

## Massenet - Werther (Plasson) [2002]

Written by bluesever

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Disc 1: 1. Prélude (Orchestre) London Philharmonic Orchestra/Michel Plasson 4:28 2. Premier Acte: Noël!, Noël! (Le Bailli/Les enfants) Jules Bastin/Children's Choir/London Philharmonic Orchestra/Michel Plasson 1:56 3. Premier Acte: Bravo pour les enfants (Johann/Schmidt/Les enfants/Le Bailli/Sophie) Jean-Philippe Lafont/Philip Langridge/Jules Bastin/Christine Barbaux/Children's Choir/London Philharmonic Orchestra/Michel Plasson 5:09 4. Premier Acte: Alors, c'est bien ici la maison du Bailli?... (Werther) Alfredo Kraus/London Philharmonic Orchestra/Michel Plasson 11:30 5. Premier Acte: O spectacle idéal d'amour (Werther) Alfredo Kraus/London Philharmonic Orchestra/Michel Plasson 5:22 6. Premier Acte: Elle m'aime!...Quelle prière de reconnaissance (Albert) Matteo Manuguerra/London Philharmonic Orchestra/Michel Plasson 2:22 7. Premier Acte: Clair de lune (Orchestre) London Philharmonic Orchestra/Michel Plasson 2:37 8. Premier Acte: Il faut nous séparer (Charlotte/Werther) Tatiana Troyanos/Alfredo Kraus/London Philharmonic Orchestra/Michel Plasson 2:25 9. Premier Acte: Mon âme a reconnu votre âme(Werther/Charlotte) Alfredo Kraus/Tatiana Troyanos/London Philharmonic Orchestra/Michel Plasson 0:55 10. Premier Acte: Vous avez dit vrai (Werther/Charlotte) Alfredo Kraus/Tatiana Troyanos/London Philharmonic Orchestra/Michel Plasson 2:54 11. Premier Acte: Rêve, extase! (Charlotte/Werther) Tatiana Troyanos/Alfredo Kraus/London Philharmonic Orchestra/Michel Plasson 3:59 12. Deuxieme Acte: Prélude (Orchestre) London Philharmonic Orchestra/Michel Plasson 1:08 13. Deuxieme Acte: Vivat Bacchus! (Johann/Schmidt) Jean-Philippe Lafont/Philip Langridge/London Philharmonic Orchestra/Michel Plasson 4:14 14. Deuxieme Acte: Trois mois! Voici trois mois ... (Albert/Charlotte) Matteo Manuguerra/Tatiana Troyanos/London Philharmonic Orchestra/Michel Plasson 2:24 15. Deuxieme Acte: Un autre est son époux! (Werther) Alfredo Kraus/London Philharmonic Orchestra/Michel Plasson 4:51 16. Deuxieme Acte: Mais celle qui devint ma femme (Albert/Sophie/Werther) Matteo Manuguerra/Christine Barbaux/Alfredo Kraus/London Philharmonic Orchestra/Michel Plasson 2:58 17. Deuxieme Acte: Frère! Voyez...Du gai soliel (Sophie/Werther/Albert) Christine Barbaux/Alfredo Kraus/Matteo Manuguerra/London Philharmonic Orchestra/Michel Plasson 1:37 18. Deuxieme Acte: Heureux! pourrai-je l'être...(Werther/Albert/Sophie/Charlotte) Alfredo Kraus/Matteo Manuguerra/Christine Barbaux/Tatiana Troyanos/London Philharmonic Orchestra/Michel Plasson 3:26 19. Deuxieme Acte: Ah! Qu'il est loin ce jour (Werther/Charlotte) Alfredo Kraus/Tatiana Troyanos/London Philharmonic Orchestra/Michel Plasson 7:50 20. Deuxieme Acte: Lorsque l'enfant revient d'un voyage (Werther) Alfredo Kraus/London Philharmonic Orchestra/Michel Plasson 3:53 Disc 2: 1. Troisième Acte:

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*Prélude (Orchestre) London Philharmonic Orchestra/Michel Plasson 3:48* 2. *Troisième Acte: Werther! Werther! Qui m'aurait dit la place (Charlotte) Tatiana Troyanos/London Philharmonic Orchestra/Michel Plasson 1:21* 3. *Troisième Acte: Ces lettres ! Ces lettres ! (Charlotte) Tatiana Troyanos/London Philharmonic Orchestra/Michel Plasson 6:01* 4. *Troisième Acte: Bonjour grande soeur!...Mais, souffres-tu ! (Sophie/Charlotte) Christine Barbaux/Tatiana Troyanos/London Philharmonic Orchestra/Michel Plasson 1:27* 5. *Troisième Acte: Ah ! le rire est béni (Sophie) Christine Barbaux/London Philharmonic Orchestra/Michel Plasson 2:43* 6. *Troisième Acte: Les larmes qu'on ne pleure pas(Sophie/Charlotte) Christine Barbaux/Tatiana Troyanos/London Philharmonic Orchestra/Michel Plasson 3:34* 7. *Troisième Acte: Ah! mon courage m'abandonne! (Charlotte) Tatiana Troyanos/London Philharmonic Orchestra/Michel Plasson 3:07* 8. *Troisième Acte: Oui, c'est moi! (Werther/Charlotte) Alfredo Kraus/Tatiana Troyanos/London Philharmonic Orchestra/Michel Plasson 5:20* 9. *Troisième Acte: Toute mon âme est là!...Pourquoi me réveiller (Werther) Alfredo Kraus/London Philharmonic Orchestra/Michel Plasson 3:07* 10. *Troisième Acte: Ciel ! Ai-je compris (Charlotte/Werther) Tatiana Troyanos/Alfredo Kraus/London Philharmonic Orchestra/Michel Plasson 2:29* 11. *Troisième Acte: Ah!...Moi! Moi, Non, vous ne me verrez plus! (Charlotte/Werther) Tatiana Troyanos/Alfredo Kraus/London Philharmonic Orchestra/Michel Plasson 1:25* 12. *Troisième Acte: Soit! Adieu...Prends le deuil, ô nature (Werther) Alfredo Kraus/London Philharmonic Orchestra/Michel Plasson 1:32* 13. *Troisième Acte: Werther est de retour (Albert/Charlotte) Matteo Manuguerra/Tatiana Troyanos/London Philharmonic Orchestra/Michel Plasson 2:45* 14. *Troisième Acte: Symphonie: Le nuit de Noël (Orchestre) London Philharmonic Orchestra/Michel Plasson 5:46* 15. *Troisième Acte: Werther! ...Werther! ...Dieu! Ah! Du sang! (Charlotte/ Werther) Tatiana Troyanos/Alfredo Kraus/London Philharmonic Orchestra/Michel Plasson 5:50* 16. *Troisième Acte: Et moi Werther...Oui, du jour même où tu parus (Charlotte/Werther/Les enfants/Sophie) Tatiana Troyanos/Alfredo Kraus/Christine Barbaux/Children's Choir/ London Philharmonic Orchestra/Michel Plasson 7:23* 17. *Troisième Acte: Ecoute bien! Là-bas, au fond du cimetière (Werther/Charlotte) Alfredo Kraus/Tatiana Troyanos/London Philharmonic Orchestra/Michel Plasson 3:03* 18. *Troisième Acte: Jésus vient de naître (Les enfants) Children's Choir/London Philharmonic Orchestra/Michel Plasson 0:35* Christine Barbaux Soprano Jules Bastin Bass Alfredo Kraus Tenor Philip Langridge Tenor Matteo Manuguerra Baritone Tatiana Troyanos Mezzo-Soprano London Philharmonic Orchestra Michel Plasson Conductor

In Massenet's masterpiece, based on Goethe's Sorrows of the Young Werther, tears never cease to flow from the very moment the moonlight idyll is revealed and destroyed. "My whole being cries at it" says Werther. We are a long way from opera's usual tears, be they furtive or violent. These tears flow slowly and inexorably, one by one. Patient tears as Charlotte puts it.

In the space of four acts, they will have done their work. Charlotte cannot hold them back as

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she rereads Werther's letters, and her tears are the only part of her, the only sacrifice that he dares ask of her. They will flow in front of Sophie, the angel of consolation. They will flow when Werther reads Ossian. And finally they will flow at the sight of Werther's blood-soaked body. Yet he refuses these last tears: for now he is happy and free. Werther is a long requiem, lacrimosa dies illa, a tearful day if ever there was. A requiem for a young poet ending in paradisum. For Werther, of course, could only be a poet: that is to say, above the world, yet nevertheless enslaved to it. Death hovers above him, and Massenet marked his song with the sign, evoked by Rilke in his Sonnets to Orpheus, of those who are to die young. ---Opéra national de Paris, medici.tv

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