

BBC Symphony Orchestra

Playing  
Time  
64:55

Arturo Toscanini (1867-1957)

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Symphony No. 1 in C major, Op. 21	26:19	
① Adagio molto – Allegro con brio	8:34	
② Andante cantabile con moto	8:48	
③ Menuetto: Allegro molto e vivace	3:06	
④ Adagio – Allegro molto e vivace	5:42	
Recorded 25th October, 1937 in Queen's Hall, London, Matrices: 2ER 241-2A, 242-1A, 243-1A, 244-1A, 245-2A, 246-2 and 247-3 First issued on HMV DB3537 through 3540		
Symphony No. 4 in B flat major, Op. 60	30:34	
⑤ Adagio – Allegro vivace	10:03	
⑥ Adagio	8:38	
⑦ Menuetto: Allegro vivace	5:00	
⑧ Allegro ma non troppo	6:42	
Recorded 1st June, 1939 in Queen's Hall, London Matrices: 2EA 7959-3, 7960-2, 7961-3, 7962-2, 7963-2, 7964-1, 7965-1 and 7966-3 First issued on HMV DB3896 through 3899		

⑨ Leonore Overture No. 1	8:03
Recorded 1st June, 1939 in Queen's Hall, London	
Matrices: 2EA 7969-2 and 7970-2 First issued on HMV DB 3846	

When Toscanini first conducted the BBC Symphony Orchestra in 1935, he described it as "one of the best orchestras I have ever conducted". So began a relationship which flourished over the next four years. The present recordings were made when Toscanini returned to conduct the orchestra in 1937 and 1939, where, in addition to the technical virtuosity of these performances, more subjective characteristics are in evidence. A perky sense of humour in the *First Symphony*, a beautifully judged sense of mystery in the *Fourth*, and the drama of the first *Leonore* overture bear witness to the way in which the orchestra thrived under the baton of the maestro.

MADE IN  
E.C.

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Cover Photograph: Toscanini (Private Collection)

Archivist &amp; Restoration Producer: Mark Obert-Thorn

