

Emmy Destinn

The Prague-born soprano Emmy Destinn (1878-1930) was renowned for her expressive acting and emotional interpretations. After making her initial success as a member of the Berlin Opera, she joined the Metropolitan Opera in 1908 where she became a favoured partner of Caruso. Destinn was especially popular at Covent Garden where she gave the London première of *Madama Butterfly* in 1905. Chosen for the title rôles of Strauss's *Salome* and Puccini's *The Girl of the Golden West* by the composers themselves, Destinn was perhaps the most eminent dramatic soprano of her time. Her complete Victor recordings include arias from Mozart's *Magic Flute*, Wagner's *Tannhäuser*, Tchaikovsky's *Queen of Spades*, Verdi's *Aïda* and *Il trovatore*, and Puccini's *Tosca* and *Madama Butterfly*. Destinn's celebrated recordings of Czech songs (including several composed by the soprano herself) are also featured in this 2-CD set.



Total timing: 2 hrs 9 mins
Transfers and audio restoration by Ward Marston

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