

Alfred Cellier was a contemporary of Arthur Sullivan as a Chapel Royal chorister, and would later conduct several Gilbert and Sullivan productions. With its rural tale of disguise and romantic scheming, its jaunty tunes, lively characters and farcical comedy, Cellier's light opera, *Dorothy*, has been almost entirely forgotten today. It had the longest run of any 19th-century piece of musical theatre, seeing off *The Mikado* and *Ruddigore*, and became such a popular hit in its day that the box office profits were able to fund the building of the Lyric Theatre on London's Shaftesbury Avenue.

Alfred  
**CELLIER**  
(1844–1891)  
**Dorothy**

A pastoral comedy opera in three acts (1886) • Libretto: Benjamin C. Stevenson (1839–1906)

Performing edition: Richard Bonynge

Dorothy Bantam, Sir John Bantam's daughter	Majella Cullagh, Soprano
Lydia Hawthorne, Dorothy's cousin	Lucy Vallis, Mezzo-soprano
Phyllis Tuppitt, innkeeper's daughter	Stephanie Maitland, Mezzo-soprano
Geoffrey Wilder, Sir John's nephew and heir	Matt Mears, Tenor
Harry Sherwood, Wilder's friend	John Ieuau Jones, Baritone
Sir John Bantam, Squire, Chanticleer Hall	Edward Robinson, Baritone
John Tuppitt, innkeeper of the Hop-Pole Inn	Patrick Relph, Baritone
Lurcher, the Sheriff's officer	Michael Vincent Jones, Tenor
Tom Strutt, a young farmer in love with Phyllis	Sebastian MacLaine, Tenor

WORLD PREMIERE RECORDING

**Victorian Opera Chorus (Chorus Master: Kevin Thraves)**

**Victorian Opera Orchestra (Leader: Madeleine Fitzgerald)**

**Richard Bonynge AC, CBE, Musical Director**

1–10 Overture • Act I	35:33	11–21 Act II	23:27	22–26 Act III	11:41
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Recorded: 19–20 February 2018 at the Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester, UK

Executive Producer: Raymond J. Walker • Producer and Mastering: Richard Scott

Orchestral Score and Parts: Michael Harris • Orchestral Manager: Rachel Cotton

Booklet Notes: Raymond J. Walker • Picture Credits: Mervyn Goode (front cover, 'High Summer')

[<http://www.mervyngoode.com>], Heide Smith, Narooma, Gerard Jaeger and the Richard Bonynge Archives, Switzerland

A full track list can be found inside the booklet • The libretto can be accessed at [www.naxos.com/libretti/660447](http://www.naxos.com/libretti/660447)



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Playing Time  
70:52



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