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#### 1951

Friday, October 19, 1951 8:00 PM

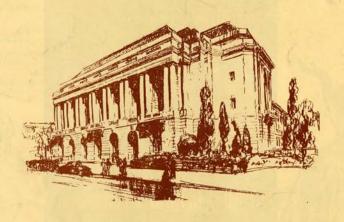
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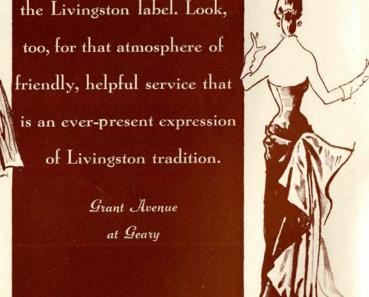
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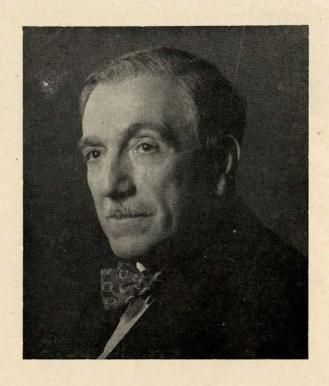
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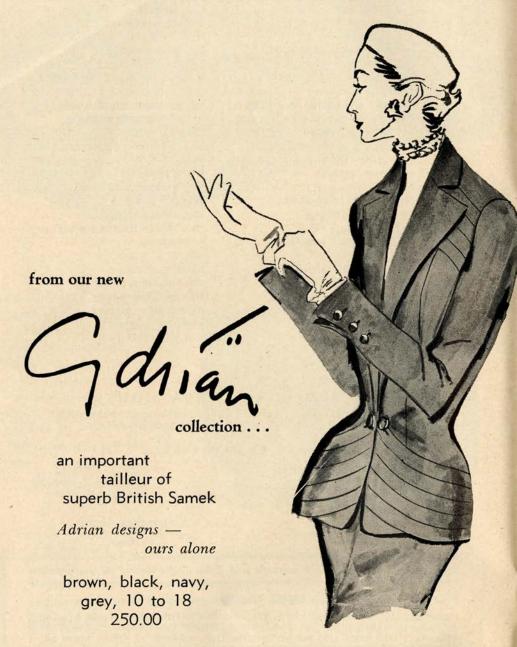
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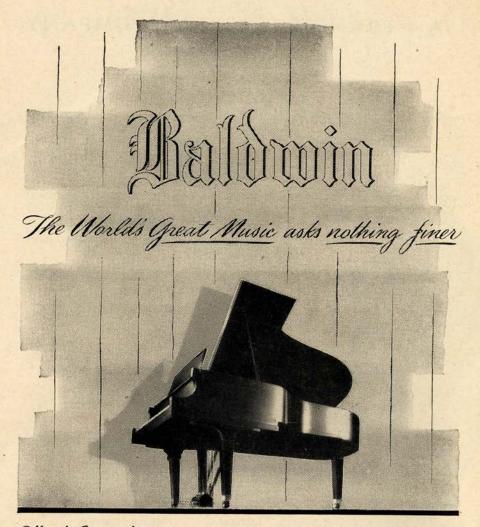
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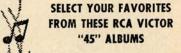
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#### FRIDAY NIGHT, OCTOBER 19, at 8:00

# Fidelio

Opera in two acts and three scenes. Music by Ludwig van Beethoven. Text by Joseph Sonnleitner from Bouilly's "Lénore, ou l'Amour Conjugal."

#### THE CAST

Florestan, a Spanish nobleman	SET SVANHOLM
Leonore, his wife, known as Fidelio	ASTRID VARNAY
Don Pizarro, Governor of the State Prison.	HERBERT JANSSEN
Rocco, chief jailer	DEZSO ERNSTER
Marzellina, daughter of Rocco	UTA GRAF
Jaquino, prison gatekeeper	JAMES SCHWABACHER
Don Fernando, Prime Minister of Spain	DESIRE LIGETI
First Prisoner	ERNEST LAWRENCE
Second Prisoner	YI-KWEI SZE
	*San Francisco Opera debut

Prisoners, Guards, Soldiers, Townspeople.

111

STAGE DIRECTOR CONDUCTOR CHORUS DIRECTOR
WILLIAM WYMETAL \*ALFRED WALLENSTEIN KURT HERBERT ADLER
ARMANDO AGNINI, Technical Director

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TIME AND PLACE: About 1800; Near Seville, Spain

Act I: Courtyard of the State Prison
Act II: Scene I: A Dungeon in the Prison

Scene 2: Before the Prison

Leonore Overture No. 3 will be played between Scenes 1 and 2, Act 111

Encores not permitted - Bell rings three minutes before curtain rises

#### The Story of "Fidelio"

Note: Florestan, a noble Spaniard and valued friend of Don Fernando, the prime minister, has incurred the hatred of Pizarro, governor of a fortress used for the confinement of political prisoners. Pizarro has gotten Florestan into his power, circulated a report of his death, and confined him in the deepest of the prison's dungeons. Leonore, suspecting Pizarro, has disguised herself as a young man and, under the name of Fidelio, has secured employment in the prison where she has gained the goodwill of Rocco, chief jailer, and won the affection of Marzelline, his daughter, to the neglect of the girl's rustic lover, Jacquino.

#### ACT ]

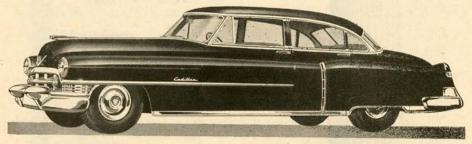
After Jacquino's not too well received love-making to Marzelline has had many interruptions, Leonore enters heavily laden with provisions, much to the pleasure of Rocco. Implored by Leonore, he promises to take her to the forbidden dungeons, all save one, which he dare not. Pizarro, with officers and guards, arrives. Rocco gives to him dispatches one of which warns that Don Fernando has learned of his cruelty and is about to inspect the prison. Fearing that Florestan will be discovered, he attempts to bribe Rocco to kill him. Rocco refuses. Pizarro then orders him to dig a grave for the body. He, himself, will do the murder. Leonore overhears. Besought by Leonore and Marzelline, Rocco permits the prisoners to leave their cells and enter the courtyard. He tells Leonore that they are to go together to the dungeons to dig a grave. Leonore believes it to be for her husband. Pizarro, returning in a fury, orders the prisoners to be taken back to their cells.

#### ACT II

Florestan, chained to the wall, sings of a vision of Leonore and sinks exhausted upon his stony bench. Rocco, Leonore and Pizarro come into the dungeon. In the dim light Leonore can not be sure that the prisoner, whom they think asleep, is Florestan. She and Rocco dig the grave carrying on a duo-drama. Florestan raises his head and speaks to Rocco. Leonore recognizing him, falls senseless. Recovering, she implores Rocco to give Florestan the water he craves. She herself gives him a crust of bread. The grave ready, Rocco summons Pizarro. Entering, he orders that Leonore be sent away. She withdraws to the background, but springs forward as Pizarro's knife is about to descend and declaring her identity, protects Florestan's body with her own, facing Pizarro with drawn pistol. Trumpets sound the arrival of Don Fernando and Pizarro rushes away to meet him. (Scene 2) Don Fernando, with Pizarro and officers, enters the courtyard and the released state prisoners throw themselves at the Minister's feet. Rocco, with Florestan and Leonore, presses through the throng and reveals Pizarro's attempted crime. Don Fernando orders that Leonore herself shall unlock the fetters from her husband. And happiness comes to all save Pizarro; to him disgrace.



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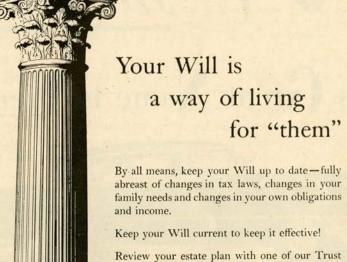
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# Rigoletto

Opera in four acts. Music by Giuseppe Verdi.

Text by Francesco Maria Piave, founded on Victor Hugo's drama

"Le Roi s'Amuse."

#### THE CAST

Rigoletto, a hunchback, jester to the Duke	ROBERT WEEDE
Gilda, his daughter	LILY PONS
Duke of Mantua, a titled profligate	JUSSI BJOERLING
Sparafucile, a hired assassin	LORENZO ALVARY
Maddalena, his sister	HERTA GLAZ
Count Monterone	DESIRE LIGETI
Count Ceprano.	COLIN HARVEY
Borsa	ALESSIO DE PAOLIS
Marullo	GEORGE CEHANOVSKY
Countess Ceprano	YVONNE CHAUVEAU
Giovanna	EILEEN BALDWIN
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STAGE DIRECTOR
WILLIAM WYMETAL

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KURT HERBERT ADLER

ARMANDO AGNINI, Technical Director

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TIME AND PLACE: Sixteenth Century; Mantua and Vicinity

Act II: Ballroom in the Duke's Palace Act II: A Street Outside Rigoletto's House

Act III: Hall in the Duke's Palace

Act IV: Ruined Inn in a Lonely Spot-Sparafucile's Home

Encores not permitted - Bell rings three minutes before curtain rises

#### The Story of "Rigoletto"

#### ACT I

The court of the Duke of Mantua is a place of debauchery. Rigoletto, a hunchback jester, whose biting wit has made him many enemies among the courtiers, panders to the Duke's depravity. The jester has a daughter, Gilda. But knowing so intimately the follies of his time he has kept her in a far quarter of the city to hide her fact and person from his profligate associates. The Duke, however, has seen her several times in church and, disguised as a student, has won her love. The curtain rises on a fete in the palace of the Duke who tells his confidant, Borsa, of the unknown beauty. But charms at hand are not to be overlooked and he courts the Countess Ceprano under the very eyes of her husband. Marullo has discovered Rigoletto's secret but believes Gilda to be his mistress. He plans with the courtiers for her abduction to avenge themselves on the jester. Montrone, who has lost his wife and daughter to the Duke, comes to the fete and pronounces a father's curse on Rigoletto and his master much to the terrification of the hunchback.

#### ACT II

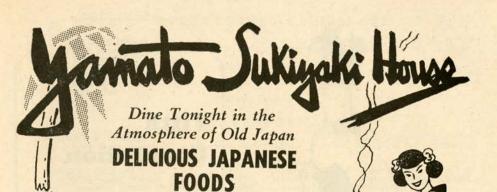
Rigoletto hurriedly steals to the house where Gilda is kept secluded. He meets Sparafucile, a professional killer, and promises to bear him in mind should he wish to make away with any enemies. Entering the courtyard of his home, Rigoletto embraces Gilda tenderly and, remembering the curse, commands her never to leave the house. As they talk the Duke, in student's guise, slips into the yard through connivance with Gilda's maid. The Duke and Gilda are exchanging vows following the departure of Rigoletto, when they hear approaching voices and the Duke hurries away. Rigoletto meets the party of courtiers who have come to carry out their plan for the abduction of Gilda. To mislead him they ask his aid in abducting the Countess Ceprano. Rigoletto submits to blindfolding and holds the ladder down which they carry Gilda. Left alone he removes the blind and realizes that he has been duped.

#### ACT III

The Duke, having returned to the hunchback's home to find his bird flown, is now back at the palace disconsolate. Informed that Rigoletto's "Mistress" has been captured and is in the next room he hastens in to her. Rigoletto enters and, despite pitiable jocular attempts at concealment, breaks down and heartbrokenly admits the abducted girl to be his daughter. The door opens and Gilda rushes into his arms as he vows vengeance on the Duke.

#### ACT IV

To prove the Duke's falseness to Gilda who still loves him, Rigoletto takes her to Sparafucile's inn where she hears her lover with Maddalena, the inn-keeper's sister. Heartbroken she goes away with her father to prepare for flight from the city. Rigoletto returns and bargains with Sparafucile for the murder of the Duke. Gilda, beaten back to the inn for shelter from a storm which has arisen, hears Sparafucile promise Maddalena to spare the Duke's life if another person comes to the inn who might be murdered in his stead. Gilda enters, is killed and her body, in a sack, is delivered to Rigoletto.



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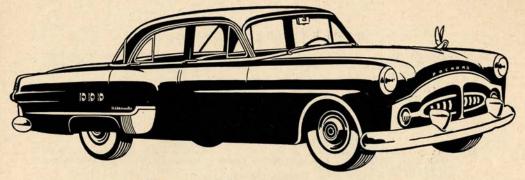
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Coppelia
Three Acts
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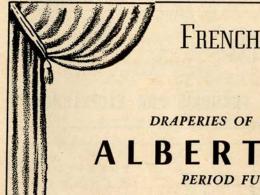
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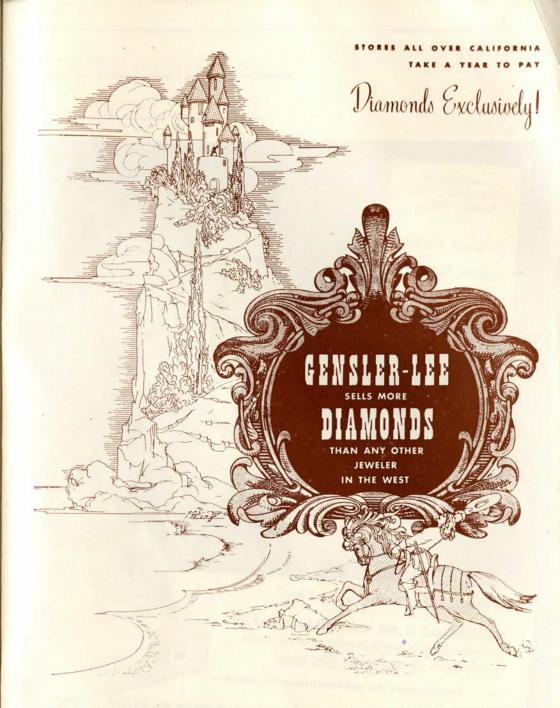
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