

COMPACT
disc
DIGITAL AUDIO
PASC080

TOSCANINI, NBC SO

THE BARBER PREMIÈRE CONCERT

PRISTINE
AUDIO
XR

COMPACT
disc
DIGITAL AUDIO
PASC080

PRISTINE
AUDIO
XR

CD 1: Graener: Die Flöte von Sanssouci, Op. 8

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------|
| 1: 1. Introduction and Sarabande | 4:27 |
| 2: 2. Gavotte | 3:02 |
| 3: 3. Air | 2:55 |
| 4: 4. Rigadoun | 5:27 |

5: Barber: Adagio for Strings, Op. 11 7:37

6: Barber: Essay for Orchestra No. 1, Op. 12 7:56

Debussy: Ibéria (Images, No. 2)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|------|
| 7: 1. Par les rues et par les chemins | 6:47 |
| 8: 2. Les Parfums de la nuit | 6:58 |
| 9: 3. Le matin d'un jour de fête | 4:33 |

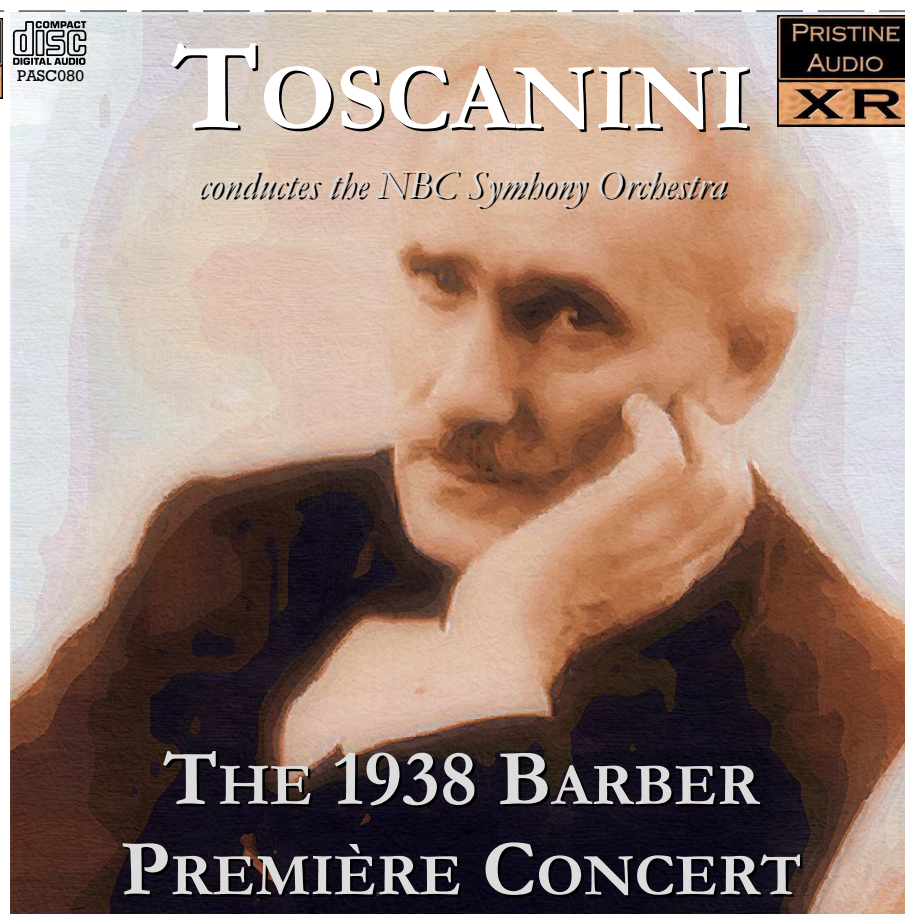
CD 2: Dvorák: Symphony No. 9, 'From the New World' in E minor, Op. 95

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| 1: 1st mvt. - Adagio - Allegro molto | 10:40 |
| 2: 2nd mvt. - Largo | 10:31 |
| 3: 3rd mvt. - Scherzo | 7:10 |
| 4: 4th mvt. - Allegro con fuoco | 10:22 |

Remastered from aircheck and master discs, recorded live Studio 8H, 5th November, 1938
Pristine Audio XR remastering by Andrew Rose, June 2007

Total duration: **CD1**: 49:42 **CD2**: 38:43 These transfers are ©2007 Pristine Audio.

SARL Pristine Audio, Le Bourg, 24610 St. Méard de Gurçon, France - Tel. +33 (0)5 53 82 18 57 - Internet: www.pristineclassical.com



PRISTINE
AUDIO

PRISTINE
AUDIO

TOSCANINI, NBC SO

THE BARBER PREMIÈRE CONCERT

COMPACT
disc
DIGITAL AUDIO
PASC 080

THE BARBER PREMIÈRE CONCERT, 1938
TOSCANINI, NBC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

PASC 080

"... a 'Barber Premiere Concert' which includes amazingly accomplished world première performances of Barber's *Adagio* and *First Essay*, as well as Graener's *Die Note von Sanssouci*, Debussy's *Iberia* and Dvorák's *New World*, the only Toscanini performance that I know of that includes the first-movement exposition repeat ..."

- Rob Cowan, review in *Gramophone*, December 2007

Barber's *Adagio for Strings* is a work for string orchestra, arranged by the American composer Samuel Barber from his first string quartet. It is Barber's most popular piece. *Adagio for Strings* originated as part of his String Quartet No. 1, Op. 11, composed in 1936. In the original it follows a violently contrasting first movement, and is succeeded by a brief reprise of this music.

In January of 1938 Barber sent the newly-orchestrated piece to Arturo Toscanini. The conductor returned the score without comment, and Barber was annoyed and avoided the conductor. Consequently Toscanini sent word through a friend that he was planning to perform the piece and had returned it simply because he had already memorized it. Barber's own arrangement for string orchestra was given its first performance by Arturo Toscanini with the NBC Symphony Orchestra on November 5th, 1938 in New York.

Notes on the restoration: We used two different source recordings in order to put together for the first time a complete record of this historic concert. Part One was recorded from an off-air test disc, Part Two from a re-broadcast of NBC's master lacquers. As such there is a slight discrepancy in sound quality, with marginally higher hiss levels on the first disc. Copies of the first half of this concert have circulated amongst collectors for some time, and the Graener has been issued on CD. I also believe the Debussy and Dvorak recordings surfaced on LPs some years ago, but never onto CD.

This new restoration tackles some of the inherent problems of the aircheck disc for the first time, using audio technology not previously available to restoration engineers to remove or dramatically reduce radio interference and also tackle various hum frequencies and assorted radio whistles present throughout the original master. It has also been possible to fix a number of drop-outs in the recordings we were presented with, which had been dubbed onto open-reel tape some years ago. The original recordings were of course mono, but the tape hiss from later transfers was wide and stereo. I have narrowed the stereo field of this hiss, though some very mild stereo spread may still be evident in upper frequencies.

Notes from Wikipedia and by Andrew Rose - Further notes online at www.pristineclassical.com

THE BARBER PREMIÈRE CONCERT, 1938
TOSCANINI, NBC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

PASC 080

PRISTINE
AUDIO