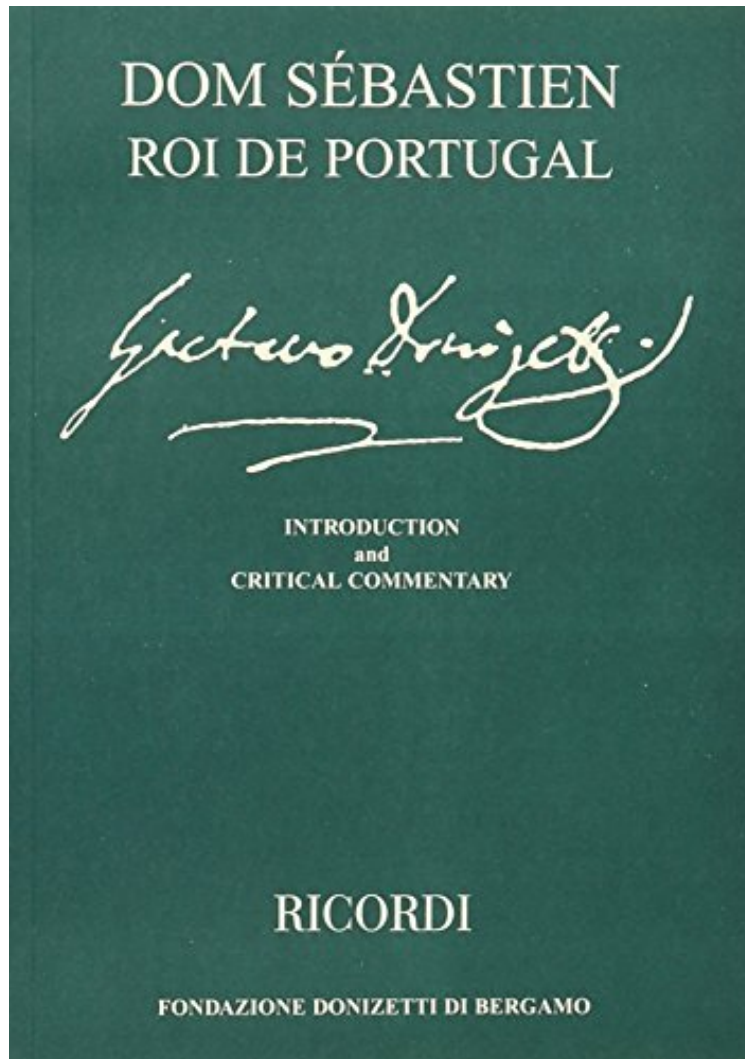


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Gaetano Donizetti : Dom Sebastien, roi de Portugal: Opera in Five Acts by Eugne Scribe (The Critical Edition of the Operas of Gaetano Donizetti: Operas) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Dom Sebastien, roi de Portugal: Opera in Five Acts by Eugne Scribe (The Critical Edition of

the Operas of Gaetano Donizetti: Operas):

Donizetti's moving and tragic opera *Dom Sbastien*, a full five-act grand opra, was his last and perhaps most ambitious project. He had taken Paris by storm in previous years with a volley of triumphs and planned *Dom Sbastien* as an impressive and innovative artistic statement. Yet the project was plagued by demands for cuts and alterations during the rehearsal period. While the 1843 Paris premiere was a success, the dissatisfied composer made several changes for the opera's 1845 Vienna premiere. For the 1847 Milan production, however, changes and misreadings generated an altered version in Italianthe version commonly known todayand Donizetti's failing health prevented his involvement then or later. Recent musicological speculation about this distorted version has generated further misunderstanding. This new critical edition of *Dom Sbastien* clears up the years of confusion by restoring the original French text as Donizetti planned it. This edition contains commentary in English. Appendixes include his variants from the 1845 Viennese production, most notably the new ensemble piece added to the finale of the third act. This score provides scholars and musicians with a definitive edition of Donizetti's last great masterwork.