



Announces:



CONDORMAN

Composed and Conducted by **HENRY MANCINI**
Intrada Special Collection Volume ISC 219

The 1981 Disney film *Condorman* features a tremendously energetic score by composer Henry Mancini – his first film for Disney. Mancini’s *Condorman* theme is genuinely thrilling from the start, with its pulsating rhythms, syncopated stresses, and exuberant bridge passage. It’s the musical equivalent of *Condorman*’s boundless optimism: no matter how bad things get, he’s ever ready to rush in and set things right. The dynamic *Condorman* theme gets plenty of play in the score, covering wild car chases, staging explosive rescues, and ultimately soaring through the skies in a fully functional *Condorman* costume. For the evil Russian agents, Mancini provides a growling line with stepwise motion and a distinctly Slavic inflection. But the heart of both film and score is the character of Natalia, who winds up falling in love with her dashing rescuer. Mancini’s sumptuous theme for Natalia is certainly among the loveliest romantic themes written for a comic adventure.

For this premiere release of Henry Mancini’s dynamic score in vivid stereo, the Disney engineering crew made new digital transfers of the entire multi-track sessions for Intrada. Every session roll survived in beautiful condition, including the choral “Con-dor-maaaaan” overdub sessions held after the orchestra sessions had been completed. The entire score is presented on this CD, including full-length versions of cues as written and recorded by Mancini prior to the picture’s post-production editing.

Condorman is a Cold War tale of “upmanship espionage” in which an ordinary man stumbles into work as a superspy and must perform a high-stakes international extraction of a communist defector. English actor Michael Crawford plays Woody Wilkins, a comic-book artist whose insistence on “realism” prompts him to dress up as his own fictional character and attempt flights from the Eiffel Tower. When Woody’s bemused CIA friend Harry (James Hampton) is tasked with finding a civilian to carry out a seemingly insignificant document drop in Istanbul, Woody jumps at the chance to put his persona into action.

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