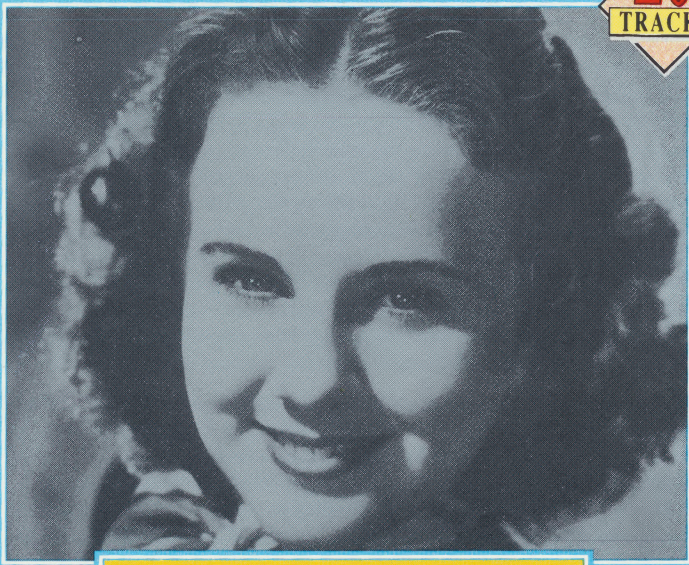


# DEANNA DURBIN

20

TRACKS



*With a Song in my Heart*

# DEANNA DURBIN

*With a Song in my Heart*

COMPACT  
disc  
DIGITAL AUDIO  
MONO



PLCD 534

1. WALTZING IN THE CLOUDS
2. MY OWN
3. BRINDISI
4. IT'S RAINING SUNBEAMS
5. BENEATH THE LIGHTS OF HOME
6. LOVE IS ALL
7. LES FILLES DE CADIZ
8. PERHAPS
9. ONE FINE DAY
10. SPRING IN MY HEART
11. AMAPOLA
12. ESTRELLITA (MY LITTLE STAR)
13. WHEN APRIL SINGS
14. MUNETTA'S WALTZ SONG

15. BECAUSE
16. BLUE DANUBE DREAM
17. POOR BUTTERFLY
18. THE LAST ROSE OF SUMMER
19. IT'S FOOLISH BUT IT'S FUN
20. HOME SWEET HOME

A COLIN BROWN PRODUCTION

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ALL TRACKS COMPUTER ENHANCED

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Designed by: The Lamplight Studio (Berkhamsted).

Made in England





## DEANNA DURBIN

Deanna Durbin made over twenty-one films during a twelve year career and during that time became one of the top box office attractions in the world. She was born Edna Mae Durbin on December 4, 1921 in Winnipeg, Canada, the country where her British born parents had settled some years previously. She was their second daughter and reportedly her vocal talents became apparent even before she could speak correctly.

Her mother arranged for her to have voice lessons and the young Edna Mae was soon appearing at local church and school functions. Around this time the family had moved to Los Angeles via New York. Still only a teenager she auditioned for a radio contract and was signed for the weekly Eddie Cantor Show where she remained for two years. Her talent came to the attention of a Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer scout who arranged a screen test which proved successful and she was immediately offered a film contract. The State of California required the studios to provide educational facilities for under age artists and Deanna (it was around this time she was given the new name) attended "MGM High" with Judy Garland, Mickey Rooney and Jackie Cooper amongst her schoolmates. The studio decided to put Deanna Durbin and Judy Garland in a two reeler short titled EVERY SUNDAY (also known as The Sunday Afternoon or Every Sunday Afternoon) in which Judy handled swing and Deanna classical. They dueted on a number titled 'Opera vs. Jazz'. Louis B. Mayer, head of MGM was in Europe when the film was being made and upon his return he viewed the short. Legend has it he immediately said "Drop the fat one". He was referring to Judy Garland but at the time Deanna's option with MGM was due for renewal and the studio dismissed her in error.

Joe Pasternak a Universal film producer was looking for a swing singer for a film to be called THREE SMART GIRLS and having heard about Judy asked MGM if Universal could view the short (Studios often loaned players to other studios for large fees). Pasternak was impressed with both singers but as his film called for a swing singer he went back to MGM and asked for Judy Garland. MGM refused. Universal rewrote the THREE SMART GIRLS script to suit a classical singer and signed Deanna Durbin. The film was an immediate hit and a major record company, signing her to a long term contract, recorded selections from this and each future film she made and some of these recordings are included on this disc. 100 MEN AND A GIRL, her third film counting the short, received an Academy Award for best score of the year although co-writers Freddy Hollander and Sam Coslow never received an Oscar. Instead the statue went to conductor Leopold Stokowski who appeared in the film with Deanna, the '100 Men' being his symphony orchestra. Her film plots during this period were of a similar nature – young Deanna, well meaning, meddling with other peoples lives, causing

havoc and confusion but in true Hollywood fashion all was well by the final reel. In this context she received a special Academy Award in 1938 'for bringing to the screen the spirit and personification of youth'.

One of her most successful films both artistically and critically was IT STARTED WITH EVE, a most amusing 'mistaken identity' story, made in 1941 with Charles Laughton and Robert Cummings. Apparently Deanna and the British born actor got on famously playing many practical jokes on director Henry Koster. She was reunited with Charles Laughton some years later with less success in BECAUSE OF HIM. By the early Forties Deanna was seeking more adult roles as she was no longer a teenager and had received her first screen kiss from Robert Stack, playing Prince Charming, in the 1939 Cinderella story FIRST LOVE. By 1943 she had given up screen matchmaking for others and was pursuing her own love life on film. A year later she starred in what has been termed her "coming of age" film, CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY. The story was bought by Universal specifically for Deanna Durbin and her co-star Gene Kelly, on loan from MGM, was rather miscast as a reprobate murderer but it did give Deanna a chance for some serious acting. During this wartime period Deanna did many shows for the Armed Forces, appeared on numerous patriotic radio programmes and was involved with the Red Cross donating copies of her records to that organisation. By the second half of the Forties Universal seemed to have lost interest in Deanna, offering her unsympathetic roles and she in turn was reported to be disillusioned with Hollywood so it was no surprise when she announced her early retirement in 1948. She married for the third time and later retired to live in France where she still resides.

All selections were recorded in Hollywood between 1937 and 1941 with musical directors Charles Previn and Victor Young. The songs and the films match up as follows: Waltzing In The Clouds; When April Sings; Blue Danube Dream; It's Foolish But It's Fun, (SPRING PARADE); My Own; Les Filles De Cadiz, (THAT CERTAIN AGE); Brindisi; It's Raining Sunbeams, (100 MEN AND A GIRL); Beneath The Lights Of Home; Perhaps, (NICE GIRL); Love Is All; Musetta's Waltz Song, (IT'S A DATE); One Fine Day; Spring In My Heart; Amapola; Home Sweet Home, (FIRST LOVE); Because, (THREE SMART GIRLS); The Last Rose Of Summer, (THREE SMART GIRLS GROW UP). Deanna Durbin has endeared herself to people worldwide, as you listen you'll understand one of the reasons why.

*Tony Middleton, London, January 1993*

# DEANNA DURBIN

PLCD 534

## *With a Song in my Heart*

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|---|------|--|------|
| 1. <b>WALTZING IN THE CLOUDS</b><br><i>B. FELDMAN &amp; CO. LTD./A-TEMPO VERLAG/GEMA</i><br>(Stolz/Marischka/Kahn) Orchestra Directed by Charles Previn 29/8/40 | 2.38 | 13. <b>WHEN APRIL SINGS B. FELDMAN &amp; CO. LTD./A-TEMPO</b><br><i>VERLAG/GEMA</i><br>(Stolz/Kahn) Orchestra Directed by Charles Previn 29/8/40 | 2.51 |
| 2. <b>MY OWN EMI UNITED PARTNERSHIP LIMITED</b><br>(McHugh/Adamson) Orchestra Directed by Charles Previn 12/12/38   | 2.57 | 14. <b>MUSETTA'S WALTZ SONG NON-COPYRIGHT</b><br>(Puccini) Orchestra Directed by Charles Previn 28/2/40  | 2.23 |
| 3. <b>BRINDISI NON-COPYRIGHT</b><br>(Verdi) Orchestra Directed by Charles Previn 23/9/37  | 1.55 | 15. <b>BECAUSE NON-COPYRIGHT</b><br>(D'Hardelot/Teschemacher) Orchestra Directed by Charles Previn 7/7/39  | 2.22 |
| 4. <b>IT'S RAINING SUNBEAMS EMI UNITED PARTNERSHIP LIMITED</b><br>(Hollander/Coslow) Orchestra Directed by Charles Previn 23/9/37                               | 2.02 | 16. <b>BLUE DANUBE DREAM EMI UNITED PARTNERSHIP LIMITED</b><br>(Strauss/Freed/Salter) Orchestra Directed by Charles Previn 29/8/40               | 2.53 |
| 5. <b>BENEATH THE LIGHTS OF HOME B. FELDMAN &amp; CO. LIMITED</b><br>(Jurmann/Grossman) Orchestra Directed by Charles Previn 22/1/41                            | 3.00 | 17. <b>POOR BUTTERFLY FRANCIS DAY &amp; HUNTER LIMITED</b><br>(Golden/Hubbell) Orchestra Directed by Victor Young 9/10/41                        | 3.12 |
| 6. <b>LOVE IS ALL EMI UNITED PARTNERSHIP LIMITED</b><br>(Tomlin/Tobias) Orchestra Directed by Charles Previn 28/2/40  | 3.03 | 18. <b>THE LAST ROSE OF SUMMER NON-COPYRIGHT</b><br>(Flotow/Moore) Orchestra Directed by Charles Previn 7/7/39                                   | 2.20 |
| 7. <b>LES FILLES DE CADIZ NON-COPYRIGHT</b><br>(Delibes) Orchestra Directed by Charles Previn 12/12/38  | 2.48 | 19. <b>IT'S FOOLISH BUT IT'S FUN A-TEMPO VERLAG/GEMA</b><br>(Stolz/Kahn) Orchestra Directed by Charles Previn 29/8/40                            | 2.46 |
| 8. <b>PERHAPS EMI UNITED PARTNERSHIP LIMITED</b><br>(Franchetti/DeSegurola) Orchestra Directed by Charles Previn 22/1/41  | 2.11 | 20. <b>HOME SWEET HOME NON-COPYRIGHT</b><br>(Bishop/Payne) Piano and Harp accompaniment only 7/7/39  | 3.26 |
| 9. <b>ONE FINE DAY NON-COPYRIGHT</b><br>(Puccini) Orchestra Directed by Charles Previn 21/7/39  | 4.09 |  |      |
| 10. <b>SPRING IN MY HEART EMI UNITED PARTNERSHIP LIMITED</b><br>(Strauss/Freed/Salter) Orchestra Directed by Charles Previn 21/7/39                             | 3.02 |  |      |
| 11. <b>AMAPOLA CAMPBELL CONNELLY &amp; CO. LIMITED</b><br>(Lacalle/Gamse) Orchestra Directed by Charles Previn 28/2/40  | 2.26 |  |      |
| 12. <b>ESTRELLITA (MY LITTLE STAR)</b><br><i>BOOSEY &amp; HAWKES MUSIC PUBL. LIMITED</i><br>(Ponce) Orchestra Directed by Victor Young 9/10/41                  | 3.05 |  |      |

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Designed by: The Lamplight Studio (Berkmsted).



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All Tracks Computer Enhanced