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8.110897-98

ADD

Engelbert
HUMPERDINCK
(1854 – 1921)

Hänsel und Gretel

Playing
Time
2:07:21

Hänsel Elisabeth Grümmer
Gretel Elisabeth Schwarzkopf
Peter Josef Metternich
Gertrud Maria von Ilosvay
The Witch Else Schürhoff
The Sandman Anny Felbermayer
The Dew Fairy Anny Felbermayer

Loughton High School for Girls Choir
Bancroft's School Choir

Philharmonia Orchestra • Herbert von Karajan

Recorded 27th, 29th and 30th June

and 1st and 2nd July 1953 in Kingsway Hall, London

With a libretto originally composed for a children's Christmas celebration for use by the composer's own fireside, Humperdinck's first opera, *Hänsel und Gretel*, remains a huge and popular success. This is due in no small measure to its combination of enchanting German folk-tunes, both traditional and newly-invented, and sumptuous Wagnerian orchestration. Here re-issued to mark the 150th anniversary of the composer's birth, this 1953 recording has acquired classic status, not only for the peerless contributions of Elisabeth Grümmer and Elisabeth Schwarzkopf, but for Karajan's faultless and imaginative handling of the score, a work he had never previously conducted.

| CD 1 | 62:45 | CD 2 | 64:36 |
|--------------------|-------|--|-------|
| 1 Overture | 8:37 | 1-11 Act III | 41:42 |
| 2-7 Act I | 26:13 | 12 Final Scene | 2:13 |
| 8-14 Act II | 27:55 | 13-20 Highlights from Hänsel und Gretel | 20:42 |
| | | Historical Recordings, 1928-1937 | |

Producer and Audio Restoration Engineer: Mark Obert-Thorn
Cover image: Elisabeth Schwarzkopf (Tully Potter Collection)

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