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Il Barbiere Di Siviglia: Vocal Score (Ricordi Opera Vocal Score)



Synopsis

(Vocal Score). Italian/English Paper Score. Edited by Zedda.

Book Information

Series: Ricordi Opera Vocal Score

Paperback: 548 pages

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Customer Reviews

This is the 1973 Ricordi piano vocal reduction of Rossini's Barber. It's in English and Italian, with the Italian on top (thankfully). It's a critical edition with many pages of critical notes and some brief historical background. It also has an appendix that contains the three commonly-transposed arias transposed. Like all modern Ricordi scores the reduction finds a perfect balance between being very orchestral and also playable. Furthermore there are few to no errors. This is the edition to get if you're going to be singing/playing/directing the show!

This score was a bit of a disappointment. I much prefer the Ricordi version. What I don't like about this score: It has a cheesy, inaccurate English translation written in it -- in case the production might be done in English. There is no room within the score to write your own, more accurate English translation. The score is printed far out to the edges of the paper with minimal margins. If you add a spiral binding, the binding will partially cut into the staff. If several roles are singing at the same time, your role may be on the first line for one phrase and then suddenly on the second line for the next phrase, and so on. All in all, I find this version to be inconvenient, not well thought out, and somewhat unprofessional. If my production hadn't chose this version, I would have gone with the

Ricordi version instead.

Il Barbiere di Siviglia was the first opera I ever saw and is what guided me in going to school for vocal and opera performance. Ricordi is one of the ONLY publishers I trust for opera scores. Unlike other publishers (Dover, especially) they aren't riddled with errors. This Score is 488 pages long. It also has an introduction with history of the opera and a section of textual notes which provide more background on the composition along with frequently sung melismas and a lot of substituted passages which are sung by a soprano Rosina. It and the introduction appear both in English and Italian. There is also an appendix in the back of the score which includes "Una voce poco fa" in F major, "La calunnia e un venticello" in C major, and "Contro un cor che accende amore" in F major. The actual musical score is typeset in a very clear type. It is easy on the eyes and it leaves enough room above and below the vocal line to write in literal translations and directions/notes. The book is fairly large so it doesn't stay open on the piano very well but after some usage it will be fine. 5 stars for another great purchase from Ricordi.

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