



TOCC 0427

The Swiss composer Richard Flury (1896–1967) felt the fascination for *A Florentine Tragedy*, Oscar Wilde's drama of love and violence in Renaissance Italy, that also attracted his near-contemporary Alexander Zemlinsky: they set the same libretto. Flury responded to the text with this dark and swirling one-act *verismo* opera, sizzling with sexual tension, the vocal lines of the three characters unfolding over an orchestral texture remarkable for its plasticity and kaleidoscopic colour. It is preceded here by a dignified but impassioned operatic *scena* setting Grillparzer's dramatic treatment of the suicide of the Greek poetess Sappho.

RICHARD FLURY *A Florentine Tragedy*: Opera in One Act

1 <i>Sapphos Tod</i> (<i>'The Death of Sappho'</i>) (1928)	10:46	6 'Was gibt es Neues, mein Prinz?' –	5:26
<i>Eine florentinische Tragödie</i> (<i>'A Florentine Tragedy'</i>): Oper in einem Aufzug (1926–28)	42:31	7 'Wie er gleich einem schalen Krämer spricht!' –	4:11
2 'So langsam, Weib?' –	5:42	8 'Nicht doch, mein Prinz' –	3:31
3 'Und doch, mein Fürst' –	3:06	9 'Was meint der Fleck hier auf dem Tuch?' –	6:06
4 'Prinz, man sagt' –	2:56	10 'Hol' eine Fackel, Frau!' –	5:38
5 'Wie, wenn ich die weisse Bianca forderte?' –	2:35	11 'Nimm, Heiland, meinen armen Geist zu dir!' –	3:20
		TT 53:24	

Julia Sophie Wagner, soprano **1–3 5–11**
Long Long, tenor **2–11**
Daniel Ochoa, baritone **2–11**
Nuremberg Symphony Orchestra
Paul Mann, conductor

FIRST RECORDINGS

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