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*Gaetano Merola • General Director*



*Thirteenth Annual Season*

NOVEMBER 1 TO DECEMBER 2, 1935

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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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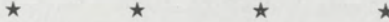
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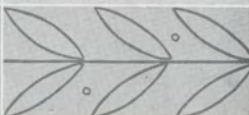
# SAN FRANCISCO OPERA COMPANY



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**GAETANO MEROLA**  
General Director



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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

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LOUIS D'ANGELO, *bass*; DORIS DOE, *contralto*; NELSON EDDY, *baritone*;  
KIRSTEN FLAGSTAD, *soprano*; HELEN GAHAGAN, *soprano*; ALFREDO GAN-  
DOLFI, *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,  
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# Repertoire

## DER RING DES NIBELUNGEN

- DAS RHEINGOLD (WAGNER) *Friday Night, November 1, at 8:30*  
With Schorr, Marlowe, Clemens, SchutENDORF, 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, SchutENDORF, Windheim, Baromeo, Meisle, Hardy.  
BODANZKY, Conductor.
- GOTTERDAMMERUNG (WAGNER) *Saturday Afternoon, November 9, at 5:00*  
With Melchior, Flagstad, Schorr, SchutENDORF, 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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March 13  
March 27  
April 3  
April 17  
April 24

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

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Sun., Mar. 15, 3:15 P.M.

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Sun., Apr. 5, 3:15 P.M.

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# Programme

## SUOR ANGELICA

Monday Night, Dec. 2, at 8:00

Opera in one act. Music by Giacomo Puccini

Text (in Italian) by Gioacchino Forzano

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Sister Angelica . . . . .           | * HELEN GAHAGAN   |
| The Princess, her Aunt . . . . .    | MARGARET O'DEA  |
| The Abbess . . . . .                | JEAN HARTMAN  |
| The Sister Monitor . . . . .        | EVA GRUNINGER   |
| The Sister of the Novices . . . . . | CATHERINE STEED   |
| Sister Genoveva . . . . .           | ANNA YOUNG  |
| Two Converts . . . . .              | GEORGETTE SCHILLER, DU BLOIS FERGUSON   |
| Two Novices . . . . .               | OLGA CALLAHAN, IRENE FREMONT  |
| Solo Sisters . . . . .              | FANNETT GIONAS, HELEN NOSTROM, WILLAINE AUER,<br>GERTRUDE GERDAU, MADILYN WILLIAMS-ANKELE,<br>EDITH WISHART, MADELAINE LANZ, GERALDINE WATT |

\* S. F. Opera debut

TIME AND PLACE: Seventh Century; An Italian Convent

## LE COQ D'OR (THE GOLDEN COCK)

Opera-Pantomime in three acts. Music by Rimsky-Korsakoff

Text (in English) translated by Edward Agate

|                          | <i>Singers</i>      | <i>Pantomimists</i> |
|--------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| King Dodon               | DOUGLAS BEATTIE     | ADOLPH BOLM         |
| Queen of Shémaka         | EMILY HARDY         | MACLOVIA RUIZ       |
| The Astrologer           | RAYMOND MARLOWE     | GEORGE BRATOFF      |
| General Polkan           | OLIVER JONES        | NICKOLAI VASILIEFF  |
| Amelfa                   | EVA GRUNINGER       | CLARE LAUCHE        |
| Prince Guidon            | C. MARTIN FRIBERG   | DIMITRI ROMANOFF    |
| Prince Afron             |                     | ARNOLD BLOCK        |
| First Bojor              | ALBERTO VANNUCCI    | JAMES STARBUCK      |
| Second Bojor             | EVARISTO ALIBERTINI | RICHARD SIPRELLE    |
| Voice of the Golden Cock | QUERITA EYBEL       |                     |

Entire production staged and directed by ADOLPH BOLM

Scenery and costumes designed by Nicholas Remisoff

TIME AND PLACE: A Fairy Tale

Acts I and III Palace of King Dodon. Act II A Mountain Pass

Conductor: GAETANO MEROLA

Stage Director: ARMANDO AGNINI

Chorus Master: ANTONIO DELL'OREFICE

No encores permitted. Bell rings three minutes before curtain.

## *The Story of Suor Angelica*

Sister Angelica, a Florentine noblewoman compelled by her family to take the veil following a youthful fault, for seven years has vainly waited tidings from her family. The Abbess announces the arrival of Angelica's aunt, the Princess, who coldly tells Angelica that she has come for her to sign an act of release made necessary by the coming wedding of her younger sister. Informed by the princess that her child had died two years previously, Angelica, in despair, swallows poison. Seized by remorse at her act, she implores the Virgin not to let her die in mortal sin. A miracle takes place. The Virgin appears leading a child. She gently pushes the boy into the arms of his dying mother as a choir of nuns and angels chant forgiveness.

## *The Story Le Coq d'Or*

### **ACT I**

The old story-teller begins to speak and out of the past there rises the vision of an ancient court whose silent figures weave their way between the words. So:—"In the midst of splendor sits the unhappy King and calls his councillors to decide which of his enemies to oppose. But they only talk. This day there comes an old Astrologer bearing a magic Cock of Gold who, when danger threatens, will cry aloud a warning. Joyfully promising the Astrologer his first spoken wish, the King mounts the Golden Cock and surrenders himself to a peaceful old age. The Cock rouses the court and the King sends out the army under his sons. The Cock crows again and King Dodon hears from Polkan of his son's defeat. Then he orders his armor brought, and calling the old men, leads them himself to battle.

### **ACT II**

"But even as his sons, King Dodon is defeated. He mourns the dead princes till the lifting mists disclose a strange tent from which emerges a beautiful Queen. The sight of her drives war from King Dodon's thoughts, and, dazzled, he begs her to come with him and share his throne.

### **ACT III**

"In the courtyard of his castle King Dodon's people, frightened at a great cloud in the east, await uneasily the return of their ruler and his Queen. Their carriage appears and the people cheer mightily. Then into the court the Astrologer walks, and, when the King greets him happily, asks the lovely Queen as the price of the Golden Cock. Enraged, the King strikes the Astrologer dead. The Queen mocks this act with laughter, but when Dodon would embrace her, in fury foretells his death. Then the Golden Cock leaves his spire, and, circling low, pecks the head of the King and he falls dead. When the black cloud has passed the Queen and the Golden Cock are gone, and left before the people is only the slain King, for whom they send up a mournful elegy."—Olga Dee Nelson.

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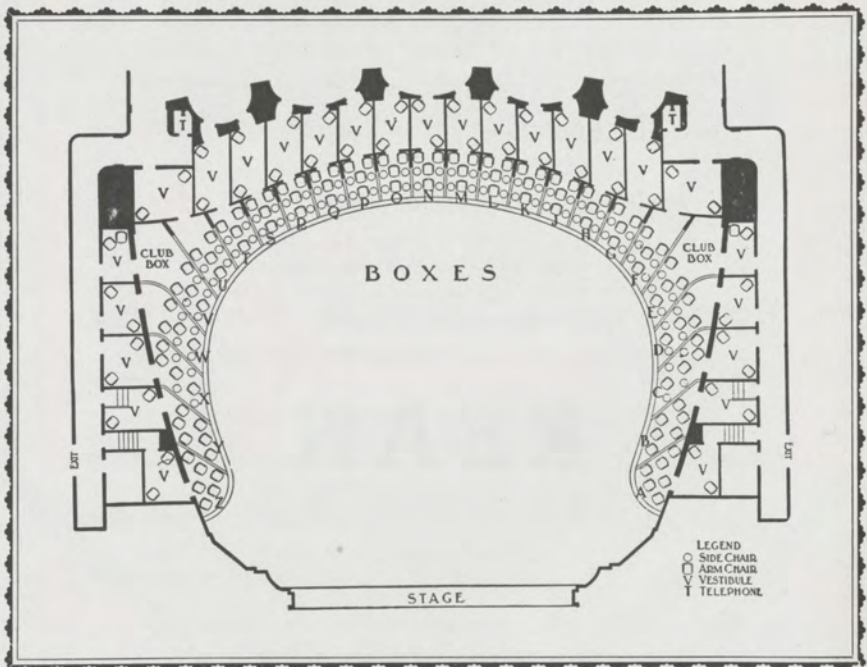
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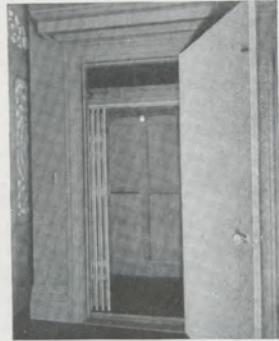


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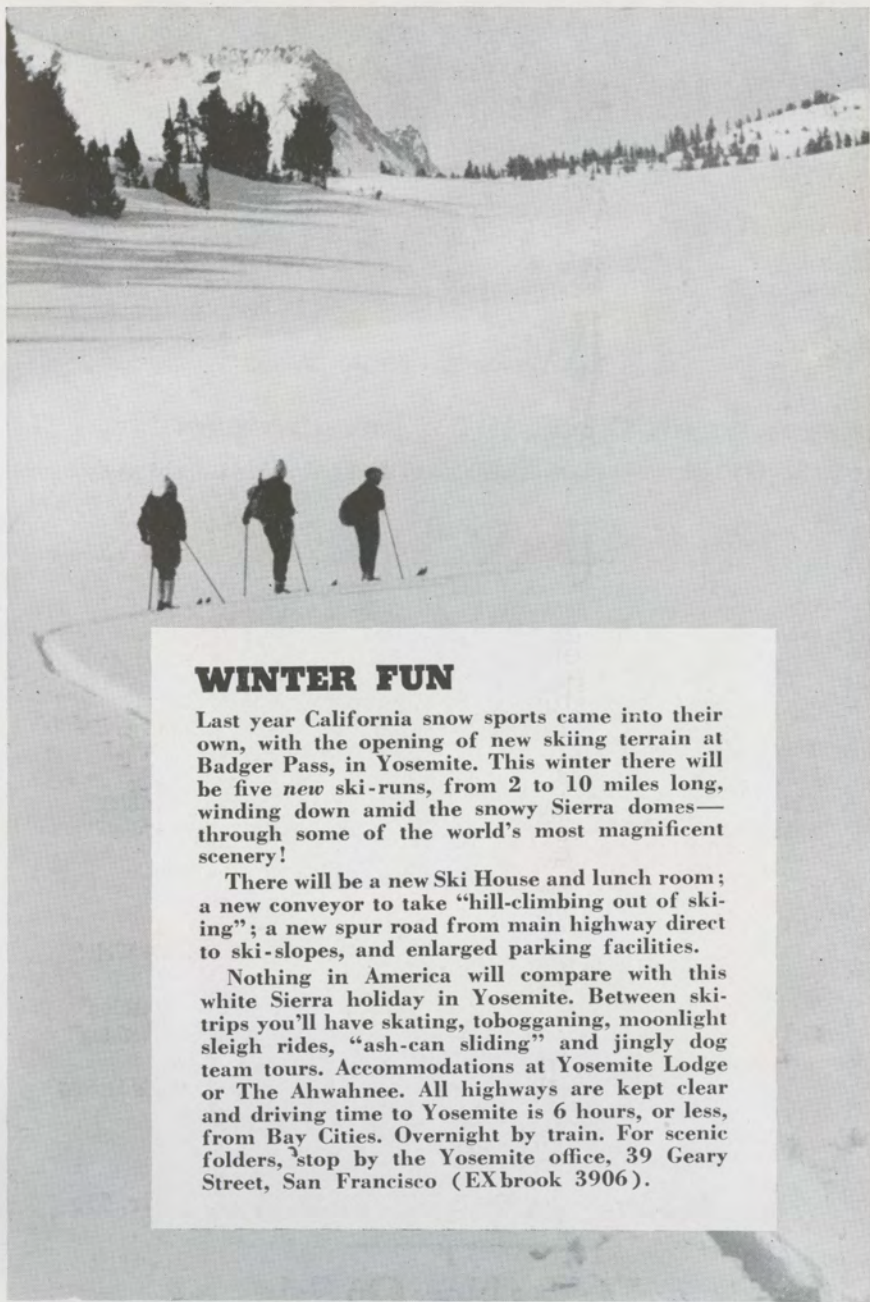
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THU. EVE., DEC. 5—"Macbeth" and "A Comedy of Errors"  
FRI. EVE., DEC. 6—"Hamlet" (Full Program)  
SAT. MAT., DEC. 7—"As You Like It" and "Much Ado About Nothing"  
SAT. EVE., DEC. 7—"Twelfth Night" and "All's Well That Ends Well"

### SECOND AND FINAL WEEK

MON. EVE., DEC. 9—"Macbeth" and "A Comedy of Errors"  
TUE. EVE., DEC. 10—"Twelfth Night" and "All's Well That Ends Well"  
WED. MAT., DEC. 11—"Hamlet" (Full Program)  
WED. EVE., DEC. 11—"As You Like It" and "Much Ado About Nothing"  
THU. EVE., DEC. 12—"As You Like It" and "Much Ado About Nothing"  
FRI. EVE., DEC. 13—"Hamlet" (Full Program)  
SAT. MAT., DEC. 14—"Twelfth Night" and "A Midsummer Night's Dream"  
SAT. EVE., DEC. 14—"Macbeth" and "A Comedy of Errors"

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Nights and Matinee Prices (including tax): \$1.65, \$1.10, 83c, 55c

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