

Norma

1937

Saturday, November 13, 1937 8:00 PM

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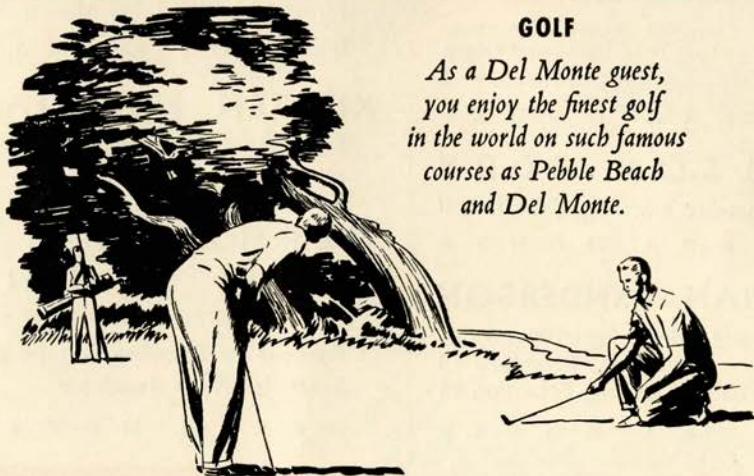
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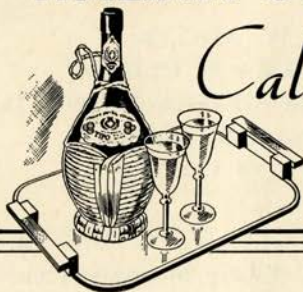


Alfred. *con grazia leggierrissimo*

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## San Francisco Opera Program

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## *San Francisco Opera Program*

# SAN FRANCISCO OPERA COMPANY

With extra performances presented for the first time as a Repeat Series bringing the total number for the season to eighteen, largest in its history, the San Francisco Opera Company, maintained by the San Francisco Opera Association, begins its Fifteenth Annual Season on Friday evening, October 15 and brings it to an end Saturday evening, November 13.

### *Conductors*

GAETANO MEROLA                      FRITZ REINER  
GENNARO PAPI                         PIETRO CIMINI

### *Assistant Conductors*

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### *Guest Artists*

PERRY ASKAM, *baritone*; HELEN BEATTY, *contralto*; CHARLOTTE BOERNER, *soprano*; RICHARD BONELLI, *baritone*; VINA BOVY, *soprano*; BRUNA CASTAGNA, *contralto*; GEORGE CEHANOVSKY, *baritone*; GINA CIGNA, *soprano*; HANS CLEMENS, *tenor*; NORMAN CORDON, *bass*; DOROTHY CORNISH, *contralto*; KIRSTEN FLAGSTAD, *soprano*; LUDWIG HOFMANN, *baritone*; JULIUS HUEHN, *baritone*; CHARLES KULLMANN, *tenor*; EMANUEL LIST, *bass*; RENE MAISON, *tenor*; GIOVANNI MARTINELLI, *tenor*; KATHRYN MEISLE, *contralto*; LAURITZ MELCHIOR, *tenor*; LUDOVICO OLIVIERO, *tenor*; EZIO PINZA, *bass*; LILY PONS, *soprano*; ROSA TENTONI, *soprano*.

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# San Francisco Opera Program

## REPERTOIRE

### REGULAR SERIES

- AIDA (*Verdi*) . . . . . *Friday Night*, October 15, at 8:00  
With Cigna, Castagna, Martinelli, Bonelli, List, Cordon, Oliviero, Balfour and Corps de Ballet,  
Oukrainsky, Ballet Master. MEROLA, Conductor
- LA BOHEME (*Puccini*) . . . . . *Monday Night*, October 18, at 8:15  
With Bovy, Boerner, Kullmann, Bonelli, Cehanovsky, Pinza, Oliviero, Jones, Mancini,  
Alibertini, Lorenzini. PAPI, Conductor.
- THE MASKED BALL (*Verdi*) . . . . . *Wednesday Night*, October 20, at 8:00  
With Martinelli, Bonelli, Cigna, Castagna, Boerner, Cordon, List, Oliviero, Cehanovsky and  
Corps de Ballet, Oukrainsky, Ballet Master. PAPI, Conductor.
- TRISTAN UND ISOLDE (*Wagner*) . . . . . *Monday Night*, October 25, at 7:45  
With Melchior, Flagstad, Meisle, Hofmann, Huehn, Cehanovsky, Clemens, Cordon.  
REINER, Conductor.
- MADAMA BUTTERFLY (*Puccini*) . . . . . *Wednesday Night*, October 27, at 8:15  
With Tentoni, Kullmann, Cornish, Huehn, Oliviero, Cordon, Howell, Hackett, Lorenzini  
Alibertini. PAPI, Conductor.
- LAKME (*Delibes*) . . . . . *Friday Night*, October 29, at 8:00  
With Pons, Maison, Cehanovsky, Pinza, Ferrier, Beatty, Callahan, Kroph, Hackett, and  
Corps de Ballet, Oukrainsky, Ballet Master. CIMINI, Conductor.
- ROMEO AND JULIET (*Gounod*) . . . . . *Monday Night*, November 1, at 8:00  
With Bovy, Maison, Russell, Askam, Oliviero, Cordon, Cehanovsky, List, Green, Cornish,  
Sheffoff, and Corps de Ballet, Hirsch, Ballet Mistress. MEROLA, Conductor.
- LOHENGRIN (*Wagner*) . . . . . *Friday Night*, November 5, at 7:45  
With Melchior, Flagstad, Huehn, Meisle, Hofmann, Cehanovsky. REINER, Conductor.
- FIDELIO (*Beethoven*) . . . . . *Monday Night*, November 8, at 8:00  
With Maison, Flagstad, Huehn, Hofmann, List, Boerner, Clemens, George, Sherrill.  
REINER, Conductor.
- MANON (*Massenet*) . . . . . *Wednesday Night*, November 10, at 8:00  
With Bovy, Maison, Bonelli, Cordon, Oliviero, Ferrier, Cehanovsky, Kroph, Landan, Luscombe,  
Loughery, Bernhard. CIMINI, Conductor.
- NORMA (*Bellini*) . . . . . *Saturday Night*, November 13, at 8:00  
With Cigna, Martinelli, Castagna, Cornish, Oliviero, Pinza. MEROLA, Conductor.

### POPULAR SERIES

- FAUST (*Gounod*) . . . . . *Saturday Night*, October 23, at 8:00  
With Martinelli, Pinza, Boerner, Askam, Beatty, Callahan, Howell, and Corps de Ballet,  
Oukrainsky, Ballet Master. CIMINI, Conductor.
- LA TRAVIATA (*Verdi*) . . . . . *Saturday Night*, October 30, at 8:15  
With Cigna, Kullmann, Bonelli, Olivero, Cehanovsky, Kroph, Hathaway, Cordon, Howell,  
Alibertini, and Corps de Ballet, Oukrainsky, Ballet Master. MEROLA, Conductor.
- RIGOLETTO (*Verdi*) . . . . . *Saturday Night*, November 6, at 8:00  
With Bonelli, Tumminia, Kullmann, Cordon, Cornish, Sheffoff, Jones, Oliviero, Cehanovsky,  
Wishart, Hackett, Cozzens, and Corps de Ballet, Hirsch, Ballet Mistress. PAPI, Conductor.

### REPEAT SERIES

- AIDA (*Verdi*) . . . . . *Tuesday Night*, October 26, at 8:00  
With Cigna, Castagna, Martinelli, Bonelli, Pinza, Cordon, Oliviero, Balfour, and Corps de Ballet,  
Oukrainsky, Ballet Master. MEROLA, Conductor.
- TRISTAN UND ISOLDE (*Wagner*) . . . . . *Sunday Afternoon*, October 31, at 2:00  
With Melchior, Flagstad, Meisle, Hofmann, Huehn, Cordon, Clemens, Cehanovsky.  
REINER, Conductor.
- LAKME (*Delibes*) . . . . . *Wednesday Night*, November 3, at 8:00  
With Pons, Maison, Cehanovsky, Pinza, Ferrier, Beatty, Callahan, Kroph, Hackett, and  
Corps de Ballet, Oukrainsky, Ballet Master. CIMINI, Conductor.
- LOHENGRIN (*Wagner*) . . . . . *Thursday Night*, November 11, at 7:45  
With Melchior, Flagstad, Huehn, Meisle, Hofmann, Cehanovsky. REINER, Conductor.

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# San Francisco Opera Program

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JULIUS HUEHN



ROSA TENTONI



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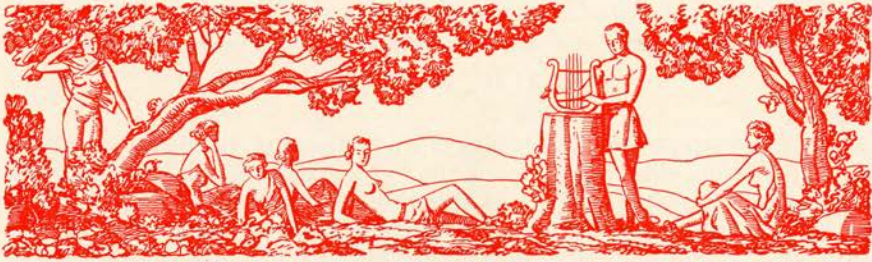
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**ACME**

*Dietetically* **NON-FATTENING**



Thursday Night, November 11, at 7:45

# LOHENGRIN

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

## THE CAST

Lohengrin, <i>Knight of the Holy Grail</i>	LAURITZ MELCHIOR
Elsa of Brabant	KIRSTEN FLAGSTAD
Frederick of Telramund, <i>Count of Brabant</i>	JULIUS HUEHN
Ortrud, <i>his wife</i>	KATHRYN MEISLE
Henry the Fowler, <i>King of Germany</i>	LUDWIG HOFMANN
The King's Herald	GEORGE CEHANOVSKY
Gottfried	BILLIE HETRICK

*Saxons, Thuringen and Brabantian Counts and Nobles,  
Ladies of Honor, Pages and Attendants*

Conductor: FRITZ REINER

Stage Director: HERBERT GRAF

Chorus Masters: WILLIAM TYROLER, HERMANN WEIGERT

TIME AND PLACE: Antwerp, during the First Half of the Tenth Century

ACT I On the Banks of the River Scheldt

ACT II Court of the Palace

ACT III Scene 1 The Bridal Chamber of the Palace  
Scene 2 Same as Act I

Settings designed by ARMANDO AGNINI

*Bell rings three minutes before curtain rises*

*Encores not permitted*

## *San Francisco Opera Program*

### THE STORY

#### ACT I

King Henry, come to enlist the aid of the Knights of Brabant against the invading Huns, finds strife among the nobles. Telramund, who had been appointed by the dying Duke of Brabant as guardian of his children, Elsa and Gottfried, has accused Elsa of having killed her brother and concealed his body. Telramund was betrothed to Elsa but suspecting her of fratricide he has married Ortrud and claimed the Dukedom. King Henry summons Elsa to plead her cause. She makes no statement, but tells of a vision she has had of a knight sent by Heaven to champion her. Telramund demands that Elsa produce her dream knight to combat him. Three calls of the trumpet are sounded, and a knight appears in silver armor, standing in a boat drawn by a swan. He announces that he has been sent by God to defend a slandered maiden and offers himself as her champion, and her husband, provided only that she will never ask his name. Elsa accepts his condition and the knight fells Telramund.

#### ACT II

Telramund upbraids Ortrud for their downfall, but she explains that the knight had won by sorcery and they need only overcome his power to win their own reinstatement. As they argue Elsa comes to her window, pouring out her love for the young stranger. Making her presence known, Ortrud feigns repentance in order to gain Elsa's ear and implant in her heart the seeds of doubt and suspicion. The light of day is welcomed by a trumpeter. A herald proclaims the banishment of Telramund and the leadership of the mysterious knight as the Guardian of Brabant. Elsa's wedding procession starts. She is about to enter the chapel when Ortrud appears and demands priority over the bride-elect of a nameless knight. Telramund accuses the knight of sorcery, but the King will not listen. The train enters the church, and Elsa and Lohengrin are united.

#### ACT III

This act opens in the bridal chamber. The seeds of curiosity and distrust which Ortrud has sown in Elsa's mind have ripened. In spite of her conviction that it will destroy her happiness, she questions Lohengrin with increasing vehemence, at last openly demanding to know his secret. At this juncture Telramund breaks into the apartment with four followers, intending to take the life of Lohengrin. A single blow of the knight's sword stretches him lifeless. Lohengrin then places Elsa in the charge of her ladies and orders them to take her to the presence of the king at the Oak of Justice whither he will follow and disclose his identity. (Scene 2) The knight easily justifies his slaying of Telramund. Then, compelled by his wife's unfortunate rashness, he discloses himself as the son of Parsifal, Knight of the Holy Grail, and announces that he must now return to its guardianship. The swan once more appears and as he steps into the boat he bids Elsa an eternal farewell. Before he sails away, however, Ortrud declares to the wondering crowd that the swan is Elsa's brother. Lohengrin at once disenchant the swan, Gottfried appears and rushes into his sister's arms. A white dove flies through the air and Lohengrin sails away as Elsa dies in the embrace of her newly found brother.



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*Mr. A.*—That's good to hear, these days.

*Mr. B.*—Well, it's true. My affairs are all set now so that no matter what happens to me, the family will have a regular income. The bank calls it a Family Trust.

*Mr. A.*—You mean you've tied your property up in trust?

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TWO THIRTY O'CLOCK

### DATES AND GUEST ARTISTS

- Dec. 10 . . . . . Opening Concert
- Dec. 17 . . . . . RUTH SLENCZYNSKI, *Pianist*
- Jan. 7 . . . . . JASCHA HEIFETZ, *Violinist*
- Jan. 21 . . . . . ROSE BAMPTON, *Soprano*
- Feb. 4 . . . . . YVONNE ASTRUC, *Violinist*
- Feb. 11 . . . . . JOSEF HOFMANN, *Pianist*
- Feb. 25 . . . . . GRISHA GOLUBOFF, *Violinist*
- Mar. 11 . . . . . TILLY LOSCH, *Danseuse*
- Mar. 25 . . . . . MISCHA ELMAN, *Violinist*
- Apr. 1 . . . . . Shakespearean Program  
(Guest Artist to be Announced)
- Apr. 8 . . . . . ARTUR SCHNABEL, *Pianist*
- Apr. 22 . . . . . Municipal Chorus  
In CESAR FRANCK'S "Beatitudes"

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EIGHT THIRTY O'CLOCK

### DATES AND GUEST ARTISTS

Dec. 11	.....	Opening Concert
Dec. 18	.....	RUTH SLENCZYNSKI, <i>Pianist</i>
Jan. 8	.....	JASCHA HEIFETZ, <i>Violinist</i>
Jan. 22	.....	ROSE BAMPTON, <i>Soprano</i>
Feb. 5	.....	YVONNE ASTRUC, <i>Violinist</i>
Feb. 12	.....	JOSEF HOFMANN, <i>Pianist</i>
Feb. 26	.....	GRISHA GOLUBOFF, <i>Violinist</i>
Mar. 12	.....	TILLY LOSCH, <i>Danseuse</i>
Mar. 26	.....	MISCHA ELMAN, <i>Violinist</i>
Apr. 2	.....	Shakespearean Program (Guest Artist to be Announced)
Apr. 9	.....	ARTUR SCHNABEL, <i>Pianist</i>
Apr. 23	.....	Municipal Chorus In CESAR FRANCK's " <i>Beatitudes</i> "

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    Music after Henry Purcell, by Fritz Cohen
2. PAVANE    Choreography by Kurt Jooss  
    Music by Maurice Ravel
3. A BALL IN OLD VIENNA                      Choreography by Kurt Jooss  
    Music by Joseph Lanner, arr. by Fritz Cohen
4. THE GREEN TABLE                      Dance Drama by Kurt Jooss  
    Music by Fritz Cohen

#### SATURDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 4

1. BALLADE    Ballet by Kurt Jooss  
    Music by John Colman
2. THE BIG CITY                                      Ballet by Kurt Jooss  
    Music by Alexander Tansman
3. JOHANN STRAUSS, TONIGHT!              Ballet by Kurt Jooss  
    Music by Johann Strauss (Free Adaptation by Fritz Cohen)
4. THE MIRROR                                      Dance Drama by Kurt Jooss  
    Music by Fritz Cohen

#### SUNDAY AFTERNOON, DECEMBER 5

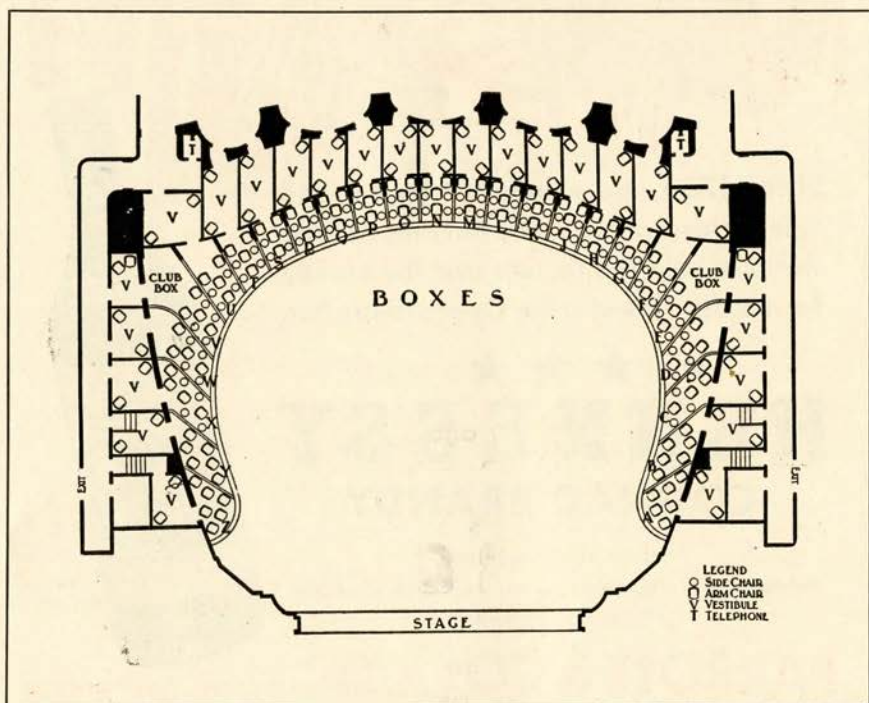
1. THE SEVEN HEROES                      Comic Ballet by Kurt Jooss
2. THE BIG CITY                                      Ballet by Kurt Jooss
3. THE PRODIGAL SON                      A Legend in Dance by Kurt Jooss  
    Music by Fritz Cohen

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# San Francisco Opera Program

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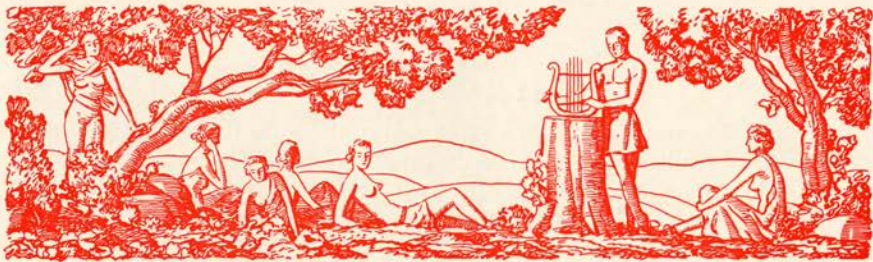
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Saturday Night, November 13, at 8:00

# NORMA

Opera in four acts. Music by Vincenzo Bellini. Text (in Italian) by Felice Romani founded on a French tragedy by Soumet

FIRST TIME BY THE SAN FRANCISCO OPERA COMPANY

## THE CAST

Norma, <i>High Priestess of the Temple of Esus</i>	GINA CIGNA
Pollione, <i>a Roman proconsul, holding command of the Legions of Gaul</i>	GIOVANNI MARTINELLI
Adalgisa, <i>a Virgin of the Temple</i>	BRUNA CASTAGNA
Oroveso, <i>the Arch-Druid, father of Norma</i>	EZIO PINZA
Clotilde, <i>attendant of Norma</i>	DOROTHY CORNISH
Flavio, <i>lieutenant of Pollione</i>	LUDOVICO OLIVIERO
<i>Gaul Warriors, Ministering Priests, Priestesses and Virgins of the Temple, two Children of Norma and Pollione</i>	

Conductor: GAETANO MEROLA

Stage Director: ARMANDO AGNINI

Chorus Master: WILLIAM TYROLER

TIME AND PLACE: About 50 B. C.; Transalpine Gaul

ACT I Sacred Grove of the Druids

ACT II Interior of Norma's Dwelling

ACT III Same as Act II

ACT IV Outside the Temple of Irminsul

Settings designed by ARMANDO AGNINI

*Bell rings three minutes before curtain rises*

*Encores not permitted*

## *San Francisco Opera Program*

### THE STORY

NOTE: The Romans had conquered Gaul and committed its government to Proconsul Pollione with whom Norma, violating her vows of chastity, had secretly married bearing him two children. Pollione, recalled to Rome, has transferred his affections to Adalgisa as the opera opens.

#### ACT I

Burning with desire to throw off the Roman yoke, the Gauls come to the sacred Druidical stone in the hope that Norma, through whom the will of the Diety Irminsul is conveyed, will bid them strike. After a brief meeting they disperse. Pollione and Flavio cautiously enter. Pollione confides his betrayal of Norma's love and his desire for Adalgisa. The sacred shield sounds and the Gauls reassemble. Norma, arriving with attendant priestesses, again invokes peace and dismisses them. Pollione gains Adalgisa's consent to forsake the temple and flee with him to Rome.

#### ACT II

Norma, having had no word from Pollione, fears for the safety of her children and bids Clotilde hide them. The distraught Adalgisa, unaware of Pollione's marriage to Norma, carries her distress to the high priestess. Norma is disposed to release the young priestess from her vows. But at the very moment she asks the man's name, Pollione enters. "Behold him," Adalgisa cries. Norma, in towering rage, denounces Pollione. Insensible of her anger, he attempts to beguile Adalgisa in Norma's very presence. But she recoils from him.

#### ACT III

The crazed Norma resolves to destroy her children but mother-love stays her hand. She summons Adalgisa and, telling of her determination to seek death on the funeral pyre, enjoins her to take her place as the children's mother and the wife of Pollione. Adalgisa pleads with Norma against her desperate plan, and promises to persuade Pollione to return to her.

#### ACT IV

Oroveso tells the assembled soldiers and Druids no word has been received from Norma, and advises that the time to strike has not yet come. They depart as Norma enters happily anticipating her reunion with Pollione. Her illusion is suddenly dispelled by Clotilde who informs her that Adalgisa's mission has been fruitless. The now infuriated Norma summons her hosts and commands them to rise against the Romans. Pollione is discovered in their midst, a spy. Norma claims the right to slay him and snatches the knife from Oroveso. But she has not the courage to take the life of the man she still loves. Declaring her desire to question Pollione, she pleads that he return to her. He refuses. She threatens on the pain of death to their children and to Adalgisa. Pollione again refuses, baring his breast to her dagger instead. In a transport of fury Norma again summons her followers and to the astonished gathering confesses that she, their high priestess, has violated her vows of chastity and claims purification upon the sacrificial pyre. Moved by her devotion, Pollione finds his love for her returning. He begs leave to share the flames and together they go to their death.



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# *San Francisco Opera Program*

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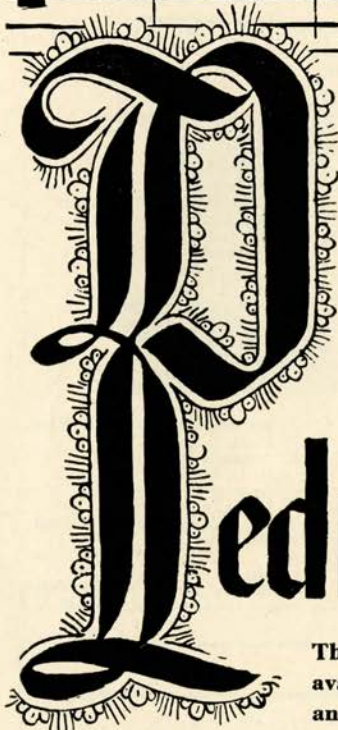
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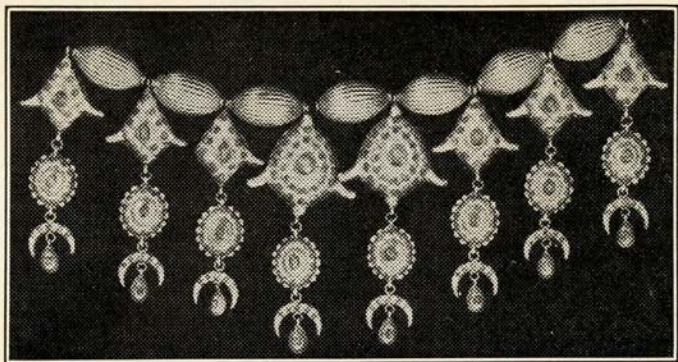
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THIS WINE IS IDENTICAL WITH THAT SOLD IN ENGLAND