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ADD

Maria Callas

A Portrait

1949-1954 Recordings

**Playing
Time
68:11**

BELLINI: Norma:		
1	Casta Diva	7:27
BELLINI: I Puritani:		
2	O rendetemi la speme	1:47
3	Qui la voce sua soave	8:41
4	Son virgin vezzosa	3:46
DONIZETTI: Lucia di Lammermoor:		
5	Il dolce suono	3:01
6	Ohimè! Sorge il tremendo	3:20
7	Ardon gli incensi; splendor le sacre faci	5:26
8	Spargi d'amoro pianto	3:48
PONCHIELLI: La Gioconda:		
9	O madre mia	2:00
10	Suicidio!	4:45
VERDI: La traviata:		
11	Libiamo ne' lieti calici	3:16
12	E' strano! E' strano!	1:27
13	Ah! fors' è lui...	3:01
PUCCINI: Tosca:		
14	Mario! Mario! Mario!	2:07
15	Ora stammi a sentir	3:13
16	Vissi d'arte	3:22
WAGNER: Tristan und Isolde:		
17	Liebestod (Sung in Italian)	7:44

This portrait of the legendary Maria Callas presents excerpts from several of her greatest operatic recordings, including some of her earliest, made for the Italian label CETRA. The 1949 *Liebestod* from Wagner's *Tristano e Isotta* and the excerpts from the 1952 *La Gioconda* are among the best examples of Callas's voice in its youthful vocal prime. In the classic, irreplaceable recordings of *Tosca*, described by its original producer as 'the supreme Callas recording', *Norma* and *I Puritani*, the great soprano is clearly at the peak of both her vocal and dramatic powers. As her colleague and friend Tito Gobbi later said of Callas in his 1979 autobiography: "She shone for all too brief a while in the world of opera, like a vivid flame attracting the attention of the whole world, and she had a strange magic which was all her own".

Producer and Audio Restoration Engineers:
 Ward Marston, Mark Obert-Thorn

www.naxos.com

A complete track list can be found in the booklet
 Cover image: Maria Callas (The Tully Potter Collection)


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