La Bohème

1953

Wednesday, September 16, 1953 8:15 PM Saturday, October 17, 1953 8:15 PM

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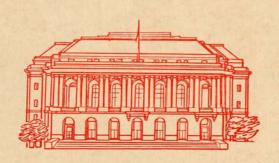
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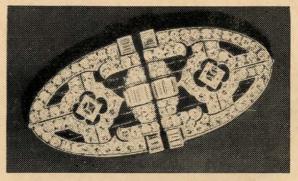
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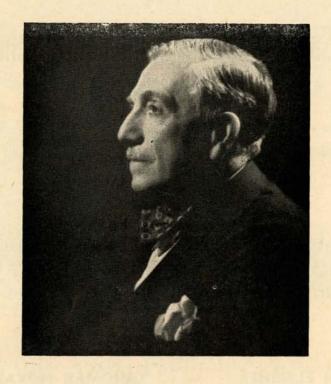
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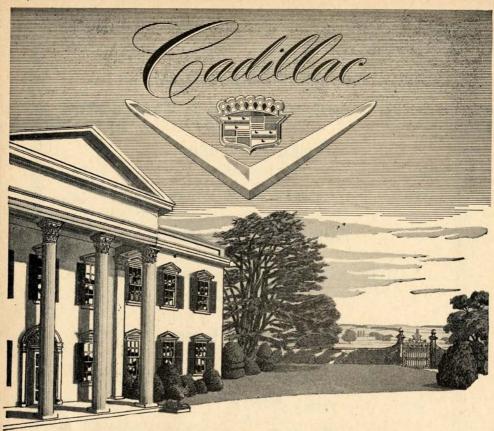
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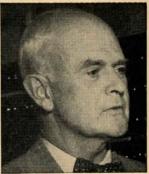
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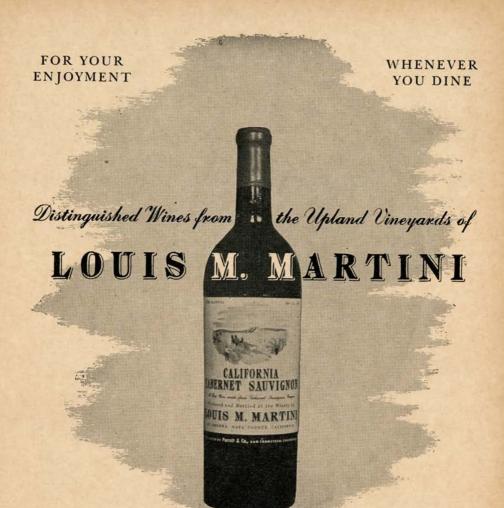
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 Tuesday Nieht. September 29, at 8:00
- BORIS GODOUNOFF (Moussorgsky)

 With Mmes. Simionato, Moudry, Wilkins, Hartzell, Chauveau, Knapp, Farrell, Currier, Roehr, Thomson, Petersen; Messrs. Rossi-Lemeni, Sullivan, De Paolis, Baccaloni, Alvary, Bardelli, Ligeti, Mason, Curzi, Gbur, Cehanovsky, Assandri, Novi, Guenter, White
- TRISTAN UND ISOLDE (Wagner)

 With Mmes. Grob-Prandl, Klose; Messrs. Suthaus, Schoeffler, Ernster, Cehanovsky, Curzi, Mason, SOLTI, Conductor
- TURANDOT (Puccini)

 With Mmes. Borkh, Albanese, Gotelli, Petersen; Messrs. Turrini, Tajo, De Paolis, Lombardi, Assandri, Curzi, Gbur, Daneluz
- CLEVA, Conductor BARBER OF SEVILLE (Rossini) Friday Night, October 9, at 8:00 With Mmes. Simionato, Moudry; Messrs. Valletti, Guarrera, Baccaloni, Rossi-Lemeni, De Paolis, Assandri, Harvey
- SERAFIN, Conductor DIE WALKUERE (Wagner)
 With Mmes. Grob-Prandl, Borkh, Klose, Faull, Sills, Chauveau, Moudry, Roggero, Farrell, Petersen, Wilkins; Messrs. Schoeffler, Suthaus, Ernsdurfor
 SOLTI, Conductor
- Assandri, Lorenzini SERAFIN, Conductor

WEDNESDAY EVENING SERIES

- Harvey, Curzi, Hatch

 CURIEL, Conductor

 Wednesday Night, September 23, at 8:00
 With Mmes. Faull, Sills, Gibson; Messrs. Rossi-Lemeni, Tajo, Peerce, Alvary, Ernster

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 CURIEL, Conductor

 Wednesday Night, September 23, at 8:00

 Wednesday Night, September 24, at 8:00

 Wednesday Night, Se
- ELEKTRA (Strauss)
 With Mmes. Borkh, Klose, Faull, Chauveau, Roggero, Wilkins, Moudry, Roehr, Sills, Hartzell, Farrell; Messrs. Suthaus, Schoeffler, Ligeti, Gbur
 SOLTI, Conductor

 Wadnasday, Night, October 7, at 8:00
- LA TRAVIATA (Verdi) SOLTI. Conductor Wednesday Night, October 14, at 8:15
 With Mmes. Albanese, Chauveau, Roggero; Messrs. Peerce, Mascherini, De Paolis, Cehanovsky, Ligeti, Gbur, Lorenzini CLEVA. Conductor

(Continued on Page 33)



Schneider Bros

TUESDAY NIGHT, SEPTEMBER 15, at 8:00

* Mefistofele

(In Italian)

Opera in four acts and epilogue by Arrigo Boito.

THE CAST

MefistofeleNICOLA ROSSI-LEMENI Margherita LICIA ALBANESE MartaJUNE WILKINS Wagner VIRGINIO ASSANDR' Elena*BEVERLY SILLS PantalisMARGARET ROGGERO

*San Francisco Opera Co. debut

Celestial Phalanes, Mystic Choir, Cherubs, Penitents, Wayfarers, Men-at-Arms, Huntsmen, Students, Citizens, Witches, Wizards, Greek Chorus, Sirens, Naiads, Dancers, Warriors

Corps de Ballet

Choreography by Willam Christensen Boys selected from San Francisco Boys Chorus

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CHORUS DIRECTOR

FAUSTO CLEVA KURT HERBERT ADLER

111

Settings designed by Armando Agnini and painted by Eugene B. Dunkel

TIME AND PLACE: Sixteenth Century, Germany and Greece

Act

I: Scene I: The Regions of Space Scene 2: A Square in Frankfort, Easter Sunday Scene 3: Faust's Studio.

Act II: Scene 1: Margherita's Garden

Scene 2: Summit of the Brocken

Act III: A Prison

Act IV: Shores of the River Peneus in Greece

Epilogue: Faust's Studio

Sunday Matinee Performance of "Mefistofele," September 20

TICKETS FOR REMAINING PERFORMANCES AT OPERA-SYMPHONY BOX OFFICE, SHERMAN, CLAY

Encores not permitted - Bell rings three minutes before curtain rises

NO CAMERAS PERMITTED IN THEATRE

The Story of "Mefistofele"

ACT I, SCENE 1—The prologue takes place in the regions of space. Angels and cherubim sing the praises of the Creator. Mefistofele, half-way between heaven and hell, addresses a mocking song to the Omnipotent. He is on his way to earth, to tempt the philosopher Faust, who is a man of great wisdom.

Scene 2—It is a festal day and students and girls are singing. Faust appears with his pupil Wagner. They observe a friar who keeps near Faust. The latter, noting his sinister appearance, declares that he must be the Devil. Seeking to escape the friar, they return to Faust's study. Faust sings of the beauty of nature. The friar again appears.

Scene 3—He drops his gray cloak and stands revealed as the Evil One. Mefistofele bargains with Faust, the latter being careless as to the future. For Faust's soul it is agreed that he is to be given youth and one hour of

genuine happiness.

Acr II—Faust walks with Margherita while Mefistofele entertains Martha, the girl's mother. Faust wants to meet Margherita alone, and in order to prevent discovery the mother is given a sleeping powder. Faust ardently woos and wins the girl. Mefistofele finally warns the lovers that it is time to depart.

Scene 2—He now takes Faust to the top of the Brocken where the philosopher sees all the revelry of Hades. The demons dance in wild acclaim while the fire bursts from the awful depths. All Hell proclaims Mefistofele its master and he is given a crystal ball that represents the Earth. Faust is terrified at seeing a vision of Margherita with the red mark of the headsman's axe about her neck.

Act III—Margherita lies on a bed of straw. She has been accused of murdering her babe and her mother. Insane, she prays for pardon, and sings a sad melody. Faust arrives with Mefistofele. The latter gives Faust the key of the prison. He tells Faust that he can escape with the girl and leaves. But Margherita does not recognize Faust. Mefistofele returns and his presence fills Margherita with terror. She sinks into Faust's arms and dies while an angel chorus sounds her final victory over death. Faust and Mefistofele depart as the headsman enters.

Act IV—Mefistofele tempts Faust still further by giving him the beautiful Elena (Helen of Troy). Elena sings an ode to the moon. Faust loves her ardently, and Mefistofele goes back to the Brocken leaving the fair Elena in Faust's arms.

EPILOGUE—Old again, Faust regrets the way he has lived. He is now reading his Bible, and when Mefistofele comes he is not tempted. The Evil One, however, still hoping to gain his soul, surrounds Faust with lovely sirens. Praying for strength, the philosopher dies. Mefistofele, defeated, disappears into the ground. Roses cover the body of Faust and the angels' chorus is heard. Faust, too, has been triumphant in death.

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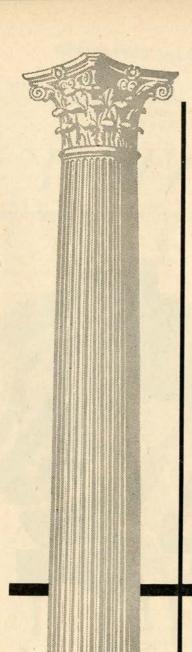


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La Boheme

(In Italian)

Opera in four acts by Giacomo Puccini.

THE CAST

Mimi, an embroideress	DOROTHY KIRSTEN
Musetta, a grisette	LOIS HARTZELL
	*DAVID POLERI
Marcel, painter The Four	*CESARE BARDELLI
Schaunard, musician Bohemians	GEORGE CEHANOVSKY
Colline, philosopher	ITALO TAJO
Benoit, an importunate landlord)	
Alcindoro, state councilor and admirer of Musetta	SALVATORE BACCALONI
Customhouse Sergeant	MAX LORENZINI
Customhouse Guard	
Parpignol	CESARE CURZI
A Boy.	
	*Can Engueiros Obera Ca Jales

*San Francisco Opera Co. debut

Students, Work-Girls, Grisettes, Shopkeepers, Vendors, Waiters, Soldiers, etc.
Boys selected from San Francisco Boys Chorus.

111

STAGE DIRECTOR
CARLO PICCINATO

CONDUCTOR GLAUCO CURIEL

CHORUS DIRECTOR
KURT HERBERT ADLER

111

TIME AND PLACE: About 1830; Paris

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

Act IV: Same as Act I

†Saturday Evening Performance of "La Boheme," October 17

TICKETS FOR REMAINING PERFORMANCES AT OPERA-SYMPHONY BOX OFFICE, SHERMAN, CLAY

Encores not permitted — Bell rings three minutes before curtain rises

NO CAMERAS PERMITTED IN THEATRE

The Story of "La Boheme"*

ACT I: Rudolph and Marcel are sitting in the latter's attic-studio in the Latin Quarter of Paris. They are cold and there is no money to buy coal. Rudolph, the poet, lights the fire with a rejected manuscript. The philosopher Colline and the musician Schaunard join them and they gaily prepare a meal with the provisions that Schaunard has brought. At this point their landlord, Benoit, enters demanding the rent. The friends offer him a glass of wine, flatter him and turn him out. After their meal, Marcel, Schaunard and Colline depart, while Rudolph remains to write. A knock is heard at the door and Mimi, a little seamstress, appears, asking for a match to light her candle. As she is about to leave, she falls in a faint. Rudolph gives her wine and restores her to consciousness. He is struck by her beauty and her delicate hands. Mimi loses her key and while they search for it, their candles are extinguished. As they grope on the floor in the dark, Rudolph finds the key and puts it in his pocket. Their hands meet and Rudolph tries to warm her hands and tells her all about his life. Mimi confides her struggles to him and their conversation soon turns upon their love for each other.

Acr II: Rudolph and Mimi join his friends at the Cafe Momus. It is Christmas Eve and every one is in festive spirits. Rudolph and Mimi are seen entering a milliner's where Rudolph is to buy her a new hat. Colline, Schaunard and Marcel take their seats in front of the Cafe, where a table has been prepared for them. Rudolph introduces Mimi to his friends. Musetta, Marcel's fickle sweetheart with whom he has quarrelled, now enters with the rich and elderly Alcindoro. Marcel is consumed by jealousy, which Musetta notes. She sends Alcindoro away, rushes to Marcel, and all leave triumphantly, leaving the bill for Alcindoro.

Act III: On a snowy morning several months later, Mimi comes to the tavern near the gates of Paris where Marcel and Musetta are living. She asks Marcel to help her, tells him of Rudolph's love and jealousy, explaining that she must leave him. Rudolph now enters and, not seeing Mimi, tells of all the miseries of their lives; how he loves her and believes her to be dying of consumption. Mimi's cough betrays her presence and although she says goodbye to Rudolph they find they cannot part and determine to wait until spring. Meanwhile Musetta and Marcel have a violent quarrel.

Act IV. Marcel and Rudolph have returned to their attic to bewail the absence of fickle Musetta and the apparently faithless Mimi. They try to work, but their thoughts wander to the women they love. Schaunard and Colline enter with rolls and a herring. They are dancing and singing when Musetta enters and tells them that Mimi is outside so weak and ill that she can go no further. They help the dying girl to bed on the couch. Musetta, with Marcel, Schaunard and Colline go out to get a doctor and medicine. Mimi and Rudolph recall their love; she is seized with a fit of coughing and falls back in a faint. The friends return with medicine, but it is too late. Mimi dies peacefully as the poet flings himself across her body.

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CARMEN with Rise Stevens, Peerce, Albanese, Merrill, RCA Victor Orchestra, Fritz Reiner, conducting.

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SERAFIN, Conductor

TURANDOT (Puccini) Sunday Afternoon, October 11, at 2:00
With Mmes. Borkh, Warenskjold, Gotelli, Petersen; Messrs. Turrini, Tajo, De Paolis, Lombardi,
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CLEVA, Conductor

DIE WALKUERE (Wagner)
With Mmes. Grob-Prandl, Borkh, Klose, Faull, Sills, Chauveau, Moudry, Roggero, Farrell,
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SOLTI, Conductor

TWO SATURDAY EVENING PERFORMANCES

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LA BOHEME (Puccini)

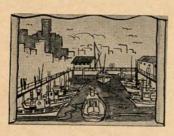
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Assandri, Harvey

BARBER OF SEVILLE (Rossini) . Wednesday Afternoon, October 14, at 1:00 With Mmes. Simionato, Moudry; Messrs. Valletti, Guarrera, Baccaloni, Tajo, De Paolis, Assandri, Harvey KRITZ, Conductor





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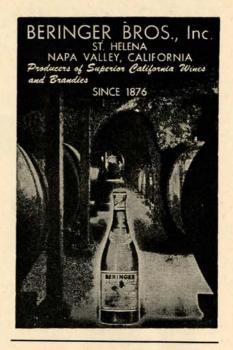
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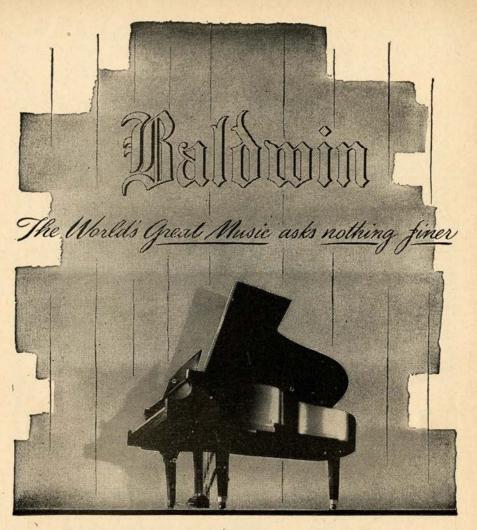
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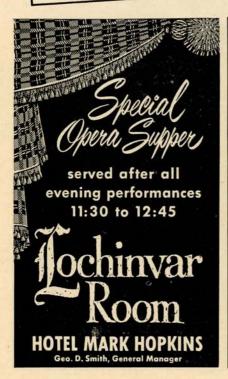
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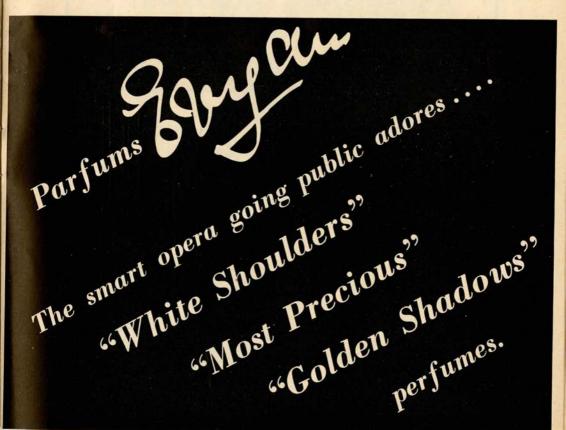


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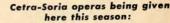
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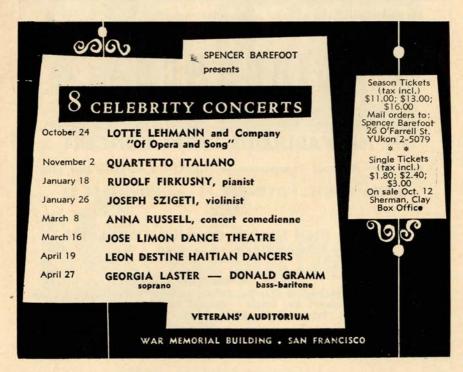
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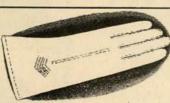
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AN INTRODUCTION TO MASSENET'S "WERTHER"

Speaker: JAN POPPER, Professor of Music, University of California, Los Angeles

Time and Place: 8:30 p.m., Peacock Court, Hotel Mark Hopkins

FRIDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 25

"ELEKTRA" by RICHARD STRAUSS

Speaker: ALFRED V. FRANKENSTEIN, Music and Art Critic, San Francisco Chronicle

Time and Place: 11 a.m., Peacock Court, Hotel Mark Hopkins

Luncheon: The Mark Hopkins has reserved the Room of the Dons for those wishing to remain for luncheon. Please call the Banquet Office for reservations-EXbrook 2-3434

TUESDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 6

"TURANDOT"- PUCCINI'S LAST OPERA

Speaker: KURT HERBERT ADLER, Assistant to the General Director of the San Francisco Opera Association. Mr. Adler will interview HARRY HORNER, stage designer and producer, of Hollywood and New York, who has designed the San Francisco Opera Company's new "Turandot" production.

Time and Place: 11 a.m., Peacock Court, Hotel Mark Hopkins

Luncheon: The Mark Hopkins has reserved the Room of the Dons for those wishing to remain for luncheon. Please call the Banquet Office for reservations-EXbrook 2-3434

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years ago, she stepped timidly from the steamer, a
petite, dark-eyed girl with a coloratura voice that was
to thrill the San Francisco audience at her very
first concert. From her, the city's musical reputation
got its start. Her name was Elisa Biscaccianti.
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and she was the first great singer ever to
visit the San Francisco Bay Area.

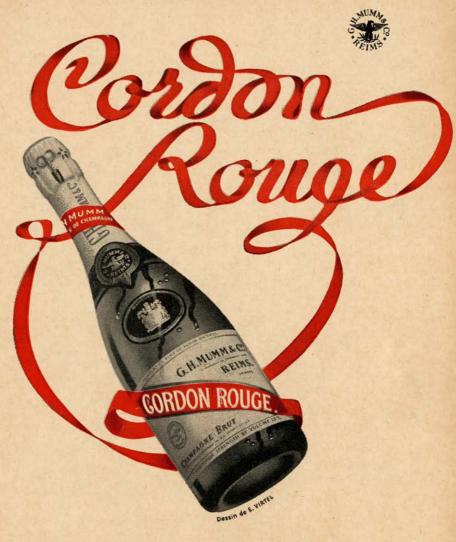
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Crocker First National Bank

SAN FRANCISCO

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The finest compliment you can pay your guests is to serve Mumm's Cordon Rouge, acknowledged the world over one of the finest of all champagnes.

SOLE AGENTS FOR U.S.A.—BROWNE-VINTNERS CO., INC., NEW YORK, N.Y. BROWNE-VINTNERS CO., INC., 400 MONTGOMERY STREET, SAN FRANCISCO

La Boheme

(In Italian)

Opera in four acts by Giacomo Puccini.

THE CAST

Mimi, an embroideress		LICIA ALBANESE		
Musetta, a grisette		LOIS HARTZELL		
Rudolph, a poet	The Four Bohemians	JAN PEERCE ENZO MASCHERINI GEORGE CEHANOVSKY ITALO TAJO		
Benoit, an importunate landlord Alcindoro, state councilor and admirer of Musetta				
Customhouse Sergeant		MAX LORENZINI		
Customhouse Guard		COLIN HARVEY		
Parpignol		CESARE CURZI		
A Boy	STEPHEN HATCH			
Students, Work-Girls, Grisettes, Shopkeepers, Vendors, Waiters, Soldiers, etc.				
Boys selected from San Francisco Boys Chorus				

STAGE DIRECTOR

CARLO PICCINATO

CONDUCTOR GLAUCO CURIEL

111

CHORUS DIRECTOR KURT HERBERT ADLER

111

TIME AND PLACE: About 1830; Paris

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

Act IV: Same as Act I

Encores not permitted — Bell rings three minutes before curtain rises

No one will be seated during the performance

NO CAMERAS PERMITTED IN THEATRE

THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL SEASON