

Table 3. *Amadis*'s Characters: Performers and Sources

Character	Performer	In the original source, Garci Rodriguez de Montalvo's <i>Amadis de Gaula</i> (1508) [Books I–V], translated into French by Nicolas de Herberay des Essarts (1540/1561)	In Quinault's <i>Amadis</i> libretto (1684)
Amadis (<i>haute-contre</i>)	Dumesnil	A brave, fearless knight, faithful to his beloved Oriane. He has slain Arcalaüs's brother Ardan Canileo.	A lovelorn knight, whom his beloved Oriane has falsely accused of infidelity. He has slain Ardan Canile, brother of Arcalaüs and Arcabonne.
Oriane (soprano)	Aubry (Moreau?)	A sometimes jealous princess, in love with Amadis, whom she eventually marries	Wrongly believing Amadis unfaithful, Oriane completely rejects him. They reconcile in Act V.
Florestan (baritone)	Dun	A brave knight, Amadis's half brother; briefly involved with Corisanda	Amadis's half-brother; a prominent character, entirely in love with Corisande
Corisande (soprano)	Desmatins	A minor character, an island queen entirely in love with Florestan	A prominent character, entirely in love with Florestan
Arcalaüs (baritone)	Beaumavielle	An evil enchanter/knight who is Amadis's nemesis throughout the entire tale. Arcabonne's brother and Dinarda's uncle (see the description of the two different women below) and the brother of Ardan Canileo, whom Amadis has slain and hence against whom Arcalaüs seeks revenge	An evil enchanter, brother of Arcabonne and Ardan Canile, bent on seeking revenge for his brother's death at Amadis's hand
Arcabonne (soprano)	Le Rochois	Based on two very minor characters: 1) Dinarda, a treacherously evil, beautiful young woman, Arcalaüs's niece and the daughter of Ardan Canileo, whom Amadis has slain and hence against whom Dinarda seeks revenge. She never falls in love with Amadis and only appears briefly in Book III. 2) Arcabonne, an elderly magician and sister of Arcalaüs and Ardan Canileo, as well as widow of the giant Cartadaque, with whom she has had three sons. Amadis has killed one of her sons; Amadis's brother, Don Galaor, has killed her husband. In return, she attempts to kill Amadis's king. She appears briefly in Book V and never encounters Amadis in person.	A conflation of Dinarda and the original Arcabonne: an enchantress, sister of Ardan Canile and Arcalaüs. The siblings seek revenge against Amadis for having slain their brother. Arcabonne has fallen in love with an unknown knight whom she recognizes is Amadis just as she is about to slay him.