Naxos AudioBooks 2004

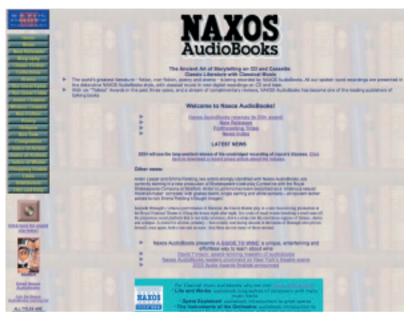
Ten years of innovation in audiobooks

CLASSIC **UTTERATURE**



on CD and cassette

10TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR



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A Decade of the Classics

It was Milton's great poem, **Paradise Lost**, read by the English classical actor **Anton Lesser** that set **Naxos AudioBooks** on its particular journey to record the great classics of Western literature.

That was 10 years ago, and since then we have recorded more than 250 titles ranging from Classic Fiction for adults and juniors; poetry, biographies and histories which have both scholarly and literary presence; and classic drama, dominated, of course, by **Shakespeare** presented by some of the leading British actors. In addition, we have recorded selections from **The Bible** and great epics, such as **Dante's The Divine Comedy**.

And we feel that our own original texts – introductions to classical music, English literature and the theatre and biographies of famous people for younger listeners – have made a special contribution to audiobook literature.

These have all been recorded to the highest standards, and enhanced by the use of classical music taken from the Naxos and Marco Polo catalogues. We felt from the beginning that, generally, it was not sufficient to have just a voice reading the text, and that, as in film, music can be used imaginatively to set the period and the atmosphere of a story. It is this, in addition to our careful choice of readers, that makes a Naxos audiobook a distinctive experience.

And it has led to numerous awards for reading, production and presentation.

It has been an extraordinary and enriching 10 years. Working on texts from Ancient Greece to **Samuel Beckett** gives a very special view of civilisation and man's contribution to society. If history is a record of events, poetry, drama and fiction is a record of man's insights and feelings. And what has been made clear time and again is that listening to **Homer or Plato**, and **Austen** and **James Joyce** is a very direct experience. Classics are not dusty or unapproachable; and, almost always, far more accessible than their reputation suggests. **Chaucer** is a delight. The dilemmas of **Dostoyevsky** are just as relevant to us today; **Dracula** still provokes a chill and even without recourse to DNA analysis, **Sherlock Holmes** solves crimes.

The medium of the spoken word gives us the chance to meet for the first time, or to reconnect with the classics despite the fast pace of our modern lives.

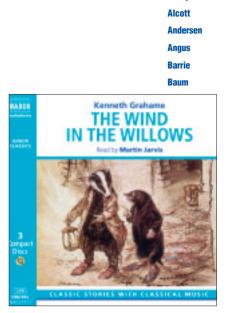
Naxos AudioBooks was the first audiobook label to offer everything on CD as well as tape. So we hope that neither the medium nor the message will date.

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A Abridged title

Unabridged title

S Selections



Aesop

Burnett Carroll Collodi Ferrie Flynn Grahame Grimm Kipling Montgomery Nesbit Sewell Soames Spyri Stevenson Twain Wilde



GEOFERE





JUNIOR CLASSICS & CHILDREN'S FAVOURITES

'He increased his pace, and as the car devoured the street and leapt forth on the high road through the open country, he was only conscious that he was Toad once more. Toad at his best and highest. Toad the terror, the traffic-queller, the Lord of the lone trail, before whom all must give way or be smitten into nothingness and everlasting night.'

From The Wind in the Willows by Kenneth Grahame

This exciting collection of more than 40 recordings plays a key role in the success of the Naxos AudioBooks range. These are classic stories which appeal to children of all ages and have stood the test of time. The high quality recordings also contain classical music and sound effects and feature wellknown artists who bring the stories to life. A special single CD and Cassette "Heroes and Heroines" is also available, containing 20 excerpts from the collection.



HEROES AND HEROINES 5

Thrilling excerpts from the Junior Classics series

- 1 CD ○ NA115512 ISBN: 962634155 6
- 1 MC ■ NA115514 ISBN: 962634655 8

A one CD/tape introduction to the Junior Classics series with 20 exciting excerpts presented by Beniamin Soames.



AESOP: AESOP'S FABLES Read by Anton Lesser

- 1 CD ○ NA120712 ISBN: 962634207 2
- 1 MC ISBN: 962634707 4

Music: Vivaldi - The Four Seasons

"Swept along by Vivaldi's Four Seasons, Lesser reads the classic cautionary tales with his customary magic. 8-11 year olds." TIMES LITERARY SUPPLEMENT

"It includes the sound each animal makes at the start of the tale and other noises, such as water running, which makes it ideal for younger children of three and upwards." THE INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY



ALCOTT. Louisa M.: LITTLE WOMEN Read by Liza Ross

3 CDs (·) NA319412 ISBN: 962634012 6

3 MCs **NA319414** ISBN: 962634694 9

Music: Medieval Italian music

"Liza Ross's narration enhanced our appreciation of this literary classic. Her appealing voice travels easily between lengthy prose sections and passages of vivid dialogue. Ross smoothly creates an atmosphere steeped in virtue, humour and familial warmth that faithfully portrays the underlying religious and moral tone of the novel. Interludes of classical music help establish the setting ... " RM AUDIOFILE



ANDERSEN. Hans Christian: ANDERSEN'S FAIRY TALES 🖪 THE UGLY DUCKLING • THE EMPEROR'S NEW CLOTHES • THE LITTLE MATCH GIRL, AND MANY MORE

Read by Erica Johns

- **2 CDs** (·) NA201212 ISBN: 962634012 6
- 2 MCs NA201214 ISBN: 962634512 8

Music: Tchaikovsky, Delibes, Rimsky-Korsakov, Adam. Weber. Gounod



ANGUS, David: BALLET STORIES SPECIALLY WRITTEN FOR NAXOS AUDIOBOOKS

COPPELIA • THE SLEEPING BEAUTY • THE NUTCRACKER • SWAN LAKE • GISELLE Read by Jenny Agutter

- **2 CDs** () NA223112
- ISBN: 962634231 5 2 MCs • NA223114
 - ISBN: 962634731 7

Music: 19th-century chamber music

"Also from Naxos is Ballet Stories, beautifully read

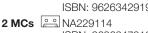
by Jenny Agutter, a dancer before she became an actress. The atmosphere of the theatre is exquisitely recreated and then the story, accompanied of course by the music, begins. Six-year-olds and up will love both." THE DAILY EXPRESS



SPECIALLY WRITTEN FOR NAXOS AUDIOBOOKS MARCO POLO • IBN BATTUTA • CHRISTOPHER COLOMBUS • VASCO DA GAMA • FERDINAND MAGFI I AN • CAPTAIN COOK • LEWIS & CLARK • LIVINGSTONE & STANLEY • THE APOLLO MISSION Read by Sam Dastor, Frances Jeater, Trevor Nichols and Kerry Shale 2 CDs (·) NA229112

ANGUS, David: GREAT EXPLORERS OF THE WORLD

ISBN: 9626342919



ISBN: 9626347910

Music: Music of the periods

NEW



BARRIE J. M.: PETER PAN

Read by Samuel West

2 CDs ① NA210212 ISBN: 962634102 5

2 MCs NA210214 ISBN: 962634602 7

Music: Britten, Debussy, Stravinsky, Koechlin

"...real adventure and heroics... by which even today's children can be inspired," THE SUNDAY TIMES

"Samuel West draws the listener's immediate attention. His resonant voice is charismatic and he delivers deliciously imaginative character voices. A family listening treat that will delight adults - even if they think they're too grown up." CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, USA



BAUM, Frank L.: THE WONDERFUL WIZARD OF OZ Read by Lisa Ross **2 CDs** ① NA221412

ISBN: 962634214 5 2 MCs NA221414

ISBN: 962634714 7 Music: Herbert, Borodin

"Another golden oldie is Liza Ross's spirited reading of The Wonderful Wizard of Oz. You realise how much more richly textured the book is. It adds scents, tactile values and wise reflection to compensate for the absence of the film's crude primary colours." THE INDEPENDENT



BURNETT, Frances Hodgson: A LITTLE PRINCESS Read by Lucy Whybrow

- 2 CDs (·) NA225412 ISBN: 962634254 4
- 2 MCs NA225414 ISBN: 962634754 6

Music: Brahms

BURNETT, Frances Hodgson: THE SECRET GARDEN Read by Jenny Agutter



ISBN: 962634235 8

2 MCs NA223514 ISBN: 962634735 X

Music: Features chamber music GOLD AWARD, SPOKEN WORD AWARDS 2002

"This audiobook captures the essence of the classic children's novel by Frances Hodgson Burnett." SCHOOL LIBRARY JOURNAL



CARROLL, Lewis: ALICE'S ADVENTURES IN WONDERLAND Read by Fiona Shaw

2 CDs ① NA213712

ISBN: 962634137 8

2 MCs • NA213714 ISBN: 962634637 X

Music: Delius, Parry, Quilter, Bruckner

"Fiona Shaw gives a wonderfully fresh reading of Carroll's classic tale, making his fantastical characters thoroughly believable through an impressive range of voices. Vivid sound-effects together with music by Delius, Parry and Bruckner complete this delightful production." THE GOOD BOOK GUIDE



CARROLL. Lewis: THROUGH THE LOOKING-GLASS

Read by Fiona Shaw

2 CDs ① NA214212 ISBN: 962634142 4

2 MCs [NA214214 ISBN: 962634642 6

Music: Delius, Auric, Wood

"Shaw is exactly the adult child that Alice ought to be without a trace of the winsome, conveying both her sense of wonder and her intrepid common SENSE," THE INDEPENDENT



COLLODI. Carlo: PINOCCHIO Read by John Sessions

- **2 CDs** (·) NA211912 ISBN: 962634119 X
- **2 MCs ••** NA211914 ISBN: 962634619 1

Music: Prokofiev, Saint-Saëns, Britten

"...read in typically energetic style by John Sessions, with music and sound effects, including poor Pinocchio's nose growing." SAINSBURY'S MAGAZINE "Funny, sad, occasionally horrific... John Sessions handles a glorious bouquet of contrastinglyaccented characters quite brilliantly." THE INDEPENDENT "Versatile John Sessions does all the voices with relish, and Prokofiev's music is soothing. TAI KING BUSINESS



FERRIE. Edward: TALES FROM THE NORSE LEGENDS Read by Benjamin Soames **2 CDs** (·) NA204112 ISBN: 962634041 X

2 MCs NA204114 ISBN: 962634541 1

Music: Mahler, Grieg, Smetana, Szymanowski

SPECIALLY WRITTEN FOR NAXOS AUDIOBOOKS "Best of all, voung actor Beniamin Soames thrills to Tales from the Norse Legends, with music by Mahler, Grieg and Smetana."

THE INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY



FERRIE, Edward: TALES FROM THE GREEK LEGENDS Read by Benjamin Soames SPECIALLY WRITTEN FOR NAXOS AUDIOBOOKS

2 CDs (·) NA201912 ISBN: 962634019.3

2 MCs **NA201914** ISBN: 962634519 5

Music: Holst, Wagner, Kalinnikov, Cui, Lachner, Debussy, Mendelssohn, Ciurlionis

"Absolute Pick of the Year ... nominally for kids, but anyone would enjoy Benjamin Soames's larky account." THE INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY

"My children have listened to this again and again, night after night..." WASHINGTON POST



FLYNN. Benedict: THE JUNIOR HOMER – BOX SET

THE TALE OF TROY • THE ADVENTURES OF ODYSSEUS Read by Benjamin Soames

- **4 CDs** (·) NAX23712 ISBN: 962634237 4
- 4 MCs 23714 ISBN: 962634737 6

Music: Stravinsky, Koechin, Grieg, Wagner, Mahler

- ROBIN HOOD
- FLYNN, Benedict: **ROBIN HOOD** Read by John McAndrew
- **2 CDs** (·) NA219212 ISBN: 962634192 0

2 MCs • NA219214

ISBN: 962634692 2 Music: Romantic music with sound effects

SPECIALLY WRITTEN FOR NAXOS AUDIOBOOKS

"High quality production from Naxos AudioBooks. Benedict Flynn has a great style with these ancient tales, making them very exciting for modern kids. Eternally and indestructably a classic. Some wonderful sound effects with arrows crackling through the air." FOR SEVEN AND UP



FLYNN, Benedict: TALES OF IRISH MYTHS

Read by Dermot Kerrigan and Marcella Riordan SPECIALLY WRITTEN FOR NAXOS AUDIOBOOKS

2 CDs (·) NA220412 ISBN: 962634204 8

2 MCs NA220414

ISBN: 962634704 X Music: Rimsky-Korsakov, Hamerik, Hartmann

"The gift of the gab is legendarily an attribute of the Irish. It's certainly in evidence in Benedict Flynn's Tales of Irish Myths, read by two of the finest broques this side of the Irish Sea. The three substantial stories - 'The Tale of Cu Chulainn', 'The Children of Lir' and 'The Tale of Finn Mac Cool' are all extraordinarily haunting." THE INDEPENDENT

SPECIALLY WRITTEN FOR NAXOS AUDIOBOOKS



FLYNN. Benedict: THE TALE OF TROY D SPECIALLY WRITTEN FOR NAXOS AUDIOBOOKS

Read by Benjamin Soames

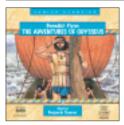
2 CDs (·) NA209812 ISBN: 962634098 3

Music: Stravinsky, Koechlin, Grieg, Gilson, Salter & Skinner, Wagner, Mendelssohn, Schreker, Ravel, Walton, Prokofiev

ALSO FORMS PART OF A BOX SET - see pages 5 and 49

"Benedict Flynn's lucid retelling is read with engaging directness by Benjamin Soames." THE INDEPENDENT

"Anvone unfamiliar with Homer's Iliad will be thrilled... This audiobook may be aimed at 8 to 13year-olds but adults should enjoy it too." THE SCOTSMAN



FLYNN, Benedict: THE ADVENTURES OF ODYSSEUS Read by Benjamin Soames SPECIALLY WRITTEN FOR NAXOS AUDIOBOOKS **2 CDs** ① NA211412 ISBN: 962634114 9 2 MCs [20] NA211414 ISBN: 962634614 0

"... an accessible reworking of the classic text... as fresh and vivid as when first told by Homer nearly 3,000 years ago. You wonder why Odysseus hasn't been snapped up for his own cartoon series!" THE SUNDAY TIMES



Music: Mahler, Schumann, Glazunov, Khachaturian, d'Indy, Bliss, Debussy

ALSO FORMS PART OF A BOX SET - see pages 5 and 49

FLYNN, Benedict: KING ARTHUR AND THE KNIGHTS OF THE ROUND TABLE Read by Sean Bean SPECIALLY WRITTEN FOR NAXOS AUDIOBOOKS

2 CDs (·) NA213812

ISBN: 962634138 6



ISBN: 962634638 8 Music: De Boeck, Sorensen, Sibelius, Buck,

Marschner, Raff, Elgar



GRAHAME. Kenneth: THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS Read by Martin Jarvis **3 CDs** (NA327712

ISBN: 962634277 3

3 MCs 💽 NA327714 ISBN: 962634777 5

Music: Danzi

"Older ones and their parents will love Martin Jarvis" gruff badger and eager mole in his superb reading of The Wind in the Willows." THE INDEPENDENT

"Martin Jarvis gives such a spectacular performance in this classic woodland adventure story that it would be a shame to limit his talents to children. He flawlesslv captures the hiliarity of Toad's bad driving and times perfectly the rousing dialogue between characters. The selection of wind quintets between chapters emphasizes the pastoral scenes created by Grahame making for a five-star entertainment in a tiny package." AUDIOFILE



GRIMMS' FAIRY TALES 🖾

SNOW WHITE • HANSEL AND GRETEL • RUMPLETSTILKSIN • CINDERELLA • AND OTHERS Read by Laura Paton

2 CDs (·) NA200512 ISBN: 962634005 3

2 MCs NA200514 ISBN: 962634505 5

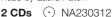
Music: Tchaikovsky, J. Strauss Jr, Grieg

"Through the voice of Laura Paton, Snow White emerges in her original form." THE SCOTSMAN



GRIMMS' FAIRY TALES – Vol. II 🖾

THF WOLF AND THE SEVEN LITTLE KIDS • THE PACK OF RAGAMUFFINS • BROTHER AND SISTER • THE THREE SPINNERS . THE THREE SNAKE-LEAVES . THE HARE AND THE HEDGEHOG . AND OTHERS Read by Laura Paton



ISBN: 962634303 6



ISBN: 962634803 8

Music: Bizet, Glazunov Release date: March 2004



6





Read by Geoffrey Palmer

- 3 CDs () NA325012 ISBN: 962634250 1
- **3 MCs** NA325014 ISBN: 962634750 3

Music: Mozart, Janáček, Krommer, Vivaldi, Danzi, Saint-Saëns, Dvořák "Just So Stories, relating among other things, How the Whale Got His Throat, are beautifully told by Geoffrey Palmer accompanied by the music of Mozart, Vivaldi and other composers on this delightful recording." DALY EXPRESS

"A delightful recording of Rudyard Kipling's Just So Stoires ... Enjoy Geoffrey Palmer's voice and some great music." TIMES EDUCATIONAL SUPPLEMENT



KIPLING, Rudyard: **THE JUNGLE BOOKS** Read by Madhav Sharma
3 CDs ⊙ NA303512
ISBN: 962634035 5
3 MCs ⊙ NA303514
"Brought to reading." TH
"My favourit accents are animators of animators

KIPLING, Rudyard: RIKKI-TIKKI-TAVI

ISBN: 962634535 7

"Brought to life by Madhav Sharma's excellent reading." тне воокѕеццея

"My favourite of all... Madhav Sharma's voice and accents are far more vivid than anything Disney's animators could come up with; you realise again why people remember and love these stories all their lives." BOSTON SUNDAY GLOBE

Music: Classical Indian music

WINNER OF THE NAIRD AWARD 1995 FOR CHILDREN'S STORYTELLING



 Read by Madhav Sharma

 2 CDs
 ○ NA205212 ISBN: 962634052 5

 2 MCs
 ○ ○ NA205214 ISBN: 962634552 7

Music: Classical Indian music, Holmès



MONTGOMERY, L. M.: ANNE OF GREEN GABLES

Read by Liza Ross 2 CDs ○ NA212312 ISBN: 962634123 8

2 MCs SBN: 962634623 X

Music: Copland, Dvořák, Grieg



MONTGOMERY, L. M.: ANNE OF AVONLEA

Read by Liza Ross

2 CDs () NA216912 ISBN: 962634169 6

ISBN: 962634169 6 2 MCs (20) NA216914

ISBN: 962634669 8 Music: Dvořák, Copland "Liza Ross's beautiful voice is soothing and curiously cheering." THE INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY



NESBIT, E.: FIVE CHILDREN AND IT A Read by Anna Bentinck 2 CDs ① NA230512 ISBN: 962634305 2

2 MCs NA230514 ISBN: 962634805 4 Release date: April 2004



7



NESBIT, F.: THE BAILWAY CHILDREN

Read by Eve Karpf, Delia Paton, Robert Benfield, Naxos Repertory

2 CDs ① NA208512 ISBN: 962634085 1

2 MCs NA208514

ISBN: 962634585 3 Music: Elgar. Delius

FULLY DRAMATISED

"...a delightful two-and-a-half hours. Good vocal performances with well-chosen pieces of music and an excellent adaptation. Well worth looking out for." DISABILITY TIMES

"E. Nesbit's story... has been given a new lease of life... a high quality recording." TALKING BUSINESS

THE PIED PIPER OF HAMELIN AND OTHER FAVOURITE POEMS

Read by Anton Lesser, Anne Harvey and Katinka Wolf

2 CDs	 NA204512 ISBN: 962634045 2

"A delightful compilation ... The selection, by Jan Fielden and John Mole, is fine; the reading accomplished... a spine-tingling feast of words." TIMES EDUCATIONAL SUPPLEMENT

2 MCs NA204514 ISBN: 962634545 4

Music: Tchaikovsky, Delibes, Rimsky-Korsakov, Saint-Saëns, Debussy, Ravel, Satie

SEWELL. Anna: BLACK BEAUTY

Read by Jonathan Keeble

2 CDs (·) NA216512 ISBN: 962634165.3

2 MCs [...] NA216514 ISBN: 962634665 5

Music: Vaughan Williams, Humperdinck, Sullivan

"No Christmas would be complete without Anna Sewell's Black Beauty, which is presented by Naxos in a graceful and affecting reading by Jonathan Keeble." THE SCOTSMAN



SOAMES. Nicolas: FAMOUS PEOPLE IN HISTORY – I

Read by Trevor Nichols and Katinka Wolf NIACATOAC

2 CDS	· NA217212
	ISBN: 962634172 6
2 MCs	<u></u> NA217214
	ISBN: 962634672 8

Music: Dowland, Mozart, Beethoven, Dvořák, Rimsky-Korsakov, Barber

SPECIALLY WRITTEN FOR NAXOS AUDIOBOOKS

"The stories of nine men and women whose lives changed the course of history are told in this beautifully written and produced programme for young people." AUDIOFILE

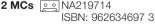




SOAMES, Nicolas: FAMOUS PEOPLE IN HISTORY – II 🗖

ALEXANDER THE GREAT • JOAN OF ARC • DA VINCI • NEWTON • WASHINGTON • BEETHOVEN • PASTEUR • CURIE • GANDHI Read by Daniel Philpott and Laura Brattan SPECIALLY WRITTEN FOR NAXOS AUDIOBOOKS

2 CDs (·) NA219712 ISBN: 962634197 1



Music: Medieval music, 19th-century orchestral music and Indian music



"Lively classical music enhances the biographies of an imaginative selection of movers and shakers from the past, including Gandhi, Alexander the Great and Beethoven." THE SUNDAY TIMES

COLUMBUS • ELIZABETH I • SHAKESPEARE • MOZART • NELSON • DARWIN • NIGHTINGALE • LINCOLN • FRANK





- **2 CDs** ① NA211712 ISBN: 962634117 3
- **2 MCs NA211714** ISBN: 962634617 5 Music: Berlioz, Ciurlionis



STEVENSON, R. L.: TREASURE ISLAND

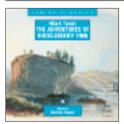
Read by Jasper Britton

- **2 CDs** (·) NA210112 ISBN: 962634101 7
- 2 MCs NA210114 ISBN: 962634601 9

Music: Smetana, German, Bantock, Borodin

"Stevenson's elegant and enthralling prose is superbly read by Jasper Britton," THE SCOTSMAN

"Britton's highly versatile reading evokes the widely varying characters of this popular tale of treasure, treachery and cut-throat adventure... gripping from start to finish." THE GOOD BOOK GUIDE



TWAIN. Mark: HUCKLEBERRY FINN

Read by Garrick Hagon

2 CDs ① NA207312 ISBN: 962634073 8

2 MCs • NA207314 ISBN: 962634573 X "...a thrilling version. Garrick Hagon infuses the twelve-vear-old hero's voice with anarchic vigour. as he discovers the reality of racist slavery... He is the ideal narrator." TIMES EDUCATIONAL SUPPLEMENT

ALSO FORMS PART OF A BOX SET - see pages 10 and 50

TWAIN, Mark: THE ADVENTURES OF TOM SAWYER

Read by Garrick Hagon

2 CDs (·) NA208012 ISBN: 962634080 0

2 MCs • NA208014 ISBN: 962634580 2 "...sympathetically read by Garrick Hagon. This marvellous story is heralded by short bursts of music by Janáček and Delius. LONDON EVENING STANDARD



Music: Janáček, Delius ALSO FORMS PART OF A BOX SET - see pages 10 and 50

TWAIN, Mark: THE PRINCE AND THE PAUPER

Read by Kenneth Jay

2 CDs ① NA222612 ISBN: 962634226 9

Music: 19th-century orchestral music

"Kenneth Jay diversifies into a splendid range of Tudor accents, pompous, plebeian, youthful and aged, courtly and villainous in Mark Twain's ingenious fantasy." THE INDEPENDENT



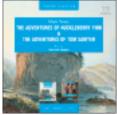
TWAIN, Mark: A CONNECTICUT YANKEE IN KING ARTHUR'S COURT Read by Kenneth Jay

2 CDs (·) NA221812 ISBN: 962634218 8

Music: Macdowell and medieval music

"Kenneth Jay balances many points of view and accents. His gravely voice gives pomp to the courtiers of the time. Period music fills the transitions of this abridged recording and provides the listener time to set the scene and players for subsequent sections." AUDIOFILE

Music: Janáček, Kvandal





Read by Garrick Hagon

4 CDs ① NAX26212 ISBN: 962634262 5

4 MCs A NAX26214 ISBN: 962634762 7

Music: Janáček, Kvandal, Delius

WILDE, Oscar: THE HAPPY PRINCE AND OTHER TALES 🖾 🖾

THE REMARKABLE ROCKET • THE SELFISH GIANT • THE DEVOTED FRIEND • THE NIGHTINGALE AND THE ROSE THE YOUNG KING • THE STAR CHILD "Beautiful stories, beautifully written, and beautifully

Read by Anton Lesser

2 CDs 🕢 NA213912 ISBN: 962634139 4 "Beautiful stories, beautifully written, and beautifully read." тацк вадю

2 MCs (2) NA213914 ISBN: 962634639 6

Music: Tchaikovsky, Grieg, Liadov, Corelli, Glazunov

CLASSIC FAIRY STORIES 🖾

JACK AND THE BEANSTALK • PUSS IN BOOTS • THE THREE BEARS • BEAUTY AND THE BEAST • THE THREE LITTLE PIGS, AND OTHERS



Read by Bernard Cribbins 2 CDs ○ NA222212 ISBN: 962634222 6

2 MCs SNA222214 ISBN: 962634722 8

Music: Various

"Bernard Cribbins, an excellent reader, draws the listener firmly in as he tells the tale of The Brave Little Tailor and seven others. The music, by Grieg, Boccherini, Chabrier and others, is an added delight. Naxos helpfully give the music CD details on the sleeve and, having heard the extracts, Joshua and I certainly want more of the music." DAILY EXPRES

NEW



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- 2 MCs [20] NA227914 ISBN: 962634779 1
- CLUSIC /A

THE STORY OF CLASSICAL MUSIC

SPECIALLY WRITTEN FOR NAXOS AUDIOBOOKS

3 CDs · NA331012FM ISBN: 962634314 1

3 MCs 🖭 NA331014FM

ISBN: 962634814 3

Release date: June 2004

EMA FIELDING	ANTON LESSER	CLASSIC FICTION Austen Brontë Bunyan Burton Cervantes Chekhov Chopin Collins Cooper Defoe	RLD S		
JULIET STEVENSON	DAVID TIMSON	Dickens	James	Stevenson	MODERN
		Dostoyevsky	Kipling	Stoker	CLASSICS
		Doyle	Laclos	Stowe	Beckett
		Dumas Eliot	London	Swift	Conrad
		Flaubert	Mallory Mountcoant	Thackeray Teletov	Durrell Sitzgorold
		Gogol	Maupassant Melville	Tolstoy Verne	Fitzgerald Kafka
		Hardy	Poe	Wilde	Woolf
		Hugo	Shelley	wilde	****
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CLASSIC FICTION & MODERN CLASSICS

"A true Englishman doesn't joke when he is talking about so serious a thing as a wager," replied Phileas Fogg, solemnly.

"I will bet twenty thousand pounds against anyone who wishes that I will make the tour of the world in eighty days or less; in nineteen hundred and twenty hours, or a hundred and fifteen thousand two hundred minutes. Do you accept?"

"We accept," replied Messrs. Stuart, Fallentin, Sullivan, Flanagan, and Ralph, after consulting each other.

"Good," said Mr. Fogg. "The train leaves for Dover at a quarter before nine. I will take it."

"This very evening?" asked Stuart.

"This very evening," returned Phileas Fogg.

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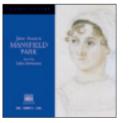
fine reading." THE GOOD BOOK GUIDE

narration." TALKING BUSINESS

THE SUNDAY TIMES

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- 2 MCs NA207614 ISBN: 962634576 4

Music: Beethoven, Mozart ALSO FORMS PART OF A BOX SET see pages 13 and 48

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3 MCs **NA310714**

ISBN: 962634607 8

Music: Beethoven, Krommer ALSO FORMS PART OF A BOX SET see pages 13 and 48

AUSTEN, Jane: PRIDE AND PREJUDICE

Read by Jenny Agutter

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3 MCs . NA310414 ISBN: 962634604 3 Music: Krommer, Hummel, Carulli ALSO FORMS PART OF A BOX SET see pages 13 and 48

"Jenny Agutter's reading is sensitive to every social nuance and to the passions swirling beneath the good manners. Every scene is gripping. Sex, though offstage, is rarely out of the mind." LITERARY REVIEW







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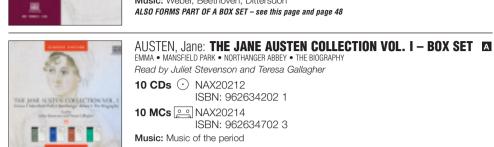
"If you are going to buy any of the current 'Crinoline and Cobblestones' sagas these are by far the best." LONDON EVENING STANDARD

ISBN: 962634593 4 Music: Weber, Beethoven, Dittersdorf

ALSO FORMS PART OF A BOX SET - see this page and page 48

ISBN: 962634202 1

ISBN: 962634702 3





Music: Music of the period

AUSTEN, Jane: THE JANE AUSTEN COLLECTION VOL. II – BOX SET PERSUASION • PRIDE AND PREJUDICE • SENSE AND SENSIBILITY • LADY SUSAN

Read by Juliet Stevenson, Jenny Agutter, Teresa Gallagher, Kim Hicks and cast



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3 MCs . NA306314 ISBN: 962634563 2 Music: Mendelssohn

"Freda Dowie gives an excellent reading." THE SUNDAY TIMES

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Read by Edward de Souza

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4 MCs 🖭 NA417114

ISBN: 962634671 X

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"Edward de Souza's voice, encompassing the hideous growl of Apollyon and the tender guardianship of Mr Greatheart, highlights Bunyan's narrative skills. This is a tremendous story." THE DAILY TELEGRAPH



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Music: Rimsky-Korsakov

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"Burton's ornate Spenserian-sounding English translation expresses the exotic and erotic nature of some of the stories. Philip Madoc's graceful reading has just the right edge of urgency and confidentiality." GRAMOPHONE



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- 3 MCs P NA326114 ISBN: 962634761 9

Music: Rubinstein, Ciurlionis, Tchaikovsky, Balakirev

"The 12 stories demonstrate Chekhov's versatility in tone - the dark comedy of Oh! the Public contrasts with the relatively light Children. All read with feeling and interspersed with Russian music." THE TIMES

"Branagh is an unintrusive deliverer of the carefully crafted words and the unspoken depths bevond them." THE SUNDAY TIMES



CHOPIN. Kate: THE AWAKENING

Read by Liza Ross

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Music: Chopin, Grieg, Widor

"Liza Ross narrates with the charm and understated eroticism of the Southern belle for this turn-of-the-century novella about a young woman's sexual awakening when she meets another man." LONDON EVENING STANDARD

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 - ISBN: 962634151 3

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"This remarkably sensitive reading... scales the heights and plumbs the troughs of the emotions, and captures the oleaginous evil of Uriah Heep as convincingly as it does Agnes's tender, patient love and Uncle Dick's harmless ravings." THE DAILY TELEGRAPH



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Read by Anton Lesser

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4 MCs • NA408214 ISBN: 962634582 9

Music: Mendelssohn, Grieg, Liadov, Liszt. Cui. Sullivan

"A magnificent reading... Lesser is Miss Havisham, and indeed every other character, from the growling Magwitch to the clear, haughty tones of Estella... It's profoundly felt, while the accompanying music matches every twist of the plot." THE SCOTSMAN

"Wow! What a reading. No ordinary tape set this. Anton Lesser dramatizes the characters to the extent that they take on life and breath. ROANOKE TIMES, USA

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Read by Anton Lesser

Read by Anton Lesser

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- 3 MCs P NA311014 ISBN: 962634610 8

Music: Sauguet, Hill, Bloch, Mendelssohn

"Do not fail to obtain a copy of Anton Lesser's reading of Hard Times and hear vocal acrobatics taken to the extreme. Single-handed and multivoiced he brings the sooty, grimy Lancashire mill town of Coketown to life. 'People mutht be amuthed', wheezes Sleary. And how!" THE SPECTATOR

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"Anton Lesser has a surprisingly strong talent for funny voices," HAM AND HIGH



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DICKENS. Charles: OLIVER TWIST

ISBN: 962634759 7 Music: Lachner, Fuchs, Scriabin, Reicha

DICKENS. Charles: A CHRISTMAS CAROL

Read by Anton Lesser

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"A fine classic rendition of Dickens' tale... Anton Lesser's spirits are eerie and poignant; Scrooge and the listener are suitably haunted... high marks too for Naxos' signature musical scoring and liner notes." AUDIOFILE



ISBN: 962634682 5 Music: Carols, Caselli

ALSO FORMS PART OF A BOX SET - see this page and page 50

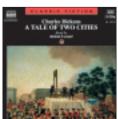


VARIOUS/DICKENS, Charles: THE CHRISTMAS COLLECTION/ A CHRISTMAS CAROL – BOX SET 🖾 🖾

Read by Anton Lesser and cast

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Read by Anton Lesser

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Music: Franck, Berlioz

"A sympathetically abridged version of this great novel, superbly read and with well-chosen music by Berlioz and Franck." GRAMOPHONE

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Read by Michael Sheen

"Michael Sheen does an excellent job of telling the story. I enjoyed the reading enormously." THE NEW BRUNSWICK PEADER

"Michael Sheen reads with absolute control of voice, characters and unfamiliar Russian names, Each character is sharply delineated by inflection, tone, pacing and tension." AUDIOFILE



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THE SUNDAY TIMES





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2 MCs •• NA205014 ISBN: 962634550 0

Music: Grieg



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Read by David Timson

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3 MCs • NA315214

ISBN: 962634652 3

Music: Bridge, Bella, Holbrooke, Grieg, May

The reading by David Timson is simply superb, matching Conan Doyle's narrative pace. Each character is defined as an individual and sounds right... I have heard Sherlock Holmes stories read by a lot of fine actors; David Timson is right up there with the best of them. Highly recommended. The thoroughly appropriate incidental music is chosen from the works of Bridge, Grieg and others." THE DISTRICT MESSENGER, THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SHERLOCK HOLMES SOCIETY OF LONDON

17









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THE COUNT OF MONTH CRISTO

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"Bill Homewood's reading is thrilling." BOSTON SUNDAY GLOBE

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Read by Bill Homewood

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"...a lively reading of one of my favourite adventure stories. A very enjoyable listening experience." THE BOOKSELLER

"Homewood reads superbly." TIMES EDUCATIONAL SUPPLEMENT

Music: Raff. Goldmark, Borodin ALSO FORMS PART OF A BOX SET - see this page and page 48



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Read by Bill Homewood

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"Carole Boyd's subtle reading reflects the spirit of this suspenseful, profound novel," LITERARY REVIEW



WINNER OF SILVER AWARD, SPOKEN WORD AWARDS 2001



ELIOT, George: SILAS MARNER A Read by Freda Dowie 2 CDs ONA207512 ISBN: 962634075 4 Music: Schubert, Mendelssohn



FLAUBERT, Gustave: MADAME BOVARY Read by Imogen Stubbs

- 4 CDs () NA417812 ISBN: 962634178 5
- **4 MCs** NA417814 ISBN: 962634678 7

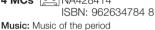
Music: Alkan

"Heather Godwin's intelligent and sensitive abridgement is the best possible substitute for the real thing. Generously long. Imogen Stubbs begins with a lightness in her voice, holding plenty of steel in reserve for the sombre finale of a story which shocked France." тне INDEPENDENT

"Of the versions currently on the market, Imogen Stubbs does best with a skilfully edited presentation of the novel." THE TIMES



GOGOL, Nikolai: DEAD SOULS Read by Gordon Griffin 4 CDs ⊙ NA428412 ISBN: 962634284 6 4 MCs NA428414





HARDY, Thomas: FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD ARead by Neville Jason

3 CDs () NA313612 ISBN: 962634136 X

3 MCs <u>9</u> NA313614 ISBN: 962634636 1

Music: Bridge, Debussy, Elgar

HARDY, Thomas: **TESS OF THE D'URBERVILLES**

3 CDs ↔ NA314712 ISBN: 962634147 5 Music: Dvořák. Mendelssohn. Smetana. "This reading by Imogen Stubbs works very well. The delightful musical interludes added to my enjoyment, and the abridgement has been sensitively done." THE DALY TELEGRAPH



HUGO, Victor: LES MISÉRABLES Read by Bill Homewood

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Music: Berlioz, Honegger



2 CDs ① NA205812 ISBN: 962634058 4

Music: Schubert, Boëllman, Smetana, Bartók

"James' eerie tale achieves a particular resonance from the use of themes from four composers. including Schubert and Bartók... The uncanny and subtly changing atmosphere is well delivered by Fielding in a sweet, otherworldly voice and by Kerrigan who reads wonderfully." THE SUNDAY TIMES

"...vet another in Naxos' superior 'classic fiction' series." TIME OUT



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2 MCs NA201814 ISBN: 962634518 7

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"A beautifully-iudged reading from Madhav Sharma," GRAMOPHONE



LACLOS, Choderlos de: DANGEROUS LIAISONS NEW Read by Sarah Woodward, Michael Sheen, Polly Hayes, Estelle Kohler, Claire Skinner, Beniamin Soames, Freda Dowie

3 CDs ① NA331212 ISBN: 9626343125

Music: Mozart, Havdn

Release date: January 2004



LONDON. Jack: THE CALL OF THE WILD

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2 CDs (·) NA206412 ISBN: 962634064 9

2 MCs . NA206414

"...read with exhilarating conviction by Garrick Hagon." TIMES EDUCATIONAL SUPPLEMENT



LONDON, Jack: THE SEA-WOLF Read by Garrick Hagon

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Music: Tchaikovsky, Mahler

"Read with spirit by Garrick Hagon, it's a gripping adventure yarn in which wealthy Humphrey Van Weyden, wrecked in fog, is saved from drowning by Wolf Larson, a ruthless and restless captain with an unexpected interest in great literature." THE NDEPENDENT



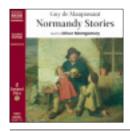
MALORY, Sir Thomas: THE DEATH OF ARTHUR Read by Philip Madoc

3 CDs (·) NA300112 ISBN: 962634001 0 Music: Gregorian chant

"Revealing his Shakespearean training, Philip Madoc's commanding performance is even more effective with the addition of Gregorian chants and medieval carols ... The sound reproduction is outstanding throughout." AUDIOFILE

- ISBN: 962634564 0

Music: Rubinstein



MAUPASSANT, Guy de: NORMANDY STORIES 🛛

IN THE COUNTRY • PIERROT • A NORMANDY JOKE • A COCK CROWED • OLD BONIFAC'S CRIME • THE CONFESSION AN APPARITION • THE LITTLE CASK • THE CASTAWAY • BOMBARD • MASTER BELHOMME'S BEAST Read by Oliver Montgomery

lead by Oliver Montgome

2 CDs 🕐 NA231112 ISBN: 962634311 7

Music: Chabrier

Release date: January 2004



MELVILLE, Herman: **MOBY DICK** A *Read by Bill Bailey*

- 4 CDs () NA402612 ISBN: 962634026 6
- 4 MCs [20] NA402614 ISBN: 962634526 8

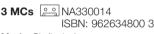
Music: Respighi, Brahms, Balakirev, Dvořák "The novel's excitement is stoked by music. Bill Bailey's reading has a vigorous, 'thar she blows' quality." THE SCOTSMAN

"A refreshing, salty, American-sounding reading by Bill Bailey." $\ensuremath{\mathsf{Parade}}$, $\ensuremath{\mathsf{usa}}$

"In this abridgement, the richness of Melville's prose pours out like thick cream from an iron pitcher... I count this as one of the best titles I've reviewed." AUDIOFILE



MELVILLE, Herman: BILLY BUDD, SAILOR Read by William Roberts 3 CDs
• NA330012 ISBN: 962634300 1



Music: Ciurlionis, Lazunov

POE, Edgar Allan: THE MURDERS IN THE RUE MORGUE THE MYSTERY OF MARIE ROGÊT • THE PURLOINED LETTER 🛛

Read by Kerry Shale

- 4 CDs 🕑 NA427612
- ISBN: 962634276 5 4 MCs ... NA427614 ISBN: 962634276 7

Music: Mendelssohn

"This new edition, chillingly read by Kerry Shale, exaggerates the melodrama with appropriate music making this less a book than a production. I can think of no better way to spend an evening, curtains drawn, candles lit, a dying fire in the grate, and this on the cassette player scaring you to death." **THE GUADIAN**

"Kerry Shale makes a lovely job of reading Poe's three tales of Dupin. I urge you to listen to these grand readings." THE DISTRICT MESSENGER - THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SHERLOCK HOLMES SOCIETY



POE, Edgar Allan: **THE FALL OF THE HOUSE OF USHER & OTHER TALES**

- 4 CDs () NA428312 ISBN: 9626342
- ISBN: 962634283 8 4 MCs (20) NA428314
- ISBN: 962634783 X

"William Robert's reading does full justice to Poe's subtly contrived effects." THE INDEPENDENT



SHELLEY, Mary: FRANKENSTEIN Bead by Daniel Philopott, Jonathan Oliver, Chri

Read by Daniel Philpott, Jonathan Oliver, Chris Larkin

2 CDs () NA200312 ISBN: 962634003 7

2 MCs Provide NA200314 ISBN: 962634503 9 Music: Tchaikovsky, Debussy ALSO FORMS PART OF A BOX SET – see pages 23 and 49 NEW



SHELLEY, Mary: FRANKENSTEIN/STOKER, Bram: DRACULA – BOX SET 🖾

Read by Brian Cox, Heathcote Williams and cast

5 CDs () NAX24112 ISBN: 962634241 2

Music: Tchaikovsky, Debussy, Feeney, Kalinnikov, Salter/Dessau

STEVENSON, Robert Louis: **THE STRANGE CASE OF DR JEKYLL & MR HYDE** Read by John Sessions



2 CDs () NA209012 ISBN: 962634090 8

Music: Holbrooke

"John Session's reading is loud and stirring. This narration is as much a stage performance, and, as always with Naxos recordings, the music is carefully chosen to enhance the spirit and mood of the original text." GRAMOPHONE



STOKER, Bram: DRACULA

Read by Brian Cox, Heathcote Williams and cast

3 CDs () NA311512 ISBN: 962634115 7 "...performed with tremendous zest. There is nothing like a trip to Transylvania to bring out the best in the Naxos sound-effects department – a chilling experience." sectator

Music: Feeney, Kalinnikov, Salter/Dessau ALSO FORMS PART OF A BOX SET - see this page and page 49



STOWE, Harriet Beecher: **UNCLE TOM'S CABIN** AREad by Liza Ross

4 CDs () NA417512 ISBN: 962634175 0

Music: Hartmann, Fibich, Berwald, Rubinstein "Stowe's work has been rediscovered in the past two decades... Liza Ross's range of regional American accents, from Virginia to the Deep South, is subtle and accurate." **THE TIMES**



SWIFT, Jonathan: GULLIVER'S TRAVELS

Read by Neville Jason

3 CDs 🕐 NA307712

ISBN: 962634077 0

3 MCs 2 NA307714 ISBN: 962634577 2 **Music:** Handel "Neville Jason exudes the authentically sulphurous tone of Jonathan Swift." THE SCOTSMAN

"You'll enjoy Neville Jason's measured and intelligent reading of Gulliver's Travels... much embellished by incidental music by Handel." **THE INDEPENDENT**



THACKERAY, W. M.: VANITY FAIR A Read by Jane Lapotaire

5 CDs O NA512012 ISBN: 962634120 3 Music: Hummel, Weber, Schubert, Schumann "Lapotaire... beguiling reader." GRAMOPHONE

"This excellent reading takes you back to an age when reading was the most important family entertainment, and the music that accompanies it (mainly Schubert) adds to the period atmosphere." **TIMES EDUCATIONAL SUPPLEMENT**



TOLSTOY, Leo: ANNA KARENINA Read by Laura Paton

4 CDs (·) NA408112

ISBN: 962634081 9

4 MCs **NA408114** ISBN: 962634581 0

Music: Rubinstein, Balakirev, Vitols, Ivanovici, Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninov

"Laura Paton makes an outstanding job of reading Tolstoy's epic saga of doomed love ... there's some fine use of atmospheric music with Ms Paton bringing all the characters in Tolstoy's vast story to life." SHEFFIELD STAR



TOLSTOY, Leo: WAR AND PEACE Read by Neville Jason

- 4 CDs (·) NA404212 ISBN: 962634042 8
- 4 MCs NA404214 ISBN: 962634542 X

Music: Borodin, Tchaikovsky, Volkmann, Rimsky-Korsakov, J. Strauss Jr.

"Enhanced by sensitive passages of music. scorching the inexorable narrative with powerful chunks of Borodin, Tchaikovsky, Rimsky Korsakov and Volkmann." TIME OUT

"Executed with scrupulous care. Neville Jason acts the different voices with skill." TIMES EDUCATIONAL SUPPLEMENT

VERNE, Jules: 20.000 LEAGUES UNDER THE SEA Read by John Carlisle

2 CDs (·) NA201412 ISBN: 962634014.2

"John Carlisle reads suitably portentously, the abridgement is clear and classical music heightens the eerie atmosphere." THE SUNDAY TIMES



Music: Franck ALSO FORMS PART OF A BOX SET - see this name and name 50



VERNE, Jules: AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS

Read by Harry Burton

2 CDs ① NA203312 ISBN: 962634033 9

Music: Grieg, Dvořák, d'Indy ALSO FORMS PART OF A BOX SET see this page and page 50

"The tale of Phileas Fogg... is a test to which Harry Burton rises superbly... in vigorous, manly tones, he brings this vanished world vividly to life." THE SCOTSMAN

"...read superbly by Harry Burton ... the perfect accompaniment while you are stuck in the car on the South-Eastern Arterial." MELBOURNE AGE, AUSTRALIA



VERNE, Jules: 20.000 LEAGUES UNDER THE SEA/AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS – BOX SET 🖪

Read by Harry Burton and John Carlisle

4 CDs . NAX23312 ISBN: 962634233 1

Music: Franck, Grieg, Dvořák, d'Indv



WILDE, Oscar: THE PICTURE OF DORIAN GRAY

Read by Michael Sheen

3 CDs (·) NA307412 ISBN: 962634074 6

Music: Schumann, Boëllman, Chabrier

"Wilde's story of the moral decay of an apparently blessed, wealthy, handsome young man, is well read on audio by Michael Sheen." GOOD BOOK GUIDE

"Wilde's classic moral horror story reads beautifully aloud. Sheen reads with passion and strong characterizations." AUDIOFILE



BECKETT, Samuel: **MOLLOY**

Read by Sean Barrett and Dermot Crowley

7 CDs 🕑 NA729212 ISBN: 962634292 7

7 MCs NA729214 ISBN: 962634792 9 "Beckett's fictional masterpiece – savagely funny." THE SUNDAY TIMES

"It is hard to think of a writer better suited to audio or two readers better suited to play Beckett than Dermot Crowley and Sean Barrett. This is a novel that cries out to be heard, not read; it may slump on the page but in the ear it sings. Crowley and Barrett give inspired performances – a truly great audio." **THE GUADUM**

NEW



CONRAD, Joseph: YOUTH/HEART OF DARKNESS A Read by Brian Cox

3 CDs () NA309412 ISBN: 962634094 0 Music: Parry, Bantock, Szymanowski "Respected RSC actor Brian Cox gives an intelligent reading... the muscular narrative holds the listener's attention." TALKING BUSINESS

"Brian Cox's reading had me spellbound." THE INDEPENDENT



DURRELL, Lawrence: JUSTINE (The Alexandria Quartet I)

Read by Nigel Anthony

3 CDs () NA304012 ISBN: 962634040 1

Music: Ravel, Debussy, MacDowell ALSO FORMS PART OF A BOX SET – see pages 26 and 48 "I hadn't read Lawrence Durrell's sensuous Alexandria Quartet since my teens, and what a pleasure it was to listen to Nigel Anthony reading the first volume, Justine, on a high quality, excellent value, Naxos recording." сносе мадалие

"Nigel Anthony's reading, both ripe and dry, was enthralling... the experience proves you're never too old to be seduced by Durrell." BOSTON SUNDAY GLOBE



DURRELL, Lawrence: **BALTHAZAR (The Alexandria Quartet II)**

3 CDs () NA304612 ISBN: 962634046 0

Music: Rimsky-Korsakov, Tchaikovsky, Smetana ALSO FORMS PART OF A BOX SET - see pages 26 and 48



DURRELL, Lawrence: **MOUNTOLIVE (The Alexandria Quartet III)** *Read by Nigel Anthony*

3 CDs () NA306112 ISBN: 96263

ISBN: 962634061 4

Music: Debussy, Ravel, Britten, Piazzola ALSO FORMS PART OF A BOX SET - see pages 26 and 48



DURRELL, Lawrence: **CLEA (The Alexandria Quartet IV)** *Read by Nigel Anthony*

3 CDs () NA306612 ISBN: 962634066 5

Music: Ravel, Debussy, MacDowell ALSO FORMS PART OF A BOX SET - see pages 26 and 48



DURRELL, Lawrence: **THE ALEXANDRIA QUARTET – BOX SET** JUSTINE • BALTHAZAR • MOUNTOLIVE • CLEA

Read by Nigel Anthony

12 CDs 🕢 NAX24012 ISBN: 962634240 4

Music: Debussy, Ravel, Britten, MacDowell, Smetana



FITZGERALD, F. Scott: **THE GREAT GATSBY** A Read by William Hope

2 CDs () NA205112 ISBN: 962634051 7

Music: Gershwin



KAFKA, Franz: METAMORPHOSIS 🗖

Read by Martin Jarvis

2 CDs 🕐 NA228612 ISBN: 962634286 2

2 MCs (2) NA228614 ISBN: 962634786 4 Music: Janáček "Jarvis has firmly established himself as a source of finely nuanced theatre of the mind. This unforgettable audio movie is vivid and disturbing, shot through with black humour." AudioFILE

"Martin Jarvis brings out all the black humour in the extraordinary story, written in 1915." тне тімеs



WOOLF, Virginia: **ORLANDO** A Read by Laura Paton

2 CDs () NA200412 ISBN: 962634004 5

Music: Dowland, Galliard, Vivaldi, Couperin, Marcello, C. P. Bach, Beethoven, Schumann, Coates, Ravel "A superbly elegant production read by Laura Paton elevated by sensitively chosen, interwoven music." THE DAILY TELEGRAPH

"Laura Paton's velvet voice lusciously conveys Woolf's lavish and sensual prose... an outstanding listening experience." AUDIFILE



WOOLF, Virginia: TO THE LIGHTHOUSE

Read by Juliet Stevenson

- 2 CDs 🕐 NA203612
 - ISBN: 962634036 3

WOOLF, Virginia: **THE WAVES**

2 MCs [...] NA203614 ISBN: 962634536 5

Music: Delius, Alkan, Pierné, Grieg

"This production by Nicolas Soames is a triumph... Juliet Stevenson's reading of this peerless text is passionate and incisive." **GRAMOPHONE**

"Juliet Stevenson's in good form with To The Lighthouse, well suited in its symphonic structure to the CD format. Grieg and Delius are used to great effect." **THE INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY**

"Juliet Stevenson gracefully captures the emotional heart of the novel while music of Delius and Grieg enhances Woolf's rich stream of consciousness." BOSTON SUNDAY GLOBE



"Frances Jeater's voice is perfect, a little husky, a little elegiac." тне тімеs



4 CDs ↔ NA429912 ISBN: 962634299 4 4 MCs ↔ NA429914 ISBN: 962634799 6

Read by Frances Jeater

Music: Bliss



the james joyce collection

riverrun, past Eve and Adam's, from swerve of shore to bend of bay, brings us by a commodius vicus of recirculation back to Howth Castle and Environs.

From Finnegans Wake

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"On the page, Joyce's characters are remarkable; in Jim Norton's performance, their realism is uncanny. With his impressive vocal range and his Irish intonation modulated to portray various areas of Dublin, Norton brings to life Maria singing in her quavering voice; Annie cooing 'My little mannie' to soothe her baby; little Tom pleading 'O Pal' to stop his father beating him; the gallant's swaggering boats." тне овветиет

WINNER OF SPOKEN WORD AWARD FOR UNABRIDGED CLASSIC FICTION 2001

JOYCE, James: **DUBLINERS (Part II)** I ALSO FORMS PART OF A BOX SET - see this page and page 49 A PAINFUL CASE • IVY DAY IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM • A MOTHER • GRACE • THE DEAD Read by Jim Norton



3 CDs NA318312 O ISBN: 962634183 1

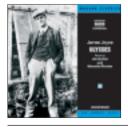
Music: Balfe and others



s NA318314 ISBN: 962634683 3

Music: Moore, Wallace, Mascagni and Balfe

WINNER OF SPOKEN WORD AWARD FOR UNABRIDGED CLASSIC FICTION 2001





JOYCE, James: DUBLINERS – BOX SET 🗖

THE SISTERS • AN ENCOUNTER • ARABY • EVELINE • AFTER THE RACE • TWO GALLANTS • THE BOARDING HOUSE A LITTLE CLOUD • COUNTERPARTS • CLAY • A PAINFUL CASE • IVY DAY IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM • A MOTHER GRACE • THE DEAD

Read by Jim Norton

6 CDs 🕑 NAX31312 ISBN: 962634313 3

Music: Balfe, Moore, Wallace and Mascagni

Release date: May 2004

JOYCE, James: ULYSSES

Read by Jim Norton with Marcella Riordan

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4 MCs S NA401114 ISBN: 962634511 X "The performance by Jim Norton with Marcella Riordan is a revelation. Norton brilliantly dramatises the inner musings of Leopold Bloom... brings tears to the eyes." FINARCIAL TIMES

"The best way to tackle James Joyce – this made me laugh aloud." LITERARY REVIEW

WINNER OF THE 1995 TALKIES AWARD FOR BEST ABRIDGED FICTION CLASSIC

NEW

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22 CDs

NAX30912
ISBN: 962634309 5

Release marks 100th anniversary of Bloomsday

Release date: May 2004



JOYCE, James: FINNEGANS WAKE

Read by Jim Norton with Marcella Riordan

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- 4 MCs SNA516314 ISBN: 962634663 9

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REMEMBRANCE OF THINGS PAST

Neville Jason, who adapts and reads Remembrance of Things Past



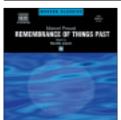


Marcel Proust's great work, the major French literary statement of the 20th century, looks back at the old social order while noting the rise of a different way of life. It is extraordinary not only in its length, but for the remarkable observations on the aspirations, the foibles and the emotions of life.

A la Recherche du Temps Perdu is a novel vou

"She sent out for one of those short, plump little cakes called 'petites madeleines'..." From Swann's Way





will never foraet.

PROUST, Marcel: **REMEMBRANCE OF THINGS PAST (12 VOLUMES) PLUS BIOGRAPHY – BOX SET** Intreservedly recommend its CDs/cassettes.

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39 CDs · NAX25312 ISBN: 962634253 6 "I unreservedly recommend its CDs/cassettes. Adaptor and reader Neville Jason has seamlessly removed discursive longeurs. His range of voices and accents makes each character unforgettable." LITERARY REVIEW

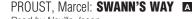
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ALSO FORMS PART OF A BOX SET – see pages 28 and 49

PROUST, Marcel: **SWANN IN LOVE** A Read by Neville Jason

3 CDs () NA305612 ISBN: 962634056 8

3 MCs S NA305614 ISBN: 962634556 X

ALSO FORMS PART OF A BOX SET – see pages 28 and 49

PROUST, Marcel: WITHIN A BUDDING GROVE (Part I)



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"Neville Jason seamlessly portrays the parade of characters with subtle changes in inflection. He has shaped each scene in his clear, measured presentation so the irony, humour and richness of Proust's observations engage the listener intimately." **AUDIOFILE**

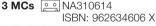


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PROUST, Marcel: WITHIN A BUDDING GROVE (Part II)

Read by Neville Jason

3 CDs () NA310612 ISBN: 962634106 8



ALSO FORMS PART OF A BOX SET – see pages 28 and 49

PROUST, Marcel: THE GUERMANTES WAY (Part I)

Read by Neville Jason

- 3 CDs 📀 NA311612
 - ISBN: 962634116 5

3 MCs NA311614 ISBN: 962634616 7

ALSO FORMS PART OF A BOX SET -

see pages 28 and 49

"In this fifth part of Proust's great novel, the young Marcel finds his way into Parisian high society. Jason, reading with acute understanding, leads us further into the web of Proust's creation."

HE GOOD BOOK GUIDE

"Jason controls the flow of lengthy intricate sentences with great skill." **THE GOOD BOOK GUIDE**



PROUST, Marcel: **THE GUERMANTES WAY (Part II)** A Read by Neville Jason

3 CDs () NA314112 ISBN: 962634141 6

3 MCs NA314114 ISBN: 962634641 8 ALSO FORMS PART OF A BOX SET see pages 28 and 49

2

"Jason is alert to every social distinction and to the passions that surge beneath the surface of polite conversation." BOSTON SUNDAY GLOBE

"Neville Jason renders the descriptive power of Proust in such poetic voice that the tea-soaked madelines can be tasted." ROANOKE TIMES, USA





PROUST, Marcel: SODOM AND GOMORRAH (Part I)

Read by Neville Jason

3 CDs () NA316112 ISBN: 962634161 0

3 MCs S NA316114 ISBN: 962634661 2 ALSO FORMS PART OF A BOX SET – see pages 28 and 49

PROUST, Marcel: **SODOM AND GOMORRAH (Part II)** Read by Neville Jason

3 CDs 🕐 NA316712 ISBN: 962634167 X

3 MCs 🤤 NA316714

ISBN: 962634667 1 ALSO FORMS PART OF A BOX SET -

see pages 28 and 49

PROUST, Marcel: THE CAPTIVE (Part I)



Read by Neville Jason

3 CDs () NA319012 ISBN: 962634190 4

3 MCs PART OF A BOX SET see pages 28 and 49 "The indefatigable Neville Jason. As a reader, he has fine voice and excellent technique. He strives for clarity – not an easy job considering some of the author's page-long sentences – and succeeds with distinction. What he has achieved is well worth hearing. And he deserves plaudits for the sheer chutzpah of taking this job on." **AudioFILE**



PROUST, Marcel: **THE CAPTIVE (Part II)** Read by Neville Jason

3 CDs 🕖 NA320312 ISBN: 962634203 X

ALSO FORMS PART OF A BOX SET – see pages 28 and 49

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30

PROUST, Marcel: THE FUGITIVE Read by Neville Jason 3 CDs ○ NA321112 ISBN: 962634211 0 3 MCs ○ NA321114 ISBN: 962634711 2 ALSO FORMS PART OF A BOX SETsee pages 28 and 49

PROUST, Marcel: TIME REGAINED Read by Neville Jason 3 CDs ○ NA322012 ISBN: 962634220 X

3 MCs S NA322014 ISBN: 962634221 8 ALSO FORMS PART OF A BOX SET see pages 28 and 49







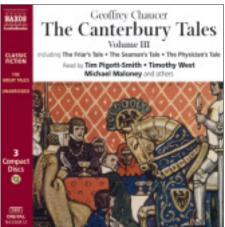


DENYS HAWTHBON

MICHAEL SHEEN



Chaucer



POETRY

Here begins the Friar's Tale

Once an archdeacon dwelt within my land – A man of eminence, and hard of hand In laying punishment on perpetrators Of witchcraft, and upon all fornicators... Defamers, and corrupt church officers, And panders also, and adulterers, Breakers of contracts, those who gave offence Through wills, or through neglect of sacraments.

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"The narrative poems of Keats, Wordsworth and Coleridge tend to be too decorative and slow-moving for modern tastes. This tape makes them more palatable than on the page. Peter Grimes is arresting and Tennyson's Morte d'Arthur had me looking up from my ironing in distracted reverie." THE GUARDIAN

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GREAT POETS OF THE ROMANTIC AGE A U

Read by Michael Sheen

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"No voice is quite as good at reading the Romantic poets as the one each of us has inside our heads. But if we do have to make do with second best, it may as well be the voice of exciting young actor, Michael Sheen." TIMES LITERARY SUPPLEMENT

"An impressive selection, with Michael Sheen giving a well-varied reading." GRAMOPHONE



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ISBN: 962634109 2

2 MCs • NA210914 ISBN: 962634609 4 Music: Britten, Elgar

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- ISBN: 962634189 0 2 MCs • NA218914

ISBN: 962634689 2 Music: Vivaldi, Dowland, Mendelssohn, Stravinsky

"One of the best anthologies of the year... An arresting, deeply moving collection of the best of British poetry read by a star-studded cast." THE INDEPENDENT







"The Prologue and five tales are presented here with gusto in a 1935 verse modernisation interleaved with dance music from the time of Boccacio." THE DAILY TELEGRAPH

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ISBN: 962634544 6 Music: Dance music from the time of

Boccaccio's Decameron

CHAUCER, Geoffrey: THE CANTERBURY TALES II MODERN ENGLISH VERSE TRANSLATION CLERK'S • WIFE OF BATH'S • NUN'S PRIEST • THE REEVE'S TALES

Read by Philip Madoc, Frances Jeater, Charles Simpson, John Rowe, John Moffatt

3 CDs (·) NA325612 ISBN: 962634256 0

3 MCs ONA325614 ISBN: 962634756 2

Music: Dufay and others

"Frances Jeater is on cracking form as the Wife of Bath, Iffe-enhancingly sexy and wordly-wise as she explains her philosophy of love and marriage to her fellow pilgrims. Lively translation from Middle English." THE SUNDAY TIMES

This excellent production of four of the best-known tales earns high marks for modernization and preservation. Frances Jeater as the Wife of Bath is a standout and Charles Simpson's handling of the Clerk's story of patient Griselda brings feeling and conviction to the kind of medieval morality tale that modern readers often find most antiquated." AUDIOFILE

CHAUCER, Geoffrey: THE CANTERBURY TALES I MODERN ENGLISH VERSE TRANSLATION A

3 MCs NA304414





CHAUCER, Geoffrey: THE CANTERBURY TALES III 🖪 🖼

THE SUMMONER'S • THE FRIAR'S • THE MANCIPLE'S • THE DOCTOR'S • THE LAWYER'S • THE SEAMAN'S THE PRIORESS'S . THE PHYSICIAN'S

Read by Philip Madoc, Tim Pigott-Smith, Stephen Tompkinson, Sean Barrett, Michael Maloney, Charles Kay, Rosalind Shanks, Timothy West



ISBN: 962634303 6 3 MCs 💽 NA330414 ISBN: 962634804 6

Music: Songs and instrumental music from the time of Luther Release date: March 2004

DANTE: THE INFERNO from The Divine Comedy

Read by Heathcote Williams

3 CDs () NA309912 ISBN: 962634099 1

3 MCs S NA309914 ISBN: 962634599 3

Music: Chominciamento di gioia ALSO FORMS PART OF A BOX SET see this page and page 48

TRANSLATED BY BENEDICT FLYNN

"Compulsive listening" HIGH FLIERS

"Heathcote Williams reads with a husky intensity that had me spellbound. Benedict Flynn's translation does full justice to the original and, as is usual with Naxos's always rounded and thoughtful productions, contemporary music adds drama to the reading." THE INDEPENDENT



DANTE: PURGATORY from The Divine Comedy Read by Heathcote Williams

3 CDs ① NA314312

ISBN: 962634143 2 3 MCs 💽 NA314314

ISBN: 962634643 4

Music: Gregorian Chant, Machaut ALSO FORMS PART OF A BOX SET see this page and page 48

TRANSLATED BY BENEDICT FLYNN "In the second part of Dante's great work, the

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3 MCs 🖭 NA317914

ISBN: 962634679 5

Music: Hildegard von Bingen, Machaut, Gregorian Chant ALSO FORMS PART OF A BOX SET see this page and page 48

DANTE: THE DIVINE COMEDY – BOX SET 🖾 THE INFERNO • PURGATORY • PARADISE • A LIFE OF DANTE

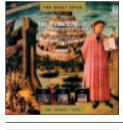
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ISBN: 962634724 4

Music: Chominciamento di gioia, Gregorian Chant





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Music: Debussv

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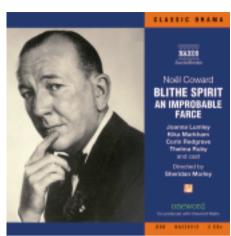
DANNA LUMLEY



CORIN REDGRAVE

GEOFFREY PALMER

Bernard Shaw Coward Ibsen McPherson Shakespeare Sophocles Wilde



DRAMA

MADAME ARCATI Is there anyone there...(*A long pause*)...Is there anyone there?... (*Another long pause*)...One rap for yes...two raps for no. Now then...is there anyone there? (*After a shorter pause, the table gives a little bump*) MRS BRADMAN (involuntarily) Oh!

MADAME ARCATI Sshhh!...Is that you, Daphne? (*The table gives a louder bump*) Is your cold better, dear? (*The table gives two loud bumps, very quickly*) Oh, I'm so sorry. Are you doing anything for it?...(*The table bumps several times*) I am afraid she's rather fretful...'

You say there is someone there who wishes to speak to someone here? (*One bump*) Is it me? (*Two sharp bumps*) Is it Doctor Bradman? (*Two bumps*) Is it Mrs Bradman? (*Two bumps*) Is it Mrs Condomine? (*Several very loud bumps, which continue until Madame Arcati shouts it down*) Stop It! Behave yourself! Is it Mr Condomine? (*There is dead silence for a moment, and then a very loud single bump*) There is someone who wishes to speak to you, Mr Condomine.

CHARLES. Tell them to leave a message.

(The table bangs about loudly)

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ISBN: 962634768.6 Music: Ketélby, Lehár

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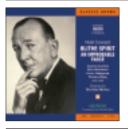
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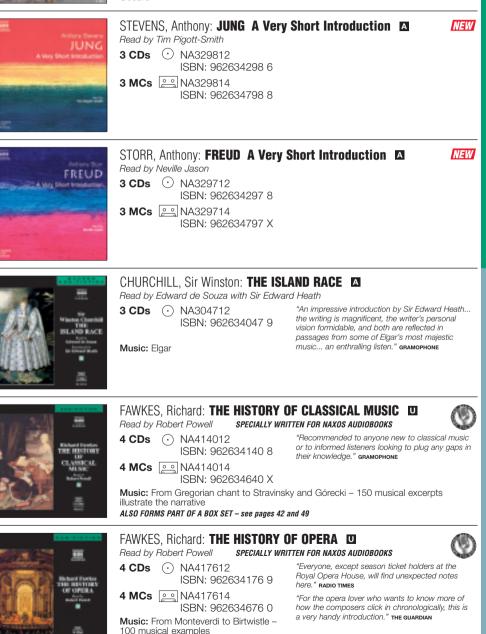
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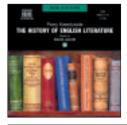
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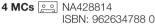
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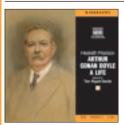
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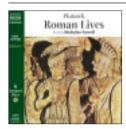


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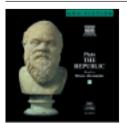
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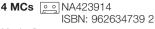




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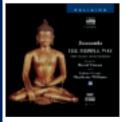
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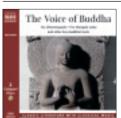
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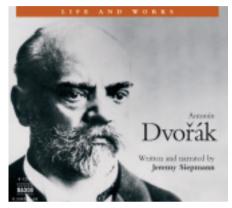


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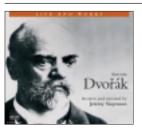
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DVOŘÁK: His Life and Works

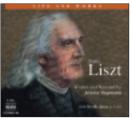
Written and read by Jeremy Siepmann, with Sean Barrett as Dvořák

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29 music extracts + 136-page booklet

One of the best-loved composers of all time, Dvořák rose from rural origins to become not only a great but an influential composer. Writing music of irresistible colour, lilt and peasant vitality, he was also a melodist-in-a-million. This portrait-in-sound follows a lovable and in many ways a very simple man from haycart to imperial palace, from tragic loss to heart-warming joy, from pigeon-raising to world celebrity. **Release date:** February 2004









HAYDN: His Life and Works

Written and read by Jeremy Siepmann, with David Timson as Haydn

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Written and read by Jeremy Siepmann, with Neville Jason as Liszt

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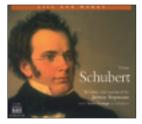
MOZART: His Life and Works

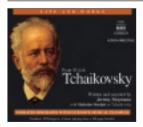
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SCHUBERT: His Life and Works

Written and read by Jeremy Siepmann, with Tom George as Schubert

4 CDs (·) 8.558135-38 with CD-ROM element ISBN: 1-84379-065-3 Release date: May 2004

The life of Franz Schubert has been a gift to romantically inclined biographers: the beautiful, brilliant, modest boy who sprang to fully-fledged genius at the age of 16; the quintessential 'artist in a garret', entirely consumed by his art and living a hand-to-mouth existence in Vienna (home of Mozart, Havdn and Beethoven); the unrecognised master who died almost penniless at the age of 31. But as revealed in this dramatised biography, there was a secret, darker side to Schubert which only renders his story that much more fascinating.

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Tchaikovsky is one of the most popular composers of all time. Like his music, the man himself was widely loved, but his inner life was fraught with sufferings, confusions and a deep vein of selfdoubt. The drama of his emotional life is vividly reflected in his music, letters and diaries, all of which play a major part in this intimate audio-biography.

VERDI: His Life and Works

Written and read by Jeremy Siepmann, with Freddie Jones as Verdi

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29 music extracts + 124-page booklet

In this portrait-in-sound, Jeremy Siepmann and a group of distinguished actors take an in-depth look behind the popular image of a man who was, and perhaps remains, the most enduring national hero in Italian history and a colossus in the history of music itself.

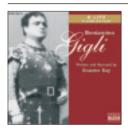


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CARUSO: A Life, in words and music

Written and read by David Timson

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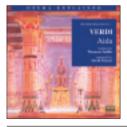
Written and read by Graeme Kay

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Release date: April 2004

Arguably, Beniamino Gigli's is the most sheerly beautiful and probably the most natural tenor voice in the history of the gramophone. He was described as the second Caruso except that he had greater flexibility. Here, Graeme Kay traces his development, and the narration is illustrated with a wealth of newly-restored recordings.

OPERA EXPLAINED



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Written by Thomson Smillie and read by David Timson

1 CD () 8.558009 ISBN: 1-84379-096-3 Aida is one of the most popular operas ever written, a sumptuous work which has moments of great drama, but which reminds us in the end that it's all about people – the greatest love affairs and the greatest affairs of state distil themselves in simple humanity. And no one does simple humanity better than the best-loved of all Italian composers – Giuseppe Verdi.



THE BARBER OF SEVILLE: An introduction to Rossini's opera

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Written by Thomson Smillie and read by David Timson

 La Bohème virtually defines the term 'romantic'. The poignant story of Mimi and Rodolfo is told in music of such tender beauty, allied, as always, to Puccini's intuition of what works in the theatre, resulting in an opera that readily appeals to our emotions and senses.

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CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA: An introduction to Mascagni's opera

Written by Thomson Smillie and read by David Timson

1 CD () 8.558080 ISBN: 1-84379-084-X

Release date: February 2004

Cavalleria Rusticana is the short opera that has all the elements of a grand opera compressed into a single highly dramatic time span. The story of love, lust, blood-feud and betrayal played out against the pageantry of the Easter celebrations in a Sicilian village delivers an emotional wallop because of the youthful vigour and musical wealth of its great score. Mascagni was never to repeat this youthful success but this brief work is enough to ensure his immortality.



COSÌ FAN TUTTE: An introduction to Mozart's opera

Written by Thomson Smillie and read by David Timson

1 CD () 8.558069 ISBN: 1-84379-087-4 Così fan tutte contains some of Mozart's most sublime music. On one level, the opera is purely a social anecdote about young people falling in and out of love; but Mozart was a supreme sensualist and a great humanist, and invested the tale with all his understanding of humanity and young love.



DON GIOVANNI: An introduction to Mozart's opera

Written by Thomson Smillie and read by David Timson

1 CD () 8.558115 ISBN: 1-84379-078-5 Don Giovanni has long been regarded as Mozart's supreme theatrical achievement. The subject seems unpromising – the last day in the life of the notorious womaniser Don Juan – but the skill of the librettist allied to the genius of Mozart at the very peak of his powers has created a work which is not only highly entertaining but reflects an incredible understanding of the human condition.



L'ELISIR D'AMORE: An introduction to Donizetti's opera

Written by Thomson Smillie and read by David Timson

1 CD () 8.558120 ISBN: 1-84379-079-3 L'elisir d'amore, or 'The Elixir of Love', has remained popular for almost two centuries because of a touching tale and a galaxy of comic characters adapted from the traditional commedia dell'arte. Above all Donizetti poured into the score all the warmth and tenderness of the Italian temperament.

FIDELIO: An introduction to Beethoven's opera

Written by Thomson Smillie and read by David Timson

1 CD () 8.558077 ISBN: 1-84379-085-8 Fidelio is a work like no other. Beethoven's only opera is about the joy of married love – by a man who never knew that pleasure. Feelings the artist could not experience but could express find their noblest manifestation in music of overwhelming power and majesty.

DIE FLEDERMAUS: An introduction to J. Strauss Jr's opera

Written by Thomson Smillie and read by David Timson

1 CD () 8.558070 ISBN: 1-84379-086-6 Die Fledermaus is one of the few operatic works to which the phrase 'never a dull moment' can be truthfully applied. From the explosive opening of the famous overture, through the surging energy of the 'Fledermaus Waltz', up to such huge concerted numbers as the 'Duidu' finale to Act II, this operetta almost incarnates nostalgia.

THE FLYING DUTCHMAN: An introduction to Wagner's opera

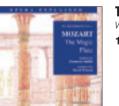
Written by Thomson Smillie and read by David Timson

 "Naxos continues to add jewels to their crown with this fine series of educational recordings. This introduction to Wagner's early masterpiece is a fine example of just how well an educational effort can be done. Well paced and written at a level that will entertain professionals while enlightening novices, this fine script by Thomson Smillie is brought to life with great panache by David Timson." CLASSICAL MUSIC ON THE WEB

MADAMA BUTTERFLY: An introduction to Puccini's opera

Written by Thomson Smillie and read by David Timson

 Madama Butterfly really does run the gamut of operatic emotion. The fate of Madama Butterfly – married to an American sailor and then abandoned – engages our emotions, as it obviously did Puccini's, to a degree equalled by few other opera heroines. The oriental setting and the exquisite orchestral and choral writings are treasured bonuses.



THE MAGIC FLUTE: An introduction to Mozart's opera

Written by Thomson Smillie and read by David Timson

1 CD () 8.558012 ISBN: 1-84379-075-0 "This Naxos release serves its purpose admirably. The spoken explanations are entertaining, thorough and informative. The performances from all concerned are excellent and the sound quality is more than adequate." CLASSICAL MUSIC ON THE WEB



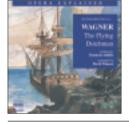
THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO: An introduction to Mozart's opera

Written by Thomson Smillie and read by David Timson

1 CD () 8.558078 ISBN: 1-84379-083-1 For many, The Marriage of Figaro is the supreme achievement of the greatest musical genius who ever set pen to manuscript paper. It is one of three operas he wrote to libretti by Lorenzo da Ponte. These three operas together – The Marriage of Figaro, Don Giovanni and Così fan tutte – represent one of the great pinnacles of operatic achievement.



REFINGUES





ORFEO ED EURIDICE: An introduction to Gluck's opera

Written by Thomson Smillie and read by David Timson

1 CD () 8.558122 ISBN: 1-84379-081-5

Release date: June 2004

Based on the simple yet deeply moving legendary tale of Orpheus, who loses his beloved wife to death but is able to restore her through the power of his music, Orfeo ed Euridice is among the earliest operas to hold a secure place in the repertory. Its abiding strength lies in the power and majesty of Gluck's inspiration, whether in the solos, the choruses, or the ballet music – which is surely the finest written for any opera.

PAGLIACCI: An introduction to Leoncavallo's opera

Written by Thomson Smillie and read by David Timson

1 CD () 8.558143 ISBN: 1-84379-068-8

Release date: April 2004

Pagliacci may be the most completely compelling short opera in the repertory and owes much of its impact to a brilliant story based, it is said, on true life and told through the device of a play-within-aplay. The action is set in Calabria in the deep south of Italy where the jealousies and illicit passions of a troupe of strolling actors precisely intersect with the play they are performing – to both touching and tragic effect.

RIGOLETTO: An introduction to Verdi's opera

Written by Thomson Smillie and read by David Timson

1 CD 📀 8.558048

ISBN: 1-84379-038-6

"Anyone contemplating a visit to the opera could do worse than listen to Thomson Smillie's 'An Introduction to...' series. The plot of Verdi's Rigoletto is outlined with examples from Naxos' complete recording together with a background commentary on its history, censors, critics and the musical techniques. Smillie's text is clearly and succinctly delivered by actor David Timson." NORTHERN ECHO



TANCREDI: An introduction to Rossini's opera

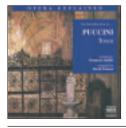
Written by Thomson Smillie and read by David Timson

1 CD 🕑 8.558121

ISBN: 1-84379-080-7

Release date: August 2004

Rossini's comic operas, like The Barber of Seville, are better known than his tragedies though he wrote in fact many more tragedies than comedies. Tancredi is an early work and it established his international fame. It has all the youthful verve of the comedies allied to a sure dramatic sense, and several of the arias, including the famous 'Di tanti palpit', are magnificent examples of the sort of virtuoso vocal writing that earns the title 'bel canto': 'beautiful singing', first and last.



TOSCA: An introduction to Puccini's opera

Written by Thomson Smillie and read by David Timson

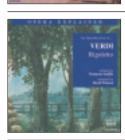
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EDSCIMALLO

IL TROVATORE: An introduction to Verdi's opera

Written by Thomson Smillie and read by David Timson **1 CD** \bigcirc 8,558079 Il trovatore is

⊙ 8.558079
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The epics too are well served with music. Curiously, grand 19th-century works – such as Schumann's Julius Caesar Overture – are perfect companions for the majestic words of Gibbon in The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire, while 17th-century anthems echo the literary character of the Authorized Version of the Bible.

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