

# MASTERING EQUIPMENT

*Digital: Antelope Audio Eclipse 384  
Antelope Audio Isochrone 10M Rubidium atomic reference generator*

*Korg MR2000 DSD recorder*

*Weiss Saracon Sample Rate Conversion Software*

*Weiss POW-r Dithering Software*

*Analog: Studer 810 Reel to Reel with  
Custom by JRF Magnetics & Siltech wiring  
Nagra 4S custom by JRF Magnetics*

*Aria tape head pre-amp by ATR Services  
deHavilland Model 222 Tape Preamplifier  
Retro Instruments 2A3 Dual-channel tube program equalizer  
Sontec MEP-250EX Parametric EQs*

*VPI Classic Turntable w/ Benz Wood Cartridge  
Rogue Audio Phone Pre-amp*

*Power Sources: PS Audio P10 Power Plant  
and Power Plant 300*

*Power Cords: Purist Audio Design, Essential Sound Products,  
Speltz Anti-Cables*

*Vibration Control: Symposium Acoustics Rollerblocks,  
Ultra platforms, Svelte shelves*

*Sonic Studio CD.1 Professional CD Burner  
using Mitsui Gold Archival CD's*

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## Facts about this Recording

**Transferred from a 2-track tape**  
**Recorded by Westminster Records**  
**Date of Recording: 1957**  
**Venue: Mozart Hall, Vienna, Austria**



# Rimsky-Korsakov

# Sheherazade

**Hermann Scherchen**  
**Vienna State Opera Orchestra**



**Hermann Scherchen (1891-1966) had a reputation as an auto-didact who maintained his own ideas of musical architecture, tempo, and dynamics. His 1957 Scheherazade of Rimsky-Korsakov (1888) is no exception: working with his responsive Vienna State Opera Orchestra personnel – many of whom served in the Vienna Philharmonic as principals – Scherchen elicits a combination of excitement and eroticism, having imposed his own notion of phrasings in each of the four movements, which capture the series of tales related to ensure the life of the narrator against the resolve of the Sultan Schariar, sworn to destroy all faithless women. Of the many versions of the symphonic suite, which include those classic (but relatively conventional) readings by Beecham and Reiner, Ferenc Fricsay and Hermann Scherchen offer highly unconventional readings, charged with electric energy and intelligent sympathy. Despite an occasional loss of ensemble homogeneity in the VS00, the visceral excitement becomes**

**impossible to deny, especially in the last movement, The Festival at Bagdad, in which the percussion section rips loose. For purists, the performance will border on eccentricity, but for those who enjoy manic commitment from interpreters – as from Stokowski, Celibidache, and Scherchen – this reading will warrant repeated listening. As one enthusiast quipped, “this recording can grip even the most jaded listener into hearing Scheherazade anew, joining Scherchen as he dares to blaze new paths with searching intelligence.”**



# Rimsky-Korsakov Sheherazade

**Hermann Scherchen / Vienna State Opera Orchestra**

- 1 The Sea and Sinbad's Ship**
- 2 The Story of the Calender Prince**
- 3 The Young Prince and the Young Princess**
- 4 Festival at Bagdad - The Sea - The Shipwreck**

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Please Note: In the interest of preserving the superb sound quality of these historic recordings, they have been preserved in their original, pristine state for maximum fidelity. Transferred from commercially released, analog reel-to-reel tapes (some of which are more than 50 years old), the recordings themselves can be subject to certain "artifacts" which are an inseparable part of the original analog recording process, such as tape "hiss" or other defects, and these may be audible on certain music tracks. Because your CD or DVD-A was individually "burned" in order to realize superior sound quality to stamped, mass-produced versions, microscopic cosmetic blemishes may be visible. Please regard these tiny marks as evidence of the "human touch" in the care and individual attention that each and every HDTT disc receives during its very demanding manufacturing process.



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