### Rigoletto

#### 1954

Thursday, October 7, 1954 1:00 PM Thursday, October 14, 1954 1:00 PM Monday, October 18, 1954 1:00 PM

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### WAR MEMORIAL OPERA HOUSE

### San Francisco Opera Association

Thirty Second Annual Season

1954

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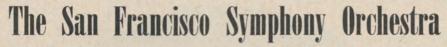
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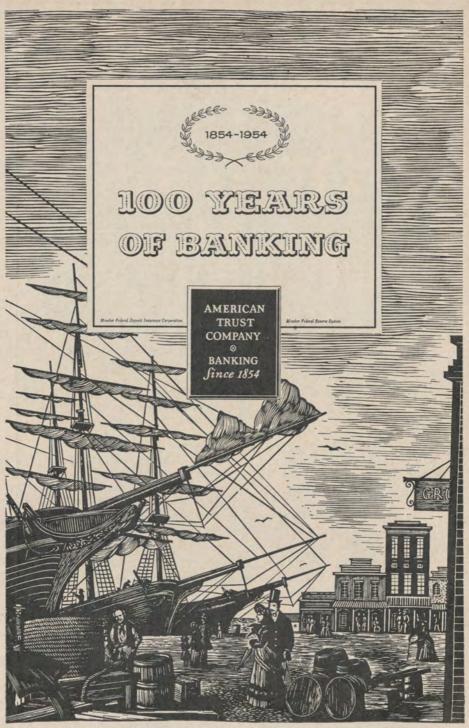
#### OFFICE OF THE MAYOR SAN FRANCISCO

#### PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS, The San Francisco Opera Association opens its thirty-second Annual Season on Friday evening, September 17, 1954, at the War Memorial Opera House; and
- WHEREAS, The Association's 1954 Season, which will run through October 21, 1954, comprises not only a repertoire of standard favorites, but also its first performance of Wagner's "The Flying Dutchman," and two stage productions never before seen in America, "The Portuguese Inn" and "Joan of Arc at the Stake"; and
- WHEREAS, The San Francisco Opera Association is maintaining its fine operatic tradition, and will present a brilliant array of world famous artists during its forthcoming season:
- NOW, THEREFORE, I, Elmer E. Robinson, Mayor of the City and County of San Francisco, do hereby proclaim that the period from September 17 through October 24, 1954 shall be known and observed as "THE SAN FRANCISCO OPERA SEASON," and I invite not only the citizens of San Francisco, but the people outside of the city to attend the artistic and cultural productions of the San Francisco Opera Association during its 1954 Season.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City and County of San Francisco to be affixed this seventh day of September, nineteen hundred and fifty-four.

> ELMER E. ROBINSON Mayor



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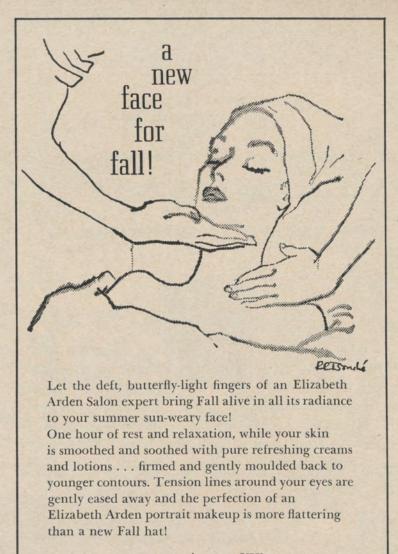
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  - MONTEUX, Conductor
- Sunday Afternoon, October 10, at 2:00

(Continued on Page 31)

- IL TABARRO (Puccini)
- FIDELIO (Beethoven)

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#### THE CAST

| Rigoletto, jester to the Duke | ROBERT WEEDE       |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| Gilda, his daughter           | MADO ROBIN         |
| Duke of Mantua                | GIACINTO PRANDELLI |
| Sparafucile                   | NICOLA MOSCONA     |
| Maddalena, his sister         | ROSALIND NADELL    |
| Count Monterone               |                    |
| Count Ceprano                 |                    |
| Countess Ceprano              | RUTH ROEHR         |
| Borsa                         | VIRGINIO ASSANDRI  |
| Marullo                       | GEORGE CEHANOVSKY  |
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STAGE DIRECTOR CARLO PICCINATO

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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: A Desolate Inn—Sparafucile's Home.

#### \*Other San Francisco Opera Guild Performances of "Rigoletto" October 14 and 18

Encores not permitted — No one will be seated during the performance NO CAMERAS PERMITTED IN THEATRE

THIRTY-SECOND ANNUAL SEASON

#### The Story of "Rigoletto"

Acr 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 conceal her existence 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. Monterone, 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 terror of the hunchback.

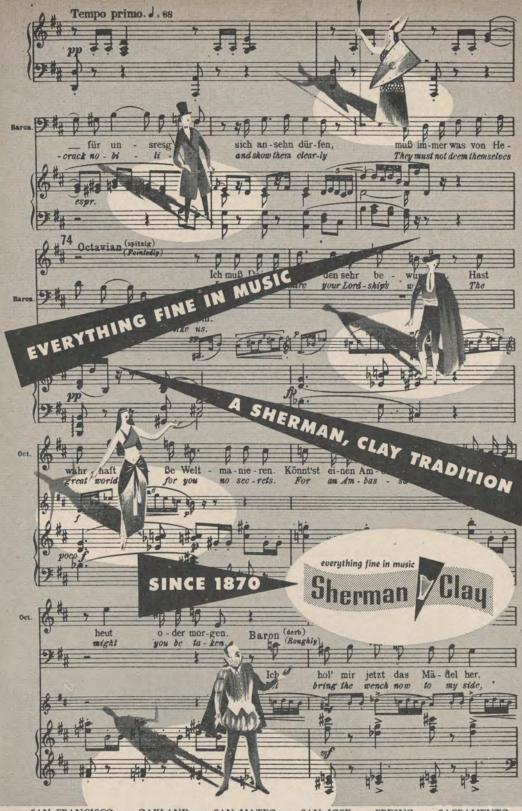
Acr II—Rigoletto hurriedly steals to the house where Gilda is kept secluded. He meets Sparafucile, a professional killer, and promises to bear him in mind should he wish to make away with any enemies. Entering the courtyard of his home, Rigoletto embraces Gilda tenderly and, remembering the curse, commands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

Acr 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 to her side. 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.

Acr 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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#### THE CAST

| Rigoletto             | LEONARD WARREN     |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Gilda, his daughter   |                    |
| Duke of Mantua        | GIACINTO PRANDELLI |
| Sparafucile           | LORENZO ALVARY     |
| Maddalena, his sister | ROSALIND NADELL    |
| Count Monterone       | CARL PALANGI       |
| Count Ceprano         | COLIN HARVEY       |
| Countess Ceprano      | RUTH ROEHR         |
| Borsa                 |                    |
| Marullo               | GEORGE CEHANOVSKY  |
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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: A Desolate Inn—Sparafucile's Home.

\*Another San Francisco Opera Guild Performance of "Rigoletto" October 18

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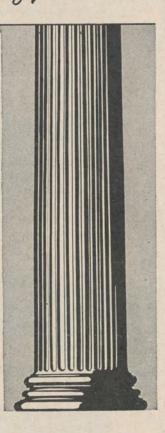
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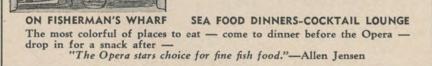
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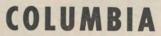
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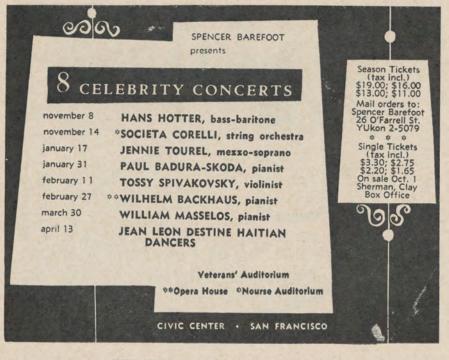




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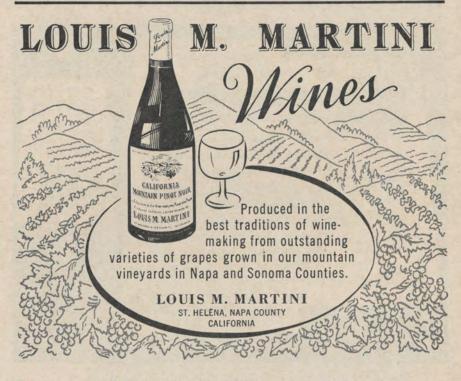
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Wednesday Morning, September 22

#### CHERUBINI'S "PORTUGUESE INN" and STRAUSS' "SALOME"

Speaker: JOSEPH KERMAN, Asst. Professor of Music, University of California, Berkeley Time and Place: 11:00 a.m., Peacock Court, Hotel Mark Hopkins. Luncheon: The Mark Hopkins has reserved the Peacock Lounge for those wishing to remain for luncheon. Please call the Banquet Office for reservations-EXbrook 2-3434

#### Thursday Evening, September 30 "THE FLYING DUTCHMAN" by RICHARD WAGNER

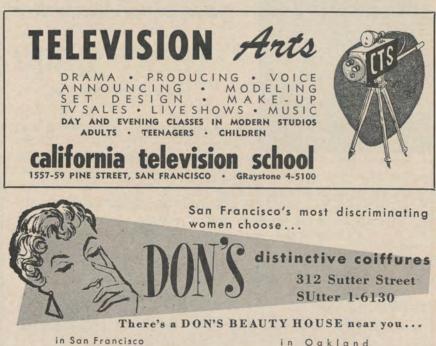
Speaker: ALEXANDER FRIED, Music and Art Critic, San Francisco Examiner. Time and Place: 8:30 p.m., Peacock Court, Hotel Mark Hopkins.

#### **Tuesday Morning, October 12**

#### "JOAN OF ARC AT THE STAKE" by ARTHUR HONEGGER

Speaker: HARRY HORNER, Stage Director and Designer Time and Place: 11:00 a.m., Peacock Court, Hotel Mark Hopkins. Luncheon: The Mark Hopkins has reserved the Peacock Lounge for those wishing to remain for luncheon. Please call the Banquet Office for reservations-EXbrook 2-3434

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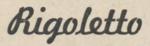
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#### MONDAY MATINEE, OCTOBER 18, at 1:00 (FINAL CURTAIN APPROXIMATELY 3:45)



(In Italian) Opera in four acts by Giuseppe Verdi. Text by Francesco Maria Piave, founded on Victor Hugo's drama "Le Roi s'Amuse."

#### THE CAST

| Rigoletto, jester to the Duke | ROBERT WEEDE       |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| Gilda, his daughter           |                    |
| Duke of Mantua                | GIACINTO PRANDELLI |
| Sparafucile                   | NICOLA MOSCONA     |
| Maddalena, his sister         | ROSALIND NADELL    |
| Count Monterone               | CARL PALANGI       |
| Count Ceprano                 | COLIN HARVEY       |
| Countess Ceprano              | RUTH ROEHR         |
| Borsa                         | VIRGINIO ASSANDRI  |
| Marullo                       |                    |
| Giovanna                      | ELINOR WARREN      |
| A Page                        | SHARON CURRIER     |
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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: A Desolate Inn—Sparafucile's Home.

Encores not permitted — No one will be seated during the performance NO CAMERAS PERMITTED IN THEATRE