

La Gioconda

1948

Sunday, October 3, 1948 2:00 PM

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# 26<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SEASON

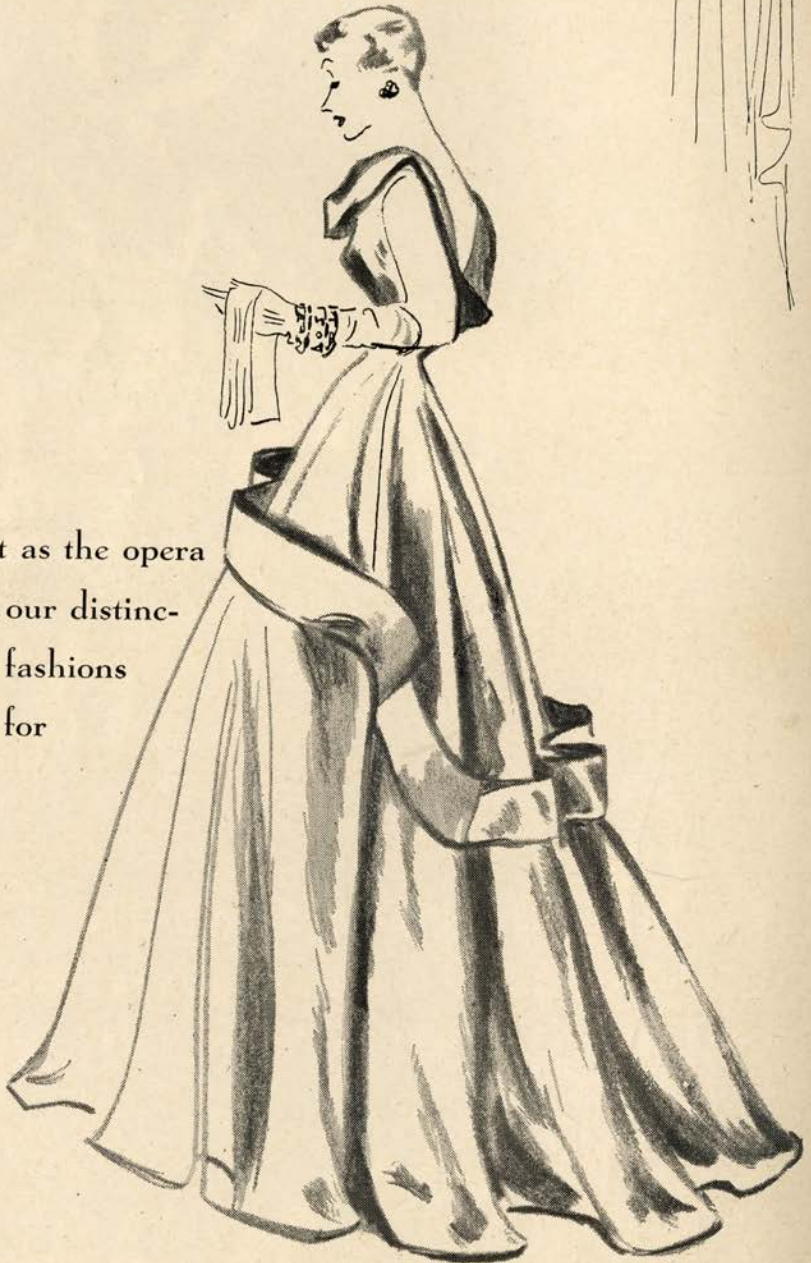
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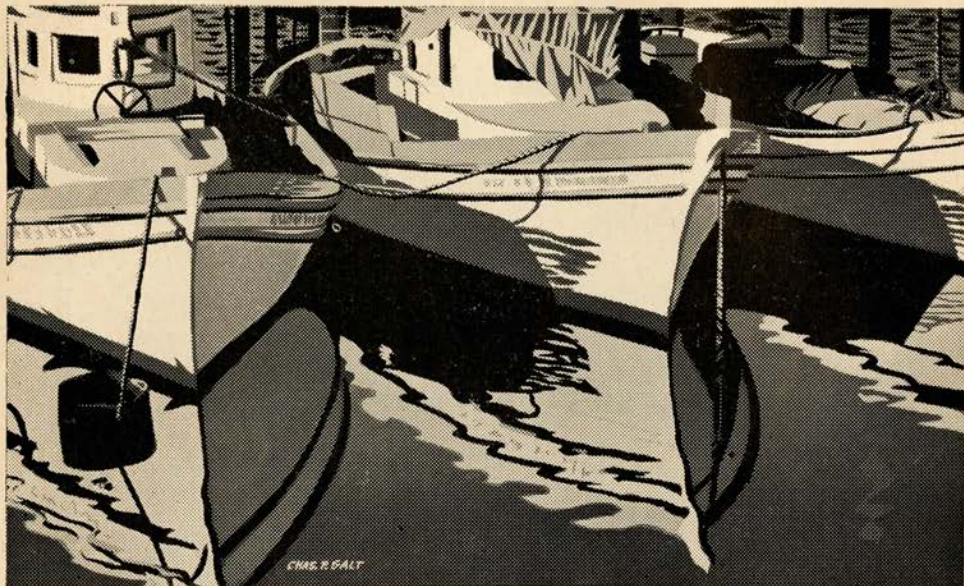
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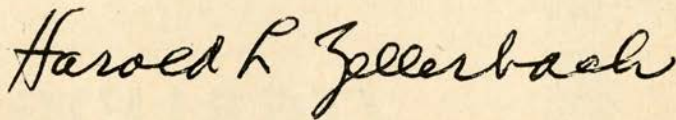
Second, they will be offered during the month of May in what will be known as "The San Francisco Spring Music Festival."

The 1949 series will be under the baton of Dimitri Mitropoulos, distinguished conductor, and will present famed artists and soloists at each performance.

We contemplate this music festival will be held annually and hope it is destined to become an outstanding contribution to our city's cultural endeavors.

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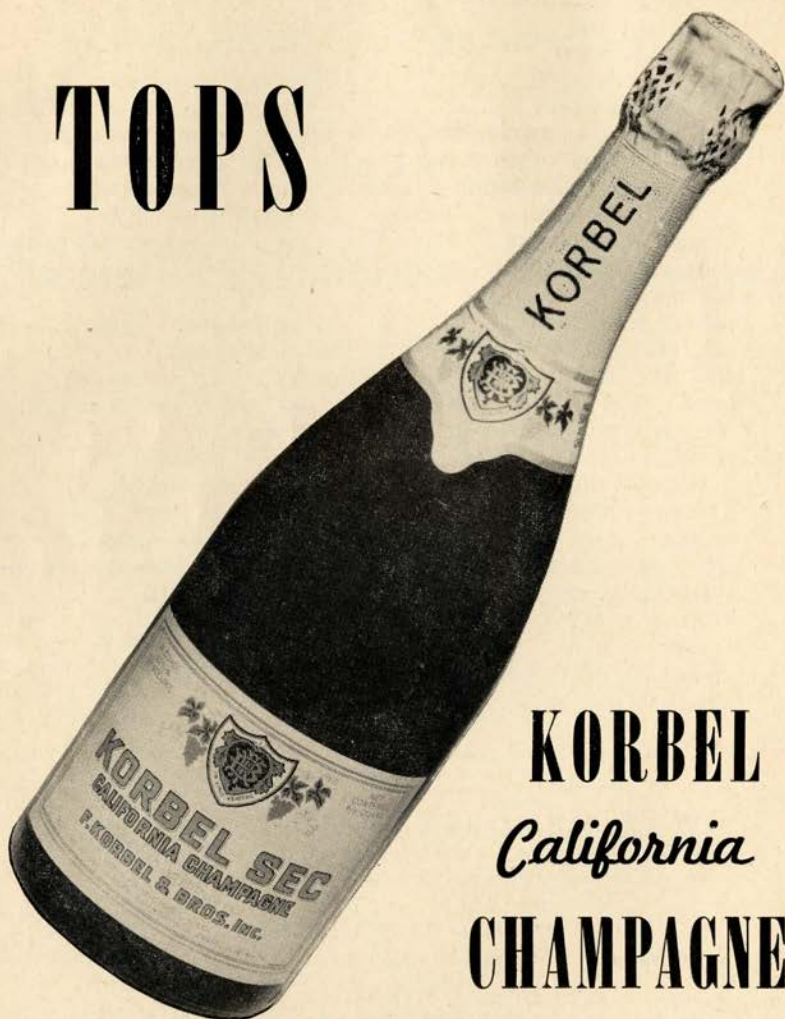
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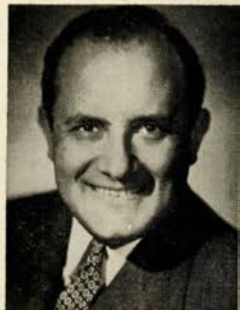
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# R E P E R T O I R E

## REGULAR SUBSCRIPTION PERFORMANCES

- FALSTAFF (*Verdi*) *Tuesday Night, September 14, at 8:00*  
 With Mmes. Albanese, Resnik, Stignani, Glaz, Lawlor; Messrs. Baccaloni, Weede, Lichtegg,  
 De Paolis, Garris, Alvary, Guenter  
 STEINBERG, *Conductor*
- MANON (*Massenet*) *Friday Night, September 17, at 8:00*  
 With Mmes. Sayao, Hartzell, Zubiri, Sanderson, Alver; Messrs. Jobin, Valentino, Alvary,  
 Olitzki, De Paolis, Cehanovsky, Curzi, Lorenzini  
 BREISACH, *Conductor*
- DIE MEISTERSINGER VON NURNBERG (*Wagner*) *Tuesday Night, September 21, at 7:30*  
 With Mmes. Varnay, Glaz, Hessling; Messrs. Kullman, Janssen, Moscona, Garris, Olitzki,  
 Chabay, De Paolis, Ford, Cehanovsky, Ligeti, Walti, Duno, Schwabacher, Uppman, Sharretts  
 STEINBERG, *Conductor*
- LA FORZA DEL DESTINO (*Verdi*) *Friday Night, September 24, at 8:00*  
 With Mmes. Menkes, Turner, Baldwin, Cambi; Messrs. Baum, Warren, Pinza, Baccaloni,  
 De Paolis, Alvary, Ford, Cehanovsky  
 MEROLA, *Conductor*
- CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA (*Mascagni*) *Tuesday Night, September 28, at 8:00*  
 With Mmes. Stignani, Glaz, Turner; Messrs. Binci, Valentino  
 MEROLA, *Conductor*

Followed by

- I PAGLIACCI (*Leoncavallo*)  
 With Mme. Albanese; Messrs. Baum, Weede, Cehanovsky, Chabay, Benson, Curzi  
 CIMARA, *Conductor*
- BORIS GODOUNOFF (*Moussorgsky*) *Friday Night, October 1, at 8:00*  
 With Mmes. Heidt, Beal, Turner, Zubiri, Hartzell, Bruni, Carey; Messrs. Pinza, De Paolis,  
 Kullman, Baccaloni, Cehanovsky, Alvary, Garris, Silva, Walti, Harvey, Martin, Ligeti,  
 Olitzki, Ford, Chabay  
 LEINSDORF, *Conductor*
- CARMEN (*Bizet*) *Tuesday Night, October 5, at 8:00*  
 With Mmes. Heidt, Conner, Hartzell, Turner; Messrs. Kullman, Valdengo, De Paolis,  
 Cehanovsky, Alvary, Uppman  
 LEINSDORF, *Conductor*
- MADAMA BUTTERFLY (*Puccini*) *Friday Night, October 8, at 8:00*  
 With Mmes. Kirsten, Glaz, Gray; Messrs. Pearce, Valdengo, De Paolis, Alvary, Olitzki,  
 Cehanovsky, Harvey  
 CIMARA, *Conductor*
- ELIXIR OF LOVE (*Donizetti*) *Monday Night, October 11, at 8:00*  
 With Mmes. Sayao, Hartzell; Messrs. Tagliavini, Gobbi, Baccaloni  
 BREISACH, *Conductor*
- SIEGFRIED (*Wagner*) *Thursday Night, October 14, at 7:30*  
 With Mmes. Varnay, Beal, Hartzell; Messrs. Svanholm, Janssen, Garris, Olitzki, Ligeti  
 LEINSDORF, *Conductor*

## POPULAR SUBSCRIPTION PERFORMANCES

- LA TRAVIATA (*Verdi*) *Thursday Night, September 16, at 8:00*  
 With Mmes. Albanese, Gray, Lawlor; Messrs. Pearce, Valdengo, De Paolis, Cehanovsky,  
 Ligeti, Olitzki, Lorenzini  
 CIMARA, *Conductor*
- LA BOHEME (*Puccini*) *Thursday Night, September 23, at 8:00*  
 With Mmes. Sayao, Hartzell; Messrs. Pearce, Tajo, Valentino, Cehanovsky, Baccaloni,  
 Lorenzini, Benson, Curzi  
 MEROLA, *Conductor*
- IL TROVATORE (*Verdi*) *Thursday Night, September 30, at 8:00*  
 With Mmes. Menkes, Elmo, Baldwin; Messrs. Baum, Warren, Moscona, Chabay, Benson  
 MARZOLLO, *Conductor*
- FALSTAFF (*Verdi*) *Thursday Night, October 7, at 8:00*  
 With same cast as Regular Series except Warenskjold will be Nanette and Elmo, Dame  
 Quickly  
 STEINBERG, *Conductor*
- OTELLO (*Verdi*) *Saturday Night, October 16, at 8:00*  
 With Mmes. Albanese, Turner; Messrs. Svanholm, Warren, Ligeti, De Paolis, Chabay,  
 Cehanovsky, Nelson  
 STEINBERG, *Conductor*

## NON-SUBSCRIPTION PERFORMANCES

- DON GIOVANNI (*Mozart*) *Sunday Matinee, September 19, at 2:00*  
 With Mmes. Sayao, Pinza, Resnik; Messrs. Pinza, Baccaloni, Lichtegg, Alvary, Ligeti  
 BREISACH, *Conductor*
- BARBER OF SEVILLE (*Rossini*) *Wednesday Night, September 22, at 8:00*  
 With Mmes. Conner, Turner; Messrs. Valdengo, Garris, Tajo, Baccaloni, De Paolis, Chabay  
 BREISACH, *Conductor*
- RIGOLETTO (*Verdi*) *Sunday Matinee, September 26, at 2:00*  
 With Mmes. Conner, Glaz, Baldwin, Heitman, Lawlor; Messrs. Pearce, Warren, Alvary,  
 Ligeti, Chabay, Cehanovsky, Harvey  
 ADLER, *Conductor*
- DON GIOVANNI (*Mozart*) *Wednesday Night, September 29, at 8:00*  
 With same cast as Sunday performance except Tajo will be Leporello  
 BREISACH, *Conductor*
- BARBER OF SEVILLE (*Rossini*) *Saturday Matinee, October 2, at 2:00*  
 With same cast as first performance except Gobbi will be Figaro and Cehanovsky, Fiorella  
 BREISACH, *Conductor*
- LA GIOCONDA (*Ponchielli*) *Sunday Matinee, October 3, at 2:00*  
 With Mmes. Varney, Stignani, Turner; Messrs. Baum, Valentino, Moscona, Ligeti, McVey,  
 Benson, Curzi, Nelson, Alibertini, Attarian  
 MARZOLLO, *Conductor*

Continued on Next Page



## REPERTOIRE—Continued

- MANON (*Massenet*) . . . . . *Monday Night, October 4, at 8:00*  
 With same cast as Regular Series performance except Mascona will be Count Des Grieux.  
 BREISACH, *Conductor*
- LA FORZA DEL DESTINO (*Verdi*) . . . . . *Wednesday Night, October 6, at 8:00*  
 With same cast as Regular Series performance except Weede will be Don Carlo  
 MARZOLLO, *Conductor*
- DIE MEISTERSINGER VON NURNBERG (*Wagner*) . . . . . *Sunday Matinee, October 10, at 1:30*  
 With same cast as Regular Series performance  
 STEINBERG, *Conductor*
- LA BOHEME (*Puccini*) . . . . . *Tuesday Night, October 12, at 8:00*  
 With Mmes. Albanese, Hartzell; Messrs. Bjoerling, Tajo, Valentino, Cehanovsky, Baccaloni,  
 Lorenzini, Benson, Curzi  
 MEROLA, *Conductor*
- LA TRAVIATA (*Verdi*) . . . . . *Friday Night, October 15, at 8:00*  
 With Mmes. Kirsten, Zubiri, Lawlor; Messrs. Tagliavini, Weede, Chabay, Cehanovsky,  
 Ligeti, Olitzki, Lorenzini  
 CIMARA, *Conductor*
- CARMEN (*Bizet*) . . . . . *Sunday Matinee, October 17, at 2:00*  
 With same cast as Regular Series performance except Jobin will be Don Jose and  
 Warenskjold, Micaela  
 LEINSDORF, *Conductor*

### MATINEES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

- Presented by the San Francisco Opera Guild*
- LA BOHEME (*Verdi*) . . . . . *Friday, October 8 and 15, at 1:00*

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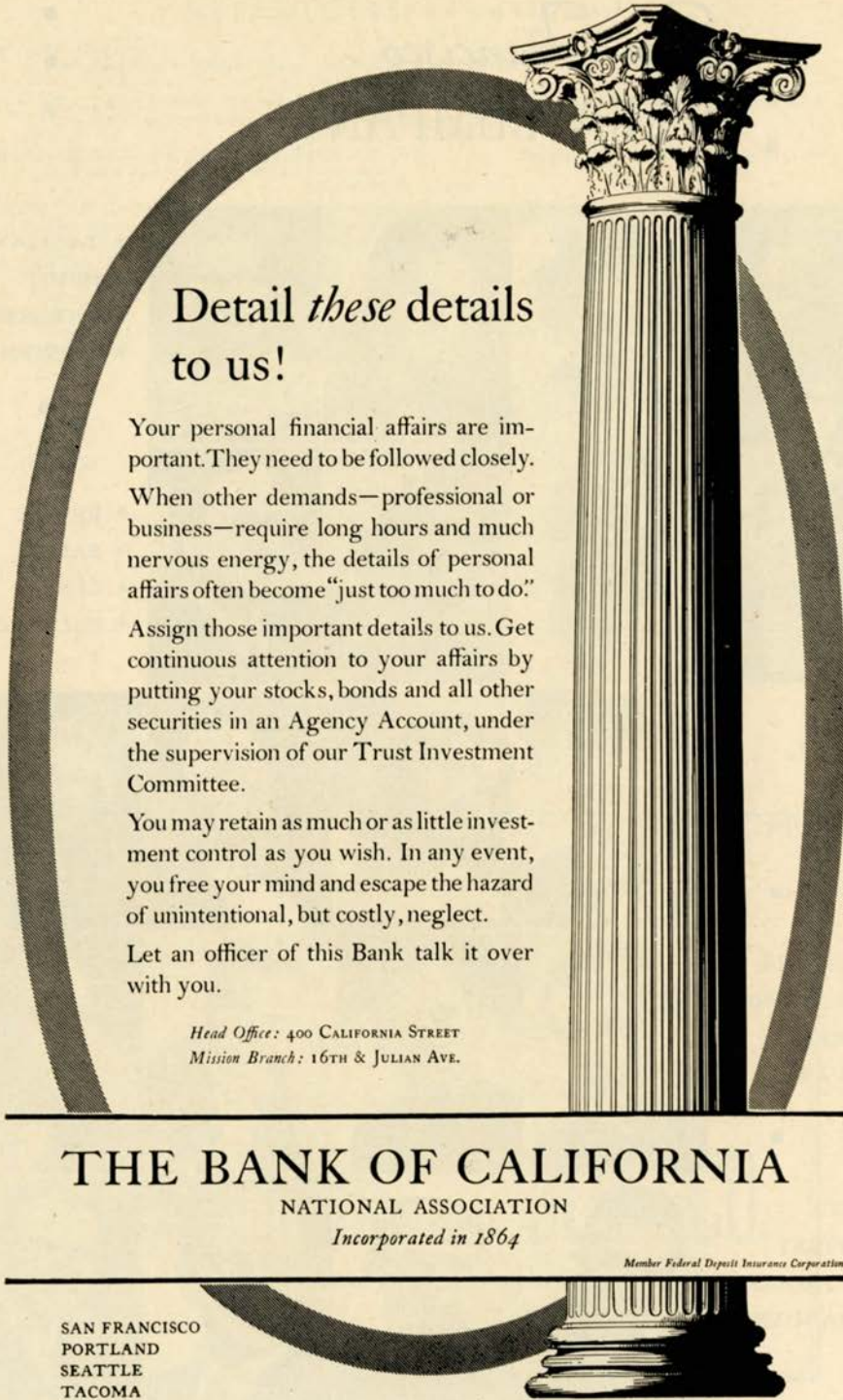


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SUNDAY MATINEE, OCTOBER 3, at 2:00

# La Gioconda

Opera in four acts. Music by Amilcare Ponchielli. Text by Arrigo Boito.

## THE CAST

La Gioconda, a ballad singer.....	ASTRID VARNAY
La Cieca, her blind mother.....	CLARAMAE TURNER
Alvise Adorno, a leader of the Inquisition.....	NICOLA MOSCONA
Laura, his wife.....	EBE STIGNANI
Enzo Grimaldo, a Genoese noble.....	KURT BAUM
Barnaba, a spy of the Inquisition.....	FRANCESCO VALENTINO
Zuane, a boatman.....	PATRICK McVEY
A Cantor.....	NORMAN BENSON
Isepo, a public letter-writer.....	CAESAR CURZI
A Pilot.....	ROBIN NELSON
A Monk.....	DESIRE LIGETI
Two Voices.....	EVARISTO ALIBERTINI, *JAMES ATTARIAN

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ARMANDO AGNINI

### CONDUCTOR

DICK MARZOLLO

### CHORUS DIRECTOR

KURT HERBERT ADLER

Choreography by Willam Christensen

♪ ♪ ♪

**TIME AND PLACE:** Seventh Century; Venice

Act I: Courtyard of Ducal Palace

Act II: Lagoon near City—Night

Act III: Scene 1: Room in Palace of Alvise

Scene 2: Great Hall in the Ca D'Or

Act IV: A Ruined Palace on an Island near Venice

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TICKETS FOR ALL REMAINING PERFORMANCES ARE  
AVAILABLE AT OPERA BOX OFFICE, CITY OF PARIS

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

## The Story of "La Gioconda"

ACT I—It is in the court of the ducal palace, "The Lion's Mouth," that letters for the Inquisition are received. Men and maidens in holiday attire, gathered for a regatta, sing while Barnaba looks on. He is infatuated with Gioconda who now arrives leading La Cieca, her blind mother. Gioconda is seeking Enzo whom she loves. She is stopped by Barnaba who declares his love. Infuriated she hurries away. Barnaba plans a dire revenge. He tells Zuane, defeated in the regatta, that La Cieca has thrown a spell of ill-luck over him. Zuane and his friends attack the old woman but she is saved by the arrival of Enzo. Alvisè also arrives with Laura, who is loved by Enzo. Alvisè orders the release of La Cieca who in gratitude, gives Laura her rosary. Barnaba, noting the meaningful glances between Enzo and Laura, tells Enzo that Laura is planning to visit his ship that night. Enzo hurries off to receive her. Barnaba dictates an anonymous letter to Alvisè informing him of the coming meeting between Enzo and Laura. Gioconda overhears and is heart broken at the faithlessness of Enzo.

ACT II—Barnaba, disguised as a fisherman, sings to the sailors and leaves after sending for police galleys. Enzo arrives and is royally greeted by the sailors. Laura reaches the ship and the lovers passionately embrace. Enzo goes below deck to make ready for their departure at dawn. Gioconda unexpectedly appears and denounces Laura. Each declares her love for Enzo. Gioconda attempts to stab Laura. Alvisè is seen approaching in a boat and Laura, in despair, holds aloft her rosary in prayer. Gioconda recognizes the rosary as her mother's and generously aids Laura to escape. Enzo comes on deck and is greeted by the vengeful Gioconda. Trapped by Alvisè and Barnaba he sets fire to his ship.

ACT III—Scene 1—Alvisè decides that the unfaithful Laura shall die. He orders her to drink poison. Gioconda, remembering how Laura befriended her mother, substitutes a narcotic for the poison. Laura drinks and goes into a deep sleep. Scene 2: For the entertainment of his guests Alvisè has provided a grand masque ball. He greets the arriving guests and announces the ballet "Dance of the Hours." At the conclusion of the dance Barnaba rushes in dragging La Cieca whom he accuses of performing her magic rites. But she vows that she was but praying for the soul of the dead. Barnaba whispers to Enzo that Laura is dead. Enzo un.masks and denounces Alvisè. The murderous husband draws aside a curtain showing the presumably dead Laura. Enzo attempts to kill Alvisè and Barnaba is placed over him as a guard. Gioconda then promises herself to Barnaba if he arrange for the release of Enzo.

ACT IV—Gioconda is alone with the unconscious Laura. She persuades the men who have brought them to the island to search for her mother. Suicide seems her only recourse. Enzo, released from prison, arrives. Laura revives and Gioconda aids them to escape. Gioconda is about to swallow poison when Barnaba appears to claim his reward. She seems to yield but instead stabs herself with the dagger she carries. But Barnaba still has his revenge—he cries into Gioconda's ears that he has murdered her mother.

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★ WALTI



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★ ALVER  
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MONDAY NIGHT, OCTOBER 4, at 8:00

# Manon

Opera in five acts. Music by Jules Massenet.

Text by Meilhac and Gille, after the novel by Abbé Prévost.

## THE CAST

Manon Lescaut .....	BIDU SAYAO
Chevalier des Grieux.....	RAOUL JOBIN
Lescaut, Manon's cousin.....	FRANCESCO VALENTINO
Count des Grieux.....	NICOLA MOSCONA
Guillot Monfontaine, a roué.....	ALESSIO DE PAOLIS
De Brétigny, a nobleman.....	GEORGE CEHANOVSKY
Poussette .....	LOIS HARTZELL
Javotte .....	MARTINA ZUBIRI
Rosette .....	BETTIE SANDERSON
Innkeeper .....	WALTER OLITZKI
Maid .....	SHERRIL ALVER
First Guard.....	CAESAR CURZI
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### STAGE DIRECTOR

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**TIME AND PLACE:** 1721; Amiens, Paris, Havre

Act I: Courtyard of an Inn, Amiens

Act II: Boudoir, in Manon's House, Paris

Act III: Anteroom in Seminary of Saint Sulpice

Act IV: Gambling Salon, Hotel Transylvanie

Act V: Road to Havre

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TICKETS FOR ALL REMAINING PERFORMANCES ARE  
AVAILABLE AT OPERA BOX OFFICE, CITY OF PARIS

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



## The Story of "Manon"

ACT I—Lescault, a bibulous officer of the guard, is waiting the coming of a coach bearing Manon, his cousin, who is being sent to a convent in his car. On her arrival, Guillot Morfontaine, an old roué, who is at the inn with a party, takes a fancy to the petite and pretty Manon and pays her court. Amused but flattered, Manon rejects his advances and he is called away by Bretigny, his traveling companion. Among those who have been attracted by Manon is young Chevalier des Grieux on his way to begin study for the priesthood. He approaches and pays his addresses. Manon, not liking the prospect of life in a convent, accepts his proposal and suggests an elopement to Paris. They use Guillot's coach for the purpose.

ACT II—Des Grieux and Manon are living in an apartment in Paris. Des Grieux writes for his father's consent to his marriage with Manon and goes out to post the letter. The capricious Manon, having found that the modest style of their menage hardly meets with her desires, listens to the advances made to her by Bretigny, who promises a life of luxury. It ends by her conniving in a scheme, planned by the elder Des Grieux, for carrying off the son from his questionable surroundings. However, she cannot leave without regret, for she nows how deeply Des Grieux loves her. And when he returns from posting the letter and tells her of a dream that has come to him, it is with a heavy heart that she thinks of their separation. A knock at the door halts the dream narrative. Manon, suddenly repentant, vainly tries to prevent her lover's capture.

ACT III—Manon, as the mistress of Bretigny, is admired and feted. During an entertainment she has overheard a conversation between Bretigny and the elder Des Grieux from which she learned that the latter's son is a novice at Saint Sulpice, and seized with a sudden return of her old love she has hastened to the seminary. But the father is before her. He does his utmost to persuade his son from taking up the holy life. Des Grieux stubbornly refuses and seeks the sanctity of his cell. Manon arrives and sends for him. Des Grieux prays for strength to resist her sensuous pleadings. It is in vain and he flees the monastery with her.

ACT IV—That Manon may have her love and still satisfy her craving for luxury, she persuades Des Grieux to gamble. In a fashionable temple of chance he wins large sums from Guillot, who revenges himself by denouncing Des Grieux as a cheat and Manon as an accomplice. Des Grieux and Manon are placed under arrest. The former is released through his father's influence but Manon is sentenced to deportation.

ACT V—Des Grieux is waiting for Manon to pass on her way to the ship that is to carry her into her exile. She approaches and, exhausted by the harsh treatment and illness, falls by the wayside. Lescault restrains Des Grieux from attacking the guard and himself disappears with the sergeant that Manon may find peace in her lover's arms.



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