



# Mario Lanza: A Life in Pictures

*Derek Mannering*

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## **Mario Lanza: A Life in Pictures** Derek Mannering

Mario Lanza: A Life in Pictures is a stunning collection of nearly 200 photographs and illustrations that captures the fabulous and tumultuous times of the greatest romantic tenor of the twentieth century. Compiled by acclaimed Lanza biographer Derek Mannering, who drew on the exclusive photo collection of the tenor's closest friend, Terry Robinson, the book offers a revealing glimpse into the private and public world of this great singing star. With Terry Robinson's vast anthology of Lanza memorabilia at his disposal, the author has assembled an unrivalled pictorial history of the tenor's extraordinary life and career, from his childhood in Philadelphia, his first tentative steps towards a career in the opera house, the unexpected about-turn that led to the glory days in Hollywood, and on through to the sudden and tragic ending in Rome in 1959. Many of the extremely rare photographs featured here are appearing in print for the first time, and all are backed up by Derek Mannering's authoritative and compelling narrative. In addition, personal comments by Terry Robinson about the pictures are also featured throughout the book. The book concludes with an afterword by Mario Lanza's daughter, Ellisa Lanza Bregman. Few careers in show business have been as colourful or as controversial as Mario Lanza's. Groomed for a professional life on the opera stage, Lanza instead got waylaid by Hollywood where, through films like *The Great Caruso*, he thrilled moviegoers with his magnificent voice and dazzling personality. His films and recordings were hugely influential in shaping the careers of countless young opera singers, *The Three Tenors* especially, and to this day Lanza continues to be seen as the crossover artist supreme. *Mario Lanza: A Life in Pictures* is a unique collaboration between Lanza's best biographer and his closest friend, a priceless pictorial souvenir that will be cherished by music lovers and film historians everywhere.

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