#### La Bohème

1949

Sunday, September 25, 1949 2:00 PM Wednesday, October 19, 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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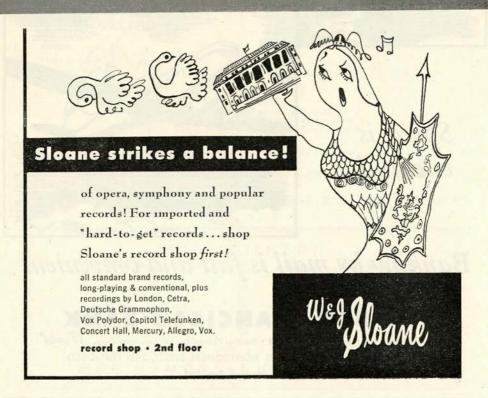
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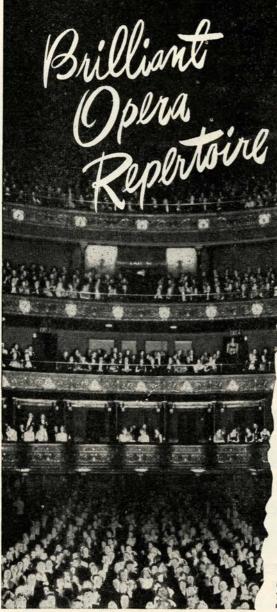
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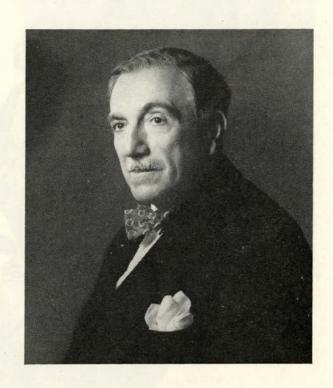
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UTA GRAF Soprano

PAUL GUENTER
Bass

LOIS HARTZELL Soprano

COLIN HARVEY
Baritone

WINIFRED HEIDT Soprano

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  CLEVA, Conductor

#### POPULAR EVENING SUBSCRIPTION

- CARMEN (Bizet)
  With Mmes. Heidt, Graf, Hartzell, Turner; Messrs. Vinay, Valentino, Ligeti, Cehanovsky,
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#### SATURDAY NIGHT, SEPTEMBER 24, at 8:00

#### CARMEN

Opera in four acts. Music by Georges Bizet.

Text by Meilhac and Halvéy, after Prosper Merimée's Romance.

#### THE CAST

The state of the s	
Carmen	WINIFRED HEIDT
Don Jose	*RAMON VINAY
Micaela	*UTA GRAF
Escamillo, the Toreador	FRANCESCO VALENTINO
Zuniga, Captain of Dragoons	DESIRE LIGETI
Frasquita	LOIS HARTZELL
Mercedes	LOIS HARTZELL
	GEORGE CEHANOVSKY
Remendado Smugglers	ALESSIO DE PAOLIS
Morales, an officer	GEORGE CEHANOVSKY

\* San Francisco debut

An Innkeeper, Guide, Soldiers, Citizens, Boys, Cigarette Girls, Gypsies, Smugglers

Solo Dancers: Geraldine Vasquez, Joan Vickers, Roland Vasquez

Incidental Dances by Corps de Ballet

Choreography by Willam Christensen

Boys selected from San Francisco Boys Chorus

111

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TIME AND PLACE: About 1820; Seville, Spain

Act 1: Courtyard of Cigarette Factory

Act II: A Tavern in Suburbs

Act III: A Rocky Pass in the Mountains at Night

Act IV: Square at Entrance to Bull Ring

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#### The Story of "Carmen"

Act I—Micaela, a country maid to whom Don José, young brigadier, is engaged, seeks her affiianced with a message from his mother. He is not on duty, and embarrassed by the attentions of the soldiers, she leaves. The new guard marches in. José is told that Micaela has come to see him, and he sits thinking of her. Cigarette girls stream out from the factory near by, with them, Carmen the gypsy. Attracted by the indifference of handsome Don José Carmen sings directly to him. Throwing him a flower, she leaves him, dazed and bewildered. A moment later a stabbing affray with a rival factory girl leads to the gypsy's arrest and she is placed in the care of José. A few more smiles and José is half persuaded to allow her to escape and to join her later at the Tavern of Lillas Pastia. There is a sudden struggle, the soldier lets go his hold, and Carmen flees.

Acr II—Carmen and a band of gypsies are singing a gay song. She remembers that the soldier who went to prison for her is now at liberty and shortly will join her. Morales, of José's guard, is trying to win her favor, but she laughs at him. The famous bull-fighter Escamillo enters and the tavern is closed. The inn-keeper then admits two smugglers who tell their plans to the girls whom they invite to join them. Carmen alone, will not go. She is waiting for José, whose arrival leads to an ardent love scene. But he hears the trumpet sounding the retreat and tells Carmen he must return to his regiment. She is incensed and tells him that she hates him. Desperately he pours out his love and Carmen hurries to paint attractively the life they might lead together in the mountains. Despite her charms José is about to leave when his officer appears and orders him back to line. Resentfully José defies the captain, and escapes to the smugglers' camp with Carmen.

Act III—José is unhappy in the life of a bandit, and Carmen, tiring of her gloomy lover, dreams of the Toreador. José threatens to kill her if she abandons him. "Death comes as Fate decrees," is her answer. She lays out the cards. They predict that she and her lover will die. Two visitors arrive: Escamillo, to see Carmen, and Micaela with a message from José's dying mother. The jealous José sees only Escamillo and shoots at him. Escamillo goes at once, but challenges José to meet him later. Micaela implores José to go to his mother. They leave together.

Acr IV—Carmen has become Escamillo's adored mistress. Magnificently dressed she comes with him to the entrance of the bull-ring, where he takes leave of her with impassioned song. Then the clouds of tragedy, which Carmen had read in the cards, lower in truth. Don José comes to Carmen to plead with her to be kind with him. Escamillo's name sounds in the arena amid wild applause, and Carmen repulses José with biting scorn. Escamillo's name again rings out, and the cheated José stabs Carmen to the heart.



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#### †LA BOHEME

Opera in four acts. Music by Giacomo Puccini. Text by Giacosa and Illica.

#### THE CAST

Mimi, an embroideress		LICIA ALBANESE
Musetta, a grisette		LOIS HARTZELL
Rudolph, a poet		JUSSI BJOERLING
Marcel, painter	The Four	ENZO MASCHERINI
Schaunard, musician	Bohemians	1GEORGE CEHANOVSKY
Colline, philosopher		NICOLA MOSCONA
Benoit, an importunate la Alcindoro, state councile admirer of Musetta	ndlord }	SALVATORE BACCALONI
Customhouse Sergeant		MAX LORENZINI
Customhouse Guard	************	COLIN HARVEY
Parpignol		CAESAR CURZI
A Boy		
Students, Work-Girls, Gri	settes, Shopkeep	pers, Vendors, Waiters, Soldiers, etc.
Boys select	ted from San Fre	ancisco Boys Chorus

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TIME AND PLACE: About 1830; Paris

Act 1: Garret of the Bohemians

Act II: Terrace of the Cafe Momus

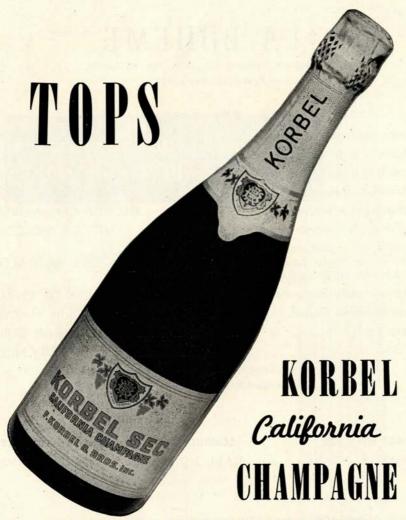
Act III: A City Gate of Paris Act IV: Same as Act I

Because of copyright the story of the opera cannot be printed.

\*Opera Concert Division Performance of "La Boheme," October 19.

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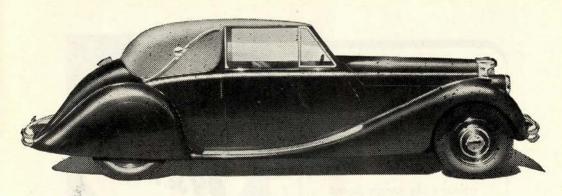
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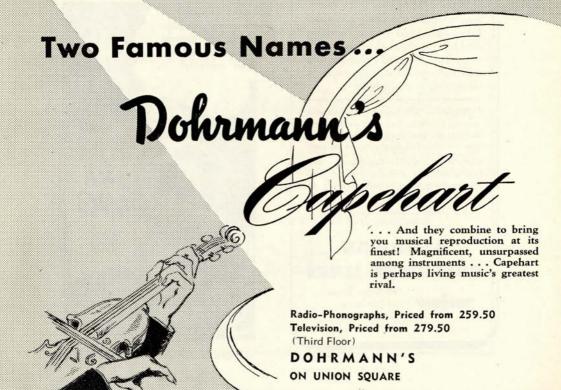
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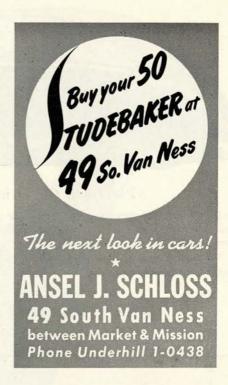
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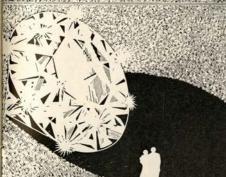
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A Boy		JEFFERY HOLM		
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Boys selected from San Francisco Boys Chorus				

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TIME AND PLACE: About 1830; Paris

Act II: Garret of the Bohemians
Act III: Terrace of the Cafe Momus
Act III: A City Gate of Paris

Act IV: Same as Act I

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Encores not permitted — Bell rings three minutes before curtain rises