


**TOCCATA  
CLASSICS**
**TOCC  
0154-55**

*Sappho*, the last grand opera of Australian composer Peggy Glanville-Hicks (1912–90), was written in her stone cottage on Mykonos in 1963. Never heard before this recording, *Sappho* reflects Glanville-Hicks' fascination with the orient and folk music, capturing the colours of ancient Greece, with a heroic brass fanfare and epic writing for chorus, haunting woodwind solos and shimmering percussion evoking the stillness of crystal island waters. Deborah Polaski, who creates the role of the disenchanted Sappho, describes it as 'the kind of music that singers want to sing'. The libretto, based on Lawrence Durrell's verse-play, incorporates fragments of Sappho's own verse.

## PEGGY GLANVILLE-HICKS *Sappho*

### CD 1

#### Act 1

1	Overture	3:42
2-8	Scene 1	30:14
9-14	Scene 2	26:20

**TT 61:21**

### CD 2

#### Act 2

1-2	Scene 3	6:19
3-6	Scene 4	20:31
7-8	Scene 5	8:57

#### Act 3

9-10	Scene 6	9:41
11-15	Scene 7	21:18

**TT 66:48**
**Deborah Polaski**, soprano: Sappho

**Martin Homrich**, tenor: Phaon

**Scott MacAllister**, tenor: Pittakos

**Roman Trekel**, baritone: Diomedes

**Wolfgang Koch**, bass-baritone: Minos

**John Tomlinson**, bass: Kreon

**Jacquelyn Wagner**, soprano: Chloe/Priestess

**Bettina Jensen**, soprano: Joy

**Maria Markina**, mezzo soprano: Doris

**Laurence Meikle**, baritone: Alexandrian

**Coro Gulbenkian**
**Orchestra Gulbenkian**
**Jennifer Condon**, conductor

FIRST RECORDING

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