

Albert Herring, a comedy set around the May Day celebrations of the fictional Suffolk village of Loxford, is Britten's second chamber opera and the first production of the newly formed English Opera Group, and was first given at Glyndebourne, on 20th June, 1947. It is Britten's genius to create, with small chamber forces, a comic opera sparkling with character, wit, and, at times, great poignancy, that make this opera one of the greatest in the English language. Each individual in the cast has a distinct musical personality, reflecting his or her dramatic persona, ensuring the individuality and dramatic and musical coherence which make Britten's compositions so uniquely identifiable. This recording was originally released on Collins Classics, in 1997.

Benjamin
BRITTEN
(1913-1976)
Albert Herring

Albert Herring	Christopher Gillett
Lady Billows	Josephine Barstow
Florence Pike	Felicity Palmer
Superintendent Budd	Robert Lloyd
Vicar, Mr Gedge	Peter Savidge
Sid	Gerald Finley
Nancy	Ann Taylor
Mrs Herring	Della Jones
Miss Wordsworth	Susan Gritton
Mayor, Mr Upford	Stuart Kale

Northern Sinfonia • Stuart Bedford

CD 1	64:10	CD 2	77:09
1-9 Act I, Scene 1	31:54	1-10 Act II, Scene 1 cont.	27:19
10-16 Act I, Scene 2	22:36	11-14 Act II, Scene 2	19:38
17-20 Act II, Scene 1	9:40	15-23 Act III	30:11

Recorded 11th-15th August, 1996 in All Saint's Church, Gosforth, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, UK
 Producer: John H West • Engineer: Mike Hatch • Production Assistant: Paul Laidlaw • Booklet Notes: Keith Anderson
 Publishers: Boosey & Hawkes • Recorded in association with the Britten Estate Ltd.
 First issued on Collins Classics in 1997 • Cover Picture: Stage design for *Albert Herring* "Lady Billow's House" (1947)
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NAXOS

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Playing Time
141:19



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