

Richard Wagner

May 22, 1813 – February 13, 1883

An illustrated discography of *my own* Wagner-records.



Apart from some unfinished very early opera sketches, Richard Wagner composed 13 finished operas. The first one was only played after his death and the second one was only played twice at the premiere and never again in his lifetime.

1. Die Feen – 1833 – NO RECORDS
2. Das Liebesverbot – 1836
3. Rienzi – 1842
4. Der fliegende Holländer 1843
5. Tannhäuser – 1845
6. Lohengrin – 1850

Der Ring des Nibelungen:

7. Das Rheingold – 1854
8. Die Walküre – 1856
9. Siegfried – 1857 – 1871
10. Götterdämmerung – 1874

11. Tristan und Isolde – 1857 – 1864
12. Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg – 1868
13. Parsifal – 1882

14. “Mixed records” with tracks from two or more Wagner operas and the Wesendonk Lieder

Unlike so many other operas from that period, Wagner’s operas – most of them at least – are still played today. In 2013 on his 200th birthday, they were on the bill all over the world. Many singers have sung Wagner, some of them with good powerful voices and some with too small voices, but two singers must be mentioned: Norwegian Kirsten Flagstad and Danish Lauritz Melchior. They were **the** “Helden” Soprano and Helden Tenor in their time and they are never surpassed. There are listed several of their recordings as they excelled in Wagner operas.

The EJS LP series “The Golden Age of Opera” issued by Edward J. Smith from 1956 to 1971 (EJS released 479 issues) is absolutely worth getting (these days most of them are available on CD). They were issued in plain white paper bags with no cover. From January 1972 it changed name to Unique Opera Records Corporation (UORC released 280 issues) until December 1977. Then the name changed to A.N.N.A Record Company (ANNA released 73 issues) between 1978 – 1982. A total of 832 LP’s to look for! Not all with Wagner material though!

(SS) = Single Sided

G&T = The Gramophone and Typewriter Ltd., and Sister Companies

GMR = Gramophone Monarch Record (30 cm)

MRG = Monarch Record Gramophone (30 cm)

GCR = Gramophone Concert Record

CRG = Concert Record Gramophone

I prefer to list in chronologic order, but the chronology can be broken here and there because: An LP with various singers with various recordings from all over the period will be placed under the oldest date. Two sides of a 78 with different recording dates will go under the oldest date, just

to make it easier to see what's on it. Furthermore I have divided the records or sets with *****. "Non-Wagner-tracks" are not listed.

The size of my "complete" Wagner-discography, made it necessary to divide it into chapters - one for each opera. And one for "mixed-records" - that's records - mostly LPs and sets - with tracks from more than one opera. A 78-record with different operas on each side is incorporated in the opera in question. I have no recordings from the very first opera "Die Feen", so there is no chapter ONE!

A thank you goes to Jan Mikkelsen, Ulrik Birk Lauridsen and the Lorentzen/Druedahl collection for donations. In some cases I have listed all the records in a set despite I only have some of them. The "fat letters" are records I have and "normal letters" are records I don't have.



With Lauritz Melchior's signature

Enjoy!

All the best

René Aagaard

Allerød – August 2020 – Jan. 2021