

La Traviata

1952

Saturday, October 4, 1952 8:15 PM  
Sunday, September 21, 1952 2:00 PM

SFO\_PUB\_01\_SFO\_1952\_17

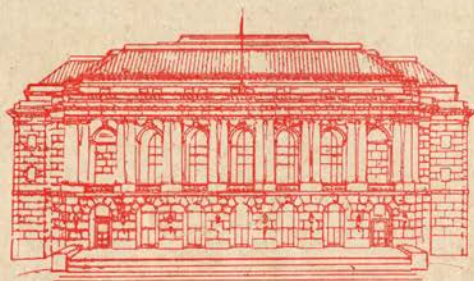
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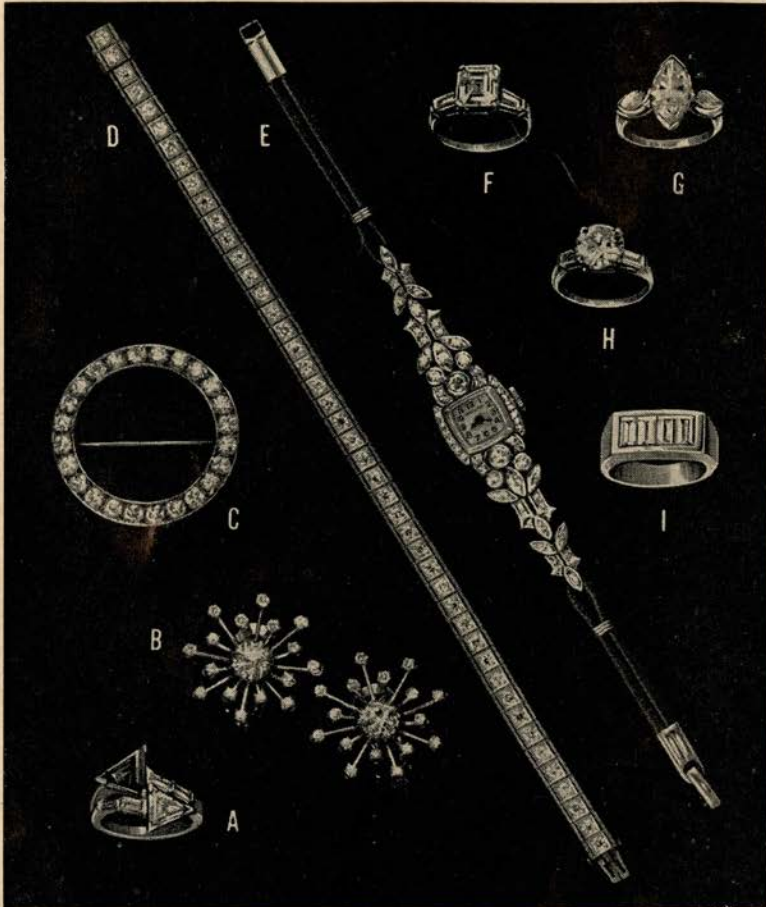
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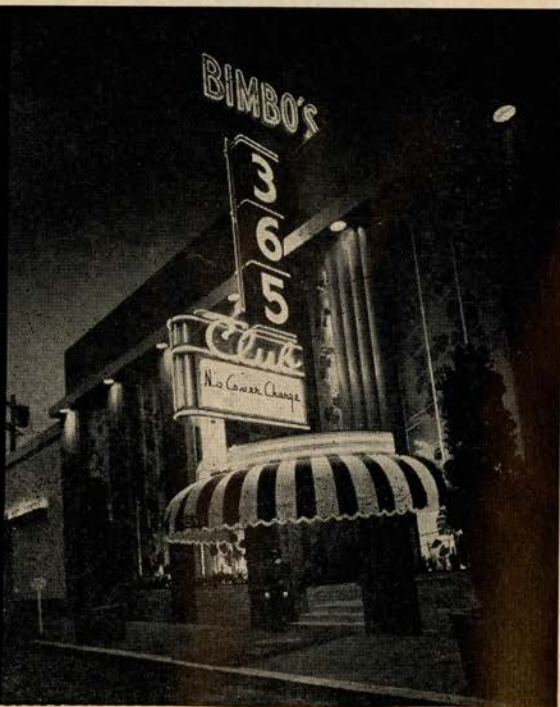
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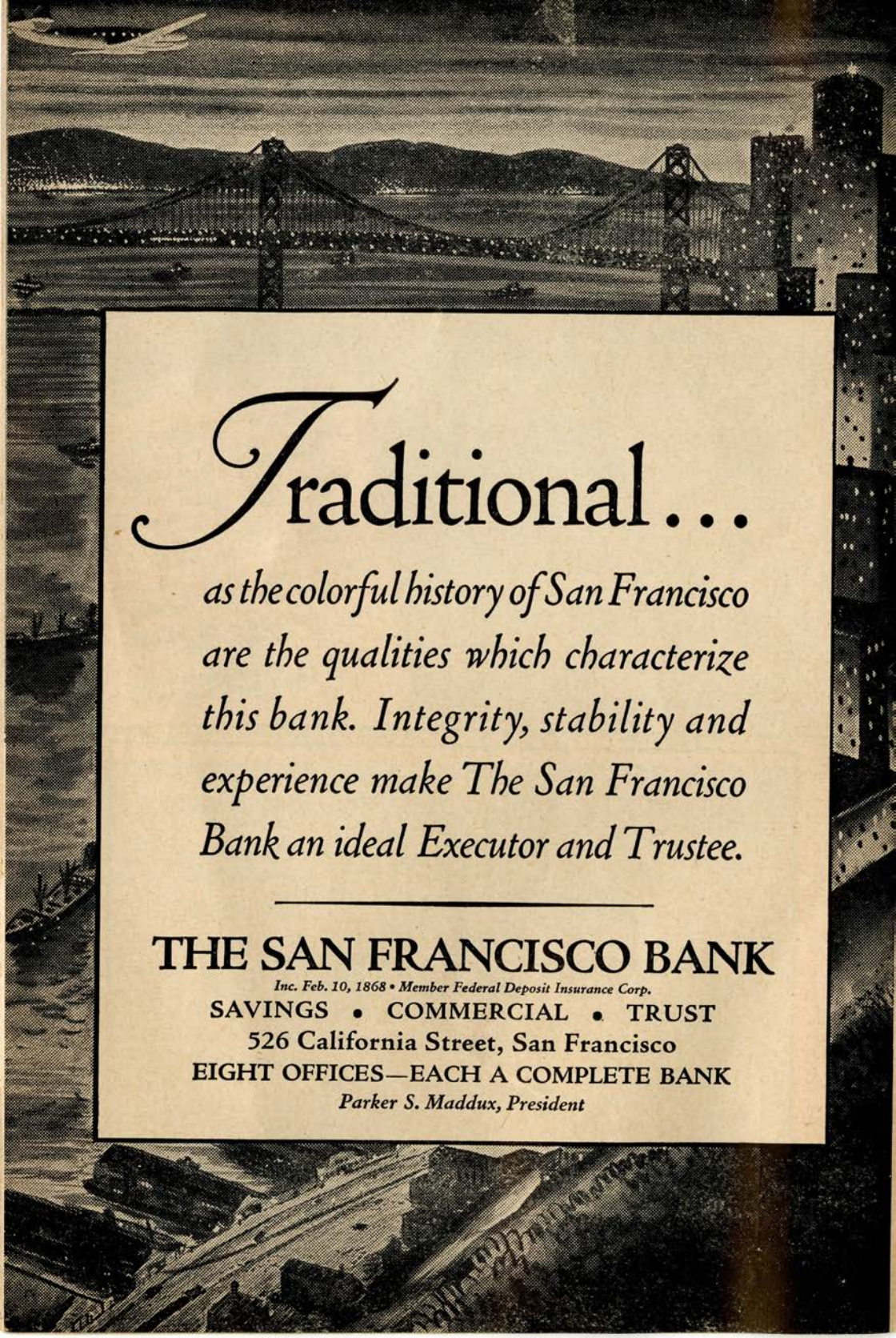
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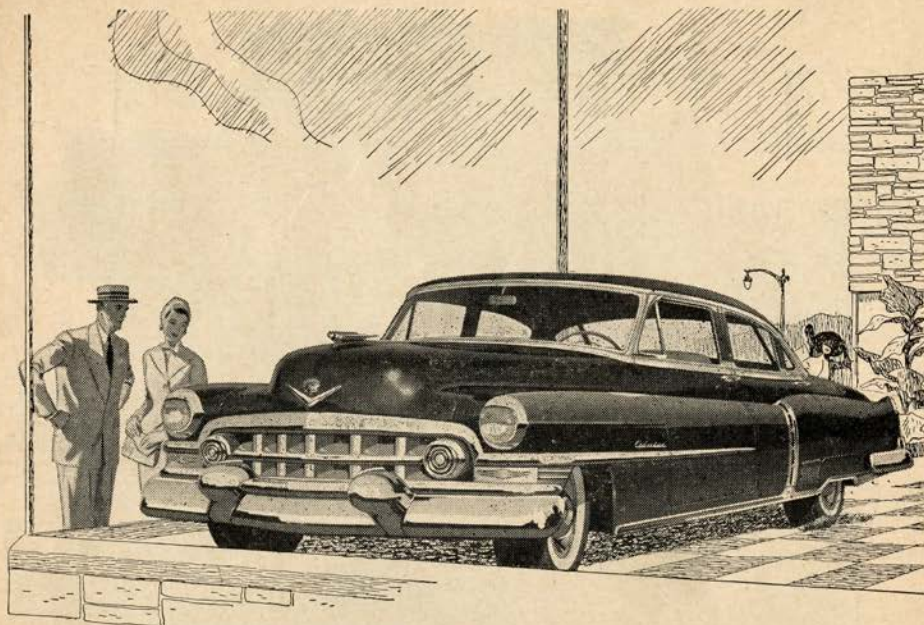
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 With Mmes. Kirsten, Thronson; Messrs. Del Monaco, Weede, Baccaloni, De Paolis, Cehanovsky, Ligeti, Andersen  
 CLEVA, *Conductor*
- MEFISTOFELE (*Boito*) *Saturday Night*, September 20, at 8:00  
 With Mmes. Sayao, Fenn, Votipka, Roggero; Messrs. Rossi-Lemeni, Tagliavini, Assandri, Curzi  
 CLEVA, *Conductor*
- AIDA (*Verdi*) *Tuesday Night*, September 23, at 8:00  
 With Mmes. Curtis, Thebom, Roggero; Messrs. Del Monaco, Valdengo, Tajo, Ligeti, Schwabacher  
 ADLER, *Conductor*
- TRILOGY (*Puccini*) *Friday Night*, September 26, at 8:00  
 IL TABARRO  
 With Mmes. Lewis, Turner, Chauveau; Messrs. Del Monaco, Weede, Assandri, Moscona, Curzi, Schwabacher  
 CURIEL, *Conductor*  
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 KRITZ, *Conductor*
- ROSENKAVALIER (*Richard Strauss*) *Tuesday Night*, September 30, at 8:00  
 (New English text by John Gutman)  
 With Mmes. Lewis, Thebom, Warenskjold, Votipka, Roggero, Brubaker, Thronson, Marion, Baldwin, Hoots; Messrs. Alvary, Herbert, De Paolis, Lawrence, Curzi, Gbur, Schwabacher, Andersen, Harvey, Daneluz, Louw, Miller, Guenter, Rossi, Ford  
 BREISACH, *Conductor*
- IL TROVATORE (*Verdi*) *Friday Night*, October 3, at 8:00  
 With Mmes. Nelli, Barbieri, Votipka; Messrs. Del Monaco, Guarrera, Moscona, Assandri, Lovasich  
 BREISACH, *Conductor*
- LA FILLE DU REGIMENT (*Donizetti*) *Tuesday Night*, October 7, at 8:15  
 With Mmes. Pons, Turner, Chauveau; Messrs. Lawrence, Baccaloni, Alvary, Cehanovsky, Schwabacher, Harvey  
 CIMARA, *Conductor*
- LA BOHEME (*Puccini*) *Friday Night*, October 10, at 8:15  
 With Mmes. Sayao, Fenn; Messrs. Pearce, Valentino, Cehanovsky, Tajo, Baccaloni, Curzi, Lorenzini, Harvey, Kersnar  
 MEROLA, *Conductor*
- DON GIOVANNI (*Mozart*) *Tuesday Night*, October 14, at 8:00  
 With Mmes. Sayao, Curtis, Lewis; Messrs. Rossi-Lemeni, Tajo, Pearce, Alvary, Ligeti  
 BREISACH, *Conductor*
- L'AMORE DEI TRE RE (*Montemezzi*) *Friday Night*, October 17, at 8:15  
 With Mmes. Kirsten, Votipka, Baldwin, Larsen, Knapp; Messrs. Sullivan, Rossi-Lemeni, Weede, Assandri, Curzi  
 CLEVA, *Conductor*

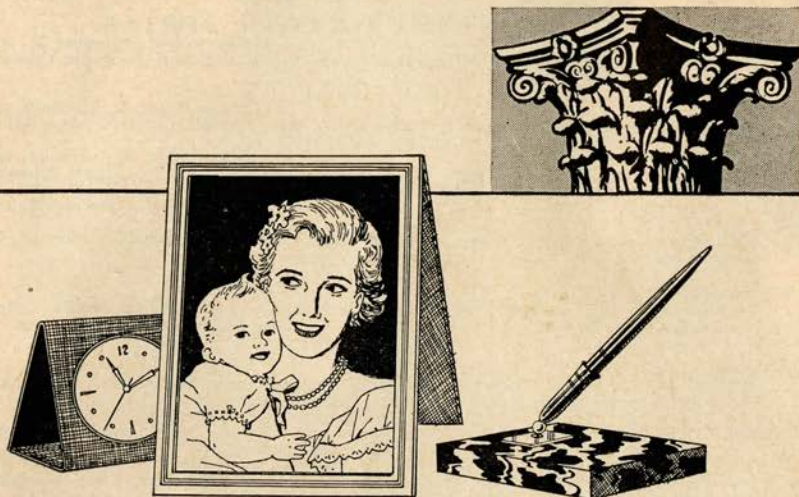
## SUNDAY MATINEE SERIES

- TOSCA (*Puccini*) *Sunday Afternoon*, September 21, at 2:00  
 With Mmes. Kirsten, Thronson; Messrs. Conley, Weede, Baccaloni, De Paolis, Cehanovsky, Ligeti, Andersen  
 CLEVA, *Conductor*
- AIDA (*Verdi*) *Sunday Afternoon*, September 28, at 2:00  
 With Mmes. Nelli, Thebom, Roggero; Messrs. Del Monaco, Valdengo, Tajo, Gbur, Schwabacher  
 ADLER, *Conductor*
- ROSENKAVALIER (*Richard Strauss*) *Sunday Afternoon*, October 5, at 2:00  
 (New English text by John Gutman)  
 With Mmes. Lewis, Thebom, Warenskjold, Votipka, Roggero, Brubaker, Thronson, Marion, Baldwin, Hoots; Messrs. Alvary, Herbert, De Paolis, Lawrence, Curzi, Gbur, Schwabacher, Andersen, Harvey, Daneluz, Louw, Miller, Guenter, Rossi, Ford  
 BREISACH, *Conductor*
- LA FILLE DU REGIMENT (*Donizetti*) *Sunday Afternoon*, October 12, at 2:00  
 With Mmes. Pons, Turner, Chauveau; Messrs. Lawrence, Baccaloni, Alvary, Cehanovsky, Schwabacher, Harvey  
 CIMARA, *Conductor*
- DON GIOVANNI (*Mozart*) *Sunday Afternoon*, October 19, at 2:00  
 With Mmes. Sayao, Nelli, Lewis; Messrs. Rossi-Lemeni, Tajo, Conley, Herbert, Ligeti  
 BREISACH, *Conductor*

## WEDNESDAY EVENING SERIES

- RIGOLETTO (*Verdi*) *Wednesday Night*, September 17, at 8:15  
 With Mmes. Pons, Turner, Chauveau, Baldwin, Brubaker; Messrs. Pearce, Valdengo, Moscona, Gbur, Cehanovsky, De Paolis, Harvey  
 CIMARA, *Conductor*
- MEFISTOFELE (*Boito*) *Wednesday Night*, September 24, at 8:00  
 With Mmes. Sayao, Fenn, Votipka, Roggero; Messrs. Rossi-Lemeni, Tagliavini, Assandri, Curzi  
 CLEVA, *Conductor*
- TRILOGY (*Puccini*) *Wednesday Night*, October 1, at 8:00  
 IL TABARRO  
 With Mmes. Lewis, Turner, Chauveau; Messrs. Fredericks, Weede, Assandri, Moscona, Curzi, Schwabacher  
 CURIEL, *Conductor*  
*followed by*

(Continued on Tenth Page Over)



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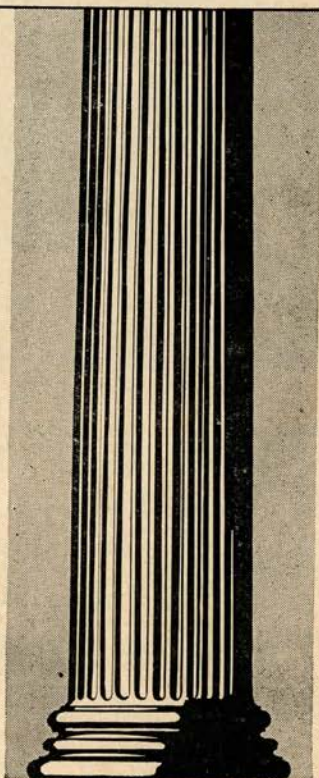
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FRIDAY NIGHT, OCTOBER 3, at 8:00

# † *Il Trovatore*

Opera in four acts. Music by Giuseppè Verdi.  
Text by Salvatore Cammerano, after a Spanish drama of the same title.

## THE CAST

Leonora, a noble lady of Aragon.....	HERVA NELLI
Manrico, a young chieftain.....	MARIO DEL MONACO
Azucena, a wandering Biscayan gypsy.....	CLARAMAE TURNER
Count di Luna, a young noble of Aragon.....	*FRANK GUARRERA
Ferrando, a guard captain of Count di Luna.....	NICOLA MOSCONA
Inez, attendant of Leonora.....	THELMA VOTIPKA
Ruiz, a soldier in Manrico's service.....	VIRGINIO ASSANDRI
An Old Gypsy.....	*EDWARD LOVASICH

*\* San Francisco debut*

*Messenger, Jailer, Soldiers, Nuns, Gypsies, Attendants*



### STAGE DIRECTOR

ARMANDO AGNINI

### CONDUCTOR

PAUL BREISACH

### CHORUS DIRECTOR

KURT HERBERT ADLER



**TIME AND PLACE:** Middle of the Fifteenth Century; Biscay and Aragon

Act I. Scene 1: Vestibule in Aliferia Palace  
Scene 2: The Garden of the Palace

Act II. Scene 1: Gypsy Camp in the Biscay Mountains  
Scene 2: The Cloister of a Convent

Act III. Scene 1: Encampment of Count di Luna's Soldiers  
Scene 2: Room in Manrico's Castle

Act IV. Scene 1: Outside the Tower, Aliferia Palace  
Scene 2: Prison Cell of Manrico

† **Wednesday Evening Performance of "Il Trovatore," October 8**

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TICKETS FOR REMAINING PERFORMANCES AT  
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*Encores not permitted — Bell rings three minutes before curtain rises*

## The Story of "Il Trovatore"

ACT I—The retainers of Count di Luna, awaiting the arrival of their leader, are told by Ferrando the story of the Count's childhood. A younger brother was thought to have been bewitched by a gypsy woman, who was therefore burned at the stake. Her daughter, Azucena, determined to avenge her mother's death, steals the boy, of whose fate nothing was known, although the bones of a child were found in the embers around the stake where the witch woman had been burned. The soldiers disperse as the midnight chimes interrupt the weird story. The scene changes to the garden of the Palace, where Leonora walks with her maid and tells her of her interest in an unknown knight she has seen. Count di Luna, her lover, arrives to serenade the lovely Leonora, and the mysterious troubadour (*Il Trovatore*) appears for the same purpose. Leonora comes out to greet the singer, whom she mistakes for the Count, and the two men meet, engaging in a duel. Manrico is victorious, but spares the Count's life.

ACT II—In a gypsy camp, Azucena is nursing Manrico, supposedly her son, back to health after being wounded in battle, and she tells him the story of avenging her mother's death, adding that in her frenzy she had thrown her own child in the flames instead of the one kidnapped. Manrico now suspects his identity, but Azucena avoids his questions. Meantime (Scene 2) Leonora having heard nothing of her troubadour lover, and, believing him dead, decides to take the veil. Count di Luna, bent on preventing this, conceals himself and soldiers among the trees, intending to kidnap Leonora as she passes; but just as he is about to do so, Manrico arrives with his followers, wards off the Count's men, and rescues Leonora.

ACT III—Azucena has been captured by Count di Luna's men, and her identity as the supposed mother of Manrico and the abductor of the brother years ago is established. She is sentenced to be burned at the stake. (Scene 2) Manrico and Leonora, reunited, are avowing their love, although momentarily expecting the Count's men to attack their castle. A messenger brings news of Azucena's capture, and Manrico, still believing her to be his mother, leaves to rescue her.

ACT IV—Manrico has been taken captive by the Count's men, and is imprisoned with Azucena. Leonora arrives, seeking to save her lover, and as a last desperate resort promises to marry the Count if he will but free Manrico. The Count overjoyed agrees, but does not hear Leonora, as she enters the tower, vowing, "Thou shalt possess but a lifeless bride." (Scene 2) In the prison cell Manrico attempts to comfort Azucena as Leonora enters with news of Manrico's freedom; but he is desperate when he learns the bargain she has made. Leonora, however, had already taken poison and falls at his feet. The Count arrives, and, finding that Leonora has cheated him, orders Manrico to instant execution, and drags Azucena to the window that she may witness the death of her son. With gloating vengeance, she shrieks that he has killed his own brother!

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SATURDAY NIGHT, OCTOBER 4, at 8:15

# La Traviata

Opera in four acts. Music by Giuseppe Verdi.  
Text by Piave, after Dumas' "La Dame aux Camelias."

## THE CAST

Violetta Valery, a lady of the demi-monde.....	LILY PONS
Alfredo Germont, lover of Violetta.....	EUGENE CONLEY
Giorgio Germont, his father.....	ROBERT WEEDE
Gaston, Viscount of Letorieres.....	ALESSIO DE PAOLIS
Baron Douphol, a rival of Alfredo.....	GEORGE CEHANOVSKY
Flora, friend of Violetta.....	YVONNE CHAUVEAU
Annina, maid of Violetta.....	EILEEN BALDWIN
Dr. Granville.....	DESIRE LIGETI
Marquis d'Obigny .....	JAN GBUR
Major-domo .....	MAX LORENZINI

*Ladies and Gentlemen, Friends of Violetta and Flora.*

Corps de Ballet

Choreography by Willam Christensen



**STAGE DIRECTOR**

ARMANDO AGNINI

**CONDUCTOR**

PIETRO CIMARA

**CHORUS DIRECTOR**

KURT HERBERT ADLER



**TIME AND PLACE:** About 1840; Paris and Environs

Act I: Drawing-room in the House of Violetta

Act II: A Villa near Paris

Act III: Garden of Flora's Palace

Act IV: Violetta's Bed Chamber

*Miss Pons' costumes (for "La Traviata") by Karinska, designed by Eugene Berman*

---

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---

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

## The Story of "La Traviata"

ACT I—A party is in progress in the salon of Violetta's home, and Alfredo, who has come with friends, succumbs to the charms and beauty of the hostess. The guests retire to an adjoining room to dance, but Violetta, who is suffering from the early stages of consumption, is prevented from joining them by a severe coughing-spell, and remains on the lounge to recover. Alfredo remains with her, expressing first his solicitation and then his love, which deeply touches Violetta. Later, when the guests have departed, Violetta contemplates this great new love which has come to her.

ACT II—Violetta has deserted her former life and friends, and is living most happily with Alfredo in a small country house near Paris to which they have retired. Alfredo, upon learning from Annina that Violetta has quietly been selling her jewelry to aid in defraying expenses, departs for Paris to get money with which to repay her. Alfredo's father (Germont) arrives and succeeds in persuading Violetta that she must give up Alfredo and their happiness, not only because Alfredo's own career is threatened by this liaison, but also because its continuance will jeopardize the marriage of Alfredo's sister, for whom the father also pleads. As Germont departs, Violetta writes a note of farewell to Alfredo, but he returns before she finishes. She hides the letter and conceals her real feelings. When Alfredo tells her he has heard his father is to visit them, she departs on the pretext of leaving them alone, but sends the letter back by messenger. When Germont arrives he finds his son in despair, and vainly attempts to stir him by recalling memories of his home in "fair Provence."

ACT III—Alfredo returns to Paris seeking Violetta and finds her with her new companion, Baron Douphol, at a ball being held at the palace of her friend Flora. Alfredo, winning heavily at the gaming table, challenges the Baron to a game and adds still further to his winnings. When the guests retire for supper, Violetta returns, followed at her request by Alfredo, whom she implores to leave, fearful of the prospect of a duel between the two men. Alfredo bitterly charges her with falseness, which, remembering her promise to Germont, she does not deny. Alfredo summons the guests and before them all denounces her, throwing at her feet his winnings of the evening. As Violetta faints, Germont arrives seeking his son. He alone knows the tragic significance of the scene, but for the sake of his son and daughter cannot disclose it.

ACT IV—Violetta is now confined to her bed by the ravages of the disease from which she has suffered, and, although the doctor attempts to cheer and reassure her, she knows she has not long to live. She is cheered by a letter from Germont, who would seek to undo the damage he has done, and writes that Alfredo is returning to seek her pardon. But she feels it will be too late. Alfredo arrives, and in the great happiness of the moment they plan to leave Paris; but the excitement proves too much, and, as Germont and the doctor arrive, Violetta collapses in her lover's arms.

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| La Boheme                | Simon Boccanegra     |
| L'Amore Dei Tre Re       | Falstaff             |
| La Figlia Del Reggimento | Ernani               |
| Suor Angelica            | La Cenerentola       |
| Il Tabarro               | L'Amico Fritz        |
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 KRITZ, Conductor
- IL TROVATORE (Verdi)** *Wednesday Evening, October 8, at 8:00*  
 With Mmes. Curtis, Turner, Votipka; Messrs. Del Monaco, Guarrera, Moscona, Assandri, Lovasich  
 BREISACH, Conductor
- LA BOHEME (Puccini)** *Wednesday Evening, October 15, at 8:15*  
 With Mmes. Warenskjold, Lewis; Messrs. Tagliavini, Valdengo, Cehanovsky, Moscona, Baccaloni, Curzi, Lorenzini, Harvey, Kersnar  
 MEROLA, Conductor

### SPECIAL PERFORMANCES

- LA TRAVIATA (Verdi)** *Saturday Night, October 4, at 8:15*  
 With Mmes. Pons, Chauveau, Baldwin; Messrs. Conley, Weede, De Paolis, Cehanovsky, Ligeti, Gbur, Lorenzini  
 CIMARA, Conductor
- CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA (Mascagni)** *Thursday Night, October 16, at 8:00*  
 With Mmes. Barbieri, Roggero, Votipka; Messrs. Pearce, Herbert  
 ADLER, Conductor  
*followed by*
- I PAGLIACCI (Leoncavallo)**  
 With Mme. Sayao; Messrs. Del Monaco, Guarrera, Assandri, Valentino, Harvey, Frost  
 KRITZ, Conductor
- AIDA (Verdi)** *Saturday Night, October 18, at 8:00*  
 With Mmes. Curtis, Barbieri, Roggero; Messrs. Del Monaco, Valdengo, Moscona, Gbur, Schwabacher  
 ADLER, Conductor

### MATINEES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

- Presented by the San Francisco Opera Guild*  
**CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA (Mascagni)** *Wednesday Afternoon, October 1, at 1:00*  
 With Mmes. Nelli, Chauveau, Votipka; Messrs. Pearce, Herbert  
 ADLER, Conductor  
*followed by*
- I PAGLIACCI (Leoncavallo)**  
 With Mme. Fenn; Messrs. Del Monaco, Valentino, Cehanovsky, Assandri, Harvey, Frost  
 KRITZ, Conductor
- CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA (Mascagni)** *Wednesday Afternoon, October 8, at 1:00*  
 With Mmes. Barbieri, Chauveau, Votipka; Messrs. Conley, Herbert  
 ADLER, Conductor  
*followed by*
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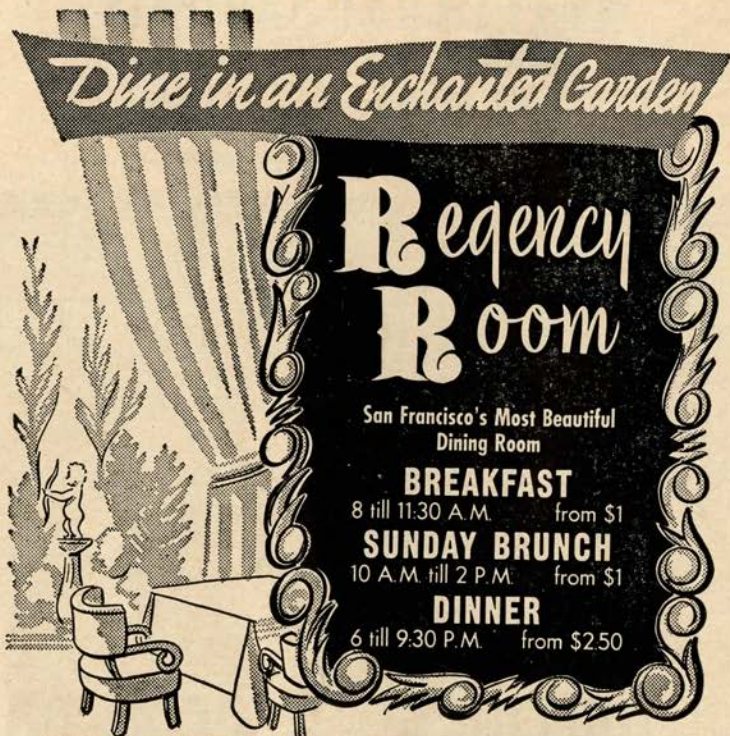
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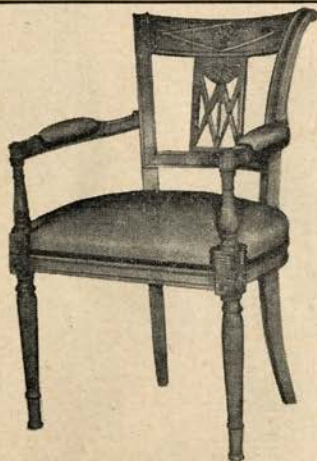
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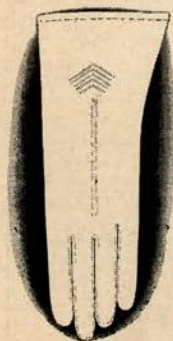
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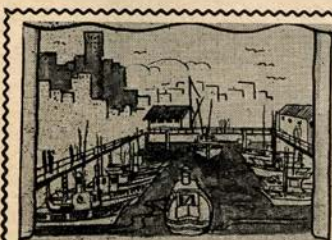
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