

THE "WORLD'S GREATEST MUSIC" AND

"WORLD'S GREATEST OPERA" RECORDS:

A DISCOGRAPHY

by

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In the autumn of 1938 newspapers throughout the country carried advertisements for a series of records which, in a small way, were to revolutionize the American record industry. These were, of course, the "World's Greatest Music" records, the fruit of a newspaper circulation program carried out by the Publishers Service Company, an arm of the New York Post. Neither conductors nor orchestras were identified on the labels, a fact which at the time led to all kinds of speculation about the identity of the artists involved. One critic, for instance, was sure the performances came from the Columbia catalog. In fact, RCA Victor recorded and pressed the discs using musicians from orchestras then under Victor contracts. A pressing order of 50,000 records was placed for the first set, SR-1 to SR-7, which included the Schubert Unfinished Symphony and the Beethoven Fifth. By 1940 Time magazine reported that over 1,000,000 of the symphonic records, which by the summer of 1939 totaled 12 compositions on 38 discs, had been sold at a price which severely undercut the major manufacturers in the business, Columbia and RCA Victor.

Just who the performers were on these records has never really been a mystery. Charles O'Connell, the supervisor of the WGM sessions, told us all about it in The Other Side of the Record in 1948. What has been a mystery is what artists played on what records, and now, thanks to RCA's Listings Department, that puzzle is solved.

Perhaps even more intriguing to record collectors, and just as puzzling, were the operatic records released two years later under the "World's Greatest Opera" label, produced and pressed again by RCA Victor. We'll leave aside here the two symphonic sets of the Nutcracker Suite and the Beethoven Eighth Symphony recorded at the same time as the tail end of the symphonic record series). A new organization called The National Music Appreciation Committee sponsored the records in association with the Publisher's Service Company and aggressively promoted them through local Music Appreciation organizations in an attempt to capitalize on the phenomenal success of the symphonic series. Like the symphonic records, the operatic records were recorded with almost no rehearsal, in order to save valuable session time. Members of the Philadelphia Orchestra and the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra and Chorus were most likely used with conductors (according to O'Connell) Wilfrid Pelletier, William Steinberg, Alexander Smallens, and O'Connell himself. To do the job as cheaply as possible, O'Connell has said, "[I]t was necessary to employ...singers of real ability who would sing for very little money." These singers included Eleanor Steber, Norman Cordon, and Leonard Warren.

Who the others were, unfortunately, can in most cases only be guessed, for neither the session sheets nor the record cards on which this discography is based proved to be much help in sorting out the identities of the voices. For this reason I have used identities furnished by A.J. Franck from his review of the records in the American Music Lover of November 1940, and from James Hinton's letter to High Fidelity, published in October 1956. These are designated by brackets in the discography itself. Other information is as I found it. Records in the World's Greatest Music series are arranged by session dates; those in the World's Greatest Operas series, because of the common practice of recording excerpts from several operas in one session, are arranged by composer and title. It remains only to thank David

Hall, who provided the Franck/Hinton information, and to express my appreciation to Lois Fox and especially to Michelle Slater of RCA Records, who graciously gave me access to their department.

17 October 1938, Academy of Music, Philadelphia

"Symphony Orchestra", [74 musicians], Eugene Ormandy, cond.

Total session time: 2 hr., 10 min.

| <u>Matrix/take</u> | <u>Disposition</u> | <u>Issue Number</u> | <u>Title</u>                                  |
|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---|
| CS 027808-1        | Hold. Indef.       |                     | Schubert: Symphony No. 8, in B minor, D. 759  |
| -1A                | Destroy            | SR-1A               |   |
| -2                 | Master             |                     |   |
| -2A                | Destroy            |                     |   |
| CS 027809-1        | Master             | SR-1B               |   |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |
| CS 027810-1        | Master             | SR-2A               |   |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |
| CS 027811-1        | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |
| -1A                | Master             | SR-2B               |   |
| CS 027812-1        | Master             | SR-3A               |   |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |
| CS 027813-1        | Master             | SR-3B               |   |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |
| CS 027814-1        | Hold Indef.        |                     | Beethoven: Symphony No. 5, in C minor, Op. 67 |
| -1A                | Destroy            |                     |   |
| -2                 | Master             | SR-4A               |   |
| -2A                | Destroy            |                     |   |
| CS 027815-1        | Master             | SR-4B               |   |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |
| CS 027816-1        | Master             | SR-5A               |   |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |
| CS 027817-1        | Master             | SR-5B               |   |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |
| CS 027818-1        | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |
| -1A                | Master             | SR-6A               |   |
| CS 027819-1        | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |
| -1A                | Master             | SR-6B               |   |
| CS 027820-1        | Master             | SR-7A               |   |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |
| CS 027821-1        | Master             | SR-7B               |   |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |

12 November 1938, Academy of Music, Philadelphia

"Symphony Orchestra", [49 musicians], Eugene Ormandy, cond.  
 [Solo violin, Alexander Hilsberg; solo trumpet, Saul Caston;  
 solo flute, William Kincaid; solo oboe, Marcel Tabuteau].  
 Total session time: 3 hrs.

| <u>Matrix/take</u> | <u>Disposition</u> | <u>Issue Number</u> | <u>Title</u>                                |
|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---|
| CS 028831-1        | Hold Indef.        |                     | Bach: Brandenburg Concerto No. 2            |
| -1A                | Destroy            |                     |   |
| -2                 | Master             | SR-14A              |   |
| -2A                | Destroy            |                     |   |
| CS 028832-1        | Master             | SR-14B              |   |
| CS 028833-1        | Master             | SR-15A              |   |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |
| CS 028834-1        | Master             | SR-8A               | Mozart: Symphony No. 40, in G minor, K. 550 |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |
| CS 028835-1        | Master             | SR-8B               |   |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |
| CS 028836-1        | Master             | SR-9A               |   |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |
| CS 028837-1        | Master             | SR-9B               |   |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |
| CS 028838-1        | Master             | SR-10A              |   |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |
| CS 028839-1        | Master             | SR-10B              |   |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |
| CS 028840-1        | Master             | SR-15B              | Bach: Brandenburg Concerto No. 3            |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |
| CS 028841-1        | Master             | SR-16A              |   |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |
| CS 028842-1        | Master             | SR-16B              |   |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |

22 November 1938, Carnegie Hall, New York

"Symphony Orchestra", [78 musicians], Fritz Reiner, cond.

Total session time: 3 hr., 10 min.

| <u>Matrix/take</u> | <u>Disposition</u> | <u>Issue Number</u> | <u>Title</u>                                      |
|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---|
| CS 028843-1        | Master             | SR-11A              | <u>Wagner: Die Meistersinger</u>                  |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     | Prelude   |
| CS 028844-1        | Master             | SR-11B              |   |
| -1A                | Hold. Indef.       |                     |   |
| CS 028845-1        | Master             | SR-12A              | <u>Wagner: Parsifal</u>                           |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     | Prelude   |
| CS 028846-1        | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |
| -1A                | Master             | SR-12B              |   |
| CS 028847-1        | Master             | SR-13A              |   |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |
| CS 028848-1        | Master             | SR-13B              |   |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |
| CS 028849-1        | Master             | SR-17A              | <u>Debussy: Prélude à l'après midi d'un faune</u> |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |
| CS 028850-1        | Master             | SR-17B              |   |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |
| CS 028851-1        | Master             | SR-18A              | <u>Debussy: Nocturnes: Nuages</u>                 |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |
| CS 028852-1        | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |
| -1A                | Master             | SR-18B              |   |
| CS 028853-1        | Hold Indef.        |                     | <u>Debussy: Nocturnes: Fêtes</u>                  |
| -1A                | Master             | SR-19A              |   |
| CS 028854-1        | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |
| -1A                | Master             | SR-19B              |   |

2 January 1939, Carnegie Hall, New York

NBC Symphony Orchestra [82 musicians], Artur Rodzinski, cond.

Total session time: 4 hrs., 20 min.

| <u>Matrix/take</u> | <u>Disposition</u> | <u>Issue Number</u> | <u>Title</u>                                    |
|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---|
| CS 030868-1        | Master             | SR-23A              | Tchaikovsky: Symphony No. 4, in F minor, Op. 36 |
| -1A                | Not passed         |                     |   |
| CS 030869-1        | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |
| -1A                | Not passed         |                     |   |
| -2                 | Master             | SR-23B              |   |
| -2A                | Not passed         |                     |   |
| CS 030870-1        | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |
| -2                 | Master             | SR-24A              |   |
| -2A                | Not passed         |                     |   |
| CS 030871-1        | Master             | SR-24B              |   |
| -1A                | Not passed         |                     |   |
| CS 0s0872-1        | Master             | SR-25A              |   |
| -1A                | Not passed         |                     |   |
| CS 030873-1        | Master             | SR-25B              |   |
| -1A                | Not passed         |                     |   |
| CS 030874-1        | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |
| -1A                | Not passed         |                     |   |
| -2                 | Master             | SR-26A              |   |
| -2A                | Not passed         |                     |   |
| CS 030875-1        | Master             | SR-26B              |   |
| -1A                | Not passed         |                     |   |
| CS 030876-1        | Master             | SR-27A              |   |
| -1A                | Not passed         |                     |   |
| CS 030877-1        | Master             | SR-27B              |   |
| -1A                | Not passed         |                     |   |
| CS 030878-1        | Master             | SR-33A              | Franck: Symphony in D minor                     |
| -1A                | Not passed         |                     |   |
| CS 030879-1        | Master             | SR-33B              |   |
| -1A                | Not passed         |                     |   |
| CS 030880-1        | Master             | SR-34A              |   |
| -1A                | Not passed         |                     |   |
| CS 030881-1        | Master             | SR-34B              |   |
| -1A                | Not passed         |                     |   |

|             |            |        |
|-------------|------------|--------|
| CS 030882-1 | Master     | SR-35A |
| -1A         | Not passed |        |
| CS 030883-1 | Master     | SR-35B |
| -1A         | Not passed |        |
| CS 030884-1 | Master     | SR-36A |
| -1A         | Not passed |        |
| CS 030885-1 | Master     | SR-36B |
| -1A         | Not passed |        |
| CS 030886-1 | Master     | SR-37A |
| -1A         | Not passed |        |
| CS 030887-1 | Master     | SR-37B |
| -1A         | Not passed |        |
| CS 030888-1 | Master     | SR-38A |
| -1A         | Not passed |        |
| CS 030889-1 | Master     | SR-38B |
| -1A         | Not passed |        |

9 March 1939, RCA Victor Studio No. 2, New York

New Friends of Music, [40 musicians], Fritz Stiedry, cond.

Total session time: 2 hrs.

| Matrix/take | Disposition | Issue Number | Title                                   |
|-------------|-------------|--------------|---|
| CS 032933-1 | Master      | SR-20A       | Haydn: Symphony No. 99, in E-flat major |
| -1A         | Not passed  |              |   |
| CS 032934-1 | Master      | SR-20B       |   |
| -1A         | Not passed  |              |   |
| CS 032935-1 | Master      | SR-21A       |   |
| -1A         | Not passed  |              |   |
| CS 032936-1 | Hold Indef. |              |   |
| -1A         | Not passed  |              |   |
| -2          | Master      | SR-21B       |   |
| -2A         | Not passed  |              |   |
| CS 032937-1 | Master      | SR-22A       |   |
| -1A         | Not passed  |              |   |
| CS 032938-1 | Master      | SR-22B       |   |
| -1A         | Not passed  |              |   |

26 March 1939, Academy of Music, Philadelphia

"Symphony Orchestra", [74 musicians], Eugene Ormandy, cond.

Total session time: 2 hrs., 2 min.

| <u>Matrix/tape</u> | <u>Disposition</u> | <u>Issue Number</u> | <u>Title</u>                               |
|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--|
| CS 035400-1        | Master             | SR-28A              | Brahms: Symphony No. 2, in D major, Op. 73 |
| -1A                | Destroy            |                     |  |
| -2                 | Hold Indef.        |                     |  |
| -2A                | Destroy            |                     |  |
| CS 035401-1        | Hold Indef.        |                     |  |
| -1A                | Destroy            |                     |  |
| -2                 | Master             | SR-28B              |  |
| -2A                | Destroy            |                     |  |
| CS 035402-1        | Master             | SR-29A              |  |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |  |
| CS 035403-1        | Hold Indef.        |                     |  |
| -1A                | Destroy            |                     |  |
| -2                 | Master             | SR-29B              |  |
| -2A                | Destroy            |                     |  |
| CS 035404-1        | Hold Indef.        |                     |  |
| -1A                | Destroy            |                     |  |
| -2                 | Hold Indef.        |                     |  |
| -2A                | Master             | SR-30A              |  |
| CS 035405-1        | Master             | SR-30B              |  |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |  |
| CS 035406-1        | Hold Indef.        |                     |  |
| -1A                | Destroy            |                     |  |
| -2                 | Master             | SR-31A              |  |
| -2A                | Destroy            |                     |  |
| CS 035407-1        | Master             | SR-31B              |  |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |  |
| CS 035408-1        | Master             | SR-32A              |  |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |  |
| CS 035409-1        | Master             | SR-32B              |  |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |  |

14 April 1940, Academy of Music, Philadelphia

Publishers Service Symphony Orchestra, [57 musicians], cond. unknown, probably Alexander Smallens.  
Total session time: 2 hr., 5 min.

| <u>Matrix/take</u> | <u>Disposition</u> | <u>Issue Number</u> | <u>Title</u>                                  |
|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---|
| CS 048800-1        | Hold Indef.        |                     | Tchaikovsky: Nutcracker Suite, Op. 71a        |
| -2                 | Master             | SR-39A              |   |
| -2A                | Destroy            |                     |   |
| CS 048801-1        | Master             | SR-39B              |   |
| -1A                | Destroy            |                     |   |
| CS 048802-1        | Master             | SR-40A              |   |
| -1A                | Destroy            |                     |   |
| CS 048803-1        | Master             | SR-40B              |   |
| -1A                | Destroy            |                     |   |
| CS 048804-1        | Master             | SR-41A              |   |
| -1A                | Destroy            |                     |   |
| CS 048805-1        | Master             | SR-41B              |   |
| -1A                | Destroy            |                     |   |
| CS 048806-1        | Master             | SR-42A              | Beethoven: Symphony No. 8, in F major, Op. 93 |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |
| CS 04-807-1        | Master             | SR-42B              |   |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |
| CS 048808-1        | Master             | SR-43A              |   |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |
| CS 048809-1        | Master             | SR-43B              |   |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |
| CS 048810-1        | Master             | SR-44A              |   |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |
| CS 048811-1        | Destroy            |                     |   |
| -2                 | Master             | SR-44B              |   |
| -2A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |

"WORLD'S GREATEST OPERA"

BIZET: Carmen (excerpts)

Publishers Service Symphony Orchestra, [45-47 musicians], Wilfrid Peletier, cond., with chorus.  
 Recorded 31 May and 25 June 1940, Town Hall, New York; 17 June 1940, Academy of Music, Philadelphia.  
 Session supervisor: Charles O'Connell.

| <u>Matrix/take</u> | <u>Disposition</u> | <u>Issue Number</u> | <u>Title</u>                           | <u>Date</u> |
|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--|-------------|
| CS 050351-1        | Master             | SR-45B              | Act I: Habanera and Séguedille         | 31 May      |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |  |             |
| CS 050352-1        | Master             | SR-46A              | Act II: Chanson de Toreador            | 31 May      |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |  |             |
| -1R                | Hold Indef.        |                     |  |             |
| CS 050353-1        | Master             | SR-47B              | Act IV: Jamais je n'ai menti           | 31 May      |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |  |             |
| -2                 | No info.           |                     |  |             |
| -2A                | No info.           |                     |  |             |
| CS 051100-1        | Destroy            |                     | Act I: Prelude                         | 17 June     |
| -1A                | Destroy            |                     |  |             |
| -2                 | Master             | SR-45A              |  |             |
| -2A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |  |             |
| CS 051101-1        | Destroy            |                     | Act II: Nous avons en tête une affaire | 17 June     |
| -1A                | Destroy            |                     |  |             |
| -2                 | Master             | SR-46B              |  |             |
| -2A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |  |             |
| CS 051121-1        | Destroy            |                     | Act II: Air de fleur                   | 25 June     |
| -1A                | Destroy            |                     |  |             |
| -2                 | Master             | SR-47A              |  |             |
| -2A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |  |             |

CAST: José--Raoul Jobin  
 [Carmen--Joan Peebles]  
 [Escamillo--Leonard Warren]  
 [Fransquita--Thelma Votipka]  
 [Mercédès--Helen Oelheim]  
 [Cairo--Georges Cehanovsky]  
 [Remendado--P. Bontempi]

Later Issues  
 78: Music Apprec. set 0 201  
 World's Greatest Opera set 1  
 33: Camden CAL 221 in CFL 101  
 Camden CAL 249 (Habanera & Séguedille)  
 Parade 100

GOUNOD: Faust (excerpts)

Publishers Service Symphony Orchestra, [45-47 musicians], Wilfrid Pelletier, cond., with chorus.  
 Recorded 30 and 31 May 1940, Town Hall, New York; 17 June 1940, Academy of Music, Philadelphia.  
 Session supervisor: Charles O'Connell.

| <u>Matrix/take</u> | <u>Disposition</u> | <u>Issue Number</u> | <u>Title</u>                    | <u>Date</u> |
|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|-------------|
| CS 050342-1        | Destroy            |                     | Act II: Kermesse; Vin ou 30 May | 30 May      |
| -1A                | Destroy            |                     | bierre                          |             |
| -2                 | Master             | SR-48A              |                                 |             |
| -2A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |                                 |             |
| CS 050343-1        | Destroy            |                     | Act IV: Choeur des              | 30 May      |
| -1A                | Master             | SR-50A              | soldats                         |             |
| CS 050344-1        | Hold Indef.        |                     | Act II: Veau d'or               | 30 May      |
| -1A                | Master             | SR-48B              |                                 |             |
| -1R                | Hold Indef.        |                     |                                 |             |
| CS 050354-1        | Destroy            |                     | Act II: Valse                   | 31 May      |
| -1A                | Master             | SR-49A              |                                 |             |
| CS 051106-1        | Master             | SR-49B              | Act III: Il se fait             | 17 June     |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     | tard                            |             |
| CS 051107-1        | Master             | SR-50B              | Act V: Le jour va               | 17 June     |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     | luire; Alerte! Alerte!          |             |

CAST: [Marguerite--Eleanor Steber]  
 [Faust--Armand Tokatyán or  
 Raoul Jobin]  
 [Valentin/Wagner--Georges Cehanovsky]  
 [Mephistopheles--Norman Cordon]

Later Issues  
 78: Music Apprec. set 0 202  
 World's Greatest Opera set 2  
 33: Camden CAL 221 in CFL 101  
 Parade 1002

LEONCAVALLO: Pagliacci (excerpts)

Publishers Service Symphony Orchestra, [45-47 musicians, Wilfrid Pelletier, cond., with chorus].  
 Recorded 30 and 31 May, Town Hall, New York; 17 June 1940, Academy of Music, Philadelphia.  
 Session supervisor: Charles O'Connell.

| <u>Matrix/tape</u> | <u>Disposition</u> | <u>Issue Number</u> | <u>Title</u>                         | <u>Date</u> |
|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| CS 050347-1        | Destroy            |                     | Act I: Bell chorus-I<br>zampognari   | 30 May      |
| -1A                | Destroy            | SR-70B              |                                      |             |
| -1R                | Master             |                     |                                      |             |
| -2R                | Hold Indef.        |                     |                                      |             |
| CS 050350-1        | Master             | SR-72A              | Act II: No pagliaccio<br>non son!    | 31 May      |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     | Prologue: Se può,<br>Signore         | 17 June     |
| CS 051102-1        | Destroy            |                     |                                      |             |
| -1A                | Destroy            | SR-70A              | Act I: Vesti la giubba               | 17 June     |
| -2                 | Master             |                     |                                      |             |
| -2A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |                                      |             |
| CS 051103-1        | Destroy            |                     |                                      |             |
| -1A                | Destroy            | SR-71B              |                                      |             |
| -2                 | Master             |                     |                                      |             |
| -2A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |                                      |             |
| CS 051104-1        | Destroy            |                     | Act I: Decidi il mio<br>destin       | 17 June     |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        | SR-71A              |                                      |             |
| -1R                | Master             |                     |                                      |             |
| -2R                | Hold Indef.        | SR-72B              | Act II: Serenata and<br>Scene comica | 17 June     |
| CS 051105-1        | Master             |                     |                                      |             |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |                                      |             |

CAST: [Wedda--Eleanor Steber]  
 [Conio--Arthur Carron]  
 [Tonio--Leonard Warren]  
 [Sylvio--Georges Cehanovsky]  
 [Peppe--P. Bontempi]

Later Issues  
 78: Music Apprec. set O 209  
 33: Camden CAL 226 in CFL 101  
 Parade 1004  
 Camden CAL 249 (Vesti la giubba)

MOZART: Le Nozze di Figaro (excerpts)

Publishers Service Symphony Orchestra, [35 musicians, William Steinberg, cond.].  
 Recorded 5 June 1940, Town Hall, New York.  
 Session supervisor: Charles O'Connell

| <u>Matrix/take</u> | <u>Disposition</u> | <u>Issue Number</u> | <u>Title</u>               | <u>Date</u> |
|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|-------------|
| CS 050361-1        | Master             | SR-82B              | Act I: Cinque...dieci...   | 5 June      |
| -1A                | Destroy            |                     | venti                      |             |
| -2                 | Hold Indef.        |                     | Act II: Che soave zef-     |             |
| -2A                | Destroy            |                     | firetto                    |             |
| CS 050362-1        | Master             | SR-83A              | Act I: Non più andrai      | 5 June      |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     | Act II: Aprite, presto     |             |
| CS 050363-1        | Master             | SR-84B              | Act II: Voi che sapete     | 5 June      |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     | Act IV: Aprite un po!      |             |
|                    |                    |                     | quegl'occhi                |             |
| CS 050364-1        | Master             | SR-84A              | Act II: Susanna, or via    | 5 June      |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     | sortite; Act III: Crudel!  |             |
| CS 050365-1        | Master             | SR-83B              | Act IV: Deh vieni, non     | 5 June      |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     | tardar; Act II: Porgi amor |             |
| CS 050366-1        | Destroy            |                     | Overture                   | 5 June      |
| -1A                | Destroy            |                     |                            |             |
| -2                 | Master             | SR-82A              |                            |             |
| -2A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |                            |             |

CAST: [Countess--Vivian Della Chiesa]  
 [Susanna--Annamary Dickey]  
 [Cherubino--Lucille Browning]  
 [Figaro--Norman Cordon]  
 [Count--Georges Cehanovsky]

Later Issues  
 78: Music Apprec. set O 212  
 33: Camden CAL 227

FUCCINI: La Bohème (excerpts)

Publishers Service Symphony Orchestra, [45-47 musicians, Wilfrid Pelletier, cond., with chorus].  
 Recorded 30 May and 25/26 June 1940, Town Hall, New York.  
 Session supervisor: Charles O'Connell.

| <u>Matrix/take</u> | <u>Disposition</u> | <u>Issue Number</u> | <u>Title</u>                        | <u>Date</u> |
|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| CS 050348-1        | Destroy            |                     | Act II: Musetta's waltz             | 30 May      |
| -1A                | Master             | SR-62A              | & finale: Quando m'en<br>vo soletta |             |
| CS 051122-1        | Master             | SR-62B              | Act III: Addio, dolce               | 25 June     |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     | svegliare                           |             |
| CS 051123-1        | Master             | SR-63A              | Act IV: Mimi ne andasti             | 25 June     |
| -1A                | Destroy            |                     | e piu                               |             |
| CS 051124-1        | Master             | SR-63B              | Act IV: Tomo al ni do...            | 25 June     |
| CS 051129-1        | Hold Indef.        |                     | Act I: Racconto di                  | 26 June     |
| -1A                | Destroy            |                     | Rodolfo: Che gelida                 |             |
| -2                 | Master             | SR-61A              | manina                              |             |
| -2A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |                                     |             |
| CS 051130-1        | Destroy            |                     | Act I: O soave fan-                 | 26 June     |
| -1A                | Destroy            |                     | ciulla                              |             |
| -2                 | Hold Indef.        |                     |                                     |             |
| -2A                | Destroy            |                     |                                     |             |
| -3                 | Master             | SR-61B              |                                     |             |
| -3A                | Destroy            |                     |                                     |             |

CAST: Mimi--Eleanor Steber  
 Musetta--Annamary Dickey  
 Rodolfo--Armand Tokatyan  
 Marcello--Georges Cehanovsky  
 [Schaunard--Arthur Kent]  
 Colline--Lorenzo Alvary

Later Issues  
 78: Music Apprec. set 0 206  
 33: Camden CAL 222 in CFL 101  
 Parade 100??  
 Camden CAL 249 (Che gelida)

PUCCINI: Madama Butterfly (excerpts)

Publishers Service Symphony Orchestra, [45-47 musicians], Wilfrid Pelletier, cond., with chorus.  
 Recorded 30 and 31 May and 26 June 1940, Town Hall, New York.  
 Session supervisor: Charles O'Connell.

| <u>Matrix/take</u> | <u>Disposition</u> | <u>Issue Number</u> | <u>Title</u>                              | <u>Date</u> |
|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---|-------------|
| CS 050349-1        | Master             | SR-55A              | Act I: Entrance of Butterfly: Lar l'altro | 30 May      |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |             |
| CS 050358-1        | Master             | SR-57B              | Act II: Tu? tu? piccolo iddio?            | 31 May      |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |             |
| CS 051125-1        | Destroy            |                     | Act I: Bimba degli occhi                  | 26 June     |
| -1A                | Destroy            |                     |   |             |
| -2                 | Master             | SR-55B              |   |             |
| -2A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |             |
| CS 051126-1        | Destroy            |                     | Act I: Dicon ch'oltre mare                | 26 June     |
| -1A                | Destroy            |                     |   |             |
| -2                 | Master             | SR-56A              |   |             |
| -2A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |             |
| CS 051127-1        | Master             | SR-56B              | Act II: Un bel di                         | 26 June     |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |             |
| CS 051128-1        | Master             | SR-57A              | Act II: Scuoti quella fronda di ciliegio  | 26 June     |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |   |             |

CAST: Cio-Cio-San--Eleanor Steber  
 Suzuki--Lucille Browning  
 Pinkerton--Armand Tokatyan  
 [Sharpless--Georges Cehanovsky]  
 [Goro--P. Bontempi]

Later Issues  
 78: Music Apprec. set O 204  
 33: Camden CAL 222 in CFL 101  
 Parade 10??  
 Camden CAL (Un bel di)

VERDI: Aïda (excerpts)

Publishers Service Symphony Orchestra, [45-50 musicians, Wilfrid Pelletier, cond., with chorus].  
 Recorded 28 and 30 May 1940, Town Hall, New York; 17 June 1940, Academy of Music, Philadelphia.  
 Session supervisors: 28 May, Ronald Wise and Charles O'Connell; 30 May and 17 June, Charles O'Connell.

| <u>Matrix/take</u> | <u>Disposition</u> | <u>Issue Number</u> | <u>Title</u>              | <u>Date</u> |
|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| CS 050340-1        | Destroy            |                     | Act II: Gloria all'Egitto | 28 May      |
| -1A                | Destroy            |                     |                           |             |
| -1R                | Master             | SR-52A              |                           |             |
| -1AR               | Hold Indef.        |                     |                           |             |
| CS 050341-1        | Destroy            |                     | Act II: Ballabile         | 28 May      |
| -1A                | Destroy            |                     |                           |             |
| -1R                | Master             | SR-52B              |                           |             |
| CS 050345-1        | Hold Indef.        |                     | Act III: La fatal pietra  | 30 May      |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |                           |             |
| -1R                | Destroy            |                     |                           |             |
| -1AR               | Master             | SR-54A              |                           |             |
| CS 050346-1        | Destroy            |                     | Act IV: O terra addio!    | 31 June     |
| -1A                | Master             | SR-54B              |                           |             |
| CS 051108-1        | Master             | SR-51A              | Act I: Se quel guerrier   | 17 June     |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     | ...Celeste Aïda           |             |
| CS 051109-1        | Destroy            |                     | Act I: Ritorna vincitore! | 17 June     |
| -1A                | Master             | SR-51B              |                           |             |
| CS 051110-1        | Destroy            |                     | Act III: Rivedra le       | 17 June     |
| -1A                | Master             | SR-53A              | foreste embalsamate       |             |
| CS 051111-1        | Destroy            |                     | Act III: Odimi, Aïda      | 17 June     |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |                           |             |
| -1R                | Hold Indef.        |                     |                           |             |
| -2R                | Master             | SR-53B              |                           |             |

CAST: [Aïda--Rose Bampton]  
 [Amneris--Lydia Summers]  
 [Rhadamis--Arthur Charron]  
 [Amonesro--Leonard Warren]  
 [Ramfis--Norman Cordon]  
 [King--Lorenzo Alvary]

Letter Issues  
 78: Music Apprec. set O 203  
 33: Camden CAL 225 in CFL 101  
 Camden CAL 249 (Celeste Aïda)  
 Parade 1003

VERDI: Rigoletto (excerpts)

Publishers Service Symphony Orchestra, [45-47 musicians], Wilfrid Pelletier, cond.  
 Recorded 31 May and 25 June 1940, Town Hall, New York.  
 Session supervisors: Charles O'Connell.

| <u>Matrix/take</u> | <u>Disposition</u> | <u>Issue Number</u> | <u>Title</u>                                 | <u>Date</u> |
|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--|-------------|
| CS 050357-1        | Destroy            | SR-58A              | Act I: Questa o quella                       | 31 May      |
| -1A                | Master             |                     |  |             |
| CS 051118-1        | Destroy            | SR-60B              | Act IV: La donna è<br>mobile; Quartet: Bella | 25 June     |
| -2                 | Master             |                     | figlia dell'amore                            |             |
| -2A                | Hold Indef.        | SR-59B              | Act III: Tutte le feste                      | 25 June     |
| CS 051119-1        | Master             |                     |  |             |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        | SR-60A              | Act III: Compiuto piu<br>quanto              | 25 June     |
| CS 051120-1        | Master             |                     |  |             |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        | SR-58B              | Act II: Caro nome                            | 25 June     |
| CS 051116-1        | Master             |                     |  |             |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        | SR-59A              | Act III: Cortigiani,<br>vil razza dannata    | 25 June     |
| CS 051117-1        | Master             |                     |  |             |
| -1A                | Master             |                     |  |             |

CAST: Gilda--Jean Dickenson  
 Maddalena--Lucille Browning  
 Duke--Armand Tokatyan  
 Rigoletto--Leonard Warren  
 Monterone--Norman Cordon  
 [Borsa--P. Bontempi]  
 [Others--??]

Later Issues  
 78: Music Apprec. set O 205  
 33: Camden CAL 226 in CFL 101  
 Parade 1007  
 Camden CAL 249 (Caro nome)

VERDI: La Traviata (excerpts)

Publishers Service Symphony Orchestra, [43-45 musicians], Wilfrid Pelletier, cond., with chorus.  
 Recorded 31 May and 25 June 1940, Town Hall, New York.  
 Session supervisor: Charles O'Connell.

| <u>Matrix/take</u> | <u>Disposition</u> | <u>Issue Number</u> | <u>Title</u>                  | <u>Date</u> |
|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|
| CS 050355-1        | Master             | SR-67A              | Act I: E tu dunque            | May 31      |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     | Brindisi: Libiamo, libiamo    |             |
| CS 050356-1        | Destroy            |                     | Act I: Ah! Fors'è lui; 31 May |             |
| -1A                | Master             | SR-69B              | Sempre libera                 |             |
| CS 051112-1        | Destroy            |                     | Act II: Pura siccome un       | 25 June     |
| -1A                | Master             | SR-67B              | angelo                        |             |
| CS 051113-1        | Destroy            |                     | Act II: Così alla misera      | 25 June     |
| -1A                | Destroy            |                     |                               |             |
| -2                 | Master             | SR-68A              |                               |             |
| -2A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |                               |             |
| CS 051114-1        | Master             | SR-68B              | Act II: Così alla misera      | 25 June •   |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |                               |             |
| CS 051115-1        | Destroy            |                     | Act III: Parigi, O cara       | 25 June     |
| -1A                | Master             | SR-69B              |                               |             |

CAST: Violetta--Eleanor Steber  
 Alfredo--Armand Tokatyan  
 Germont--Leonard Warren  
 [d'Obigny--Lorenzo Alvary]  
 [others--??]

Later Issues

78: Music Apprec. set O 208  
 33: Camden CAL 227 in CFL 101  
 Parade 1009

WAGNER: Lohengrin (excerpts)

Publishers Service Symphony Orchestra, [46-50 musicians, William Steinberg, cond., with chorus].  
 Recorded 27 and 28 May 1940, Academy of Music, Philadelphia.  
 Session supervisors: 27 May, Charles O'Connell; 28 May, Ronald Wise and Charles O'Connell.

| <u>Matrix/take</u> | <u>Disposition</u> | <u>Issue Number</u> | <u>Title</u>             | <u>Date</u> |
|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| CS 050331-1        | Destroy            |                     | Act III: Das süsse Lied  | 27 Ma       |
| -1A                | Master             | SR-75A              | verhallt                 |             |
| CS 050332-1        | Destroy            |                     | Act III: In fernes Land  | 27 May      |
| -1A                | Master             | SR-75B              |                          |             |
| CS 050336-1        | Destroy            |                     | Act I: Mein Herr und     | 28 May      |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     | Gott                     |             |
| -1R                | Master             | SR-73B              |                          |             |
| CS 050337-1        | Hold Indef.        |                     | Act I: Durch Gottes Sieg | 28 May      |
| -1A                | Destroy            |                     |                          |             |
| -1R                | Master             | SR-74A              |                          | 28 May      |
| CS 050338-1        | Master             | SR-74B              | Act III: Prelude;        |             |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     | Treulich geführt         |             |
| CS 050339-1        | Destroy            |                     | Act I: Einsam in trüben  | 28 May      |
| -1A                | Destroy            |                     | Tagen                    |             |
| -1R                | Destroy            |                     |                          |             |
| -2R                | Destroy            |                     |                          |             |
| -3R                | Master             | SR-73A              |                          |             |

CAST: [Elsa--Rose Bampton]  
 [Otrud--Lydia Summers]  
 [Lohengrin--Arthur Carron]  
 [Telramund--Mack Harrell]  
 [King Heinrich--Norman Gordon]

Later Issues  
 78: Music Apprec. set 0 210  
 33: Camden CAL 223 in CFL 101  
 Parade 1006

WAGNER: Tannhäuser (excerpts)

Publishers Service Symphony Orchestra, [46-50 musicians, William Steinberg, cond., with chorus].  
 Recorded 27 and 28 May 1940, Academy of Music, Philadelphia.  
 Session supervisors: 27 May, Charles O'Connell; 28 May, Ronald Wise and Charles O'Connell.

| <u>Matrix/take</u> | <u>Disposition</u> | <u>Issue Number</u> | <u>Title</u>                        | <u>Date</u> |
|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| CS 050328-1        | Master             | SR-66A              | Act III: Rom gelangt'<br>ich so     | 27 May      |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |                                     |             |
| CS 050329-1        | Destroy            |                     | Act II: Dich, teure Halle           | 27 May      |
| -1A                | Destroy            |                     |                                     |             |
| -1R                | Master             | SR-64B              |                                     |             |
| CS 050330-1        | Master             | SR-65B              | Act III: Wie Todesahnung;           | 27 May      |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     | O du meinholder Abendstern          |             |
| CS 050333-1        | Master             | SR-65A              | Act II: Fest-Marsch:                | 28 May      |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     | Freudig begrüßen wir die edle Halle |             |
| CS 050334-1        | Master             | SR-66B              | Act III: Elisabeth:                 | 28 May      |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |                                     |             |
| CS 050335-1        | Master             | SR-64A              | Act I: Venusberg scene              | 28 May      |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |                                     |             |

CAST: [Elisabeth--Rose Pampton]  
 [Tannhäuser--Arthur Carron]  
 [Wolfram--Mack Harrell]  
 [Venus--Beal Hober or  
 Ljuba Senderowna]

Later Issues  
 78: Music Apprec. set O 207  
 33: Camden CAL 223 in CFL 101  
 Parade 1011  
 Camden CAL 249 (Wie Todesa-  
 hnung)

WAGNER: Tristan und Isolde (excerpts)

Publishers Service Symphony Orchestra, [46-55 musicians, William Steinberg, cond., with chorus].  
 Recorded 26 and 27 May 1940, Academy of Music, Philadelphia.  
 Session supervisor: Charles O'Connell.

| <u>Matrix/take</u> | <u>Disposition</u>   | <u>Issue Number</u> | <u>Title</u>                            | <u>Date</u> |
|--------------------|--|---------------------|---|-------------|
| CS 050313-1        | Master   | SR-76A              | Act I: Prelude                          | 26 May      |
| -1A                | Destroy  |                     |   |             |
| CS 050314-1        | Not accounted for on recording cards; disposition unknown. |                     |   |             |
| -1A                | Destroy  |                     |   |             |
| CS 050315-1        | Hold Indef.  |                     |   |             |
| -1A                | Master   |                     |   |             |
| -1R                | Destroy  |                     | Act I: Wohl kenn'ich<br>Irlands Königin | 26 May      |
| CS 050316-1        | Destroy  | SR-77A              | Act III: Mild und leise                 | 26 May      |
| -1A                | Destroy  |                     |   |             |
| -2                 | Destroy  |                     |   |             |
| -2A                | Hold Indef.  |                     |   |             |
| -3                 | Destroy  |                     |   | 27 May      |
| -3A                | Destroy  |                     |   | 27 May      |
| -1R                | Master   |                     |   | 26 May      |
| -2R                | Hold Indef.  |                     |   |             |
| CS 050317-1        | Destroy  | SR-81B              | Act I: Heil! König Mark<br>Heil!        | 26 May      |
| -1A                | Destroy  |                     |   |             |
| -2                 | Destroy  |                     |   |             |
| -2A                | Hold Indef.  |                     |   |             |
| -1R                | Destroy  |                     |   |             |
| -2R                | Master   |                     |   |             |
| CS 050318-1        | Hold Indef.  | SR-77B              | Act II: O sink'hernieder                | 26 May      |
| -1A                | Master   | SR-78A              |   |             |
| -1R                | Destroy  |                     |   |             |
| CS 050319-1        | Master   | SR-78B              | Act II: Einsam wachend                  | 26 May      |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.  |                     |   |             |

WAGNER: Tristan und Isolde (excerpts) -- continued

| <u>Matrix/take</u> | <u>Disposition</u> | <u>Issue Number</u> | <u>Title</u>             | <u>Date</u> |
|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| CS 050320-1        | Master             | SR-81A              | Act III: Das Schiff?     | 26 May      |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     | Siebst du's noch nicht?  |             |
| CS 050321-1        | Hold Indef.        |                     | Act II: Wohin nun        | 26 May      |
| -1A                | Master             | SR-80A              | Tristan scheidt          |             |
| CS 050322-1        | Destroy            |                     | Act II: So sturben wir   | 26 May      |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |                          |             |
| -1R                | Destroy            |                     |                          |             |
| -2R                | Master             | SR-79A              | Act II: Oew'ge Nacht     | 26 May      |
| CS 050323-1        | Hold Indef.        |                     |                          |             |
| -1A                | Destroy            |                     |                          |             |
| -1R                | Destroy            |                     |                          |             |
| -2R                | Master             | SR-79B              | Act III: Prelude, part 1 | 27 May      |
| CS 050326-1        | Master             | SR-80B              | Act III: Prelude, part 2 | 27 May      |
| -1A                | Hold Indef.        |                     |                          |             |
| CS 050327-1        | Destroy            |                     | Act III: Prelude, part 2 | 27 May      |
| -1A                | Master             | SR-76B              |                          |             |
| -1R                | Destroy            |                     |                          |             |
| -2R                | Destroy            |                     |                          |             |

CAST: [Isolde--Rose Bampton]  
 [Tristan--Arthur Carron]  
 [Brangene--Lydia Summers]

Later Issues  
 78: Music Apprec. set 0 211  
 33: Camden CAL 224