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Champagne, Roses and Bonbons (Dorati) [1965]



1.Johann Strauss - Champagne Polka 2.Johann Strauss - Roses from the South 3.Johann Strauss - Vienna Bonbons 4.Ernst von Dohnanyi - Wedding Waltz 5.Franz Lehar - Merry Widow Waltz 6.Emil Waldteudel - Skaters Waltz Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra (1-3) Philharmonia Hungarica (4-6) Antal Dorati – conductor

Johann Strauss wrote the bubbling Champagne Polka for his 1858 summer concert season in Pavlovsk, where its first performance took place on 12 August (=31 July, Russian calendar) under the title of Ball-Champagner-Polka. He also performed it in Moscow that year. Shortly after arriving back in Austria, Strauss introduced the Viennese to this novelty piece when he conducted it at a 'Festival Concert on the safe return from St. Petersburg', held in the Volksgarten on 21 November 1858.

At this stage of his career Johann was constantly seeking to improve his standing with his with those in positions of rank and influence. Thus he dedicated his Champagne-Polka to Baron Carl Ludwig von Bruck (1798–1860), Austria's Minister of Finance from 1855 1855 until his suicide in 1860. Strauss obviously took great delight in weaving into the Trio section the refrain from Johann Fuß's popular tavern-song of the day—"Mir is's alles an's, mir is's alles an's, Ob i a Geld hab oder kan's!" (What do I care, what do I care, whether I've money or not!).

Rosen aus dem Süden (Roses From the South), Op. 388, is a waltz medley composed by Johann Strauss II in 1880 with its themes drawn from the operetta Das Spitzentuch der Königin (The Queen's Lace Handkerchief) inspired by a novel by Heinrich Bohrmann-Riegen.

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The waltz was first performed at the regular Sunday concerts of the Strauss Orchestra conducted by Eduard Strauss on 7 November 1880 at the Musikverein in Vienna. Its themes drawn from the operetta are the act 1 "Trüffel-Couplet" and the act 2 romance "Wo die wilde Rose erblüht" ("Where the Wild Rose Blossoms"). The act 2 romance most certainly inspired the title of this waltz.

Wiener Bonbons (Vienna Sweets) op. 307 is a waltz by Johann Strauss II written in 1866. It was first performed on 28 January 1866 at the ball of the Association of Industrial Societies held in the Redoutensaal and was dedicated to the influential Princess Pauline Metternich-Winneburg the wife of then Austrian ambassador to Paris.

The Skaters' Waltz, Op. 183, also called The Skaters, or French Les Patineurs, waltz by French composer Emil Waldteufel written in 1882. Of Waldteufel's many compositions—including more than 200 dance pieces—The Skaters' Waltz is the best-known. In The Skaters' Waltz Waldteufel set out to capture the atmosphere of a winter day in Paris, with ice-skaters venturing onto the frozen Seine River.

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