

Giacomo Puccini - Manon Lescaut (Chailly) [1988]

Written by bluesever

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Disc: 1

1. Act One: Ave, sera gentile - William Matteuzzi
2. Act One: L'amour? l'amour?! - Jose Carreras
3. Act One: Tra voi, belle, brune e bionde - Jose Carreras
4. Act One: Ma Bravo! - William Matteuzzi
5. Act One: Discendono, veditam! - Townspeople
6. Act One: Cortese damigella - Jose Carreras
7. Act One: Donna non vidi mai - Jose Carreras
8. Act One: La tua ventura ci rassicura - William Matteuzzi/Students
9. Act One: La tua Proserpina - William Matteuzzi
10. Act One: Vedete? Io son fedele - Kiri Te Kanawa
11. Act One: Non c'e piu vino? - Paolo Coni
12. Act One: Di sedurre la sorellina - Italo Tajo
13. Act Two: Dispettosetto questo riccio! - Kiri Te Kanawa
14. Act Two: In quelle trine morbide - Kiri Te Kanawa
15. Act Two: Poiche tu vuoi saper - Paolo Coni
16. Act Two: Che ceffi son costor?...Sulla vetta tu del monte - Paolo Coni/Voce sola
17. Act Two: Paga costor! - Kiri Te Kanawa
18. Act Two: Minuetto - Riccardo Chailly/Orchestra e Coro del Teatro Comunale di Bologna

Disc: 2

1. Act Two: Oh, saro la piu bella! - Kiri Te Kanawa
2. Act Two: Ah! Affe, madamigella - Kiri Te Kanawa/Italo Tajo
3. Act Two: Senti, di qui partiaomo...Ah, Manon mitradisce - Jose Carreras
4. Act Two: Leseaut? Tu qui? - Jose Carreras/Kiri Te Kanawa
5. Act Two: Intermezzo - Riccardo Chailly/Orchestra e C
6. Act Three: Ansia eterna, crudel - Jose Carreras
7. Act Three: ...e Kate rispose al Re - Carlo Gaifa
8. Act Three: All'armi! All'armi! - Voci
9. Act Three: Rosetta! - Giorgio Tadeo
10. Act Three: Presto! In fila! - Giorgio Tadeo
11. Act Four: Tutta su me ti posa - Jose Carreras
12. Act Four: Manon, senti, amor mio - Jose Carreras
13. Act Four: Sci tu che piangi? - Kiri Te Kanawa

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14. Act Four: *Sola, perduta, abbandonata* - Kiri Te Kanawa

15. Act Four: *Fra le tue braccia, amore* - Kiri Te Kanawa

Manon... Kiri Te Kanawa

Des Grieux... José Carreras

Lescaut.... Paolo Coni

Edmondo.... Willian Matteuzzi

Orchestra e Coro del Teatro Comunale di Bologna

Riccardo Chailly – conductor

When this set first came out in 1988, it was easy to dismiss as another attempt to cash in on the excitement over the luscious voice and questionable artistry of Dame Kiri Te Kanawa. But what sometimes sounded like sight-reading in the studio now seems an aristocratic version of Puccini's greedy, beautiful, riches-to-rags Manon. Though critics then complained about the premature darkening of Carreras's voice, he sounds splendid compared to his current vocal state. And Riccardo Chailly, once the paragon of corporate music-making, now seems intelligently restrained. However, if you really want a more dignified version of this story, it might be best to turn to Jules Massenet's more Gallically poised opera on the same subject. To some minds, Puccini performers must break a sweat, at least at some point. --David Patrick Stearns

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