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Giuseppe  
VERDI  
(1813-1901)  
Otello

2 CDs



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Otello	Ramón Vinay
Desdemona	Herva Nelli
Iago	Giuseppe Valdengo
Cassio	Virginio Assandri
Emilia	Nan Merriman
Roderigo	Leslie Chabay

NBC Symphony Orchestra and Choruses

Arturo Toscanini

Acts I &amp; II broadcast on 6 December, 1947

Acts III &amp; IV broadcast on 13 December, 1947

Announcer: Ben Grauer

Arturo Toscanini was the second cellist in the orchestra of La Scala, Milan, for the triumphant first performance of Verdi's *Otello* on 5th February 1887. Sixty years later he led a radio broadcast of *Otello* spread over two evenings that is considered by many to be the most successful of his opera recordings for NBC. Described by one of Toscanini's biographers, Joseph Horowitz, as 'the one that comes closest to recapturing Toscanini's revolutionary impact in the pit', this December 1947 recording is remarkable for Toscanini's dramatic grasp of Shakespeare's timeless tragedy, and his scrupulous observation of Verdi's most detailed dynamic markings.

CD 1	75:17	CD 2	75:04
① Opening announcement	1:49	① Opening announcement	1:26
② Spoken synopsis, Act I	2:35	② Spoken synopsis, Act III	1:25
③-12 Act I	33:57	③-11 Act III	39:41
13 Spoken synopsis, Act II	3:10	12 Spoken synopsis, Act IV	2:59
14-23 Act II	33:46	13-18 Act IV	29:30

Audio Restoration Producer: Ward Marston

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A detailed track list can be found in the booklet  
Cover Image: Stage design by Giovanni Zuccarelli  
for the première of Verdi's *Otello* (Milan, 1887)

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GERMANY