

## Great Conductors of the 20th Century Vol.26 - Eduard Van Beinum



CD1 1. *Thomas - Overture 'Mignon'* Schubert - Symphony No.6 2. *I. Adagio - Allegro* 3. *II. Andante* 4. *III. Scherzo. Presto - Piu Lento* 5. *IV. Allegro Moderato*  
Brahms - Symphony No.2  
6. *I. Allegro Non Troppo* 7. *II. Adagio Non Troppo - L'istesso Tempo, Ma Grazioso* 8. *III. Allegretto Grazioso (Quasi Andantino) - Presto Ma Non Assai - Tempo I* 9. *IV. Allegro Con Spirito*

Concertgebouw Orchestra (1-9) CD2

1. *Nicolai - Overture 'The Merry Wives of Windsor'* 2. *Richard Strauss - Don Juan, Op.20*  
Rimsky-Korsakov - Scheherazade  
3. *I. The Sea And Sindbad's Ship* 4. *II. The Story Of The Kalender Prince* 5. *III. The Young Prince And The Young Princess* 6. *IV. Festival Of Baghdad - The Sea - The Shipwreck On A Rock Surmounted By A Bronze Warrior - Conclusion* 7. *Elgar - Concert Overture 'Cockaigne', Op.40*

Concertgebouw Orchestra (1-6) London Philharmonic Orchestra (7) Eduard Van Beinum – conductor

The Dutch conductor Eduard van Beinum was born in Arnhem in 1900 and studied at the Amsterdam Conservatoire. His success in his first post as musical director – with the Haarlem Orchestral Society from 1927 – led to his appointment as second conductor of the Amsterdam Concertgebouw Orchestra in 1931. In 1938, he was promoted to 'second principal conductor' and in 1945 succeeded Willem Mengelberg as the orchestra's chief conductor, a post he held until his premature death in 1959. He was also principal conductor of the London Philharmonic Orchestra (1949-51) and music director of the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra (1956-59). He enjoyed a considerable reputation as an interpreter of a wide range of repertoire. He was also a loyal champion of music by contemporary Dutch composers.

Very little of van Beinum's discography is currently available. With the exception of Elgar's *Cockaigne*, which has had limited availability, this compilation features material previously

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unissued on CD. The commercial recordings represent the conductor's diversity in mainstream repertoire, ranging from Schubert to Rimsky-Korsakov, and his skill with lighter music, represented here by overtures by Ambroise Thomas and Otto Nicolai. The live recordings of Brahms's Second Symphony and Richard Strauss's Don Juan (the only van Beinum recording of this celebrated orchestral showpiece) were taped during a German tour in September 1955 and have remained in a private archive, unheard, for the past 48 years. The commercial recording of Elgar's Cockaigne is a reminder of Eduard van Beinum's successful period as principal conductor of the London Philharmonic Orchestra. --- bayreuthclassical.blogspot.com

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