

NAXOS Historical

VERDI: Rigoletto

8.111242-43



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# Giuseppe VERDI (1813-1901) Rigoletto

Rigoletto ..... Tito Gobbi  
Gilda ..... Maria Callas  
Duke of Mantua ..... Giuseppe Di Stefano  
Maddalena ..... Adriana Lazzarini  
Sparafucile ..... Nicola Zaccaria

Orchestra and Chorus of La Scala, Milan  
Tullio Serafin

Recorded 3rd, 5th, 8th - 14th and 16th September, 1955  
in the Teatro alla Scala, Milan

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ADD

Playing Time  
1:58:12

CD 1 56:18

1-5 Act I • Scene 1 15:26  
6-14 Act I • Scene 2 40:52

CD 2 61:54

1-7 Act II 28:24  
8-16 Act III 33:30

Considered by many to be stylistically the most characteristic and most effective performance of *Rigoletto* on record, this 1955 taping remains a classic against which all newcomers are judged. Although Maria Callas undertook Gilda only twice in the opera house, and despite the wide tessitura, she accomplishes the music effortlessly, ranging from strikingly articulated coloratura to beautifully phrased and sustained legato. With Tito Gobbi and Giuseppe Di Stefano in no less superb form, closely abetted by Tullio Serafin's incomparable pacing of the orchestra, this is a performance once heard never to be forgotten.

Reissue Producer and Restoration Engineer: Mark Obert-Thorn  
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Cover photo: Maria Callas and Tito Gobbi (Private Collection)

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Gobbi • Callas • Di Stefano • Serafin

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