

La Bohème

1944

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Twenty-second Annual Season

SAN FRANCISCO OPERA ASSOCIATION

GAETANO MEROLA, *General Director*

WAR MEMORIAL OPERA HOUSE

SEPTEMBER 29 TO OCTOBER 28, 1944



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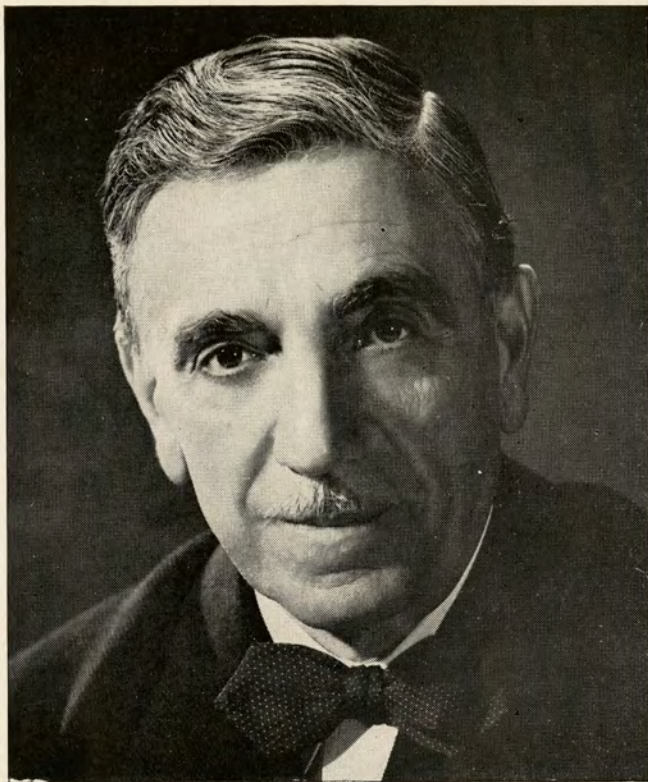
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This is the San Francisco Opera Company's 22nd Annual Season, its third war time season, and it is fitting that its friends pause a moment to take stock of the past and the present.

We can well be proud of twenty-two unbroken years of opera. On October 15, 1932, the War Memorial Opera House was dedicated by the opening performance of the 10th Season.


In the fall of 1941, the San Francisco Opera Company's annual tours to Sacramento, Los Angeles and Pasadena were extended to include Portland and Seattle.

It is estimated that since the inception of the San Francisco Opera Company twenty-two years ago, approximately 3,000,000 persons have attended its performances.

This season, notwithstanding war time conditions, the Opera Association will achieve its long sought desire to be truly the source of grand opera enjoyment of the entire west, through the broadcast of fourteen performances over thirty-eight stations of the Don Lee Mutual Broadcasting System.

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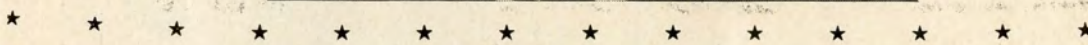
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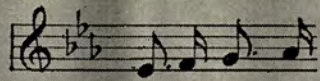
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Repertoire

REGULAR SERIES

- AIDA (*Verdi*) Friday Night, September 29, at 8:00
 With Roman, Harshaw, Jagel, Warren, Pinza, Alvary, De Paolis, Votipka.
 MEROLA, Conductor
- MARTHA (*von Flotow*) Tuesday Night, October 3, at 8:15
 With Albanese, Glaz, Landi, Alvary, Baccaloni, Goodwin, Lawlor, Gianopoulos, Levon,
 Cambi, Martin, Wahlin, Guenter, Doan, A. Vannucci. MEROLA, Conductor
- LAKME (*Delibes*) Friday Night, October 6, at 8:30
 With Pons, Jobin, Cehanovsky, Silva, Glaz, Votipka, Karpelenia, Avakian, Garris, Martin,
 De Lugg, Tallone. CIMARA, Conductor
- MANON (*Massenet*) Tuesday Night, October 10, at 8:30
 With Albanese, Kullman, Valentino, Alvary, De Paolis, Cehanovsky, Levon, Bernhard,
 Wellman. CIMARA, Conductor
- THE SECRET OF SUZANNE (*Wolf-Ferrari*) Friday Night, October 13, at 8:30
 With MacWatters, Thompson, De Paolis. ADLER, Conductor
- followed by
- SALOME (*Richard Strauss*)
 with Djanel, Jagel, Harshaw, Valentino, Glaz, Garris, Alvary, De Paolis, Cehanovsky, Tis-
 sier, Nelson, Wellman, Goodwin, Schmidling, Berton, Heitman. SEBASTIAN, Conductor
- FALSTAFF (*Verdi*) Monday Night, October 16, at 8:00
 With Baccaloni, Landi, Petroff, Della Chiesa, Albanese, Harshaw, Glaz, Garris, De Paolis,
 Alvary, Lawlor. STEINBERG, Conductor
- FAUST (*Gounod*) Wednesday Night, October 18, at 8:00
 With Jobin, Pinza, Della Chiesa, Warren, Glaz, Votipka, Cehanovsky.
 STEINBERG, Conductor
- THE MASKED BALL (*Verdi*) Friday Night, October 20, at 8:00
 With Roman, Peerce, Warren, Harshaw, MacWatters, Alvary, Silva, Cehanovsky, Tallone,
 Lorenzini. STEINBERG, Conductor
- LES CONTES D'HOFFMAN (*Offenbach*) Tuesday Night, October 24, at 8:15
 With Jobin, Glaz, MacWatters, Djanel, Albanese, Pinza, Valentino, Cehanovsky, Alvary,
 Turner, De Paolis, Tissier, Garris, Goodwin, Wellman, Sanders. MEROLA, Conductor
- CARMEN (*Bizet*) Friday Night, October 27, at 8:00
 With Stevens, Kullman, MacWatters, Valentino, Alvary, Votipka, Avakian, Cehanovsky,
 De Paolis. SEBASTIAN, Conductor

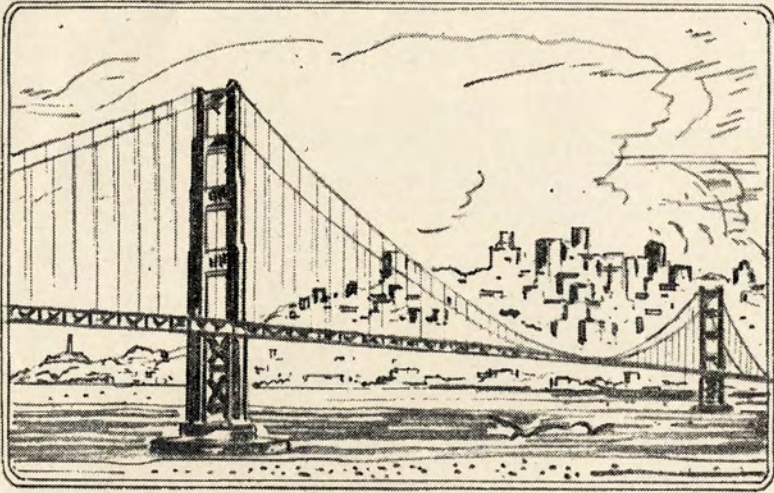
POPULAR SERIES

- LA BOHEME (*Puccini*) Thursday Night, October 5, at 8:30
 With Albanese, MacWatters, Kullman, Valentino, Pinza, Cehanovsky, Baccaloni, Alibertini,
 Lorenzini, Jacobs. MEROLA, Conductor
- LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR (*Donizetti*) Wednesday Night, October 11, at 8:15
 With Pons, Peerce, Alvary, Petroff, Votipka, Garris, Tissier. CIMARA, Conductor
- AIDA (*Verdi*) Sunday Afternoon, October 15, at 2:15
 With same cast as in the Regular Series performance.
- THE SECRET OF SUZANNE (*Wolf-Ferrari*) Thursday Night, October 19, at 8:30
 With same cast as in the Regular Series performance.
- followed by
- SALOME (*Richard Strauss*)
 With same cast as in the Regular Series performance.
- FALSTAFF (*Verdi*) Thursday Night, October 26, at 8:00
 With same cast as in the Regular Series performance.

EXTRA PERFORMANCES

- LA FORZA DEL DESTINO (*Verdi*) Sunday Afternoon, October 1, at 2:15
 With Roman, Jagel, Warren, Pinza, Baccaloni, Glaz, Votipka, Alvary, De Paolis, Cehanovsky.
 MEROLA, Conductor
- MARTHA (*von Flotow*) Sunday Afternoon, October 8, at 2:30
 With same cast as in the Regular Series performance. RIEDEL, Conductor
- RIGOLETTO (*Verdi*) Tuesday Night, October 17, at 8:15
 With Warren, Pons, Peerce, Silva, Glaz, Cehanovsky, Nelson, Wellman, De Paolis, Votipka,
 Markham, Lawlor. CIMARA, Conductor
- MANON (*Massenet*) Sunday Afternoon, October 22, at 2:30
 With same cast as in the Regular Series performance.
- LES CONTES D'HOFFMANN (*Offenbach*) Saturday Night, October 28, at 8:15
 With same cast as in the Regular Series performance.

THE EXTRA PERFORMANCES OF "MANON" AND "RIGOLETTO" ARE OPERA ASSOCIATION
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THE TWO ALL-STAR OPERA HOUSE SERIES



8 — Evening Events — 8

RIGOLETTO	Oct. 17
BALLET Russe de MONTE CARLO	Nov. 21
ZINO FRANCESCATTI	Jan. 22
BIDU SAYAO	Feb. 21
DRAPER and ADLER	Mar. 5
JAMES MELTON	Mar. 23
RISE STEVENS	Apr. 17
ANOTHER EVENT TO BE ANNOUNCED	



8 — Sunday Matinee Events — 8

MANON	Oct. 22
DON COSSACKS (Gen. Platoff)	Nov. 19
BALLET Russe de MONTE CARLO	Nov. 26
ROBERT CASADESUS	Dec. 3
ADOLF BUSCH and his Little Symphony	Feb. 25
DOROTHY MAYNOR	Mar. 4
LAWRENCE TIBBETT	(Date not announced)
ANOTHER EVENT TO BE ANNOUNCED	

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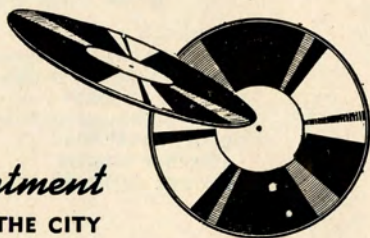
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ACT I

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

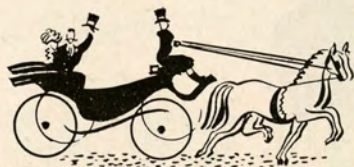
As "Martha" and "Betsy," the household inexperience of the girls is very evident. They try in vain to spin. The brothers admire them sufficiently to undertake their training. The susceptible Lionel falls deeply in love with Martha and when, at his request, she sings for him, he declares his love. Although 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.

ACT 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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Act I: Garret of the Bohemians

Act II: Terrace of the Cafe Momus

Act III: A City Gate of Paris

Act IV: Same as Act I

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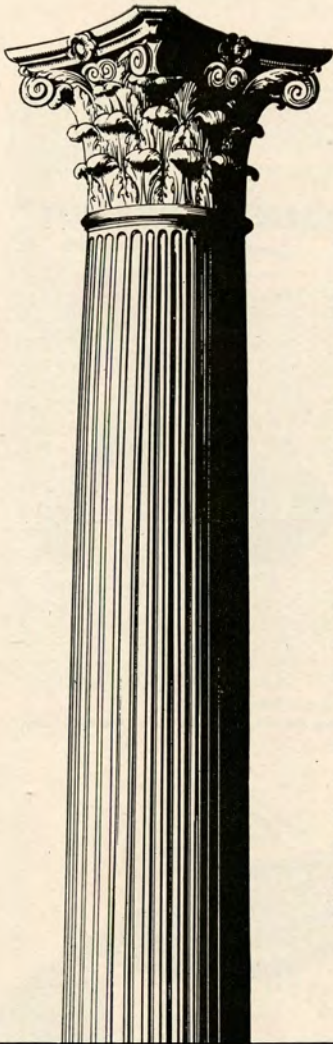
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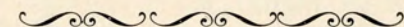
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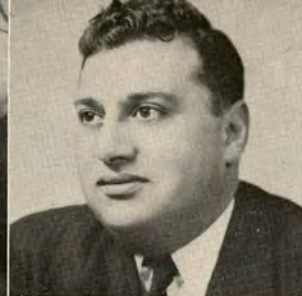
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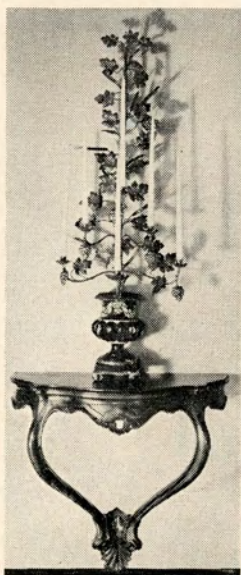
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Act I: Garret of the Bohemians
Act II: Terrace of the Cafe Momus
Act III: A City Gate of Paris
Act IV: Same as Act I

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