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1951

Saturday, October 20, 1951 8:00 PM

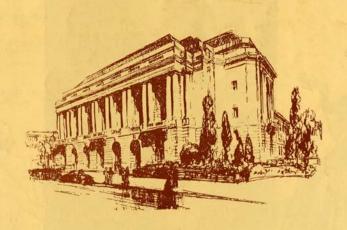
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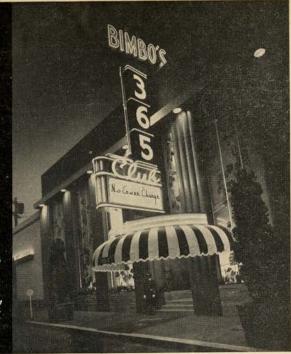
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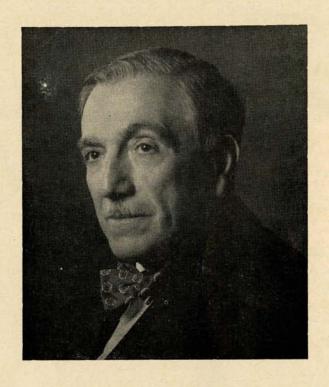
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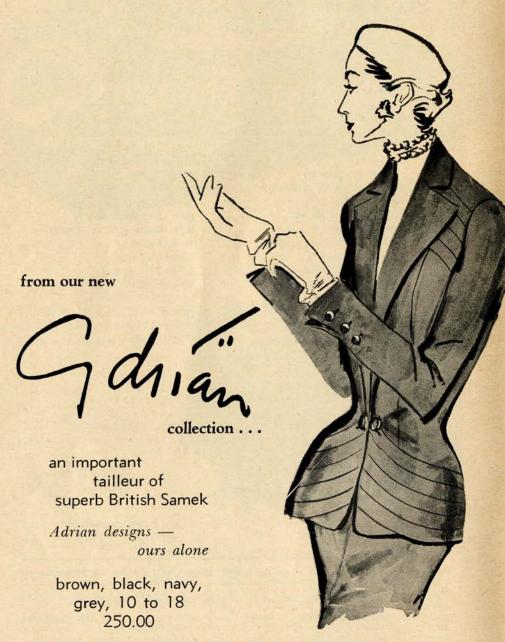
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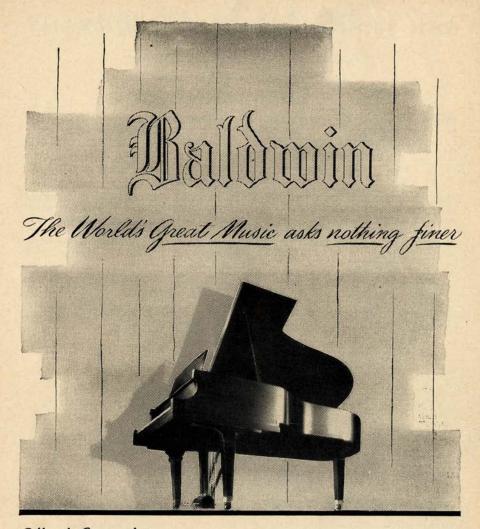
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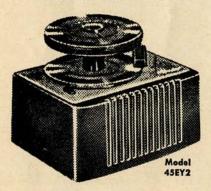
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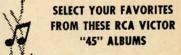
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Rigoletto

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 D	DukeROBERT 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
Page	SHERRILL LANYON

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STAGE DIRECTOR
WILLIAM WYMETAL

CONDUCTOR PIETRO CIMARA

CHORUS DIRECTOR KURT HERBERT ADLER

ARMANDO AGNINI, Technical Director

111

TIME AND PLACE: Sixteenth Century; Mantua and Vicinity

Act I: 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

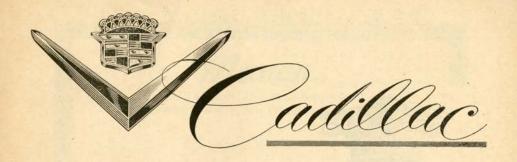
Rigoletto hurriedly steals to the house where Gilda is kept secluded. He meets Sparafucile, a professional killer, and promises to bear him in mind should he wish to make away with any enemies. Entering the courtyard of his home, Rigoletto embraces Gilda tenderly and, remembering the curse, commands 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

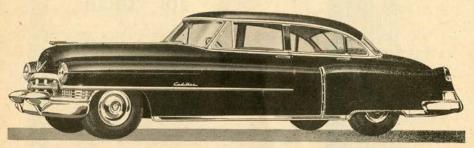
The Duke, having returned to the hunchback's home to find his bird flown, is now back at the palace disconsolate. Informed that Rigoletto's "Mistress" has been captured and is in the next room he hastens in to her. Rigoletto enters and, despite pitiable jocular attempts at concealment, breaks down and 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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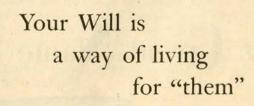
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Manon

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	FRANS VROONS
Lescaut, Manon's cousin	FRANCESCO VALENTINO
Count des Grieux	NICOLA MOSCONA
Guillot Morfontaine, a rou	éALESSIO DE PAOLIS
De Brétigny, a nobleman.	GEORGE CEHANOVSKY
Poussette	LOIS HARTZELL
Javotte	YVONNE CHAUVEAU
Rosette	EILEEN BALDWIN
Innkeeper	COLIN HARVEY
Maid	SHERRILL LANYON
First Guard	WINTHER ANDERSEN
Second Guard	MAX LORENZINI
Two Travelers	LEONA HURD, SYBIL LOUISE KNAPP
Citizens, Tra	velers, Nobles, Soldiers, Prisoners

111

STAGE DIRECTOR

ARMANDO AGNINI

CONDUCTOR FAUSTO CLEVA CHORUS DIRECTOR
KURT HERBERT ADLER

111

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

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 care. 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 knows 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

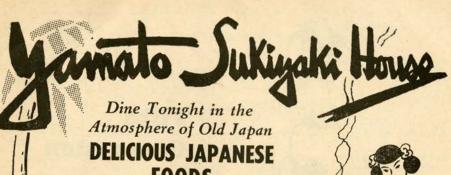
Manon, as the mistress of Bretigny, is admired and feted. During an entertainment she has overheard a conversation between Bretigny and the elder Des Grieux from which she learned that the latter's son is a novice at Saint Sulpice, and seized with a sudden return of her old love she has hastened to the 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.

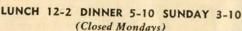
ACT V

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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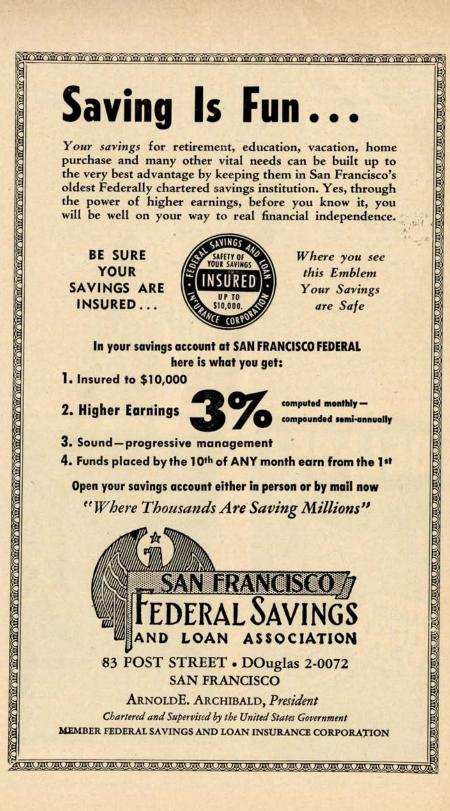
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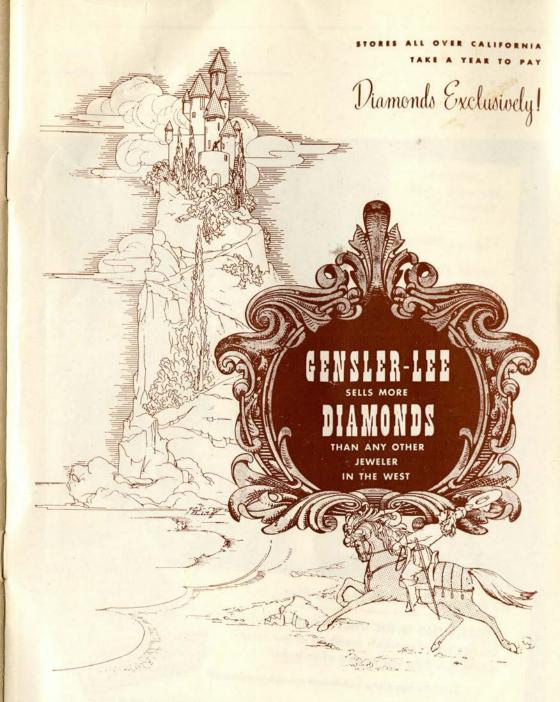
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