



# MAX VON SCHILLINGS

CONDUCTS THE BERLIN STATE OPERA ORCHESTRA

PRISTINE  
AUDIO



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1 **WEBER** *Euryanthe* - Overture (8:48)

Recorded 8th October, 1928 in Berlin  
Matrix nos.: 2-20991 through 2-20993  
First issued on Parlophon P-9848 and 9849

2 **WEBER** *Abu Hassan* - Overture (3:27)

Recorded 19th December, 1928 in Berlin  
Matrix no.: 2-21137  
First issued on Parlophon P-9849

3 **SCHUMANN** *Manfred*, Op. 115 - Overture (10:54)

4 **SCHUMANN** *Manfred*, Op. 115 - *Alpenkuhreigen und Zwischenaktmusik*' (3:59)

Recorded 3rd May and 10th May, 1929 in Berlin  
Matrix nos.: 2-21393 through 2-21395, and 2-21406  
First issued on Parlophon P-9484 and 9485

5 **BEETHOVEN** *Egmont*, Op. 84 - Overture (8:01)

Recorded 14th December, 1928 in Berlin  
Matrix nos.: 2-21126 and 2-21127  
First issued on Parlophon P-9456

**BEETHOVEN**: *Symphony No. 6 in F Major, Op. 68 ("Pastoral")* (42:50)

6 1st mvt. - *Allegro ma non troppo* (9:51)

7 2nd mvt. - *Andante molto mosso* (14:38)

8 3rd mvt. - *Allegro* (5:20)

9 4th mvt. - *Allegro* (3:31)

10 5th mvt. - *Allegretto* (9:30)

Recorded 16th, 23rd and 30th September, 1929 in Berlin  
Matrix nos.: 2-21560 through 2-21566; 2-21572 and 2-21573; and 2-21586 through 2-21588  
First issued on Parlophon P-9463 through 9468

Producer and Audio Restoration Engineer: Mark Obert-Thorn  
Cover artwork based on a photograph of Max von Schillings

Total duration: 77:59 ©2010 Pristine Audio.

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**BEETHOVEN: SYMPHONY NO. 6 & EGMONT OVERTURE**  
**SCHUMANN: MANFRED OVERTURE & EXCERPTS**  
**WEBER: OVERTURES TO EURYANTHE & ABU HASSAN**

**Obert-Thorn**

RECORDED 1928/29

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**Max von Schillings** (April 19, 1868 – Berlin, July 24, 1933) was a German conductor, composer and theatre director. He was chief conductor at the Berlin State Opera from 1919 to 1925.

Schilling's opera *Mona Lisa* (1915) was internationally successful and was even performed at the Metropolitan Opera. The composer married Barbara Kemp, the soprano who sung the title role. Before *Mona Lisa*, Schillings had already written three operas: *Ingwelde* (1894), *Der Pfeifertag* (1899) and *Der Moloch* (1906).

As early as the 1890s, he was given a position as an assistant at the Bayreuth Festival; later he was engaged as a conductor and music teacher in Munich. Between 1908 and 1918 he was the Intendant at the Königlichen Hoftheater (Royal Court Theatre) in Stuttgart, for which he received the honor mentioned above. From 1918 to 1925, he succeeded Richard Strauss as intendant of the State Opera in Berlin, whilst concurrently being the musical director of the summer-time Zoppot Forest Opera. In the second half of this decade, he undertook concert tours which took him through Europe and to the USA.

Having returned to Germany, he took over the job of President of the Prussian Academy of the Arts in 1932, succeeding Max Liebermann. From March 1933 until his death, Schillings was also the artistic director of the Berlin Staatsoper. He died in 1933 from a pulmonary embolism in Berlin. His ashes were entombed at Frankfurt-am-Main.

**Producer's Note**

The few CD reissues devoted to recordings of Max von Schillings which have appeared so far have concentrated on his justly-acclaimed Wagner performances, as well as those of his own compositions (*Mona Lisa*, *Das Hexenlied*). This release aims to broaden our appreciation of his abilities with a program of early Romantic repertoire.

The sources for the transfers were American Columbia "Viva-Tonal" pressings for the Weber items; American "Okkeh" Odeons (also pressed by American Columbia during their "Viva-Tonal" period) for the Schumann tracks; a pre-EMI laminated British Parlophone for the Egmont; and Italian Parlophon pressings (with a couple patches from a German Odeon set) for the Pastoral Symphony. Although the original engineering was not state-of-the-art for its time, the recordings from the 1928-29 season appear to have less overloading and blasting than the symphony, taken down the following season.

*Mark Obert-Thorn*

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES FROM WIKIPEDIA - FURTHER NOTES ONLINE AT [WWW.PRISTINECLASSICAL.COM](http://WWW.PRISTINECLASSICAL.COM)