Martha

1938

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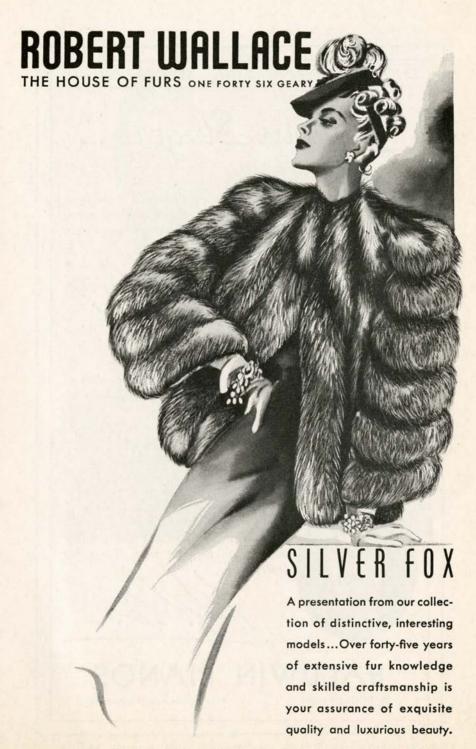
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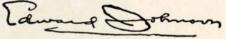


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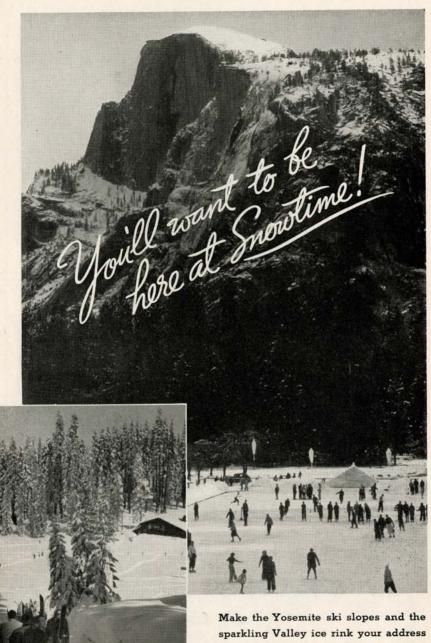
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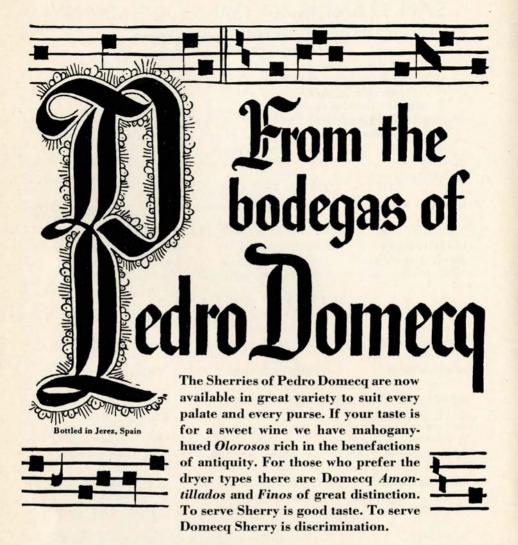
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Friday Afternoon, Jan. 13 \ No Guest Artist Saturday Evening, Jan. 14 \

Friday Afternoon, Jan. 20 \ Saturday Evening, Jan. 21 \ Duo Pianists

Friday Afternoon, Feb. 3 STRAVINSKY, Guest Conductor

Friday Afternoon, Feb. 24 Saturday Evening, Feb. 25 PAUL HINDEMITH, Conductor, Violist

Friday Afternoon, Mar. 3 No Guest Artist Saturday Evening, Mar. 4

Friday Afternoon, Mar. 10 ALEX BRAILOWSKY, Pianist Saturday Evening, Mar. 11

Friday Afternoon, Mar. 17 \ Saturday Evening, Mar. 18 \ ROLAND HAYES, Tenor

Friday Afternoon, Mar. 24 \ Saturday Evening, Mar. 25 \ ROBERT CASADESUS, Pianist

Friday Afternoon, Mar. 31 Saturday Evening, Apr. 1 NATHAN MILSTEIN, Violinist

Friday Afternoon, Apr. 14 Saturday Evening, Apr. 15 TITO SCHIPA, Tenor

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 MEROLA, Conductor.
- With Pauly, Jessner, Thorborg, Laufkoetter, Huehn, Cordon, Markham, Herz, Ponitz, Doe, Kroph, Avakian, Votipka, Michelini, Clemens, Youngs. REINER, Conductor.

BEFORE AND AFTER THE



20

Wednesday Night, October 12, at 8:15

MARTHA

Opera in four acts and six scenes.

 Music by Friedrich von Flotow. Text (in Italian) by St. George and Friedrich.

The Cast

Lady Harriet,	m	aid	of i	hon	or	to	Qu	een	A	nne	. 1	MAFALDA FAVERO
Nancy, her co.	nfi	dan	te									DORIS DOE
Plunkett, a we	ali	thy	fari	mer								. LOUIS D'ANGELO
Lionel, his fos	ter	-br	oth	er,	lat	er	Ear	l of	D	erb	y .	BENIAMINO GIGLI
Sir Tristan, La	id	yH	arr	iet'	S C	ou	sin			. S/	ALVA	ATORE BACCALONI
The Sheriff of	Í	Rich	me	ond						: 45	. :	NORMAN CORDON
First Maid .	2				7		20			200	CA	THERINE ALLISON
Second Maid	•									41	. KA	THLEEN LAWLOR
Third Maid											. S	UE BELL BROWNE
Farmer	(0)									188	*	FRANK PALUMBO
Woman Farm	er						8			5.00	9 9	. **LEILA GAMBI
											*Sa	n Francisco Début.

Ladies, Servants, Farmers, Hunters, Huntresses, Pages
Incidental Dances created by WILLAM CHRISTENSEN, Ballet Master

Stage Director

Conductor

Chorus Master

ARMANDO AGNINI

GENNARO PAPI

WILLIAM TYROLER

Time and Place

About 1840; Rural England.

Act I: Scene 1—Boudoir of Lady Harriet. Scene 2—The Fair at Richmond.

Act II: Room in Plunkett's Farmhouse.

ACT III: Hunting Park in Richmond Forest.

ACT IV: Scene 1—Same as Act 2.

Scene 2—Replica of Act I, Scene 2.

Bell rings three minutes before curtain rises · Encores not permitted

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THE STORY OF "MARTHA"

ACT I: Lady Harriet, weary of court pleasures, is envious of the joyous note in the voices of singing girls passing on their way to the servant's market at Richmond Fair. For diversion she determines to visit the fair and with difficulty persuades her friend, Nancy, and her stiff-minded cousin-admirer, Sir Tristan, to dress as peasants and accompany her. [Scene 2] In their disguise they meet the rich farmer Plunkett and his foster-brother, Lionel. The latter is of unknown birth but possesses a ring by which he hopes some day to be recognized. After playful banter with the two young farmers, during which they take service under the names of Martha and Betsy, the girls find, to their consternation, that in accepting a shilling each from the men they have actually bound themselves for a year's service. They protest but the judges decide against them and they are driven away to Plunkett's farm.

Act II: As "Martha" and "Betsy," the household inexperience of the girls is very evident. They try in vain to spin. The brothers admire them sufficiently to undertake their training. The susceptible Lionel falls deeply in love with Martha and when, at his request, she sings for him, he declares his love. Although she admires Lionel, Martha does not intend to carry the joke to this extent. Later in the evening, admonished by Tristan, who has followed them, she and Nancy escape into the night. Becoming aware of their flight, the brothers sound the alarm. The whole neighborhood starts in pursuit.

A39 III: Plunkett and a group of farmers are gathered at an inn adjoining a royal forest hunting preserve. A Queen's hunting party, among them Nancy, enters. Plunkett recognizes her but she and her companions drive him away. Lionel arrives soon followed by Lady Harriet. Seeing her, he first implores, then demands, that she return to his services. She disowns him and calls for help. He is about to be arrested but his grief moves Lady Harriet to intercede for him declaring that he is a madman and unworthy of serious notice. Lionel is driven frantic by her cruelty. Remembering the ring he gives it to Plunkett to take to the Queen who is passing by. Through it he is identified as the son of the Earl of Derby, and his title and possessions are restored to him.

Act IV: Plunkett grieves over the plight of Lionel whose mind has become clouded. Lady Harriet, who now realizes her love for Lionel, enters with Nancy and asks that she be left alone to meet him. When Lionel comes she tells him of his new found position and declares her love and repentance at her treatment of him. Lionel refuses to accept his rank and spurns her in hatred as Nancy and Plunkett, following upon the scene, make their peace. [Scene 2] To restore Lionel to his mental balance the scene at Richmond Fair has been reproduced on Lady Harriet's estate. Harriet, dressed as Martha, greets Lionel as he arrives with Plunkett. His mind is immediately cleared and all is well.



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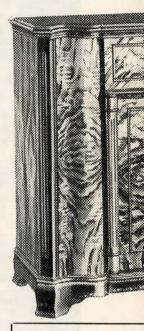
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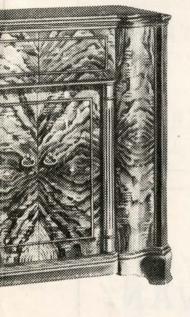
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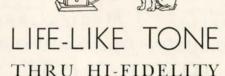
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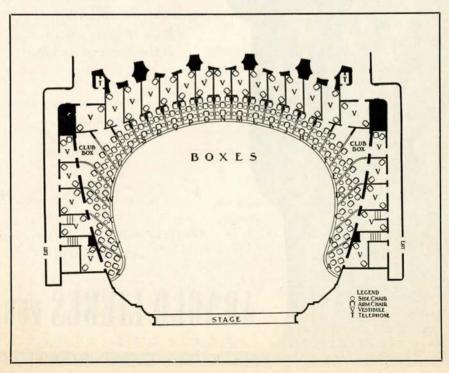
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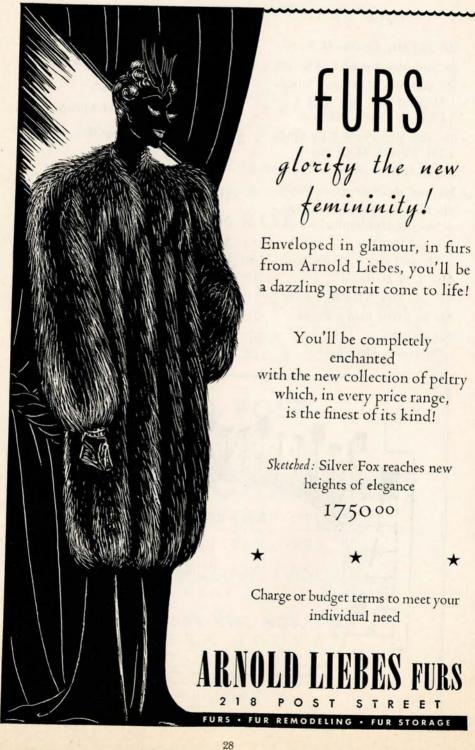
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Pogner, goldsmith					. *CARLTON GAULD
Vogelgesang, furrier				rs	HANS CLEMENS
Nachtigal, buckle-maker				ige	LOUIS D'ANGELO
Beckmesser, town clerk.				sir	ARNOLD GABOR
Kothner, baker				eistersinger	JULIUS HUEHN
Zorn, pewterer				eis	LESLIE GEORGE
Eisslinger, grocer				The Me	. LUDOVICO OLIVIERO
Moser, tailor				ie.	*CARL HAUGE
Ortel, soap-boiler				L	GEORGE CEHANOVSKY
Schwarz, stocking-weaver					. NORMAN CORDON
Folz, coppersmith					JOHN HOWELL
Sir Walter von Stolzing, F					
David, apprentice to Han.	s Se	ich.	s .		*KARL LAUFKOETTER
Eva, Pogner's daughter.					IRENE JESSNER
Magdalena, Eva's nurse.					*KERSTIN THORBORG
Night Watchman		• 8			GEORGE CEHANOVSKY *San Francisco Début.

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ACT II: Street in Nuremberg, Outside the Homes of Sachs and Pogner.

Act III: Scene 1—Interior of Hans Sach's Workshop.

Scene 2—A Field on the Shores of the River Pegnitz.

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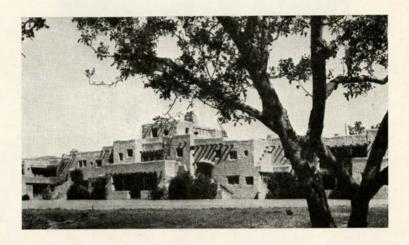
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Acr I: A young Franconian knight, Walter von Stolzing, falls in love and gains acquaintance with Eva, daughter of the wealthy Nuremberg gold-smith, Pogner, in St. Katherine's Church during worship. Eva, Magdalena, and Walter remain when the congregation departs. That she may speak alone with Walter, Eva sends her maid for her hymn-book which she had purposely left behind. Walter learns that Eva's father wishes her to marry the winner in the coming song contest and so that he may compete, David, who is Magdalena's sweetheart, instructs him in the rules. The Meistersingers assemble and Pogner formally promises Eva's hand in marriage to the contest winner. Walter is introduced. Beckmesser enters the marker's box and Kothner reads off the rules. Walter's song is repeatedly interrupted by Beckmesser's scratching as he chalks the singer's violations of the rules. The knight sings a second stanza. When it is concluded Beckmesser exhibits the board completely covered with chalk marks. Walter protests and Sachs, agreeing, urges him to finish his song in spite of the Masters.

Acr II: The apprentices, closing shop, tease David on his wooing of Magdalena until Sachs' coming sends the tormentors away. Pogner and Eva enter speaking of the morrow's festival. Magdalena signals Eva. She tells her of Walter's failure and advises her to seek counsel with Sachs. This Eva does and asks for particulars of the morning. She does not appreciate the fine satire in Sachs' severe strictures on Walter's singing and leaves him in anger. Steps are heard. Eva recognizes Walter and flies to his arms. They plan to elope. Eva fetches her things and returns ready for flight, when Sachs throws open his shutter flooding the street with light and throwing the lovers into confusion. Beckmesser steals in to serenade Eva who he thinks is in her room. Sachs starts hammering at his last. Beckmesser entreats him to cease and the latter agrees, provided that he shall "mark" each of Beckmesser's mistakes with a hammer stroke. The serenader resumes but the whacks come so thick and fast that the neighbors run into the street protesting.

Acr III: David visits a while with Sachs. After he leaves Walter comes to tell Sachs of a song which came to him in a dream during the night. He sings two stanzas, Sachs writing down the words and making friendly critical comments. Sachs and Walter leave and Beckmesser, peeping into the shop, finds the manuscript. He thrusts it into his pocket and hurries away. Eva enters as Walter appears on a balcony and greets her with his song. Magdalena and David also come in and Sachs gives Walter's song its musical baptism. [Scene 2] The people make merry as the apprentices herald and marshal the guilds. Dancing is interrupted by the arrival of the masters. Beckmesser attempts to sing Walter's stolen poem, as Sachs had anticipated. He fails utterly and rushes away infuriated, proclaiming that Sachs is the author of the song they have derided. The cobbler-poet then introduces Walter as the author. The knight sings and easily wins over the people and the masters with his Prize Song.

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The lights are dimmed. Maestro Gaetano Merola takes his place amidst a fanfare of well earned, well deserved applause. He bows, then turns, taps his baton for attention, and the orchestra ,to a man, galvanizes into a perfect musical instrument. The curtain goes up and—what would happen to Beniamino Gigli, Elisabeth Rethberg, Lina Kroph, Richard Bonelli, or John Howell, and the others, if the story were enacted in true life in our wonderful state of California?

The opera is "Andrea Chenier." The second act brings forth a duel between Gigli and Bonelli. In California this would earn for them one year in prison, besides not being allowed to hold any office of profit; nor would they be allowed to enjoy the right of suffrage. This would also apply to the others who may have aided and assisted these two duelists. And, should Bonelli die within one year as a result of his wound, Gigli might draw incarceration for seven years.

If the opera were "Don Giovanni," in two acts and ten scenes, we would start immediately by putting to death Ezio Pinza, the Don Juan of the opera, for murdering Norman Cordon, the commandant who seeks to protect his daughter, sung by Elisabeth Rethberg. As a result of the story told by Pinza's servant, sung by Salvatore Baccaloni to Dino Borgioli, Elisabeth Rethberg's fiance,

debonair Pinza would no doubt get the limit under the contributing statutes, which carry a penalty up to life imprisonment.

And as for "Elektra," we would start out by using the newly adopted lethal gas chamber instead of hanging Kerstin Thorborg and Karl Laufkoetter, the contralto and tenor respectively, for having murdered the king. In addition, if such might be conceivable, Madam Thorborg might be conceivable, Madam Thorborg might pay a fine of five hundred dollars and go to jail for one year for abandoning Julius Huehn, her operatic son.

For abusing her daughters, Rose Pauly and Irene Jessner, operatically speaking, Madam Thorborg would draw an additional number of six-month jail sentences. While in the end, Julius Huehn would suffer the penalty for murder, and Mary Helen Markham, Doris Doe, Lina Kroph, Alice Avakian, Thelma Votipka, and Alma Michelini, would take at least several sixmonth periods to think things over for the share they had in the proceedings.

Armando Agnini would receive duplicate awards of chastisement, as meted out to each member of the cast. It must be remembered that he is the master mind of stage management behind the scenes.

But, fortunately for all . . . the curtain falls . . . to rise again, and again, in response to the tremendous applause . . . the play is ended!

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