

Tristan und Isolde

1949

Friday, September 30, 1949 8:00 PM

Thursday, October 6, 1949 8:00 PM

Saturday, October 15, 1949 8:00 PM

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27th Annual Season

San Francisco Opera Association

September 20 through October 23, 1949

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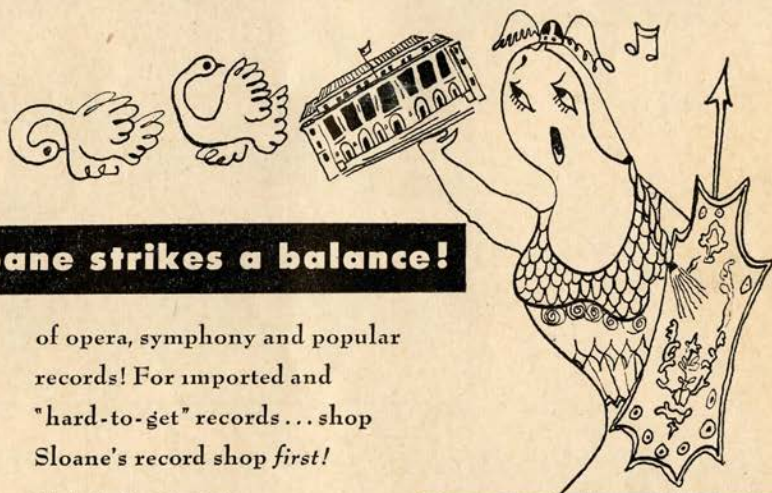
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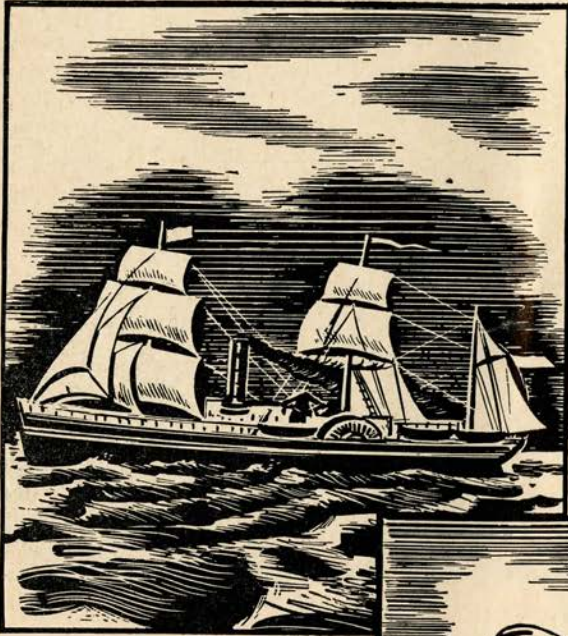
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Tuesday Evening, March 14
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Tuesday Evening, April 11
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 With Mmes. Barbato, Walker; Messrs. Bjoerling, Tibbett, Baccaloni, De Paolis, Cehanovsky,
 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, Pearce, 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 Mme. 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, Pearce, Cehanovsky,
 Ligeti
 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,
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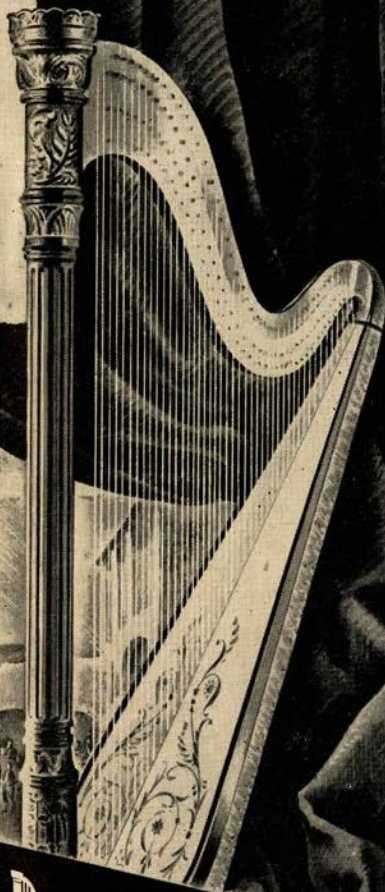
POPULAR EVENING SUBSCRIPTION

- 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,
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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

†Repeat Performances of "Tristan and Isolde," October 6 and October 15.

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

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 chief-tain 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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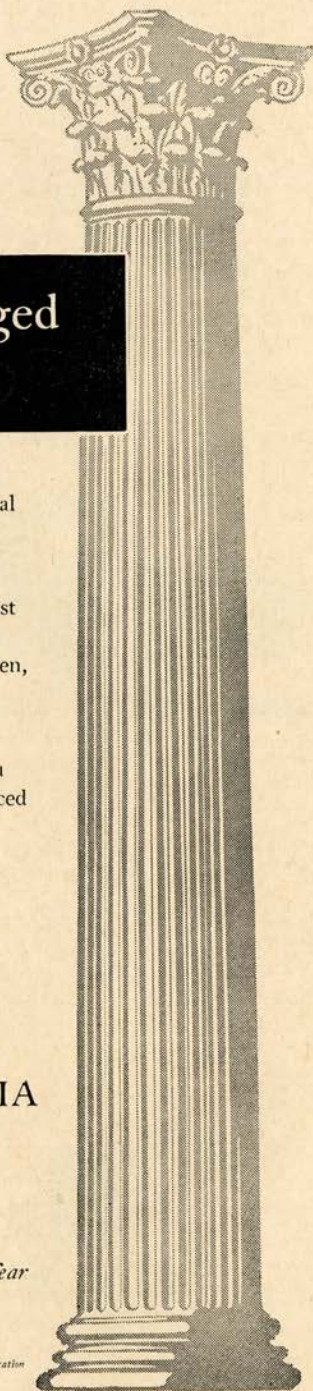
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SUNDAY MATINEE, OCTOBER 2, at 2:00

FAUST

Opera in a prologue and four acts. Music by Charles Gounod.

Text by Barbier and Carré, after Goethe's tragedy.

THE CAST

Faust, a learned philosopher.....JUSSI BJOERLING
Mephistopheles NICOLA MOSCONA
Marguerite.....FLORENCE QUARTARARO
Valentine, her brother..... ENZO MASCHERINI
Siebel, a young soldier in love with Marguerite.....HERTA GLAZ
Martha, chaperon of Marguerite.....CLARAMAE TURNER
Wagner.....PATRICK McVEY

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TIME AND PLACE: Germany during the Sixteenth Century

Prologue: Faust's Study

Act I: A Public Square—The Kermesse

Act II: Marguerite's Garden

Act III: Street before the Cathedral

Act IV: The Prison

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The Story of "Faust"

PROLOGUE

Faust, an aged philosopher, having passed his lonesome life in study, longs for his lost youth and is planning suicide when attracted by the joyousness of the young people about him. Mephistopheles, the devil incarnate, appears in answer to a summons uttered in desperation. With the beautiful Marguerite as a lure he does not find it difficult to bargain with the old philosopher for his soul, and a magic potion brings him youth.

ACT I

Valentine, about to leave for the war, entrusts his sister, Marguerite, to Siebel who loves her. It is Kermess time and there is festive drinking. Faust and Mephistopheles mingle with the townspeople. Mephistopheles, scorning proffered wine, causes a nectar vintage to flow from the sign over the door. He proposes a toast to Marguerite. Valentine resents this with his sword, which Mephistopheles breaks in two. When Valentine holds the two pieces before him in the shape of a cross Mephistopheles shrinks away. In the midst of the dancing which now begins, Marguerite appears. She is charmed by Faust, who had retained the wisdom of his years when he became invested with the form and charm of youth.

ACT II

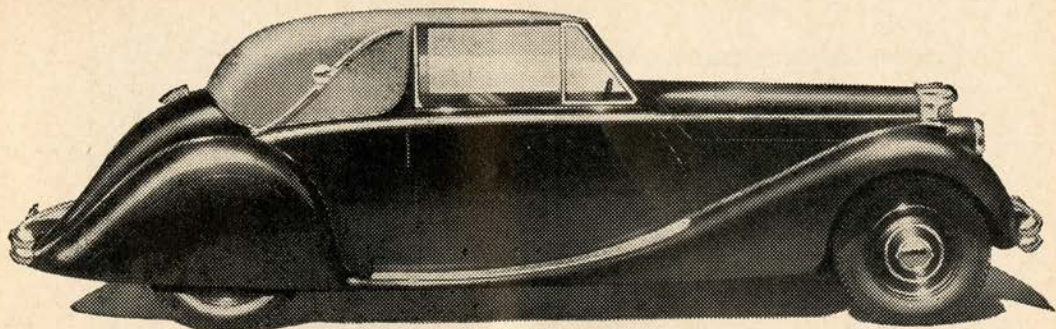
Siebel leaves flowers at Marguerite's door. They wither before the curse of Mephistopheles (uttered in Act I) and cannot be revived. Later Faust comes with his now constant companion, Mephistopheles, and places a casket of jewels at her window. Together, they hide to watch Marguerite when she opens her door to the flowers and to the jewels. Marguerite revels in the ornaments. Her rapturous song brings the querulous Martha, her companion, to the scene. Mephistopheles draws Martha into an amusing flirtation while Faust approaches Marguerite, who is completely won by his ardent protestations of love. Bidding Faust farewell, Marguerite wafts him a kiss as she enters the house. The casement opens and the enraptured Marguerite pours out the happiness of her heart into the night. Faust rushes to the window and clasps her in his arms where she lies fainting.

ACT III

A year and a half have passed. Marguerite, abandoned in her shame and deserted by Faust, cannot find peace from the scorn of her townsmen even in church. But Siebel, true to Valentine's trust in him, remains faithful to her. Valentine returns from the fighting to find Faust haunting Marguerite's window and Mephistopheles serenading her with an insulting song. Engaging in sword play to avenge his sister, Valentine is killed by Faust and dies, cursing her.

ACT IV

Marguerite, half demented, is in prison awaiting execution for the murder of her child. She takes happiness in the visit of Faust, who, with Mephistopheles, has come to deliver her. In her joy at again being in his arms, her life passes out and Mephistopheles' curses avail nothing against the sword of the archangel who guides the soul of Marguerite to heaven as Faust is dragged to perdition by his infernal master to fulfill his compact.



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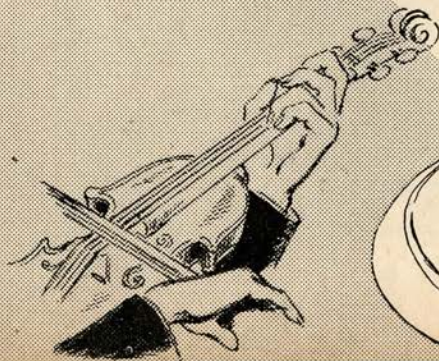
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STEINBERG, *Conductor*

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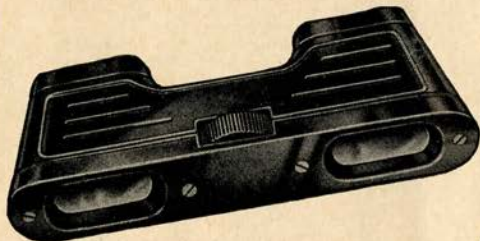
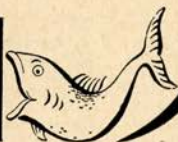
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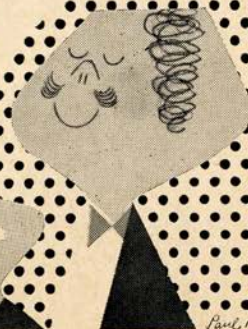
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A Sailor's Voice.....	LESLIE CHABAY

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



STAGE DIRECTOR	CONDUCTOR	CHORUS DIRECTOR
ARMANDO AGNINI	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

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

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

Encores not permitted — Bell rings three minutes before curtain rises

SATURDAY NIGHT, OCTOBER 15, 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.....BLANCHE THEBOM
King Mark of Cornwall..... MICHAEL SZEKELY
Kurvenal, Tristan's devoted servant.....HERBERT JANSSEN
Melot, one of King Mark's courtiers.....GEORGE CEHANOVSKY
ShepherdLESLIE CHABAY
Steersman.....DESIRE LIGETI
A Sailor's Voice.....LESLIE CHABAY

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



STAGE DIRECTOR

ARMANDO AGNINI

CONDUCTOR

WILLIAM STEINBERG

CHORUS DIRECTOR

KURT HERBERT ADLER



TIME AND PLACE: *Legendary*

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