

IRMGARD SEEFRIED Pamina WILMA LIPP Königin der Nacht FRANZ HOBLING Zweiter Priester FRED LIEWEHR Erster Priester PAUL SCHÖFFLER Sprecher ANTON DERMOTA Tamino

be jumped when restoring such material. I have worked here from a secondary source. On the whole this has been very successful - I've been able to rescue some fine sound quality, particularly in the musical sections. Some of the speech sections, however, have suffered from very heavy-handed treatment before me, and it shows. Nevertheless, remastering, as well as deal with a number of wayward pitch issues which saw significant drifts up and down the overall impression is excellent. I've managed to greatly improve the general sound quality through 32-bit XR

across the opera. A careful analysis of the recording's residual electrical mains hum suggests an original tuning of somewhere around Λ =445, and it is to this pitch that I've tuned the final master. **A.R.** fortune. The original broadcast by Austrian Radio was apparently recorded, but the tapes were later destroyed. Thus it has been reconstructed from off-air recordings, and as a result there are a number of additional hurdles to Transfer notes - Die Zauberflöte That we have a recording of this superlative live performance at all is to an extent a matter of luck and good CHRISTEL GOLTZ Erste Dame
MARGHERITA KENNEY Zweite Dame JOSEF GREINDL Sarastro FULL PROGRAMME NOTES CAN BE FOUND ONLINE AT WWW.PRISTINECLASSICAL.COM SARL Pristine Audio, Le Bourg, 24610 St. Méard de Gurçon, France - Tel. (00) 33 553 821857 Recorded at the Salzburg Festival, 6 August 1951 MOZART Die Zauberflöte, K620 Wilhelm Furtwängler conductor Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra Vienna State Opera Chorus CAST HANS BEIRER Erster Geharnischter FRANZ BIERBACH Zweiter Geharnischter EDITH ORAVEZ Papagena SIEGLINDE WAGNER Dritte Dame FRIEDL MEUSBURGER Dritter Knabe LUISE LEITNER Zweiter Knabe HANNELORE STEFFEK Erster Knabe PETER KLEIN Monostatos ERICH KUNZ Papageno XR 7 PACO 075A **Vienna State Opera Chorus** Philharmonic Orches HELER Sprec





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for the orchestra, intricately rehearsed, to project the details in the score, as for instance, the pizzicato underlying the announcement of the three Boys, or the marcato in the upward string figure accompanying the second half of "In diesen heil gen Hallen". And would one really ask for a faster tempo for "Bei Mannern" when Furtwangler's allows his Pamina and Papageno to sing it with such breadth This is an antidote, perhaps too strong a one, to the swift, period-instrument versions to which we have been growing accustomed. Furtwangler's reading is deliberate, spiritually inclined, romante in the extreme with long rallentandos at cadential points, stretching his singers to their limits yet, paradoxically, never becoming heavy because of the translucency of the playing. Whether his approach is right or wrong seems irrelevant in the light, and that is the right word, of the conductor's deep empathy with the depth and sincerity of the score's serious side – listen to the sense of conviction in the Priests' chorus (second disc, track 17). His reading also leaves room and warmth?

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(November 1950) under Karajan (1/89), but there they were in a studio environment and not permitted any dialogue. Here, in the context of a live performance at the Salzburg Festival, their interpretations are that much more involving. Kunz, in particular, benefits, his is an endearing, light, smiling, unforced account of the birdearcher's words (delivered in an echt Viennese accent) and music. It is one of the most persuasive performances of Papageno on disc. Seefited's appeal in her role is well-known, and she is here at her most glowing and fervent, even managing the conductor's very slow speed for her G minor ana. This being virtually the Vienna cast of the glowing and fervent, even managing the conductor's very slow speed for her G minor ana. This being virtually the Vienna cast of the day, Dermota is again her Tamino, so smooth and fluent, yet characterful in his traversal of the part, observing all the Mozart verities, even when sorely pressed by his conductor to maintain his line. What Innigkeit he brings to the scene with Pamina before the trials (third disc, track 3)! And what a Pamina and Papageno we have here. Seefried and Kunz took those roles in the roughly contemporaneous EMI recording

Lipp's Queen of Night is not quite as fluent as for Karajan in the studio, with moments of variable pitch in her second aria. Greindl, Salzburg's Sarastro over many years, also has his intonation problems, but presents a noble, grave portrait, very much in keeping with, and trained to, his conductor's ideas. Klein's Monostatos is suitably vicious. We are consoled for a somewhat squally trio of Ladies by the ethereal purity and beauty of the Boys, led by the young Steffek

Alan Blyth, Gramophone, January 1996 (excerpt)

Transfer notes - Symphony No. 39

This live recording was one of a number recorded during the Second World War for broadcast in Germany which ended up spending a number of years in the Soviet Union prior to a rash of reissues on different labels in recent years. The sound quality of the original was typically brash and harsh, making it quite a hard listen. Pristine's 32-bit XR remastering has made a huge difference to this, and has really brought out the full and clear sound of to suggest the orchestra was tuned to a pitch of A=445Hz. such powerful forces as Furtwängler musters here. As with Die Zauberfläte there was clear evidence in the recording compression in the original recording, for example. It also feels odd to hear a Mozart symphony in the hands of the original. There is inescapable peak distortion in the louder sections, which also suggest a degree of transformations which is both stunning and - unfortunately - also revealing of some of the insurmoutable faults of Furtwängler's Berlin Philharmonic in a way previously unheard in this particular performance. It is one of those

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