

Dinos Constantinides

Rosanna

One-Act Opera

LRC 241a

PIANO VERSION



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DINOS CONSTANTINIDES

ROSANNA

ONE-ACT OPERA

LIBRETTO BY DAVID MADDEN

LRC 241

SYNOPSIS OF ROSANNA

The story takes place in a barren village on the northern coast of Chile in the 1930s. It involves the lives of two friends, Rosanna and Angelina. As children, both lived in poverty, Rosanna protecting and watching after her frailer friend. A young man in the village wooed Rosanna and then left forever when he knew she was pregnant. The child died and his mother endured condemnation and ostracizing from the entire town. Angelina was lucky that the Baron, who was very rich, married her and took her out of squalor into wealthy splendor. Always sickly, Angelina bore a son and brought Rosanna to her house to care for him. Resenting her husband's love for their son and his inattention to her, Angelina eventually abandoned the boy to Rosanna's ministrations, until his sudden death from an infection. This introduction is related by the priest of the village in the prologue. The action then continues with the burial of Angelina's son. The people of the village gossip that Angelina is a heartless woman who has taken advantage of her warm and sympathetic friend, Rosanna. Realizing at last that the villagers no longer despise her but instead blame her friend, Rosanna sees that she has been taken advantage of by everyone whom she has loved and all she has received in return is pity. Rebelling, she leaves the village to seek a better life.

The music of Dinos Constantinides has been performed throughout the world. He is the recipient of many grants, commissions and awards, including first prizes in the 1981 Brooklyn College International Chamber Competition, the 1985 First Midwest Chamber Opera Conference, and the 1997 Delius Composition Contest Grand Prize. He also received the 1985 American New Music Consortium Distinguished Service Award, the 1989 Glen Award of l'Ensemble of New York, several Meet the Composer grants and numerous ASCAP Standard Awards. In 1994 he was honored with a Distinguished Teacher White House Commission on Presidential Scholars.

Additional scores available from Dinos Constantinides 947 Daventry Drive • Baton Rouge, LA 70808 • (504) 766-3487

ROSANNA

One-act opera by Dinos Constantinides
Libretto by David Madden

Characters

- Young Priest, about 30, afraid of his responsibilities – Baritone
- Rosanna, about 35, always a woman of boundless love – Mezzo-soprano (dramatic)
- Baroness Angelina, about 33, raised in poverty, sickly-surly-soprano
- Moro, about 40, a huge man, slightly retarded - (speaking character)
- Village Harlot, about 35, feels pity for Rosanna, hatred for Angelina - (speaking character)
- Gossip – an old woman – (speaking character)
- Two church women - (speaking character)
- ALL – crowd (speaking chorus)

Time: 1930's

Place: A barren village on the northern coast of Chile.

Staging:

Ramps encircle the bed.

A large round bed (if possible).

Lighting: area spots. Following light.

Gestures maybe introduced when Harlot strikes Rosanna – through the ALL-crowd Chorus (20 seconds).

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