

**HD**

Gaetano Donizetti  
**LUCREZIA BORGIA**

*Melodramma in one prologue and two acts*  
Libretto by Felice Romani

Conductor

**Tiziano Severini**

Director

**Francesco Bellotto**



Bergamo Musica Festival  
Gaetano Donizetti

**DYNAMIC**

# Gaetano Donizetti

## LUCREZIA BORGIA

Lucrezia Borgia  
Gennaro  
Don Alfonso  
Maffio Orsini  
Luigi Albani  
Gubetta  
Astolfo  
Livio Scarpellini

Dimitra Theodossiou  
Roberto De Biasio  
Riccardo Zanellato  
Nidia Palacios  
Rustighello  
Giuseppe Di Paola  
Mauro Corna  
Jeppo Liverotto

Conductor

**Tiziano Severini**

Director

**Francesco Bellotto**

Orchestra and Chorus of Bergamo Musica  
Festival Gaetano Donizetti

Video Director

**Matteo Ricchetti**

Filed in 16:9 HD

Recorded in November 2007

Duration 140 min.

Sung in Italian

The story of a pope's daughter who poisons and kills, by mistake, his own son was not an easy plot to pass rigid censorship: *Lucrezia Borgia*, a drama by Victor Hugo, was turned into an opera by Gaetano Donizetti on a libretto by Felice Romani. The latter left out all references to Lucrezia's incest with her brother Giovanni as well as some blasphemous quotes. The opera debuted at La Scala on 26th December 1833. In the course of the years it was changed and performed under different titles: in Naples, for example, it was staged as *La cena della vendetta*, where the audience was not told that Lucrezia was the daughter of a pope and the names of the characters were changed. Francesco Ruffa, one of the censors, wrote to the chief of the Naples police: "Without mentioning all the other horrible events showed in this production, suffice it to say that it ends with the death of six persons, five of whom are poisoned during a meal, to which they have been invited by the darkest wickedness masked as noble and kind hospitality". Among the admirers of *Lucrezia Borgia* was Eugène Delacroix, who wrote in his *Diaries* that he liked it even better than *Elisir d'amore*.



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