

Various Artists

"Overture / Hannibal"

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CARLOTTA:

This trophy from our saviours, from our saviours from
the enslaving force of Rome!

GIRL'S CHORUS:

With feasting and dancing and song, tonight in
celebration,
We greet the victorious throng, returned to bring
salvation!

MEN'S CHORUS:

The trumpets of Carthage resound! Hear, Romans, now
and tremble!
Hark to our step on the ground!

ALL:

Hear the drums, Hannibal comes!

PIANGI:

Sad to return to find the land we love threatened once
more by Roma's far-reaching grasp

REYER:

Gentlemen, gentlemen...

LEFEVRE:

Rehearsals, as you see, are under way, for a new
production of Chalumeau's "Hannibal".

REYER:

Monsieur Lefevre, I am rehearsing.

LEFEVRE:

Monsieur Reyer, Madame Giry, ladies and gentlemen,
Please if I could have your attention, thank you.

As you know, for some weeks there have been rumours
of my imminent retirement.

I can now tell you that these were all true and it is my
pleasure to introduce you to the two gentlemen
Who now own the Opera Populaire, Monsieur Richard

Firmin and Monsieur Gilles Andre.

FIRMIN:

And we are deeply honoured to introduce our new patron, the Vicomte de Changy

RAOUL:

My parents and I are honoured to support all the arts especially the world renowned Opera Populaire

LEFEVRE:

Vicomte, Gentlemen, Signora Carlotta Giudicelli, our leading soprano for five seasons now.
And Signor Ubaldo Piangi.

RAOUL:

An honour, Signor. I believe I'm keeping you from your rehearsal.

I will be here this evening to share your great triumph.
My apologies, monsieur.

REYER:

Thank you, Monsieur Le Vicomte. Once more if you please, signor.

CARLOTTA:

He loves me!

GIRY:

We take a particular pride here in the excellence of our ballets, monsieur

FIRMIN:

I see why, especially that little blonde angel.

GIRY:

My daughter, Meg Giry.

FIRMIN:

And that exceptional beauty? No relation, I trust.

GIRY:

Christine Daaë, promising talent, Monsieur Firmin, very promising.

FIRMIN:

Daaë, you say? No relation to the famous Swedish violinist?

GIRY:

His only child, orphan at 7, when she came to live and

train in the ballet dormitory.

FIRMIN:

An orphan, you say!

CHORUS:

Bid welcome to Hannibal's guests, the elephants of
Carthage!

As guides on our conquering quests, Dido sends
Hannibal's friends!

CHORUS WITH CARLOTTA AND PIANGI:

The trumpeting elephants sound, hear, Romans, now
and tremble!

Hark to their step on the ground, hear the drums!
Hannibal comes!

ANDRE:

Mosieur Reyer, isn't there a rather marvelous aria for
Elissa in Act Three of "Hannibal"?
Perhaps if Signora...

CARLOTTA:

Yes...Yes...Monsieur Reyer?

REYER:

If my diva commands.

CARLOTTA:

Yes I do.

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