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1947

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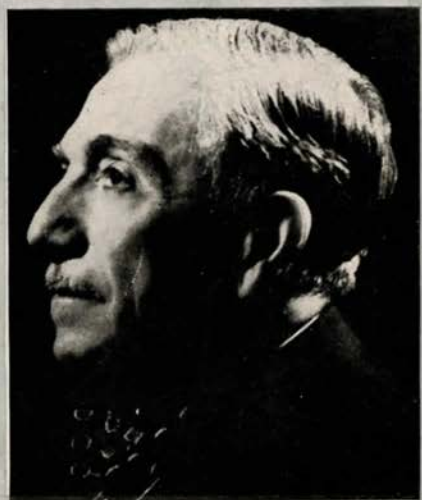
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25<sup>th</sup>  
*Anniversary*  
*of the San Francisco*  
*Opera Company*



GAETANO MEROLA  
*General Director*

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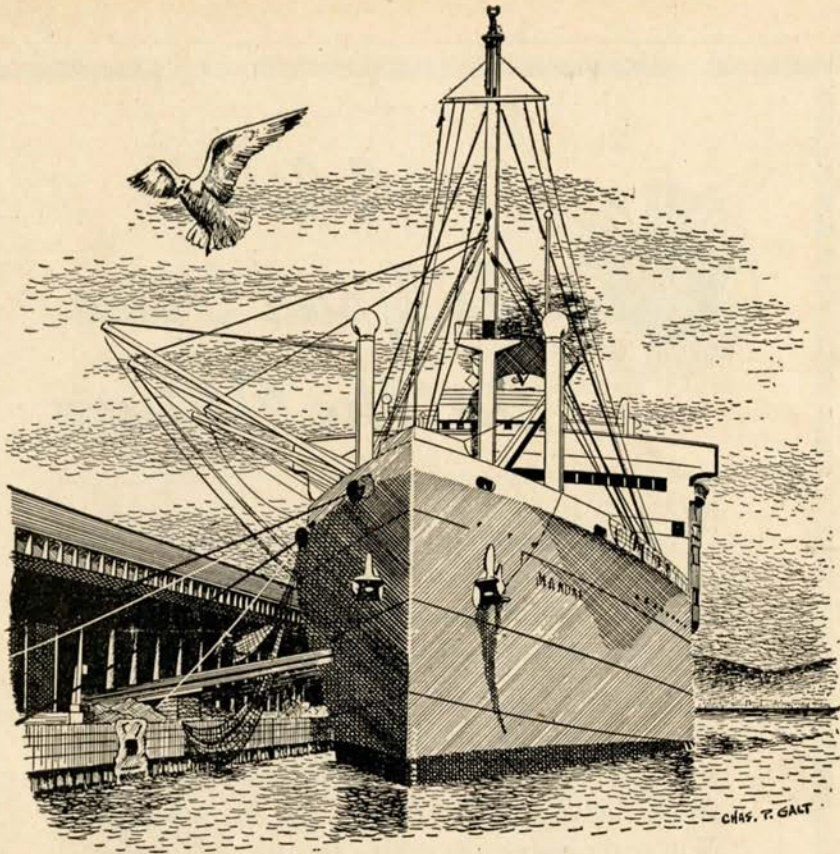


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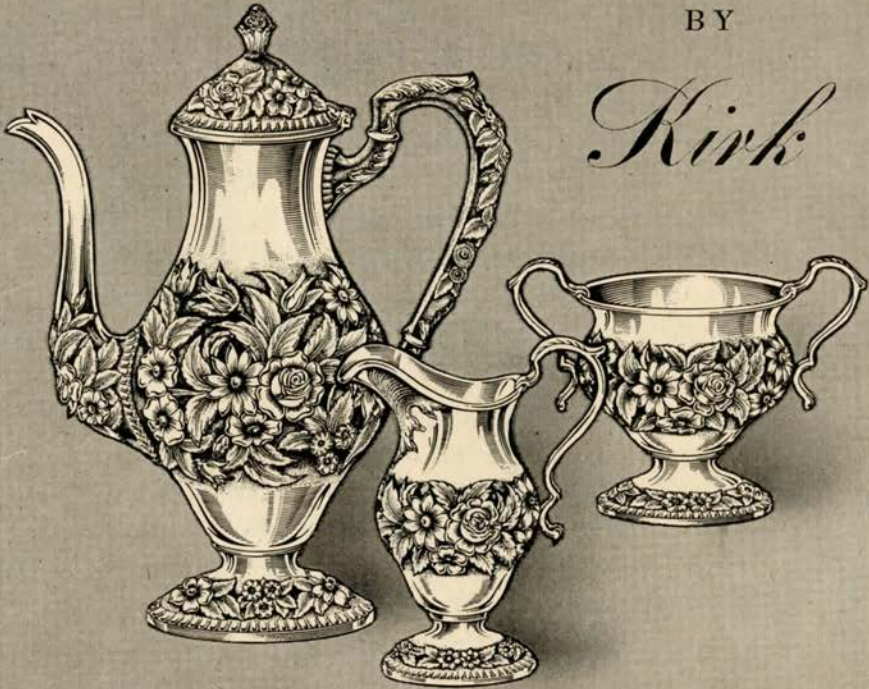
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*No other city, with the single exception of New York, can cite such an unbroken record in grand opera. And yet, the San Francisco Opera Company no longer belongs to this city alone, but to the entire Pacific Coast. Annually, a number of these cities look forward to being host to the company. All of this, we feel, is a tribute not alone to the artistry and good management of the company, but to the people of San Francisco whose support has made this accomplishment possible.*

*The San Francisco Opera Association is grateful for this support and the untiring efforts and ability of Gaetano Merola, General Director of the company since its inception.*

*Kenneth Monteagle*

*President*





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## TO GAETANO MEROLA AND THE MEMBERS OF THE SAN FRANCISCO OPERA ASSOCIATION

On this, the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of Opera in San Francisco, we desire to mark that epoch and to pause and hear, in memory, the hundred arias that have enchanted the music-loving people of San Francisco, and to appraise the renown and distinction which the Opera has brought to the City of San Francisco.

To you, and to the men and women who have made possible this great and graceful contribution to the life of our community, we present at this hour our tribute of praise and offer the warmth of our cordial regard.

Sincerely,



President of the Art Commission

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## *To Gaetano Merola...*

The Musical Association of San Francisco happily participates in this 25th Anniversary celebration.

Through your patience, sagacity, and artistic aims the San Francisco Opera has become an institution of lasting value to the collective musical activity of the nation as well as to the audiences of the Pacific Coast.

Your great spirit, manifesting itself in behalf of music which shall have lasting importance to its public, is an asset we pay homage to—with the sincere wish that you will continue to guide us for many years to come.

May the future bring you the fulfillment of your fondest dreams.

*Leonora Wood Armsby*

## *Congratulations!*

San Francisco owes an immense debt of gratitude to the San Francisco Opera Association, and to General Director Gaetano Merola. May I add my personal congratulations to the City's thanks on the occasion of the Association's 25th Anniversary.

*Elmer E. Robinson*

Judge of the Superior Court

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# Baldwin



"THE SAN FRANCISCO OPERA COMPANY, celebrating its 25th Anniversary, has honored the Baldwin Piano for the past seven years by choosing Baldwin as its official piano. The Baldwin Piano Company takes great pride in once again renewing its association with the San Francisco Opera Company. A glance at some of the great musical organizations and concert artists listed here gives ample proof of the distinction which has earned for Baldwin the name of 'TODAY'S GREAT PIANO.'"



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Giannini, Dusolina  
Gieseking, Walter  
Goldovsky, Boris  
Goldsand, Robert  
Goossens, Eugene  
Hacker, William  
Huehn, Julius  
Iturbi, Amparo  
Iturbi, Jose  
Johnson, Douglas  
Johnson, Thor  
Jones, J. Randolph  
Kippis, Alexander  
Kitain, Robert  
Koussevitzky, Serge  
Labunski, Wiktor  
Lev, Ray  
Luboshutz & Nemenoff  
Mannino, Franco  
Martini, Nino  
Milhaud, Darius  
Moiseiwitsch, Benno  
Monteux, Pierre  
Nelson, Monte  
Pennario, Leonard  
Piatigorsky, Gregor  
Pinza, Ezio  
Podolsky, Leo  
Pons, Lily  
Ponselle, Rosa  
Posselt, Ruth  
Quartararo, Florence  
Rosenthal, Manuel  
Sanroma, Jesus Maria  
Schmitz, E. Robert  
Shure, Leonard  
Spivakovsky, Tossy  
Stravinsky, Igor  
Szigeti, Joseph  
Tapia-Caballero  
Tansman, Alexander  
Tetley-Kardos, Richard  
Thibaud, Jacques  
Traubel, Helen  
Weede, Robert  
Wittgenstein, Paul

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## REGULAR SERIES

- LA TRAVIATA (*Verdi*) . . . . . *Tuesday Night*, September 16, at 8:00  
 With Albanese, Votipka, Lawlor, Peerce, Warren, Cehanovsky, De Paolis, Olitzki, Ligeti,  
 Lorenzini . . . . . MEROLA, *Conductor*
- DON GIOVANNI (*Mozart*) . . . . . *Friday Night*, September 19, at 8:00  
 With Roman, Quartararo, Albanese, Pinza, Baccaloni, Kullman, Alvary, Ligeti  
 . . . . . BREISACH, *Conductor*
- MADAMA BUTTERFLY (*Puccini*) . . . . . *Monday Night*, September 22, at 8:00  
 With Albanese, Glaz, Votipka, Peerce, Valentino, De Paolis, Cehanovsky, Lazzari, Olitzki,  
 Harvey . . . . . CIMARA, *Conductor*
- GOTTERDAMMERUNG (*Wagner*) . . . . . *Friday Night*, September 26, at 7:30  
 With Traubel, Resnik, Harshaw, Glaz, Turner, Votipka, Hartzell, Popper, Svanholm,  
 Czaplicki, Alvary, Olitzki, Guenter, Benson, Daneluz . . . . . STEINBERG, *Conductor*
- LA GIOCONDA (*Ponchielli*) . . . . . *Tuesday Night*, September 30, at 8:00  
 With Roman, Thebom, Harshaw, Baum, Warren, Moscona, Chabay, Ligeti, Benson, Nelson,  
 Alibertini, Tallone . . . . . MARZOLLO, *Conductor*
- LOUISE (*Charpentier*) . . . . . *Friday Night*, October 3, at 8:00  
 With Kirsten, Turner, Pinza, Jobin, Hartzell, Popper, Gray, Votipka, Zubiri, Coryell,  
 Lawlor, Heitman, Phillips, Campbell, Harper, Hessling, Baldwin, Browne, Spry, Bish,  
 Nathanson, De Paolis, Lazzari, Ligeti, Cehanovsky, Olitzki, Chabay, Nesbitt, Martin, Davis,  
 McVey, Lawrence, Schmidling, Harvey, Lorenzini, Daneluz  
 . . . . . BREISACH, *Conductor*
- OTELLO (*Verdi*) . . . . . *Tuesday Night*, October 7, at 8:00  
 With Albanese, Votipka, Svanholm, Tibbett, De Paolis, Lazzari, Chabay, Cehanovsky,  
 Nelson . . . . . STEINBERG, *Conductor*
- PELLEAS ET MELISANDE (*Debussy*) . . . . . *Friday Night*, October 10, at 8:00  
 With Sayao, Harshaw, Zubiri, Singher, Tibbett, Alvary, Ligeti  
 . . . . . PELLETIER, *Conductor*
- L'AMORE DEI TRE RE (*Montemezzi*) . . . . . *Tuesday Night*, October 14, at 8:00  
 With Kirsten, Turner, Lawlor, Turnbull, Baldwin, Pinza, Kullman, Weede, De Paolis,  
 Nesbitt . . . . . MONTEMEZZI, *Conductor*
- LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR (*Donizetti*) . . . . . *Friday Night*, October 17, at 8:00  
 With Pons, Votipka, Peerce, Valentino, Lazzari, Chabay, Tallone  
 . . . . . CIMARA, *Conductor*

## POPULAR SERIES

- ROMEO AND JULIET (*Gounod*) . . . . . *Thursday Night*, September 18, at 8:00  
 With Sayao, Glaz, Turner, Jobin, Singher, Moscona, De Paolis, Ligeti, Cehanovsky, Harvey,  
 Tallone . . . . . PELLETIER, *Conductor*
- AIDA (*Verdi*) . . . . . *Thursday Night*, September 25, at 8:00  
 With Roman, Thebom, Votipka, Baum, Warren, Moscona, Alvary, Chabay  
 . . . . . BREISACH, *Conductor*
- TRISTAN UND ISOLDE (*Wagner*) . . . . . *Thursday Night*, October 2, at 7:30  
 With Traubel, Thebom, Svanholm, Czaplicki, Alvary, Ligeti, Olitzki, Chabay  
 . . . . . STEINBERG, *Conductor*
- GOTTERDAMMERUNG (*Wagner*) . . . . . *Thursday Night*, October 9, at 7:30  
 With same cast as Regular Series performance
- LA GIOCONDA (*Ponchielli*) . . . . . *Thursday Night*, October 16, at 8:00  
 With same cast as Regular Series performance

## EXTRA PERFORMANCES

- FAUST (*Gounod*) . . . . . *Sunday Matinee*, September 21, at 2:00  
 With Claudia Pinza, Glaz, Turner, Jobin, Ezio Pinza, Valdengo, Cehanovsky  
 . . . . . PELLETIER, *Conductor*
- LA BOHEME (*Puccini*) . . . . . *Sunday Matinee*, September 28, at 2:00  
 With Sayao, Hartzell, Hessling, Peerce, Valentino, Moscona, Baccaloni, Cehanovsky,  
 Lorenzini, Vannucci, Tallone . . . . . MEROLA, *Conductor*
- MARRIAGE OF FIGARO (*Mozart*) . . . . . *Sunday Matinee*, October 5, at 2:00  
 With Quartararo, Sayao, Thebom, Glaz, Zubiri, Phillips, Gray, Pinza, Baccaloni, Singher,  
 De Paolis, Ligeti, Chabay . . . . . STEINBERG, *Conductor*
- RIGOLETTO (*Verdi*) . . . . . *Sunday Matinee*, October 12, at 2:00  
 With Pons, Glaz, Votipka, Heitman, Lawlor, Tibbett, Peerce, Alvary, Cehanovsky, Chabay,  
 Harvey, Ligeti . . . . . CIMARA, *Conductor*
- LOUISE (*Charpentier*) . . . . . *Sunday Matinee*, October 19, at 2:00  
 With same cast as Regular Performance

## ADDED PERFORMANCES

- ROMEO AND JULIET (*Gounod*) . . . . . *Wednesday Night*, September 24, at 8:00  
 With same cast as Popular Series performance
- LA TRAVIATA (*Verdi*) . . . . . *Saturday Matinee*, October 4, at 2:00  
 With same cast as Regular Series performance except Kullman will be Alfredo Germont  
 and ADLER, *Conductor*
- FAUST (*Gounod*) . . . . . *Monday Night*, October 6, at 8:00  
 With same cast as Extra performance except Weede will be Valentine
- DON GIOVANNI (*Mozart*) . . . . . *Wednesday Night*, October 8, at 8:00  
 With same cast as Regular Series performance except Resnik will be Donna Elvira and  
 Conner, Zerlina
- TRISTAN UND ISOLDE (*Wagner*) . . . . . *Monday Night*, October 13, at 7:30  
 With same cast as Popular Series performance
- LA BOHEME (*Puccini*) . . . . . *Wednesday Night*, October 15, at 8:00  
 With same cast as Extra performance except Lazzari will be Colline
- MADAMA BUTTERFLY (*Puccini*) . . . . . *Saturday Night*, October 18, at 8:00  
 With same cast as Regular Series performance except Kullman will be Pinkerton and  
 Alvary The Bonze

## OPERAS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

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- LA TRAVIATA (*Verdi*) . . . . . *Friday Matinees*, October 10 and 17, at 1:00  
 With Conner, Votipka, Lawlor, Kullman, Tibbett, De Paolis, Cehanovsky, Ligeti, Olitzki,  
 Lorenzini . . . . . MEROLA, *Conductor*, October 10 . . . . . ADLER, *Conductor*, October 17



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THURSDAY NIGHT, OCTOBER 2, at 7:30

# † TRISTAN UND ISOLDE

Opera in three acts. Music and Text by Richard Wagner.

## THE CAST

Tristan, a Cornish Knight, nephew of King Mark.....	SET SVANHOLM
Isolde, Princess of Ireland.....	HELEN TRAUBEL
Brangane, Isolde's friend and attendant.....	BLANCHE THEBOM
King Mark of Cornwall.....	LORENZO ALVARY
Kurvenal, Tristan's devoted servant.....	GEORGE CZAPLICKI
Melot, one of King Mark's courtiers.....	WALTER OLITZKI
Shepherd .....	LESLIE CHABAY
Steersman .....	DESIRE LIGETI
A Sailor's Voice.....	LESLIE CHABAY

*Sailor Lad, Sailors, Knights, Esquires, Men-at-Arms.*



<b>STAGE DIRECTOR</b>	<b>CONDUCTOR</b>	<b>CHORUS DIRECTOR</b>
WILLIAM WYMETAL	WILLIAM STEINBERG	KURT HERBERT ADLER



**TIME AND PLACE:** Legendary

Act I: On Board a Vessel Nearing the Cornish Coast

Act II: Garden Before Isolde's Castle; Summer Night

Act III: Garden of Tristan's Estate in Brittany

†Added performance of "Tristan und Isolde," October 13

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TICKETS FOR EXTRA PERFORMANCES  
AT OPERA BOX OFFICE, CITY OF PARIS

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*Encores not permitted — Bell rings three minutes before curtain rises*



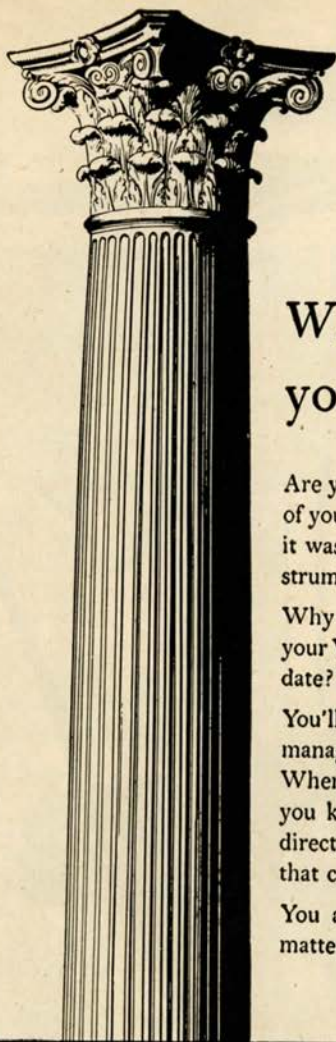
## The Story of "Tristan und Isolde"

Prologue: Sent to capture Cornwall to collect tribute, Morold, a chieftain affianced to the Irish princess, Isolde, is slain by Tristan, favorite nephew of King Mark of Cornwall. For his own wounds, Tristan, incognito, seeks the aid of Isolde, famed for her healing. Recognizing him by a notch in his sword as the slayer of her betrothed, Isolde plans to kill Tristan but falls in love with him and stays her hand. But Tristan sees in her only a queenly wife for King Mark. Presently Tristan returns to Ireland to bespeak Isolde for the bride of his uncle. Isolde accepts and they take ship for Cornwall. Tristan has now come to realize his own love for Isolde but bound by honor has carefully remained away from her during the voyage. As the ship nears Cornwall's shores, the drama begins.

ACT I—Infuriated at Tristan's apparent indifference and despondent at the thought of her approaching loveless marriage, Isolde tells Brangane the story of her unrequited love for Tristan and, commanding her to prepare a poisonous draught, summons Tristan to her presence. Brangane, sensing disaster, substitutes a love potion for the poison cup. When Tristan comes Isolde reproaches him for the death of Morold. He offers his sword for her revenge but she, feigning forgiveness, proposes they drink a pledge of peace. Together they drain the cup prepared by Brangane and succumbing to its rapturous charm remain oblivious to their surroundings as the vessel reaches shore.

ACT II—Isolde, wedded to King Mark, has continued her relations with Tristan. They are suspected by Melot, a knight of the court, who arranges a pretended hunt in the hope of trapping the lovers. As the curtain rises Brangane confesses to Isolde her substitution of the love philtre. Fearing the hunt a ruse, she warns Isolde not to signal for a meeting with Tristan. But Isolde, lost in the intoxication of the love potion, will not heed and waves a beckoning handkerchief. The unexpected return of the hunters interrupts a long and ardent love scene. King Mark bitterly reproaches Tristan and offers him banishment. But Melot, shouting treason, rushes forward, sword in hand. Tristan draws in turn but, seeking only death with honor, drops his guard and receives a mortal wound.

ACT III—Tristan lies delirious in his castle where he has been taken by Kurvenal who has sent for Isolde knowing that only she can cure his master's wounds. In a lucid moment Kurvenal tells Tristan of Isolde's expected coming. The pipe of a shepherd, posted to signal the approach of her ship, takes on a joyous note. Kurvenal, crying out that Isolde comes, rushes off. Tristan, overcome by joy, tears at his bandaged wounds and staggering to his feet as Isolde arrives, dies in her arms. King Mark, having learned of the love potion, has followed in forgiveness close behind Isolde. Kurvenal, barring entrance, slays Melot and is killed by the soldiers. King Mark invokes a blessing on the dead as Isolde sings to her dead love the immortal Liebestod.



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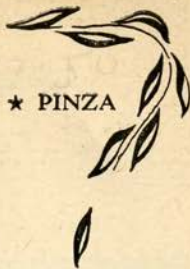


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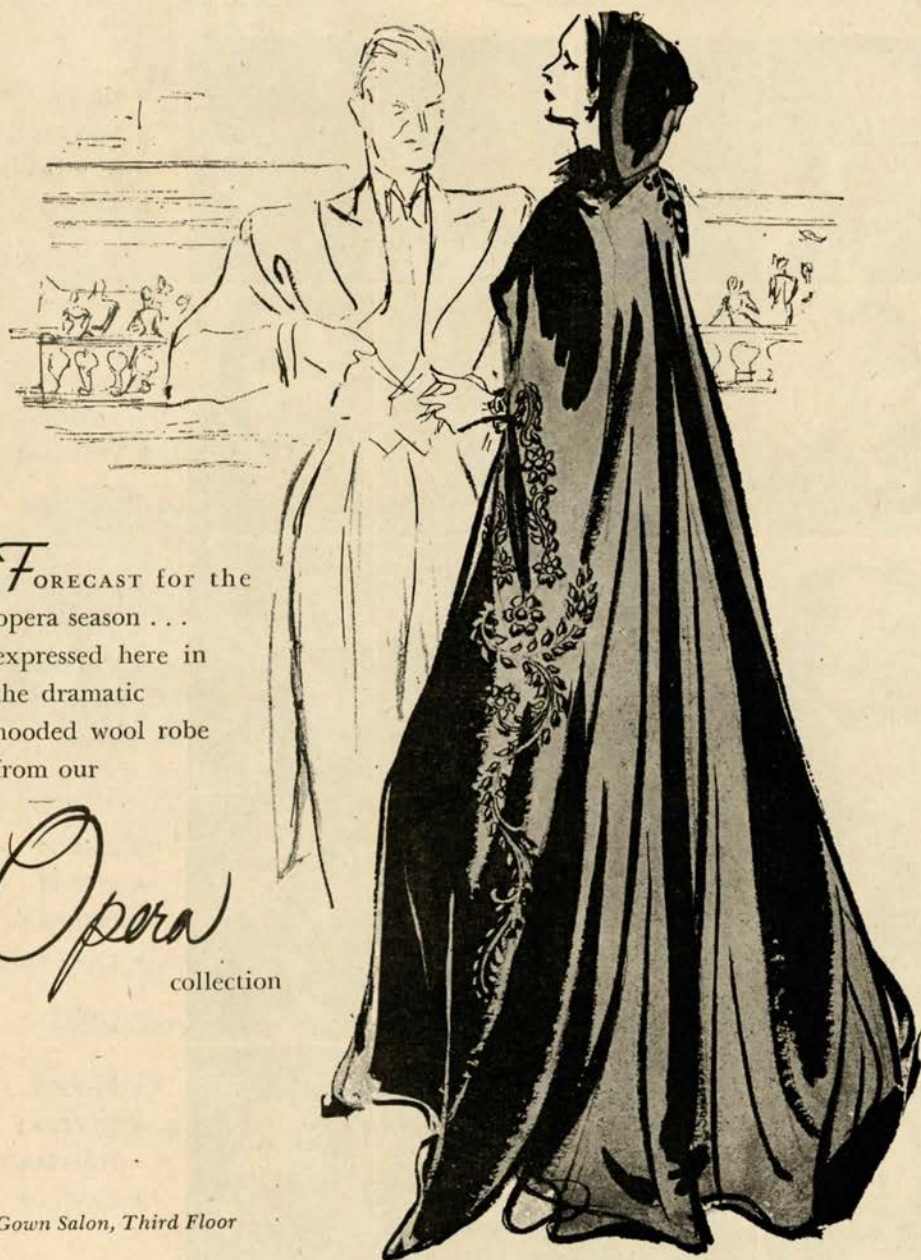
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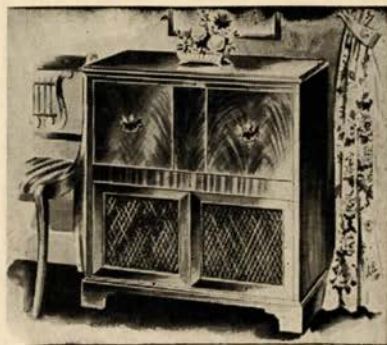


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FRIDAY NIGHT, OCTOBER 3, at 8:00

# † LOUISE

A Musical Romance in four acts. Text and Music by Gustave Charpentier.  
*First performance by the San Francisco Opera Company*

## THE CAST

Louise .....	*DOROTHY KIRSTEN
Her Mother .....	CLARAMAE TURNER
Her Father .....	EZIO PINZA
Julien, a poet.....	RAOUL JOBIN
Irma .....	LOIS HARTZELL
Camille .....	**MARY JANE GRAY
Gertrude .....	BETA POPPER
Apprentice .....	MARTINA ZUBIRI
Elise .....	**ELEANOR CORYELL
Blanche .....	DELPHIA PHILLIPS
Suzanne .....	KATHLEEN LAWLOR
Forewoman .....	ELMA HEITMAN
Marguerite .....	**BEVERLY CAMPBELL
Madeleine .....	**THORA HARPER
Street Sweeper.....	**MARY JEAN TURNBULL
Newspaper Girl.....	ESTHER V. HESSLING
Young Rag Picker.....	EILEEN BALDWIN
Milk Woman.....	**EILEEN BROWNE
Coal Picker.....	**MARY JANE SPRY
Street Arab.....	MARTINA ZUBIRI
Birdfood Vendor.....	**DORA BISH
Artichoke Vendor.....	THELMA VOTIPKA
Watercress Vendor } .....	BETA POPPER
Chair Mender } .....	
Noctambulist } .....	
King of the Fools } .....	ALESSIO DE PAOLIS
Rag Picker.....	VIRGILIO LAZZARI
Junk Man.....	DESIRE LIGETI
Song Writer.....	GEORGE CEHANOVSKY
First Philosopher.....	WALTER OLITZKI
Second Philosopher.....	BENJAMIN MARTIN
Painter .....	**FLOYD DAVIS
Sculptor .....	PATRICK McVEY
Poet .....	ERICH LAWRENCE
Student .....	ALLEN SCHMIDLING
First Policeman.....	COLIN HARVEY
Second Policeman.....	MAX LORENZINI
Old Clothes Man.....	GEORGE TALLONE
Carrot Vendor.....	KAYTON NESBITT
Rag Vendor.....	GEORGE CEHANOVSKY
Green Pea Vendor.....	GALLIANO DANELUZ

## ACT III

The Dancer..... JUDITH NATHANSON

*Girls at the Dressmaking Establishment, Street Peddlers, Citizens.*

\* San Francisco debut.

\*\* San Francisco Opera Company debut.

### STAGE DIRECTOR

ARMANDO AGNINI

### CONDUCTOR

PAUL BREISACH

### CHORUS DIRECTOR

KURT HERBERT ADLER

**TIME AND PLACE:** About 1900; Paris

Act I: Home of Louise in Tenement

Act II: Scene 1: Street in Montmartre District

Scene 2: A Dressmaking Shop

Act III: Cottage and Terrace atop Montemartre

Act IV: Same as Act I

Settings designed by Eugene B. Dunkel and Armando Agnini. Painted by Dunkel and constructed in the Studios of the San Francisco Opera Association.

†Extra performance of "Louise," Sunday Matinee, October 19.

TICKETS FOR EXTRA PERFORMANCES  
AT OPERA BOX OFFICE, CITY OF PARIS

*Encores not permitted — Bell rings three minutes before curtain rises*



## The Story of "Louise"

ACT I—The laws of France forbid the marriage of young people of either sex without the consent of their parents. Louise is the daughter of working people. She is in love with Julien, a young poet, but her parents look upon him with disfavor. As the opera opens Louise, hurrying through her house work, runs to the window to greet Julien who has a lodging across the alley. Julien sings of his love for her. The Mother, entering, overhears the love-making from window to window and sets the girl to her tasks. The Father comes home from his toil. He has received a letter, the second, from Julien asking consent to his marriage with Louise. He talks gently to the girl about it. But the mother grows more bitter in her tirade against Julien and slaps Louise when she remonstrates. The father reasons with Louise in a kindly way and she promises to try and forget her love.

ACT II—Scene 1: It is early morning and the strange street types peculiar to Paris appear. Julien and his friends come to await Louise who works in a nearby dress-making shop. She arrives accompanied by her mother. The mother leaves and Julien asks Louise for the answer to his letter. When she tells him it is unfavorable he begs her to elope. But she refuses and goes into the shop. Scene 2: The girls sing at their work and tease Louise with being in love. Outside Julien's voice is heard passionately wooing Louise in serenade. The girls applaud. But when the singing continues until it grows tiresome they ask him to stop. He refuses and they load him with sarcasm and abuse. Louise, pleading illness, leaves the shop and goes away with Julien.

ACT III—Julien and Louise find happiness in love. Below them the great, wonderful city begins to glow with light. Fireworks light up the sky. The lovers embrace and go inside. As they disappear the Bohemians come to decorate the house. For Louise is to be crowned Queen of the Montmartre. The King of Fools arrives and the ceremony is ready to begin. Julien and Louise come out and form the center of the throng. With a triumphant chorus the maidens set the crown upon her head. In the midst of the gayety Louise's mother comes upon the scene. She tells Louise that her father has been ill and is about to die. The mother begs Julien to allow Louise to go home. He agrees upon the condition that she will return to him.

ACT IV—Louise discovers that she has been duped into coming home and is held a virtual prisoner. She is sullen and rebellious. The father reasons with her. But the lure of Paris and the love of Julien are too strong. Her passion grows out of bounds and she attempts to get away. The father stops her. She calls wildly for Julien. The father, losing all patience, is about to strike her but holds his hand and orders her from the house. Terrified, Louise runs into the street. In despair the poor old father goes to the window and would call her back. But it is too late. Paris again has claimed her.

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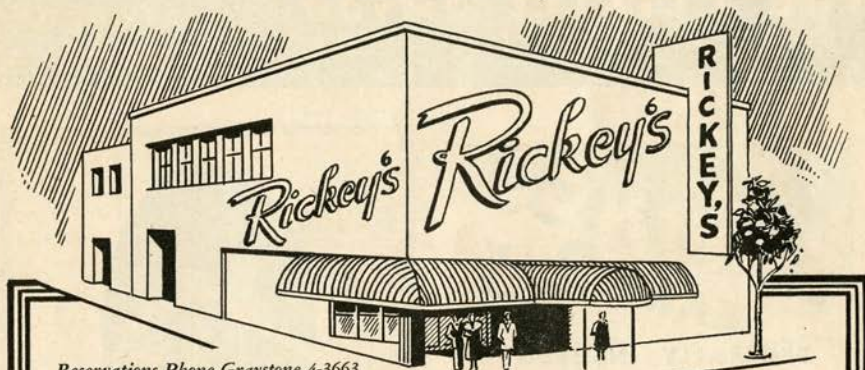
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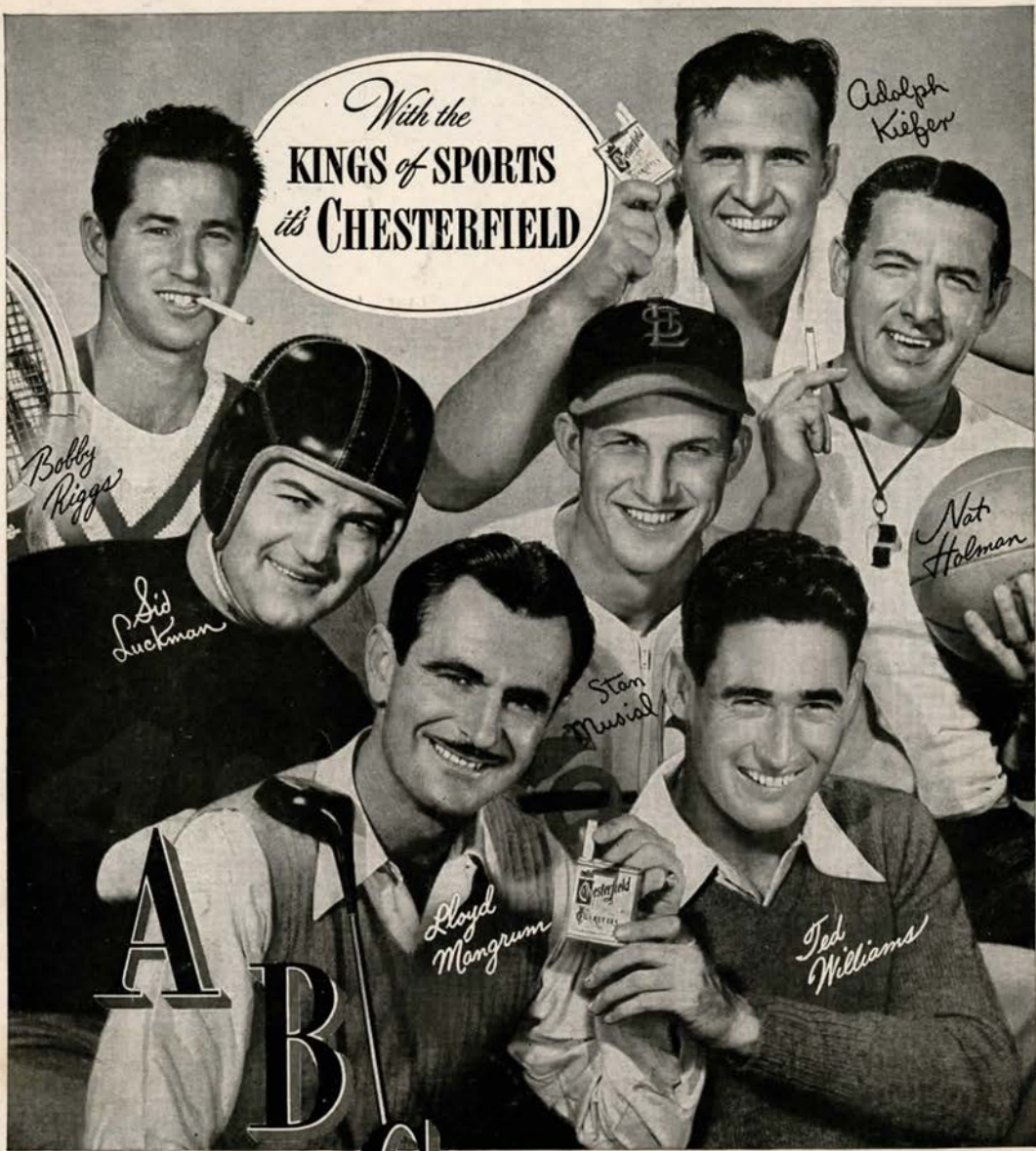
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