

All rights in this sound recording, artwork, texts and translations reserved. Unauthorised public performance, broadcasting and copying of this compact disc prohibited.

© 2004 & © 2004 Naxos Rights International Ltd.
 Distributed by: Naxos of America Inc., 416 Mary Lindsay Polk Drive,
 (Suite 509) Franklin, Tennessee, 37067, USA.

Canio	Jussi Björling
Nedda	Victoria de los Angeles
Tonio	Leonard Warren
Silvio	Robert Merrill
Beppe	Paul Franke
Villager	George Cehanovsky
Villager	Richard Wright

The Columbus Boychoir (Herbert Huffman, director)
 The Robert Shaw Chorale (Robert Shaw, director)
 RCA Victor Orchestra • Renato Cellini

Recorded 10th, 11th, 15th, 19th and 29th January, 1953 in
 Manhattan Center, New York
 First issued on RCA Victor LM-6106

Ruggiero Leoncavallo's two-act opera *Pagliacci* has always been popular on record, with the first 'complete' recording made in 1907, under the supervision of the composer himself. The present recording, described by the 1955 edition of the *American Record Guide* as "the most enjoyable performance we have ever heard" features Victoria de los Angeles in a rôle she had yet to sing on stage, and Jussi Björling whose interpretation of Canio is far removed from the over-dramatic portrayal favoured by some of his Italian contemporaries. The inclusion of two of the Metropolitan Opera's finest baritones of the day, Leonard Warren and Robert Merrill, completes a memorable cast.

[1]	Prologue	7:44	[19]	Act II	2:55
[2-17]	Act I	38:03	[20-26]	Commedia	17:05
[18]	Intermezzo	2:59			

Producer and Audio Restoration Engineer: Mark Obert-Thorn

www.naxos.com

A complete track list can be found in the booklet
 Cover Image: Costume design for Canio from *Pagliacci*, 1892 (anonymous)
 Credit: [The Art Archive / Museo Teatrale alla Scala Milan / Dagli Orti]

