

# Les Contes d'Hoffmann

(in French)

Opera in three acts by Jacques Offenbach

Libretto by Jules Barbier and Michel Carré

Based on stories by E.T.A. Hoffmann

The opening performance of "Les Contes d'Hoffmann" is dedicated to the memory of Prentis Cobb Hale.

Supertitles provided by a generous gift from The Stanley S. Langendorf Foundation.

*Conductor*

Steven Mercurio

*Production*

Christopher Alden

*Set designer*

Gerard Howland

*Costume Designer*

Maria Bjornson

*Additional costumes designed by*

Zack Brown

*Lighting Designer*

Thomas J. Munn

*Sound Designer*

Roger Gans

*Chorus Director*

Ian Robertson

*Musical Preparation*

Jay Rozendaal

Susanna Lemberskaya

Peter Grunberg

Joyce Fieldsend

Ernest Fredric Knell

Philip Eisenberg

*Supertitles*

Christopher Bergen

*Assistant Stage Director*

Laurie Feldman

Zoe Pappas

*Stage Manager*

Jerry Sherk

*Movement Assistant*

Victoria Morgan

*Fight Consultant*

Larry Henderson

Sunday, November 17 1996, at 2:00 PM  
Wednesday, November 20 1996, at 7:30 PM  
Saturday, November 23 1996, at 8:00 PM  
Tuesday, November 26 1996, at 8:00 PM  
Friday, November 29 1996, at 8:00 PM  
Sunday, December 1 1996, at 2:00 PM  
Tuesday, December 3 1996, at 7:30 PM

## CAST

<i>Hoffmann</i>	Jerry Hadley
<i>The Muse</i>	Ruxandra Donose †
<i>Stella</i>	Victoria Morgan
<i>Lindorf</i>	Samuel Ramey
<i>Andrès</i>	Michel Sénéchal
<i>Luther</i>	Bojan Knezevic
<i>Nathanaël</i>	Stuart Skelton
<i>Hermann</i>	John Autry
<i>Nicklausse</i>	Ruxandra Donose
<i>Spalanzani</i>	Joseph Frank
<i>Cochénille</i>	Michel Sénéchal
<i>Coppélius</i>	Samuel Ramey
<i>Olympia</i>	Tracy Dahl
<i>Antonia</i>	Patricia Racette
<i>Crespel</i>	Philip Skinner
<i>Frantz</i>	Michel Sénéchal
<i>Dr. Miracle</i>	Samuel Ramey
<i>Voice of Antonia's mother</i>	Elizabeth Bishop
<i>Giulietta</i>	Catherine Keen
<i>Schlemil</i>	John Relyea
<i>Dapertutto</i>	Samuel Ramey
<i>Pitichinaccio</i>	Michel Sénéchal

\*Role debut †U.S. opera debut

PLACE AND TIME: Early 19th century; Nuremberg, Munich and Venice

PROLOGUE -- Luther's tavern in Nuremberg

Act I -- Spalanzani's house

INTERMISSION

Act II -- Crespel's house in Munich

INTERMISSION

Act III -- Giulietta's palace in Venice

EPILOGUE -- Luther's tavern

**Sponsors:**

The performance of November 17th is sponsored by American Airlines.

The performance of November 23rd is sponsored by Ravenswood.

The performance of November 26th is designated in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Wetzel's membership in the Triple Gold Circle.

The performance of November 26th is sponsored by San Francisco Mart.

The performance of December 1st is designated in memory of Eva Metzger to recognize her generosity to San Francisco Opera through the Pooled Income Fund.

The performance of December 3rd is sponsored by Meyer Sound.

The performance of December 3rd is designated in memory of Stanley Tigner to recognize his generous bequest to San Francisco Opera.

**Notes:**

New Production

Revision, recitatives and part of orchestration by Ernest Guiraud.

This production uses, in part, Fritz Oeser's critical edition.

Scenery constructed in San Francisco Opera Scenic Studios

Costumes executed by San Francisco Opera Costume Shop