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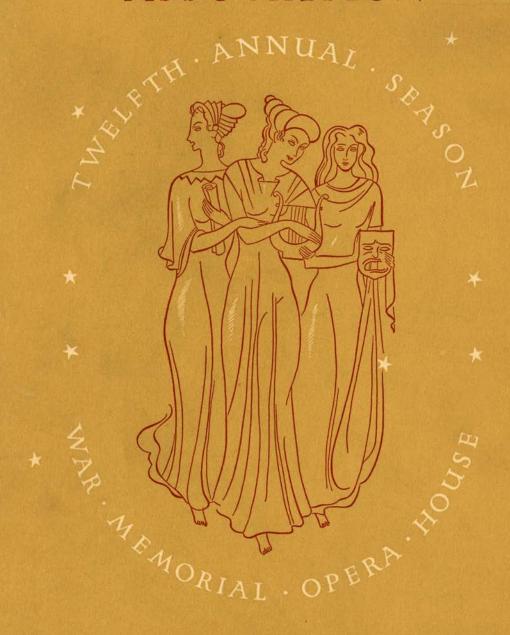
Monday, November 26, 1934 7:45 PM Saturday, December 8, 1934 7:45 PM

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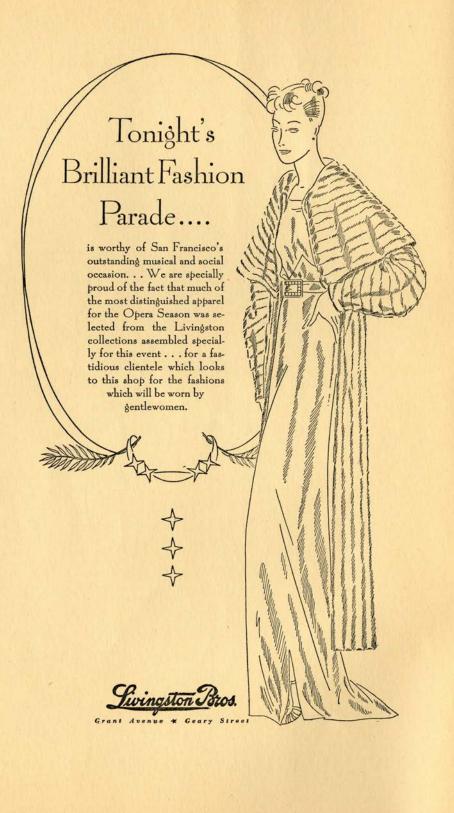
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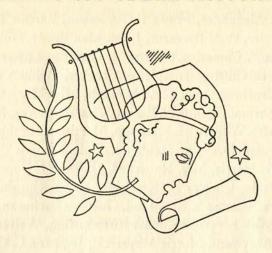
SAN FRANCISCO OPERA ASSOCIATION



GAETANO MEROLA GENERAL DIRECTOR
NOVEMBER-14-TO-DECEMBER-8-1034



SAN FRANCISCO OPERA ASSOCIATION



It is with justifiable pride that the San Francisco Opera Association presents the San Francisco Opera Company in its twelfth annual season. The continued and world-attention commanding success of this organization is a striking tribute to the loyalty of the music-loving people of San Francisco, to whom the officers of the Opera Association express their sincere appreciation.

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THE SAN FRANCISCO OPERA COMPANY

GAETANO MEROLA, General Director

ROUNDING out the years of its artistic life to an even dozen, the San Francisco Opera Company, maintained by the San Francisco Opera Association, begins its twelfth annual season, and the third in War Memorial Opera House, on Wednesday evening, November 14, and brings it to an end Saturday evening, December 8.

Conductors

PIETRO CIMINI ALFRED HERTZ GAETANO MEROLA

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Tenors, Baritones and Basses: Evaristo Alibertini, Avito Alviti, Arnot Amos, Louis Baguet, Otello Baldacci, Arthur Bolton, Jr., Adolfo Chiarpotti, John Courtney, Robert Crawford, Amerigo Del Grande, Hans De Mont, Oscar Descito, Alan Deuchar, Albert Fear, Amerigo Frediani, Clevene Martin Friburg, Giovanni Germanetti, Charles Grus, Paul Guenter, Richard Harrell, Alois Hofman, Nikolas Kemarsky, Theodor Kostin, Keith La Vigne, Einar Lindquist, Max Lorenzini, William McEvers, Giulio Mancini, Carlo Mennuci, Norman Meiran, Richard Overholt, Ruggiero Pelosi, Jack Reeder, Roderick Best Ross, Adolph Rubin, Lionel Somers, William Stumpf, Michael Susoff, Andrea Tranga, Petronio Urrea, Albert Vannucci, Valery von Raaben, Frederick Wahlin.

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[Continued on page 15]

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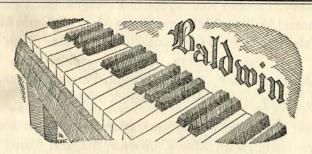
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- THE BARTERED BRIDE (SMETANA) Wednesday Night, November 14, at 8:15
 With Rethberg, Chamlee, Windheim, Pinza, Smith, Gruninger, Clark, Gandolfi,
 Howell, Taenzler, Ellis; Corps de Ballet. Hertz, Conductor.
- LA TOSCA (Puccini) Friday Night, November 16, at 8:15
 With Lehmann, Borgioli, Gandolfi, Gruninger, Howell, D'Angelo, Windheim,
 Alibertini. Merola, Conductor.
- CARMEN (BIZET)

 Saturday Night, November 17, at 8:00

 With Vallin, Chamlee, Pinza, Clark, Smith, Gruninger, D'Angelo, Gandolfi,

 Windheim, Howell; Corps de Ballet. Merola, Conductor.
- MANON (MASSENET) Monday Night, November 19, at 8:00
 With Bori, Crooks, Gandolfi, D'Angelo, Windheim, Howell, McLaughlin, Lanz,
 Schiller, Strause, Ferrier, Simondet, Frediani. Merola, Conductor.
- MADAME BUTTERFLY (Puccini) Wednesday Night, November 21, at 8:15
 With Lehmann, Borgioli, Marlo, Glando, Gandolfi, Windheim, D'Angelo,
 Howell. CIMINI, Conductor.
- LAKMÉ (Delibes)

 Friday Night, November 23, at 8:00

 With Hardy, Chamlee, Gandolfi, Pinza, Simondet, Clark, Ferrier, Gruninger,

 Strause; Corps de Ballet. Cimni, Conductor.
- TANNHAUSER (WAGNER)

 Monday Night, November 26, at 7:45

 With Rethberg, Melchior, Bonelli, Pinza, Eybel, Clark, Marlowe, Gandolfi,

 Windheim, D'Angelo; Corps de Ballet. Hertz, Conductor.
- LA TRAVIATA (VERDI) Wednesday Night, November 28, at 8:15
 With Bori, Crooks, Bonelli, Badger, McLaughlin, Gandolfi, Windheim, D'Angelo,
 Alibertini, Frediani, Howell; Corps de Ballet. Merola, Conductor.
- FAUST (GOUND)

 Friday Night, November 30, at 8:00

 With Vallin, Borgioli, Pinza, Bonelli, Clark, Gruninger, Howell;

 Corps de Ballet. Merola, Conductor.
- LA RONDINE (Puccini)

 Monday Night, December 3, at 8:15

 With Bori, Borgioli, Clark, Windheim, D'Angelo, Folli, Smith, Strause, Nostrom,

 Alibertini, Frediani, Howell; Corps de Ballet. Merola, Conductor.
- OTELLO (VERDI) Wednesday Night, December 5, at 8:00
 With Melchior, Bonelli, Rethberg, Marlowe, Gruninger, D'Angelo, Frediani,
 Alibertini, Howell. Merola, Conductor.
- MIGNON (THOMAS)

 Saturday Night, December 7, at 8:00

 With Bori, Hardy, Borgioli, Pinza, Marlo, Windheim, D'Angelo;

 Corps de Ballet. Cimini, Conductor.

EXTRA PERFORMANCES

MANON Same cast as above Saturday Night, December 1, at 8:00 CARMEN "Sunday Matinée, December 2, at 2:00 TANNHAUSER "Saturday Night, December 8, at 7:45

TANNHAUSER

Opera in three acts and four scenes. Music and text (in German) by Richard Wagner

THE CAST

Elizabeth, niece of Hermann
Tannhauser, a minstrel knight
Venus
Herman, landgrave of Thuringia
Wolfram
Walther
Biterolf
Heinrich
Reinmar
A Young Shepherd

ELISABETH RETHBERG

*LAURITZ MELCHIOR

QUERITA EYBEL

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*San Francisco début.

Chorus of Thuringian Nobles and Knights, Ladies, Elder and Younger Pilgrims, Sirens, Naïads, Nymphs, Bacchantes

Incidental Dances Arranged by ADOLPH BOLM

Irene Isham, principal dancer, with Carla Bradley, Irene Flyzik,

Nicholas Visilieff; and Corps de Ballet

Conductor: ALFRED HERTZ
Stage Director: ARMANDO AGNINI
Chorus Master: ANTONIO DELL'OREFICE

TIME AND PLACE: Beginning of the Thirteenth Century; Vicinity of Eisenach

Act I Scene 1 Within the Hill of Venus
Scene 2 A Valley near the Castle of Wartburg

Аст II The Great Hall of Song, Castle of Wartburg

Act III The Valley of the Wartburg

Bell rings three minutes before curtain rises Encores not permitted

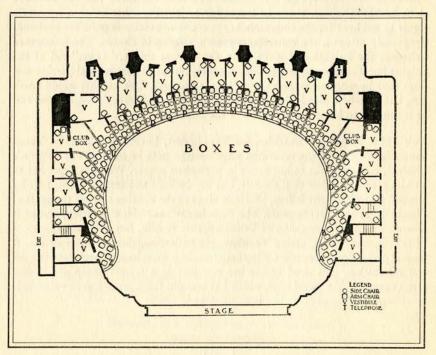
ACT I: Dwelling with the immortals under the spell of Venus, Tannhauser, the minstrel knight, wearies of the monotony of his sensuous life. Even as he sings praises to Venus his thoughts wander back to earth and he implores the goddess to let him return there. Venus angrily threatens him and Tannhauser cries in despair, "My salvation rests in Mary, Mother of God." The name of the Blessed Virgin breaks the unholy spell; Venus and her court disappear. [Scene 2] In pronounced contrast to the sensuous surroundings he has just left, Tannhauser finds himself alone in a beautiful valley near a wayside shrine before which he kneels in repentance. From a hill nearby a shepherd sings an ode to Spring; pilgrims chant as they pass on their way to Rome, and Tannhauser remorsefully sobs out his guilt in prayer. The Landgrave and his minstrel knights, hunting in the forest, are surprised to find Tannhauser, their long-lost knight. He tells them his soul is oppressed by his sin and that he must forever in penance roam alone. Their entreaties that he join them avail nothing until Wolfram reminds him of Elizabeth, niece of the Landgrave, who longs for his return. Tannhauser, taking new hope that in the purity of Elizabeth's love he may be saved, consents to return to Wartburg with the knights and promises to compete in the forthcoming Tournament of Song, the prize for which is to be the hand of Elizabeth.

Act II: The knights, assembled for the great song contest, are greeted by Elizabeth. Wolfram brings Tannhauser who tells Elizabeth that for her love alone he has returned. When he leaves her to join the other knights, her uncle comes to tell her that the singer whom she crowns as victor is to be her husband. Gorgeously arrayed, the contestants march, singing in chorus. The Landgrave welcomes the knights and gives them the contest theme, "Love." All of the knights but Tannhauser sing to virtuous love, but he praises sensual passion and sings that he who knows not Venus, knows not love. The knights would crush him, but Elizabeth pleads that he be permitted to seek Heaven's forgiveness, and he is sent off to beseech the pardon of the Pope.

Act III: Elizabeth, watching for Tannhauser, kneels by a crucifix. Tannhauser is not among the returning pilgrims who pass in chorus (The Pilgrim's Chorus), and she sinks to her knees in anguished prayer. Wolfram urges her to let him return with her to the castle, but she declines and sets off alone. Left by himself, and with night falling, Wolfram sings to the evening star his thoughts of Elizabeth. Tannhauser appears. The Pope has refused him absolution, and he is returning to Venus. A vision of Venus appears to him, but Wolfram speaks of Elizabeth, and Venus, seeing Tannhauser's hesitation, disappears in defeat. A funeral procession approaches. Elizabeth has died. Tannhauser, broken with grief and exhaustion, falls dead beside her bier just as a second group of pilgrims arrives carrying the papal staff, which has brought forth green leaves—a miracle revealing that Tannhauser has been pardoned.

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Production: Armando Agnini, Stage and Technical Director
André Ferrier, Stanley Maclewee, Assistant Stage Directors;
Julian Dové, Fritz Kraencke, Scenic Artists; Paul Pinell, Carpenter; C. J. Holzmueller, Chief Electrician, Edward Littel, Assistant;
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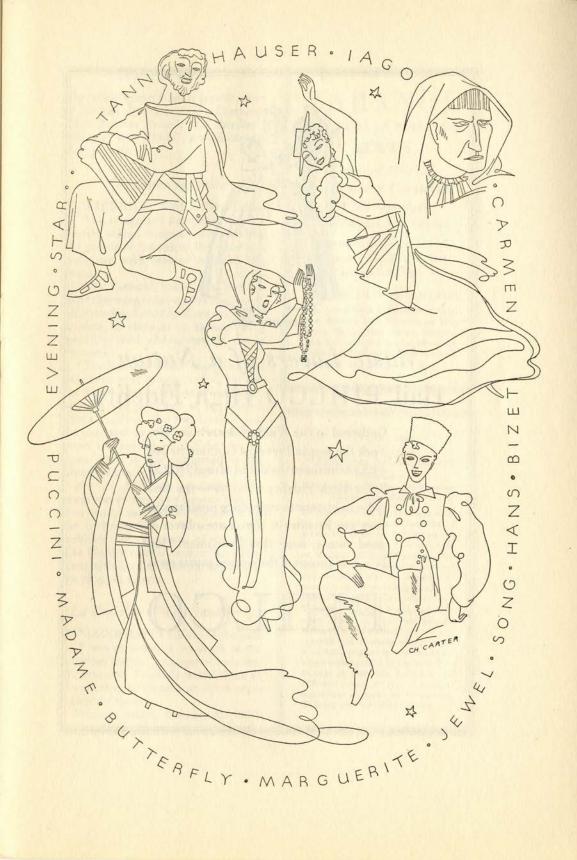
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PHILCO

THE OPERAS

The following operas on the present season of the San Francisco Opera Company, "The Bartered Bride", "La Rondine", "Lakmé" and "Otello", are additions to the repertoire.

The Bartered Bride

RIEDRICH SMETANA (1824-84), recognized founder of the Bohemian school of music, is revered by the people of his native Bohemia as a composer with intense national impulses.

"The Bartered Bride" is one of the most charming comic operas of all musicalliterature. Lively, brilliant and highly finished, it abounds in national song melodies and characteristic dance

rhythms.

"The Bartered Bride" was given first performance at Prague in 1866, but was not heard outside Bohemia until 1892, when it was produced at the Vienna Music Festival. The first London production was in 1895, but it was not given in America until February 19, 1909, when it was performed at the Metropolitan in New York.

For its American production the opera was re-scored by Gustav Mahler, who conducted. Mahler lightened up the orchestration to better suit the melodies and the tempo of the story. The Mahler score is used in San Francisco with German libretto in place of

the original Czech.

La Rondine ("The Swallow")

GIACOMO PUCCINI (1858-1926) was regarded at his death as the foremost Italian composer of his time. Writing very definitely in the idiom of the theatre, he created an opera style distinctly his own.

Puccini's music, melodiously facile and easily comprehended, is unmistak-

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Madame Williamson has to her credit many artists who pay her grateful tribute for their success in concert, operatic and teaching engagements. A cordial invitation is extended to the music-loving public by Madame Williamson to visit her studios at 26 O'Farrell Street, or special appointments may be made by telephoning EXbrook 5969 or ORdway 3974

able in its appeal. "La Rondine" was composed in 1917, following "Girl of the Golden West" by seven years. The music is characteristically Puccini, but displays new and brilliant facets in its fascinating and fragile score, which approaches operetta in its charming lightness.

The opera had its world premiere in Monte Carlo, March 17, 1917. In March, 1928, it was produced at the Metropolitan with Lucrezia Bori, Editha Fleischer, Beniamino Gigli and Armand Tokatyan. Mme. Bori, who is the only artist to have sung the role of Magda in America, re-creates the part in the first presentation of "La Rondine" in San Francisco.

Lakmé

LEO DELIBES (1836-91) ranks as a pioneer in the modern French impressionistic school. He found best expression for his musical gift in ballet

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composition, his charming "Sylvia,"
"Naila" and "Coppelia" ballets holding prominent place in all music libraries. Of Delibes' operas, "Lakmé" alone
has survived.

The brilliant passages of "Lakmé" have made the opera a favorite vehicle for revival performances to display the vocal wares of coloratura sopranos. Its first production was in Paris in 1883.

The Metropolitan produced "Lakmé" in 1890 with Patti, and again in 1892 for Marie Van Zandt. It was revived in 1906 for Sembrich; by the Chicago Opera Company in 1910 for Tetrazzini; again at the Metropolitan in 1916 with Barrientos and in 1917 at Chicago for Galli-Curci.

Emily Hardy, resident soprano who made her opera début last season, sings the title role in the San Francisco revival.

San Francisco has not heard "Lakmé" since 1911, when it was performed at the Valencia Theatre by the Paris Grand Opera Company, of which André Ferrier, now of the San Francisco Opera Company, was leading tenor.

Otello

THE prolific and virile music pen of Giuseppi Verdi (1813-1901) had been without product for sixteen years when "Otello," was produced at La Scala, Milan, in February, 1887.

That Verdi had not spent the sixteen years in idle resting on his well-earned laurels, but had kept in step with the changing mood in music, was apparent in his newest work.

For in "Otello" he very definitely abandoned the forms that had previously determined the nature of Italian opera. The opera has no set arias. There are melodious song-like passages aria in motive, but none in accepted aria form. Instead, a free-flowing recitative, tremendously intense in expression and copiously accompanied, is used with short, crisp dramatic phrasing.



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IMPORTANT

LAKME will be given Tuesday night, Dec. 4. Please use ticket marked LAKME and dated Nov. 23 for this performance.

Hardy, Chamlee, Gandolfi, Pinza, Gruninger, Ferrier, Clark, Strause,

Simondet, Howell.

PIETRO CIMINI, Conductor.

CHANGE IN REPERTOIRE

MADAME BUTTERFLY will be repeated Sunday matinee, Dec. 2, instead of CARMEN. Please use ticket marked CARMEN and dated Dec. 2 for this performance.

Rethberg, Borgioli, Marlo, Gandolfi, Windheim, Glando, D'Angelo, Howell,

Alibertini.

PIETRO CIMINI, Conductor.

OTHER PERFORMANCES

LA TRAVIATA — Wednesday Night, November 28

Bori, Crooks, Bonelli, Badger, Windheim, Gandolfi, McLaughlin, D'Angelo, Howell, Frediani, Alibertini, Corps de Ballet.

GAETANO MEROLA, Conductor.

FAUST — Friday Night, November 30

Vallin, Borgioli, Pinza, Gruninger, Clark, Bonelli, Howell, Corp de Ballet. GAETANO MEROLA, Conductor.

MANON - Saturday Night, December 1

Bori, Crooks, Gandolfi, D'Angelo, Windheim, Howell, McLaughlin, Strause, Schiller, Lanz, Ferrier, Simondet, Frediani.

PIETRO CIMINI, Conductor

LA RONDINE — Monday Night, December 3

Bori, Borgioli, Clark, Windheim, D'Angelo, Folli, Smith, Strause, Nostrom, Howell, Frediani, Alibertini.

GAETANO MEROLA, Conductor.

OTELLO - Wednesday Night, December 5

Melchior, Rethberg, Bonelli, Marlowe, Gruninger, Frediani, D'Angelo, Alibertini, Howell.

GAETANO MEROLA, Conductor.

MIGNON — Friday Night, December 7

Bori, Hardy, Borgioli, Marlo, Pinza, Windheim, D'Angelo, Corps de Ballet.
PIETRO CIMINI, Conductor

TANNHAUSER — Saturday Night, December 8

Rethberg, Melchior, Eybel, Pinza, Bonelli, Clark, Marlowe, Windheim, Gandolfi, D'Angelo, Corps de Ballet.

ALFRED HERTZ, Conductor.