Turandot

1954

Friday, October 8, 1954 8:30 PM Thursday, October 14, 1954 8:30 PM

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WAR MEMORIAL OPERA HOUSE

San Francisco Opera Association

Thirty-Second Annual Season

1954

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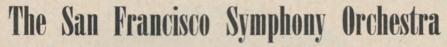
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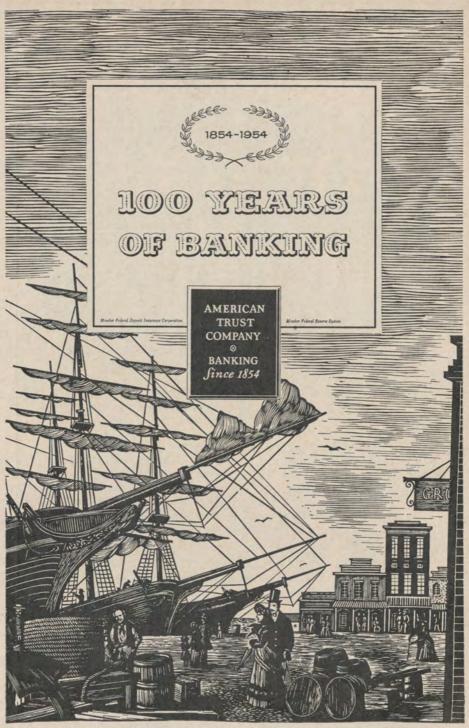
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR SAN FRANCISCO

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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THIRTY-SECOND ANNUAL SEASON

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

(Continued on Page 31)

- IL TABARRO (Puccini)
- FIDELIO (Beethoven)

PICCINATO, Stage Director

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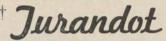
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FRIDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 8, at 8:30 (FINAL CURTAIN APPROXIMATELY 11:15)



(In Italian)

Opera in three acts by Giacomo Puccini. Last Duet and Finale by Franco Alfano. Text by Simoni and Adami, based on Gozzi's Play

THE CAST

Princess Turandot	CARLA MARTINIS
The Emperor Altoum of China	ALESSIO DE PAOLIS
Timur, dethroned King of the Tartars	NICOLA MOSCONA
Prince Calaf, His Son	ROBERTO TURRINI
Liu, a Slave Girl	LICIA ALBANESE
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Voice of Prince of Persia......*ROBERT GORDON BRUCE

*San Francisco Opera Company debut

Priests, Sages, Dignitaries, Guards, Ladies-In-Waiting, Flag Bearers, Ghosts Boys selected from San Francisco Boys' Chorus

Corps de Ballet

Choreographer: Willam Christensen

STAGE DIRECTOR CARLO PICCINATO

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CHORUS DIRECTOR LEO MUELLER

2 2 2

Production and Costumes Designed by Harry Horner Scenery Painted by Eugene B. Dunkel Production Donated by San Francisco Opera Guild

TIME AND PLACE: Legendary

Act I: Walls of the Imperial City
Act II: Scene 1: A Pavilion in the Palace
Scene 2: A Square in front of the Imperial Palace
Act III: Scene 1: The Palace Gardens Near Turandot's
Apartments
Scene 2: Same as Act II, Scene 2

Because of copyright the story of the opera cannot be printed.

'Thursday Evening Performance of "Turandot," October 14, 8:30 P.M.

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

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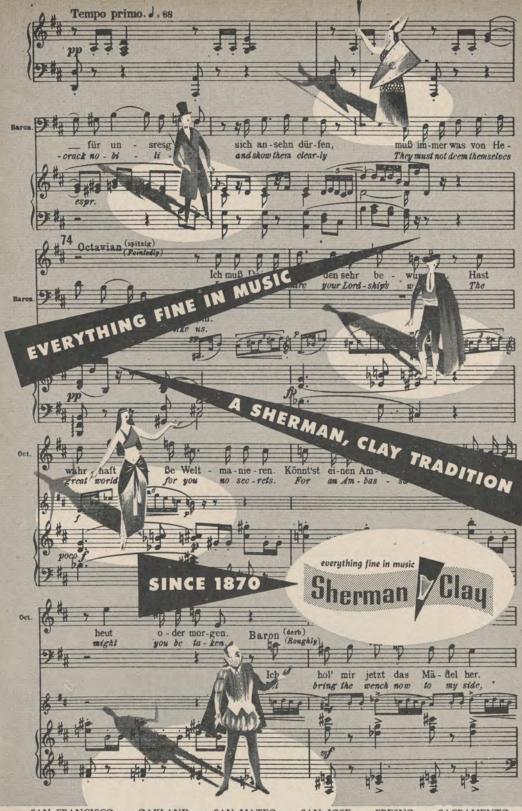
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Friday, November 19, 1954, at 8:30 P.M. at

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 Victor De Sabata conducting.
 11.90

OCTOBER RELEASE

NORMA (Bellini) Callas, Ebe Stignani, Mario Filippeschi, Rossi-Lemeni; Serafin conducting.

LATER 1954-1955 RELEASES

AMELIA AL BALLO (Menotti) Margherita Carosio, Giancinto Prandelli, Panerai; Nino Sanzogno conducting.

LA FORZA DEL DESTINO (Verdi) Callas, Richard Tucker, Gobbi, Rossi-Lemeni; Serafin conducting.

REQUIEM (Verdi) Elizabeth Schwarzkopf, Oralia Dominguez, Di Stefano, Cesare Siepi; De Sabata conducting.

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SUNDAY MATINEE, OCTOBER 10, at 2:00 (FINAL CURTAIN APPROXIMATELY 4:50)

Jhe Flying Dutchman

(In German) Opera in three acts. Music and text by Richard Wagner.

THE CAST

Philip Vanderdecken, the Flying Dutchman	HANS HOTTER
Daland, a Norwegian seafarer	LORENZO ALVARY
Senta, his daughter	INGE BORKH
Eric, a huntsman	BRIAN SULLIVAN
Daland's steersman	CESARE CURZI
Mary, housekeeper in Daland's House	ELINOR WARREN
Sailors, Village Girls	

1 1 1

STAGE DIRECTOR PAUL HAGER CONDUCTOR EUGEN SZENKAR CHORUS DIRECTOR

2 2 2

Stage Settings Designed by Harry Horner Settings painted by Davis L. West G.K.P. Projection System by Paul Planer Auxiliary Chorus — Members of San Francisco State College A Capella Choir;

Dr. John Carl Tegnell, Director

TIME AND PLACE: 19th Century

Act I: A rocky cove on the Norwegian coast

Act II: A hall in Daland's house

Act III: The Norwegian harbor near Daland's house

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The Story of "The Flying Dutchman"

Act I—Captain Daland's ship, driven several miles beyond his home on the Norwegian coast by a violent storm, lies anchored in a cove. Bidding his steersman watch, the master retires. Unable to keep awake, the young man does not see a Dutch ship with red sails and a black hull anchoring nearby. Its captain, Philip Vanderdecken, goes ashore musing on his fate to roam the seven seas. Once every seven years he may land to search for a faithful woman whose love shall redeem him. When Daland reappears, the Dutchman learns from him that he has a daughter. He offers him a chest of jewels in exchange for her hand. Daland, rejoicing at the prospect of a rich son-in-law, concludes the bargain. The wind changes and the Norwegians hoist sails for their home port, to be followed shortly by the Dutchman.

ACT II—Daland's daughter, Senta, in the company of her friends, spinning in the family living room under the watchful eye of her nurse, Mary, is taunted about her suitor, the huntsman Erik. Senta quiets them by singing the ballad of the Flying Dutchman, whose portrait on the wall has held her spellbound. Erik appears and announces the arrival of Daland's ship. The girls rush off to meet the sailors, their returning sweethearts. Senta, intent on saving the wandering Dutchman, dismisses Erik's attentions. Daland arrives with the Dutchman. When Daland presents him to Senta, the girl ecstatically swears devotion to her new lover.

Act III—Villagers throng the harbor where the ships of the Dutchman and Daland lie at anchor. The girls bring cakes and wine for the sailors, but there is no response from the Dutch ship, which remains shrouded in gloom and silence. The girls leave, promising to return at dawn. A violent storm envelops the Dutch ship although elsewhere the sea is calm. The supernatural voices of its crew are heard through the raging wind and water. The storm subsides and silence settles once again on the Dutch ship. Senta hurries from the house pursued by Erik. The Dutchman, overhearing the young man's reminder to Senta that she had pledged her troth to him, believes the girl, his only hope of salvation, lost to him. Ordering his sails hoisted, he tells Senta his story. Senta affirms knowledge of it and vows faithfulness unto death. Disregarding her pleas, the Dutchman boards his ship which thereupon sails for the open sea. Senta plunges into the waters. The Dutch ship is engulfed, but Senta and the Dutchman are united in death.

Although "The Flying Dutchman" is a youthful work, there is in it the principal idea to be found in all Wagner's work—namely, the longing of man for salvation and liberation through his love for a woman who, in turn, holds a completely unselfish devotion to him. Through her fidelity and truth, she leads him to his greatest selfrealization. This concept of love between man and woman, beginning in "The Flying Dutchman," continues throughout the Wagnerian canon: in each music-drama the composer-poet endeavoured to treat of an idea as universally applicable as possible to the general experience of mankind.

In this manner, the material of Wagner's texts is not only narrative, but also symbolic of man's development. In "The Flying Dutchman," for example, the sea stands for Life while the Dutchman himself epitomizes the unrest in man, cast about by experience in his life-scarch for the devotion of a faithful woman. The heroine, Senta, is equivalent to an abstract idea of Woman and her longing for self-fulfillment in her love for Man.

Love, as celebrated by "The Flying Dutchman" and by the greater part of Wagner's other work, is a completely unselfish passion. It leads as in "Tristan and Isolde," "Parsifal," and "Die Goetterdammerung" to self-sacrifice and the sublimation of the human soul. Daland and Erik, together with the Chorus, represent the community surrounding the man and woman in their search for love. For the most part they stand aside, merely reacting to the principal ideas and events; all do not understand the reason for this search, but they come to know its meaning through Senta's self-sacrifice. This event, similar in its motivation to Brunnhilde's Immolation, marks "The Flying Dutchman" as the first of Wagner's works to herald a greater meaning and celebrate a higher ideal of life.

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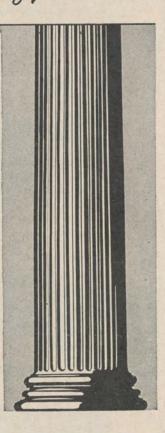
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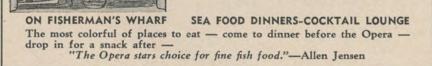
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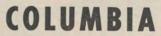
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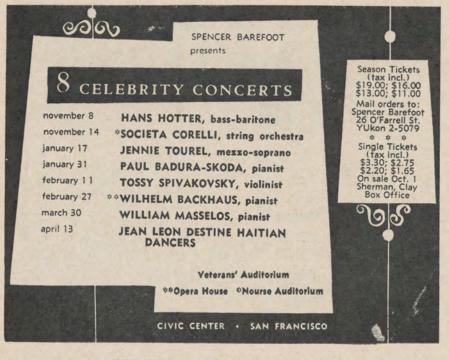
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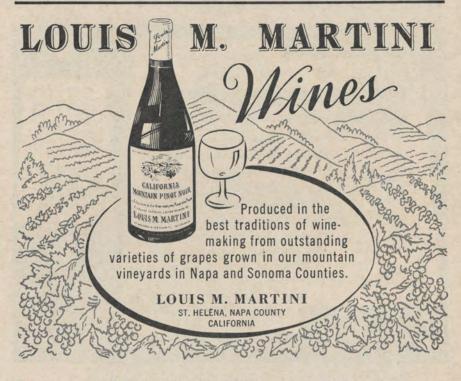
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Wednesday Morning, September 22

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

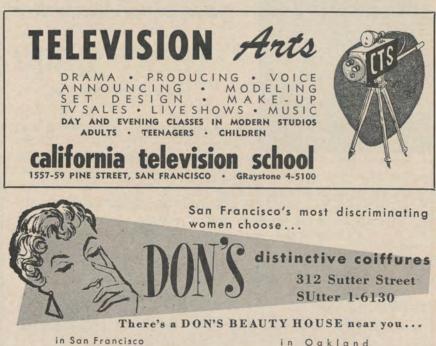
Speaker: ALEXANDER FRIED, Music and Art Critic, San Francisco Examiner. Time and Place: 8:30 p.m., Peacock Court, Hotel Mark Hopkins.

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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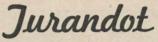
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(In Italian)

Opera in three acts by Giacomo Puccini. Last Duet and Finale by Franco Alfano. Text by Simoni and Adami, based on Gozzi's Play

THE CAST

Princess Turandot	INGE BORKH
The Emperor Altoum of China	ALESSIO DE PAOLIS
Timur, dethroned King of the Tartars	
Prince Calaf, His Son	
Liu, a Slave Girl	DOROTHY WARENSKJOLD
Ping)	FRANK GUARRERA
Pang Court Officials	VIRGINIO ASSANDRI
Pong	CESARE CURZI
A Mandarin	CARL PALANGI
Two Ladies-in-Waiting	
Voice of Prince of Persia	

Priests, Sages, Dignitaries, Guards, Ladies In Waiting, Flag Bearers, Ghosts Boys selected from San Francisco Boys' Chorus

> Corps de Ballet Choreographer: Willam Christensen

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STAGE DIRECTOR CARLO PICCINATO

CONDUCTOR FAUSTO CLEVA

CHORUS DIRECTOR LEO MUELLER

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Production and Costumes Designed by Harry Horner Scenery Painted by Eugene B. Dunkel Production Donated by San Francisco Opera Guild TIME AND PLACE: Legendary

Act I: Walls of the Imperial City

Act II: Scene 1: A Pavilion in the Palace

Scene 2: A Square in front of the Imperial Palace

Act III: Scene 1: The Palace Gardens Near Turandot's

Apartments

Scene 2: Same as Act II, Scene 2

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