OPUS ARTE

Rossini
CIRO IN BABILONIA
Rossini Opera Festival, Pesaro

Ciro	Ewa Podleś
Amira	Jessica Pratt
Baldassare	Michael Spyres
Zambri	Mirco Palazzi
Argene	Carmen Romeu
Arbace	Robert McPherson
Daniello	Raffaele Costantini

Orchestra and Chorus of the Teatro Comunale di Bologna

Conductor	Will Crutchfield
Director	Davide Livermore

Recorded live at the Rossini Opera Festival, Pesaro, August 2012

1 x DVD / 1 x Blu-ray

Catalogue numbers: OA 1108D / OA BD7123 D
Price codes: D (DVD) / E (BLU-RAY)
Barcodes: 809 4780 1108 8 (DVD) / 809 4780 7123 5 (BLU-RAY)
Running time: 165 minutes
Subtitles: EN/FR/DE/JP/KR
Sound format: 2.0LPCM + 5.1(5.0) DTS

The Biblical story of Belshazzar's hubristic arrogance set against the valour of the young warrrior-leader Cyrus provided the 20-year-old Rossini with a dramatic story with West-Eastern resonances which still speak to us today. For the title role of Cyrus, Rossini wrote what would be his longest-ever contralto role, to which the great Rossini singer Ewa Podleś is both naturally attracted and ideally suited. She is partnered by two young stars of Rossini singing, Jessica Pratt and Michael Spyres, and a conductor-scholar, Will Crutchfield, of immense experience and sympathy.

- World-premiere filming of this Rossini masterpiece
- Rossini was only 20 when he wrote *Ciro in Babilonia*.
- Stage director Davide Livermore sets the action in the 1920s, with period black-and-white film inserts.
- Features Ewa Podleś as Ciro.
- From the Rossini Festival at Pesaro, Italy – the only festival devoted exclusively to the works of the composer.
- Extra features include: Cast gallery.

What the press said:

"In the title role, the booming contralto Ewa Podles gives the kind of old-style, intensely felt performance that is her trademark. As Amira, the soprano Jessica Pratt established herself in two daunting arias as a brilliant new presence on the bel canto scene." *New York Times*

Related product:
MOSE IN EGITTO (Pesaro) OA 1093D / OA BD7112 D
LA SCALA DI SETA (Pesaro) OA 1075 D