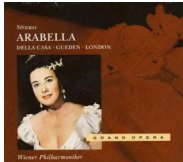


Strauss - Arabella (Solti) [2009]

Written by bluesever

Thursday, 13 November 2014 16:57 -

Strauss - Arabella (Solti) [2009]



CD1 1. R. Strauss: Arabella / Act 1 - Die Karten fallen besser als das letzte Mal Judith Hellwig 3:51 2. R. Strauss: Arabella / Act 1 - Sie wollen alle Geld! Hilde Gueden 1:38 3. R. Strauss: Arabella / Act 1 - Matteo! Hilde Gueden 3:46 4. R. Strauss: Arabella / Act 1 - Ich danke, Fräulein Lisa Della Casa 2:53 5. R. Strauss: Arabella / Act 1 - Er ist der Richtige nicht für mich! Lisa Della Casa 1:57 6. R. Strauss: Arabella / Act 1 - Aber der Richtige, wenn's einen gibt für mich Lisa Della Casa 4:00 7. R. Strauss: Arabella / Act 1 - Das ist der Schlitten vom Elemer Hilde Gueden 2:38 8. R. Strauss: Arabella / Act 1 - So triumphierend treten Sie herein? Lisa Della Casa 6:56 9. R. Strauss: Arabella / Act 1 - Laßt uns allein, meine Kinder Ira Malaniuk 4:43 10. R. Strauss: Arabella / Act 1 - Mandryka! Otto Edelmann 2:02 11. R. Strauss: Arabella / Act 1 - Herr Graf, Sie haben Ihrem werten Brief George London 4:34 12. R. Strauss: Arabella / Act 1 - Der Onkel ist dahin George London 4:01 13. R. Strauss: Arabella / Act 1 - Das ist der Fall von anderer Art George London 4:07 14. R. Strauss: Arabella / Act 1 - Mein Elemer! ... Nach dem Matteo sehnt sich Lisa Della Casa 8:32 15. R. Strauss: Arabella / Act 2 - Das ist ein Engel George London 2:45 16. R. Strauss: Arabella / Act 2 - Sie sehn nicht aus wie jemand Lisa Della Casa 1:21 17. R. Strauss: Arabella / Act 2 - Ich habe eine Frau gehabt Harald Pröglhöf 3:40 18. R. Strauss: Arabella / Act 2 - Sie wolln mich heiraten, sagt mein Vater Lisa Della Casa 5:50 19. R. Strauss: Arabella / Act 2 - Und du wirst mein Gebieter sein Lisa Della Casa 3:39 20. R. Strauss: Arabella / Act 2 - Die Wiener Herrn verstehn sich auf die Astronomie Eberhard Wächter 1:05 CD2 1. R. Strauss: Arabella / Act 2 - Sind Sie allein? Mimi Coertse 4:59 2. R. Strauss: Arabella / Act 2 - Und jetzt sag ich Adieu Lisa Della Casa 4:16 3. R. Strauss: Arabella / Act 2 - O Arabella, gibt es was Schöneres Harald Pröglhöf 3:23 4. R. Strauss: Arabella / Act 2 - Ein Feigling bin ich Anton Dermota 2:38 5. R. Strauss: Arabella / Act 2 - Und wenn hier viele Arabella heissen Eberhard Wächter 4:54 6. R. Strauss: Arabella / Act 2 - Ging durch einen Wald George London 5:14 7. R. Strauss: Arabella / Act 3 - Einleitung ... Über seine Felder Lisa Della Casa 5:55 8. R. Strauss: Arabella / Act 3 - Sie hier? So muss ich fragen, Arabella Anton Dermota 4:33 9. R. Strauss: Arabella / Act 3 - Welch ein erregtes Tête-à-tête Ira Malaniuk 1:32 10. R. Strauss: Arabella / Act 3 - Papa, so schau mir ins Gesicht! Lisa Della Casa 4:10 11. R. Strauss: Arabella / Act 3 - Ich gratuliere Ihnen, Herr Leutnant George London 4:28 12. R. Strauss: Arabella / Act 3 - Papa, Mama! Hilde Gueden 3:43 13. R. Strauss: Arabella / Act 3 - Sehr gut. Jetzt habe ich mein richtiges Vis-à-vis Otto Edelmann 1:50 14. R. Strauss: Arabella / Act 3 - Zdenkerl, du bist die Bessre von uns zweien Lisa Della Casa 3:13 15. R. Strauss: Arabella / Act 3 - Mandryka! Lisa Della Casa 1:42 16. R. Strauss: Arabella / Act 3 - Mit diesem Herrn da trete ich vor Ihnen George London 3:26 17. R. Strauss: Arabella / Act 3 - Sie gibt mir keinen Blick, sie sagt nicht gute Nacht George London 3:53 18.

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R. Strauss: Arabella / Act 3 - Das war sehr gut, Mandryka Lisa Della Casa 2:01 19. *R. Strauss: Arabella / Act 3 - Dann aber, wie ich Sie gespürt hab hier im Finstern Lisa Della Casa 4:08*
Graf Waldner: Otto Edelmann Adelaide: Ira Malaniuk Arabella: Lisa della Casa Zdenka: Hilde Gueden Mandryka: George London Matteo: Anton Dermota Elemer: Waldemar Kmentt Dominik: Eberhard Wächter Lamorat: Harald Pröglhöf Die Fiakermilli: Mimi Coertse Eine kartenaufschlägerin: Judith Hellwig Wiener Philharmoniker Georg Solti (conductor)

Given the fact that this performance has been so wonderfully re-mastered and re-released at budget price...it's a real bargain.

"This recording is a marvel! It was made back in 1957, right before Solti's Wagner Ring cycle project. Being in the Decca catalog for many years, it has long since become a legendary recording. Although the sound is dated, it still stands as one of the very best. John Culshaw was Decca's visionary young producer who not only worked on Solti's Wagner studio recordings, but also on many others among which was this wonderful Arabella.

Arabella was the last collaboration between the composer and Hugo von Hofmannsthal, librettist of Strauss's most successful operas. Strauss had left the path of modernism he followed earlier with Elektra or Salome in order to find a more lyrical, realistic (and less successful) style.

The cast is the real highlight here; Lisa Della Casa was a phenomenal Mozart and Strauss interpreter, ranking among the finest singers of her time. She performed and recorded the role of Arabella frequently, each time with great success. Here, she's in the prime of her career; fresh and perceptive—without any unnecessary exaggerations. Otto Edelman is simply terrific as Graf Waldner, as is George London as Mandryka, the mistrustful, rich stranger. Both Hilde Gueden as Zdenka (Arabella's sister) and Ira Malaniuk as Adelaide (their mother) sound very fresh, singing with astounding virtuosity.

Conductor and orchestra are in great shape, too. Georg Solti obviously feels comfortable with Strauss's orchestration, and he leads the Vienna Philharmonic with fire and insight. His ever-forward pushing approach to the music works particularly well—bringing great passion and excitement. As always with Strauss, the score is tricky for both singers and orchestra; but isn't that what we have the Vienna Philharmonic for? It produces a gorgeous sound with full basses

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and warm strings. However, this was recorded from the early days of stereo. At times, the woodwinds sound somewhat squeezed and the brass a bit harsh. Fortunately, the engineers provided us with a first-rate, 24-bit re-mastering.

There are not so many recordings of Arabella available on the market, but a performance that I still cherish personally is Joseph Keilberth's live, stereo recording on DG. It was recently re-released at budget price, and you get Della Casa and Fischer-Dieskau in a similarly terrific performance. I find it has a bit more spontaneity and wit.

Given the fact that this performance has been so wonderfully re-mastered and re-released at budget price...it's a real bargain." --- Bart Verhaeghe, Fanfare

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