

YOUR SUMMER QUARTERLY GIFT IS HERE, L.I.F.E. MUSIC MAKERS!

Warm greetings to all of our L.I.F.E. members this summer!! Our song this season is a well-known rhythmic march, the "Triumphal March" from Giuseppe Verdi's opera *Aida*. The Khedive of Egypt, Isma'il Pasha, commissioned Verdi to write the opera to celebrate the 1871 opening of the Khedivial Opera House in Cairo.

Aida is set in ancient Egypt. The opera's plot centers around Radamès, a captain in the Egyptian guard, and two women, Aida and Amneris. Amneris is the daughter of the Pharaoh, while Aida is a slave. However, unbeknownst to the Egyptians, Aida is actually the daughter of the King of Ethiopia. Aida and Radamès have fallen secretly in love, but Amneris is also in love with Radamès. Amneris is aware that Radamès and Aida are in love and declares that she will win Radamès. When Aida's father, King Amonasro, discovers that she has been captured, he declares war on Egypt, and Radamès is chosen to lead the Egyptian army. The Egyptian army defeats the Ethiopians, and Radamès returns as a conquering hero.

Egypt's victory is celebrated by a grand parade, for which the "Triumphal March" is performed. For defeating the Ethiopians, the King of Egypt declares that Radamès and Amneris be betrothed and Radamès be named the Pharaoh's successor. Aida discovers that her father has been taken prisoner, and he orders Aida to betray Radamès by finding out from him which route the Egyptian army will take to invade Ethiopia. Amonasro hides as Radamès arrives and assures Aida of his love. They discuss their future life together, and Radamès agrees to run away with her. Aida asks him about the army's route, and just as he reveals the secret, Amonasro emerges from his hiding place. When he realizes that Amonasro is the Ethiopian king, Radamès is horrified by what he has done, and the Princess of Egypt, Amneris, and the high priest step out of the temple. Aida and her father flee, but Radamès surrenders to the priests.

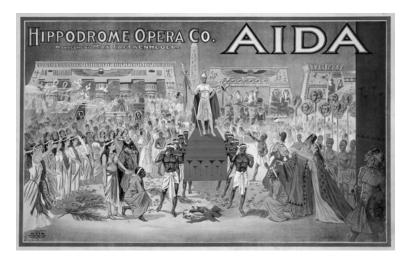
Radamès awaits trial as a traitor, believing Aida to be dead. After he learns that she has survived, he rejects an offer by Amneris to save himself if he renounces Aida. When he is brought before the priests, he refuses to answer their accusations and is condemned to be buried alive. Amneris begs for mercy, but the judges will not change their verdict. Locked in a tomb to die, Radamès thinks of Aida, only to discover that she has hidden herself in the tomb in order to die with him. While Amneris is devastated at what she has done, the two lovers die together in the tomb...

This is just one of the many benefits of being a member of L.I.F.E.! We hope you are continuing to enjoy our Trip to the Opera!

Musically yours, Jacqueline Mavros and the L.I.F.E. Team Giuseppe Verdi's

Triumphal March

from the opera: Aida



Style: Grand March - Tempo 85 +/-

Setup: Style Setup 0 (Vintage zero on Marquee, Rialto, & Inspire)

Upper = Orchestral Strings, Lower Right = Bugel (Flugel Horn or Trumpet)

Transpose up three (E^b) to be in the original key

