

JEAN-PIERRE
RAMPAL
CLAUDI
ARIMANY

*Magic
Flutes*

Flute Duets from
MOZART'S
The Magic Flute
DEVIIENNE • BLAVET
TELEMANN
and W. F. BACH



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The Magic Flute (*Die Zauberflöte*) is the most beloved of all the operas written by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791). Composed during the last year of Mozart's life, *The Magic Flute* was meant to be enjoyed by a wide audience. This aim alone set the work apart from most art music of the time, which was written for an elite aristocracy. The masterful way in which the comic and the serious are intertwined musically in *The Magic Flute* has aroused the highest admiration ever since. Tamino and Pamina represent Everyman and Everywoman. Their ceremonial trials, the fire and water, stand for the suffering and experiences of life which test us all. Tamino's golden flute represents the power of music to bring about good in the world; how appropriate that the ten delightful arrangements heard here are performed by the present-day legend of flute playing and his frequent touring partner! Arrangements for two flutes or two violins of familiar opera melodies were very popular in Mozart's day;

although the arrangements on this CD do not have a Köchel catalog number, they appeared in two different 1792 editions, both listing Mozart himself as the arranger.

Du feines Täubchen, nur herein • "In here, my pretty!" Pamina has been caught trying to escape, and is taunted by Monostatos with threats of death unless she succumbs to his unwelcome attentions.

Das klinget so herrlich • "That glorious ringing, that lovely sound..." Papageno plays his magic chimes to cast a spell on Monostatos and his followers as they chase Pamina.

Der Hölle Rache kocht in meinem Herzen • "The wrath of hell boils in my heart..." The Queen of the Night orders Pamina to kill Sarastro, swearing a mother's vengeance in one of the most remarkable coloratura arias ever written.

Seid uns zum zweiten Mal willkommen

men • “We bid you welcome yet again...” The three Genii who have been guiding Tamino and Papageno bring food and drink to them both, returning to Tamino his magic flute and to Papageno his magic chimes.

Ein Mädchen oder Weibchen •

“A pretty little wife is Papageno’s wish...” Papageno expresses his longing for a lady love, observing that love makes the world go round.

Ach, ich fühl’s, es ist verschwunden •

“Ah, I feel it is gone forever, the happiness of love...” Pamina has found Tamino at last, but, unaware of his vow of silence, fears he no longer loves her.

Bei Männern, welche Liebe fühlen •

“The man who feels true love has also a kind heart.” Pamina reassures Papageno when he despairs of finding his true love, and the two sing a duet about the power of love.

Der Vogelfänger bin ich ja • “I am the jolly bird-catcher, known by young and old throughout the land...” is the

way Papageno introduces himself in the first aria of the opera. He whistles on his panpipe between phrases.

Dies Bildnis ist bezaubernd schön •

“Surely no eye has yet beheld such enchanting beauty,” sings Tamino when he first sees Pamina’s portrait. The Queen of the Night has sent him a miniature of her daughter, Pamina, along with the message that Pamina is being held captive by Sarastro. Tamino is struck by her beauty and falls in love.

Wie stark ist nicht dein Zauberton •

“How strong is your magical tone, dear flute, that through your melody even wild animals find joy.” As Tamino plays his magic flute, the animals come out of the forest to listen.

Wilhelm Friedemann Bach (1710-1784), organist, teacher and composer, was the eldest and favorite son of the great Johann Sebastian Bach. His musical training was obviously exceptional; the first book of the *Well-Tempered Clavier* was written for him! At the

height of his career, he was known as the best organist in Germany. As evidenced by the **Flute Duet No. 4 in F Major** heard on this album, his music is recognized for its individual blend of contrapuntal and homophonic writing, its harmonic adventurousness, and for its highly personal style of expression. In the opinion of Claudi Arimany and Jean-Pierre Rampal, this Duet is "the most wonderful piece ever written for two flutes."

French flautist and composer **Michel Blavet** (1700-1768) was celebrated in the first part of the 18th century for setting the standard in flute playing for all of Europe with his singing tone, brilliant technique and pure intonation. The engaging **Variations on a Theme by Corelli** clearly require the highest degree of virtuosity from the performers.

During his lifetime, **Georg Philipp Telemann** (1681-1767) was generally considered to be Germany's finest composer, despite the fact that his

contemporaries, J. S. Bach and G. F. Handel, were at the height of their careers. Telemann was enormously successful in his aim to create music in a wide range of forms, accessible to as varied an audience as possible. He even took an active role in the publishing of his own compositions, doing much of the engraving work himself. The lovely little **Sonata in E Minor** on this album is a perfect example of music meant to be played and enjoyed by professional and amateur musicians alike, to say nothing of its listeners.

Mozart's contemporary, **François Devienne** (1759-1803), French flautist, bassoonist, composer and teacher, is recognized for raising the level of music written for wind instruments in France in the late 18th century. He wrote a great many concertos and chamber works for wind instruments, among them 18 sets of duos for flutes. The elegance and grace of his music is apparent in the **Duo in C Minor** chosen for this program.

With his numerous performances, recordings, premieres, revivals, and commissions, **Jean-Pierre Rampal**, born in Marseilles, is the first flutist in history to attract world-wide audiences equal to those drawn by virtuoso pianists and string players. He has figured prominently in restoring the instrument to the exalted position it held during the 18th century. Mr. Rampal has also gained recognition as a conductor.

Mr. Rampal's tours of North America have included engagements with the leading symphony orchestras as soloist and conductor, and he presents recitals coast-to-coast at all of the major venues. For many summers, Mr. Rampal has made yearly visits to New York's Mostly Mozart Festival at Lincoln Center and to the Hollywood Bowl, and he has often performed at the Ravinia, Tanglewood, Saratoga, and Meadowbrook Music Festivals.

Perhaps the most recorded classical instrumentalist in history, Jean-Pierre Rampal has received the Grand Prix du Disque for a number of his recordings. In 1989, with the release of his autobiography *Music, My Love* from Random House (along with a CBS Masterworks recording of the same title), Mr. Rampal added "author" to his list of achievements.

He has had many honors bestowed upon him, among them: the Leonie Sonning Prize, the Prix du Président de La République, and the Académie Charles Cros for his total discography. He has also been named Commandeur de la Légion d'Honneur, Commandeur des Arts et dans Lettre, and Commandeur de l'Ordre National du Mérite. In February 1996, he received the Lotos Club Medal of Merit for lifetime achievement.

Claudi Arimany was born in Granollers (Barcelona, Spain). He is recognized as one of the most prestigious Spanish instrumental soloists, with a distinguished international career.

He has performed with artists of the stature of J.P. Rampal, J. Suk, N. Zabaleta, Victoria de los Angeles, A. Nicolet, J. J. Kantorov, among others, and as a soloist with orchestras such as the English Chamber Orchestra, the Philharmonia Virtuosi of New York, the Franz Liszt Chamber Orchestra of Budapest, the Israel Sinfonietta, the Ensemble Orchestral of Paris, the Bach Chamber Orchestra of Munich, and I Solisti di Zagreb, among many others.

Claudi Arimany has given concerts at the most important festivals in Europe, Canada, the United States and Japan; and in major halls such as Chicago's Orchestra Hall, New

York's Carnegie Hall, the "Auditorio Nacional" of Madrid, the Hollywood Bowl in Los Angeles, Moscow's Tchaikovsky Hall, the Theatre des Champs Elysées and Salle Pleyel in Paris and Suntory Hall in Tokyo.

He is a member of the jury of the "Concours International de Flute J. P. Rampal," which is held in Paris.

He has a wide discography on labels such as Sony Classical, Delos International, Aurophon, Ensayo, among others.

For several years Claudi Arimany has partnered Jean-Pierre Rampal from whom he has inherited a style of interpreting and understanding the art of music. Rampal considers Arimany to be one of the greatest flute players of his generation.

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