



Johann Strauss II's operetta *Waldmeister* ('Woodruff') was staged for the first time in December 1895. The plotline – a case of mistaken identity somewhat reminiscent of *Die Fledermaus* – is lively, but the libretto itself proved to be less than satisfying. However, the vivacious and immaculately orchestrated music featuring several pieces that would go on to become famous, including the waltz *Trau, schau, wem* and the polka *Klipp-Klapp-Galopp*, earned Strauss immense admiration. Attending the opening night with Johannes Brahms was Vienna's leading critic Eduard Hanslick who hailed the new work by asserting that 'Mozart's golden sound reigns in [Strauss's] orchestra'.

Johann
STRAUSS II
(1825–1899)
Waldmeister (1895)
Operetta in three acts
Libretto by Gustav Davis (1856–1951)

Chrisof Heffele, Amtshauptmann ('District Administrator') Robert Davidson, Bass-baritone
 Malwine Heffele, his wife Dorothe Ingenfeld, Contralto
 Freda, their daughter Annika Egert, Soprano
 Erasmus Friedrich Müller, professor of botany Friedemann Büttner, Tenor
 Tymoleon von Gerius, Oberforstrat ('Forestry Intendant') / Sebastian Noah Schaul, Tenor
 Pauline Garlandt, singer from the Dresden Opera . . . Martina Bortolotti von Haderburg, Soprano
 Jeanne, friend of Pauline Andrea Chudak, Soprano
 Botho von Wendt, Forsteleve ('Forest Steward') Daniel Schliewa, Tenor

Sofia Philharmonic Chorus • Slavil Dimitrov, Chorus Master

Sofia Philharmonic Orchestra • Dario Salvi

WORLD PREMIERE RECORDING

CD 1 ① Overture 9:52 ②–⑩ Act I

39:46 CD 2 ⑪–⑯ Act II 54:09 ⑯–⑯ Act III 21:06

A detailed track and cast list can be found inside the booklet.

The German libretto can be accessed at www.naxos.com/libretti/660489.htm

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Playing Time
2:04:55



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