

*JUANA* libretto Rebecca Simpson, music Enric Palomar

(Extract translated from the original Spanish version)

Situation: Juan de Padilla, Captain of the rebel army that has liberated Juana after eleven years' isolation, visits his wife Maria Pacheco. Juana is not cooperating with the rebels as they had hoped. Split staging is used.

PACHECO            People talk.  
                          They say you hold Queen Juana  
                          prisoner.

PADILLA            Just a single signature!  
                          If only we had her signature...

PACHECO            Juan, have you threatened her?

PADILLA            We had to.  
                          The situation's desperate.

PACHECO            And what effect did it have?  
                          Threatening?

PADILLA            None.  
                          Worse.  
                          She isolated herself.

PACHECO            There's one remedy only.  
                          You must say  
                          you were mistaken,  
                          that the queen  
                          in fact  
                          is mad.

PADILLA            No!  
                          It's not true.

PACHECO            You must say so:  
                          "We were mistaken.  
                          The queen,

in fact,  
is mad.”

PADILLA                    You want us to betray her?!

PACHECO                   Fate forces us to choose:  
betray her  
or the *Comuneros* of Castile.

*Focus change.*

JUANA                      These walls make the air foul  
they block out the day.  
Stone on stone,  
wall locked to wall.  
There, where my feet should take me,  
walls cut across my path.

These walls make the air foul  
they block out the light.  
Stone on stone,  
wall locked to wall.  
There, where my feet should take me,  
walls cut across my path.