

Playing
Time
2:25:52

Giacomo
PUCCINI
(1858 – 1924)

Manon Lescaut

Manon Lescaut Licia Albanese
Chevalier des Grieux Jussi Björling
Lescaut Robert Merrill
Geronte di Ravior Franco Calabrese
Sergeant of the Royal Archers Franco Calabrese
Edmondo Mario Carlin
The Dancing Master Mario Carlin
The Innkeeper Enrico Campi
The Ship's Captain Enrico Campi
The Madrigal Singer Anna Maria Rota

Rome Opera House Chorus and Orchestra
Giuseppe Conca, Chorus Master
Jonel Perlea

Recorded 11th-13th and 15th-17th July, 1954
in the Opera House, Rome

This 1954 *Manon Lescaut*, one of the first operatic recordings to use the Chorus and Orchestra of the Rome Opera House, features Licia Albanese and Jussi Björling as Manon and Des Grieux in two of their greatest interpretations on record. Complimented by Robert Merrill's finely sung Lescaut and Jonel Perlea's vivid and dramatic handling of one of Puccini's most colourful scores, Albanese and Björling are unforgettable in their portrayal of the multifaceted and complex character of the two lovers. This re-issue also includes Albanese's 1951 recording of Villa-Lobos' *Bachianas Brasileiras* No. 5, under the great Leopold Stokowski, which here makes its first appearance on CD.

CD 1	75:54	CD 2	69:57
1-12 Act I	36:08	1 Intermezzo	4:44
13-23 Act II	39:46	2-7 Act III	17:24
		8-12 Act IV	21:13
		13-18 Appendix: A Licia Albanese Recital	26:36

Reissue Producer and Restoration Engineer: Mark Obert-Thorn
Special thanks to: Maynard F. Bertolet for providing source material
Cover photo: Licia Albanese
(The Tully Potter Collection)

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