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Léo  
**DELIBES**  
(1836-1891)  
**Lakmé**

Lakmé ..... Mado Robin  
Gérald ..... Libero De Luca  
Mallika ..... Agnès Disney  
Nilakantha ..... Jean Borthayre  
Ellen ..... Claudine Collart  
Rose ..... Simone LeMaître

Chorus and Orchestra of the Opéra-Comique, Paris  
Georges Sébastian

Recorded July 1952 in the Maison de la Mutualité, Paris

8.111235-36

ADD

Playing  
Time  
2:29:16

CD 1 70:33

[1-14] Prelude - Act I 50:08  
[15-19] Act II - Beginning 20:24

CD 2 79:13

[1-10] Act II - Conclusion 36:59  
[11-17] Act III 24:57  
[18-20] Appendix 17:16  
Lakmé: Three arias sung by  
French singers of the 20s and 30s

This 1952 recording of *Lakmé* features a fine Francophone cast of the period led by the Hungarian-born conductor, Georges Sébastian, who eventually settled in Paris, where he became chief conductor at the Paris Opéra, as well as appearing frequently at the Opéra-Comique and with the Orchestre National. The great soprano Mado Robin made her débüt at the Paris Opéra in 1945 as *Gilda*, and gave her first performance as *Lakmé*, which was to become her most famous rôle, the following year at the Opéra-Comique. She enjoyed enormous popularity in France, where she was also a frequent broadcaster, her exceptional vocal range enabling her to sing a wide repertoire. She died in Paris in 1960, a few days before the 1,500th performance of *Lakmé* at the Opéra-Comique, arranged for her birthday.

Reissue Producer and Restoration Engineer: Ward Marston  
Cover photo: Mado Robin (Private Collection)



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