

SEIDLER-WINKLER AS CONDUCTOR AND ACCOMPANIST

STARS DER DREISSIGER JAHRE GRATULIEREN: Ein Leben für die Schalplatte--Bruno Seidler-Winkler zum 100, Geburtstag. GLUCK: Orfeo ed Euridice--Ach, ich habe sie verloren. Margarete Klose, contralto. MOZART: Die Entführung aus dem Serail--Hier soll ich dich denn sehen. Helge Roswaenge, tenor. Nozze Di Figaro--Porgi amor. Tiana Lemnitz, soprano. ...Wenn die sanftan Abendwinde. Margarete Teschemacher, soprano; Irma Beilke, soprano. Zauberflöte--Der Vogelfanger bin ich ja. Arno Schellenberger, baritone. ...Wie stark ist nicht dein Zauberton. Walther Ludwig, tenor. FLOTOW: Martha--Letzte Rose. Margherita Perras, soprano. SMETANA: Verkaufte Braut--so find' ich dich, mein Liebchen hier. Margarete Teschemacher, soprano; Marcel Wittrisch, tenor. GOUNOD: Faust--Ja, das Gold regiert die Welt. Wilhelm Strienz, basso. ...Ballettmusik. Berlin State Opera Orchestra. BIZET: Carmen--Euren Toast kann ich wohl erwidern. Josef Herrmann, baritone. ...Nein, du liebst mich nicht. Friedel Beckmann, mezzo-soprano; Torsten Ralf, tenor. DELIBES: Lakme--Candida Durga. Miliza Korjus, soprano. SAINT-SAENS: Samson et Dalila--Sieh, mein Herz erschliesset sich. Friedel Beckmann mezzo-soprano. MUSSORGSKY: Boris Godounow--Horch! Die Totenglocke! Wilhelm Strienz, basso. WAGNER: Der fliegende Holländer--Johohoe! ...Traft ihr das Schiff im Meere an. Marta Fuchs, soprano. Walküre--Ein Schwert verhiess mir der Vater. Max Lorenz, tenor. VERDI: Aida--Empfinde Mitteil mit meinem Leide. Margherita Perras, soprano; Margarete Klose, contralto. STRAUSS: Arabella--Und du wirst mein Gebieter sein. Tiana Lemnitz, soprano; Gerhard Husch, baritone. SCHUMANN: Die Lotosblume. Benjamin Gigli, tenor. Frühlingsfahrt. Hans Hermann Nissen, baritone. SCHUBERT: Litanei. Karl Erb, tenor. BRAHMS: Spanisches Lied. Margarete Klose, contralto. WOLF: Der Freund. Elena Gerhardt, mezzo-soprano. J. STRAUSS: Zigeunerbaron--So elend und so treu. Anni Frind, soprano. Eine Nacht in Venedig--Was mir der Zufall gab. Lizzi Waldmuller, soprano. MILLOCKER: Gasparone--O dass ich doch der Rauber ware. Marcel Wittrisch, tenor. HEUBERGER: Der Opernball--Gehen wir ins Chambre séparé. Friedel Beckmann, mezzo-soprano, Wilhelm Strienz, basso. LEHAR: Der Rastelbinder--Wenn zwei sich lieben. Walther Ludwig, tenor. Die lustige Witwe--Es lebt eine Vilja. Dusolina Giannini, soprano. KALMAN: Grafin Hariza--Gross mir mein Wien. Peter Anders, tenor. LANG: Der alte Kanzleirat. Hans Moser, singer. LOTHAR: Hans Sonnenstossers Hollenfahrt--Das grosse Gluck. Gustaf Grundgens, reciting. SCHULZE: Lili Marleen. Lale Andersen, singer. Bruno Seidler-Winkler, conductor and pianist. Electrola LC 137-46 347/48, 2 discs.

Bruno Seidler-Winkler (1880-1960) joined Deutsche Grammophon in 1905 as conductor and director of recordings. He may be said to have shaped the musical history of that company (then the German affiliate of HMV and Victor) in much the same way that Frieder Weissmann later guided Parlophon, but his career was longer, lasting

most of his life. Before joining Deutsche Grammophon he had had some experience as accompanist on Edison cylinders, but both he and Deutsche Grammophon were young and they grew up together. His name is found on many early German discs either as conductor or accompanist, and we may be sure he is present on many where he is not credited. With the development of radio in 1925 he branched out into broadcasting, returning full time to recording in 1935. The "30 Years" of the album title is a bit misleading, for with the single exception of the 1913 Gerhardt the recordings all date between 1935 and 1949 - that is, from his final Electrola period. Among them are some famous and popular performances - Lemnitz's Porgi amor and her Arabella duet with Hüsck, Roswaenge's Entführung and the Korjus Lakme have been on LP before; Erb's Litanei, Ludwig's Zauberflöte and the Fuchs Flying Dutchman are happily remembered. For a rarity there is the Faust ballet, a good example of orchestral recording in its period. Those sensitive to language may be put off by German in everything except Porgi amor, the Korjus Lakme (in Italian, not the original French) and Gigli's Italian Lotosblume.

We get off to an impressive start with Klose's Orfeo, one of several recordings she made of the aria. The voice is in fine fettle and her singing has style. Later on she joins with Perras in a vital Aida duet, and she offers the rarely heard Brahms Spanisches Lied (to the Heyse text well-known in Wolf's In dem Schatten meiner Locken). The Teschemacher-Beilke "Letter duet" is hardly outstanding, but with Wittrisch Teschemacher gives a spirited account of the Bartered Bride scene. I do not find Schellenberg's Papageno a match for Hüsck or Rehkemper, but it is respectable enough. Perras's sweet voice is unhelpfully backed by a chorus in "The last rose of summer." Strienz is heard in (to us) unfamiliar repertory -- Mephistopheles's Calf of gold, which seems particularly odd in German, and the death scene from Boris, which proves surprisingly effective. Josef Herrmann brings off the "Toreador song" in good style, and Beckmann and Ralf gave a dramatic account of the second act Carmen-José duet. Beckmann's was a particularly lovely voice, and she makes a seductive Dalila. Max Lorenz, second only to Melchior in his time, gives a fine authentic showing of his Siegmund.

Lest we forget Seidler-Winkler as a pianist, the lieder in the set are well chosen. Erb, Nissen, and the young Gerhardt give us Schubert, Schumann, and Wolf respectively; I will leave judgment of Gigli's Italian orchestrally accompanied Lotosblume to those who love the voice whatever it sings.

Side 4 is devoted to more popular fare. It is a particular pleasure to greet Anni Frind in the Gypsy Baron and to hear a charming "Vilia song" by Giannini. Also greatly to my personal

taste is Gehen wir ins Chambre séparé (which Kreisler used to play as "Midnight bells") by Beckmann and Strienz. Among other delights are mementos of such personalities as Hans Moser, Gustaf Grundgens and Lale Andersen (in her celebrated Lili Marleen).

Philip L. Miller