

# ANDREA CHÉNIER

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The Met  
ropolitan  
Opera **HD**  
LIVE

CONDUCTOR

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Lisette Oropesa

MADDALENA DI COIGNY

Sonya Yoncheva

ANDREA CHÉNIER

Piotr Beczała

CARLO GÉRARD

Igor Golovatenko

**ACT I** *Paris, 1789.* At a party at the Countess di Coigny's home, news of the growing revolution is discussed. The Countess's daughter, Maddalena, asks the writer Andrea Chénier to improvise a poem. His paean to nature turns into an appeal against tyranny. The servant Gérard, who is secretly in love with Maddalena, declares his disgust with the ways of the aristocracy and departs.

INTERMISSION

**ACT II** *1794.* The Reign of Terror is in full force. Chénier has received anonymous letters from a woman and hopes to find the love he never experienced. The writer turns out to be Maddalena, who begs for Chénier's protection. He promises to help her, and they declare their love. Gérard, now a leader of the Revolution, has been looking for Maddalena. When Chénier wounds him in a fight, Gérard lets his rival get away, asking him to protect Maddalena.

INTERMISSION

**ACT III** Chénier has been arrested. When Gérard confesses his love to Maddalena, she offers herself to him to save Chénier. Touched by her devotion, Gérard promises to try and rescue him. Even though he admits to the Revolutionary Tribunal that his accusations against the poet were false, Chénier is sentenced to death.

**ACT IV** At the St. Lazare prison, Maddalena bribes the jailer to let her join Chénier in death. The lovers share a final moment before being taken to the guillotine.

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