

*G. Verdi*



1732 1960



Manoel  
Theatre

CREMONA

50

# TEATRO MANOEL

COMMEMORAZIONE DEL 150° ANNIVERSARIO  
DELLA NASCITA DI

# GIUSEPPE VERDI

Organizzata dal Consolato d'Italia in Malta

a beneficio di

**"SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND"**

*Sotto l'Alto Patronato di*

S.E. il Governatore e Lady Dorman

S.E. l'Arcivescovo Mons. M. Gonzi, K.B.E., G.C.O.J., D.D.,  
J.C.D.(Greg), D.Litt., LL.D. (Hon.)

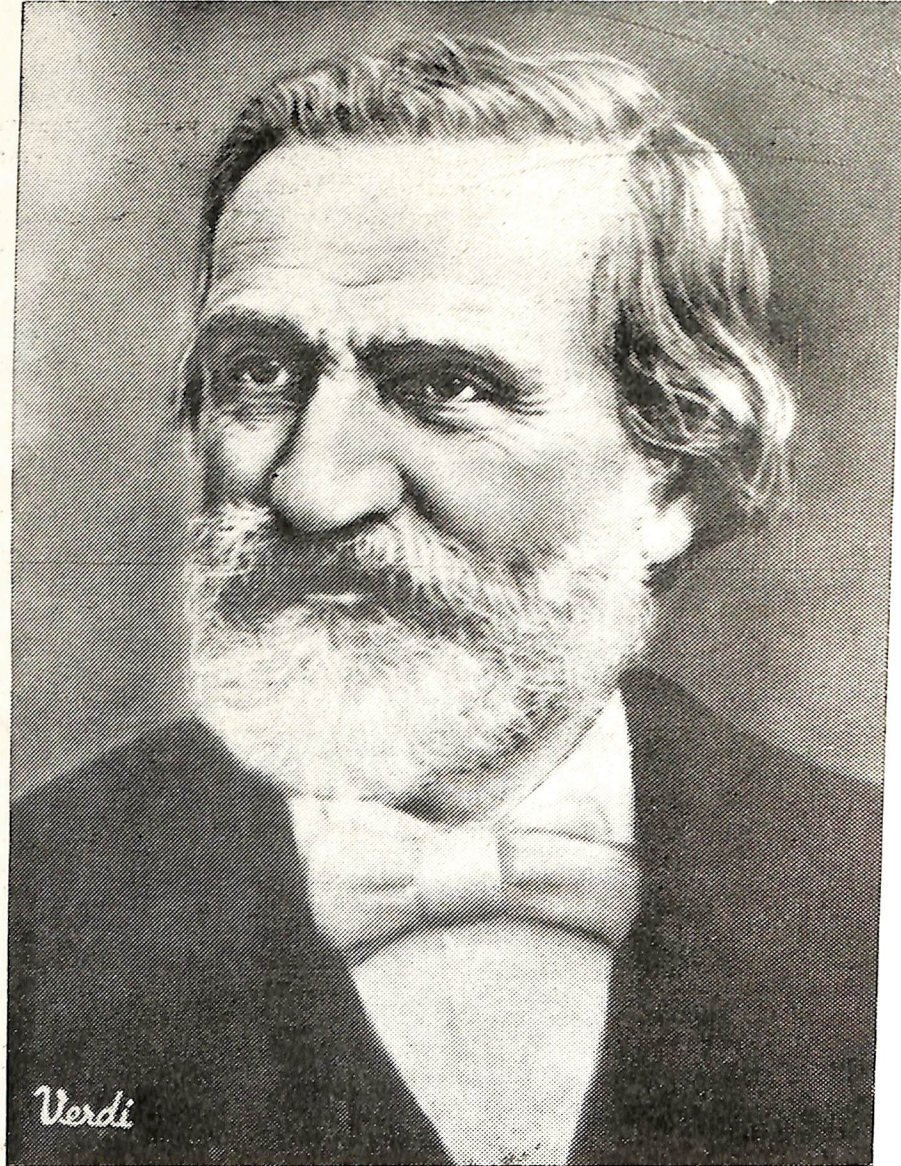
l'Onorevole Primo Ministro e la Signora Borg Olivier

*SERATA di GALA*

**MARTEDI' 14 MAGGIO 1963**

**alle ore 20.30**





## GIUSEPPE VERDI

Giuseppe Verdi was born near Busseto (Italy) on 10th October, 1813. He had from his boyhood a great inclination for music and at the age of sixteen he conducted the Orchestra of Provesi his music-master.

A rich merchant in the village of Busseto, who took interest in the talent of young Verdi, offered him a scholarship to enable him to continue his studies in Milan. His intention was to enter the Conservatorio, but unfortunately he was past the age of admission. Instead Verdi studied privately with Lavigna, the accompanist at the Scala Theatre. Lavigna set before the pupil the works of Pa'estrina and Marcello, of Bach and Beethoven, names that Verdi never ceased to revere. In this period an opportunity fell on the youth to display his practical efficiency. In fact the conductor of the Milan Philharmonic Society fell sick and Verdi took his place at a rehearsal of Haydn's "The Creation". His success led to the composition of an Opera for the Society which he wrote under the title "Oberto, Conte di San Bonifacio".

In 1836 Verdi married Barezzi's daughter, Margherita. The marriage was followed by adversity. In fact after losing a little girl, in 1839 his infant son died and soon afterwards Margherita followed her children to the grave. This was a hard period for Verdi and it occasions no surprise his resolution not to write any more music. However, a friend of his, after a short period, presented the libretto of an Opera which he thought might appeal to Verdi. The master read it with growing interest and in the end after having revived in him the creative inspiration sat to work the "Nabucco." The Opera "Ernani" soon followed. Both these operas had a note of patriotism in them criticizing Austrian domination in Italy.

A definite step forward was taken by Verdi with his Opera "Macbeth." changing the usual romantic subject into a noble tragic theme. Verdi had conceived a great admiration for the works of Shakespeare and from them he received the inspiration for the tragic note. In 1846 he was invited to Paris where he produced "Ernani" and in the following year he went to London to perform "I Masnadieri", an Opera based upon a tragedy by Schiller.

Unfortunately this opera was a failure due to the fact that critics found the music too blatant for their taste. Verdi in fact had infused into the polite Italian Opera of the period a new life drawn from vulgar sources. Paris and London less susceptible than Italy to the Patriotic Appeal that was stirring the continent condemned the style.

To this followed the period of glory in Verdi's music. "Rigoletto", "Trovatore", "Traviata" were composed in the period of three years, three operas which have done most to familiarize his name throughout the world. They are perfect in form and manner and contain a touch of sensitiveness and humanity never reached by other dramatic composer. Il "Trovatore" remains alive by reason of its wealth and vigorous melody and the resourcefulness with which the dramatic situations are portrayed. "La Traviata" a domestic tragedy of contemporary society, shows a greater mastery of Orchestral Colour than Verdi had hitherto displayed.

Verdi never studied the score of other composers since for him music was something to be performed through inspiration. He was not therefore influenced to any great extent by his contemporaries, with one exception: Meyerbeer.

Verdi who had developed his own style upon the basis of Rossini's serious operas, found in the showy orchestrations of Meyerbeers's music the means of enlarging his own scope of expression. "Un Ballo in Maschera" (1859), "La Forza del Destino" (1862), "Don Carlos" (1867) are all historical dramas and suffer from the fault of attempting to compress too much dramatic incident. Musically these works show an enormous advance in subtlety of characterization and richness of orchestration.

In 1862 Verdi was appointed to represent Italian music at the Great Exhibition in London. For this occasion he composed a cantata "The hymn of the Nations" which is remarkable only for the fact that the text was by Arrigo Boito.

In the meantime two other important works were to be written. In 1868, Verdi was approached by an agent of Khedive Ismail Pascha with a proposal that he should compose an opera for performances in Cairo to celebrate the opening of the Suez Canal. The Italian Libretto was written by Chislanzoni. The resulting Opera "Aida" was certainly the most completely successful work of art Verdi had so far produced. In 1873 Alessandro Manzoni, one of the intellectual leaders of the Italian revival died. Verdi felt impelled to pay tangible homage to the man whom he deeply revered, and composed a "Requiem Mass", which resulted in one of the masterpieces of nineteenth century sacred music.

Verdi was now over sixty and exhausted by the labour of composing and conducting the Requiem in Italy and abroad, retired at Sant'Agata for some rest. Later Verdi met Boito through Ricordi's introduction. This new acquaintance brought about the composing of "Otello", for the idea of turning again to Shakespeare tempted Verdi and he was thus able to produce some of his most beautiful music.

As a conclusion to such great musical work Verdi wrote in his late years "Falstaff". Essentially, though a comic opera, the music of "Falstaff" does not differ from Verdi's other operas. The note is one of freshness and youth. Where the music differs is in its even greater subtlety and extraordinary swiftness.

For the remainder of his life, Verdi lived quietly at Sant'Agata. He occupied himself with the composition of some sacred pieces. These were first performed by Arturo Toscanini when still very young.

He died in 1901 on the 27th January at the age of eighty eight.





Agents:

**SPITERI MALLIA & SONS**

FLAT 12, 14, STRAIT STREET,

VALLETTA - MALTA

**THE WORK OF THE SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND  
IN MALTA**

Very few people realize what close ties are being forged between Maltese children and the Commonwealth through the Save The Children Fund by means of the Sponsorship Fund. This Fund is only part of the work done by our Malta Branch. Children are chosen by sponsors from all over the Commonwealth through the London Office and money and clothes are sent to Malta for these children's needs. By means of letters, firm friendships are formed, some of which help the children when perhaps they emigrate.

Very few Sponsorships come from Malta itself and perhaps some of you who read this programme would like to take part in this work by getting in touch with our Malta Office at:—

The Save The Children Fund,  
147/6, St. Lucy Street,  
Valletta.

Our work done by the Fund of Malta includes the running of kitchens and dining-rooms for children at the Wardija special school for Mentally Handicapped children, and the Pietà special school for other physically handicapped, blind or deaf children.

Our Family Assistance Scheme is an experimental nucleus for "family allowance". We give milk and meat to selected families on Social Service Relief to help widowed mothers feed their families.

Apart from all this the Save The Children Fund, Malta, is always ready to consider cases of hardship among children in Malta and to help where and how we can. Our work depends on the co-operation of people in Malta who always so generously support us and we are sure that if any one among you would like to pay a visit to our Office at:— 147/6, St. Lucy Street, Valletta, any enquiries as to our work would be welcomed.

**JOSEPHINE DEBONO,**  
*Chairman.*



# PROGRAMMA

14/5/63

## PRIMA PARTE

LA FORZA DEL DESTINO	"Sinfonia"	Orchestra
I LOMBARDI ALLA PRIMA CROCIATA	"O Signore dal tetto natio"	Coro
IL TROVATORE	"Il balen del suo sorriso"	Bar. Giuseppe Forgione
FALSTAFF	"Sul fil d'un soffio etesio"	Sop. Anna Maria Frati
AIDA	"Se quel guerrier io fossi"	Ten. Piero Campolonghi
RIGOLETTO	"Pari Siamo"	Bar. Giuseppe Forgione
OTELLO	"La canzone del salice" "Ave Maria"	Sop. Anna Maria Frati
TROVATORE	"Ah si ben mio coll'essere"	Ten. Piero Campolonghi
LA FORZA DEL DESTINO	"Il Santo Nome di Dio" "La Vergine degli Angeli"	{ Bas. J. Vella Bondin Sop. Anna Maria Frati Coro

## SECONDA PARTE

NABUCCO	"Sinfonia"	Orchestra
ERNANI	"O sommo Carlo"	Bar. Giuseppe Forgione Coro
OTELLO	"Già nella notte densa"	Sop. Anna Maria Frati Ten. Piero Campolonghi
UN BALLO IN MASCHERA	"Eri tu"	Bar. Giuseppe Forgione
TROVATORE	"Tacea la notte placida"	Sop. Anna Maria Frati
OTELLO	"Niun mi tema"	Ten. Piero Campolonghi
FORZA DEL DESTINO	"Pace mio Dio"	Sop. Anna Maria Frati
FORZA DEL DESTINO	"Una suora mi lasciasti"	Bar. Giuseppe Forgione Ten. Piero Campolonghi
NABUCCO	"Va pensiero"	Coro
	"Inno di Mameli"	Orchestra

*Direttore d'Orchestra*  
MAESTRO JOSEPH SAMMUT

con la partecipazione dell'Orchestra del C.-in-C. gentilmente concessa  
dall'Ammiraglio Sir Deric Holland-Martin, K.C.B., D.S.O., D.S.C.,  
e del "CHORUS MELITENSIS" — Istruttore: Bice Bisazza.



BIFETTA al Plasmon  
BISCOTTI al Plasmon — Alimento Solido  
CREMA di Riso Integrale al Plasmon  
PASTINE al Plasmon  
PRIMORIS Crema di Riso Precotta al Plasmon  
SEMOLINO di Grano Duro al Plasmon

dietetici di assoluta  
sicurezza e qualità

SOCIETA' DEL PLASMON MILANO, VIA CADOLINI 26

IN TUTTE LE FARMACIE

Agenti:

**JOS. GATT & SONS**  
203/2 OLD BAKERY STREET,  
VALLETTA.

TELEPHONE: 25122

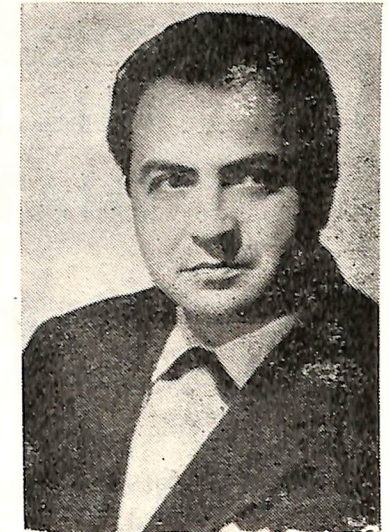
**MICHAEL**  
**HAIR STYLIST**

(FORMERLY TONY GALEA)

201B, OLD BAKERY STREET,  
VALLETTA.



**PIERO CAMPOLONGHI**  
Tenore



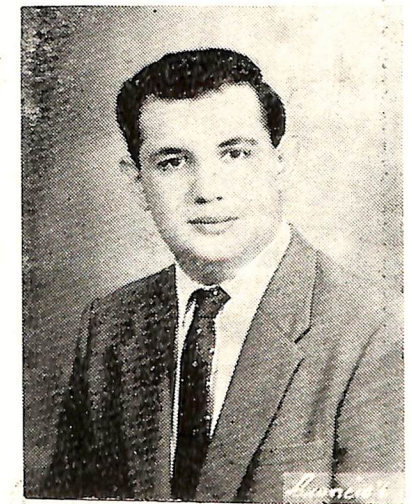
**GIUSEPPE FORGIONE**  
Baritono



**ANNA M. FRATI**  
Soprano



**Maestro JOSEPH SAMMUT**  
Direttore d'Orchestra



**J. VELLA-BONDIN**  
Basso



**THE MEAL-IN-A-BISCUIT  
THAT HELPS YOU SLIM**

**LIMMITS**

*Trade Enquiries:*

**JACK H. SERRA**

**32 - 33, OLD BAKERY STREET, VALLETTA.**

**TELEPHONE CENTRAL 26134**

**AMOHA SHAMPOO  
SAPONE AMOHA  
CREMA AMOHA  
RESTIFRICI:  
DURBAN'S DEMICOTIN**

*DURBAN'S — S.P.A., MILAN*

**IN TUTTE LE FARMACIE**

*Agenti:*

**JOS. GATT & SONS**

**203/2 OLD BAKERY STREET,  
VALLETTA.**

**COUNCIL — THE SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND**

*President:* LADY DORMAN.

*Chairman:* Mrs. J. DEBONO.

*Hon. Treasurer:* Capt. H. de TRAFFORD.

*Secretary:* Miss M. BONNICI.

*Members:—*

Dr. E.A. Agius, M.D., D.Obst., R.C.O.C., M.R.C.O.G.(Lond.),  
Mrs. W. Bonello,  
Miss H. Buhagiar,  
Dr. E.A. Cachia, M.B., Ch.B.,(Manch.), D.C.H.,(Lond.),  
Mrs. A. Cassar Torregiani,  
Mr. V.J. Ciancio, B.Pharm., M.R.S.H.(Lond.),  
The Most Rev. Mgr. Prof. E. Coleiro, O.B.E., D.D., Ph.D.(Lond.), J.C.B., B.A.,  
Mrs. C. Coleiro,  
The Hon. Mrs. H. de Trafford,  
Mrs. L.V. Farrugia,  
Mrs. J. Galea,  
Mrs. J. Gasan,  
Dr. W.P. Gulia, LL.D., B.A., B.Sc., Ph.C., M.A.(Admin.), D.P.A.(Lond.),  
Mrs. W. Harding,  
Chev. The Hon. Mr. Justice W. Harding, C.B.E., B.Litt., LL.D.,  
Lady Mamo,  
Mrs. R. Miller,  
Chev. G. Ransley, M.B.E., K.M.,  
Mr. J. Smith.

**FUND RAISING COMMITTEE**

*Chairman:* LADY MAMO.

*Hon. Treasurer:* Capt. H. de TRAFFORD.

*Secretary:* Miss M. BONNICI.

*Members:—*

Capt. H.P. Amato Gauci, E.D.,  
Mrs. C. Coleiro,  
Mrs. M.C. Chalmers,  
Mr. V.J. Ciancio, B.Pharm., M.R.S.H.(Lond.),  
Miss M. Curmi,  
The Hon. Mrs. H. de Trafford,  
Mrs. J. Ellis,  
Mrs. L.V. Farrugia,  
Mrs. J. Galea,  
Mrs. J. Gasan,  
Dr. W.P. Gulia, LL.D., B.A., B.Sc., Ph.C., M.A.(Admin.), D.P.A.(Lond.),  
Lady Kelburn,  
Dr. V. Mercieca, LL.D.,  
Mr J. Moore,  
Chev. G. Ransley, M.B.E., K.M.,  
Mr. J. Smith,  
Sq. Ldr. Targett,  
Mrs. J.P. Vassallo,  
Lady Wakefield.

# MANOEL THEATRE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Colonel G. C. GATT — *Chairman.*

Notary Dr. V.M. PELLEGRINI, LL.D. — *Hon. Treasurer.*

Mr. A. AGIUS FERRANTE, L.P. — *Hon. Secretary.*

Mrs. INES BONELLO CASHA  
Mr. GRAHAM BINNS, M.A. (Oxon) } *Members.*

Mr. MICHAEL KISSAUN -- *Manager.*

---

*Smoking is not permitted in the Auditorium, in Boxes, and in the Gallery.*

The Management reserve to themselves the right to vary or omit any part of the programme without previous notice.

*Patrons are reminded that the taking of photographs during the performance is not allowed.*

All seats bookable in advance (including gallery).

Seats can be reserved for organised parties on application.

---

## F O R T H C O M I N G   E V E N T S

3 ATTI UNICI by Malta Drama League on the 18th and 19th May.

\*            \*            \*

VOCAL AND INSTRUMENTAL CONCERT by Chorus Melitensis — on 25th May.

\*            \*            \*

“YEOMEN OF THE GUARD” by Royal Naval School — on 29th, 30th, 31st May, and 1st June.

\*            \*            \*

“ADDIO GIOVENEZZA” by Compagnia Filodrammatica “Dante Alighieri” on 8th June.

Booking from 10 a.m. to noon; from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Dial: No. 26389.



