

8.660111

PUCCINI: Gianni Schicchi

NAXOS

Written towards the end of the composer's life, *Gianni Schicchi*, a masterpiece of Italian comic opera, is the third of three one-act operas known collectively as *Il trittico*. Following on from the chillingly sinister *Il tabarro* and the sentimental tragedy *Suor Angelica*, *Gianni Schicchi* examines human greed with a light and, at times, macabre comic touch. Set in thirteenth-century Florence, the plot centres on the conspiratorial efforts of the relatives of the recently deceased Buoso Donati to create a will by bringing in Gianni Schicchi to impersonate the deceased Donati in his final hours, only for the cunning Schicchi to cheat the family by dictating a will that leaves the greater part of the estate to himself, thus leaving the family powerless to intervene without revealing their own treachery. Although best known today for *O mio babbinno caro* (Oh, my beloved father), a trademark Puccinian aria now immortalised in the film *A Room with a View*, *Gianni Schicchi* is notable for its dependence on ensemble singing rather than on gorgeous melodies. Atypically of the composer, the dramatic sequence of comic incidents is propelled by quicksilver, sometimes brittle, music with sharp, incisive rhythms and pungent orchestration.

Giacomo
PUCCINI
(1858-1924)
Gianni Schicchi

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Gianni Schicchi | Alberto Rinaldi, Baritone |
| Lauretta | Tatiana Lisnic, Soprano |
| Zita | Mabel Perelstein, Contralto |
| Rinuccio | Stefano Secco, Tenor |
| Gherardo | Gerardo Lopez, Tenor |
| Nella | Sara Galli, Soprano |
| Betto di Signa | José A. Garcia Quijada, Bass |
| Simone | Felipe Bou, Bass |
| Marco | Celestino Varela, Baritone |
| La Ciesca | Claudia Marchi, Mezzo-soprano |

Malaga Philharmonic Orchestra
Alexander Rahbari

Recorded at the Sala Carranque, Malaga, on 5th and 8th April, 2002
 Producer: Michael Seberich • Engineers: Michael Seberich and Peter Golser • Editor: Jessika Groppo
 Booklet notes and synopsis: Keith Anderson
 Cover Painting: Stage design by Galileo Chini, New York 1918 (Private Collection)



DDD

8.660111

Playing Time
48:20



© & © 2004 Naxos Rights International Ltd.
 Booklet notes and synopsis in English
 Libretto in Italian
 Kommentar und Handlung auf Deutsch
 Made in the EU
www.naxos.com

NAXOS

PUCCINI: Gianni Schicchi

8.660111