Aida

1937

Friday, October 15, 1937 8:00 PM Tuesday, October 26, 1937 8:00 PM

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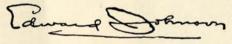
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 REINER, Conductor.
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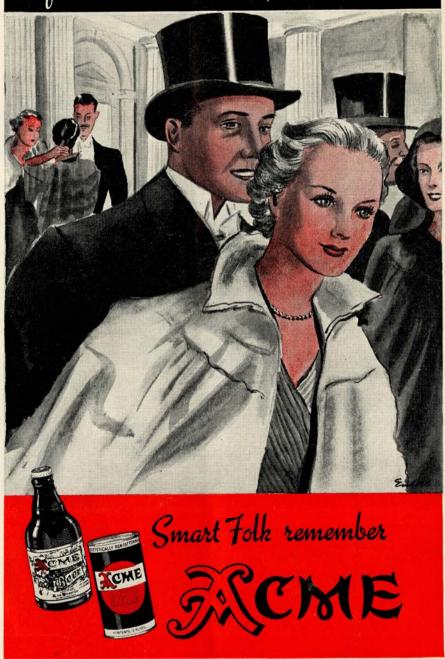
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Opera in four acts and seven scenes. Music by Giuseppe Verdi. Text (in Italian) by Antonio Ghislanzoni.

THE CAST

Aida, an Ethiopian slave *GINA CIGNA Amneris, daughter of the Egyptian King BRUNA CASTAGNA Rhadames, captain of the Egyptian guard GIOVANNI MARTINELLI Amonasro, King of Ethiopia, Aida's father RICHARD BONELLI Ramfis, High Priest of Isis EMANUEL LIST The King of Egypt NORMAN CORDON Messenger LUDOVICO OLIVIERO Priestess * JEAN BALFOUR *San Francisco Opera Début

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Conductor: GAETANO MEROLA Stage Director: ARMANDO AGNINI Chorus Master: WILLIAM TYROLER

TIME AND PLACE: In Pharaoh's Time; Memphis and Thebes

Act I Scene 1 Hall in King's Palace at Memphis Scene 2 Temple of Isis

Act II Scene 1 A Hall in Amneris' Apartment Scene 2 The Gate of Thebes

Acr III Shores of Nile, near Temple of Isis

Act IV Scene 1 Outside the Judgment Hall
Scene 2 Above—In Temple of Vulcan
Below—Vault beneath the Temple
Settings designed by ARMANDO AGNINI

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THE STORY

ACT I

A messenger has come to the palace of the Egyptian king with word of approaching invasion by the Ethiopians under the leadership of King Amonasro. Ramfis, the high priest, reveals to Rhadames that the Gods have selected him to command the forces sent forth to repel the invasion. This choice pleases Princess Amneris for victory would make Rhadames, with whom she is in love, a desirable mate for her. The warrior's thoughts are not of Amneris, however, but of Aida, Ethiopian slave of the princess, captured in a late war, and, unknown to the Egyptians, a daughter of Amonasro. Amneris, coming upon Rhadames, rallies him on the passion of his bearing but jealously comprehends it is not for her when the weeping slave girl enters. The court assembles and escorts Rhadames to the temple to receive his command. (Scene 2). In the recesses of the temple of Vulcan, Rhadames receives a consecrated sword and is dedicated to his trust.

ACT II

Word has come that Rhadames has been victorious. Amneris thinks upon his strange behavior with Aida as she joins her slave girls in singing his praises. On the approach of Aida she deftly gains from her the confession of her love for Rhadames. Then, telling of her own love for the warrior, Amneris commands that Aida shall witness Rhadames' obediences to herself on his triumphant return. (Scene 2). Royal welcome is given Rhadames on his return with the conquered Ethiopians. Amonasro, dressed as a plain officer, is recognized by Aida. Signaling her not to betray his rank he acknowledges her as his daughter and tells how the king, wounded, had died at his feet. Rhadames, offered any boon he may wish, requests the freedom of the Ethiopians. His wish is granted but Amonasro and Aida are retained as hostages. The king then gives Rhadames, as his supreme reward, the hand of Amneris.

ACT III

Amneris goes to the temple on the eve of her marriage to Rhadames. Aida, coming later, is followed by her father who plays upon her love for Rhadames and her concern for her countrymen to involve in a plot to his advantage. Rhadames appearing, Amonasro conceals himself. Aida begs her lover to flee with her. Enraptured, he unwittingly discloses his army's movements, upon which Amonasro comes forth. Amneris, concealed among the palms, has overheard and, enraged, rushes out. Amonasro escapes with Aida.

ACT IV

Amneris, regretting the act that gave the man she loved to the priests, sends for Rhadames and offers to save him if he accept and return her love. Rhadames refuses and she calls down the hatred of the Gods upon him. The priests escort Rhadames to the Hall of Justice. Amneris hears the trial as it is conducted behind the scenes and wildly curses the priest-hood as sentence is pronounced. (Scene 2). Aida, informed of Rhadames' sentence, has concealed herself in the tomb. When he descends into it and prays that she may never know his fate, Aida comes forth that they may die together.



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Feb.	12			Josef Hofmann, Pianist
Feb.	26			GRISHA GOLUBOFF, Violinist
Mar.	12			TILLY LOSCH, Danseuse
Mar.	26			MISCHA ELMAN, Violinist
Apr.	2			Shakespearean Program
				(Guest Artist to be Announced)
Apr.	9			ARTUR SCHNABEL, Pianist
Apr.	23			Municipal Chorus
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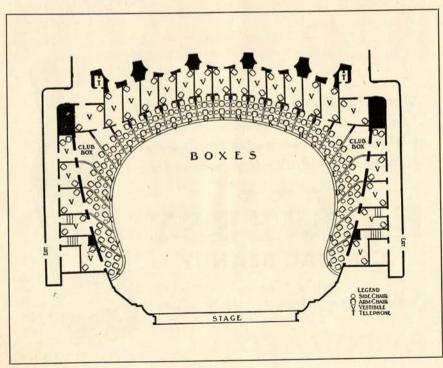
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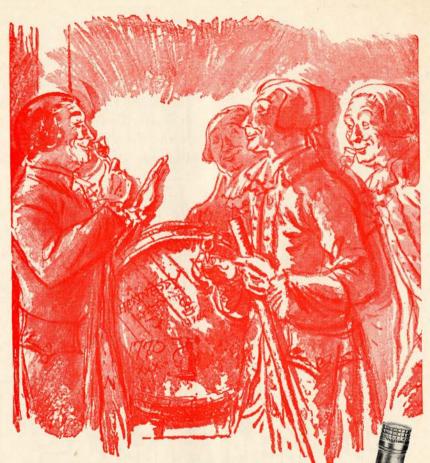


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ACT III A City Gate of Paris

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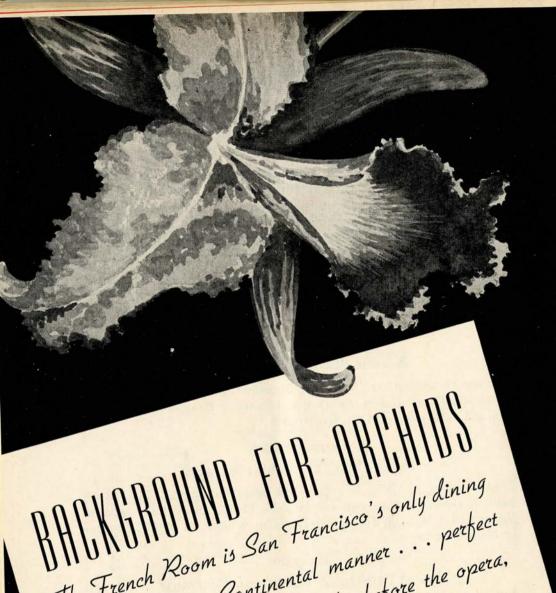
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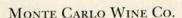
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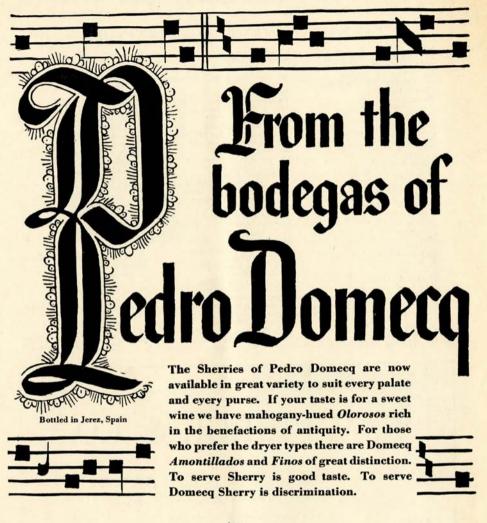
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Aida, an Ethiopian slave
Amneris, daughter of the Egyptian King
Rhadames, captain of the Egyptian guard
Amonasro, King of Ethiopia, Aida's father
Ramfis, High Priest of Isis
The King of Egypt
Messenger
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Priests, Priestesses, Ministers, Captains, Soldiers, Officials, Ethiopian Slaves and Prisoners, Egyptians, etc.

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Act I Scene 1 Hall in King's Palace at Memphis Scene 2 Temple of Isis

Act II Scene 1 A Hall in Amneris' Apartment Scene 2 The Gate of Thebes

Act III Shores of Nile, near Temple of Isis

Act IV Scene 1 Outside the Judgment Hall
Scene 2 Above—In Temple of Vulcan
Below—Vault beneath the Temple
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