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ADD

Franz  
LEHÁR  
(1870 – 1948)

Playing  
Time  
2:32:24

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# Das Land des Lächelns

(The Land of Smiles)

Lisa	Elisabeth Schwarzkopf
Prince Sou-Chong	Nicolai Gedda
Gustl	Erich Kunz
Mi	Emmy Loose
Tschang	Otakar Kraus
Speaking parts:	
Fu-Li	Felix Kent
Servant	André Mattoni

Philharmonia Orchestra and Chorus

Otto Ackermann

Recorded 17th, 19th – 21st, April and 28th June 1953  
in Kingsway Hall, London

Generally considered the most important operetta composer of the first half of the twentieth century, Franz Lehár was not only a master of lush, infectious melodies but a skilled orchestrator whose musical language conveys a wide range of human emotions. Made in 1953, this was the first complete recording of *The Land of Smiles*, of which *The Gramophone* magazine wrote: "The principals all excel in sentiment. [Schwarzkopf offers] perfection of performance ... Loose is the ideal soubrette ... Gedda sounds young and caressing ... Kunz's charm ... and Kraus imparts the right touch of sternness". Principal among the many vocal highlights is the melting "Dein ist meines ganzes Herz" from Act II, ravishingly sung by Nicolai Gedda.

CD 1	74:03	CD 2	78:21
1 Overture	8:40	1-6 Act III	12:02
2-16 Act I	28:03	7-22 Excerpts from Lehár's Operettas	66:19
17-32 Act II	37:20	performed by Legendary Singers	

Reissue Producers and Restoration Engineers: Mark Obert-Thorn and Ward Marston  
Cover photo: Elisabeth Schwarzkopf (Tully Potter Collection)



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