

Playing
Time
3:25:44

Giuseppe
VERDI
(1813-1901)

Aida

8.111042-44

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Aida Zinka Milanov
Radamès Jussi Björling
Amneris Fedora Barbieri
Amonasro Leonard Warren
Ramfis Boris Christoff
The King of Egypt Plinio Clabassi
A Messenger Mario Carlin
Priestess Bruna Rizzoli

Rome Opera House Chorus and Orchestra

Giuseppe Conca, Chorus master

Jonel Perlea

Recorded in July 1955 at the Opera House, Rome

This July 1955 recording, hailed in 1956 by *The Gramophone* as 'the best complete Aida recorded to date', features some of the greatest operatic singers of the day at the peak of their form. *The Gramophone* reviewer thought that Zinka Milanov, renowned for possessing a voice of translucent tonal beauty and considerable vocal power, 'at her best... sings superbly'. Björling was 'the most musicianly Radamès since Martinelli', Barbieri 'the best of the current interpreters [of Amneris]', Warren 'solid and sturdy' and 'Christoff an immensely dramatic Ramfis'. The *Ballo* highlights form a valuable filler as a memento both of Marian Andersen's long delayed January 1955 Met début, and the only operatic rôle, Ulrica, she undertook on stage.

CD I	57:50	CD 2	79:49	CD 3	68:05
1 Prelude	3:29	1-7 Act II concluded	22:02	1-3 Act IV concluded	12:01
2-9 Act I	37:47	8-14 Act III	33:15	4-15 Appendix: Highlights from <i>Un Ballo</i>	
10-12 Act II	16:34	15-18 Act IV	16:58	in <i>Maschera</i> with Milanov and Andersen, conducted by Dimitri Mitropoulos	56:04

Reissue Producer and Restoration Engineer: Mark Obert-Thorn
Cover photo: Zinka Milanov (The Tully Potter Collection)



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