

Giacomo Puccini – Turandot (Mehta) [1990]

Written by bluesever

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Disc 1 1. Puccini: Turandot / Act 1 - Popoli di Pekino! Zubin Mehta 5:35 2. Puccini: Turandot / Act 1 - Gira la cote! Zubin Mehta 7:03 3. Puccini: Turandot / Act 1 - O giovinetto! Grazia, grazia! Zubin Mehta 4:59 4. Puccini: Turandot / Act 1 - Figlio, che fai? Zubin Mehta 1:39 5. Puccini: Turandot / Act 1 - Fermo! Che fai? T'arresta Zubin Mehta 6:15 6. Puccini: Turandot / Act 1 - Signore, ascolta Zubin Mehta 2:40 7. Puccini: Turandot / Act 1 - Non piangere Liù Zubin Mehta 5:03 8. Puccini: Turandot / Act 2 - Olà, Pang! Olà, Pong! Zubin Mehta 3:17 9. Puccini: Turandot / Act 2 - Ho una casa nell'Honan Zubin Mehta 3:42 10. Puccini: Turandot / Act 2 - O mondo, O mondo Zubin Mehta 5:33 11. Puccini: Turandot / Act 2 - Introduzione (Scene 2) Zubin Mehta 1:00 12. Puccini: Turandot / Act 2 - Gravi, enormi ed impotenti Zubin Mehta 3:27 13. Puccini: Turandot / Act 2 - Un giuramento atroce mi costringe Zubin Mehta 4:03 14. Puccini: Turandot / Act 2 - Popolo di Pekino Zubin Mehta 1:48 Disc 2: 1. Puccini: Turandot / Act 2 - In questa reggia Zubin Mehta 6:34 2. Puccini: Turandot / Act 2 - Straniero, ascolta Zubin Mehta 6:49 3. Puccini: Turandot / Act 2 - Gloria, gloria, o vincitore Zubin Mehta 4:07 4. Puccini: Turandot / Act 2 - Tre enigmi m'hai proposto Zubin Mehta 4:03 5. Puccini: Turandot / Act 3 - Introduzione - Così comanda Turandot Zubin Mehta 3:25 6. Puccini: Turandot / Act 3 - Nessun dorma! Zubin Mehta 6:42 7. Puccini: Turandot / Act 3 - Principessa divina! Zubin Mehta 7:11 8. Puccini: Turandot / Act 3 - Tu che di gel sei cinta Zubin Mehta 2:52 9. Puccini: Turandot / Act 3 - Liù! Liù! Sorgi! Sorgi! Zubin Mehta 4:41 10. Puccini: Turandot / Act 3 - Principessa di morte! Zubin Mehta 3:17 11. Puccini: Turandot / Act 3 - Che è mai di me? Zubin Mehta 2:46 12. Puccini: Turandot / Act 3 - "Del primo pianto" - "Più grande vittoria non voler" Zubin Mehta 3:57 13. Puccini: Turandot / Act 3 - So il tuo nome! Zubin Mehta 2:13 14. Puccini: Turandot / Act 3 - "Diecimile anni al nostro Imperatore" - "Padre augusto" augusto" Zubin Mehta 2:23

Joan, Dame Sutherland (Soprano) Peter, Sir Pears (Tenor) Nicolai Ghiaurov (Bass) Luciano Pavarotti (Tenor) Montserrat Caballe (Soprano) Tom Krause (Baritone) Pier Francesco Poli (Baritone) Piero de Palma (Tenor) Sabin Markov (Bass) London Philharmonic Orchestra Zubin Mehta – conductor, 1972

Decca's 1972 recording of Turandot features an all-star cast led by Joan Sutherland and Luciano Pavarotti. Turandot doesn't seem like the most natural role for Sutherland and she

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never sang it on-stage, but she adapts to its requirements with panache, delivering a performance with an impressive dramatic range and dazzling vocal mastery. Pavarotti was close to the height of his powers when he made the recording and he sings with his characteristic passion and warmth. Montserrat Caballé, who had also sung the title role, is fabulous as Liù, creating a vivid characterization and singing with exceptional purity. It's real luxury casting to have singers of the reputation of Nicolai Ghiaurov, Peter Pears, and Tom Krause in the roles of Timur, the Emperor, and Ping, and they each bring great artistry to these small roles. The London Philharmonic Orchestra plays the score with sparkle and spirit, and the John Aldis Choir is terrific in the crucial choral parts. Zubin Mehta captures the Romantic sweep and the colorful strangeness of the opera and gives it a convincing, dramatic shape. The sound is mostly good, but doesn't quite have the depth or presence typical of Decca's best opera recordings. --- Stephen Eddins, Rovi

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