

# Leonard Warren

Born in New York in 1911 to Russian Jewish parents, Leonard Warren studied in Milan and New York under De Luca and Sidney Dietch. Following his début in *Simon Boccanegra* at the Metropolitan Opera in 1939, he soon became the company's leading baritone. He performed in South America and Europe, and made a highly successful tour of the USSR during the height of the Cold War. As well as his impeccable technique and wide range, Warren was a superb actor. Tragically, he collapsed and died at the age of only 49 on the Met stage during a performance of *Forza*. This 2-CD set features Warren's complete Victor recordings from 1939-47. As well as duets from *La forza del destino* and *La bohème* with Jan Peerce, this set includes arias from *Faust*, *Carmen*, *Rigoletto*, *I Pagliacci*, *Otello* and *Il trovatore*. It also includes eight sea shanties including 'Shenandoah', and such popular songs as 'On the Road to Mandalay'.

Total timing: 2 hrs 9 mins

Transfers and audio restoration by Mark Obert-Thorn

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