McCORMACK EDITION • 5: The Acoustic Recording

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John McCormack File McCormack Edition Vol.

The McCormack Edition, Vol. 5
The Acoustic Recordings (1914-1915)

Playing Time 78:15

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SCHUBERT: Softly Through the Night is Calling (D. 957, No. 4) MASCAGNI: Cavalleria Rusticana: Ave Maria (adapted from the 'Intermezzo') BALL: Who Knows? LOHR: The Little Grey Home in the West: The Little Grev Home in the West OLCOTT: My Wild Irish Rose **LEHMANN: Bonnie Wee Thing** FEARIS: Beautiful Isle of Somewhere WELLINGS: Golden Love D'HARDELOT: Because KING: Avourneen **NELSON: Mary of Argyle** KNEASS: Ben Bolt BARTLETT: A Dream BALFE: The Bohemian Girl: When other lips and other hearts FOSTER: Come Where My Love Lies Dreaming DENZA: Funiculì, funiculà VERDI: Rigoletto: Bella figlia dell'amore VERDI: La Traviata: Parigi, o cara PUCCINI: La Bohème: O soave fanciulla VERDI: Aida: O terra addio BENEDICT: The Lily of Killarney: The Moon hath Raised Her Lamp Above WILLIAMS: It's a Long Way to Tipperary TATE: Somewhere a Voice is Calling **CRAXTON: Mavis** DOREL: When My Ships Come Sailing Home SANDERSON: Until with Fritz Kreisler, violin, Vincent O'Brien, piano (tracks 1, 2) with Francis Lapitino, harp (track 3) with Rosario Bourdon, cello (track 4) with Lucrezia Bori, soprano (tracks 17, 18, 19) with Lucy Isabelle Marsh, soprano (track 20) with Josephine Jacoby, contralto (track 17) with Harry Macdonough, tenor (tracks 15, 16, 22) with Lambert Murphy, tenor (tracks 15, 16) with Reinald Werrenrath, baritone (15-17, 21-22)

Of the many singers who bridged the musical worlds of the Victorian era and the twentieth century. John McCormack was the most versatile. the most adventurous and the most modern. The excerpts from Aida. Rigoletto and La Traviata demonstrate that McCormack, with his clear, clarion delivery, was an exceptional Verdi tenor. In the selections from Victorian operas by Balfe, Benedict and Wallace, McCormack is the master of florid vocalism and the seamless line. The popular Irish and Irish-American songs are sung with a level of artistry and musical imagination that transcends their humble origins. With Luigi Denza's Funiculì, funiculà we are returned to threshold the moment McCormack's career when the Italian composer adjudicated the 1903 Dublin Feis Ceoil music competition and awarded McCormack the gold medal - the beginning of one of the great musical careers of the twentieth century.

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Producer and Audio Restoration: Ward Marston Special thanks to Lawrence F. Holdridge, Jeffrey Miller and John R. Bolig

with William F. Hooley, bass (track 22)



A complete track list can be found on pages 2 and 3 of the booklet Cover image: John McCormack (The John Scarry Collection)

