



White, Portia

White, Portia. Contralto, b Truro, NS, 24 Jun 1911, d Toronto 13 Feb 1968. White was supporting herself as a school teacher when her extraordinary voice, much admired at various amateur functions, won her a scholarship for study with Ernesto Vinci at the Halifax Conservatory of Music. She made her formal debut at Toronto's Eaton Auditorium 7 Nov 1941 and reached the high point of her brief career with a widely acclaimed recital at Town Hall, New York, 13 Mar 1944. Following a tour in 1946 of Central and South America she found herself in vocal difficulties and retired from public singing. In the late 1950s, having renewed her studies, now with Irene Jessner in Toronto, she resumed her career and sang before Queen Elizabeth at Charlottetown's Confederation Centre 6 Oct 1964. She recorded a song recital under the title *Think on Me* (White House LP 6901). Dinah Christie was a pupil of White in the mid-1960s, as were Judy Lander and Anne Marie Moss. A memorial scholarship in her honour is presented by the Nova Scotia Talent Trust (established in 1944 to assist White's career).

Bibliography

Aitken, Margaret. 'Portia White, the new Canadian star of the concert stage,' *SatN*, 8 Apr 1944

Geller, Vincent. 'I, too, am Nova Scotia,' *PfAC*, vol 23, Sep 1986

White, Jay. 'Portia White's spiritual winter,' *Collections of the Royal Nova Scotia Historical Society*, vol 44, 1995

Nurse, Donna Bailey. 'Portia White, 1911-1968,' *Opera Canada*, vol 39, Fall 1998

Author James B. McPherson

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Item no./No de la pièce:

D12 435 to

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D12 444

Dub no./No de repiquage

Dub T10 188

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Dub T10 189

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CDAT 1

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DUB CD 353

Fonds:

Portia White

Performer(s)/Artiste(s):

Portia White with pianist Frederick Kitzinger.

Contents/Contenu:

1) Die Liebe hat gelogen / Schubert

•

2) Auf dem Wasser zu Singen / Schubert

•

3) Aufenthalt / Schubert

•

4) Claire de lune / Szulc

•

5) Adieu de l'Hôtesse Arabe / Bizet

•

6) Les Berceaux / Fauré

•

7) Chevauchée Cosaque / Foudrain

•

8) O mio Fernando (La Favorita) / Donizetti

•

9) Velvet Shoes / Randall Thompson

•

10) Sehnsucht Op. 49, No. 3 / Brahms

•

11) Auf dem Kirchhofe Op. 105, No. 4 / Brahms

•

12) Nachtigall Op. 97, No. 1 / Brahms

•

13) Der Schmied Op. 19, No. 4 / Brahms

•

14) Wiengenlied Op. 49 No. 4 / Brahms

•

15) A la Claire Fontaine / arr. Gabriele Sibella / French Canadian traditional

•

16) Girometta / arr. Gabriele Sibella

•

17) Mayday Carol / arr. Deems Taylor

•

18) Rise up [Shepherd] / arr. James Elmo Dorsey

•

19) O Mary / arr. James Elmo Dorsey

•
20) Four & Twenty Elders / arr. James Elmo Dorsey

•
21) Coucou / Anonymous

•
22) O Don Fatale (Don Carlos) / Verdi

•
23) Think On Me / Lady Ann Scott

Notes:

side one scratched out

Recording date/Date de l'enregistrement:

05 Dec 1945

Sides/Cotés: Medium/Media: Material/Matériel: Speed/Vitesse: Size/Dimension: Mode:
19 disc acetate 78 rpm 12 inch mono

Conservation notes/Notes de conservation:

File 0002102.wav (44.1 khz / 16 bit) / mp3 corresponds to DUB CD 353, track 1 of 23 (see technical notes)

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File 0002103.wav (44.1 khz / 16 bit) / mp3 corresponds to DUB CD 353, track 2 of 23 (see technical notes)

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File 0002104.wav (44.1 khz / 16 bit) / mp3 corresponds to DUB CD 353, track 3 of 23 (see technical notes)

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File 0002105.wav (44.1 khz / 16 bit) / mp3 corresponds to DUB CD 353, track 4 of 23 (see technical notes)

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File 0002106.wav (44.1 khz / 16 bit) / mp3 corresponds to DUB CD 353, track 5 of 23 (see technical notes)

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File 0002107.wav (44.1 khz / 16 bit) / mp3 corresponds to DUB CD 353, track 6 of 23 (see technical notes)

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File 0002108.wav (44.1 khz / 16 bit) / mp3 corresponds to DUB CD 353, track 7 of 23 (see technical notes)

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File 0002109.wav (44.1 khz / 16 bit) / mp3 corresponds to DUB CD 353, track 8 of 23 (see technical notes)

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File 0002110.wav (44.1 khz / 16 bit) / mp3 corresponds to DUB CD 353, track 9 of 23 (see technical notes)

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File 0002111.wav (44.1 khz / 16 bit) / mp3 corresponds to DUB CD 353, track 10 of 23 (see technical notes)

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File 0002112.wav (44.1 khz / 16 bit) / mp3 corresponds to DUB CD 353, track 11 of 23 (see technical notes)

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File 0002113.wav (44.1 khz / 16 bit) / mp3 corresponds to DUB CD 353, track 12 of 23 (see technical notes)

- File 0002114.wav (44.1 khz / 16 bit) / mp3 corresponds to DUB CD 353, track 13 of 23 (see technical notes)
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- File 0002117.wav (44.1 khz / 16 bit) / mp3 corresponds to DUB CD 353, track 16 of 23 (see technical notes)
- File 0002118.wav (44.1 khz / 16 bit) / mp3 corresponds to DUB CD 353, track 17 of 23 (see technical notes)
- File 0002119.wav (44.1 khz / 16 bit) / mp3 corresponds to DUB CD 353, track 18 of 23 (see technical notes)
- File 0002120.wav (44.1 khz / 16 bit) / mp3 corresponds to DUB CD 353, track 19 of 23 (see technical notes)
- File 0002121.wav (44.1 khz / 16 bit) / mp3 corresponds to DUB CD 353, track 20 of 23 (see technical notes)
- File 0002122.wav (44.1 khz / 16 bit) / mp3 corresponds to DUB CD 353, track 21 of 23 (see technical notes)
- File 0002123.wav (44.1 khz / 16 bit) / mp3 corresponds to DUB CD 353, track 22 of 23 (see technical notes)
- File 0002124.wav (44.1 khz / 16 bit) / mp3 corresponds to DUB CD 353, track 23 of 23 (see technical notes)

Technical notes/Notes techniques:

DUB-CD 353 was processed with CEDAR noise reduction and was mastered

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Item no./No de la pièce:

D12 445 to

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D12 452

Dub no./No de repiquage

Dub T10 189

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CDAT 2

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DUB CD 354

Fonds:

Portia White

Performer(s)/Artiste(s):

Portia White with pianist Arpad Sandor.

Contents/Contenu:

1) Charmant Papillon / Campra

•

2) I attempt from love's sickness to fly / Henry Purcell

•

3) Voce di Dona (La Gioconda) / Ponchielli

•

4) O Don Fatale (Don Carlos) / Verdi

•

5) Sonnet / Healy Willan

•

6) Wind's Work / Benjamin

•

7) Indra God of Storm and Battle (Vedic Hymn) / Gustav Holst

•

8) Velvet Shoes / Randall Thomson

•

9) Auf dem See Op. 59 No. 2 / Brahms

•

10) Der Tod deis ist de kuhle nacht OP.96 No. 1

•

11) Der Gartner / Wolff

•

12) Der Freund / Wolf

•

13) La-bas sur ces montagnes / arr. O'Brien

•

14) Coucou / arr. P.J. O'Hara

•

15) I wonder as I wander / arr. Niles

•

16) Ride On, King Jesus / arr. Gaul

•

17) Think On Me / Lady Ann Scott

Notes:

sides: 1, 3, 18 missing

Recording date/Date de l'enregistrement:

13 March 1944

Sides/Cotés:	Medium/Media:	Material/Matériel:	Speed/Vitesse:	Size/Dimension:	Mode:
16	disc	acetate	78 rpm	12 inch	mono

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17 (see technical notes)

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File 0002129.wav (44.1 khz / 16 bit) / mp3 corresponds to DUB CD 354, track 5 of 17 (see technical notes)

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File 0002133.wav (44.1 khz / 16 bit) / mp3 corresponds to DUB CD 354, track 9 of 17 (see technical notes)

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File 0002141.wav (44.1 khz / 16 bit) / mp3 corresponds to DUB CD 354, track 17 of 17 (see technical notes)

Technical notes/Notes techniques:

DUB-CD 354 was processed with CEDAR noise reduction and was mastered

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Item no./No de la pièce:

D12 453 to

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D12 458

Dub no./No de repiquage

Dub T10 190

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CDAT 2

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DUB CD 355

Fonds:

Portia White

Performer(s)/Artiste(s):

Portia White with pianist Elsie Campbell MacAloney

Contents/Contenu:

1) Lass With the Delicate Air / Thomas Arne

•

2) Ah mon fils (Le Prophete) / Meyerbeer

•

3) Land of Hope and Glory / Elgar

•

4) Wind's Work / Benjamin

•

5) La-bas sur ces montagnes / French Canadian Trad

•

6) Connais-tu le pays (Mignon) / Thomas

•

7) Red Rosy Bush / Appalachian folk song

•

8) I Wonder as I Wander / arr. Niles

•

9) Ride On King Jesus / arr. Gaul

•

10) Steal Away / arr. Burleigh

•

11) Wasn't dat a Wide Ribber / arr. Burleigh

Notes:

sides: 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 17, 19 missing

Recording date/Date de l'enregistrement:

25 Apr 1944

Sides/Cotés: Medium/Media: Material/Matériel: Speed/Vitesse: Size/Dimension: Mode:
12 disc acetate 78 rpm 12 inch mono

Conservation notes/Notes de conservation:

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File 0002145.wav (44.1 khz / 16 bit) / mp3 corresponds to DUB CD 355, track 4 of 11 (see technical notes)

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