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# The Metropolitan Opera Presents: Puccini's Tosca: The Complete Libretto

*Luigi Illica, Giuseppe Giacosa*  
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The Metropolitan Opera Presents

*Giacomo Puccini's*

## Tosca

LIBRETTO, BACKGROUND, AND PHOTOS



Music by Giacomo Puccini  
Libretto by Luigi Illica and Giuseppe Giacosa  
Based on the play *La Tosca* by Victorien Sardou

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before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Metropolitan Opera Presents: Puccini's Tosca: The Complete Libretto:

(Amadeus). An idealistic artist, a celebrated opera singer, and a corrupt police chief engage in a fierce battle of wills in

this tempestuous tale of passion, intrigue, cruelty, and deception. Puccini's great melodrama may be set in 1800, amid the Napoleonic wars, but the conflicts between love and loyalty, the state and the individual, and hypocrisy and principle are anything but dated. Floria Tosca, the beautiful, glamorous singer who has all of Rome at her feet, is one of the iconic soprano roles in the Italian repertoire. She's caught between two men: her lover, the handsome painter Cavaradossi, who defies the law to hide a rebel friend; and the villainous Baron Scarpia, Rome's all-powerful chief of police, who will stop at nothing to crush the rebels and conquer Tosca for himself. This gripping story of torture, attempted rape, murder, suicide, and general mayhem is as thrilling and dramatic as anything seen on the operatic stage.