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4 CDs

# Richard WAGNER

(1813-1883)

## Tristan und Isolde

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Tristan ..... Ludwig Suthaus  
 Isolde ..... Kirsten Flagstad  
 Brangäne ..... Blanche Thebom  
 Kurwenal ..... Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau  
 King Marke ..... Josef Greindl  
 A Sailor / A Shepherd ..... Rudolf Schock  
 Melot ..... Edgar Evans  
 Helmsman ..... Rhoderick Davies  
 Chorus of the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden  
 Chorus Master: Douglas Robinson

Philharmonia Orchestra • Wilhelm Furtwängler  
 Recorded 10th-21st and 23rd June, 1952  
 in Kingsway Hall, London

First issued as HMV ALP 1030 through 1035

CD 1	67:00	CD 3	64:20
[1] Prelude	11:00	[1-4] Act II (continued)	37:20
[2-8] Act I	56:00	[5-7] Act III	27:00
CD 2	68:03	CD 4	56:00
[1-2] Act I (continued)	18:29	[1-8] Act III (continued)	56:00
[3-8] Act II	49:34		

Producer and Audio Restoration Engineer: Mark Obert-Thorn

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A complete track list can be found in the booklet  
 Cover Image: Scenery for Act III of *Tristan and Isolde* by P. Joukovski  
 (Art Archive / Richard Wagner Museum, Bayreuth / Dagli Orti A)

This landmark recording of *Tristan und Isolde* is now regarded as Furtwängler's finest operatic achievement in the recording studio, the benefits of magnetic tape greatly assisting the conductor's famed ability to think and work in long paragraphs. There are also revelatory performances from the young Fischer-Dieskau (still only in his late twenties), Suthaus and from Flagstad, the foremost Wagnerian soprano of the day. 'Absolute perfection in human beings cannot be demanded. But Furtwängler, the Philharmonia Orchestra, and Flagstad come as near to that as we have any right to expect' (*Gramophone*, 1965).

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