

Aida

1949

Tuesday, October 4, 1949 8:00 PM  
Thursday, October 13, 1949 8:00 PM

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*27th Annual Season*

*San Francisco Opera Association*

*September 20 through October 23, 1949*

*War Memorial Opera House*

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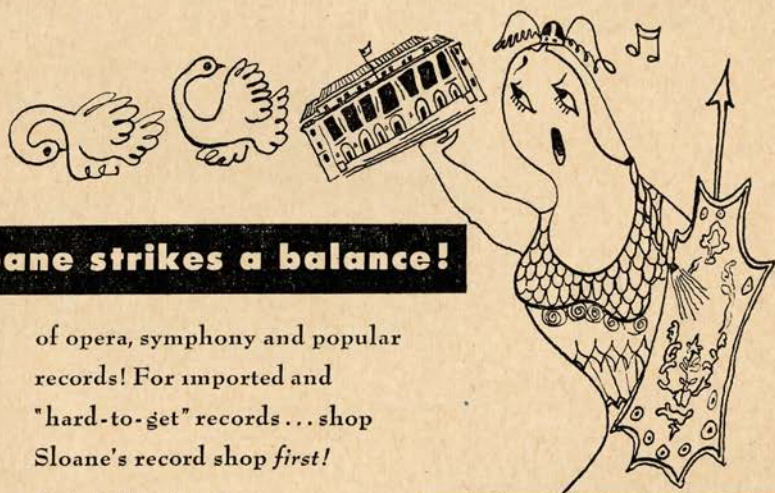
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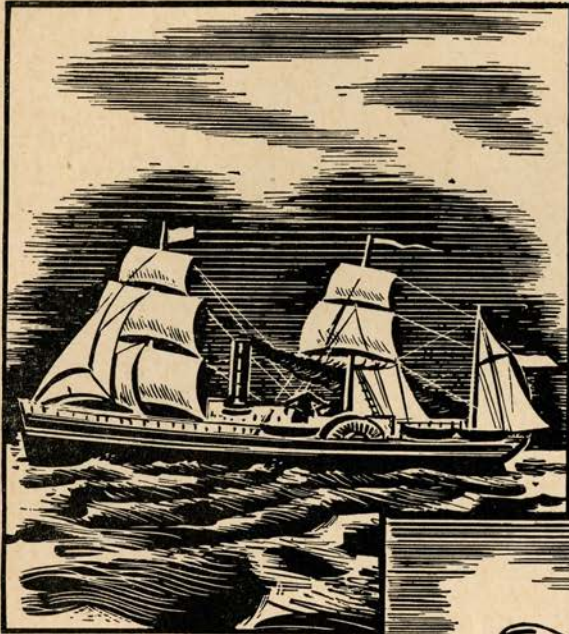
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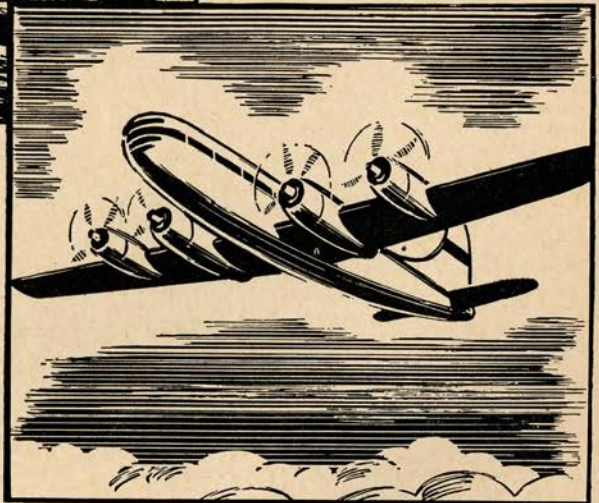


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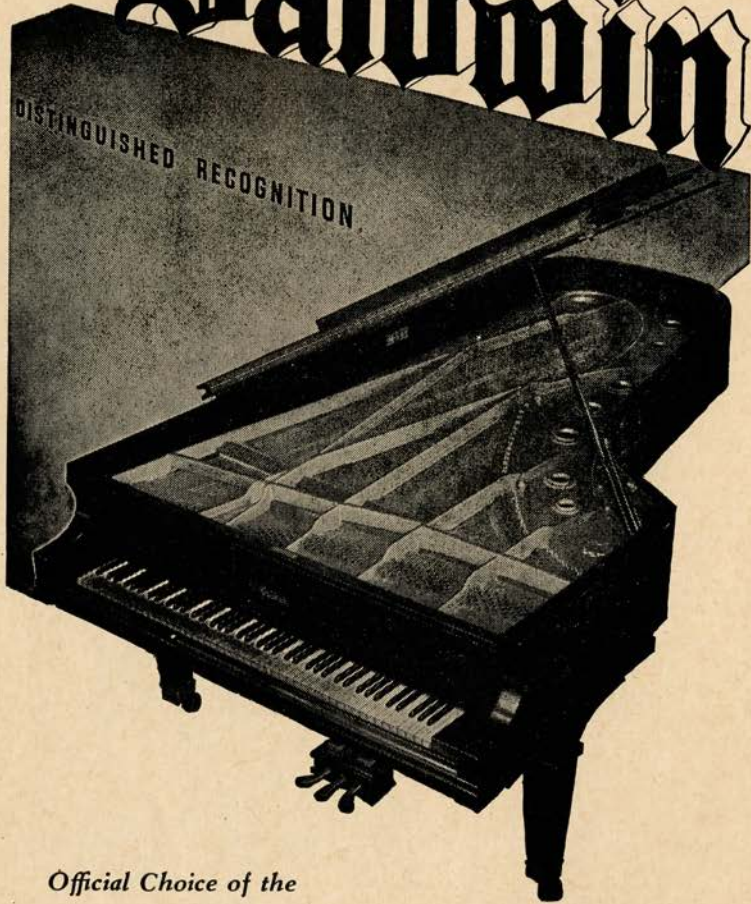
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 With Mme. Barbato, Walker; Messrs. Bjoerling, Tibbett, Baccaloni, De Paolis, Cehanovsky,  
 Ligeti, Guenter  
 CLEVA, *Conductor*
- FAUST (*Gounod*) *Thursday Night*, September 22, at 8:00  
 With Mmes. Albanese, Glaz, Turner; Messrs. Jobin, Tajo, Mascherini, McVey  
 MEROLA, *Conductor*
- DON GIOVANNI (*Mozart*) *Tuesday Night*, September 27, at 8:00  
 With Mmes. Albanese, Novotna, Bampton; Messrs. Tajo, Baccaloni, Peerce, Cehanovsky,  
 Ligeti  
 BREISACH, *Conductor*
- TRISTAN UND ISOLDE (*Wagner*) *Friday Night*, September 30, at 8:00  
 With Mmes. Flagstad, Thebom; Messrs. Svanholm, Szekely, Janssen, Cehanovsky, Chabay,  
 Ligeti  
 STEINBERG, *Conductor*
- AIDA (*Verdi*) *Tuesday Night*, October 4, at 8:00  
 With Mmes. Barbato, Thebom, Graf; Messrs. Svanholm, Weede, Moscona, Ligeti, Chabay  
 STEINBERG, *Conductor*
- MANON LESCAUT (*Puccini*) *Friday Night*, October 7, at 8:00  
 With Mmes. Albanese, Glaz; Messrs. Bjoerling, Mascherini, Baccaloni, Chabay, De Paolis,  
 Ligeti, Harvey, McVey  
 CLEVA, *Conductor*
- DIE WALKURE (*Wagner*) *Tuesday Night*, October 11, at 8:00  
 With Mmes. Flagstad, Bampton, Turner, Glaz, Spry, Chauveau, Baldwin, Ostrowski,  
 Walker, Wilcox; Messrs. Svanholm, Sharretts, Szekely  
 STEINBERG, *Conductor*
- TALES OF HOFFMANN (*Offenbach*) *Friday Night*, October 14, at 8:00  
 With Mmes. Albanese, Novotna, Glaz, Graf, Turner, Lagorio; Messrs. Jobin, Herbert,  
 DePaolis, Cehanovsky, Ligeti, Chabay, Curzi, Trevor, Harvey  
 BREISACH, *Conductor*
- SAMSON ET DALILA (*Saint-Saens*) *Tuesday Night*, October 18, at 8:00  
 With Mme. Thebom; Messrs. Jobin, Weede, Ligeti, Cehanovsky, Chabay, Peters, Nelson  
 CLEVA, *Conductor*
- LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR (*Donizetti*) *Friday Night*, October 21, at 8:00  
 With Mmc. Pons, Zubiri; Messrs. Tagliavini, Valentino, Ligeti, Chabay, Curzi  
 MEROLA, *Conductor*

## POPULAR MATINEE SUBSCRIPTION

- LA BOHEME (*Puccini*) *Sunday Matinee*, September 25, at 2:00  
 With Mmes. Albanese, Hartzell; Messrs. Bjoerling, Mascherini, Cehanovsky, Moscona,  
 Baccaloni, Lorenzini, Harvey, Curzi  
 KRITZ, *Conductor*
- FAUST (*Gounod*) *Sunday Matinee*, October 2, at 2:00  
 With Mmes. Quartararo, Glaz, Turner; Messrs. Bjoerling, Moscona, Mascherini, McVey  
 ADLER, *Conductor*
- DON GIOVANNI (*Mozart*) *Sunday Matinee*, October 9, at 2:00  
 With Mmes. Albanese, Novotna, Bampton; Messrs. Tajo, Baccaloni, Peerce, Cehanovsky,  
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 BREISACH, *Conductor*
- MANON LESCAUT (*Puccini*) *Sunday Matinee*, October 16, at 2:00  
 With Mmes. Albanese, Glaz; Messrs. Bjoerling, Valentino, Baccaloni, Chabay, De Paolis,  
 Ligeti, Harvey, McVey  
 CLEVA, *Conductor*
- DIE WALKURE (*Wagner*) *Sunday Matinee*, October 23, at 2:00  
 With Mmes. Flagstad, Bampton, Turner, Glaz, Spry, Chauveau, Baldwin, Ostrowski,  
 Walker, Wilcox; Messrs. Svanholm, Sharretts, Szekely  
 STEINBERG, *Conductor*

## POPULAR EVENING SUBSCRIPTION

- CARMEN (*Bizet*) *Saturday Night*, September 24, at 8:00  
 With Mmes. Heidt, Graf, Hartzell, Turner; Messrs. Vinay, Valentino, Ligeti, Cehanovsky,  
 De Paolis  
 BREISACH, *Conductor*
- TOSCA (*Puccini*) *Thursday Night*, September 29, at 8:00  
 With Mme. Barbato, Walker; Messrs. Tagliavini, Tibbett, Baccaloni, De Paolis, Cehanov-  
 sky, Ligeti  
 CLEVA, *Conductor*
- TRISTAN UND ISOLDE (*Wagner*) *Thursday Night*, October 6, at 8:00  
 With Mmes. Flagstad, Glaz; Messrs. Svanholm, Szekely, Janssen, Cehanovsky, Chabay,  
 Ligeti  
 STEINBERG, *Conductor*
- AIDA (*Verdi*) *Thursday Night*, October 13, at 8:00  
 With Mmes. Barbato, Thebom, Graf; Messrs. Svanholm, Weede, Szekely, Ligeti, Chabay  
 STEINBERG, *Conductor*
- TALES OF HOFFMANN (*Offenbach*) *Thursday Night*, October 20, at 8:00  
 With Mmes. Thebom, Glaz, Warenskjold, Graf, Turner, Lagorio; Messrs. Jobin, Herbert,  
 De Paolis, Cehanovsky, Ligeti, Chabay, Curzi, Trevor Harvey  
 BREISACH, *Conductor*

(Continued)



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TUESDAY NIGHT, OCTOBER 4, at 8:00

# † AIDA

Opera in four acts. Music by Giuseppe Verdi.

Text by Antonio Ghislanzoni.

## THE CAST

Aida, an Ethiopian slave.....	ELISABETTA BARBATO
Amneris, daughter of the Egyptian King.....	BLANCHE THEBOM
Rhadames, captain of the Egyptian guard.....	SET SVANHOLM
Amonasro, King of Ethiopia, Aida's father.....	ROBERT WEEDE
Ramfis, High Priest of Isis.....	NICOLA MOSCONA
The King of Egypt.....	DESIRE LIGETI
Messenger .....	LESLIE CHABAY
Priestess .....	UTA GRAF

*Priests, Priestesses, Ministers, Captains, Soldiers, Officials, Ethiopian Slaves and Prisoners, Egyptians, etc.*

Solo Dancer: Celena Cummings

Incidental Dances by Corps de Ballet

Choreography by Willam Christensen



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ARMANDO AGNINI

### CONDUCTOR

WILLIAM STEINBERG

### CHORUS DIRECTOR

KURT HERBERT ADLER



**TIME AND PLACE:** In Pharaoh's Time; Memphis and Thebes

Act I: Scene 1: Hall in King's Palace at Memphis  
Scene 2: Temple of Isis

Act II: Scene 1: A Hall in Amneris' Apartment  
Scene 2: The Gate of Thebes

Act III: Shores of Nile, near Temple of Isis

Act IV: Scene 1: Outside the Judgment Hall  
Scene 2: Above—In Temple of Vulcan  
Below—Vault beneath the Temple

†Popular Evening Performance of "Aida," October 13

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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 "Aida"*

### ACT I

A messenger has come to the palace of the Egyptian king with word of approaching invasion by the Ethiopians under the leadership of King Amonasro. Ramfis, the high priest, reveals to Rhadames that the Gods have selected him to command the forces sent forth to repel the invasion. This choice pleases Princess Amneris for victory would make Rhadames, with whom she is in love, a desirable mate for her. The warrior's thoughts are not of Amneris, however, but of Aida, Ethiopian slave of the princess, captured in a late war, and, unknown to the Egyptians, a daughter of Amonasro. Amneris, coming upon Rhadames, rallies him on the passion of his bearing but jealously comprehends it is not for her when the weeping slave girl enters. The court assembles and escorts Rhadames to the temple to receive his command. (Scene 2). In the recesses of the temple of Vulcan, Rhadames receives a consecrated sword and is dedicated to his trust.

### ACT II

Word has come that Rhadames has been victorious. Amneris thinks upon his strange behavior with Aida as she joins her slave girls in singing his praises. On the approach of Aida she deftly gains from her the confession of her love for Rhadames. Then, telling of her own love for the warrior, Amneris commands that Aida shall witness Rhadames' obedience to herself on his triumphant return. (Scene 2). Royal welcome is given Rhadames on his return with the conquered Ethiopians. Amonasro, dressed as a plain officer, is recognized by Aida. Signaling her not to betray his rank he acknowledges her as his daughter and tells how the king, wounded, had died at his feet. Rhadames, offered any boon he may wish, requests the freedom of the Ethiopians. His wish is granted but Amonasro and Aida are retained as hostages. The king then gives Rhadames, as his supreme reward, the hand of Amneris.

### ACT III

Amneris goes to the temple on the eve of her marriage to Rhadames. Aida, coming later, is followed by her father who plays upon her love for Rhadames and her concern for her countrymen to involve him in a plot to his advantage. Rhadames appearing, Amonasro conceals himself. Aida begs her lover to flee with her. Enraptured, he unwittingly discloses his army's movements, upon which Amonasro comes forth. Amneris, concealed among the palms, has overheard and, enraged, rushes out. Amonasro escapes with Aida.

### ACT IV

Amneris, regretting the act that gave the man she loved to the priests, sends for Rhadames and offers to save him if he accept and return her love. Rhadames refuses and she calls down the hatred of the Gods upon him. The priests escort Rhadames to the Hall of Justice. Amneris hears the trial as it is conducted behind the scenes and wildly curses the priesthood as sentence is pronounced. (Scene 2). Aida, informed of Rhadames' sentence, has concealed herself in the tomb. When he descends into it and prays that she may never know his fate, Aida comes forth that they may die together.



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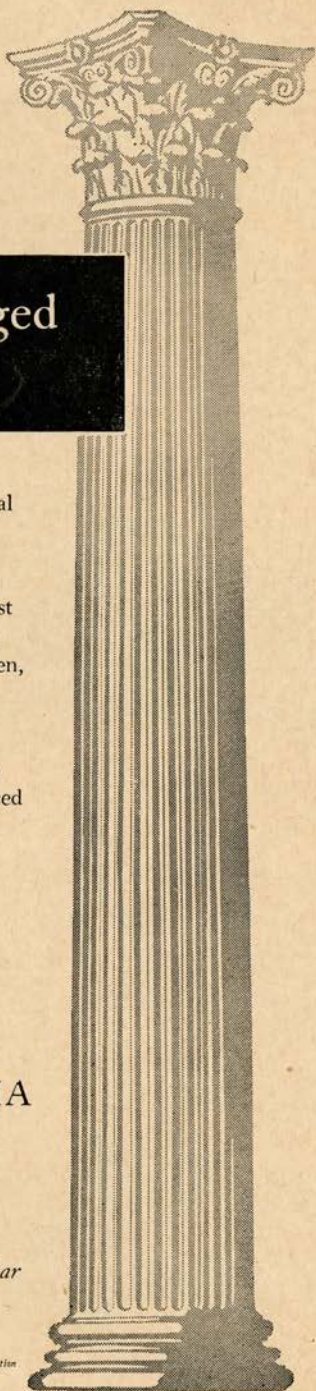
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THURSDAY NIGHT, OCTOBER 6, at 8:00

# † 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.....	KIRSTEN FLAGSTAD
Brangane, Isolde's friend and attendant.....	HERTA GLAZ
King Mark of Cornwall.....	MICHAEL SZEKELY
Kurvenal, Tristan's devoted servant.....	HERBERT JANSSEN
Melot, one of King Mark's courtiers.....	GEORGE CEHANOVSKY
Shepherd.....	LESLIE CHABAY
Steersman.....	PATRICK McVEY
A Sailor's Voice.....	LESLIE CHABAY

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**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

†Extra Performance of "Tristan and Isolde," Matinee, October 15.

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



## *The Story of "Tristan und Isolde"*

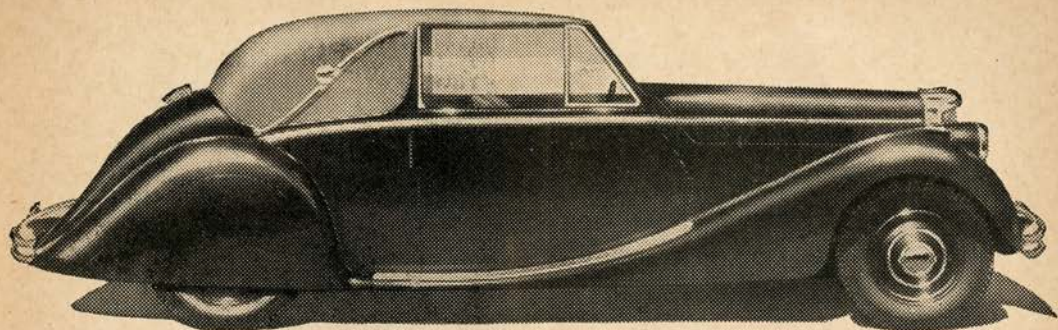
PROLOGUE: Sent to capture Cornwall to collect tribute, Morold, a chieftain affianced to the Irish princess, Isolde, is slain by Tristan, favorite nephew of King Mark of Cornwall. For his own wounds, Tristan, incognito, seeks the aid of Isolde, famed for her healing. Recognizing him by a notch in his 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 Brangäne the story of her unrequited love for Tristan and, commanding her to prepare a poisonous draught, summons Tristan to her presence. Brangäne, 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 Brangäne 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 Brangäne 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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Ligeti, Guenter

CLEVA, *Conductor*

TRISTAN UND ISOLDE (*Wagner*) . . . . . *Saturday Night*, October 15, at 8:00  
With Mmes. Flagstad, Thebom; Messrs. Svanholm, Szekely, Janssen, Cehanovsky, Chabay,  
Ligeti

STEINBERG, *Conductor*

CONCERT DIVISION PERFORMANCE

LA BOHEME (*Puccini*) . . . . . *Wednesday Night*, October 19, at 8:00  
With Mmes. Albanese, Hartzell; Messrs. Tagliavini, Valentino, Cehanovsky, Moscona,  
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ELISABETTA BARBATO <i>Ah-leez-ah-bay'-tah Bahr-bah-tow</i>	GAETANO MEROLA <i>Gah-yay-tahn'-oh Mare'-oh-lah</i>
ETIENNE BARONE <i>Et-yehn Bah-row'-nay</i>	NICOLA MOSCONA <i>Nee'-ko-lah Maws-ko'-nah</i>
JUSSI BJOERLING <i>You-see Bee-yurl'-ing</i>	JARMILA NOVOTNA <i>Yahr-mee'-lah No-vah't'-nah</i>
GEORGE CEHANOVSKY <i>George Chay-han-off'-skee</i>	FLORENCE QUARTARARO <i>Florence Quar-tah-rah'-row</i>
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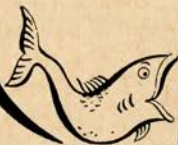


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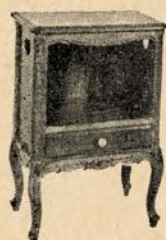
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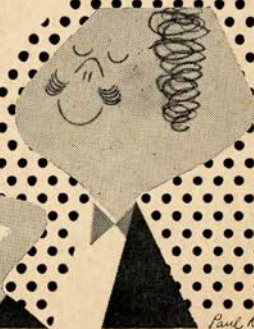
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### ACKNOWLEDGMENT

With grateful appreciation to the Emporium for its generous donation of the auditorium and facilities for Chorus rehearsals for the 1949 Opera Season. This cooperation meant not only a great convenience to the Opera Company but a substantial saving.

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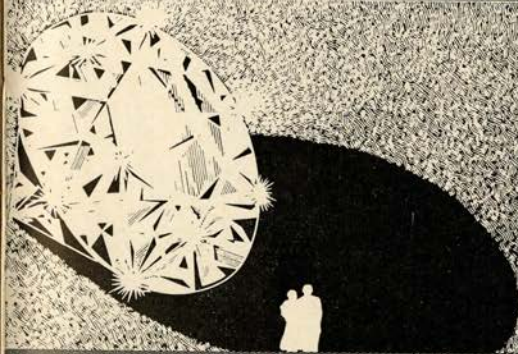
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THURSDAY NIGHT, OCTOBER 13, at 8:00

# AIDA

Opera in four acts. Music by Giuseppe Verdi.

Text by Antonio Ghislanzoni.

## THE CAST

Aida, an Ethiopian slave.....	ELISABETTA BARBATO
Amneris, daughter of the Egyptian King.....	BLANCHE THEBOM
Rhadames, captain of the Egyptian guard.....	SET SVANHOLM
Amonasro, King of Ethiopia, Aida's father.....	ROBERT WEEDE
Ramfis, High Priest of Isis.....	MIHALY SZEKELY
The King of Egypt.....	DESIRE LIGETI
Messenger .....	LESLIE CHABAY
Priestess .....	UTA GRAF

*Priests, Priestesses, Ministers, Captains, Soldiers, Officials, Ethiopian Slaves and Prisoners, Egyptians, etc.*

Solo Dancer: Celena Cummings

Incidental Dances by Corps de Ballet

Choreography by Willam Christensen



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ARMANDO AGNINI

### CONDUCTOR

WILLIAM STEINBERG

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KURT HERBERT ADLER



**TIME AND PLACE:** In Pharaoh's Time; Memphis and Thebes

Act I: Scene 1: Hall in King's Palace at Memphis  
Scene 2: Temple of Isis

Act II: Scene 1: A Hall in Amneris' Apartment  
Scene 2: The Gate of Thebes

Act III: Shores of Nile, near Temple of Isis

Act IV: Scene 1: Outside the Judgment Hall  
Scene 2: Above—In Temple of Vulcan  
Below—Vault beneath the Temple

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