

# THE MALTESE IN THE WORLD

## Nicolò Isouard and *l'Opera de Paris*

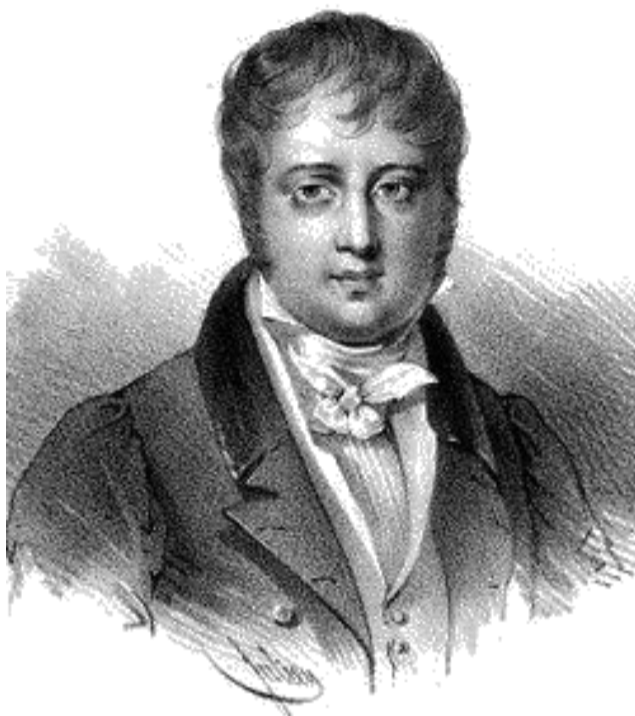
Nicolò Isouard (b. 16 May 1773 Valletta – d. March 23, 1818, Paris) was a Maltese composer. He is considered to be one of the founders of the Théâtre de l'Opéra - Comique

The passage of Malta into French hands in 1798 meant also the appointment of the first Maltese Commissioner, the then acclaimed international composer, Nicolò Isouard. Isouard subsequently left for France and became very famous in Napoleon's Paris.

Under the Knights of Malta Isouard was appointed as Maestro di Cappella of St. John's Co-Cathedral by the Grand Master Manoel de Rohan.

Isouard composed operas, songs and duets and other pieces like 'La Paix' on the occasion of The Treaty of Amiens.

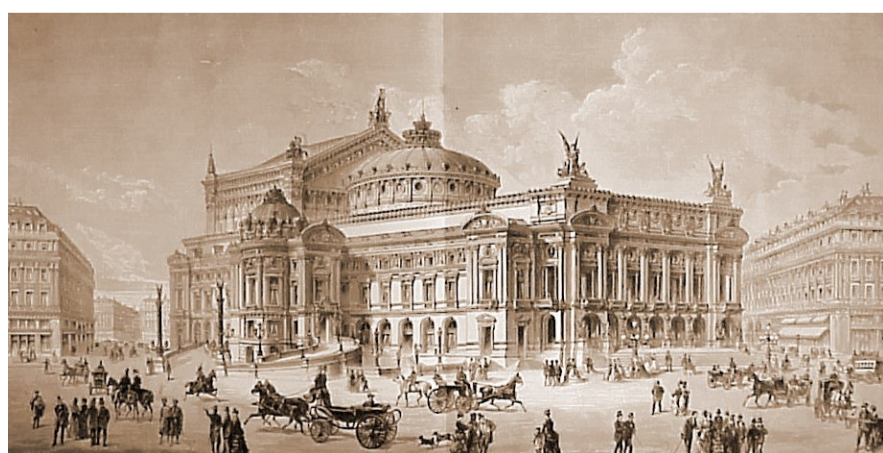
During the years 1805 and 1817 his popularity was at its peak in the Opera Comique Feydean with compositions like 'Cendrillon', 'Joconde' and 'Jeannot et Colin'. In all Nicolò Isouard composed 42 operas of which several of them were translated in different languages like German, Russian, Spanish, Polish and English languages.



Maltese Composer Nicolò Isouard

Nicolò Isouard is buried at in Paris. He was given a ceremonial burial with funeral

marches and the accompanying of the French National Guards. The hearse-cloth over his coffin was held by composers Cherubini and Berton and by professors Delrieu and Etienne. A bust of the composer is placed on the facade of the l'Opera de Paris and one of the main squares in Paris was bears his name.



Composer Nicolò Isouard considered to be one of the founders of *l'Opera de Paris*



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