

**THE OKAVANGO MACBETH**  
**LIBRETTO BY ALEXANDER McCALL SMITH**  
**MUSIC BY TOM CUNNINGHAM**

Lady Macbeth: Beth Mackay  
 Macbeth: Rónan Busfield  
 Duncan: Andrew McTaggart  
 Primatologists: Nicholas Morris, Jamie Rock & Jessica Leary  
 Lady Macbeth's Friend: Lucinda Stuart-Grant  
 Chorus: Edinburgh Studio Opera  
 Orchestra: Mr McFall's Chamber  
 Conductor: Michael Bawtree

The Macbeth story as played out in a troupe of baboons in Botswana? This fanciful idea inspired the writer Alexander McCall Smith and the composer Tom Cunningham to come up with their chamber opera, *The Okavango Macbeth*. Set in the Okavango Delta in northern Botswana, the opera deals with the efforts of an ambitious female baboon, Lady Macbeth, to encourage her husband the dominant baboon, Duncan. The response to the opera's premiere in the No 1 Ladies' Opera House, led many to conclude that in this extraordinary and unusual tale a new operatic gem has emerged.

**TRACK LISTING**

**DISC ONE**

<b>Act One</b>	
1 At that time	[5:55]
2 This is the history of the baboons	[2:33]
<b>Act Two</b>	
3 On whitened sand	[2:26]
4 Over there	[1:12]
5 Now listen: watching is waiting	[5:22]
6 The sky is our god	[4:28]
7 It is so good to have a friend	[3:32]
8 My lord Macbeth is come	[6:07]
<b>Act Three</b>	
9 Evening, and now we take stock	[3:01]
10 But we are scientists	[1:30]
11 The task of government falls on my shoulders	[0:52]
12 I am tired ...	[1:46]
13 In Africa	[3:09]
14 Now he sleeps	[2:18]
15 It will not be easy	[0:54]
16 The order of our world is changed	[0:39]
17 How naturally lies this body	[3:36]
Total playing time	[49:25]

**'McCALL SMITH'S SUCCINCT LIBRETTO IS SPUN BY COMPOSER TOM CUNNINGHAM INTO GORGEOUS TUNEFUL MELODIES THAT LINGER'—  
 The Scotsman, 23 April, 2011 FIVE STARS**



THE OKAVANGO MACBETH  
 Alexander McCall Smith *Libretto*, Tom Cunningham *Music*  
 (DCD34096)  
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**DISC TWO**

<b>Act Four</b>	
1 Duncan is dead!	[4:34]
2 The order has changed	[3:02]
3 We cannot doubt	[4:30]
4 Affairs of state	[2:19]
5 See, he is nothing now	[2:03]
6 On whitened sand the river flows	[2:49]
7 It would be a simple act	[1:12]
8 Our time to each of us will come	[2:55]
9 No one could be happy to see	[2:42]
10 I am alone	[3:46]
11 Is there no comfort?	[1:57]
12 What might seem a harsh end	[1:45]
Total playing time	[33:38]



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