

Opera in the Park

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SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE OPERA IN THE PARK
33rd ANNIVERSARY

Sunday, September 10, 2006, 1:30pm

Sharon Meadow, Golden Gate Park

Sopranos: Christine Brewer, Anna Christy, Mary Dunleavy, Christine Goerke,
Melody Moore, Jennifer Welch-Babidge; Mezzo-soprano: Tichina Vaughn
Countertenor: Gerald Thompson; Tenor: Vale Rideout
Baritones: Wolfgang Brendel, Paolo Gavanelli, Brian Leerhuber; Bass: Kristinn Sigmundsson
with Donald Runnicles, Music Director and Principal Conductor, conducting
the San Francisco Opera Orchestra
Kay Stern, Concertmaster

Master of Ceremonies: David Gockley, General Director of San Francisco Opera

2'00 THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER Orchestra

8'00 DIE FLEDERMAUS J. Strauss, Jr.
Overture Orchestra

2' 10 A MASKED BALL Verdi
Volta la terrea Anna Christy

Oscar, a playful young page boy, cheerfully speaks up in defense of the fortune-teller Ulrica, who is accused of subversion.

4' 10 CARMEN Bizet
Habanera Tichina Vaughn

The sultry gypsy Carmen warns that "love is like an untamed bird," and anyone who loves her and wishes to be loved in return should be on his guard.

6' 20 RIGOLETTO Verdi
Caro nome Mary Dunleavy

Gilda has fallen in love with the Duke, who tells her he is a penniless student named Gualtier Maldè. Rapturously she sings of his "dear name," the first to make her heart skip a beat.

5' 20 DIE FLEDERMAUS J. Strauss, Jr.
Adele's Laughing Song: "My dear Marquis" Jennifer Welch-Babidge

The chambermaid Adele has secretly borrowed one of her mistress's fancy gowns and sneaked off to Prince Orlofsky's party. Recognized by her master, the clever Adele laughs her way out of a ticklish situation.

7'45" DON GIOVANNI Mozart
Non mi dir Christine Brewer

Donna Anna insists on postponing her wedding to Don Ottavio because of her father's death. "Do not say that I am cruel," she pleads, "for you know how much I love you . . . and one day Heaven will be kind to me."

5'00 THE BARBER OF SEVILLE Rossini
La calunnia Kristinn Sigmundsson

The crafty Don Basilio explains how a slanderous rumor can destroy an enemy, starting as a whisper that gradually grows into a roaring explosion, leaving the hapless opponent lying crushed in the dust.

9'45 All'idea di quel metallo Vale Rideout and Brian Leerhuber

Count Almaviva offers Figaro a handsome sum to help him devise a way to visit his young sweetheart Rosina, who is closely guarded. A born schemer, Figaro suggests disguising the Count as a drunken soldier.

INTERMISSION

48 min first half

- 11'00 DER ROSENKAVALIER R. Strauss
Orchestral Suite
- 6'00 TANNHÄUSER Wagner
Dich, teure Halle Christine Goerke
Hearing that her beloved Tannhäuser will return at last to the Hall of Song, the site of his many past triumphs in singing contests, Elisabeth enters the hall and greets it with exuberant joy.
- 5'45' ANDREA CHÉNIER Giordano
Nemico della patria Paolo Gavanelli
The French revolutionary Gérard prepares an indictment against the prisoner Chénier as an "enemy of his country." Disillusioned, Gérard voices his regret that the revolution's cruelty has shattered his ideals.
- 2'15' MANON LESCAUT Puccini
In quelle trine morbide Melody Moore
Unable to resist the allure of wealth, Manon has abandoned young Chevalier des Grieux for an elderly aristocrat. But amid the luxury of "soft curtains and gilded furniture," she still longs for the passionate embrace of her true love.
- 6'00 DIE FLEDERMAUS J. Strauss, Jr.
Watch Duet: "How engaging!" Christine Goerke and Wolfgang Brendel
Gabriel von Eisenstein attends Prince Orlofsky's masquerade party pretending to be a French Marquis. Using his foolproof watch as bait, Eisenstein woos a masked "Hungarian Countess"--actually his own wife Rosalinde in disguise.
- [3'00] ST. LOUIS WOMAN Arlen
Come Rain or Come Shine Christine Brewer
- 2' 30 DIE FLEDERMAUS
Champagne Couplets J. Strauss, Jr. The Cast of *Die Fledermaus*
Prince Orlofsky's party guests take turns extolling the delights of "King Champagne."
- [encore]
2'30" LA TRAVIATA Verdi
Libiamo ne'lieti calici Mary Dunleavy, Vale Rideout, and Tutti

42'00 min second half

87 min total music