

Das Rheingold

1935

Friday, November 1, 1935 8:30 PM

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ASSOCIATION

Gaetano Merola • General Director



Thirteenth Annual Season

NOVEMBER 1 TO DECEMBER 2, 1935

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Dr. Faustus (Marlowe)

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- ★ **ARTUR SCHNABEL, PIANIST**
The Toscanini of the Piano. Thur. Eve., Mar. 26
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The inclusion of Richard Wagner's "Der Ring des Nibelungen" in an opera repertoire is important under any circumstances. When the presentation marks the premiere performances of that cycle by an opera company, the event takes on vastly added significance. It is, then, with more than usual pride that the San Francisco Opera Association presents the San Francisco Opera Company in its Thirteenth Annual Season.

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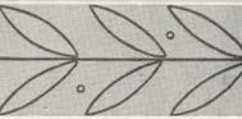
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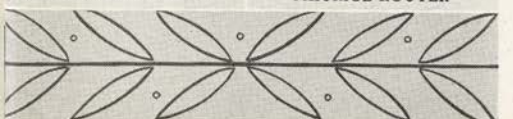
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The San Francisco Opera Company

GAETANO MEROLA, *General Director*

Given paramount importance by premiere performances of Richard Wagner's "Der Ring des Nibelungen," the San Francisco Opera Company, maintained by the San Francisco Opera Association, begins its Thirteenth Annual Season on Friday evening, November 1, and brings it to an end Monday evening, December 2.

Conductors

ARTUR BODANZKY RICHARD LERT GAETANO MEROLA
Assistant Conductors: Nino Comel, Antonio Dell' Orefice,
Karl Riedel, Maurice Rouyer, Hermann Weigert

Guest Artists

CHASE BAROMELO, *bass*; RICHARD BONELLI, *baritone*; HANS CLEMENS, *tenor*;
LOUIS D'ANGELO, *bass*; DORIS DOE, *contralto*; NELSON EDDY, *baritone*;
KIRSTEN FLAGSTAD, *soprano*; HELEN GAHAGAN, *soprano*; ALFREDO GANDOLFI, *baritone*;
COE GLADE, *soprano*; HELEN JEPSON, *soprano*; EMANUEL LIST, *bass*;
DOROTHEE MANSKI, *soprano*; GIOVANNI MARTINELLI, *tenor*;
KATHRYN MEISLE, *contralto*; LAURITZ MELCHIOR, *tenor*; GRACE OMERON, *soprano*;
EZIO PINZA, *bass*; ELIZABETH RETHBERG, *soprano*; TITO SCHIPA, *tenor*;
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IRENE FREMONT, *contralto*; GERTRUDE GERDAU, *soprano*;
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ESTHER GREEN, *soprano*; EVA GRUNINGER, *contralto*;
PAUL GUENTER, *baritone*; EMILY HARDY, *soprano*; JEAN HARTMAN, *contralto*;
JOHN HOWELL, *baritone*; OLIVER JONES, *bass*; LINA KNOPH, *soprano*; MARIE LEANDRE, *soprano*;
RAYMOND MARLOWE, *tenor*; JEAN MERRILL, *soprano*; HELEN NOSTROM, *soprano*;
MARGARET O'DEA, *contralto*; FLORENCE RINGO, *soprano*; GEORGETTE SCHILLER, *soprano*;
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CATHERINE STEED, *contralto*; JOSEPHINE TUMMINIA, *soprano*; ALBERTO VANNUCCI, *tenor*;
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DER RING DES NIBELUNGEN

- DAS RHEINGOLD (WAGNER) *Friday Night, November 1, at 8:30*
With Schorr, Marlowe, Clemens, Schutzensdorf, Windheim, Baromeo, Beattie, Eybel, Manski,
Gandolfi, Meisle, Doe, Merrill, Omeron. BODANZKY, Conductor.
- DIE WALKURE (WAGNER) *Monday Night, November 4, at 7:30*
With Flagstad, Rethberg, Meisle, Melchior, Schorr, Baromeo, Doe, Manski.
BODANZKY, Conductor.
- SIEGFRIED (WAGNER) *Wednesday Night, November 6, at 7:30*
With Melchior, Flagstad, Schorr, Schutzensdorf, Windheim, Baromeo, Meisle, Hardy.
BODANZKY, Conductor.
- GOTTERDAMMERUNG (WAGNER) *Saturday Afternoon, November 9, at 5:00*
With Melchior, Flagstad, Schorr, Schutzensdorf, List, Manski, Meisle, Doe, Merrill, Omeron.
BODANZKY, Conductor.

The opera will begin at 5:00 p. m. There will be an intermission of about two hours after the first act. The performance will be resumed at 8:30 sharp. No one will be seated after the curtain rises.

- AIDA (VERDI) *Monday Night, November 11, at 8:00*
With Rethberg, Meisle, Martinelli, Eddy, Pinza, Beattie, Windheim, Watt.
MEROLA, Conductor.
- MARTHA (VON FLOTOW) *Saturday Night, November 16, at 8:15*
With Schipa, Jepson, Glade, Sheffoff, D'Angelo, Beattie. LERT, Conductor.
- LA JUIVE (HALEVY) *Monday Night, November 18, at 8:00*
With Martinelli, Rethberg, Hardy, Clemens, Pinza, Howell. LERT, Conductor.
- WERTHER (MASSENET) *Friday Night, November 22, at 8:15*
With Schipa, Glade, Gerdau, Gandolfi, D'Angelo, Marlowe, Howell. MEROLA, Conductor.
- BARBER OF SEVILLE (ROSSINI) *Monday Night, November 25, at 8:15*
With Schipa, Bonelli, D'Angelo, Tumminia, Pinza. MEROLA, Conductor.
- LA BOHEME (PUCCINI) *Wednesday Night, November 27, at 8:15*
With Jepson, Smith, Martinelli, Bonelli, Pinza, Gandolfi, D'Angelo. LERT, Conductor.
- RIGOLETTO (VERDI) *Friday Night, November 29, at 8:00*
With Bonelli, Hardy, Schipa, Pinza, Gruninger, Beattie, Alibertini. MEROLA, Conductor.
- SUOR ANGELICA (PUCCINI) *Monday Night, December 2, at 8:30*
With Gahagan, O'Dea, Hartman, Gruninger, Steed, Young, Callahan, Fremont, Schiller,
Ferguson. MEROLA, Conductor.

Extra Performances

- DIE WALKURE (WAGNER) *Wednesday Night, November 13, at 7:30*
With Flagstad, Rethberg, Meisle, Melchior, Schorr, List, Doe, Manski.
BODANZKY, Conductor.
- OPERA-TUNITIES *Friday Night, November 15, at 8:15*
OPERA ARTISTS — MOVIE STARS — RADIO FAVORITES — CHORUS — BALLET
A Bit of MUSIC — MIRTH — MYSTERY. A Lot of Fun
- AIDA (VERDI) *Saturday Night, November 23, at 8:00*
With Rethberg, Glade, Martinelli, Bonelli, Pinza, Beattie, Windheim, Watt.
MEROLA, Conductor.
- MARTHA (VON FLOTOW) *Sunday Matinee, December 1, at 2:15*
With Schipa, Jepson, Glade, Sheffoff, D'Angelo, Beattie. LERT, Conductor.

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FRIDAY AFTERNOONS, 2:30

SATURDAY NIGHTS, 8:30

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January 24
January 31
February 14
February 28
March 13
March 27
April 3
April 17
April 24

January 11
January 25
February 1
February 15
February 29
March 14
March 28
April 4
April 18
April 25

FOUR YOUNG PEOPLE'S CONCERTS (Opera House)

Sat., Apr. 11, 10:30 A.M.
Sat., Apr. 18, 10:30 A.M.

Wed., Apr. 22, 4:00 P.M.
Sat., Apr. 25, 10:30 A.M.

*These concerts will be conducted by Ernest Schelling of
The New York Philharmonic Orchestra*

THREE CONCERTS AT UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Sun., Jan. 26, 3:15 P.M.
Sun., Mar. 15, 3:15 P.M.
Sun., Apr. 5, 3:15 P.M.

Grete Stueckgold, Soprano
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SAN FRANCISCO

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Der Ring des Nibelungen

DAS RHEINGOLD Friday Night, November 1, at 8:30

(THE RHINE GOLD)

Opera in Four Scenes

Music and Text (in German) by Richard Wagner

| | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Wotan | FRIEDRICH SCHORR |
| Donner | ALFREDO GANDOLFI |
| Froh | RAYMOND MARLOWE |
| Loge | *HANS CLEMENS |
| Alberich | *GUSTAV SCHUTZENDORF |
| Mime | MAREK WINDHEIM |
| Fasolt | *CHASE BAROMEIO |
| Fafner | *DOUGLAS BEATTIE |
| Fricka | QUERITA EYBEL |
| Freia | DOROTHEE MANSKI |
| Erda | KATHRYN MEISLE |
| Woglinde | GRACE OMERON |
| Wellgunde | JEAN MERRILL |
| Flosshilde | DORIS DOE |

*San Francisco Opera début

Conductor: ARTUR BODANZKY

Stage Director: ARMANDO AGNINI

TIME AND PLACE: Legendary

- Scene I The Bottom of the Rhine
- Scene II A Mountaintop, Showing the Castle of Valhalla
- Scene III Alberich's Cave
- Scene IV Same as Scene II.

Bell rings three minutes before curtain rises

Encores not permitted

[Over]

Der Ring des Nibelungen

Richard Wagner's "Der Ring Des Nibelungen" is written in a prologue, "Das Rheingold" and three dramas, "Die Walkure", "Siegfried" and "Die Gotterdammerung." "The operas," writes Lavignac, "which form the complete ring develop many changes about the curse which the Nibelung Alberich has laid upon the power-endowing ring, forged by him from the Rheingold which he stole from the Rhine Maidens and which, in turn, Wotan has wrested from him. Through many vicissitudes the cursed ring brings destruction to all who possess it. The series of catastrophes which it occasions result in the final ruin of the race of Gods, and only comes to an end when the last victim, Brunnhilde, who returns to the purifying waters of the Rhine its stolen treasure, at last delivers the world from the terrible anathema."

The Story

SCENE I

The Rhine maidens guard the gold at the bottom of a stream. Alberich, having learned from their talk that the gold will give him supreme power, seizes it and makes the required renunciation of love forever.

SCENE II

Wotan, master of the Universe, and Fricka, his wife, gaze upon Valhalla, castle built by the giants Fasolt and Fafner, the price for which is to be Freia, goddess of youth, love and beauty. Regretting the bargain Wotan has sent Loge, the Fire God, in search of a substitute for Freia that will satisfy the giants. Loge returns to tell of the theft of the Rheingold and of the untold wealth and power brought by the ring Alberich has made from it. The giants demand that Wotan secure the ring for them and carry off Freia as hostage.

SCENE III

Wotan and Loge descend to Nibelheim, in the bowels of the earth, where Alberich shows them the Tarnhelm, a helmet which renders the wearer invisible and gives him power to change shape at will. Loge questions the magic of the helmet. In proof Alberich transforms himself into a dragon, then into a toad when he is overpowered.

SCENE IV

Alberich, brought to the surface of the earth, is forced to give up his treasure, the ring and the helmet. In a rage he calls down the curse which carries misfortune to all who may possess the ring. Unmindful, Wotan slips the ring upon his finger. The giants demand that the treasure be piled up until so high as to completely hide Freia. But the eyes of Freia may yet be seen. All but the ring is heaped on. The giants demand the ring be added. Wotan refuses. But Erda appears and advises Wotan to give up the ring. It is no sooner done than the giants quarrel over its possession. Fafner kills Fasolt, gathers up the treasure and drags it away. Gathering clouds are dispelled by Donner, thunder god. Froh builds a rainbow as a bridge by which the gods proceed into Valhalla.



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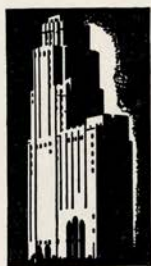
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Music and Text (in German) by Richard Wagner

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|------------------------|--------------------|
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| Sieglinde | ELISABETH RETHBERG |
| Fricka | .KATHRYN MEISLE |
| Siegmund | LAURITZ MELCHIOR |
| Wotan | FRIEDRICH SCHORR |
| Hunding | CHASE BAROMEIO |
| Helmwige | DOROTHEE MANSKI |
| Gerhilde | QUERITA EYBEL |
| Ortlinde | JEAN MERRILL |
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Act I Interior of Hunding's Hut in the Forest

Act II A Wild and Rocky Pass

Act III A Rocky Mountaintop

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[Over]

The Story

NOTE: Brunnhilde, Wotan's daughter by Wala, earth's wisest woman, and her Valkyries gather heroes in Valhalla to fight Alberich's hordes. Wotan has descended to earth and to his union with an earth woman have sprung the twins, Siegmund and Sieglinde. Siegmund is destined to regain the ring.

ACT I

Siegmund, driven into Hunding's hut by a terrible storm, is confronted by Sieglinde, Hunding's wife. Hunding, returning, observes the likeness between the two, and learns that Siegmund is the son of Walse, his mortal enemy. Sieglinde, who has conceived a passionate love for Siegmund, pours a sleeping potion in Hunding's goblet. She tells Siegmund her story of abduction and forced marriage to Hunding and of the sword, visible where it has been plunged into an ash tree by a one-eyed warrior and destined for him with strength to pull it forth. Comparing stories they find themselves to be brother and sister as well as lovers. Both are children of Walse who had plunged the sword, Nothung, into the tree for their deliverance. Siegmund tears the sword from its ashen sheath and clasping Sieglinde in his arms, carries her passionately away.

ACT II

Wotan, who has decreed death for Hunding, so instructs Brunnhilde. But Fricka, his wife and guardian of the marriage vow, in a stormy scene avows that punishment should be visited upon Siegmund and Sieglinde guilty of adultery, and compels him to swear he will not protect his son. Wotan then commands Brunnhilde to protect Hunding and lead Siegmund to Valhalla. Brunnhilde vainly pleads Siegmund's cause. Wotan curses his own sovereignty and longs for the end of the gods. Siegmund and Sieglinde arrive fleeing from Hunding's vengeance. While Siegmund stands guard over the exhausted Sieglinde, Brunnhilde appears and tells him of his approaching death and that Valhalla awaits him. But he will not leave Sieglinde. Brunnhilde, moved by his devotion, promises him victory despite Wotan's command. Hunding is heard approaching and Siegmund rushes to meet his attack. Wotan appears and with a stroke breaks his sword to splinters. Hunding thrusts Siegmund through the breast and in turn is killed by a scornful wave of Wotan's hand.

ACT III

Brunnhilde implores aid for Sieglinde from the assembling Valkyries. But fearing the wrath of Wotan none dare offer it. Brunnhilde, giving her the fragments of Siegmund's sword, bids her seek refuge in the forest wherein Fafner guards the ring there to await the birth of her expected child who shall be named Siegfried and conquer all. The outraged Wotan appears and sorrowfully announces his punishment of the disobeying Brunnhilde. Divested of her divinity she shall sleep on the mountain to become the bride of the first man who finds her. But to her pleas he will build about her a magic circle of fire so that none but a hero may awaken her.

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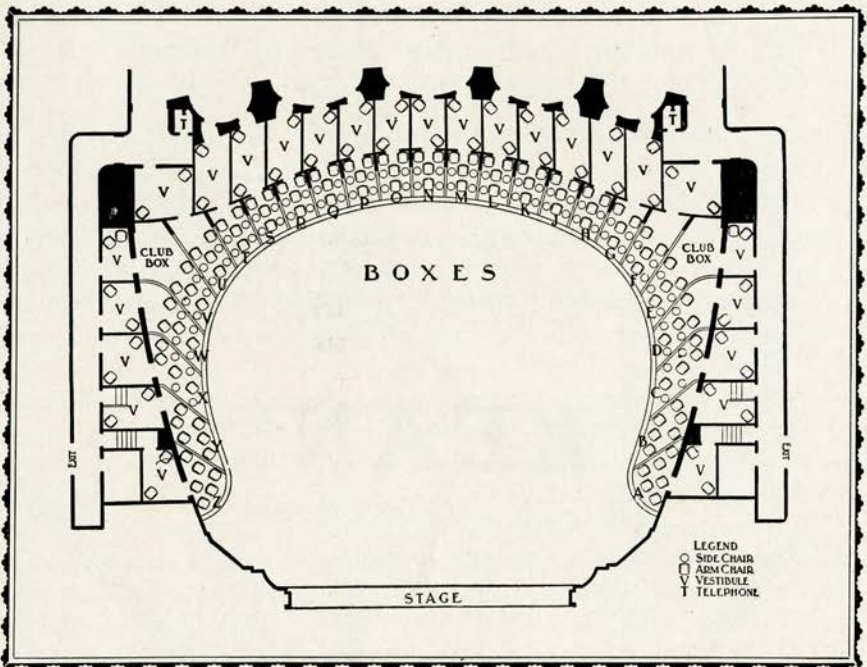
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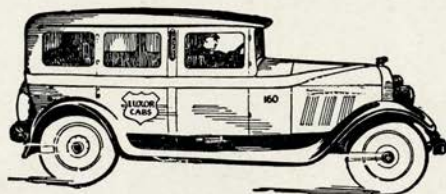
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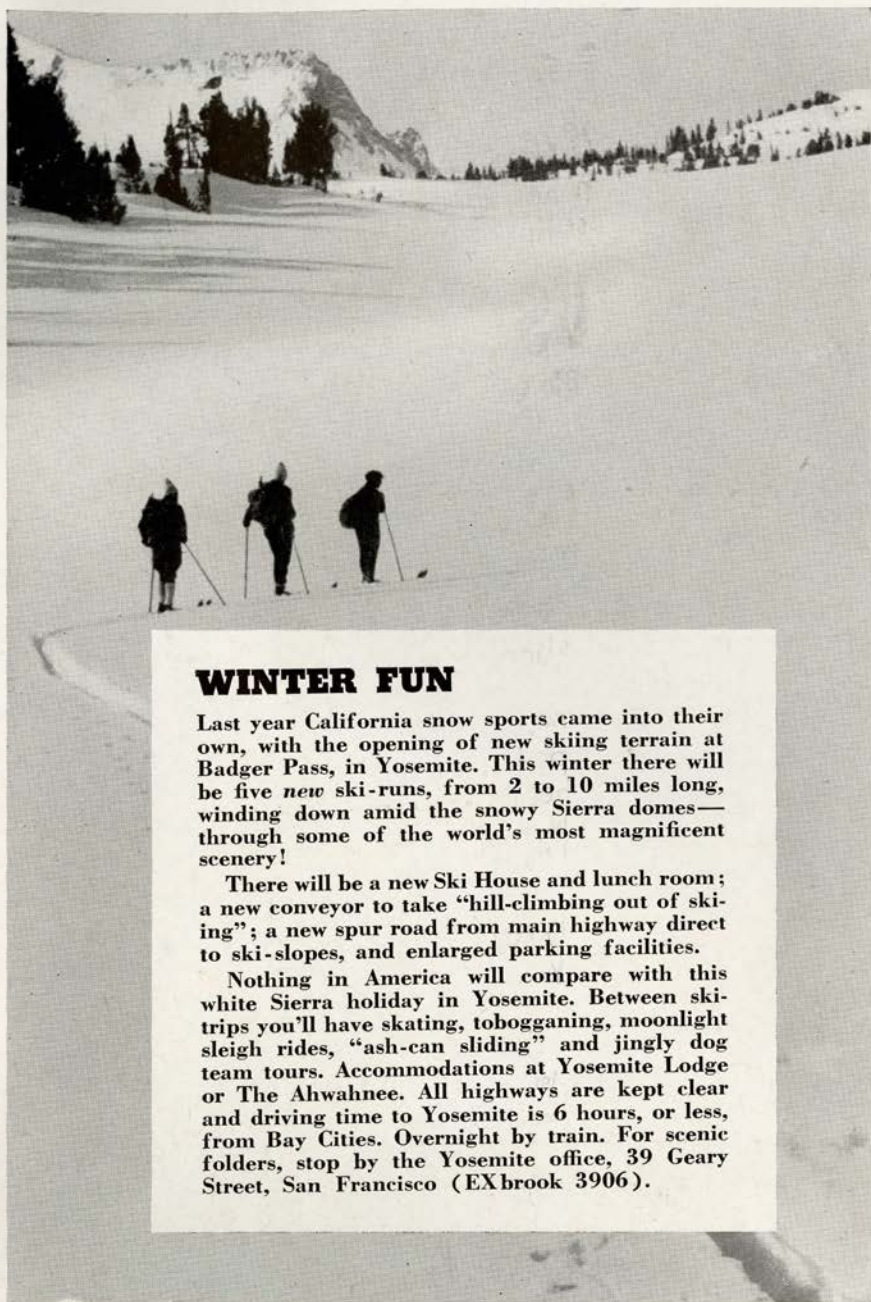
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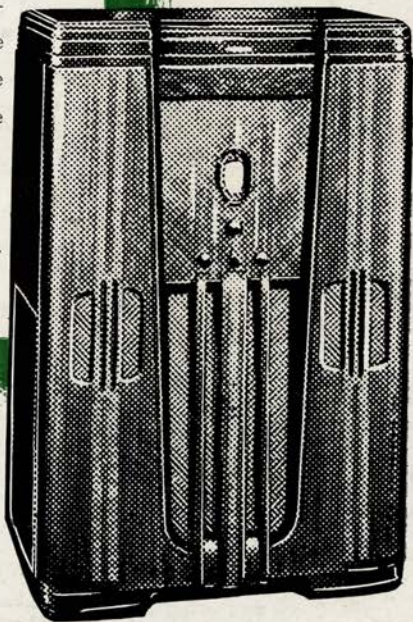


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