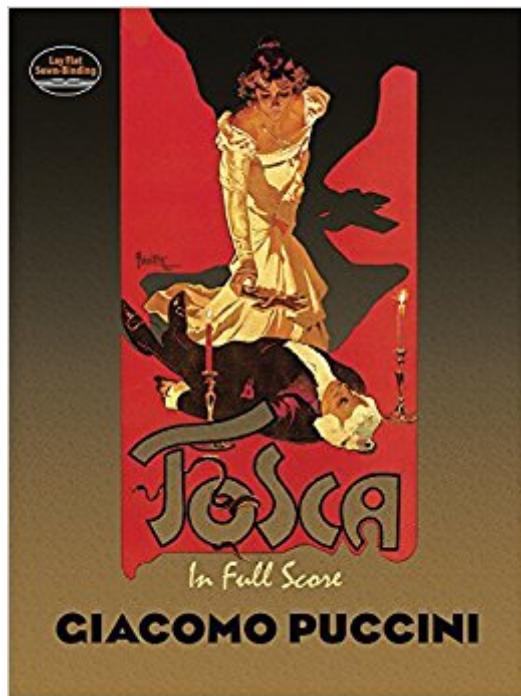


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# Tosca In Full Score (Dover Music Scores)



## Synopsis

When Giacomo Puccini saw Sarah Bernhardt in a production of *La Tosca* by French playwright Victorien Sardou, he knew immediately that its highly dramatic plot, turning on lust, revenge, and betrayal, was made for opera. When he heard that Verdi was interested in the play, his own interest in the property deepened. It was Puccini alone who ultimately brought the project to fruition and transformed Sardou's work into an operatic tour de force. *Tosca*, with a libretto by Giuseppe Giacosa and Luigi Illica, was first presented in Rome at the Teatro Costanzi in January 1900. Since then, audiences drawn by its intense drama (Puccini himself referred to it as a melodrama), sumptuous scoring, and two of opera's most famous arias — Tosca's "Vissi d'arte" and Cavaradossi's "E lucevan le stelle" — have made *Tosca* one of the most performed and recorded operas of all time. This finely made edition is reprinted from the authoritative full-score edition printed shortly after the opera's premiere.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Here is one of Puccini's greatest hits, in an affordable version for complete orchestra. This story of love, art and death in Rome during the Napoleonic wars is today considered a classic for such arias as "Vissi d'arte" (I lived for art; I lived for love), but at its premiere in 1900 it was denounced as "a shabby little shocker," for things like Baron Scarpia's lechery and Tosca's termination of him with extreme prejudice. Be aware that Dover's scores are reprints from other companies that are now out

of copyright; that means that they're older versions, and lack such amenities as English translations.

"Brilliantly produced and superb value." — Sunday Times "All these will provide the new operagoer with food for thought." — Daily Telegraph "Wholehearted recommendation of this valuable new series." — TLS --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

Fabulous music with CDS, great artists, conductors and librettos.

This is one of my favorite operas but unfortunately this recording stinks. Scarpia probably had a hand in the engineering. While the performance is of high quality the dynamics are very poor. Whoever mixed it was playing the magic flute or intoxicated with the elixir of love. The quiet passages are recorded at such low levels that I have to increase the volume to hear them, but only to find myself forced to rush over to lower the drastically over amplified loud passages. As I have a much better recording (Caballe-Carreras-Wixell on Phillips) I end up looking at this book and playing the other. This was most disappointing since I also have the companion La Boheme and Butterfly and those are excellent. Save your money on this one.....

This performance was not as up to standard as the 1967 Solti Vienna recording and or the newer 2001 Berlin Abbado recording !!NOTE there were scratches all the way through the Lacrymosa !! Not good !!

as expected

It was once said that Puccini's "La Boheme" was all music and no drama, while "Tosca" was all drama and no music. Yet, at least to modern listeners, "Tosca," with its resonating themes, its incredible orchestrations, and its compelling story line of love, lust, loyalty, and betrayal continues to fascinate. The full score will aid the discerning listener in enjoying the scope of Puccini's genius as music and drama come together in a breathtaking rush of melody, aria, and incredible pathos. One of opera's most detestable, yet evilly engaging, villains, Baron Scarpia, stalks with regal ominousness. Floria Tosca sings one of the most poignant arias, "Visa d'arte. Visa amore." And as the plot thickens, the listener is carried to new heights of musical drama as the lovers plan their escape. But Scarpia's evil hand reaches from beyond the veil of death to thwart their flight to love and freedom. Puccini's orchestrations, his soaring melodies, and his sense of place and time have

thrilled audiences for generations. Enjoy it again with the full score, and your favorite recording!

Complete music on 2 cds, unabridged libretto, history of composer, the specific opera, historical performances...What else could you ask for for under \$\$\$! AND you end up getting so much more out of the performance when you know the story to the music. You spend less time reading the sub-title screen and more time enjoying the performance. (Not to mention you can be a "smarty pants" and share the operas history with other patrons.) I wish they had more than 14 operas in this collection. Also great for the opera collection is "The Book of 101 Opera Librettos" also by Black Dog. Black Dog? Are you reading this? I want more

Very nice book and libretto. I have enjoyed several titles of the Black Dog Opera Library. But I have to agree with the reviewer who complained about uneven sound mixing on the CD. Had to adjust volume several times while listening to the CD.

The score in this book is perfect, it's a copy of an Ricordi Edition, if you are a conductor you can use it, don't confuse with the comment of the hardcover edition, the hardcover doesn't have the full score of the opera only this book. it's a good edition, if you like this opera buy this book.

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