

STOKOWSKI
RIMSKY-KORSAKOV, TCHAIKOVSKY 1962

The story of Leopold Stokowski is the stuff of legend: now universally acknowledged as one of the greatest conductors of the 20th-century, this extraordinarily gifted musician was for several decades music director of the Philadelphia Orchestra in the United States, raising it to a position of international pre-eminence. Although he finally relinquished his position after almost 30 years, he returned to Philadelphia around twenty years later for a series of concerts which have achieved legendary status, including the two Russian works on this one CD: the music of Tchaikovsky and Rimsky-Korsakov was very close to the great conductor's Romantic heart, and the great Philadelphia Orchestra respond to their one-time Maestro with a combination of stunning virtuosity and sensitivity allied to very fine stereo quality sound.

GHCD 2403



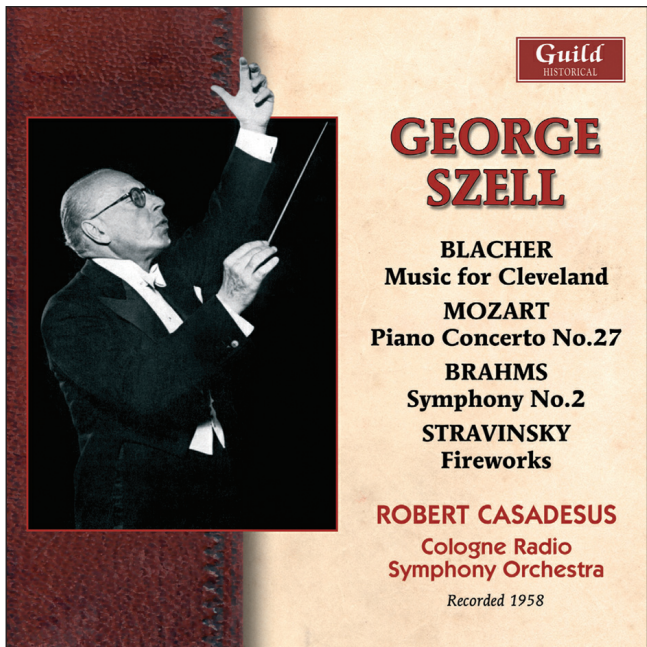
Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov (1844-1908) - Scheherazade, Op.35

- | | | |
|---|--|-------|
| 1 | I. The Sea and Sinbad's Ship (Largo e maestoso - Lento - Allegro non troppo - Tranquillo) | 9:15 |
| 2 | II. The Kalendar Prince (Lento - Andantino - Allegro molto - Vivace scherzando - Moderato assai - Allegro molto ed animato) | 11:02 |
| 3 | III. The Young Prince and The Young Princess (Andantino quasi allegretto - Pochissimo più mosso - Come prima - Pochissimo più animato) | 9:55 |
| 4 | IV. Festival at Baghdad - The Sea - The Ship Breaks against a cliff surmounted by a Bronze Horseman
(Allegro molto - Lento - Vivo - Allegro non troppo e maestoso - Tempo come I) | 12:32 |

Pyotr Tchaikovsky (1840-1893)

- | | | |
|---|--|-------|
| 5 | Fantasy Overture 'Romeo and Juliet' | 19:41 |
|---|--|-------|

Philadelphia Orchestra conducted by Leopold Stokowski



GEORGE SZELL
BLACHER, MOZART, BRAHMS, STRAVINSKY 1958

For many music-lovers and record-collectors, the quarter-century George Szell served as Music Director of the Cleveland Orchestra in Ohio was one of the great post-war glories of international orchestral art, with many recordings (now available on Sony) to document the fact. But in the late 1950s Szell was increasingly invited to guest-conduct in Europe, and we are very proud to present this fabled concert with the Cologne Radio Symphony Orchestra (WDR Rundfunk Köln) with the great French pianist and composer Robert Casadesus - a rare and priceless document of the conductor's art. The programme also includes Boris Blacher's 'Music for Cleveland' - dedicated to Szell - and ends with Stravinsky's 'Fireworks', both being works which Szell never recorded commercially. An extraordinarily valuable disc.

GHCD 2404



1 Music for Cleveland, Op.53
Piano Concerto No.27 in B flat major, K.595

- | | | |
|---|--|-------|
| 2 | I. Allegro | 12:46 |
| 3 | II. Larghetto | 7:46 |
| 4 | III. Allegro | 7:35 |
| | Symphony No.2 in D major, Op.73 | |
| 5 | I. Allegro non troppo | 14:29 |
| 6 | II. Adagio non troppo | 8:27 |
| 7 | III. Allegretto grazioso (Quasi Andantino) | 5:09 |
| 8 | IV. Allegro con spirito | 8:41 |
| 9 | Fireworks, Fantasy for Orchestra | 3:34 |

Boris Blacher (1903-1975)

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

Igor Stravinsky (1882-1971)

Robert Casadesus (piano) [Track 2-4], Cologne Radio Symphony Orchestra, George Szell (conductor)