

Playing  
Time  
3:31:34

8.111322-24

ADD

CD 1 75:58

1 Overture 7:29  
2-7 Act I 17:27  
8-22 Act II 51:02

CD 2 56:59

1-19 Act III 56:59

CD 3 78:37

1-6 Act IV 25:09  
7-21 Verdi: La forza del destino • Highlights  
with Milanov, Peerce and Warren 53:28

Giuseppe  
**VERDI**  
(1813-1901)

## La forza del destino

Donna Leonora ..... Maria Callas  
Don Alvaro ..... Richard Tucker  
Don Carlo di Vargas ..... Carlo Tagliabue  
Preziosilla ..... Elena Nicolai  
Padre Guardiano ..... Nicola Rossi-Lemeni  
Fra Melitone ..... Renato Capecchi

Chorus and Orchestra of La Scala, Milan

Tullio Serafin

Recorded 17th-21st, 23rd-25th and 27th August, 1954  
in the Teatro alla Scala, Milan

Although this 1954 recording of *La forza del destino* is not without flaws, Callas casts her Donna Leonora in the grand manner and her breath spans are of a truly notable length. She makes us conscious of every section of Leonora's music, setting off the first scene in Act I with fitting simplicity. In the Act III duet with Padre Guardiano, *Più tranquilla*, Callas shows her just rendition of note values; each of them is sung as Verdi specifies, contained within a perfect *legato* and yet she injects the subtlest *rubato* so giving it life. Under Serafin's inspired direction she sings the two famous arias, *Madre, pietosa vergine* and *Pace, pace mio Dio*, with appropriate grandeur, on a tragic scale, underlining Verdi's indications 'come un lamento' and 'con dolore'.

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