



Joan  
Sutherland

OPERATIC  
ARIAS  
from

*Lucia di Lammermoor*  
*Linda di Chamounix*  
*Ernani*  
*I Vespri Siciliani*

NELLO SANTI  
Paris  
Conservatoire  
Orchestra

Dame Joan Sutherland, in full Dame Joan Alston Sutherland, (born November 7, 1926, Sydney, Australia—died October 10, 2010, Les Avants, Switzerland), Australian operatic soprano internationally acclaimed for her coloratura roles.

The daughter of a gifted singer, she studied piano and voice with her mother until 1946, when she won a vocal competition and began studying voice with John and Aida Dickens. She made her singing debut as Dido in a concert performance of Henry Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas* in Sydney in 1947 and her operatic debut in the title role of Sir Eugene Goossens's *Judith* in 1951. Cash prizes from several vocal competitions made it possible for her to move to London and begin study with Clive Carey at the Royal College of Music. In 1952 she was accepted into the company of the Royal Opera, Covent Garden, and made her first appearance there as the First Lady in Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's *The Magic Flute*.

Her accompanist and vocal coach, Richard Bonyngé, who had worked with her in Sydney, was convinced that her future lay in the florid coloratura repertoire even though Covent Garden was training her as a dramatic Wagnerian soprano. In 1954 she married Bonyngé, and with his help and encouragement she

began to develop her higher range. In 1959 Covent Garden revived Gaetano Donizetti's *Lucia di Lammermoor* for her, and in 1961 she made her New York City debut in the same role at the Metropolitan Opera. Her performance in this difficult title role won international recognition and established her as the leading coloratura of the 20th century.

Sutherland afterward sang in Venice, Vienna, Dallas (Texas), Paris, Barcelona (Spain), Genoa (Italy), Milan, San Francisco, Chicago, and her native Sydney. Her greatest later successes were as Norma in Vincenzo Bellini's opera of that name, Cleopatra in George Frideric Handel's *Giulio Cesare*, and the three sopranos in Jacques Offenbach's *The Tales of Hoffmann*. She also had an impressive concert career and can be heard on many highly acclaimed recordings. Sutherland retired from performing in 1990.

Sutherland's numerous awards include a Kennedy Center Honor (2004). She was made a Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire (DBE) in 1978. *A Prima Donna's Progress: The Autobiography of Joan Sutherland* was published in 1997.

# Joan Sutherland

## OPERATIC ARIAS

1. Donizetti - Ancor Non Giunse! .... Regnava Nel Silenzio From Lucia Di Lammermoor  
Soprano Vocals – Nadine Sautereau
2. Verdi - Surta È La Notte ..... Ernani! Involami From Act I Of Ernani
3. Verdi - Bolero: Mercè, Dilette Amiche From Act V Of I Vespri Siciliani
4. Donizetti - Ah! Tardai Troppo ... O Luce Di Quest'Anima From Act I Of Linda Di Chamounix
- 5, Donizetti - Il Dolce Suono Mi Corpi Di Sua Voce! ...  
Ardon Gl'Incensi (Mad Scene) From Act II Of Lucia Di Lammermoor  
Chorus – Members Of The Paris Opera Chorus Chorus Master – René Duclos

Engineer Kenneth Wilkinson Producer - Ray Minshull  
Recorded by Decca 1959

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