

CHARACTERS

Chopin	The pianist. No acting or dialogue. Dressed in contemporary black tie.
Jenny Lind	Soprano. No acting or dialogue. Beautiful long dress (dark colour). For Act V, a large dark shawl.
Pauline Viardot	Soprano. No acting or dialogue. Same or similar long dress. She may also sing as Jenny Lind (e.g. in Acts V and VI).
Narrator	Man or woman (contemporary dress) telling the story* and introducing the artists. No acting as such.

MUSIC

Act I, Coup-de-foudre	- Ia Chopin's "Fantaisie-Impromptu", Op. 66. - Ib Aria by Bellini** (melodic, not too long).***
Act II, Magnolias	- IIa "Herdegossen" ("The Herdsman's Song")** by I.A. Berg, in Swedish or English. - IIb "Norwegian Echo Song",** in Norwegian or English.****
Act III, Clouds	- IIIa "Chopin's Etude in C minor", Op. 10, no. 12 (Revolutionary).** - IIIb Ballade no. 1 in G minor, Op. 23.
Act IV, Hope	- IVa Duo: "La Beauté",** inspired by Chopin's Mazurka in G major, Op. 67, no. 1 (arrangement by Pauline Viardot). - IVb Duo: "La mère grand" by Giacomo Meyerbeer.
Act V, Death	- V "Ah non credea" (Finale of the last act of Bellini's La Sonnambula).** The soprano should sing and play.
Act VI, Love	- VI "Mazurka in A flat major", Op. 24, no. 3, set to Italian words** (from Jenny Lind's arrangement "Recueil de Mazurkas de F. Chopin").

MATERIAL

- Musical scores (available from Icons of Europe: IIa, IIb, IVa, IVb, V and VI).
- Script and microphone for the narrator; no pulpit should be used.
- Six images, each displayed prominently during the acts (see next page).
- Small table bell for the narrator to signal the entry of the artists.
- Two candlesticks with tall white candles, and matches, for Act V.
- Facility to dim the lighting of the stage or whole room in Act V.

* Background information including the new Chopin / Jenny Lind research findings and the fairytale of Hans Christian Andersen, "The Nightingale" available at ChopinLind.com and Iconsofeurope.com.

** A 'must' musical item (obbligato).

*** For example: an arrangement of "Casta Diva" (Norma), or an aria from Beatrice di Tenda.

**** The score indicates, when the echo should be produced. The original score explains: "At this point, Madame Goldschmidt [Jenny Lind] turned from the Pianoforte towards the audience, facing it, and singing straight towards the length of the Room (having in view the production of the Echo) until the final note, when she *slowly* turned back towards the Pianoforte, and struck the Chord of D to the same note in the voice part."