

Themes of love and passion dominate these orchestral excerpts from Wagner's music dramas. The legend of *Tannhäuser* contrasts the sensual allure of Venus with the ideals of courtly love and religious devotion. *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg* pits an inspired but rash young singer against the traditions of the old masters in a song competition, with a beautiful girl as the prize. *Tristan und Isolde*, based on one of the world's great love stories, is considered Wagner's most revolutionary work, seamlessly blending themes of love and death into a shattering apotheosis. Gerard Schwarz's other selections of Wagner excerpts can be found on 8.572767 and 8.572768.



Richard  
**WAGNER**  
(1813-1883)

Orchestral Excerpts • 3

**1** *Tannhäuser*

Overture – Venusberg Music 22:35

**2** *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*

Act III: Introduction – Dance of the Apprentices –  
Procession of the Mastersingers 12:05

*Tristan und Isolde*

**3** Prelude to Act I

11:18

**4** Brangäne's Warning\*

2:47

**5** Prelude to Act III

6:46

**6** Liebestod\*

6:55

Alessandra Marc, Soprano\*  
Seattle Symphony • Gerard Schwarz

Previously released on Delos International

The sung texts can be found inside the booklet and online at [www.naxos.com/libretti/572769.htm](http://www.naxos.com/libretti/572769.htm)

Recorded at Seattle Opera House, Seattle, WA, in March 1986 (tracks 1 and 2),  
and on 19th and 20th February, 1992 (tracks 3-6) • Executive Producer: Amelia S. Haygood  
Producers: Joanna Nickrenz (tracks 1 and 2); Adam Stern (track 3-6) • Engineer: John M. Eargle  
Assistant Engineers: Al Swanson; Jerome Stine (tracks 1 and 2); Matthew Luthans (tracks 3-6)  
Production Associates: Phyllis Bernard (tracks 1 and 2); Stephen Basili (tracks 3-6)  
Booklet notes: Keith Anderson • Cover photograph by Tomasz Pietrysze (iStockphoto.com)



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8.572769

Playing Time

62:26



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