

energetic atmosphere of Carmen's world.

Fandango: A lively and rhythmic dance sequence, adding to the overall atmosphere of the opera.

Card Aria (La carte): In this dramatic aria, Don José confronts Carmen with a playing card, a symbol of their fate and destiny.

These highlights provide a glimpse into the passionate and tragic love story of Carmen and Don José, the fiery and free-spirited nature of Carmen, the world of bullfighting represented by Escamillo, and the intense emotions that drive the characters in Bizet's opera. While it doesn't encompass the entire plot, "Carmen Highlights" conducted by Thomas Beecham captures the essence of this beloved opera.



"Carmen Highlights" conducted by Sir Thomas Beecham is a collection of selected excerpts from Georges Bizet's famous opera "Carmen." While it doesn't provide a complete narrative of the entire opera, it offers a condensed overview of the story and highlights some of the most memorable moments. Here is a brief synopsis of the key scenes and arias included in this recording:

Habanera (L'amour est un oiseau rebelle): Carmen's seductive and iconic aria, where she expresses her view of love as a free and untamable bird. This sets the stage for the passionate and unpredictable nature of the characters.

Toreador Song (Votre toast, je peux vous le

rendre): The toreador Escamillo's triumphant aria, showcasing his bravery and charm as he sings of his profession and his love for Carmen.

Seguidilla (Près des remparts de Séville): Carmen and Don José engage in a flirtatious and seductive dialogue as Carmen lures Don José into her world.

Flower Song (La fleur que tu m'avais jetée): A pivotal moment in the opera, Don José sings about the flower Carmen threw to him and how it has remained a symbol of their love.

Gypsy Song (Les tringles des sistres tintaient): A lively and vibrant ensemble piece featuring the gypsy ensemble, showcasing the colorful and



Bizet Carmen Highlights - Thomas Beecham

# CARMEN

HIGHLIGHTS

BIZET

## Act I

- 1 Prelude
- 2 Chorus of Street Boys
- 3 Habanera
- 4 Seguidilla And Duet

## Act II

- 5 Gypsy Song
- 6 Toreador's Song
- 7 Flower Song

## Act III

- 8 Card Scene - "En vain pour eviter"

- 9 Micaela's Air

## Act IV

- 10 March & Chorus - "Voici La Quadrie"9

Conductor – Sir Thomas Beecham

Orchestra – Orchestre National De La Radiodiffusion Française

Choir – Chœur De La Radiodiffusion Française

Soprano Vocals – Denise Monteil, Janine Micheau,

Monique Linval, Victoria de Los Angeles      Tenor Vocals – Nicolai Gedda

Baritone Vocals – Bernard Plantey, Ernest Blanc      Bass Vocals – Xavier Depraz

Petits Chanteurs De Versailles, Maîtrise De La Radiodiffusion Française      Chorus Master – René Alix



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