



Dario Salvi

conducts the world premiere recording of

Adolphe Adam's

ballet, *Orfa*.



Adolphe
ADAM

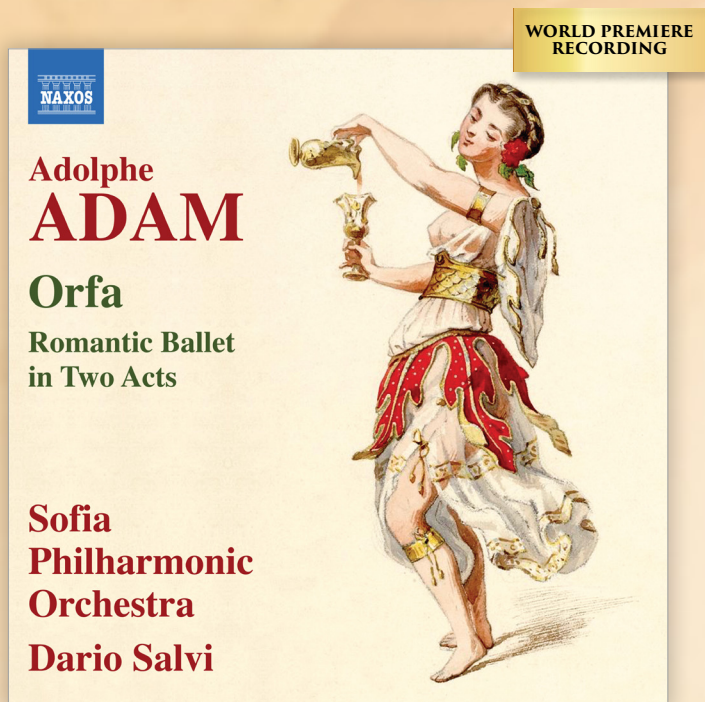
Orfa

Romantic Ballet
in Two Acts

Sofia
Philharmonic
Orchestra
Dario Salvi



Watch Video Trailer



8.574478
Price Code: NXP



Playing Time: 88:57
Release Date:
26 May 2023



Adolphe Adam
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Adolphe ADAM (1803–1856)
Orfa
Romantic Ballet in Two Acts (1852)
Kalina Hristova, Concertmaster, Violin solo
Vesela Trichkova, Harp
Sofia Philharmonic Orchestra • Dario Salvi

Click to listen to an extract from
Act I: No. 2. Pas de trois 'Les Scandinaves'
(‘The Scandinavians’)



Orfa was Adolphe Adam’s penultimate ballet, with an intriguing scenario based on Nordic mythology. It shares analogies with Hesiod’s *Theogony* and Wagner’s *Ring* cycle in depicting the struggle between the older gods (Loki) and younger gods (Odin). Full of archetypal Romantic elements, *Orfa* was mounted with the lavish stage spectacle for which the Paris Opéra was famous, and featured Fanny Cerrito in the title role. Adam’s writing shows increasingly vivid orchestral imagination, drama and tonal colour, with roles for several instrumental soloists. This world premiere recording uses a new edition copied from Adam’s original manuscript score held at the Bibliothèque nationale de France.

Key Features:

- Dario Salvi has a strong presence on Naxos and has recorded an album of Humperdinck’s music for the stage on 8.574177, music by Bronsart on 8.660476, four volumes of Auber overtures on 8.574005, 8.574006, 8.574007 and 8.574143, Johann Strauss II on 8.660434-35 as well as Suppé and Marschner. ‘Dario Salvi conducts with unreserved energy that makes the music catch fire’ – *Classical Music Daily* on Suppé’s *Mozart* incidental music (8.574383).
- ‘Maestro Dario Salvi[’s] attentive, refined, alternately restrained and fiery conducting marvellously serves the composer’s intentions and does justice to his beautiful music [...] with such precision and nuance that one would think he had been “briefed” by Johann Strauss himself!’ – *Operetta Research Center* on 8.660489-90.
- He has recently directed critically acclaimed performances of *The Gondoliers* at Winter Opera, St. Louis: ‘The orchestra played with complete assurance in conductor Dario Salvi’s stylish interpretation of the score’ (*HEC Media*).



© Vasilka Balevska

‘The restoration and recording of Adam’s penultimate ballet “*Orfa*” was at the forefront of my mind for some time. I had heard about it and listened to some piano selection and I was completely intrigued by it. Jean-Guillaume Bart, Dr. Robert Letellier and I spend a considerable amount of time researching the material and the story behind this ballet and this project would have not happened without their exhaustive competence and huge input.

The music is quintessentially Adam, but interestingly the musical numbers here are much longer than in other ballets he composed and this makes for a more homogeneous and organic listening experience. The character of the music describes and underlines the action on stage beautifully. I hope to raise interest in choreographers and theatre into staging this forgotten, but very important, ballet.’

– Dario Salvi

About Dario Salvi, Conductor

Dario Salvi is a Scottish-Italian conductor, musicologist and researcher who specialises in the restoration and performance of rare works. Salvi conducts symphonic works, ballet, opera and operettas across Europe, the Middle East and the United States. His passion is the rediscovery and performance of long-forgotten masterpieces. Recent collaborations with Naxos include a series on Auber’s overtures and orchestral music alongside numerous other projects, such as the operettas of Johann Strauss II, Franz von Suppé and Joseph Bayer, and world premiere recordings of works by Giacomo Meyerbeer, Heinrich Marschner and Engelbert Humperdinck. Salvi has also written books on Viennese operetta, published new musical editions of operas and is a lifetime honorary member of The Johann Strauss Society of Great Britain.

About the Sofia Philharmonic Orchestra



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The **Sofia Philharmonic Orchestra** has long established itself as one of the leading institutions in Bulgaria's musical life, representative of the overall contemporary musical culture of the country, and has garnered substantial recognition all over the world. The orchestra's high artistic achievement is associated with prominent figures such as Sasha Popov, Konstantin Iliev, Vassil Kazandjiev, Emil Tabakov, Julian Kovatchev and Nayden Todorov. The Philharmonic has also collaborated with eminent conductors such as Gennady Rozhdestvensky, Neville Marriner, Charles Dutoit and Marin Alsop, among others. Soloists who have performed with the orchestra include David Oistrakh, Sviatoslav Richter, Alexis Weissenberg, and many more world-renowned artists. The orchestra's repertoire comprises works from the entire historically available range of music, from classical to contemporary. Nayden Todorov is the director of the Sofia Philharmonic.

Previous Naxos recordings featuring Dario Salvi

8.225383-84



NEW

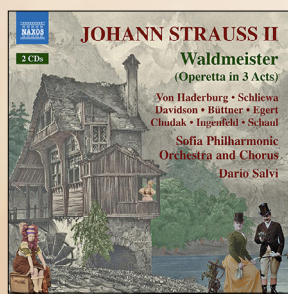
'Another recording of historical significance from the seemingly endless treasures of lesser-known grand operas is given here by a young and promising cast under the baton of Dario Salvi.'

– *The Light Music Society*



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8.660489-90



'Conductor Salvi seems to know what he's doing in these uncharted waters, and the tempos seem appropriate. The orchestra plays well, and the chorus is hearty.'

– *American Record Guide*



OPERA NEWS



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8.660434-35



'Dario Salvi proves his understanding of the music that requires a mix of colours, nuances that are both delicate and tender, and changing rhythms. His tempo allows the beautiful Straussian melodies to emerge with elegance and a dose of humour that is always present... Charming and will delight fans of the genre...'

– *Crescendo*



★★★★

★★★★

8.574449



'Dario Salvi launches a complete recording of Marschner's overtures and other pieces from his stage works. He does so very stylishly, with a stimulating alternation between relaxed and more dramatic music-making, and the Czech Chamber Philharmonic Orchestra Pardubice responds at a high technical level.'

– *Pizzicato* ★★★★★



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For Dario Salvi's full discography on Naxos, please visit www.naxos.com/Bio/Person/Dario_Salvi/323089.