

ADD

Playing
Time
2:10:03

Georges
BIZET
(1838-1875)
Carmen

2 CDs



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Solange Michel Carmen
Raoul Jobin Don José
Michel Dens Escamillo
Martha Angelici Micaëla
Germaine Chellet Frasquita
Raymonde Notti Mercédès
Xavier Smati Zuniga
Julien Thirache Moralès
Jean Vieuille El Dancairo
Frédéric Leprin El Remendado
Arschodt Lillias Pastia

Chorus and Orchestra of the Opéra-Comique, Paris
Henri Janin, Chorus Master • André Cluytens, Conductor
Recorded 6th -9th September 1950 at the Champs-Élysées Theatre
First issued on Columbia 33 FCX 101 through 103

As one of the most popular operas of all time, *Carmen* has been recorded innumerable times. Unlike most early recordings, this *Carmen* does not use recitatives by Ernest Guiraud, but the restored dialogues. Described by *Opera on Record* as "living theatre caught on record... an extraordinary recording", this 1950 *Carmen* features a Francophone cast under the great Belgian conductor André Cluytens. The title rôle is taken by Solange Michel who was considered to be the finest contralto of her era and acclaimed for her acting as well as her singing. She is matched by Raoul Jobin's ringing tone, excellent diction and wholehearted commitment as Don José.

CD 1	78:17	CD 2	51:46
1-12 Act I	41:19	1-8 Act III	32:33
13-24 Act II	36:58	9-14 Act IV	19:13

Archivist & Restoration Producer: Mark Obert-Thorn

www.naxos.com

A detailed track list can be found in the booklet
Cover Image: Stage design for Carmen, Act I by Ludwig Sievert,
Frankfurt Opera House, 1936 (Private Collection)



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