Giacomo Puccini - The Unknown Puccini (Domingo) [1989]



1. A te ('O quanto è vano'), song for voice & piano 2. Vexilla regis prodeunt, hymn for male chorus & organ 3. Salve del ciel regina, for soprano & harmonium 4. Ad una morta!, song for voice & piano 5. Mentì all'avviso, song for voice & piano 6. Storiella d'amore, song for voice & piano 7. Sole e amore (Mattinata), for voice & piano 8. Avanti, Urania!, song for voice & piano 9. Inno a Diana, song for voice & piano 10. E l'uccellino (Ninna-Nanna), song for voice & piano 11. Terra e mare, song for voice & piano (2 versions): Version according to the autograph 12. Terra e mare, song for voice & piano (2 versions): Published version 13. Canto d'anime, song for voice & piano 14. Casa mia, casa mia, song for voice & piano 15. Morire?, song for voice & piano 16. Inno di Roma, song for voice & piano Plácido Domingo - tenor Julius Rudel (piano, organ)

This recording is of little known and obscure songs for voice and piano or voice and orchestra that Puccini wrote but were never popular enough to bring him the attention that he received with his operatic work- Tosca, Madama Butterfly, Turandot, etc. Placido Domingo is an expert Puccini tenor and he sings these songs with exquisite lyrical beauty and vocal bravura. Conductor Julius Rudel knows how to bring out the passion and golden tones in the music and the orchestra accompanies Placido with stunning precision. A te ("O quanto è vano") is a beautiful romantic piece that is sure to delight the listener. I also enjoyed the Hymns to Diana and Urania, as well the Rome anthem. The Morire song was lifted from the original score to Tosca, it is a song that Cavaradossi sings to Tosca before the execution in the last act. The music is stunning and Placido Domingo can sail through the music of Puccini like no other. He was born to sing Puccini, both unknown works and famous ones. The photo cover is of Domingo dressed up as Puccini and it's a remarkable resemblance. Very attractive cover! --- A Kid's Review, amazon.com

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