

“Dio che nell’anima infondere” (God, who deep within our souls”)-
DON CARLO, Act I duet, Giuseppe Verdi; 1867 (Rodrigo, baritone, Carlo,
tenor)

SYNOPSIS: Rodrigo (Marquis of Posa) has returned to Spain after a long absence in Flanders and meets his lifelong friend, Don Carlo, heir to the throne. Rodrigo recounts the suffering of the people in Flanders, an occupied Spanish colony, and begs Carlo to help them. Carlo reveals his anguish over the marriage of his father, King Philip I, to the woman Carlo loves—Elisabeth. In face of these problems, the two men swear their eternal friendship.

RODRIGO and DON CARLO

Dio, che nell’anima infondere
amor volesti e speme,
desio nel core accendere
tu déi di libertà!

Giuriamo insiem di vivere
e di morire insieme;
in terra, in ciel congiungere
ci può la tua bontà.

Ah! Dio, che nell’anima infondere, ecc. Ah! God, who deep within our souls, etc.

God, who deep within our souls,
wanted us to love and hope,
light our hearts, we beg you,
with the yearning for freedom!
We swear that together we’ll live
and together we’ll die;
on earth and in heaven we’ll unite,
if that is your kindly wish.

---From “An Afternoon of Opera” recital, sponsored by Santa Cruz Opera
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