

OPERA EXPLAINED

This series introduces, in words and music, the plot and background of major operas. Using the principal themes and arias, taken from the Naxos recording of the complete work, Thomson Smillie is informative yet entertaining, enabling the listener to get more from this remarkable art form.

An Introduction to...

PUCCINI

Madama Butterfly

written by **Thomson Smillie**
narrated by **David Timson**

Madama Butterfly really does run the gamut of operatic emotion. The title heroine has a fragility wonderfully expressed in her entry music, deep sexual instincts as shown in the love duet, and immense tragic stature in her last hours. The fate of *Madama Butterfly* – married to an American sailor and then abandoned – engages our emotions, as it obviously did Puccini's, to a degree equalled by few other opera heroines. The oriental setting and the exquisite orchestral and choral writings are treasured bonuses.

ISBN 1-84379-041-6



All rights reserved.
Unauthorised public performance, broadcasting and copying of this compact disc prohibited.

© 2002 HNH International Ltd © 2002 HNH International Ltd



8.558049

Playing
Time
65:35

STEREO

DDD

05537

COMPACT
disc
DIGITAL AUDIO

MADE IN E.C.

WWW.
naxos.com

