

NAXOS
AudioBooks

**NON-
FICTION**

Jan Morris
Venice

Read by **Sebastian Comberti**



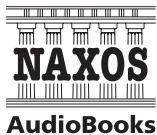
NA435312D

1	Introduction by Jan Morris	8:19
2	Venice by Jan Morris read by Sebastian Comberti	6:43
3	So the Venetians became islanders...	5:00
4	Venice stood at the mouth of the great Po valley...	5:19
5	You can tell a Venetian by his face.	6:41
6	The Venetians always had an eager eye for a monopoly...	5:41
7	And among them all, the very image of Venice...	7:01
8	I once passed an idle breakfast...	6:22
9	Venice is a complicated place, physically and spiritually...	5:44
10	The women of Venice are very handsome, and very vain.	7:26
11	There are very few mortal children in the pictures...	4:29
12	There are, however, some gorgeous artificial horses.	5:30
13	Most people, though, will remember Venice as a city of birds.	5:06
14	There were magnificent regattas, and gymnastic competitions...	6:04
15	Half a century later another Patriarch of Venice became Pope...	5:16
16	The Venetians are not quite so religious as you might suppose...	6:58
17	If the Venetians are not always devout...	5:59
18	There are still about 800 Jews in Venice.	5:20
19	There are still Armenians in Venice too.	5:06
20	The Venetians have never quite recovered from their loss...	4:09

21	It was the end of an era...	5:08
22	Venice stands, as she loves to tell you...	7:13
23	The bridges of the lagoon have linked Venice...	4:44
24	A wonderful variety of boats has been developed...	4:41
25	Different indeed is the character of the gondola...	5:37
26	There are many houses in Venice that do not stand upon canals...	6:40
27	The early Venetian bridges were used by horses...	6:39
28	Several different kinds of policemen keep Venice safe...	4:14
29	Everybody dies in Venice.	5:48
30	The buildings of Venice are mostly very old.	5:59
31	Thus, early that July morning...	6:47
32	This is an old story.	7:16
33	Bestial, too, were the men of Venice...	8:14
34	In the Strada Nuova, on the way to the station...	7:39
35	Venice is no longer the supreme city of music...	6:15
36	The service in Venetian restaurants is usually rough and ready...	6:10
37	'The <i>piazza</i> of St Mark's', wrote a medieval Venetian monk...	5:12
38	In the little square opposite my apartment Casanova was born.	8:05
39	Venice was always alone in the world...	5:45
40	Venetian art, too, is rich in curiosities.	5:14

41	There are many mementoes of Napoleon in Venice...	6:02
42	But when all is said, and nearly all is done...	5:45
43	'We are not,' (swore d'Annunzio)...	6:12
44	For myself, I think she deserves even more.	5:43
45	The lagoon is never complacent.	7:57
46	The <i>enfant terrible</i> of the lagoon...	8:15
47	The convents of the Venetian lagoon were famous...	4:47
48	San Francesco del Deserto is a small and captivating island...	5:42
49	And far off in the northern lagoon...	8:44
50	Perhaps you are a millionaire...	9:15

Total time: 5:16:42



Recording the Classics: from Ancient to Modern

Naxos AudioBooks established its reputation as the leading label for classics on audiobooks with a series of award-winning recordings, both abridged and unabridged. The novels of Charles Dickens read by Anton Lesser, Sean Barrett and David Timson present full Technicolor characterisation; Jane Austen is elegantly and memorably served by Juliet Stevenson and Emilia Fox; Jim Norton's readings of the novels of James Joyce, especially *Ulysses*, are milestones in audiobook history.

But Naxos AudioBooks has also embarked vigorously on contemporary literature. The major novels of the Japanese writer Haruki Murakami now appear on the label – among them *Kafka on the Shore*, *The Wind-up Bird Chronicle* and *A Wild Sheep Chase* – and have won plaudits and awards. Cormac McCarthy's bleak and powerful novels *The Road*, *Blood Meridian* and *No Country for Old Men* are read by Rupert Degas, Robert G. Slade and Sean Barrett in intense and atmospheric recordings; the 2007 Booker Prize-winner *The Gathering* by Anne Enright was recorded unabridged in the presence of the writer by the charismatic Fiona Shaw; and Rose Tremain's engaging novels *The Road Home*, *Music & Silence* and *Restoration* have been brought to life by Juliet Stevenson, Michael Praed (with Clare Wille and Alison Dowling) and Rupert Degas.

In this fascinating book Jan Morris brings to life Venice's unique history.

The music on this recording is taken from the NAXOS catalogue

- GABRIELI** Music for Brass Vol. 1 8.553609
London Symphony Brass / Eric Crees
- VIVALDI** Flute Concerto in D major, RV 90, 'Il gardellino' 8.553365
Béla Drahoš, Flute / Nicolaus Esterházy Sinfonia
- MONTEVERDI** Sonata 8.550662
Scholars Baroque Ensemble
- MENDELSSOHN** Venetian Gondola Song, Op. 19, No. 6 8.550087
Slovak Radio Symphony Orchestra / Ondrej Lenárd
- MAHLER** Symphony No. 5 8.550528
Polish National Radio Symphony Orchestra / Antoni Wit
- ALBINONI** Oboe Concerto in D minor, Op. 9, No. 2 8.550739
Anthony Camden, Oboe / London Virtuosi / John Georgiadis
- MEDIEVAL PILGRIM MUSIC** 8.553132
Oni Wytars Ensemble / Unicorn Ensemble
- VIVALDI** Violin Concerto in C major, Op. 8, No. 6, RV 180, 'Il piacere' 8.557920
Cho-Liang Lin, Violin / Anthony Newman, Organ / Sejong
- WAGNER** Tristan und Isolde: Prelude to Act I / Isolde's Liebestod 8.550498
Polish National Radio Orchestra / Johannes Wildner
- LISZT** La lugubre gondola, S200/R81 8.553852
Arnaldo Cohen, Piano
- MONTEVERDI** Ave Maris Stella 8.550663
Scholars Baroque Ensemble
- CHOPIN** Barcarolle in F sharp major, Op. 60 8.550291
Balázs Szokolay, Piano

Music programming by Sarah Butcher



Jan Morris was born in 1926 of a Welsh father and an English mother, and educated at Lancing and Christ Church, Oxford. After military service during World War 2 (which first took her to Venice) she spent 10 years as a foreign correspondent for *The Times* and *The Guardian*, before becoming a full-time writer in the 1960s. Since then she has written some 40 books of history, travel, biography and fiction. She lives at the top left corner of Wales.



Sebastian Comberti was born in London of Italian/German parents. As a professional cellist of many years, he performs with many of London's chamber orchestras and is active as a recitalist and chamber player. In 2001 he founded the Cello Classics recording label which has won international acclaim for its innovative programming. He has also worked as a voice-over artist, with roles including 'lost boy' in *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* and 'lost cellist' in *The Madness of King George*. He has also read *Discover Music of the Baroque Era* for Naxos AudioBooks.

Credits

Abridged by Katrin Williams
Copyright © Jan Morris 2009
Produced and mastered by Sarah Butcher
Recorded at Danesbury Studio, Hertfordshire.
Edited by Patrick Phillips

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. UNAUTHORISED PUBLIC PERFORMANCE, BROADCASTING AND COPYING OF THESE COMPACT DISCS PROHIBITED.

Cover picture: *The Palaces of Justice and of the Doge* by Canaletto (1697–1768); courtesy of AKG Images

Other works on Naxos AudioBooks



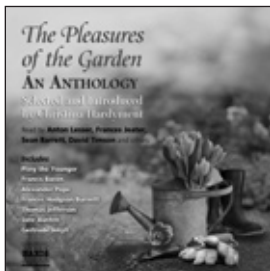
A Guide to Wine (Curry)
ISBN: 9789626342909
Read by Julian Curry



A Bad Birdwatcher's Companion (Barnes)
ISBN: 9789626344460
Read by Simon Barnes



The Island Race (Churchill)
ISBN: 9789626340479
Read by Edward de Souza
with Sir Edward Heath



The Pleasures of the Garden (Hardyment)
ISBN: 9781843793595
Read by Anton Lesser, Sean Barrett, Frances Jeater, Roy McMillan and others

Other works on Naxos AudioBooks



Classic Romance (Various)
ISBN: 9789626344309
Introduced by Alex Jennings



The Mill on the Floss (Eliot)
ISBN: 9789626343715
Read by Sara Kestelman



The House on the Strand (du Maurier)
ISBN: 9789626343418
Read by Michael Maloney



Favourite Essays: An Anthology
ISBN: 9789626349373
Read by Neville Jason

Other works on Naxos AudioBooks



The History of English Poetry (Whitfield)
ISBN: 9789626349151
Read by Derek Jacobi



Seven Pillars of Wisdom (Lawrence)
ISBN: 9789626340103
Read by Jim Norton



Beowulf (Anonymous)
ISBN: 9789626344255
Read by Crawford Logan



Sacred Elephant (Williams)
ISBN: 9789626344538
Read by Heathcote Williams with
Harry Burton and Caroline Webster



Jan Morris **Venice**

Read by **Sebastian Comberti**

'The best book about Venice ever written.' *SUNDAY TIMES*

Venice stands, as she loves to tell you, on the frontiers of the east and west, half-way between the setting and the rising sun. Goethe calls her 'the market-place of the Morning and the Evening lands'. Certainly no city on earth gives a more immediate impression of symmetry and unity, or seems more patently born to greatness.

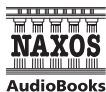
So Jan Morris remarks, with graceful literary distinction, on the qualities that have made Venice a unique place among the world's great destinations. She has known it intimately for over six decades. She knows its history, its carvings, its idiosyncrasies, its weather and all the Doges of the past. She returns even now, never tiring of this 'dappled city, tremulous and flickering'. She first wrote *Venice* in praise of it 50 years ago and has revised the book three times. To open this premiere audiobook recording, Jan Morris reads a personal introduction which perfectly distils a lifetime's fascination with *La Serenissima*.



Sebastian Comberti was born in London of Italian/German parents. A professional cellist, he founded the Cello Classics recording label in 2001. He has also read *Discover Music of the Baroque Era* for Naxos AudioBooks.

CD ISBN:
978-184-379-353-3

View our catalogue online at
www.naxosaudiobooks.com



Produced by
Sarah Butcher

© 2010 Naxos
AudioBooks Ltd.
© 2010 Naxos
AudioBooks Ltd.
Made in Germany.

**NON-
FICTION**
ABRIDGED

Total time
5:16:42