

## **MANON**

by Jules Massenet

### **Synopsis**

At an inn in Amiens, Chevalier des Grieux falls in love with Manon, while she is on a brief stopover on her way to a convent. They escape together.

The lovers elope to Paris, where they live together in modest circumstances. The fun- and luxury-loving Manon is visited by De Brétigny, a friend of her cousin Lescaut's. De Brétigny persuades her to go away with him.

Des Grieux decides to become a priest, in spite of pleas from his father, who would rather he marry and raise a family. Manon, who missed her days of love with him, comes to visit and persuades him to go away with her.

At a gambling house, Manon is enjoying life's pleasures, but soon Des Grieux is accused of cheating and she is arrested as a prostitute and sentenced to deportation.

On the road to Le Havre, Des Grieux bribes an officer in order to obtain permission to speak with Manon. He tries to talk her into running away with him, but she is too weak and dies in his arms.