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MASCAGNI: Cavalleria Rusticana

NAXOS Historical



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Pietro MASCAGNI (1863-1945)

Cavalleria Rusticana

ADD

Playing Time 71:07

Santuzza Zinka Milanov
 Turiddu Jussi Björling
 Alfio Robert Merrill
 Mamma Lucia Margaret Roggero
 Lola Carol Smith

The Robert Shaw Chorale (Robert Shaw, Director)
RCA Victor Orchestra • Renato Cellini

Recorded 2nd, 7th, 13th, 18th, 27th and 29th January,
1st and 27th February and 8th March 1953
in Manhattan Center, New York

First issued on RCA Victor LM-6106

Pietro Mascagni's one-act opera *Cavalleria Rusticana* (Rustic Chivalry), the 19th century equivalent of today's soap opera, has remained one of the most popular of all stage works. With its scrupulous observation of Mascagni's markings, this New York-made recording captures the prevailing standards of half a century ago. It features a stellar cast led by Jussi Björling, widely regarded as the foremost 'Italian' tenor of his day in the *spinto* rôles of Puccini and Verdi. Zinka Milanov, who possessed one of the most beautifully translucent and powerful voices of her time, and one of the giants of the MET, Robert Merrill. The 1955 edition of *The Record Guide* commented at the time: "It is hard to imagine a more enjoyable *Cavalleria* today. It is very stylishly conducted by Renato Cellini, who never for a moment lets the score sound vulgar."

1-2	Prelude	7:42	12	Intermezzo	3:48
3-11	Part 1	44:21	13-16	Part 2	15:17

Producer and Audio Restoration Engineer: Mark Obert-Thorn
Special thanks to Maynard F. Bertolet

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A complete track list can be found in the booklet
Cover Image: Original Set for Cavalleria Rusticana (Lebrecht Music and Arts)



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