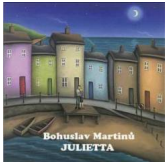


Bohuslav Martinu – Julietta (1964)

Written by bluesever

Tuesday, 05 March 2013 17:25 -

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Setlist: I. 1. *Hello, boy, hello* 2. *What's Up?* 3. *Will this go on for a long time yet?* 4. *You don't mind the sound of that instrument?* 5. *Hay! Musician* 6. *What's Up?* 7. *What hotel?* 8. *I believe ...it's a toy* 9. *Gentlemen, you are looking* 10. *Look! I was born in Perigueuz* 11. *Good Evening* 12. *My love is lost far away* 13. *Just like a star that returns onto the sky* 14. *Ah, I was afraid* 15. *She will come! She won't come!* 16. *Excuse me! Sir!* 17. *Good Evening, Ladies and Gentlemen!* 18. *Well now, the old folks are happy* 19. *Oh, at last!* 20. *Oh! Memories* II. 1. *We are alone* 2. *Mercy, friends, mercy!* 3. *They're not following me?* 4. *You've lost!* 5. *Now, now! What are you doing here?* 6. *Did you find her?* 7. *What's all that banging on the door?* 8. *Oh! That's you?* 9. *Lento* 10. *All empty!* 11. *Good morning, Sir!* 12. *Excuse me Sir! Is this the dream office?* 13. *Your real life is only to begin* 14. *oh, it was marvellous!* 15. *Didn't I wonder why you weren't coming today?* 16. *You are the engine-driver of the Orient Express?* 17. *Leave the door half-open behind you!* 18. *Arrival of figures in grey suits* 19. *Little Arab, Old Arab, Voices* Julietta - Maria Tauberova Michel - Ivo Zidek Commissaire/Postman – Antonin Zlesak Man with the Helmet – Zdenek Otava Man in the Window – Vclav Bednar Little Arab – Ivana Mixova Old Arab – Vladimir Jedactik Birdseller – Jaroslava Prochazkova Fishmonger – Ludmila Hanzalikova Three Gentlemen – Miloslava Fidlerova, Eva Zikmondova, Eva Hlobilova Old Man Youth – Jaroslav Horacek Chorus & Orchestra of the National Theatre in Prague Jaroslav Krombholc - conductor

Bohuslav Martinu composed his tenth opera, Julietta, subtitled The Dream-Book, during the second half of the year 1936. He finished it in January 1937, and its world premiere took place on the stage of the national Theatre in Prague, on 16 March of the following year. Martinu was present there on the opening night, and according to surviving period reports on the occasion was deeply moved by the opera's triumphant reception. Indeed, Julietta cast a mighty spell on Prague. The conductor then was Vaclav Talich, and the title part was sung by then famous diva, ravishingly beautiful and splendid-voiced Ota Horakova. Less than three decades from then this recording of the opera was made, featuring the day's star singers of the country's premier scene, its chorus and orchestra, under the baton of Jaroslav Krombholc. The performance delivered here by the soprano Maria Tauberova is truly dazzling, a creation raking alongside the artist's greatest achievements. Her principal male partner, equally brilliant, was Ivo Zidek. All

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this said, here is a recording of Bohuslav Martinu's Julietta which deserves a pride of place in Supraphon's vintage collection – thanks to the endeavours of all the artists involved in its making. --- mdt.co.uk

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