

Gaetano Donizetti

LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR

March 19, 2011

Conductor **Patrick Summers**
Production **Mary Zimmerman**
Set Designer **Daniel Ostling**
Costume Designer
Mara Blumenfeld
Lighting Designer **T. J. Gerckens**
Choreographer **Daniel Pelzig**

Lucia **Natalie Dessay**
Edgardo **Joseph Calleja**
Enrico **Ludovic Tézier**
Raimondo **Kwangchul Youn**

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ACT I Scotland. At Lammermoor Castle, home of Enrico Ashton, Normanno, the captain of the guard, sends his men off in search of an intruder who has been spotted on the grounds. Enrico is troubled: his family's fortunes are in danger, and only the arranged marriage of his sister, Lucia, with Lord Arturo can save them. When Normanno reveals that Lucia is concealing a great love for Edgardo di Ravenswood, leader of the Ashtons' political enemies, Enrico is furious and swears vengeance. His men return and explain that they have seen and identified the intruder as Edgardo.

Before dawn at a fountain in the woods nearby, Lucia and her companion Alisa are waiting for Edgardo. Lucia relates that, at the fountain, she has seen the ghost of a girl who was stabbed by her jealous lover. Alisa urges her to leave Edgardo, but Lucia insists that her love for Edgardo brings her great joy and may overcome all. Edgardo arrives and explains that he must go to France on a political mission. Before he leaves he wants to make peace with Enrico. Lucia, however, asks Edgardo to keep their love a secret. Edgardo agrees, and they exchange rings and vows of devotion.

INTERMISSION

ACT II It is some months later, the day Lucia is to marry Arturo. Normanno assures Enrico that he has intercepted all correspondence between the lovers and has procured a forged letter, supposedly from Edgardo, that indicates he is involved with another woman. When Enrico shows Lucia the forged letter, she is heartbroken, but Enrico insists that she marry Arturo to save the family. Lucia's tutor, the chaplain Raimondo, is convinced that no hope remains for Lucia's love and urges her to do a sister's duty. She finally agrees.

Arturo arrives and Enrico explains to him that Lucia is still grieving over her mother's death. The girl reluctantly signs the marriage contract. Suddenly Edgardo bursts in, claiming his bride, and the entire crowd is overcome by shock. Arturo and Enrico order Edgardo to leave but he insists that he and Lucia are engaged. When Raimondo shows him the contract with Lucia's signature, Edgardo curses her and tears his ring from her finger before finally leaving in despair and rage.

INTERMISSION

ACT III Enrico visits Edgardo at his dilapidated home and taunts him with the news that Lucia and Arturo have just been married. The two men agree to meet at dawn by the tombs of the Ravenswoods for a duel.

Back at Lammermoor, Raimondo interrupts the wedding festivities with the news that Lucia has gone mad and killed Arturo. Lucia enters, covered in blood. She recalls her meetings with Edgardo and imagines she is with him on their wedding night. She vows she will see him in heaven. When Enrico returns, he is enraged at Lucia's behavior, but soon realizes that she has lost her senses.

At the graveyard, Edgardo laments that he has to live without Lucia and awaits his duel with Enrico, which he hopes will end his own life. Guests coming from Lammermoor Castle tell him that the dying Lucia has called his name. As he is about to rush to her, Raimondo announces that she has died. Determined to join Lucia in heaven, Edgardo stabs himself.

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