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WAGNER: DIE WALKÜRE, ACT I

Lotte Lehmann: Sieglinde

Lauritz Melchior: Siegmund

Emanuel List: Hunding

Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra

conducted by Bruno Walter

PRISTINE
AUDIO
XR

- | | | |
|----|--|------|
| 1 | Act 1: Prelude | 3:18 |
| 2 | Scene 1: Wes Herd dies auch sei | 2:41 |
| 3 | Scene 1: Kühnleude Labung gab mir der Quell | 5:33 |
| 4 | Scene 1: Einen Unsleigen labtest du | 4:03 |
| 5 | Scene 2: Múd am Herd fänd ich den Mann | 4:29 |
| 6 | Scene 2: Friedmund darf ich nicht heissen | 6:35 |
| 7 | Scene 2: Ein trauniges Kind rief mich zum Trutz | 3:18 |
| 8 | Scene 2: Ich weiss ein wildes Geschlecht | 5:23 |
| 9 | Scene 3: Ein Schwert verheiss mir der Vater | 6:04 |
| 10 | Scene 3: Schläfst du, Gast? | 0:57 |
| 11 | Scene 3: Der Männer Sippe sass hier im Saal | 5:30 |
| 12 | Scene 3: Wintertürme wichen dem Wonnemond | 2:56 |
| 13 | Scene 3: Du bist der Lenz | 7:44 |
| 14 | Scene 3: Siegmund heiss' ich und Siegmund bin ich! | 3:27 |

Recorded in Musikvereinssaal, Vienna 20-22 June 1935, issued as UK HMV 78s HMV DB 2636-43

Matrix nos. 2V94-109, Takes 1, 2, 2, 1, 3A, 2, 1, 1, 2, 2, 2A, 2, 1A, 1, 1, 1

Restoration and XR remastering by Andrew Rose at Pristine Audio, May-June 2008

Cover artwork based on a photograph of Lauritz Melchior as Siegmund

Total duration: 61:58 © 2008 Pristine Audio.

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WAGNER

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LOTTE LEHMANN - LAURITZ MELCHIOR - EMANUEL LIST
VIENNA PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
CONDUCTED BY BRUNO WALTER

THE LEGENDARY 1935 RECORDING IN STUNNING XR SOUND

PRISTINE
AUDIO

PACO 024



WAGNER: DIE WALKÜRE, ACT 1

Lotte Lehmann: Sieglinde
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COMPACT
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DIGITAL AUDIO
PACO024

WAGNER: DIE WALKÜRE, ACT 1
LEHMANN, MELCHIOR, LIST, VPO, WALTER (1935)

PACO 024

PRISTINE
AUDIO

WAGNER: DIE WALKÜRE, ACT 1
LEHMANN, MELCHIOR, LIST, VPO, WALTER (1935)

This recording is legendary - it is frequently held up as the greatest recording ever made of music by Wagner, despite its vintage sound. My aim, therefore, was simple to describe, if not so simple to achieve: to get beyond that vintage sound and elevate it to a level which would bring dramatic and significant new life to the recording - to literally leave previous issues in the past. I believe I've succeeded beyond all expectations - certainly my own. By applying the very latest XR remastering techniques I've been able to lift the sound quality of this recording to a level I would not have considered possible just a few weeks ago.

But what is it that is so special about this particular, single-act-only recording? Here I hand over to the real experts - the reviewing public, as remarked on websites around the world in reference to previous issues of this legendary recording:

"Made in Vienna in 1935, this recording of probably the most popular act of the Ring Cycle has always been the benchmark. It employs three unbelievable singers, under the glorious conducting of Bruno Walter...Lauritz Melchior is unquestionably the greatest Heldentenor who ever lived. Here he is in fabulous voice, even by his standards, and he is so much more involved and intelligent when he is working with a great conductor...Lotte Lehmann is just as fabulous as Melchior. She has a very beautiful voice ideal for Sieglinde: solid at the core but soft-edged, and she too has model diction and excellent legato...finally, we come to the conducting of Bruno Walter. Helped by the radiant playing of the Vienna Philharmonic, he conjures up Wagner's unique world of blended sound and emotion like no one else on record. He is as warm and lyrical as is possible, but realizes all the drama, and never goes over the top..."

"...[Lehmann] can be heard at her best in this recording of the first act of "Die Walküre" made in Vienna in 1935. It preserves one of her most famous operatic portrayals. Few Sieglindes have conveyed so much in their singing: first an eager curiosity, then a guarded welcome, a wondrous admiration, an intensity in the narration, and finally an impassioned ecstasy. Such singing lives on in the listener's memory. Melchior is also represented at his best, but the hero of the proceedings is the conductor Bruno Walter. Under Walter's direction the performance has a sweep, a warmth, a glow and a tenderness that I have never heard equalled..."

"Spectacular! There is simply no better CD version of this opera, despite being recorded in 1935. "Du bist der Lenz" with Lotte Lehmann has never been surpassed. This CD is a "MUST HAVE" for any serious music lover. Modern recordings obviously have better sound, but the singers are like pygmies compared to these two giants - Melchior and Lehmann."

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