

The University of Washington Festival Opera  
Company and the Office of Lectures and Concerts  
present

# SIMON BOCCANEGRA

*by Giuseppe Verdi*

R#1 - 4062  
R#2 - 4063v  
R#3 - 4064  
R#4 - 4065  
R#5 - 4066

Friday, March 5, 1965

Saturday, March 6, 1965

8:00 p.m.

MEANY HALL

The Festival Opera Company presents

# SIMON BOCCANEGRRA

by Giuseppe Verdi

Text by Francesco Maria Piave  
Revised and augmented by Arrigo Boito  
English Adaptation by Walter Ducloux

## THE CAST

### Prologue:

Simon Boccanegra ..... A Corsair ..... Howard Nelson  
Jacopo Fiesco ..... A Genovese noble ..... Leon Lishne  
Paolo Albiani ..... A Goldsmith ..... Aroldo Lara  
Pietro ..... A Genovese politician ..... John Duykers

### The Drama:

Simon Boccanegra ..... First Doge of Genoa ..... Howard Nelson  
Maria Boccanegra ..... His daughter, known only as  
Amelia Grimaldi ..... Frances Lowe  
Jacopo Fiesco ..... Disguised as Andrea ..... Leon Lishner  
Gabriele Adorno ..... A young Genovese  
noble ..... Robert McGrath  
Paolo Albiani ..... A courtier, favorite of  
the Doge ..... Aroldo Lara  
Pietro ..... Another courtier ..... John Duykers  
Captain of the Guard ..... Robert Shiesley  
Maidservant to Amelia ..... Judith Ann Curtis

### Soldiers, mariners, townspeople, senators, courtiers:

Sally Ashford	Kippy Lou Brinkman	LeaAnna Longley
Patricia Barta	Eleanor Feetham	Kathy Thornton
Catherine Carlson	Jan Curtis	Joan Shippy
Carole Cloud	Jody Johnston	Judy Wall
Doris Crandall	Ora Lee Knapp	
Terry Bakken	Dale Gleason	Philip Kuretski
Robert Bingham	Rodney Godshall	Douglas Miller
John Bradfield	Robert Jones	Robert Myers
Lyman Coppess	Lawrence Meece	Robert Shiesley
James Butler	Larry Feetham	Ed Keever
Ed Miller	Don Strom	
Basil Foster	Andy Erickson	

### Understudies:

Rodney Godshall.....Fiesco      John Duykers.....Simon Boccanegra  
Robert Shiesley.....Paolo

The action is laid in and around Genoa during the Fourteenth Century.

### PROLOGUE:

In a square before the palace of Fiesco, Paolo and Pietro, leaders of the People's Party, plot to gain the hereditary power of the aristocracy by electing the popular corsair Simon Boccanegra as Doge. Boccanegra accepts their proposal so that he may marry Maria, daughter of the noble Jacopo Fiesco, who has imprisoned her since she bore Boccanegra's child. After a mob of commoners, incited by Pietro, pledges support of the corsair's cause, Fiesco steps from his palace mourning Maria's death. Unaware of the tragedy, Boccanegra asks his friendship, but the old man demands to be given his granddaughter. Boccanegra laments that the child has disappeared and despairing, rushes into the deserted palace to find Maria's casket. As he comes out, a mob hails him as Doge.

### ACT I—SCENE I

Twenty-five years pass. In the garden of the Grimaldi palace, where the embittered Fiesco now lives in hiding under the pseudonym "Andrea," his ward Amelia awaits her lover, Gabriele Adorno, who has joined Fiesco in a plot to overthrow Boccanegra. When the youth enters she tells him that the Doge wishes her to marry Paolo; at once Gabriele seeks out Fiesco to obtain the old man's blessing for himself. Suddenly Boccanegra arrives and in an interview with Amelia discovers that she is his long-lost daughter. Unknown to Simon, Paolo and Pietro plot to kidnap Amelia.

### ACT I—SCENE II

In the Council chamber while negotiating a treaty between Genoa and Venice, the Doge is interrupted by shouts in the streets. In answer he admits a loyal mob that has captured both Fiesco, who goes unrecognized, and Gabriele who defiantly charges Boccanegra with Amelia's abduction and tries to stab him. Amelia herself rushes in and throws herself between them. She pleads with the Doge to forgive Gabriele, who suspects she is Boccanegra's mistress, and describes her abduction, hinting at Paolo's complicity. The Doge quiets the raging spectators and commands Paolo, as a state official, to curse the man who plotted this infamy. Sick with horror, he does so and rushes from the hall, as the assembly repeats his curse. Fiesco and Gabriele are sent to prison.

## INTERMISSION

### ACT II

In a room adjoining the Doge's apartment, Paolo pours poison into Boccanegra's drink. Summoning Fiesco from his cell, he vainly

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**ACT II**

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urges the old man to assassinate Boccanegra; next he incites Gabriele to fury with insinuations about the Doge's relationship with Amelia. When the youth is left to his thoughts, Amelia enters, but before she can explain to Gabriele that the Doge is her father, Boccanegra follows. Gabriele quickly hides in an alcove. Amelia asks her father to pardon her lover; he agrees on condition that the young man promise to desert the conspirators. Left alone, the weary Doge drinks Paolo's potion and falls asleep. Gabriele who has heard nothing emerges from hiding and draws his knife but Amelia returns in time to stop him from murdering her father. At last Gabriele learns the truth and implores the Doge's forgiveness. As cries of rebellion are heard, the two men rush off to help defend the palace.

**ACT III**

Several hours later all Genoa celebrates Boccanegra's victory. Magnanimously he has set most of the rebel leaders free, including Fiesco, but the traitorous Paolo is condemned to death. On his way to execution, the villain informs Fiesco that he has poisoned the Doge. Boccanegra staggers in gravely ill; Fiesco, still bent on revenge, reveals to the Doge his true identity, whereupon he learns who Amelia really is. Stunned, Fiesco tells Boccanegra that Paolo has poisoned him. As the Doge dies, he blesses the newly married Gabriele and Amelia, asking that the young man be proclaimed the new Doge. Fiesco, grief-stricken, announces Boccanegra's death to the people.

**School of Music Festival Opera Staff:**

Director and Conductor.....Stanley Chapple  
Stage Director.....Ralph Rosinbum  
Repetiteur.....William Clarke  
Backstage Conductor.....Russell Waite  
Production assistants.....Eleanor Feetham  
Richard Sederholm  
Roger Shell  
Stephen Smith  
Research assistant.....Marietta Upton  
Sound.....John Johnson

**Festival Opera Production Staff:**

Art Director and Technical Supervisor.....John A. Conway  
Technical Director.....Joseph J. E. Poc