

★ ★ ★ *from Washington, DC* ★ ★ ★

THE U.S. ARMY BAND "PERSHING'S OWN"

The U.S. Army Orchestra and Chorus
LTC John Clanton, conductor

Il Trovatore



Friday, November 18, 2011
Vienna Presbyterian Church, Vienna, VA
7:30 PM

*** from Washington, DC ***
THE UNITED STATES ARMY BAND "PERSHING'S OWN"
Colonel Thomas H. Palmatier, Leader and Commander
CSM Mitchell D. Spray, Command Sergeant Major

Il Trovatore (The Troubadour)
by Giuseppe Verdi
An Opera in Four Acts

Libretto by Salvatore Cammarano, completed by Leone Emanuele Bardare,
after the play *El Trovador* (The Troubadour) by Antonio García Gutiérrez.
First performance at the Teatro Apollo, Rome, on January 19, 1853.

CHARACTERS

Count di Luna, a young noble in the service of the Prince of Aragon baritone
Leonora, a lady-in-waiting to the Princess of Aragon soprano
Azucena, an old gypsy woman mezzo-soprano
Manrico, an officer in the army of Prince Urgel and supposed son of Azucena . . . tenor
Ferrando, an officer in the army of Count di Luna bass
Ines, an attendant and confidante of Leonora soprano
Ruiz, a soldier in the service of Manrico tenor
An Old Gypsy bass
A Messenger tenor

ACT I- (IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE)

Ferrando - SFC Alvy Powell
Leonora - SFC Leigh Ann Hinton
Count di Luna - SFC Neil Ewachiw
Manrico - SFC Colin Eaton

ACT 2

Count di Luna - SFC Robert Burner
Ferrando - SSG Jesse Neace

I N T E R M I S S I O N

ACT 3

Ferrando - MSG Jonathan Deutsch
Leonora - SFC Leigh Ann Hinton
Manrico - MSG Antonio Giuliano
Ruiz - SFC Patrick Sobolik

ACT 4

Ruiz - SFC Patrick Sobolik
Leonora - SFC Leigh Ann Hinton
Manrico - SFC Pablo Talamante
Count di Luna - SFC Alex Helsabeck

The four acts of the opera have the titles *The Duel*, *The Gypsy*, *The Gypsy's Son* and *The Execution*. Ferrando tells the story of the revenge taken by a gypsy for the death of her mother, the apparent destruction in the fire of the son of the old Count di Luna. In the palace gardens Leonora waits for her lover, the troubadour Manrico, mistaking the Count di Luna, who also loves her, for him, an error that ends with a duel between the two men. At the gypsy camp Azucena tells Manrico the story of the abduction of the son of Count di Luna and admits that she threw the wrong baby on the fire, keeping, as her own, the Count's son. He tells her how he was held back from killing the young Count, in their duel. News comes that Leonora, thinking Manrico dead, is to enter a convent, a step that the Count seeks to prevent. The arrival of Manrico, with his men, allows him to take Leonora away with him. Azucena is captured by the Count's men, who are preparing to attack Castellor, Manrico's stronghold. In the castle the planned marriage of Manrico and Leonora is interrupted by news of Azucena's capture. Imprisoned by the Count, Manrico and Azucena are threatened with death, while Leonora seeks to save her lover, offering herself in return, although she has secretly taken poison. In the prison Azucena reveals to Manrico his parentage, as a son of the old Count and brother to his enemy. Leonora comes to bring news of Manrico's release, and dies, while the Count orders the immediate execution of Manrico, watched by Azucena, who has her final triumphant revenge when she reveals to the Count the identity of his victim.

Il Trovatore (The Troubadour) followed close upon the success of Verdi's *Rigoletto* and was to be followed by *La Traviata* (The Fallen Woman). It retains its place as a major element in Italian opera repertoire, in spite of the improbabilities of a plot in which Azucena might seem to have suffered a confusion of mind worthy of Miss Prism. This lack of verisimilitude is forgotten in the dramatic strength of the music. Ferrando's narrative, "*Di due figli vivea padre felice*" ("There lived once a happy father of two boys"), sets the opening. The second scene allows Leonora her "*Tacea la notte placida*" ("Silent was the night"), as she tells Ines of when she first heard Manrico's serenade, "*Deserto sulla terra*" ("Deserted on the earth"). The second act starts with the famous Anvil Chorus, "*Vedi! Le fosche notturne*" ("See! The darkness of night goes"), as the gypsies in their encampment start their day, a chorus that has its third part parallel in the song of the Count's soldiers, "*Or co' dadi*" ("Now we gamble"). The second act also brings Azucena's powerful account of her mother's death, "*Stride la vampa*" ("The fire roars"). She has her moments again when she is interrogated by the Count, as his prisoner, "*Giorni poveri vivea*" ("There in poverty") and "*Deh! Rallentate o barbari*" ("Ah! Cruel men, loosen these chains"), and in her final scene with Manrico. For Leonora herself there is the moving "*D'amor sull'ali rosee*" ("Love, fly on rosy wings"), as she hears the Miserere from within the castle, where Manrico is held prisoner, and her final scene with Manrico.

Violin

MSG Laura C. Knutson, Greenbelt, MD
SFC Krista M. Smith, Indianapolis, IN
SFC Daniel W. Pierson, Kansas City, MO
SSG Marlisa D. Woods, Fairfax, VA
SSG Emily R. Leader, Chicago, IL
SSG Annette C. Barger, San Antonio, TX
SSG Matthew Evans, State College, PA
SSG Judith S. Cho, New York, NY
SSG Hannah Eldridge, Warrington, PA
SSG Christina L. Wensel, Evanston, IL
SSG Catherine E. Miller, Savannah, GA
SSG Robert E. Martin, Philadelphia, PA

Viola

SFC Holly E. Watters, Dayton, OH
SSG Timothy C. Zenobia, Altoona, PA
SSG Beth W. Dunkel, Milwaukee, WI
SSG Jennifer J. Lewis, Cedar Hills, UT

Cello

SGM Charlotte L. Roberts, Richmond, VA
SSG Samuel R.J. Swift, Lansing, MI
SSG Benjamin R. Wensel, Rochester, NY
SSG Hrant Parsamian, New York, NY

Bass

SFC Thomas K. Fowler, Pomona, CA
SSG Eric J. Seay, Oak Ridge, TN

Flute

MSG Barbara A. Vigil, Garland, TX
SSG Elizabeth D. McGinness, Richardson, TX

Oboe

SFC Lorrie A. Brown, Fort Huachuca, AZ
SSG Meredet Rouse, Boston, MA

Clarinet

MSG Sylvia M. Stanton, Akron, OH
SSG Timothy C. Sutfin, Crystal Lake, IL

Bassoon

SGM David W. Brundage, Woodbridge, VA
SSG Dean G. Woods, Dalton, GA

Trumpet

MSG Gil Hoffer, Indianapolis, IN
SFC Troy A. McKay, Richmond, MO
SSG Kelley C. Corbett, Fincastle, VA

French Horn

SFC Robert P. Craven, Manchester, NH
SSG Aaron K. Cockson, Foley, AL
SSG Brooke B. Eberly, Baton Rouge, LA
SSG Shane K. Clare, Dallas, TX

Trombone

MSG Jerry J. Amoury, Leawood, KS
MSG Darryl R. Buning, Grand Rapids, MI
SFC James L. Fantz, Crosby, TX
SFC Samuel B. Woodhead, Northport, ME

Percussion

SFC Glen D. Gurnard, Cashmere, WA

Timpani

SFC Julie A. Boehler, Worcester, MA

Harp

SSG Nadia L. Pessoa, Miami, FL