#### Eugene Onegin

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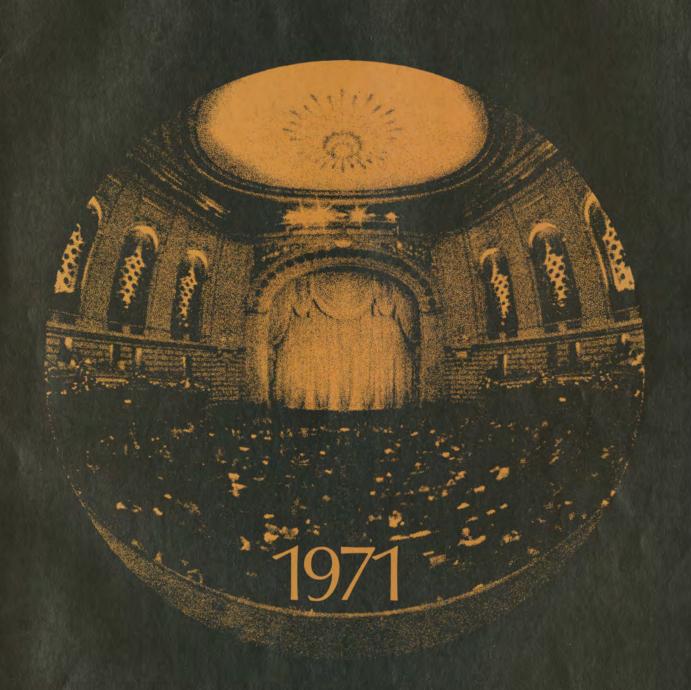
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# PERFORMING ARTS



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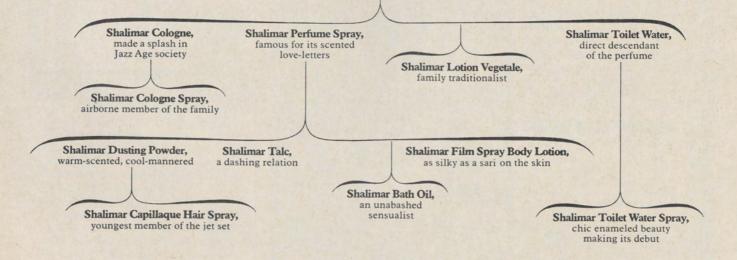
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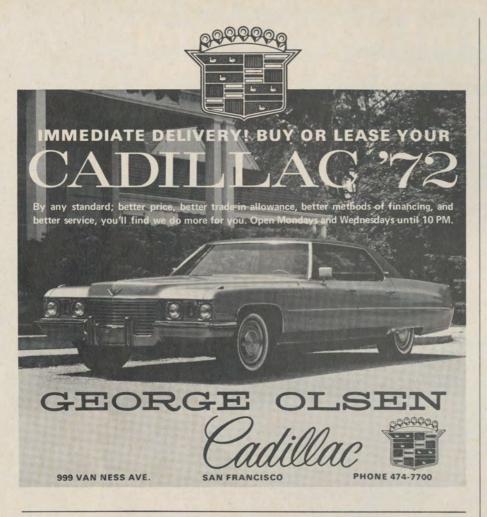
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#### PERFORMING ARTS

SAN FRANCISCO'S MUSIC & THEATRE MONTHLY OCTOBER 1971 / VOL. 5 NO. 10

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OLGA TRENTO managing editor

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# Ma Perkins is Ten Years Dead.



Rest in Peace, Ma.

by Joel Siegel

SFX: KNOCK ON DOOR. DOOR OPENS.

FRED ALLEN: Oh, Mrs. Nussbaum! MRS. NUSSBAUM: You were expecting, maybe, Weinstein Churchill?!

The middle of August finds the Herbert Dairy Ranch, down the peninsula, lying warm and still and fragrant in the enervating heat of mid-summer. The hills are gold with the dry, dead grass and not a breath of air disturbs the shimmering atmosphere. Even under the spread of the giant maple trees in the front yard there's little relief, but this is where Mother Barbour, Clifford, Claudia and Teddy have taken refuge for the moment . . .

Hello Chief? This is Jack Benny again. Remember the last time I spoke to you about the wallet I lost? Now look, Chief, I'm willing to offer a reward. Take this down: If the finder of a black wallet containing eight dollars in cash and some important papers returns the money, he can keep the papers.

Radio is the most confining of the creative mediums. Film is confined to two-dimensions. Theater is confined to the stage. But radio is confined to sound.

I don't think radio can qualify as an art-form. Art gets pretty sticky in a medium where characters constantly have to mumble their way through lines like

Here, let me open that door. Er . . . ahhh . . .

That blue dress . . . That mole on the side of your banana-shaped nose . . .

Art, no. But I do think radio is the most entertaining medium. With radio there is nothing between the message and your imagination.

And now...Lights Out! Everyone...
And if you listened you still remember the man turned inside out, the mother-in-law who came back from the dead, the chicken heart — of all things — that consumed the world. And you remember the way it all looked.

Radio's first great program was Amos 'n Andy. Freeman Gosden and Charles Correll started as Sam 'n Henry on WGN, Chicago, in 1926. They moved to NBC in 1928 and, because WGN owned the Sam 'n Henry name, became Amos 'n Andy. In 1929 they went national and radio sales jumped \$300,000,000.

Lightning finds five pairs of eyeglasses in the Mystic Knights of the Sea Lodge Hall. He gives them to the Kingfish who tries to sell them to Andy. KINGFISH: I think I'll look out the window with my normal vision. Hmm, look at dem ants on dat telephone pole across the street.

ANDY: Where? I don't see nothin'. KINGFISH: O, sure. Dere's three ants walkin' right down the middle of the pole there. One of 'ems got a crumb of bread in his mouth. Hmm... whole wheat!

(Funny . . . but. In the first volume of his excellent *History of Broadcast in the United States* Erik Barnouw writes "The Negro writer William Branch remembered sitting in a family group roaring with laughter over *Amos 'n Andy*. Those seemed very funny people. There was another memory: his father did not laugh. Only gradually the boy learned why. Those people were supposed to be 'us.' ")

In 1932 came Fred Allen, Jack Benny, the Maxwell House Show Boat, Just Plain Bill and Vic and Sade. As good a date as any to start the golden age of radio. The day radio died is a little harder to pin down.

The day might be in May, 1950, the first day more Americans in a major city chose television over radio. The city was Baltimore. In May, 1949, only 12% of the people in Baltimore were watching TV.

Or the day might be in June, 1955, when Jack Benny did his last radio show. (CBS carried Benny for a few more years, but they ran edited versions of shows produced years before.)

Or it might be a date I've lost, a Sunday in 1957 when, on a family drive into the San Fernando Valley — remember when families used to do that — I tuned in KHJ expecting 2 solid hours of mayhem. Nick Carter, Martin Kane, True Detective Mysteries (I was always sure the real thug they described at the end of that show had somehow disguised himself as my father and we weren't really driving to the San Fernando Valley after all but . . . well, I digress) and The Shadow. Out came Patti Page.

In 1947 Bob Hope and Fibber Mc-Gee and Molly led the Hooper ratings with a 30.2. Jack Benny's Hooper (the percentage of all radios tuned in to a particular program) was 27. By 1950 the Hoopers were down, respectively, to 13.9, 16.9 and 25.3. In 1954 they were down to 2.5, 3.0, and 5.8.

WALLY WHIMPLE: Sweety-face, that's my big old wife, threw a little party.

MOLLY: Was it fun, Mr. Whimple? WALLY WHIMPLE: Not really. I was the little party she threw!

With radio there is nothing between the message and your imagination. . . You can remember the way it all looked.

# CRITICAL WORDS

From the moment I picked up your book [S. J. Perelman's "Dawn Ginsbergh's Revenge"] I was convulsed with laughter. Some day I intend reading it.

— GROUCHO MARX

Music critics are quite hopeless—drooling, driveling, doleful, depressing, dropsical drips.

- SIR THOMAS BEECHAM

Only paper flowers are afraid of the rain. We are not afraid of the noble rain of criticism because with it will flourish the magnificent garden of music. — KONSTANTIN DANKEVICH (Soviet composer)

[The television critic] is forced to be literate about the illiterate, witty about the witless and coherent about the incoherent.

— JOHN CROSBY

The sheer complexity of writing a play always has dazzled me. In an effort to understand it, I became a critic.

- KENNETH TYNAN

Modern poets are bells of lead. They should tinkle melodiously but usually they just klunk. — LORD DUNSANY

Miss Truman is a unique American phenomenon with a pleasant voice of little size and fair quality.... There are few moments during her recital when one can relax and feel confident that she will make her goal, which is the end of the song.

- PAUL HUME (Washington Post)

I have read your lousy review of Margaret's concert. I've come to the conclusion that you are "an eight ulcer man on four ulcer pay." . . . Some day I hope to meet you. When that happens you'll need a new nose, a lot of beefsteak for black eyes, and perhaps a supporter below.

— HARRY S. TRUMAN (reply to Mr. Hume) The honors Hollywood has for the writer are as dubious as tissue-paper cufflinks.

— BEN HECHT

I have the WORST ear for criticism: even when I have created a stage set I like, I ALWAYS hear a woman in the back of the Dress Circle who says she doesn't like blue. — CECIL BEATON

Some critics are like chimney-sweeps; they put out the fire below, and frighten the swallows from their nests above; they scrape a long time in the chimney, cover themselves with soot, and bring away nothing but a bag of cinders, and then sing out from the top of the house, as if they had built it.

— LONGFELLOW

[Talkative theatregoers] try to be clevah instead of watching me be clevah.

— NOEL COWARD

Every actor in his heart believes everything bad that's printed about him.

- ORSON WELLES

It is quite cruel that a poet cannot wander through his regions of enchantment without having a critic, forever, like the old man of the sea, on his back.

—THOMAS MOORE

Impersonal criticism is like an impersonal fist fight or an impersonal marriage, and as successful.

— GEORGE JEAN NATHAN

[Television] is a medium of entertainment which permits millions of people to listen to the same joke at the same time, and yet remain lonesome.

—Т. S. ELIOT

You may be as vicious about me as you please. You will only do me justice.

— RICHARD BURTON

A wide screen just makes a bad film twice as bad. — SAMUEL GOLDWYN

There are some literary critics who remind me of a gong at a grade crossing clanging loudly and vainly as the train roars by.

— CHRISTOPHER MORLEY

A good many inconveniences attend playgoing in any large city, but the greatest of them all is usually the play itself.

— KENNETH TYNAN

[T. S. Eliot's "The Cocktail Party"] is bosh sprinkled with mystical cologne.

— GEORGE JEAN NATHAN







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Sept. 10 - Nov. 28, 1971

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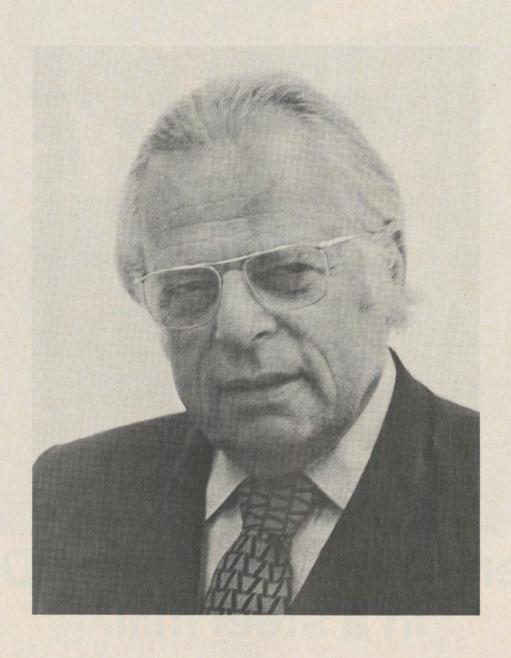
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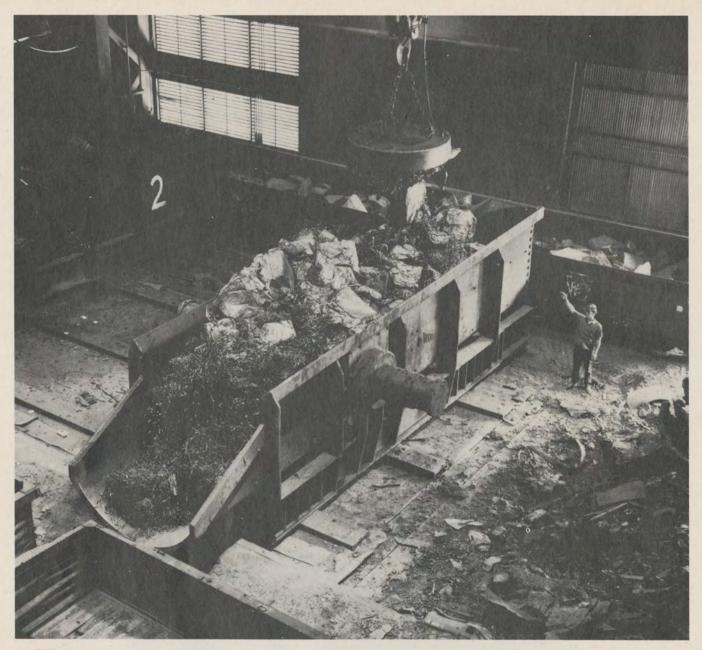
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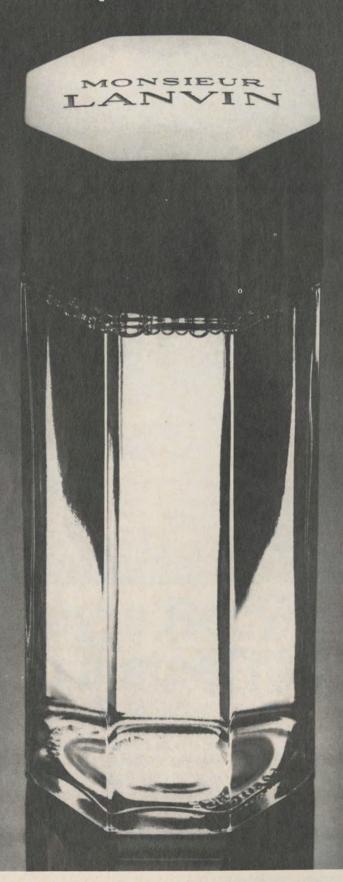
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Nicolai Gedda

Josef Hopferwieser\*\*

Orva Hoskinson

Mark Howard\*

Manfred Jungwirth\*\*

Roster subject to revision

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Margarita Lilova

Christa Ludwig\*

Shigemi Matsumoto

Ljiljana Molnar-Talajic

Donna Petersen

Leontyne Price

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James McCracken

James McCray\*

Raymond Michalski\*

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Richard Mundt\*

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Luciano Pavarotti

Joe Pinedo\*

John Reardon\*

Kenneth Riegel\*

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Daniel Sullivan\*

Ragnar Ulfung

John Walker\*

Ingvar Wixell

Raymond Wolansky

Bruce Yarnell\*

\*San Francisco Opera debut

\*\* American debut

#### HOWARD K. SKINNER



Last February 20 the San Francisco Opera, the cultural life of the City and myself, personally suffered a great loss with the death of Howard Skinner.

Mr. Skinner was appointed manager of the San Francisco Opera in 1951 and became my close associate in administering the Company when I took over from Maestro Merola in 1953. From the very beginning our relationship was a most rewarding one, at both the personal and professional levels.

He had a deep understanding and love for music although he was not himself a musician. Especially important to him was the development of new audiences, particularly young people. In his capacity as manager of the San Francisco Symphony, in which he served from 1937 to 1964, he was instrumental in founding the Symphony Forum. He worked with many groups to bring young people to the Opera and introduced our present system of student rush tickets.

When it came to diplomacy and understanding in dealing with creative personalities, Howard Skinner had few equals. He formed close friendships with many of our artists and maintained correspondence with them throughout the world. And the same desire to be of help is a quality of his that the many who dealt with him will no doubt recall. He was also a great raconteur, with an endless repertoire of fascinating anecdotes drawn from his many years with the Opera and Symphony, and also from his experiences as a young world traveller. A native San Franciscan, he had a keen sense of the City and its people. It is regrettable that he did not write a chronicle of San Francisco from his point of view.

He is sadly missed.

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# OPERA

#### Orchestra 1971

#### 1st Violin

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Zaven Melikian
Assistant Concertmaster
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Rolf Persinger Principal Detlev Olshausen Lucien Mitchell Asbjorn Finess Hubert Sorenson David Smiley Carol Garrett

#### Cello

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#### Bass

Philip Karp Principal Charles Siani Carl Modell Donald Prell Michael Burr

#### Flute

Walter Subke Principal Lloyd Gowen Gary Gray

#### Piccolo

Lloyd Gowen

#### Oboe

James Matheson Principal Raymond Duste Allyson Christensen

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Raymond Duste

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Philip Fath Principal Frealon N. Bibbins Donald Carroll

#### **Bass Clarinet**

Frealon N. Bibbins Donald Carroll

#### Bassoon

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Robin Elliott

#### French Horn

Ralph Hotz
Associate Principal
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Max Mazenko
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1971

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Giovanna Szymkun Alma Wells Carolyn Wilson Sally Winnington Arlene Woodburn Garifalia Zeissig

Winther Andersen Theodore Bakkila Richard B. Barager J. Stephen Bowes Erik Brewer Jan Budzinski Joseph Ciampi Harry Clark Angelo Colbasso Winn Czerny Peter Van Derick\* Harry M. De Lange James Eitze\* Stan Gentry John L. Glenister\* Colin Harvey\* L. Bartlett Haves Alva Henderson John Hudnall Jonathan Huie Rudy Jongberg Conrad Knipfel Eugene Lawrence\* Edward Lovasich Kenneth MacLaren Robert McCracken Tom McEachern Bruce McGowen John Miller\* Thomas Miller Pierce Murphy Eugene Naham\* Don Neely Stuart Ockman Charles Pascoe Al Rodwell Robert Romanovsky John Segale Conrad Sorenson Richard Styles\* James C. Stith James Tarantino Randolph E. Thatcher William Tredway\*

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#### REPERTOIRE 1971 SEASON

Opening Night
Friday, September 10, 7:45
MANON (MASSENET)
Sills, Lewis, Jones, Bush, Corsale/Gedda,
Berberian, Ulfung, Monk, Howard, Fleck,
Pinedo, Sullivan, Miller, Tredway
Conductor: Perisson
Production: Capobianco
Designers: Mitchell, George, Larkey
Choreographer: L. Christensen

Saturday, September 11, 7:45

DER ROSENKAVALIER (STRAUSS)
Jurinac, Ludwig, Donath, Garabedian,
Emoed-Wallace, Lewis, Jones, Bush, Adams/
Jungwirth, Wolansky, Gedda, Ulfung, Monk,
Fleck, Atherton, Hoskinson, Pinedo,
Sullivan, Van Derick, Glenister, Naham,
Styles, Lawrence, Boys Choristers
Conductor: Varviso
Production: P. Hager
Designers: Bauer-Ecsy, Colangelo

Sunday, September 12, 2:00
MADAMA BUTTERFLY (PUCCINI)
Kubiak, Vanni, Jones/Burrows, Yarnell,
Atherton, Manton, Mundt, Howard, Harvey
Conductor: Levine
Stage director: Farruggio
Designers: Businger, West

Tuesday, September 14, 7:45
DER ROSENKAVALIER (STRAUSS)
Same cast as September 11, except Riegel for Gedda

Wednesday, September 15, 8:00 MADAMA BUTTERFLY (PUCCINI) Same cast as September 12

Friday, September 17, 7:45
DER ROSENKAVALIER (STRAUSS)
Same cast as September 11

Saturday, September 18, 8:00 MADAMA BUTTERFLY (PUCCINI) Same cast as September 12

Sunday, September 19, 2:00 MANON (MASSENET) Same cast as September 10

Tuesday, September 21, 8:00 MADAMA BUTTERFLY (PUCCINI) Same cast as September 12

Wednesday, September 22, 7:45 DER ROSENKAVALIER (STRAUSS) Same cast as September 11

Friday, September 24, 8:00 MADAMA BUTTERFLY (PUCCINI) Same cast as September 12

Saturday, September 25, 8:00 MANON (MASSENET) Same cast as September 10

Sunday, September 26, 2:00 Last performance this season DER ROSENKAVALIER (STRAUSS) Same cast as September 11, except Riegel for Gedda

Wednesday, September 29, 8:00 MANON (MASSENET) Same cast as September 10

Friday, October 1, 7:00 In memory of Robert Watt Miller, late President of the San Francisco Opera Association DIE MEISTERSINGER VON NÜRNBERG

(WAGNER) Saunders, Vanni/Adam, King, Evans, Flagello, Walker, Wolansky, Berberian, Atherton, Manton, Hoskinson, Pinedo, Monk, Howard, Mundt

Conductor: Suitner Production: P. Hager Designers: Oswald, Larkey Choreographer: Johnson

Saturday, October 2, 8:00 MADAMA BUTTERFLY (PUCCINI) Same cast as September 12

Sunday, October 3, 2:00 MANON (MASSENET) Same cast as September 10

Tuesday, October 5, 8:00
The English Opera Group in
A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM
(BRITTEN)
Vyvyan, Cantelo, Morelle, Maia/Bowman,
Molloy, Tear, Allum, Dickerson, Leeming,
Luxon, Morgan, Brannigan, Holmes,
Lumsden
Conductor: Bedford
Stage director: Graham
Designer: Luzzati

Wednesday, October 6, 7:00
DIE MEISTERSINGER VON NÜRNBERG
(WAGNER)
Same cast as October 1

Friday, October 8, 8:00 Last performance this season MANON (MASSENET) Same cast as September 10

Saturday, October 9, 7:00
DIE MEISTERSINGER VON NÜRNBERG
(WAGNER)
Same cast as October 1

Sunday, October 10, 2:00
A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM
(BRITTEN)
Same cast as October 5

Tuesday, October 12, 7:00
DIE MEISTERSINGER VON NÜRNBERG
(WAGNER)
Same cast as October 1

Wednesday, October 13, 8:00
EUGENE ONEGIN (TCHAIKOVSKY)
Lear, Garabedian, Vanni, Petersen/Stewart,
Burrows, Berberian, Walker, Booth, Sullivan,
Van Derick
Conductor: Mackerras
Production: P. Hager
Designers: Walter, Larkey
Choreographer: Carvajal

Friday, October 15, 8:00 Last performance this season A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM (BRITTEN) Same cast as October 5

Saturday, October 16, 8:00 EUGENE ONEGIN (TCHAIKOVSKY) Same cast as October 13

Sunday, October 17, 2:00
Last performance this season ..
DIE MEISTERSINGER VON NURNBERG (WAGNER)
Same cast as October 1

Tuesday, October 19, 8:00 EUGENE ONEGIN (TCHAIKOVSKY) Same cast as October 13

Friday, October 22, 8:00 EUGENE ONEGIN (TCHAIKOVSKY) Same cast as October 13

Saturday, October 23, 8:00
IL TROVATORE (VERDI)
Price, Lilova, Jones/King, Wolansky, Mundt,
Pinedo, Eitze, Lawrence
Conductor: Cillario
Production: P. Hager
Designers: Skalicki, West

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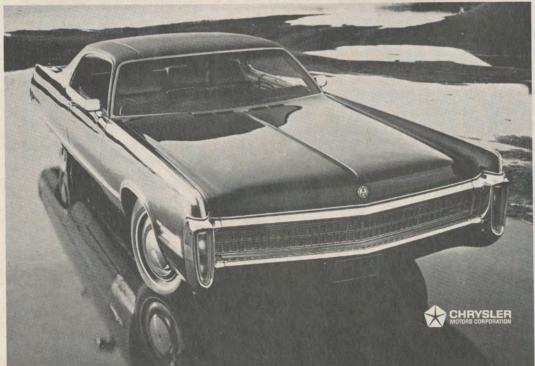
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Sunday, October 24, 2:00 Last performance this season MADAMA BUTTERFLY (PUCCINI) Same cast as September 12

Tuesday, October 26, 8:00 IL TROVATORE (VERDI) Same cast as October 23

Wednesday, October 27, 8:00 UN BALLO IN MASCHERA (VERDI) Arroyo, Donath, Dalis/Pavarotti, Wixell Mundt, Booth, Howard, Pinedo, Sullivan Conductor: Mackerras Stage director: Faggioni Designer: Burlingame

Friday, October 29, 8:00
IL TROVATORE (VERDI) Same cast as October 23 except Michalski for Mundt

Saturday, October 30, 8:00 UN BALLO IN MASCHERA (VERDI) Same cast as October 27

Sunday, October 31, 2:00 Last performance this season **EUGENE ONEGIN (TCHAIKOVSKY)** Same cast as October 13

Tuesday, November 2, 8:00 UN BALLO IN MASCHERA (VERDI) Same cast as October 27

Wednesday, November 3, 8:00 IL TROVATORE (VERDI) Same cast as October 23 except Michalski for Mundt

Friday, November 5, 8:00 UN BALLO IN MASCHERA (VERDI) Same cast as October 27

Saturday, November 6, 8:00 LULU (BERG) Silja, Cervena, Jones, Petersen/Reardon, Hopferwieser, Ulfung, Alvary, Yarnell, Walker, Mundt, Sullivan Conductor: Dohnanyi Production: P. Hager Designers: Bauer-Ecsy, West

Sunday, November 7, 2:00 Last performance this season UN BALLO IN MASCHERA (VERDI) Same cast as October 27

Tuesday, November 9, 8:00 LULU (BERG) Same cast as November 6

Friday, November 12, 8:00 MARIA STUARDA (DONIZETTI) Sutherland, Tourangeau, Bybee/Burrows, Opthof, Berberian, Sullivan Conductor: Bonynge Production: Capobianco Designers: Pizzi, Larkey

Saturday, November 13, 8:00 IL TROVATORE (VERDI) Molnar-Talajic, Dalis, Jones/King, Wolansky, Berberian, Pinedo, Eitze, Lawrence Conductor: Cillario Production: P. Hager Designers: Skalicki, West

Sunday, November 14, 2:00 LULU (BERG) Same cast as November 6

Tuesday, November 16, 8:00 MARIA STUARDA (DONIZETTI) Same cast as November 12

Wednesday, November 17, 8:00 IL TABARRO (PUCCINI) Price, Allen, Bybee, Lewis/Bottion, Bacquier, Manton, Fleck, Covington, Pinedo Conductor: Sanzogno Stage director: Faggioni Designers: Bregni, Larkey

CARMINA BURANA (ORFF) Matsumoto, Bybee, Lewis, Jones/Wixell, Brewer, Covington, Pinedo, Sullivan, Booth, Fleck, Boys Choristers Conductor: Sanzogno Stage director: G. Hager Designers: Ponnelle, Colangelo Choreographer: Carvajal

Friday, November 19, 8:00 Last performance this season LULU (BERG) Same cast as November 6

Saturday, November 20, 8:00 IL TABARRO (PUCCINI)
CARMINA BURANA (ORFF) Same casts as November 17

Sunday, November 21, 2:00 MARIA STUARDA (DONIZETTI) Same cast as November 12

Tuesday, November 23, 8:00 IL TABARRO (PUCCINI) CARMINA BURANA (ORFF) Same casts as November 17

Wednesday, November 24, 8:00 MARIA STUARDA (DONIZETTI) Same cast as November 12

Thursday, November 25, 8:00 Special Thanskgiving Day Performance IL TROVATORE (VERDI) Molnar-Talajic, Dalis, Jones/McCracken, Wolansky, Berberian, Pinedo, Eitze, Lawrence Conductor: Wilson Production: P. Hager Designers: Skalicki, West

Friday, November 26, 8:00 Last performance this season IL TABARRO (PUCCINI) CARMINA BURANA (ORFF) Same casts as November 17

Saturday, November 27, 8:00 Last performance this season MARIA STUARDA (DONIZETTI) Same cast as November 12

Last Performance of the Season Sunday, November 28, 2:00 IL TROVATORE (VERDI) Same cast as November 25 Repertoire, casts and dates subject to change

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# SAN FRANCISCO OPERA

The 1971 San Francisco Opera season will be remembered as one which created unprecedented levels of enthusiasm and anticipation right from the moment the repertoire and major casting were announced. Kurt Herbert Adler and his staff have fashioned a season which, as one writer commented "is the stuff from which an opera-lover's dreams are spun." And you, our audiences, have responded with the heaviest advance demand both for subscriptions and individual performance tickets, in our forty-nine year history.

Perhaps the most remarkable aspect of this season is the superb roster of singers, conductors, directors and designers which Maestro Adler has assembled. An essential ingredient of the special magic of the San Francisco Opera is to be found in his combination of "super stars," important artists new to our stage and the fine young singers whose careers have developed through the affiliated operations of the San Francisco Opera Auditions, the Merola Opera Program, Western Opera Theater and Spring Opera Theater.

This season will be remembered, too, for the establishment of a series of live, stereophonic broadcasts of complete performances from our stage. These broadcasts, scheduled for a number of Friday evenings during the season, will be carried on the AM and FM facilities of KKHI. They are being presented through a grant from the Standard Oil Company of California, and the splendid cooperation of the artists, choristers and orchestral musicians and the unions involved. To all we offer our heartfelt thanks.

The magnificent new production of Manon was made possible through the sponsorship of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company and a gift from James D. Robertson. The scenery and costumes for our new Il Tabarro are a gift from Cyril Magnin. We are deeply grateful to them for their generosity. We also wish to thank the many contributors to the Robert Watt Miller Memorial Fund for the new production of Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg in Mr. Miller's memory.

Other important highlights of this season include the American stage premiere of *Maria Stuarda*, our first performances of *Eugene Onegin* and the initial visit to our shores of the English Opera Group of the Royal Opera, Covent Garden in their delightful production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* as part of the celebration of British Week in San Francisco.

Unfortunately, our financial situation remains perilous. Even if we do better at the box office than last year's record 95% attendance, we will still have a continuing difficult financial problem. Our annual Fund Drive is the only way we can bridge the gap between our income and expenses. We have been able to maintain the Fund Drive goal at the same level as last year, \$550,000, but every penny of this substantial sum must be raised and, if possible, exceeded if we are to continue as one of the finest international opera companies in the world.

As we look forward to the celebration of the Company's Golden Anniversary next year, we must rely on the generous financial help of every friend of the San Francisco Opera.

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# EUGENE ONEGIN

(IN ENGLISH)

Opera in three acts by PETER ILYICH TCHAIKOVSKY

Text by the composer and K. S. SHILOVSKY based on the poem by ALEXANDER PUSHKIN

New English version by DAVID LLOYD-JONES

Tatyana EVELYN LEAR

Olga EDNA GARABEDIAN

Madame Larina HELEN VANNI

Filipyevna DONNA PETERSEN

Chorus leader PETER VAN DERICK

Lensky STUART BURROWS

Eugene Onegin THOMAS STEWART

Captain DANIEL SULLIVAN

Triquet JOHN WALKER

Zaretzky PHILIP BOOTH\*

Prince Gremin ARA BERBERIAN

Corps de ballet

Solo dancers: CAROLYN HOUSER, CARLA SEALANDER, ALLYSON SEGELER, GLEN HASSTEDT, ANTON E. NESS

Peasants, guests, officers, nobles, servants

\*\*American debut \*San Francisco Opera debut

Costumes courtesy of Metropolitan Opera Association, ROLF GERARD, designer Sets from Mannheim National Theater

TIME AND PLACE: LATE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY ST. PETERSBURG

ACT I—Scene 1—Madame Larina's garden

Scene 2—Tatyana's bedroom

Scene 3—Another part of Madame Larina's garden

ACT II—Scene 1—A ballroom in Madame Larina's house

Scene 2—Edge of a desolate forest

ACT III—Scene 1—Foyer of Prince Gremin's St. Petersburg house Scene 2—The next morning

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No one will be seated while the performance is in progress THE USE OF CAMERAS AND ANY KIND OF RECORDING EQUIPMENT IS STRICTLY FORBIDDEN

Performance length approximately three and a half hours

Conductor CHARLES MACKERRAS

Production PAUL HAGER

Set designer PAUL WALTER\*\*

Lighting and resident designer JOAN LARKEY

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Chorus director FRANCESCO PRESTIA

Choreographer CARLOS CARVAIAL

Musical preparation PHILIP EISENBERG

First performance (student) Little Theatre, Moscow, March 29, 1879

First public performance Bolshoi Theatre, Moscow, April 23, 1881 What is Angel doing for San Francisco Opera patrons?

- Angel has issued especially for the Bay Area, and in advance of general release, the new Herbert Von Karajan "Meistersinger", with Sir Geraint Evans and an incredible cast.
- Angel has the "Madama Butterfly", with Sir John Barbirolli conducting a superb cast including Renata Scotto and Carlo Bergonzi.
- 3. Angel has the definitive "Eugene Onegin", with Mstislav Rostropovich conducting, and starring Galina Vishnevskaya.
- 4. The big news this fall is the new recording of Don Carlos with the most amazing cast ever assembled: Montserrat Caballe, Placido Domingo, Ruggiero Raimondi, Shirley Verratt, Sherrill Milnes, Giulini conducting. Here is a set that should be in every home.

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#### The Story of "Eugene Onegin"

ACT I—Scene 1—Russia in the 1820's. At her country estate, Mme. Larina and the Nurse are making jam and discussing Mme. Larina's youth and marriage while her daughters, Tatyana and Olga, sing a duet from the house. The peasants on Mme. Larina's estate announce the end of the harvest and dance for their mistress. Lensky, a neighbor and Olga's fiancé, arrives for a visit bringing his friend, Eugene Onegin. Tatyana falls in love with Onegin at first sight. They go for a walk; Olga and Lensky talk of their love. Evening comes and Mme. Larina calls them inside. The Nurse wonders if Tatyana is falling in love with Onegin.

Scene 2—Preparing for bed, Tatyana asks the Nurse about her youth. The old lady chatters until Tatyana silences her by crying: "I am in love!" After asking for pen and paper, Tatyana sends the Nurse away. She writes a passionate love letter to Onegin, begging him to give her a kind answer. Dawn comes and Tatyana asks the Nurse to deliver the letter.

Scene 3—Peasant girls sing a song. Tatyana has seen Onegin arrive and is terrified of his answer. Coldly he thanks her for her sentiments but lectures her about his unsuitability for marriage and warns her to beware of being so forward with men who might abuse her innocence. Tatyana is crushed.

ACT II—Scene 1—Mme. Larina is giving a party. Onegin dances with Tatyana and the local gossips comment on his coldness and bad manners. He overhears and determines to flirt with Olga in order to punish Lensky for dragging him to the party. Olga enjoys the flirtation but Lensky is furious and challenges Onegin to a duel.

Scene 2—Lensky, waiting for Onegin at the dueling ground, sings of his love for Olga. Onegin arrives. They both wish to apologize but neither is willing to take the first step. They face each other, Onegin shoots and Lensky falls dead. When he realizes what he has done Onegin is overcome with horror.

ACT III—Scene 1—Years later. At Prince Gremin's house in St. Petersburg, the guests dance a Polonaise. Onegin enters; he has been traveling to forget Lensky's death but boredom has made him return. Prince and Princess Gremin enter and, as she is acclaimed by the guests, Onegin recognizes in this sophisticated woman the naive Tatyana he rejected years ago. He now realizes that he loves her.

Scene 2—Tatyana has received a passionate letter from Onegin. When he arrives she scornfully reminds him that he refused her once; does he want her now because she is rich and fashionable? He protests that he loves her and she breaks down and admits that she still loves him, but she made a vow to her husband and she will not break it. Onegin begs her to go away with him, but gathering her courage she refuses and leaves the room as he cries: "Only death remains!"

#### **EUGENE ONEGIN on records:**

Vishnevskaya, Sinyavskaya, Mazurok, Atlantov, Ognivtsev—Bolshoi Opera Chorus and Orchestra/Rostropovich; Melodiya/Angel 4115

Heybalova, Cvejic, Popovich, Starc, Changalovich—Belgrade Opera Chorus and Orchestra/Danon; Richmond 63509



# James King

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Claudio Abbado
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of Opera

The Royal Family

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DAS LIED VON DER ERDE
with Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau –
The Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra – Leonard Bernstein
Stereo OS-26005

Beethoven:
SYMPHONY NO. 9 IN D MINOR
("Choral")
with Joan Sutherland, Marilyn
Horne, Martti Talvela — The
Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra —
Hans Schmidt-Isserstedt
Stereo OSA-1159
Pho

Photo: Fayer



# Geraint Evans

The Royal Family of Opera

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— Der Vogelfänger. L'oca del Cairo —
Ogni momento. Beethoven: Fidelio
— Ha! welch' ein Augenblick! Leoncavallo: Pagliacci — Prologue — Si

può. Donizetti: Don Pasquale — Un fuoco insolito. Verdi: Otello — Credo. Falstaff — Ehi! Paggio! . . . L'Onore! Ladri! Britten: A Midsummer Night's Dream — Bottom's Dream. Mussorg-sky: Boris Godunov — Tchelkalov's

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## Stuart Burrows

The Royal Family of Opera

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#### Eugene Onegin by Stephanie von Buchau

If art compensates for human misery, surely Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky stands at the head of the compensatory bread line. For during the period 1876 to 1878, while writing his two finest full-length works, Swan Lake and Eugene Onegin, he underwent the tortures of the damned in his personal life.

The story of his disastrous marriage to his young ex-student, Antonina Ivanovna Milyukova, has an uncanny parallel with the opera Onegin. Based on Pushkin's long poem, Eugene Onegin tells the story of a young girl who falls in love with a fascinating older man and writes him a passionate love letter which he returns with a cruel lecture that she ought not to write so frankly to strangers. The justly famed "Letter Scene" in which Tatyana composes the fatal missive to Onegin caught Tchaikovsky's imagination immediately; it was the first piece of the opera he set to music. While he was working on it he began receiving letters from a former student he barely remembered. Struck by the coincidence between life and art, Tchaikovsky determined that he would not behave as Onegin had done, made the acquaintance of the young lady and married her. Unfortunately, this gesture was as much a response to public gossip about his private life (Tchaikovsky was homosexual) as it was an attempt at romantic fulfillment and the results were catastrophic.

But even though the marriage headed immediately for the rocks, Tchaikovsky steered *Onegin* triumphantly to home port. The opera was criticized for its "lack of dramatic life," but the same critic wrote prophetically that *Onegin* would "probably become one of the most popular pieces of our operatic repertory, thanks to its national subject and excelling music."

The Russianness of Onegin has never been in doubt and may have been a bar to its acceptance elsewhere for its particular lyrical melancholy (Tchaikovsky referred to the work as "lyric scenes") does not hit the opera-goer over the head like Italian operatic passion or stir the intellect like German operatic philosophy. Rather it speaks directly to the innermost secret feelings. Though Tchaikovsky was the most Westernized of the Russian nationalist composers, his reliance on folk elements and dance tunes is the main source of Russian color in *Onegin*.

The chorus' two songs in Act I and the duet that Tatvana and Olga sing at the opening of the opera have this folk quality though Tchaikovsky does not rely on authentic material in the manner of Bartok. (A famous exception is the use of the popular Russian folk song, "The Birch Tree," in the finale of the Fourth Symphony.) The dances are justly popular: a Waltz and Mazurka for the ball scene at Mme. Larina's house during which Lensky challenges his friend to a duel, and the strikingly orchestrated Polonaise which opens the ball in St. Petersburg in Act III. The first scene of this act ends with an Ecossaise, the fourth of the large dance numbers that a ballet composer like Tchaikovsky couldn't help making an integral part of the action-unlike the usual "tacked-on" operatic ballet.

Even more striking than the local color or the big dance numbers is the fact that *Onegin* is an ensemble opera. Act I opens with a quartet for Mme. Larina, the Nurse, Tatyana and Olga. The two older ladies are talking about youth while the girls sing an obbligato duet. When Lensky and Onegin arrive another quartet follows, this one notable for its spare accompaniment, simple chords from the strings which make the voices stand out in bold relief.

Still in the first scene, Lensky and Olga sing a duet which develops into an arioso for him alone. Act II opens with the famous Waltz in which the dancers comment on Onegin's character and his attentions to Tatyana, infuriating the proud, touchy Onegin

and causing him to flirt with Olga. The scene ends with the finest ensemble in the opera, "Here in your house," as Lensky remembers the happy days he has spent there, Onegin muses that he has not behaved well, Olga makes comments about Lensky's jealousy and Tatyana alternates between love and despair. These asides rise one after another out of the texture of the ensemble which ends with Lensky crying, "Olga, farewell forever!" and running from the room.

In the duel scene (Act II, scene 2) there is another sparsely accompanied duet for Lensky and Onegin that ends with the repeated words, "No, no, no" as the friends realize that "honor" is preventing them from reconciliation. This stark duet leaves an unmistakable chill of apprehension which dissolves into low key horror as Onegin shoots Lensky. He asks, "Dead?" at which Lensky's second affirms flatly, "Dead," and Lensky's theme (which precedes his aria earlier in the scene) sobs out of the strings and woodwinds. Onegin and Tatyana's duet in the final scene is the last ensemble number though they actually sing together for only a short section.

While the meat of Onegin is contained in the concerted numbers, opera audiences also like dessert in the form of arias. Tchaikovsky does not disappoint. There are two famous arias in Onegin: Lensky's lament "How far, how far" and Gremin's "The gift of love." Beloved of tenors everywhere (especially in the middle European countries) "How far, how far" is a cry of despair to lost youth and innocence in which Lensky forgives Olga's flirting and at the climax cries: "Come, oh come to me!" It ends softly with a reprise of its principal melody. Prince Gremin's aria in praise of Tatyana's love is a typical Russian number for dark bass, that voice category that seems to grow naturally in the Slavic countries. Its steady, sonorous phrases make the most of the cantante quality of the bass voice.

The crown jewel of this opera of many gems is Tatyana's "Letter Scene" in Act I, the first piece of music Tchaikovsky set and the one which he obviously saw as the centre of the work. The composer wrote to his brother, "I am in love with the image of Tatyana." A simple, unawakened girl living vicariously through novels (Richardson is the novelist Pushkin names; it is not hard to see how Onegin strikes Tatyana as the embodiment of Richardson's hero, Sir Charles Grandison), Tatyana is described by Pushkin as "wild, sad and silent... as timid as a forest doe."

It is to Tchaikovsky's credit that he has taken this elusive creature and managed to keep her naive erotic imaginings in delicate balance with his lush, swampingly romantic music. The scene (second of Act I) opens with a theme of great yearning and intensity. Tatyana shyly discusses "love" with her Nurse. The old lady gabbles on until Tatyana appears ready to burst with emotion. Finally she confesses, "I am in love!" and shoos the Nurse from the room.

She ponders what to say in the letter with a series of phrases that return in identical form in Onegin's frantic arioso in the first scene of Act III when he realizes that he is now in love with Tatyana. Tchaikovsky manages to combine irony with passion musically in a way that not many of his critics give him credit for. In the Russian version Onegin opens his aria with Tatyana's exact words. David Lloyd-Jones' English translation keeps some of this symmetry by giving Tatyana and Onegin an identical line in the body of the aria: "Desire has poisoned me with longing."

As she begins to write, stopping to read aloud what she has written, the theme which opens the opera's short prelude is heard. (This theme is associated throughout the opera with Tatyana's longing.) Her agitation and emotional abandon rise to a peak as she writes: "My heart cried out to me: Love him, love him!" This outburst is followed by a new, serene melody which rises first in the orchestra and then enters the vocal line as Tatyana sings of her faith in Onegin's goodness and charity. The last

words of the letter are particularly heartbreaking when we know what is going to happen: "One word can set my heart on fire or simply stifle my desire, to leave me desolate and wretched!"

Here the orchestra reiterates the serene melody. Fully orchestrated, each phrase opening with a heavily accented attack, it reminds one that certain critics have complained that Tchaikovsky's creation of full-blooded melodies hampers his symphonic style. "What can you do with such a tune," one said despairingly, "except repeat it louder and louder?" What these critics miss is that Tchaikovsky is not a motivically oriented symphonist, but a creator of completely self-contained statements perfectly in tune with the musical style of his times and, in Onegin, with the sensuous romanticism of the Pushkin text he set unaltered for this scene.

It is morning, the Nurse returns and Tatyana begs her to deliver the letter. The scene ends with a passionate repeat of the melody that introduced the actual writing of the letter. The astonishing thing about the "Letter Scene" is that Tchaikovsky not only follows and illuminates Pushkin's text, sympathetically exposing Tatyana's every nerve ending, and not only constructs a half hour piece of music which follows classic patterns of rising tension, climax and catharsis, but has prodigally given us at least half a dozen individual tunes of surpassing beauty and emotive quality in the bargain.

If this generous prodigality (which is kept up not just in the "Letter Scene" but throughout the opera) did not compensate the composer for the miseries he suffered in his life, at least it is a gift which we can gratefully acknowledge. As Dvorak said after hearing Onegin: "This is a wonderful creation... (which) enters our hearts so deeply we can never forget it."

Stephanie von Buchau has been Music and Dance Editor of San Francisco Magazine since 1964. She has also published articles in Music and Mucians, Opera News, Musical America and Opera.



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## SPECIAL EVENTS

#### **Opera Previews**

Presented by the Junior League of San Francisco, Inc. Public invited free of charge Miyako Hotel, Post and Laguna Streets Imperial Room—11 a.m.

September 9 MANON Speaker: Stephanie von Buchau

Curran Theater-11 a.m.

September 28 DIE MEISTERSINGER Speaker: Speight Jenkins

October 7 EUGENE ONEGIN Speaker: Robert Commanday

November 5 LULU Speaker: John Rockwell

November 12 MARIA STUARDA Speaker: Michael Barclay

Presented by Opera ACTION South Peninsula Chapter, Palo Alto Castilleja School Lounge Bryan and Kellogg Streets

September 16—8:00 p.m. MANON Speaker: Marie Gibson

Oak Creek Club Palo Alto, 10 a.m.

September 30 DIE MEISTERSINGER Speaker: Speight Jenkins

October 7 A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM Speaker: Sandor Salgo

October 21 EUGENE ONEGIN Speaker: Royal Stanton

November 11 CARMINA BURANA IL TABARRO Speaker: John Rockwell

Presented by Opera ACTION Marin County Chapter Marin Art and Garden Center Ross, 8:30 p.m.

September 16 DER ROSENKAVALIER Speaker: Stephanie von Buchau

September 30 DIE MEISTERSINGER Speaker: Speight Jenkins

October 14 IL TROVATORE Speaker: Harold Rosenthal

October 28 MARIA STUARDA Speaker: Karen Monson

Sausalito Women's Club Sausalito, 2:00 p.m.

October 21 UN BALLO IN MASCHERA Speaker: Stephanie von Buchau Presented by the Jewish Community Center 3200 California Street San Francisco, 8:15 p.m.

September 27 EUGENE ONEGIN Speaker: Michael Barclay

October 25 LULU

Speaker: Heuwell Tircuit

Presented by the San Jose Opera Guild American Savings and Loan Bldg. Americana Room 1285 Lincoln Avenue San Jose, 10:00 a.m.

September 24 MANON Speaker: Maria Gib

Speaker: Marie Gibson

October 1
DIE MEISTERSINGER
Speaker: Speight Jenkins

October 8
EUGENE ONEGIN
Speaker: John Rockwell

October 29 LULU Speaker: John Rockwell

November 12 CARMINA BURANA IL TABARRO Speaker: John Rockwell

November 19 MARIA STUARDA Speaker: Marie Gibson

#### SAN FRANCISCO OPERA SACRAMENTO PERFORMANCE

November 8, 8:00 p.m. Memorial Auditorium IL TROVATORE (Verdi) in Italian Presented by the Sacramento Opera Guild

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Opera ACTION was created in 1967 to increase awareness of the San Francisco Opera, to stimulate interest in opera in general, and to actively promote ticket sales. Not a fundraising organization, Opera ACTION works in close cooperation with the publicity department, enabling it to greatly extend its reach and activity. Those interested in actively working on behalf of the San Francisco Opera should contact their local chairman.

#### **Opera House Museum**

Open free-of-charge during all performances in the south foyer, box level. A new exhibit of photographs, costumes, scenic designs, programs and other memorabilia connected with opera in San Francisco both past and present.

The collection includes material in the possession of the San Francisco Opera as well as several donations on loan from private individuals. It has been prepared under the supervision of David Croker. The museum is sponsored by the Board of Trustees of the War Memorial, represented by Mrs. Madelaine Haas Russell. Donations of interesting and valuable historical interest are gratefully received. Persons wishing to contribute items should contact Craig Palmer at 861-4008.

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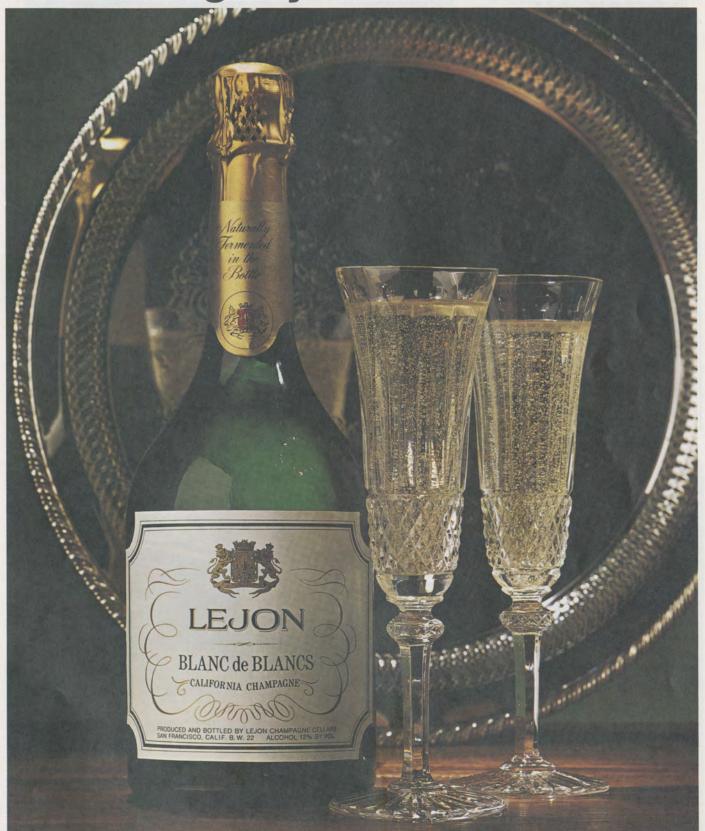
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## WHO'S WHC



THEO ADAM is making his San Francisco Opera debut as Hans Sachs in the new production of Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg. He sang the role for the first time in Berlin in 1968 in a performance that was hailed as "the birth of one of the greatest interpreters of that character of all time". Adam visited America in 1938 as a boy soprano, on tour with the Dresden Kreuzchor. When he returned, thirty-one years later, he had the high honorary title of Kammersänger and was widely known as one of the finest singers of our age. Among his ninety roles are: Amfortas in Parsifal, the title roles in Der fliegende Holländer, Wozzeck and Don Giovanni, Baron Ochs in Der Rosenkavalier, the title role in Boris Godunov and a number of Verdi leading parts. He frequently performs at European music festivals, and is a regular star at Bayreuth. Adam's records are numerous and include the just released complete Die Meistersinger conducted by Herbert von Karajan.



LORENZO ALVARY returns to San Francisco Opera after a ten-year absence and will portray Schigolch in Berg's Lulu. He studied at the University of Budapest (his native city) and Geneva, and was noticed there by the late Bruno Walter who signed him for the Vienna State Opera. Alvary joined San Francisco Opera in 1940 and the Metropolitan Opera in 1942. Through the years, he has become known for his character interpretations, ranging from comprimario to principal roles. Alvary has also sung with the Chicago and Philadelphia opera companies, as well as in Vienna, Stuttgart, Berlin, Paris, Venice, Naples, Genoa and Buenos Aires.



MARTINA ARROYO started her career at the Metropolitan as the off-stage Celestial Voice in Don Carlo. This year, she has opened the season in that same opera in the role of Queen Elizabeth. The previous year's season of the Metropolitan also opened with Miss Arroyo as Elvira in Ernani. Worldrenowned for her Aida, she sang the role for the first time in 1965, substituting on two days' notice for Birgit Nilsson. Miss Arroyo is a member of the Zürich Opera and a frequent guest at Covent Garden, the Vienna State Opera, Teatro Colon in Buenos Aires and most major opera houses of the world. Her debut at Milan's La Scala will take place during the 1971/72 season in Aida, and she will also open the Geneva 1971/72 season as Norma. Miss Arroyo, previously heard in the Bay Area in concert, makes her eagerly awaited San Francisco Opera debut this year as Amelia in Un Ballo in Maschera.



JAMES ATHERTON began his professional career with the Baltimore Opera Company. He has over thirty roles in his repertoire, ranging from Count Almaviva in The Barber of Seville to Toby, the mute, in The Medium. At present, Atherton is directing his career towards character tenor roles. This fall, he will be heard in Madama Butterfly, Die Meistersinger and Der Rosenkavalier.

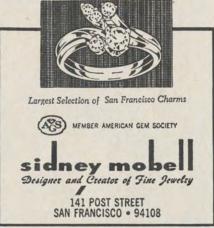


ARA BERBERIAN returns for his sixth consecutive season during which he will sing six roles, notably those of Prince Gremin in Eugene Onegin, Count des Grieux in Manon and Cecil in Maria Stuarda. He has performed leading roles with the New York City, New Orleans, Houston, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Cincinnati Operas. Berberian is also one of the busiest oratorio and concert artists in the country and has performed with every major orchestra in the United States and Canada. His television credits include Berlioz' L'Enfance du Christ and the title role in Laderman's Galileo.



PHILIP BOOTH was born and raised in Washington, D.C. He was a second place winner in the 1970 Metropolitan Opera National Auditions. Shortly after that, he joined Western Opera Theater and appeared in several roles. Extremely active in oratorio performances, Booth and his wife Sandra Bush sang in a special White House performance of The Messiah in December 1969 for the President, members of Congress and the White House staff. Recently, Booth portrayed the role of the King of Scotland in Handel's Ariodante, staged as part of the opening of the Kennedy Center in Washing-







ton, D.C. This fall, the Booth-Bush couple are in their debut season with the San Francisco Opera.



STUART BURROWS needs no introduction to San Francisco audiences, who claim him as one of their favorites. His opera career started in his native Wales, and in less than five years took him to London's Covent Garden. His roles there included Fenton in Falstaff (which he also sang in San Francisco last year), Don Ottavio in Don Giovanni and Jack in Tippett's The Midsummer Marriage, which he has also recently recorded. By now Burrows is a regularly scheduled singer at most major European opera houses, including the Vienna State Opera and the Salzburg Festival. This year, he added Elvino in La Sonnambula to his Covent Garden repertoire. Burrows made his debut at the Metropolitan last year as Don Ottavio, and will return there again in 1972. Among his recordings is the just completed role of Leicester in Maria Stuarda.



SONA CERVENA returns to San Francisco for her ninth consecutive season. Well-known here and abroad for her numerous character portrayals, she will be heard in the demanding role of Countess Geschwitz in Berg's Lulu. Miss Cervena was born in Czechoslovakia, where she started her career as an actress, but music soon took first place and she was engaged by the Brno Opera House. After a successful Prague recital, she was offered a contract with the Berlin State Opera, which led to a number of appearances in many European and American cities. Miss Cervena is presently on the roster of the Frankfurt Opera.



CARLO FELICE CILLARIO began his career as a violinist, won the Paganini Prize and devoted several years to intensive concert and teaching activity before dedicating himself to conducting. His teachers included Nicola Cerniatinsky and Georges Enesco, who considered him a favorite pupil. Cillario's long list of conducting assignments includes five seasons at the Lyric Opera of Chicago, four at the Glyndebourne Festival, as well as performances in Buenos Aires, Sydney, Paris, Madrid, London and Barcelona. He is the founder of the Bologna Chamber Orchestra and the University Symphony of Tucuman in Argentina. During the 1972/73 season, he will make his debut with the Metropolitan Opera, where he will conduct five different operas. Maestro Cillario has made a great number of recordings, including Mozart's *Lucio Silla* and *Ascanio in Alba*, both of which have won the "Grand Prix du Disque".



IRENE DALIS, the striking mezzo-soprano from San Jose, is in her ninth season with San Francisco Opera. After graduating from the San Jose State College and continuing her musical studies at Columbia University, she won a Fulbright scholarship which took her to Milan. Following her Oldenburg debut as Eboli in Don Carlo, she joined the Berlin Städtische Oper for five years. She was first heard at the Metropolitan in 1957, again as Eboli, and has been a regular artist there ever since. Miss Dalis has made guest appearances in every important European opera house and has sung at the Bayreuth Festival for several seasons, where she was particularly noted as Kundry in Parsifal.



CHRISTOPH VON DOHNANYI is one of the most prominent among the younger generation of European conductors. He originally intended to become a lawyer, but after two years of study in his native Berlin decided to devote himself to music. In 1951, he received the Richard Strauss Prize for conducting and composition. His studies continued in the United States with his grandfather, the well-known composer Ernst von Dohnanyi, both in Florida and at Tanglewood. In 1953, Dohnanyi was engaged by Georg Solti at the Frankfurt Opera and that same year started his career as opera conductor. Today, he is music director of the Frankfurt Opera and guest conductor in many other opera houses, including the Chicago Lyric, the Vienna State Opera, the Munich Opera and the Bayreuth Festival. Parallel to his operatic career, he is also extremely active as a concert conductor.



HELEN DONATH, a charming newcomer to the San Francisco Opera, is known to opera lovers as Sophie in Georg Solti's recording of Der Rosenkavalier, which is also her debut role this fall. In addition, she sings Oscar in Un Ballo in Maschera. Born in Texas, Miss Donath started her career in Europe in 1961 with the Cologne Opera. Her first roles there were Liù in Turandot, Juliet in Romeo und Julia by Blacher, Micaela in Carmen and Brangäne in Le Vin Herbé by Martin. In 1963, she joined the Hannover Opera and was particularly noted

for her Pamina in *The Magic Flute* and as leanne in *Die Verlobung von San Domingo* by Egk. She later recorded the Egk opera for television. Miss Donath appears regularly at the Salzburg Festival and most major European concert halls. She has just recorded the role of Eva in *Die Meistersinger* under the direction of Herbert von Karajan.



SIR GERAINT EVANS, whose portrayal of Beckmesser in Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg is world famous, returns this fall to re-create the role, which was also the vehicle for his American debut here in 1959. Evans was raised in the rich musical tradition of his native Wales. His first role at London's Covent Garden was that of the Night Watchman in Die Meistersinger. He has since developed a vast repertoire including Wozzeck, Falstaff, Leporello in Don Giovanni, Papageno in The Magic Flute, Figaro in The Marriage of Figaro, Don Alfonso in Così fan tutte, Dr. Bartolo in Il Barbiere di Siviglia. He has been heard in San Francisco in many of these and in a number of other roles. His most recent activities included the role of Claggart in Billy Budd in performances for the Chicago Lyric Opera which he also directed. At Covent Garden, he appeared as Beckmesser, Don Alfonso and Balstrode in Peter Grimes. At the Salzburg Festival, he sang the title roles in Wozzeck and The Marriage of Figaro. In 1969, Evans was knighted for his participation in the investiture of Prince Charles as the Prince of Wales.



PIERO FAGGIONI is making his American debut this fall as stage director of *Un Ballo in Maschera* and *Il Tabarro*. He started his career as an actor and took part in a number of film, television and stage performances in his native Italy. He soon became attracted by directing and became assistant to such famous directors as Jean Vilar, Luchino Visconti, Giorgio De Lullo and Rene Clair, in which capacity he worked on a large number of standard and rare operas. In 1964, he started his own career as stage director, his first assignment being *La Boheme* in Venice. Subsequent engagements have taken him to Nice, Stuttgart, Leningrad, Berlin and Tokyo.



MATTHEW FARRUGGIO is now in his sixteenth season with the company. In addition to his assignments with the San Francisco Opera and Spring Opera Theater,

he is also extremely active with the Merola Opera Program, which is devoted to the training of young professional singers. His experience in opera is unusually broad. He has appeared in most opera houses in the United States in a number of capacities. Farruggio also took part in Broadway shows and has performed on radio and television. His studies mostly took place in Europe and included costume design, painting and sculpture. Besides San Francisco, he has staged operas in Vancouver, Honolulu and Houston.



FLAGELLO was last heard in San Francisco in 1968 as Silva in Ernani. This year, he returns as Pogner in Die Meister-singer. Flagello has limited his operatic appearances almost exclusively to this country. His first Falstaff at the Metropolitan received unanimous public and critical acclaim, and his repertoire with that company grew to encompass about thirty roles. Flagello has recorded a large number of comgello has recorded a large number of com-plete operas, including I Puritani, Alcina, Lucrezia Borgia, Così fan tutte, Don Gio-vanni, Un Ballo in Maschera, Ernani, La Forza del Destino, Luisa Miller and Rigoletto. Most recently, he made his debut at La Scala in Lucrezia Borgia and appeared in Berlin and at the Florence May Festival.



PAUL HAGER has many productions to his credit here, including the American premi-eres of Troilus and Cressida, Medea, Die Frau ohne Schatten, Carmina Burana, Kater-ina Ismailova, The Makropulos Case and The Visitation. He started his career in Munich in 1951 and became assistant to Wieland Wagner in the inaugural postwar Bayreuth Festival season. Hager has worked at the Vienna State Opera and has staged operas at La Scala, in Hamburg, Florence, Essen, Naples, Cologne, Mannheim, Nürnberg and Salzburg. Three years ago, he became associated with the Teatro Colon in Buenos Aires, where his most recent productions included Samson et Dalila and Aida. These are to be followed by The Tales of Hoffmann and Tosca for the 1972 season. At Stuttgart, Hager has just produced a new Elektra, and will return there for a new Carmen.



JOSEF HOPFERWIESER, making his American debut in the role of Alwa in Lulu, is a



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native of Graz, Austria. He began his opera career at the Braunschweig State Theatre in 1964, singing mostly lyric tenor roles. He also spent a year at Essen before joining the Frankfurt Opera, where he is presently active. Hopferwieser is known for the title role in *The Tales of Hoffmann*, which he has also sung with the Vienna State Opera, as well as for Alwa in *Lulu*. He has appeared as guest artist in Hamburg, Cologne, Stuttgart Munich, Rome and Milan.



ORVA HOSKINSON is best known in the Bay Area for his appearances in many leading roles with the Lamplighters (the San Francisco Gilbert and Sullivan group). He is one of that Company's two founders as well as Artistic Director. Hoskinson has sung various roles with the San Francisco Opera, Spring Opera and the Goldovsky Opera Theater. He is also a frequent soloist with a number of symphony orchestras and is often heard in recitals, both as a soloist and accompanist.



MARK HOWARD has spent equal time on operatic and musical theater stages throughout the United States. His extensive operatic experience includes roles with the Metropolitan Opera Studio, the Atlanta Opera, the Philadelphia Lyric Opera and the Mozart Opera Festival of New York. Immediately after his debut season with the San Francisco Opera, which includes four roles, Howard will portray Ninian Edwards in the world premiere of Passatieri's The Trial of Mary Lincoln for NET Television Opera Theater.



GWEN JONES decided to become an opera singer after watching a television broadcast of *Dialogues of the Carmelites*. She was a finalist in the 1970 San Francisco Opera Auditions and winner of the Merola Opera Program Gropper Memorial Award. She was heard as Annius in Mozart's *Titus* during the 1971 season of the Spring Opera Theater. Following her San Francisco Opera debut season this year which includes seven roles, Miss Jones will perform with the Philadelphia Lyric Opera.



JAMES KING, internationally famous for his numerous leading roles, returns to San Francisco for his first Walther in the new production of Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg and as Manrico in Il Trovatore. King's most recent activities included Siegmund in Die Walküre and the title role of Lohengrin, both at the Munich Festival, also the lead role in Samson et Dalila at New Orleans. During 1970, he sang a number of Florestans in Fidelio, many of which were in commemoration of the 200th anniversary of Beethoven's birth, all of which resulted in public and critical raves. King was born and raised in Dodge City, Kansas, and he made his professional debut with Spring Opera of San Francisco in 1961 as Don José in Carmen. His long list of recordings includes the complete Ariadne auf Naxos, Daphne, Salome, Parsifal, and Die Walküre. His plans for 1972 include Max in Vienna State Opera's new production of Der Freischütz.



TERESA KUBIAK, who is making her American stage debut as Cio Cio San in Madama Butterfly, first surprised the Western world in the American Opera Society's concert performance in New York's Carnegie Hall of Goldmark's Die Königin von Saba in March of 1970. The day before that performance, she was "an unknown soprano from Warsaw," the next day-a celebrity. Since then, her international career has grown at an amazing pace. This summer she sang Lisa in the Glyndebourne Festival production of The Queen of Spades and also appeared in a London concert performance of Cavalli's La Calisto. In addition to her engagement with the San Francisco Opera this fall, she will also sing Tosca with the Chicago Lyric Opera and the Houston Grand Opera. During the winter of 1971/72, she will be heard as Chrysothemis in Elektra in Venice and in Lisbon. Her plans for 1972 include Manon Lescaut with the Miami Opera Guild and Madama Butterfly and Tosca at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden.



**EVELYN LEAR** joins her husband Thomas Stewart in their first joint appearance on any U.S. operatic stage in Tchaikovsky's *Eugene Onegin*. Leading soprano of the Metropolitan and most major European opera houses, Miss Lear started her career in Berlin and was heard for the first time there as the Composer in *Ariadne auf Naxos*. In 1962, she scored a great success as *Lulu* at

the Vienna Festival, having learned the taxing role in just three weeks. She soon made debuts at the Salzburg Festival, at the Vienna State Opera, at Covent Garden and in Frankfurt. During her American debut year, she was heard in Julius Caesar in Kansas City and as Lulu in San Francisco. World-famous as the interpreter of contemporary operas, her large repertoire also includes a great number of standard operatic roles.



MARGARITA LILOVA returns to San Francisco for the role in which she made her American debut here in 1968: Azucena in Il Trovatore. Miss Lilova began singing while still a teenager in her native Bulgaria. As her career grew, she started making guest appearances in many Eastern European countries and in the USSR. Following a 1962 tour of Germany and Austria with the National Opera of Sofia, she made her Covent Garden debut as Amneris in Aida. This role was also the vehicle for her Vienna State Opera debut, the house which she now considers her permanent home. She comes to San Francisco this year following performances of Handel's Xerxes at the Teatro Colon in Buenos Aires, while in October, she will tour the USSR with the Vienna State Opera.



CHARLES MACKERRAS is now in his second year as music director of the Sadler's Wells Opera Company in London. A regular guest conductor at Covent Garden, he started this year's season there by conducting Turandot with Birgit Nilsson, followed by Orfeo ed Euridice. He is also a frequent guest conductor at the Hamburg State Opera. In great demand as an orchestral conductor, he has recently completed a major tour of Australia, during which he gave 26 concerts. He has recorded for most major labels and some of his recent releases included Donizetti's Roberto Devereux, Gluck's Orfeo ed Euridice and Cavalieri's Rappresentazione di Anima e di Corpo.



RAYMOND MANTON was born in New York City but has been a San Francisco resident for many years. In addition to about thirty character portrayals with the San Francisco Opera since his debut in 1955, Manton is often heard in recitals and oratorio performances throughout the Western United States. This year, Manton will be heard as Prince Yamadori in Madama Butterfly, Eisslinger in Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg and Tinca in Il Tabarro.



RAYMOND MICHALSKI studied voice at the Mannes College of Music. He started intensive piano studies at age four, encouraged by a family friend, the great pianist Ignace Paderewski. His operatic debut took place in 1959 in Philadelphia in Bizet's Pearl Fishers. Michalski's repertoire expanded to include a number of standard and contemporary roles, as well as a great number of oratorios. One of the high points of his career was the creation of the role of Alexas in Barber's Antony and Cleopatra, which opened the Metropolitan Opera's new house in Lincoln Center.



ALLAN MONK, a popular member of San Francisco Opera, Spring Opera Theater and Western Opera Theater, is returning for his fourth consecutive season. He was a finalist in the San Francisco Opera Auditions in 1966 and a participant in the Merola Opera Program. Since then, he has sung in more than 300 performances with the Company and its affiliates. Monk's recent activities included the title role in *Don Giovanni* with the Portland Opera and Count Almaviva in the National Centre of Ottawa presentation of *The Marriage of Figaro*. During this coming winter, Monk will make his first extensive recital tour, both in the United States and in his native Canada.



RICHARD MUNDT, now in his first season with San Francisco Opera, was heard as Sparafucile in this year's Spring Opera performances of Rigoletto. He was born in Chicago of Danish parents and spent much of his youth in Copenhagen. Trained in New York and Vienna, he began his opera career in Germany. At the 1967 Spoleto Festival, he sang the bass roles in Haydn's Missa in Tempore Belli, and Dvorak's Te Deum. Most recently, he appeared as guest artist with the Royal Opera in Copenhagen and in a concert version of Beethoven's Fidelio with the Montreal Symphony.



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LUCIANO PAVAROTTI, one of today's most sought-after tenors, started his career as member of the opera chorus in his native Modena. In 1961, he sang his first Rodolfo in La Boheme in Reggio Emilia and soon thereafter established himself in all important Italian opera houses. Today, he sings regularly at London's Covent Garden, Milan's La Scala, at the Metropolitan and Vienna State Opera, as well as in Barcelona, Zürich, Munich, Dublin, Amsterdam and Glyndebourne. A major recording artist, Pavarotti is featured in the complete Beatrice di Tenda, La Fille du Regiment, L'Amico Fritz, as the Italian tenor in Der Rosenkavalier and in the Verdi Reguiem. His most recent recording is Un Ballo in Maschera with Renata Tebaldi.



DONNA PETERSEN is one of the most active performers on the West Coast, having done over 40 roles with San Francisco Opera alone. She has also sung with the San Diego Opera and the Guild Opera in Los Angeles. A frequent soloist with a number of symphony orchestras, Miss Petersen has appeared with the San Francisco and Oakland symphonies, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Honolulu Symphony and many others. A native of Portland, Oregon, she now makes her home in San Francisco.



LEONTYNE PRICE, one of the greatest singers of our age, returns to San Francisco Opera for two roles this fall: Leonora in II Trovatore and Giorgetta in Il Tabarro. While her Leonora is world-famous, she is singing the role of Giorgetta for the first time on any stage. Miss Price's career has been a long and well-known string of successes, starting with a 1952 performance of Falstaff at the Juilliard School of Music. Many of her important debuts happened with the San Francisco Opera-in the 1957 American premiere of Poulenc's Dialogues of the Carmelites, and also as Aida, a role which brought her unequalled fame in years to follow. In 1958, she sang her first Leonora in Il Trovatore here, in 1959 her first Donna Elvira in Don Giovanni, in 1963 her first Leonora in Forza del Destino and in 1965 her first Amelia in Un Ballo in Maschera. Miss Price has been awarded countless awards and honors, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom and the Order of Merit of the Republic of Italy.



JOE PINEDO was a participant of the 1970 San Francisco Opera Auditions and the subsequent Merola Opera Program, during which he won the Karl Kritz Memorial Award. Now in his first season with San Francisco Opera, he will be heard in seven roles. Pinedo is a native of Douglas, Arizona. He attended the University of Arizona School of Music and participated in a number of opera presentations there, including leading roles in La Traviata, Carmen and L'Elisir d'Amore.



JOHN REARDON is hailed by many as one of the finest singing actors on the operatic stage today. During this fall's season, he will portray the demanding role of Dr. Schön in Lulu, thus marking his personal debut in this role as well as his San Fran-cisco Opera debut. Reardon's repertoire includes more than 100 characters, among which are Scarpia, Figaro, Escamillo, Don Giovanni, Count Almaviva and Papageno. It is in operas like The Devils of Loudun and The Bassarids, however, that Reardon earns most of his public and critical raves. A regular member of the New York City Opera, the Metropolitan and Santa Fe Opera, Reardon also frequently sings with other American opera companies. Douglas Moore, Gian Carlo Menotti and Lee Hoiby have written baritone roles in some of their operas for John Reardon.



ARLENE SAUNDERS, leading soprano of the Hamburg Opera, has not been heard in San Francisco since her 1967 debut season. This fall, she returns for the role of Eva in Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg. Miss Saunders received her musical training in her native Ohio, then went to New York. She made her debut as Mimi in La Bohème at the Teatro Nuovo in Milan (1960). The next year she sang Mimi and Giorgetta in Il Tabarro at the New York City Opera, returning a year after for a specially mounted Louise, which proved to be one of the greatest successes of her career. Following that performance she was offered a contract with the Metropolitan and Hamburg Operas. Her San Francisco 1967 debut season consisted of the title role in Louise, Freia in Das Rheingold and Marguerite in Faust. Recently, she sang Eva in Die Meistersinger in the highly acclaimed filmed version of the opera, done by the Hamburg Opera. She has just created

the title role in the world premiere of Ginastera's Beatrix Cenci, performed at the opening of the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C.



ANJA SILJA, San Francisco Opera's Lulu this fall, is one of the foremost interpreters of that role ever. Well-known to local audiences for her searing portrayal of Salome (1968 and 1970), her return in another dramatic role has been eagerly awaited by lovers of opera and theater. Berlin-born Miss Silja started to study singing at the age of seven, had her first recital when she was ten, and at eleven was awarded a prize over 21 adult competitors from the Music Academy. Since then, she has come to be considered one of the best interpreters of taxing and dramatic roles of our day. Her large repertoire includes Marie in Wozzeck, the title role in Elektra, Desdemona in Otello, Isolde in Tristan und Isolde, Cassandra in Les Troyens, the leading role in The Makropulos Case, Jenny in Mahagonny and many others.



THOMAS STEWART made his first professional appearance at the Berlin Opera in 1958 as Escamillo in Carmen. In 1960, he was invited to Bayreuth and sang a triumphant Amfortas in Parsifal. This success led to his international recognition as a first-rate Heldenbariton. He soon started singing the role which he has become so closely associated with: Wotan in Wagner's Ring cycle. He is the only American, and the only baritone other than Hans Hotter, to have sung all four baritone roles of the Ring at Bayreuth. He is also the only American to have sung there for ten consecutive seasons. Stewart sings regularly at the Metropolitan and at most important American and Euro-nean opera stages. With the San Francisco Opera, his roles included Wolfram in Tannhäuser, Wotan in Siegfried, Golaud in Pelleas et Melisande and the title role in Don Giovanni.



OTMAR SUITNER was the choice of the late Wieland Wagner to conduct the entire Ring cycle at Bayreuth in 1966. He led Tannhäuser there in 1964, Der fliegende Holländer in 1965, and the Ring again in 1967. Maestro Suitner was born in Innsbruck, studied at the Salzburg Mozarteum and was a pupil

of the late Clemens Krauss. He became Music Director of the Remscheid Opera in 1952, General Music Director of the Dresden Staatsoper in 1960, and General Music Director of the Berlin Staatsoper in 1964. Suitner has also conducted at La Scala, Venice, Buenos Aires and Stuttgart. During the Vienna State Opera 1972/73 season, he will conduct a new production of Der fliegende Holländer. He made his San Francisco Opera debut in 1969 in the highly successful Götterdämmerung, returning last year for Siegfried and Tristan und Isolde.



DANIEL SULLIVAN, a native of Illinois, has recently completed his first season with Western Opera Theater. His roles included Alidoro in La Cenerentola, Belcore in L'Elisir d'Amore, Betto in Gianni Schicchi and Schaunard in La Bohème. A music graduate of Wesleyan and Northwestern University, Sullivan also studied at the Goldovsky Opera Institute. His first professional appearance was with the Omaha Civic Opera as Valentin in Faust and Silvio in I Pagliacci. During the 1971 Spring Opera Theater season, he sang Ceprano in Rigoletto.



RAGNAR ULFUNG, leading tenor of the Royal Swedish Opera in Stockholm, is a native of Norway. His first appearance with the Oslo Opera was in the title role of Faust. Subsequent engagements there and abroad led to his Stockholm debut in 1958 as Canio in I Pagliacci. His interpretation of Riccardo in Un Ballo in Maschera brought him much acclaim and he was invited to re-create the role throughout Europe, including performances at Covent Garden and at the Edinburgh Festival. He is worldfamous for his character roles, like Herod in Salome and Mime in Wagner's Ring cycle, both of which he has done in San Francisco last year. Most recently, Ulfung sang Herod at Covent Garden and took part in the Wiesbaden and Bayreuth productions of the Ring cycle.



HELEN VANNI is a frequent guest at most major American and European opera houses and concert halls. First heard in San Francisco as Dorabella in Così fan tutte (1963), she returned again in 1965 as the Composer in Ariadne auf Naxos. At the Metropolitan,



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she was heard as Nicklausse in The Tales of Hoffmann and Octavian in Der Rosenkavalier. She also sang frequently with the Santa Fe Opera. Her most recent European role was that of the Composer in Ariadne auf Naxos at this year's Glyndebourne Festival. Her recordings include Bruckner's Te Deum with the Philadelphia Orchestra, Mendelssohn's Midsummer Night's Dream with the Boston Symphony and Schoenberg's Book of the Hanging Gardens.



JOHN WALKER was heard in the Bay Area this spring as Ernesto in widely acclaimed performances of Don Pasquale with Spring Opera Theater. He studied voice at Indiana University and the University of Denver. A three-time winner of the Mack Harrell Award for study in Aspen, he has sung with major opera companies in the United States and Canada. His European engagements include performances with the Berne and Cologne Operas. Walker's recent activities included Don Ottavio in a Portland production of Don Giovanni.



INGVAR WIXELL, a leading artist of the Royal Swedish Opera of Stockholm and the Berlin Deutsche Oper, is one of Europe's most popular baritones. Ever since his 1967 San Francisco Opera debut season, local audiences have claimed him as one of their favorites, too. This year, he returns for his fourth season-as Renato in Un Ballo in Maschera and in three baritone roles of Carmina Burana. Wixell sings regularly at the Salzburg and Bayreuth Festivals, as well as with the Munich Opera, the Hamburg State Opera, Covent Garden and the Copenhagen Opera. His San Francisco roles included Sharpless in Madama Butterfly, Figaro in Il Barbiere di Siviglia, the elder Germont in La Traviata and Don Carlo in La Forza del Destino.

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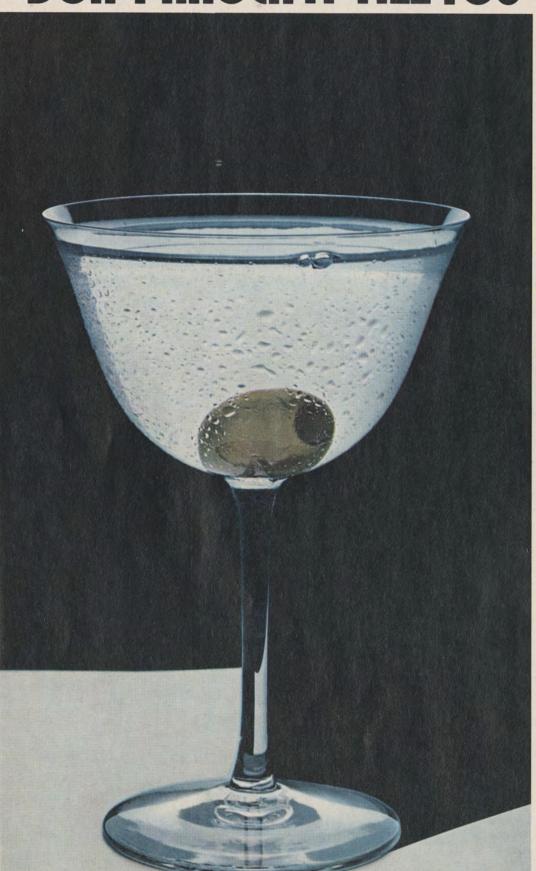
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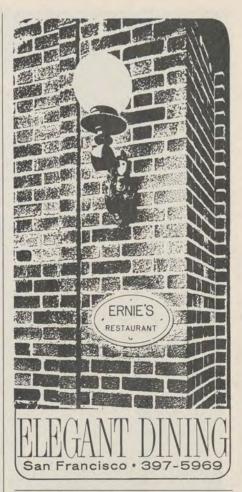
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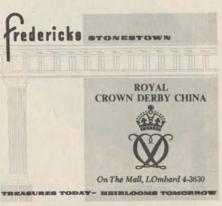
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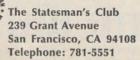
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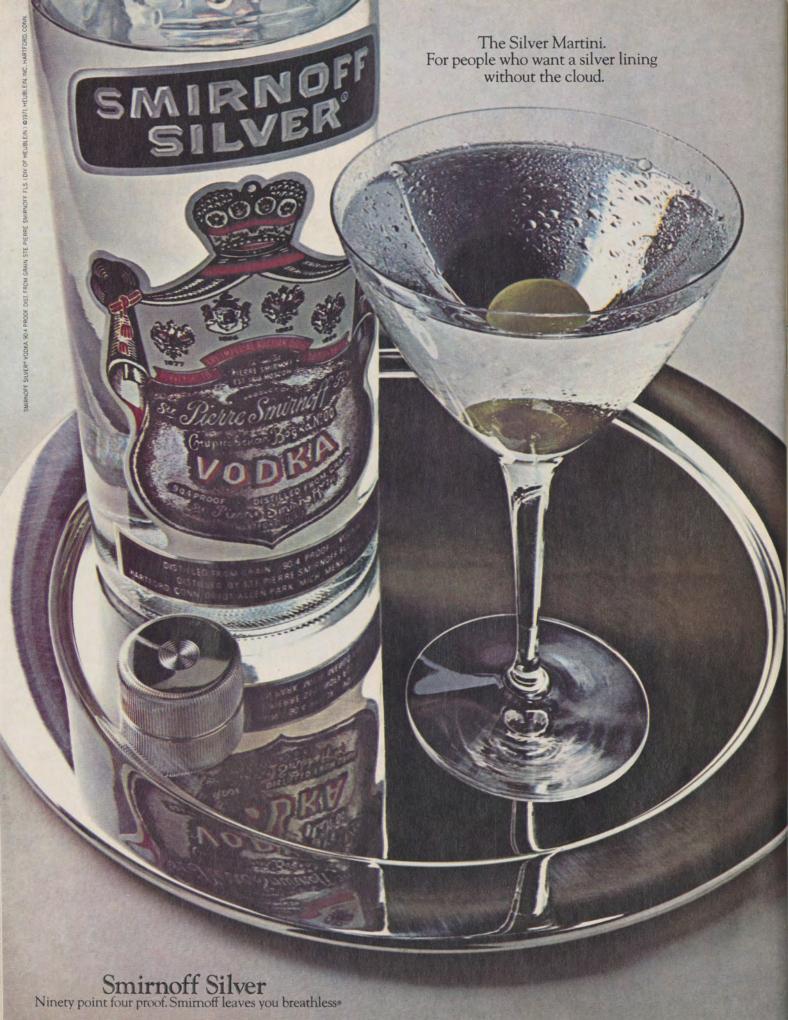
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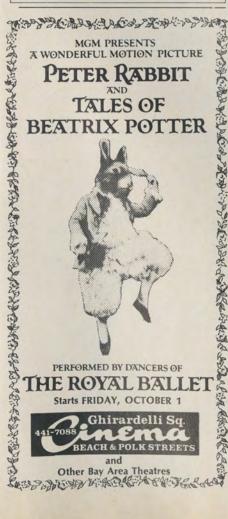
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Has anybody ever seen a dramatic critic in the daytime? Of course not. They come out after dark, up to no good.

- P. G. Wodehouse

Whether we have chosen chisel, pen or brush,

We are but critics, or but half create.

- William Butler Yeats

The good critic is he who narrates the adventures of his soul among masterpieces.

- Henry James

I do not resent criticism, even when, for the sake of emphasis, it parts for the time with reality.

- Sir Winston Churchill

A wise skepticism is the first attribute of a good critic.

- James Russell Lowell

The sheer complexity of writing a play has always dazzled me. In an effort to understand it, I became a critic.

- Kenneth Tynan

A dramatic critic is a newspaper man whose sweetie ran away with an actor.

- Walter Winchell

One doesn't become a critic out of modesty.

- Stanley Kauffmann



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# Ma Perkins' secret was that nothing happened on her program.

FIBBER (OFF-MIKE): I know where that book is, Molly. Right here in the hall closet!

How do you do, ladies and gentlemen. This is Bob "Mosquito Network" Hope. Well, here we are on this beautiful South Pacific island . . . Wait till I see that Dorothy Lamour. What a lie!

I really hope you'll enjoy our show today . . . I know you'll enjoy the girls. You remember . . . girls?! On some of the islands we've been to these girls have been the first to land. Won't Eleanor be mad, huh?

We've had a fast flying trip up to now...It was so rough the automatic pilot bailed out...

Other countries, countries that can afford it far less than we can, do not force their arts and entertainments to run in the black. But in America, with the possible exception of the Lockheed Corporation, if it doesn't show a profit we do without it. And radio started bouncing belly-up as soon as the profits started moving to TV.

After all, the radio people and the TV people were the same people. And it hardly took genius to see there was more money in TV than radio. Lots more. In programming. In advertising.

And in selling sets to the then 150 million Americans (in 1950 a table-model TV went for 500 zops).

An advertiser is interested in reaching the most people for the least money. So when the most people started watching television the advertisers moved their commercials to TV and radio was the casualty. (Not the only casualty. Twenty years ago there were five daily newspapers in San Francisco and Los Angeles, eight dailies in New York.)

The first shows to go — as a genre — were the kid shows. The serials. The kids were the first audience to give up radio for TV: Captain Video, Howdy Doody, Hoppy, Gorgeous George and Dangerous Danny Mc-Shane. By 1950 Captain Midnight and Jack Armstrong were gone. Tom Mix had ridden into his last sunset, Superman wasn't, and at last Buck Rogers met Killer Kane face-to-face and

"And now . . . Helen Trent. The story that asks the question . . . can a woman over 35 find happiness?"

whomped the heck out of him for six solid minutes on the last episode of that series.

The last kid shows on radio were Bobby Benson of the B-Bar-B (it was the H-Bar-O until the oatmeal people dropped the show) and Sergeant Preston of the Yukon. They both went off the air in 1955. That year Sergeant



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NOT GOOD SATURDAYS

# "And remember, gang, you can use your shake-up mug for years"

Preston ran the most successful premium promotion ever. Bigger than Jack Armstrong's Norden Bombsight, bigger than Captain Midnight's Key-O-Matic Code-O-Graph, bigger than Little Orphan Annie's Ovaltine mug. The good sergeant gave away square inches of land in the Yukon. By the millions. For a dime and a boxtop.

Now as howling winds echo across the snow-covered reaches of the wild northwest, the Quaker Oats Company, makers of Quaker Puffed Wheat (GUNSHOT) and Quaker Puffed Rice, the delicious cereals shot from guns (GUNSHOT, GUNSHOT) . . . present Sergeant Preston of the Yukon!

Have you tried Wheaties?

They're whole wheat with all of the bran.

Won't you try Wheaties?

For wheat is the best food of man. They're crispy and crunchy the whole year through,

Jack Armstrong never tires of them and neither will you . . .

And remember, gang, you can use your shake-up mug for years because it isn't made of ordinary glass or breakable china, but of a special, sturdy, durable, hard-to-break plastic!

The big-budget music and comedy shows went next. Many made the move to TV without so much as a change in format or cast: Jack Benny, Burns and Allen, Your Hit Parade.

Then the mysteries. The Green Hornet. Lights Out. Inner Sanctum. The Whistler. Nick Carter. Philo Vance. Ellery Queen. Mr. Keen, Tracer of Lost Persons (whose theme was "Someday I'll Find You").

To be fair, the last real radio programs on the air were mysteries, two CBS-owned properties, Suspense and Yours Truly, Johnny Dollar. The man with the action-packed expense account. Dollar's last case was "The Tip-Off Matter." The last "tale well calculated to keep you in . . ." was called "Devilstone." The production values were long gone. No audience, no live orchestra. The shows died September 30, 1962. It had been a slow death. The web didn't even give them a "this was the final program . . ." on-air epitaph.



The shows that went off when they went off were the soap operas. After all, they had been weaving and reweaving the same plots for almost 30 years. Now, maybe, they could end.

In 1941 there were soap operas on the air every 15 minutes from ten in the morning to 5:30 in the evening. Through most of the day there were two and sometimes three soaps on the air at the same time on different networks.

Amanda of Honeymoon Hill. The story of a young girl . . . laid against the tapestry of the deep south. Honest.

The soaps projected the fantasies of America's middle-class women. Or, then again, they created those fantasies. To listen is to understand Ti-Grace Atkinson and gain respect for Germaine Greer.

And now . . . Helen Trent. The story that asks the question . . . can a woman over 35 find happiness?

Not that Helen tried very hard. She told one fiancé that the fact she wore his engagement ring didn't give him the right to hold her hand. It finally got to, well, someone. Someone who had access to an open mike somewhere on the CBS hookup.

GIL WHITNEY: Helen . . . What about us? Don't I mean anything to you anymore?

HELEN TRENT: Gil, I don't know what to say to you . . .

GIL WHITNEY: My darling, my darling . . . what can I do?

ANONYMOUS VOICE: Ah, for Chrissakes, lay the dame and get it over with.

When 'CBS killed Helen Trent in 1960 she had agreed to marry a reform politico name of John (his last name has been lost). She was, then, a woman over 62. And still a virgin.

ABC dropped radio drama in 1957. NBC held on till 1959, One Man's Family's last was Chapter 30, Book 134. But NBC had dropped its soaps in 1956, dropped Just Plain Bill, Lorenzo Jones, Stella Dallas and Young Widder Brown who finally, finally . . . I want

to be Mrs. Anthony Loring more than anything else in the world. I love you, Anthony, and I will marry you. Hold me, just hold me close (PAUSE) and don't ever let me go.

It only took him 18 years.

CBS kept its soaps going until November 25, 1960. The day after Thanksgiving. The day, I think, radio died.

The Couple Next Door packed up and moved away.

The Second Mrs. Burton, Terry was her name, finally gets Mother Burton's OK.

Carolyn, the principal on *The Right To Happiness* had, in 21 years, killed one husband, divorced one, and gave birth to a child while doing time in the state pen. In November, 1960, her last words were: "Happiness doesn't lie in regretting the past . . . Happiness depends on our relationships with those we love."

Young Dr. Malone went off the air that day. So did Whispering Streets. And Ma Perkins said goodbye.

Ma Perkins' secret was that nothing happened on her program. Ever. She once went through 11 episodes (that's into three weeks) deciding whether or not to open a rather suspicious package. The package, listeners knew, contained a poisonous snake. One touch meant certain death. But Ma was destined to die by the hand of Milton Berle.

broadcasts—27 years—we say goodbye to Ma Perkins.

Today radio, as an industry, is alive and well. And some radio, underground non-network FM rockers like KPPC, programs more imaginatively than radio has ever been programmed. One day we might see a rebirth of radio drama. But it will be new drama for a new audience.

Old radio is dead. And so are our childhoods. And that world we grew up in when, like the bumpersticker says, "the air was clean and sex was dirty."

The shame is not so much that it is gone, but that it is forgotten.

Terry Bradshaw is, as Dandy Don Meredith might say, a pretty fair country quarterback. Last year was his first season in the NFL. He is about 22, blonde, tall, muscular, doesn't drink, smoke, or swear. His "attitude," a big football word these days, is as bright as Candide's. One sportswriter said Terry Bradshaw was like Jack Armstrong grown up. Terry Bradshaw asked "Who is Jack Armstrong?"

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