

Roméo et Juliette

1937

Monday, November 1, 1937 8:00 PM

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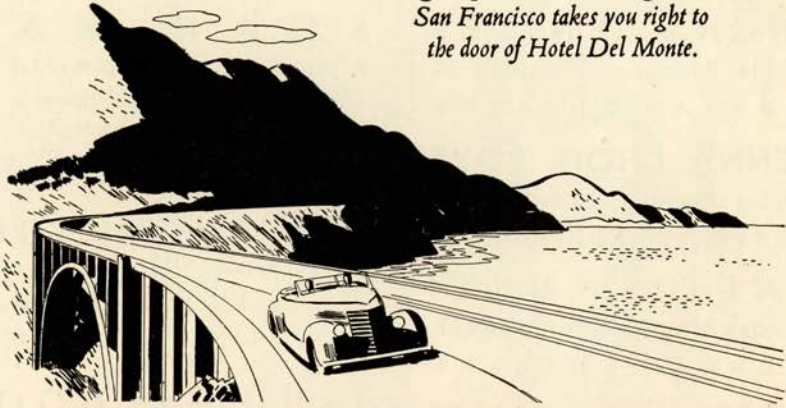
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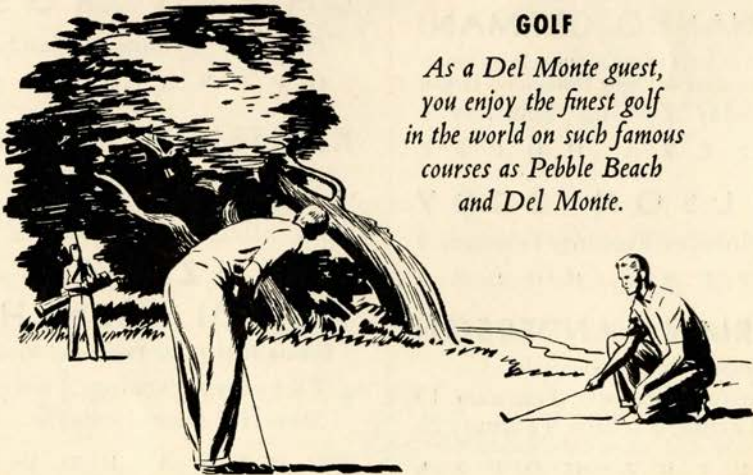
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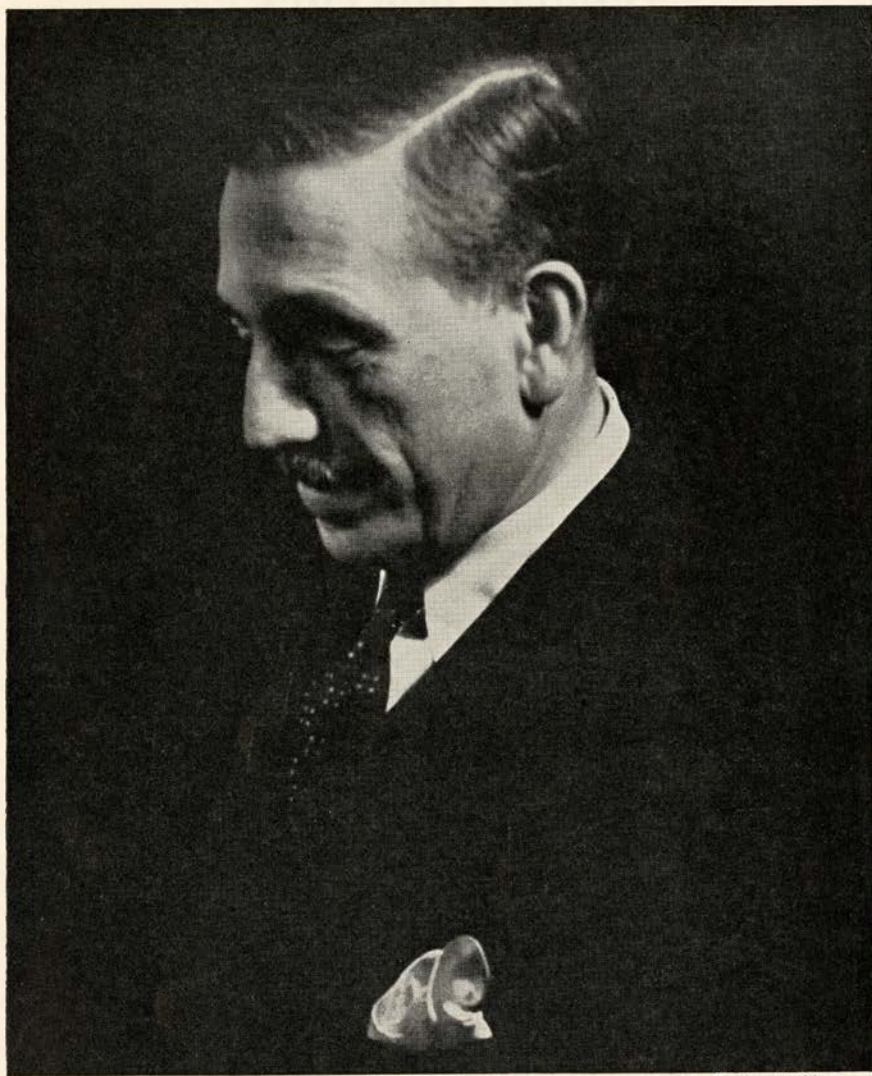
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San Francisco Opera Program

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.

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Guest Artists

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San Francisco Opera Program

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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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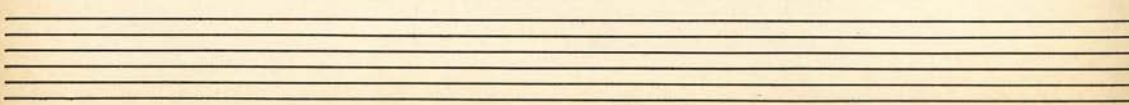
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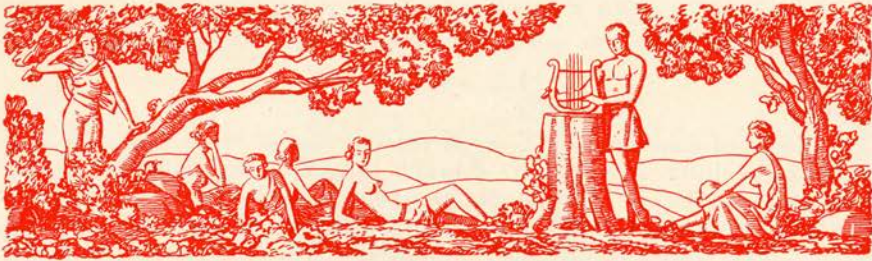
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Monday Night, November 1, at 8:00

ROMEO AND JULIET

Opera in five acts and six scenes. Music by Charles Gounod.
Text (in French) by Barbier and Carré

THE CAST

Juliet, daughter of Capulet	VINA BOVY
Romeo	RENE MAISON
Tybalt, Capulet's nephew	ROY RUSSELL
Mercutio	PERRY ASKAM
Benvolio	LUDOVICO OLIVIERO
Capulet, a Veronese noble	NORMAN CORDON
Gregorio, kinsman of Capulet	JOHN HOWELL
Friar Laurent	EMANUEL LIST
Stephano, page of Romeo	ESTHER GREEN
Gertrude, Juliet's nurse	DOROTHY CORNISH
The Duke of Verona	HENRI SHEFOFF

*Ladies and Nobles of Verona, Citizens, Soldiers, Monks, Pages,
Relatives and Retainers of the Capulets and Montagues*

Choreography by MILDRED HIRSCH, Ballet Mistress
Corps de Ballet

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

The Action Takes Place in Verona

- ACT I Ballroom in Capulet's House
ACT II Capulet's Garden—Juliet's Apartment Above
ACT III Scene 1 The Cell of Friar Laurent
Scene 2 A Street in Verona
ACT IV Juliet's Chamber
ACT V The Tomb of Juliet

Settings designed by ARMANDO AGNINI

Bell rings three minutes before curtain rises

Encores not permitted

San Francisco Opera Program

THE STORY

ACT I

The house of Capulet is en fete. A masked ball is being given for the entrance of Juliet into society. Capulet introduces his daughter to the assembled guests and all leave for the banquet hall. Romeo, Mercutio, Benvolio and others of the Montagues, in mask and bent on youthful frolic, enter. Juliet returns to the ballroom with her nurse, Gertrude. The intruders hide themselves. Gertrude is sent back to the banquet hall and Juliet is about to follow but is restrained by Romeo, entranced by her beauty. It is love at first sight. Their love banter is interrupted by the hot-headed Tybalt. He recognizes Romeo through his mask and denounces him, vowing vengeance. Romeo is about to draw his sword but is cautioned by Mercutio. Tybalt is restrained by Capulet and an open break is averted.

ACT II

Romeo ascends to Juliet's balcony. Juliet comes from her chamber and the long love scene begins. It is interrupted by Gregorio and Capulet retainers who have been warned of an intruder. Finding no one, they depart in anger. The lovers continue in bliss until Gertrude warns of the approaching dawn.

ACT III

Romeo, entering the cell of Friar Laurent, tells of his love for Juliet and their desire for a clandestine marriage. Juliet soon follows and the Friar, seeing in their union a healing of the feud between the two houses, performs the ceremony. (Scene 2) Stephano, in search of Romeo, sings an impudent song before the house of Capulet. It brings Gregorio in fury into the street. Stephano continues his taunting and in the general fighting which follows, both Capulets and Montagues coming upon the scene, Mercutio is wounded by Tybalt, who in turn, is killed by Romeo. The Duke of Verona, with his retinue, arrives. Romeo is sentenced to exile and escaping death only that he fought fairly, vows to see Juliet once more at all hazards.

ACT IV

Romeo has found a way into Capulet's house and comes to bid Juliet goodby. Juliet pardons him the death of Tybalt and their farewells continue throughout the night. (Scene 2) Capulet, with Friar Laurent, comes to tell Juliet that her marriage with Paris must straightway take place. The Friar, when she would protest, cautions Juliet to silence. Capulet departs and the Friar, staying her desperate hand and descending dagger, gives Juliet a phial containing a potion which he tells her will cause a sleep resembling death for two and forty hours and admonishes that she take it at the hour of the marriage.

ACT V

Romeo forces his way into the Capulet vault. Perceiving the body of Juliet on her tomb and believing her dead, he drinks poison. Juliet, effects of the sleeping potion having worn off, arouses. It is too late. Romeo, tottering, tells her of his fatal draught. Juliet, drawing his dagger from its sheath, pierces her breast and the houses of Capulet and Montague are united in death.



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Mr. B.—Never enjoyed it more. I'm completely at peace with the world.

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



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EIGHT THIRTY O'CLOCK

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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 "Beatitudes"



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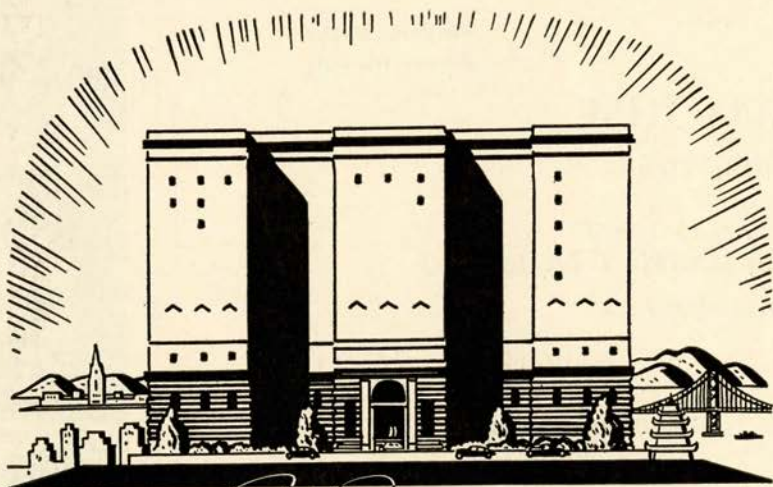
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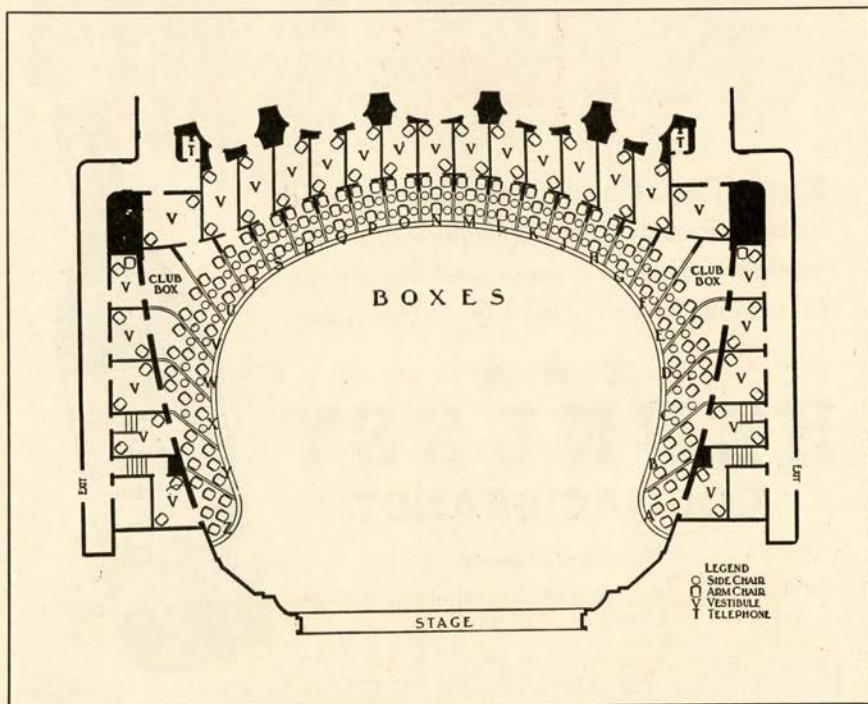
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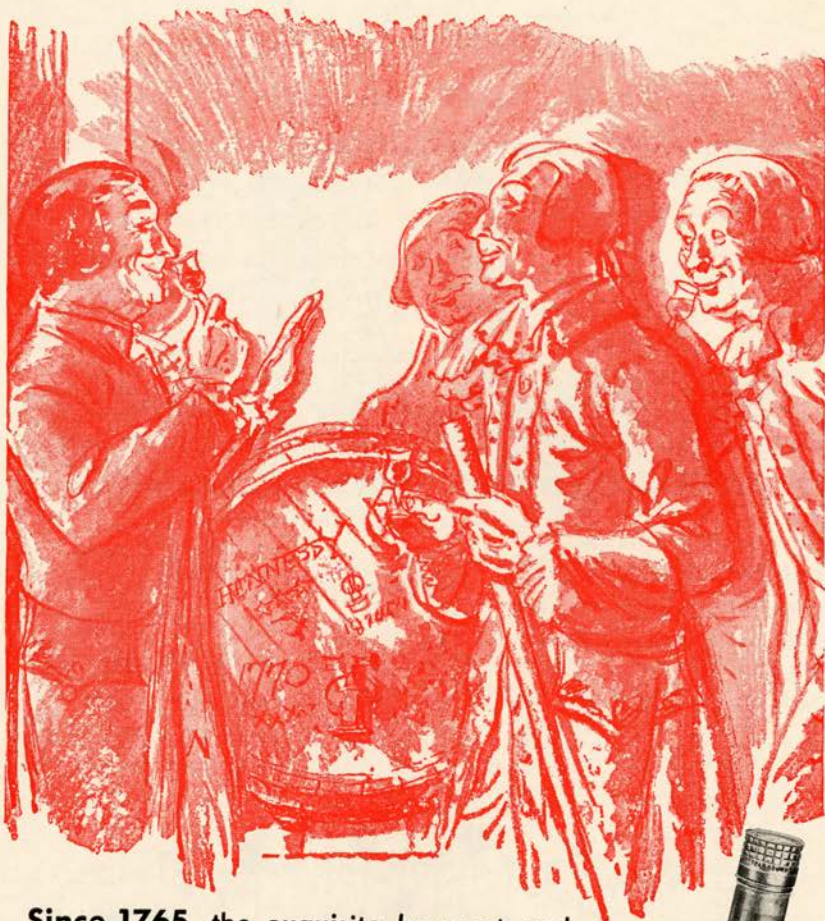
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San Francisco Opera Program

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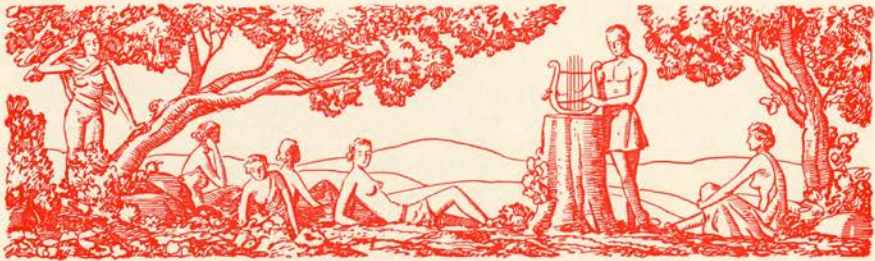
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Wednesday Night, November 3, at 8:00

LAKMÉ

Opera in three acts. Music by Léo Delibes. Text (in French)
by Gouduinet and Gille. Taken from the story, "Le Mariage de Loti"

THE CAST

Lakmé, daughter of Nilakantha	LILY PONS
Gerald, } officers of the British army {	RENE MAISON
Frederic, } in India {	GEORGE CEHANOVSKY
Nilakantha, a Brahmin priest	EZIO PINZA
Hadji, a Hindoo slave	ANDRE FERRIER
Mallika, Lakmé's slave	HELEN BEATTY
Mrs. Bentson, a governess	OLGA CALLAHAN
Ellen, the governor's daughter	LINA KROPH
Rose, her companion	ELIZABETH HACKETT

*Hindoos, Altar Girls, English Officers and Ladies, Sailors, Soldiers,
Tourists, Bayaderes, Chinese, Merchants, Fakirs*

Choreography by SERGE OUKRAINSKY, Ballet Master

Principal Dancers: Serge Oukrainsky, Willette Allen, Deane Crockett,
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Conductor: PIETRO CIMINI

Stage Director: ARMANDO AGNINI

Chorus Master: WILLIAM TYROLER

TIME AND PLACE: The Present: India

ACT I A Sacred Garden

ACT II A Bazaar

ACT III An Indian Forest

Settings designed by ARMANDO AGNINI

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Bell rings three minutes before curtain rises

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San Francisco Opera Program

THE STORY

ACT I

Before departing on a journey, Nilakantha, guardian of the Shrine of Ganesa, leaves Lakmé in charge of attendants, warning them that death will be the fate of any foreigner trespassing in the holy gardens. A party of English gentlemen and their ladies wander to the garden in their sight-seeing and, heedless of the advice of Frederic, break down the frail fence and enter. Gerald, charmed by the spot and intrigued with the story of Nilakantha and Lakmé as told by Frederic, remains to sketch the design of some jewels when the others depart. Surprised by the return of the attendants he conceals himself, but is discovered by Lakmé. Knowing her outcry would summon the guards from the temple, Lakmé hesitates to bring death to the obviously charmed youth and bids him begone. Gerald answers with a passionate outburst of love. Lakmé, deeply affected, finally prevails upon him to leave just as Nilakantha returns, and, finding the fence broken, declares the intruder must die.

ACT II

Nilakantha knows that the invaders of the holy grounds could be found in the bazaar. Disguised as a beggar, he brings Lakmé thither in the belief that the stranger would recognize her by sight or sound of voice and betray his presence. He orders Lakmé to sing. A crowd gathers, but Gerald is not among them. Nilakantha commands Lakmé to sing again. Gerald, now attracted by the voice, draws near. Their startled recognition is noted by Nilakantha, who contrives to separate Gerald from his friends. Lakmé warns Gerald to flee, but, feeling it beneath his valor as an officer, he refuses and they are surrounded. Nilakantha buries a knife in Gerald's body and makes his escape. But the wound is not mortal, and Lakmé, hoping to win the love of the man the gods have decreed she should hate, has Gerald carried to a hut in the jungle that she may nurse him back to health and strength.

ACT III

Gerald, watched over by Lakmé, recalls the past as his consciousness returns, but seems to heed nothing but his love for the Hindu maiden. A group of young people pass on their way to a sacred spring whose waters insure love's happiness. Besought by Gerald, Lakmé eagerly goes to bring some of the water. Frederic, who has searched out the hidden hut, comes to tell Gerald of a native uprising and remind him of his duty. Gerald half promises to rejoin his regiment, but in his heart would stay with Lakmé. On her return, Lakmé discerns the change in her lover. She drinks of the sacred water and gives some to Gerald. As he drinks it, the wounded officer gives eager ear to the sound of fife and drums and the song of marching soldiers. Lakmé, realizing her love is lost, unobserved plucks daturas from their stems and presses the poison petals to her lips. Nilakantha in rage comes upon them. But Lakmé, warning him that Gerald has drunk of the sacred water and is blessed of the gods, stays his vengeful hand and dies in the arms of her lover.



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San Francisco Opera Program

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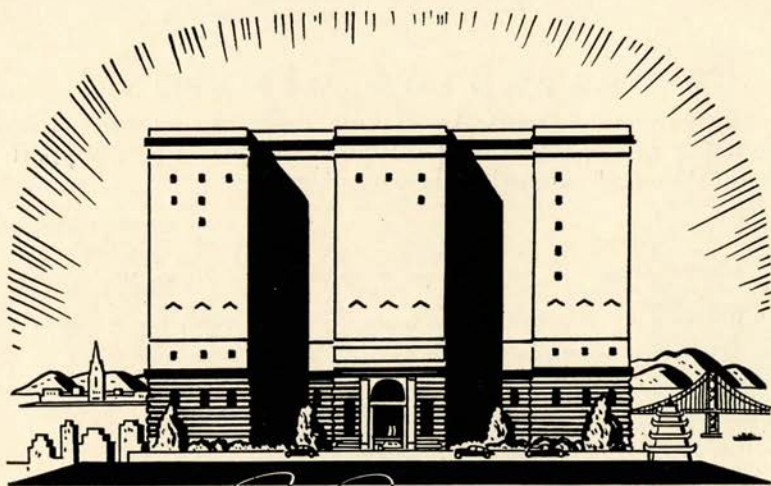
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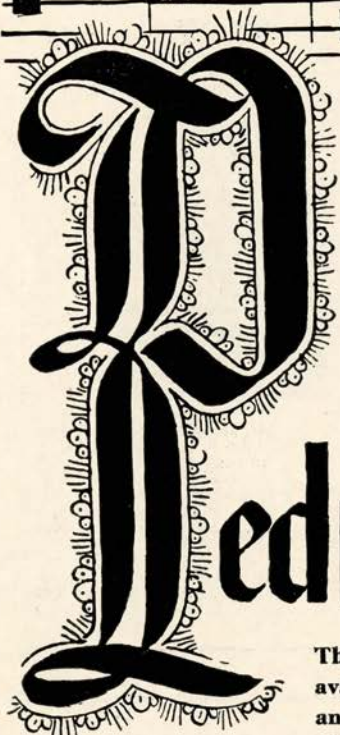
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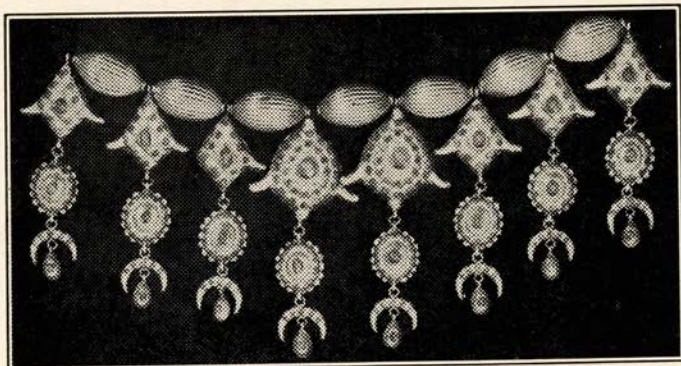
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