

Playing
Time
69:37

Nellie Melba

Complete Gramophone Company Recordings, Vol. 4
The Hayes and London Recordings 1921-26

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NAXOS Historical

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- 1 RIMSKY-KORSAKOV: *Sadko*: Les diamants chez-nous sont innombrables [Chanson hindoue]
- 2 RONALD: Away on the hill there runs a stream
- 3 RONALD: Down in the Forest
- 4 LIEURANCE: By the waters of Minnetonka
- 5 DOUGLAS-SCOTT: Annie Laurie
- 6 BISHOP: Home, sweet home
- 7 VERDI: *Otello*: Piangea cantando [Willow Song]
- 8 VERDI: *Otello*: Ave Maria
- 9 PUCCINI: *La bohème*: Entrate...C'è Rodolfo?
- 10 PUCCINI: *La bohème*: Donde lieta usci
- 11 PUCCINI: *La bohème*: Addio dolce svegliare alla mattina
- 12 PUCCINI: *La bohème*: Gavotta, Minuetto
- 13 PUCCINI: *La bohème*: Sono andati?
- 14 PUCCINI: *La bohème*: Io Musetta...Oh come è bello e morbido
- 15 Address by Lord Stanley of Alderley
- 16 Dame Nellie Melba's farewell speech
- 17 VERDI: *La traviata*: Dita alla giovine with John Brownlee, baritone
- 18 BEMBERG: Un ange est venu with John Brownlee, baritone
- 19 SZULC: *Clair de lune*, Op. 83, No. 1
- 20 TRADITIONAL: Swing low, sweet chariot

Helen Porter Mitchell adopted the professional name Melba to acknowledge her birthplace, Melbourne. She made her operatic débüt in Brussels in 1887, eventually winning acclaim at Covent Garden, the Metropolitan Opera and most of the leading opera houses of the world. Melba's voice was remarkable for its even quality over a range of nearly three octaves, and for its pure silvery timbre. Her first recordings were made in 1904 for The Gramophone and Typewriter Company, the precursor of HMV. This final disc in the Naxos series of the Complete Gramophone Company Recordings includes a number of popular songs, which Melba embraced without condescension, as well as her definitive versions of arias from *Otello* and *La Bohème*, recorded during her farewell concert at Covent Garden, London on 8th June 1926.

MADE IN
THE EU

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Producer and Audio Restoration Engineer: Ward Marston
Special thanks to Richard Bebb, J. Neil Forster, Stanley Henig
and Lawrence Holdridge

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A complete track list can be found in the booklet
Cover image: Nellie Melba as Violetta from *La traviata*
(Lebrecht Collection)

