

Richard Tauber

1892 — 1948

RICHARD TAUBER was born in Austria on the 16th of May, 1892, at Linz on the Danube. His father, Richard Tauber, the actor, planned a conductor's career for him, when, as early as 1898, he showed remarkable musical talent, and decided to send him to the Conservatoire at Frankfurt on Maine to study. Richard's secret aspiration was to become a singer, but no teacher considered his voice worth training. He stayed at the Conservatoire for a short period and then, having made his first public appearance conducting the Egmont Overture, went on to Freiburg. Here his friends encouraged him to visit Carl Beines, Professor of Music, who was the first to recognise the promise of his voice, and who took Richard as a pupil.

For a time Richard kept the secret of his singing lessons. When he finally returned home, however, he took his father into his confidence and was immediately taken to Wiesbaden for an audition with Mutzenbecher. Great was the young boy's delight when he was offered a year's contract to sing in the Opera, and equally great his disappointment when his father wisely declined and sent the boy back to Freiburg for further study with Carl Beines.

Soon after Richard Tauber senior was appointed Director of the Stadt Theater in Chemnitz, Saxony, he was sitting proudly in the audience listening to his son's debut as Tamino in *The Magic Flute*. Twenty-year-old Richard's success was immediate and Count Seebach arranged a five year contract, later extended, to sing at the Opera House, Dresden—one of the great musical centres of Europe. While at Dresden he made it his custom, whenever possible, to conduct Orchestras in this and neighbouring cities.

This was a most happy and decisive time in his career, laying the foundation for his versatility and world-wide fame.

His tours acquired an international character, taking him to nearly all the European countries where, above all, he was acclaimed as an ideal Mozart singer. In 1931 English audiences heard him for the first time when he appeared at Drury Lane as Prince Sou-chong in Franz Lehar's "*Land of Smiles*." From this time onward he gradually created for himself the reputation of a foremost interpreter of Lehar's operettas.

In 1936 he married the actress, Diana Napier, and in 1940 acquired British naturalisation.

His time now became divided between Europe and America with an operatic debut in London (1938) and a concert tour of five continents—Asia, Australia, Africa, Europe and America in early 1939.

Richard Tauber made a success of all his artistic activities: his films (who will ever forget "*Blossom Time*"?): his hundreds of records which have found a place of honour in homes

Introduction on the Organ by HERBERT DAWSON

Broadcast in the General Overseas Service of the B.B.C.

PART I - 7.0 - 7.45

Alleluja (Exultate Jubilate) - - - - - Mozart

LUTON GIRLS' CHOIR
(Director - ARTHUR E. DAVIES)
Conducted by Sir ADRIAN BOULT

Symphony No. 8 in B minor ("The Unfinished") Schubert

Second Movement - *Andante con moto*
Conducted by Sir ADRIAN BOULT

We know no thought of Vengeance within these Temple Walls
("The Magic Flute") - - - - - Mozart

DAVID FRANKLIN
Conducted by Sir ADRIAN BOULT

Gretchen am Spinnrad - - - - - Schubert

Nacht and Traeume - - - - - Schubert

ELISABETH SCHWARZKOPF
At the Piano - PERCY KAHN

Voices of Spring - - - - - Johann Strauss

RAWICZ AND LANDAUER

Scherzo from the "Sunshine Suite" for Orchestra Richard Tauber

Ballade for Orchestra - - - - - Richard Tauber

My Heart and I (from the Operetta "Old Chelsea") Richard Tauber
for Female Voices and Orchestra

LUTON GIRLS' CHOIR
Conducted by GEORGE MELACHRINO

INTERVAL OF FIFTEEN MINUTES

THE B.B.C. TH

The Anglo Austrian Society wish to thank the British Broadcasting Corporation
Walter Goehr and Ronald Waldman to appear in the

The B.B.C. Theatre Orchestra, Sir Adrian Boult, Walter Goehr and Ronald
Elisabeth Schwarzkopf and Constance Shacklock by permission

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The Programme introduced by RONALD WALDMAN

Broadcast in the Light Programme of the B.B.C.

PART II — 8.0 - 8.45

Overture: "Rosamunde" - - - - - Schubert
Conducted by Sir ADRIAN BOULT

Ah, 'tis gone, 'tis gone forever ("Magic Flute") - - - - - Mozart
Then come my Heart's Delight ("Marriage of Figaro") - - - - - Mozart
("Deh vieni non tardar")
ELISABETH SCHWARZKOPF
Conducted by Sir ADRIAN BOULT

"Rosenkavalier": Finale — Act II - - - - - Richard Strauss
DAVID FRANKLIN and CONSTANCE SHACKLOCK
Conducted by Sir ADRIAN BOULT

Hungarian Rhapsody No. 2 - - - - - Liszt
RAWICZ AND LANDAUER

Overture: "Die Fledermaus" - - - - - Johann Strauss
Conducted by WALTER GOEHR

You are my Heart's Delight (from the "Land of Smiles") Lehar
ELISABETH SCHWARZKOPF
LUTON GIRLS' CHOIR
HERBERT DAWSON
Conducted by WALTER GOEHR

THEATRE ORCHESTRA Leader — ALFRED BARKER

for their courtesy in permitting the B.B.C. Theatre Orchestra, Sir Adrian Boult,
concert, and all the Artists for having donated their services

Waldman appear by courtesy of the British Broadcasting Corporation, David Franklin,
of the General Administrator of Covent Garden Opera Trust

RICHARD TAUBER — continued

throughout the world: his various programmes for the British Broadcasting Corporation: his many compositions (including symphonic music, suites, ballets, lieder and operettas): his incomparable interpretations as a lieder singer: and, not least of all, his distinction as a conductor. Triumphantly he took the baton of many well-known Orchestras—among them the London, Vienna and Berlin Philharmonic Orchestras, and the Paris Symphony. During his tour of the five continents he conducted leading Orchestras in New York, Sydney, Melbourne, Capetown and Johannesburg. Only recently in London, he conducted "Die Fledermaus" throughout its entire run.

As recently as September 21st he made his last concert appearance, accompanied by the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra, at Covent Garden. A few days later came his last operatic appearance, singing in Mozart's "Don Giovanni, as a guest of the visiting Vienna State Opera. The moving and deeply sincere personal welcome he received at rehearsal from the members of both the Orchestra and the Opera Company after their many years apart was a private and most touching tribute to his popularity inside his own profession.

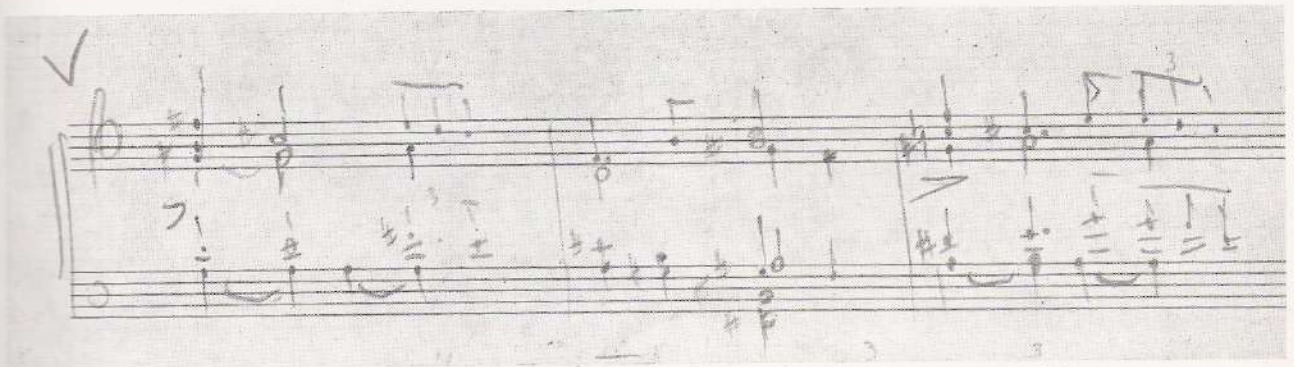
His great success at this final operatic performance of his life recalled some of his most outstanding triumphs in the field of opera . . . Don Octavio, Tamino, Don Jose, Pedro (Tieffland) and Hans (The Bartered Bride).

Soon afterwards a severe illness necessitated a grave operation, and whilst he and his friends believed him to be making an excellent recovery he had a sudden relapse, and his death was tragic and unexpected.

This brought to a close a brilliant career, which still held rich promise for the future; already plans had been made for concert tours to the Americas, Australia and New Zealand.

He will ever remain in the hearts of millions, and our sorrow is deepened by the knowledge that the musical world has lost one of its most outstanding personalities.





Sketch from Richard Taubert's original manuscript of "Sunshine Suite"

RICHARD TAUBER

HIS LIFE AND FRIENDSHIPS IN PICTURES



GRAZ — 1900



With Charles Boyer



*A Hollywood Group —
Clark Gable, Diana Napier (Mrs.
Tauber), Myrna Loy and*





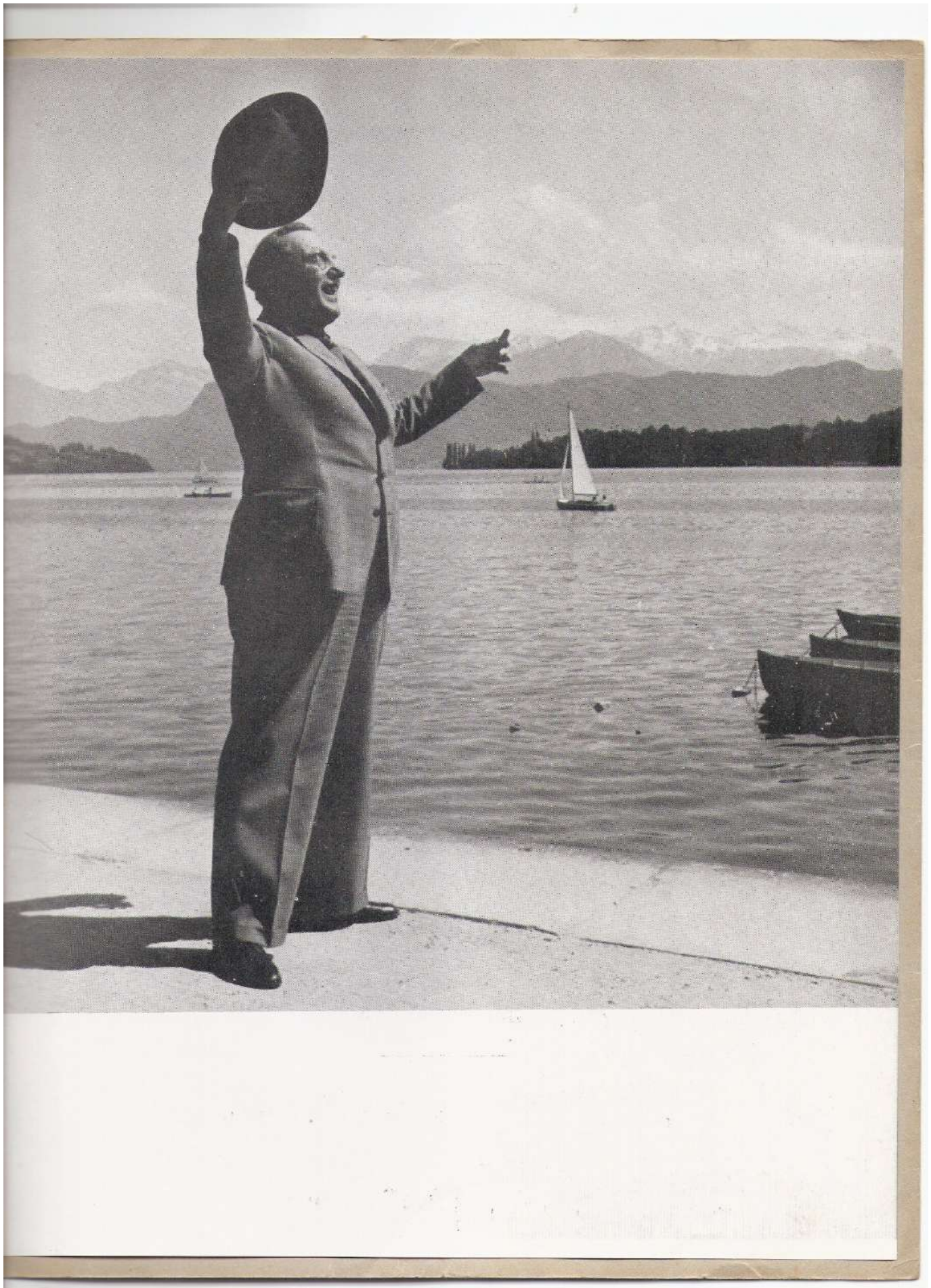
*With his great friend
Marlene Dietrich*



*Singing accompanied by Percy
Kahn at Basil Rathbone's
Party in Hollywood — March,
1939*



Dresden — 1928



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