

LA TRAVIATA

VERDI

RCA VICTOR
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RED SEAL



A "NEW ORTHOPHONIC" HIGH FIDELITY RECORDING

Rosanna Carteri • Cesare Valletti • Leonard Warren



Rome Opera House Orchestra and Chorus



Pierre Monteux, Conductor with the complete novel "Camille" by Dumas



VERDI

LA TRAVIATA

ITALIAN-ENGLISH LIBRETTO



GIUSEPPE VERDI

LA TRAVIATA

LIBRETTO BY FRANCESCO MARIA PIAVE, AFTER
ALEXANDRE DUMAS FILS' LA DAME AUX CAMÉLIAS

FIRST PERFORMED AT THE TEATRO LA FENICE, VENICE, MARCH 6, 1853

THE CAST

Violetta Valery, <i>a courtesan</i>	Rosanna Carteri, <i>soprano</i>
Alfredo Germont, <i>her lover</i>	Cesare Valletti, <i>tenor</i>
Giorgio Germont, <i>Alfredo's father</i>	Leonard Warren, <i>baritone</i>
Flora Bervoix, <i>Violetta's friend</i>	Lidia Marimpietri, <i>soprano</i>
Gastone	Glauco Scarlini, <i>tenor</i>
Baron Douphol, <i>a rival of Alfredo</i>	Arturo La Porta, <i>baritone</i>
Marquis d'Obigny	Leonardo Monreale, <i>bass</i>
Dr. Grenvil	Dario Caselli, <i>bass</i>
Giuseppe, <i>Violetta's servant</i> }	
A Messenger }	Salvatore di Tommaso, <i>tenor</i>
Annina, <i>Violetta's confidante and maid</i>	Rina Alessandri Maccagnani, <i>soprano</i>

Ladies and Gentlemen, Masquers, Servants
The action takes place in Paris and environs circa 1840.

Rome Opera House Orchestra and Chorus
 Pierre Monteux, *conductor*
 Giuseppe Conca, *chorus master*

Recorded in the Opera House, Rome

ABOUT THE CAST

ROSANNA CARTERI (Violetta), Italian soprano, made her operatic debut as Elsa in *Lohengrin* at the 1949 summer outdoor season of the Rome Opera at the Terme di Caracalla. After successful appearances with the Rome Opera House and at the Florence Festival, she made her American debut in 1954 with the San Francisco Opera Company and with the Chicago Lyric Opera. She returned to both companies during the following season. In addition she has been actively engaged in her native country where she is one of the favorite prima donnas of the day. Here roles include Micaëla in *Carmen*, Liù in *Turandot*, Zerlina in *Don Giovanni*, as well as the soprano leads in *La Bohème*, *Manon* and *La Traviata*.

CESARE VALLETTI (Alfredo Germont), Italian lyric tenor, made his operatic debut as Alfredo in *La Traviata* in Bari, Italy, in 1947. A series of operatic engagements followed that took him all over Europe. In 1951 he made his debut at La Scala where he stayed for the following three seasons. In September 1953 he made his American debut with the San Francisco Opera Company; his Metropolitan Opera debut followed a few months later. Since then one of the leading tenors of the Met, he has frequently returned to Europe for appearances in major opera houses. His repertoire includes the tenor leads in *Rigoletto*, *Faust*, *Don Giovanni*, *The Barber of Seville*, *La Cenerentola*, *Manon* and *La Traviata*.

LEONARD WARREN (Giorgio Germont), made his Metropolitan Opera debut in January 1939 after his sensational appearance on the Metropolitan Opera Auditions of the Air, which he won with no previous operatic experience. After intensive preparations in Milan, the former singer of the Radio City Music Hall Glee Club gradually assumed major roles in the Metropolitan Opera's repertory, which he dominates today as leading baritone. He has also appeared with the San Francisco Opera, the Chicago Opera and the Cincinnati Summer Opera and has sung concerts extensively throughout North and South America. In 1953-54 he made his European debut in his famous role of Rigoletto at Milan's La Scala. Among the operatic roles with which he has been particularly identified are Amonasro in *Aïda*, Tonio in *I Pagliacci*, Iago in *Otello*, Don Carlo in *La Forza del Destino*, Renato in *A Masked Ball*, Count di Luna in *Il Trovatore* and the title roles in *Rigoletto* and *Falstaff*.