, in *Aeolian Quarterly Magazine*, ca. 1898, accessed via

<http://www.jmucci.com/opera/eroanalysis.htm#one>

The Metopera Database,

<http://archives.metoperafamily.org/>

The Musical Times, June 1898–September 1899

Alfredo Segre, „Toscanini – The First Forty Years“,

in: *The Musical Quarterly*, Vol. 33, No. 2 (1947), pp. 149–177

Pictures on page 1 (top down):

1. Luigi Mancinelli, Portrait Photograph, date unknown

(Source: <http://www.orvietonews.it/it/index.php?id=27572>)

2. Edward Lloyd, the first Leandro, Portrait Photograph, New York, ca. 1903

(Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Edward_Lloyd_%28tenor%29.jpg)

3. Emma Albani, the first Ero, Portrait Photograph, ca. 1899

(Source: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:EmmaAlbani1899.jpg>)

Pictured left:

1. Hariclea Darclée, who sang Ero in the Madrid Premiere

(Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Hariclea_Darcl%C3%A9e-Iris.jpg)

2. Karola Amelia, Ero in Naples and Rome

(Source: <http://www.lavoceantica.it/Soprano/Karola%20Amelia.htm>)

3. Emma Eames, who sang Ero in three different productions

(Source: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:EmmaEames1892.jpg>)

Special thanks ...

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Jakob Lehmann, Berlin, February 2012

