

The Recorded Legacy

(cont. from p. 55)

10. Monopoly 2053 and 2054 are two 2-CD sets from Korea with considerable overlap with #4 and #1 above. Sue Flaster has been impressed with 2053, she believes it may replace Radio Years CDs I and III "which is a great thing, since those are hard to find and the January 1940 NY lieder session is so important. The sound is splendid - better than the Radio Years, to my ears." The sound of the 1939 Hilversum concert on 2053 "is really excellent—it may be the same source as the Bluebell issue, but with better sound and the 'burbles' at 'quoque' and the climax of the 'Ingemisco' handled better." For owners of the Henrysson bible, here are the HHP numbers describing 2053: 10, 22, 32, 36, 55, 67, 69, 91, 124-133, 149, 150, 3703c, 3707b, 3708a,c,d, 3902, 4002b1, d2, 4201a, c, 4303c.

On the other hand, 2054 seems simply a reissue of standard studio recordings, like those on earlier Grammfono CDs and on Naxos #1 above.

11. Caprice CAP 21620 contains a most rare fragment of *Faust*, sung by Jussi in Stockholm, 1944. Harald Henrysson wrote about this on 24 August, 2000, to the Bjorling egroup with the heading: "For the *really* complete Jussi CD collection." Here is what he said: "It is now possible to obtain on CD a fragment of Jussi's singing in *Faust* in Stockholm on 25 September, 1944 (JB Phonography 4401), a fragment (1'55") which has never previously been issued in any form. It is the beginning of "Salut demeure." Jussi sings in French and gives the aria an unusually contemplative, beautiful rendering. Since the whole aria was not recorded, the end with the famous C is most regrettably not included.

"The aria fragment is included in a splendid 4-CD box with Swedish pupils and colleagues of the French-Swedish violinist Henri Marteau, which is available from the Museum. The reason this appears in that set has to do with Jussi's relationship to Giovanni Turicchia, leader of the Royal Orchestra."

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In putting together some of these notes, I often found myself relying on the experience and resources of **Harold Sokolsky**. Hal has a large library of books, records and periodicals of all kinds, and he is generous with his knowledge. Further, he's an active contributor to the Bjorling@yahoogroups.com discussion list, and thus is aware of the opinions expressed there. Who better to serve as Recordings Editor for this *Journal*? We asked him, and he kindly has agreed. Thus, you can look forward to his contributions in future issues of J.JBS. By all means, please share your news and opinions about JB-related recordings with Hal at www.operaphile.com, or c/o 17 Shelburne St., Burlington, NJ 08016. Welcome, Hal!

—Dan Shea, ex-Recordings Editor

Speaking of Jussi's Birthday . . . Meet the Newest Jussi!



Anders Björling has proudly announced the birth of his newest grandchild, little Charles Anders Jussi, the son of Jennifer Björling, born December 11, 2000. You can expect Charlie and Jennifer to be in attendance at the Gustavus Conference in June, along with Mormor Janet, as well as Anders and Janet's other daughters Lisa and Susie, and some of the rest of the family: Ian, Steve, Peter and Erik.