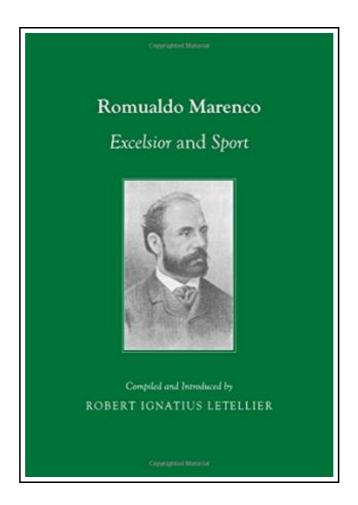
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ROMUALDO MARENCO: EXCELSIOR AND SPORT AZIONE COREOGRAFICA, STORICA, ALLEGORICA, FANTASTICA DI LUIGI MANZOTTI: EXCELSIOR AND SPORT



Cambridge Scholars Publishing, United Kingdom, 2012. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 1st Unabridged. 296 x 208 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Excelsior, an extraordinary spectacular ballet in 6 parts and 11 scenes by Luigi Manzotti, with music by Romualdo Marenco, was premiered on 11 January 1881 at La Scala Milan. This unique and remarkable allegorical work depicts the rise of human civilization, and the stormy progress of technical development. This scenario is envisioned as an embittered struggle between the Spirits of Light and Darkness, and their more human personifications as Civilization (or Progress) and Obscurantism. The invention of the steam ship, the iron bridge, electricity, telegraphy, the building of the Suez Canal and the Mont Cenis Tunnel see the Spirit of Darkness admitting defeat. A Grand Festival of the nations of the world in harmony is celebrated with an apotheosis of light and peace. The ballet enjoyed immense popularity and was constantly revived all over Europe. After its Vienna premiere in 1885, it remained in the repertory for 29 years, receiving 329 performances. Modern revivals have been by Ugo dell Ara for the Maggio Musicale Fiorentino in 1967, at La Scala di Milano in 1974, the Spoleto Festival of Two Worlds in 1990, and at the Teatro Degli Arcimboldi Milano in 2002. Sport premiered at La Scala, Milan on 10 February 1897. This was the third and last of Manzotti s grand positivist trilogy which started with, and found its apotheosis in, Excelsior. As modern and spectacular as the other two, Sport was intended as a celebration of every kind of athletic activity, especially in the enthusiastic aftermath of the first modern Olympic Games in Athens on 11 April 1896. Although the scenario concerned the eternal triangle, it was only an excuse for displays of skill by soloists and...

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