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2 CDs

Giacomo
PUCCINI
 (1858-1924)
Madama Butterfly**ADD**
Playing
Time
 2:33:28

Madama Butterfly	Toti Dal Monte
B.F. Pinkerton	Beniamino Gigli
Suzuki	Vittoria Palombini
Sharpless	Mario Basiola
Goro	Adelio Zagonara
Prince Yamadori	Gino Conti
The Bonze	Ernesto Dominici
Kate Pinkerton, Cho-Cho-San's relations and friends, Servants	

Chorus and Orchestra of the Rome Opera House
Oliviero de Fabritiis, Conductor
Recorded on 32 sides by His Master's Voice
at the Royal Opera House, Rome, July 1939
on Matrices 2BA 3271-3300, 2BA 3314-15 Catalogue: DB 3859-74

This, the last recording of Puccini's tragic masterpiece to be made before the outbreak of the Second World War, is among the most moving of all pre-war opera recordings. Heading the cast is the Italian soprano Toti dal Monte, the 'First Lady' of La Scala throughout the 1920s and 1930s, whose *Butterfly* is almost heartbreakingly pure. Opposite her is the great Beniamino Gigli, in an immaculate performance as Pinkerton, this his only recorded outing as the irrepressible young lieutenant. A musically sumptuous experience, this classic *Madama Butterfly* is a reminder of the undimmed power of music at one of the century's darkest hours.

CD 1	76:25	CD 2	77:04
1-13 Act I	45:56	1-14 Act II (part 2)	47:21
14-22 Act II (part1)	30:29	Appendix: 15-22 A selection of recordings by Toti Dal Monte	29:42

Archivist & Restoration Producer: Ward Marston

 Special thanks to Michael Gray, J. Richard Harris, Lawrence F. Holdridge
 Andrew Karzas and Peter Lock

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 A complete track list can be found on pages 3 and 4 of the booklet
 Cover Image: Toti Dal Monte (Private Collection)
