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*Avventure e lacrime di una Leonora polacca: «L'amor coniugale» di Mayr*, «Donizetti Studies», 2, 2022, pp. 91-104.

*Abstract*

The critical success of Mayr's *L'amor coniugale* came earlier than the rest of his production, probably by virtue of the subject, very widespread and later used by Beethoven in *Fidelio*. Interest subsequently waned, but recently a new edition of the score has been prepared and the two volumes of the autograph score kept in the Biblioteca civica "Angelo Mai" in Bergamo have been made available online. Taking advantage of these novelties, the essay explores the historical circumstances related to the composition of the work and offers some ideas for a dramaturgical reading, focusing in particular on two aspects: the high rate of adventure and the sentimental treatment of the argument. The essay also presents a comparison with the source from which Mayr and Rossi's work comes, namely Bouilly's *opéra comique Léonore ou L'amour conjugal* with music by Gaveaux.