



OPERA LAFAYETTE PRESENTS  
**The Leonore Series**

**TEXT FROM Gaveaux's *Leonore***  
**(BASIS FOR BEETHOVEN'S LIBRETTO)**  
**Marceline, Jacquino, Rocco and Leonore**



## THE LEONORE SERIES

### **LÉONORE or CONJUGAL LOVE, HISTORICAL FACT, IN TWO ACTS AND IN PROSE MIXED WITH SONGS**

With cuts by Oriol Tomas for Opera Lafayette's 2017 performances  
Words by Jean-Nicolas BOUILLY Translated by Nizam Kettaneh

**Music by Pierre GAVEAUX**

First performed in Paris at the Théâtre Feydeau, On the 1<sup>st</sup> ventôse, year 6 of the French republic (February 19, 1798)

#### **CHARACTERS, ACTORS.**

DOM FERNAND, minister and Spanish noble man

DOM PIZARE, Governor of a State prison

FLORESTAN, prisoner

LÉONORE, wife of Florestan and key-carrier under the assumed name of FIDÉLIO

ROC, jailer

MARCELINE, daughter of Roc

JACQUINO, doorkeeper in love with Marceline

Prisoners, a Captain of the Guards, Gardians, People.

The scene takes place in Spain, in a State prison, a few miles from Seville.

## WEEK TWO :

SCENE I Continued: MARCELINE, JACQUINO

*(Spoken)*

MARCELINE

Here, Jacquino, I am too honest to deceive you any longer. If you want to get married you would do well to go after another one than me.

JACQUINO

Oh is it so, you little cheeky one...Last summer you did not play hard to get... It was my little Jacquino here, my little Jacquino there; you would allow me to heat your pressing irons, fold your laundry, carry your parcels to the prisoners; but since Mr. Fidelio has entered the castle, one only sees him, one only looks for him.

MARCELINE

Well yes, I love him; and what is even better, I am loved by him... I mean loved!...

JACQUINO

A guy who comes from nowhere, who belongs to no one; whom your father picked up out of pity. Before, I was the one who did the work (commissions)....

MARCELINE

He is poor and an orphan; he himself does not hide the facts; but it does not matter; all this will not prevent him from being soon my husband.

SCENE II:

ROC

Well then, are you always arguing, you all?

MARCELINE

By God, he's been after me for an hour, tormenting me...

He wants me to love him and to marry him, just that, my father

JACQUINO

Certainly!

ROC, abruptly.

Come on, be quiet; so it is, that I would have only a daughter, who I have purposefully brought up to be quite lovely and quite nice, that would have worked hard to bring her up, to keep her safe and sound until she is sixteen...and all that for you mister. Ha! ha! ha... (to Marceline) Fidelio is not yet back? He must, no doubt, have been obliged to wait for a long time at the smith.

MARCELINE (JACQUINO?)

Here he is!... Here he is!... (I'm coming.....)

SCENE III:  
THE SAME, LÉONORE.

MARCELINE

How laden he is!...

ROC

Wait, wait...

LÉONORE

I thought he'd never finish repairing these damned chains. I do not think that the prisoners will now manage to break them.

ROC

How much have all your purchases cost?

LÉONORE

Here is the bill.

ROC

Good! Excellent! You buy everything cheaper than I do; Since you've been here, I have earned double. I feel I am every day more attached to you; and though you do not know where you are born, and that you are unknown, without parents, I have resolved to make you my son-in-law.

MARCELINE

Will this be soon, my father?

ROC

As soon as the governor leaves for Seville.