



8.110997

ADD

Richard Wagner
(1813 - 1883)

**Playing
Time
75:47**

**Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra
Philharmonia Orchestra
Wilhelm Furtwängler (1886-1954)**

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| 1 | Der Fliegende Holländer: Overture | 12:48 |
| | Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra • Recorded in Vienna in March & April 1949 | |
| 2 | Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg: Overture | 9:43 |
| | Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra • Recorded in Vienna in April 1949 | |
| 3 | Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg: Prelude to Act III | 6:35 |
| | Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra • Recorded in Vienna in February 1950 | |
| 4 | Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg: Dance of the Apprentices (Act III) | 2:44 |
| | Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra • Recorded in Vienna in April 1949 | |
| 5 | Die Walküre: Ride of the Valkyries (Act III) | 5:02 |
| | Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra • Recorded in Vienna in March 1949 | |
| 6 | Götterdämmerung: Siegfried's Rhine Journey (Act I) | 11:48 |
| | Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra • Recorded in Vienna in February 1949 | |
| 7 | Götterdämmerung: Siegfried's Funeral March (Act III) | 8:45 |
| | Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra • Recorded in Vienna in January 1950 | |
| 8 | Götterdämmerung: Brünnhilde's Immolation (Act III) | 19:16 |
| | Kirsten Flagstad, Soprano • Philharmonia Orchestra • Recorded in London in March 1948 | |

Furtwängler was one of the very greatest interpretive musicians of the twentieth century. Although he completely rejected the idea of the conductor as a virtuoso and possessed a highly personal technique, his powerful grasp of musical architecture and mastery of tempo, phrasing, dynamics and transitions, often created an intensity of performance equalled by few and exceeded by none. Furtwängler himself wrote: 'the final and highest goal a conductor can attain is to conduct a legato melody... in such a way that it is really received as legato, something living and breathing that really flows'. On this disc he gives a superb demonstration of how to achieve in performance Wagner's idea of 'unending melody'.



Producer and Audio Restoration Engineer: Ward Marston
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Cover Photograph: Wilhelm Furtwängler, Rome 1952
(Private collection)

