



OPERA LAFAYETTE PRESENTS
The Leonore Series

**TEXT FROM Gaveaux's *Leonore*
(BASIS FOR BEETHOVEN'S LIBRETTO)
Pizare and Roc**



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 1st 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 THREE:

SCENE IV

PIZARE, *to the Captain of the Guards.*

Three sentries on the rampart...twelve men day and night at the entrance of the drawbridge...and above all bring to me anyone approaching the walls of this castle. Leave! Is there anything new?

ROC

No, my Lord.

PIZARE

Where are the dispatches?

ROC, *handing him several letters that Léonore draws out of the box she carries.*

Here they are.

PIZARE

Always advice, or reproaches...(stops with the letter) This handwriting?

“I am advising you that the minister, having been apprised that the State prisons which you command contain several victims of abuse of power, leaves tomorrow to visit them and examine himself your conduct; take precautions, and try while there is still time to escape his searches.”

Heavens! If he were to discover that I hold here in fetters this Florestan whom he believes dead; this Florestan who wanted to expose me to the State and rip away its privileges from me...Greatly praised Minister, I will know how to deceive you again and escape your vigilance....) I cannot waste a single moment... Captain? Climb up the dungeon tower with a trumpet player. You will observe attentively the road; as soon as you will see in the distance a coach accompanied by several guards, you will alert me instantly by trumpet signal...You will answer me with your life. What course of action to take now to rid myself quickly of this Florestan?

Follow me; Follow me, I am telling you.