

This production is made possible, in part, by a generous gift from Mrs. Gorham B. Knowles.

Corporate support generously provided by Andersen.

Die Lustige Witwe I

(in English)

Opera in three acts by Franz Lehár

Libretto by Victor Léon and Leo Stein

Based on Henri Meilhac's comedy "L'attaché d'ambassade"

Educational activities associated with this production are sponsored, in part, by generous support from the Koret Foundation.

Supertitles made possible by a generous grant from The Stanley S. Langendorf Foundation.

Conductor

Erich Kunzel

Production

Lotfi Mansouri

Set designer

Michael Yeargan

Costume Designer

Thierry Bosquet

Lighting Designer

Jennifer Tipton

Sound Designer

Roger Gans

Chorus Director

Ian Robertson

Choreographer

Lawrence Pech

Musical Preparation

John Churchwell

Adelle Eslinger

Bryndon Hassman

Robert Wood

Ernest Fredric Knell

Svetlana Gorzhevskaya

Prompter

Robert Wood

Assistant Stage Director

Brenda Nuckton

Josemaria Condemi

Stage Manager

Theresa Ganley

CAST

<i>Baron Mirko Zeta, Pontevedrian Ambassador</i>	Carlo Hartmann
<i>Valencienne, his wife</i>	Angelika Kirchsclager
<i>Camille de Rosillon, a Parisian gentleman</i>	Gregory Turay
<i>Vicomte Cascada, a Latin diplomat</i>	Curtis Sullivan
<i>Raoul de St. Brioché, a French diplomat</i>	Jonathan Boyd
<i>Kromow, a Pontevedrian military councillor</i>	Bob Amaral
<i>Olga, his wife</i>	Marnie Breckenridge
<i>Pritschitch, Pontevedrian consul</i>	William Saetre
<i>Praskowia, his wife</i>	Jayne Taini
<i>Bogdanovitch, Pontevedrian military attaché</i>	Peter Strummer
<i>Sylviane, his wife</i>	Colleen McGrath
<i>Njegus, an embassy secretary</i>	Elijah Chester
<i>Anna Glawari, the merry widow</i>	Yvonne Kenny
<i>Count Danilo Danilovitch, first secretary to Baron Zeta</i>	Nicolle Foland (12/6)
<i>A Lady Guest</i>	Bo Skovhus
<i>Maitre d'hotel</i>	Virginia Pluth
<i>Zozo</i>	Matt Logan
<i>Lolo (grisette)</i>	Janice Lynde
<i>Dodo (grisette)</i>	Cynthia Drayer
<i>Jou-jou (grisette)</i>	Ann Greene
<i>Frou-frou (grisette)</i>	Debra Rose
<i>Clo-clo (grisette)</i>	Jodi Allen
<i>Margot (grisette)</i>	Juliann Rhodes
<i>Solo dancer</i>	Nora Heiber
	Amanda McKerrow
	John Gardner

*Role debut †U.S. opera debut

PLACE AND TIME: Early twentieth-century Paris

Act I -- The Pontevedrian Embassy, Paris

Act II -- The garden of Anna Glawari's mansion

Act III -- At Maxim's

Tuesday, November 27 2001, at 8:00 PM
Thursday, November 29 2001, at 8:00 PM
Friday, November 30 2001, at 8:00 PM
Sunday, December 2 2001, at 2:00 PM
Wednesday, December 5 2001, at 7:30 PM
Thursday, December 6 2001, at 7:30 PM
Saturday, December 8 2001, at 8:00 PM

Sponsors:

The performance of December 5 is sponsored by American Express, proud sponsor of San Francisco Opera's BRAVO! Club.

The performance of December 6 is sponsored by American Airlines.

Notes:

English translation of lyrics by Christopher Hassall

"Love, Live Forever" from "Paganini" -- Music by Franz Lehár. Book and lyrics by Paul Knepler and Bela Jenbach

Additional lyrics by Ted and Deena Puffer

Dialogue script by Wendy Wasserstein. Script commissioned by San Francisco Opera.

Scenery, props, costumes and wigs constructed in the San Francisco Opera workshops

The performances of December 2, 5 and 8 are being taped for a future telecast. Lighting will be slightly augmented.

This production of "The Merry Widow" is being produced for telecast by San Francisco Opera, KQED/San Francisco, BBC Worldwide, Opus Arte and Thirteen/WNET New York. It will be broadcast on PBS by Thirteen/WNET, New York's performing arts series GREAT PERFORMANCES.

GREAT PERFORMANCES is funded by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the National Endowment for the Arts, public television viewers and PBS.

Corporate funding is provided by Ernst & Young.

Supernumeraries:

John Brown

Brian Copperstein

Joe Giammarco

Jeff Kohler

Scott Sanford

Louis Schilling

Michael Schoenig

Matthew Vierling