



Gounod s Operas in London (Classic Reprint) (Paperback)

By Richard Northcott

Forgotten Books, United States, 2016. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. Excerpt from Gounod s Operas in London This work was written for Pauline Viardot, to whom, perhaps we owe Faust, for she encouraged him to confine himself to music. Gounod, at that time, was very friendly with the Garcia family, and frequently visited them at Courtavenel, in Brie. On one occasion he took part there in a performance of Beaumarchais s Mariage de Figaro, when Viardot was the Suzanne, her daughter Louise the Cherubino, Ivan Turgenev the Almaviva, Desiree-Artois the Countess, Joaquina Garcia the Don Basilio, and he the Figaro. Gounod was a very distinct speaker. In her reminiscences Mathilde Marchesi wrote Gounod sang delightfully, and one could not help overlooking the poorness of the voice while listening to his perfect diction. Chorley, who did so much for Gounod in this country, met the composer through the introduction of Pauline Viardot, and in his journal of 1850 there is the following comment It was a great pleasure to me in Paris to add to my list of sensations Gounod, of whom the world will one day hear...

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