Kát'a Kabanová (Katya Kabanova)

1983

Saturday, September 24, 1983 8:00 PM Friday, September 30, 1983 8:00 PM Tuesday, October 4, 1983 8:00 PM Friday, October 7, 1983 8:00 PM Sunday, October 9, 1983 2:00 PM Wednesday, October 12, 1983 7:30 PM

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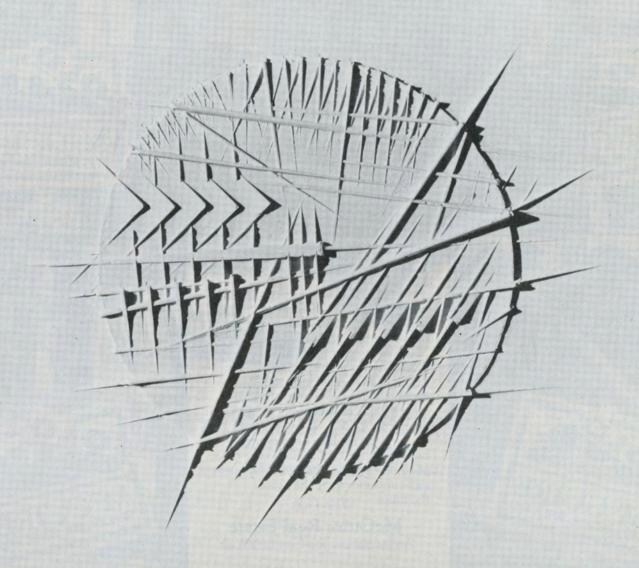
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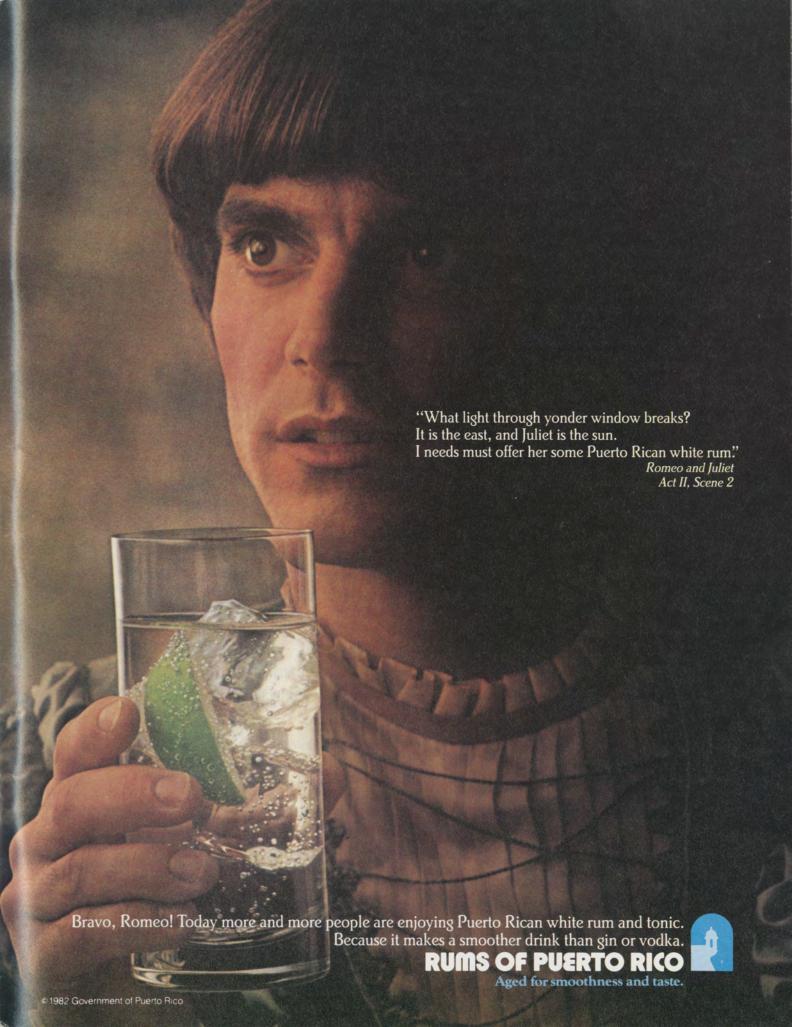
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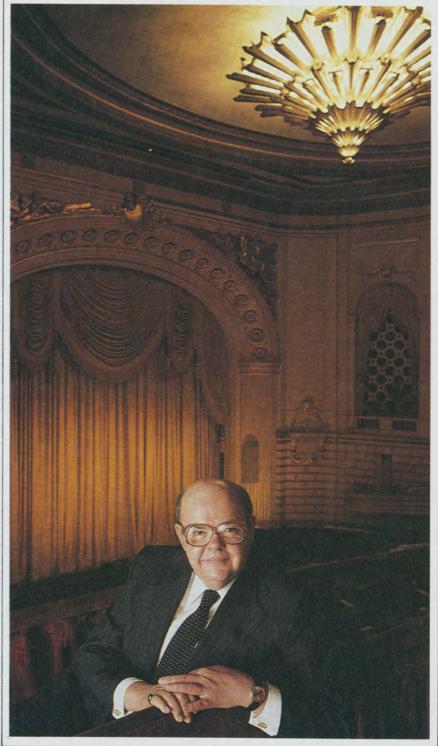


General Director's Message

Although you see my picture on this page every season and although "the buck stops" at my desk, the San Francisco Opera is very much a team effort. This season, which is particularly heavy for our Technical Department, our Chorus, our Orchestra, and many other departments, makes me particularly aware of this fact and I want to share it with you.

From the technical standpoint, rehearsing and performing as many as five complex productions simultaneously is a heroic task. Matching this undertaking, the musical and artistic staff must contract artists and then plan the long and equally intricate rehearsals months in advance and yet manage to face daily crises with calm, control and even humor. The Orchestra, Chorus, Ballet and Supers are tackling some of their heaviest schedules ever and are handling them with the utmost professionalism. To keep the machinery running, the Development Department endeavors to raise more money. The Public Relations, Marketing and Subscription/Box Office Departments try to sell more tickets and inform an ever increasing audience of our myriad activities. The bottom line is that the conjunction of our summer and fall seasons extends our rehearsal/performance period from April through December. With basically the same number of staff we had before the inauguration of our first Summer Festival in 1981, we are handling a greatly expanded operation. I am glad to report that it is being done with remarkable flexibility, endurance and camaraderie. The 12- to 15hour days (often seven days a week) necessitate this sustained, maximum effort from all sectors of the Company, and I am very proud of all of my colleagues and employees at the San Francisco Opera who have borne this extra stress.

On a separate page of this book, our President, Walter M. Baird, states the hope that you can increase your support of the San Francisco Opera. May I echo that request while assuring you that there is no finer or more qualified organization you could support. Opera is the most complex and irrational of art forms. It is also, when done as it should be, uniquely satisfying and uplifting. We pledge to continue to make it so.



on Schor

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San Francisco Oera Terence A. McEwen, General Director

KATYA KABANOVA **FALL SEASON 1983**

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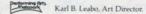
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From the President...



NOTHER Fall Season is upon us, that magical time when the performing and visual arts converge to create the most opulent of art forms, opera. We hope that this season is as exciting and special to you as it is to us; the enthusiastic response we have had at the box office would seem to indicate that it is.

Our general director has made it clear since his arrival that one of our highest priorities must be production funding. The world-famous singers who grace our stage and the technical crews that back them up bring us their own unique talents, but it is up to San Francisco Opera to provide the beautiful physical productions that show these artists off to best advantage. We have been fortu-

nate in the generosity shown by our patrons in funding a number of our fall productions, both new and revivals.

Heading the list must be that very special event, the American premiere of Sir Michael Tippett's *The Midsummer Marriage*, which has been made possible through the generosity of the Paul L. and Phyllis Wattis Foundation. Mrs. Wattis has given us a real jewel, and our gratitude cannot be adequately expressed here.

Three of the five productions owned by San Francisco Opera and revived for this season were the result of donor generosity in the seasons of their premieres. Our *Traviata* was made possible in part through a donation from the Charles E. Merrill Trust in 1969; our *Gioconda* was born in 1979 through the generosity of an anonymous friend of the San Francisco Opera and a gift from the San Francisco Opera Guild; and *Samson et Dalila*, first seen here in 1980, was jointly produced for San Francisco Opera and the Lyric Opera of Chicago with a gift from the Gramma Fisher Foundation of Marshalltown, Iowa.

Revivals, of course, also require funding, and this year's revival of *Otello* was made possible by a gift from Bernard and Barbro Osher.

Financial asistance is also crucial for productions borrowed from other companies. This year's *Manon Lescaut*, owned by the Greater Miami Opera Association and the Dallas Opera, is being seen for the first time by San Francisco Opera audiences thanks to funding provided by The Koret Foundation.

All of these contributions are a blessing to us: they reflect confidence in the artistic stature of our Company, while augmenting our reputation by making possible productions new to our audiences as well as revivals of some of our past successes. Patronage is truly the backbone of any major arts organization, and we enthusiastically welcome any individuals or groups who wish to join the elite company of the donors listed above.

Despite all of the special grants and production fundings, we must depend on thousands of our supporters for their contributions. Grand opera of the quality produced by our Company is the most expensive performing art form in existence, and in recent years we have incurred significant deficits. Ticket sales cover only between 50 to 55 percent of our operating costs; the remainder must come from other sources, and the biggest single source is our annual fund drive. If you are not an annual contributor, won't you please join the many thousands who help us with a contribution? If you are a current contributor, please accept our thanks with the hope that you will consider an increase this year.

In additon, we would like to extend our gratitude to the National Endowment for the Arts, the California Arts Council, the Hotel Tax Fund, Mayor Dianne Feinstein, Chief Administrative Officer Roger Boas, the City and County of San Francisco, the San Francisco Opera Guild, and the War Memorial Board of Trustees. Our friends are many; the value of their assistance, inestimable. —WALTER M. BAIRD



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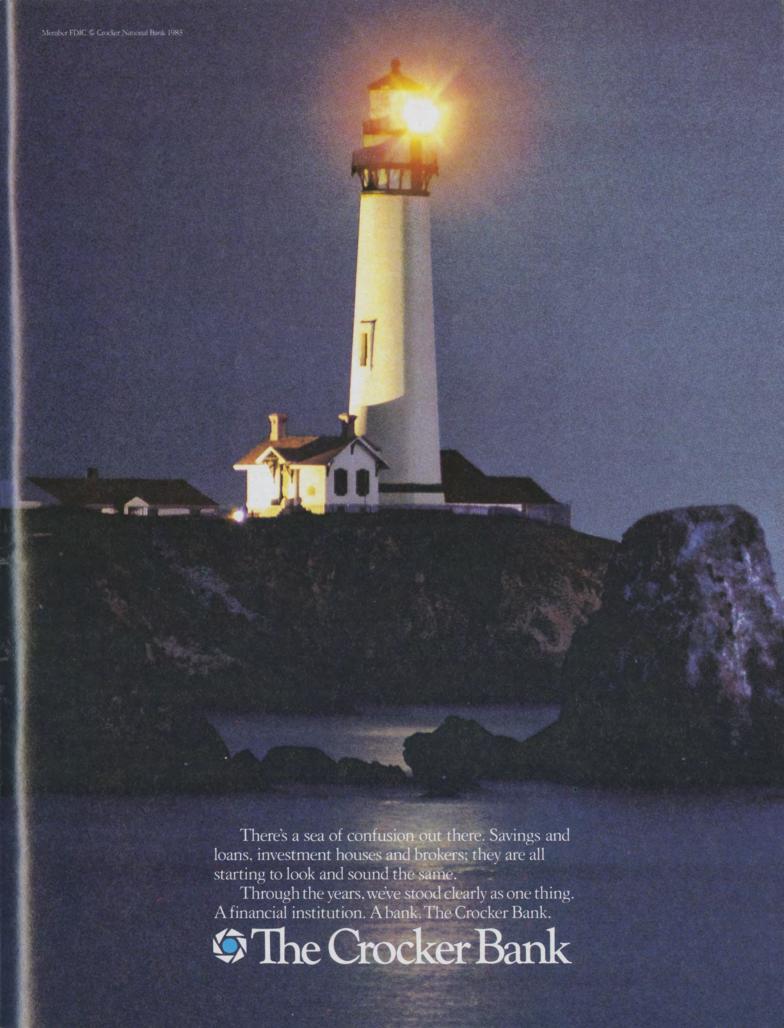
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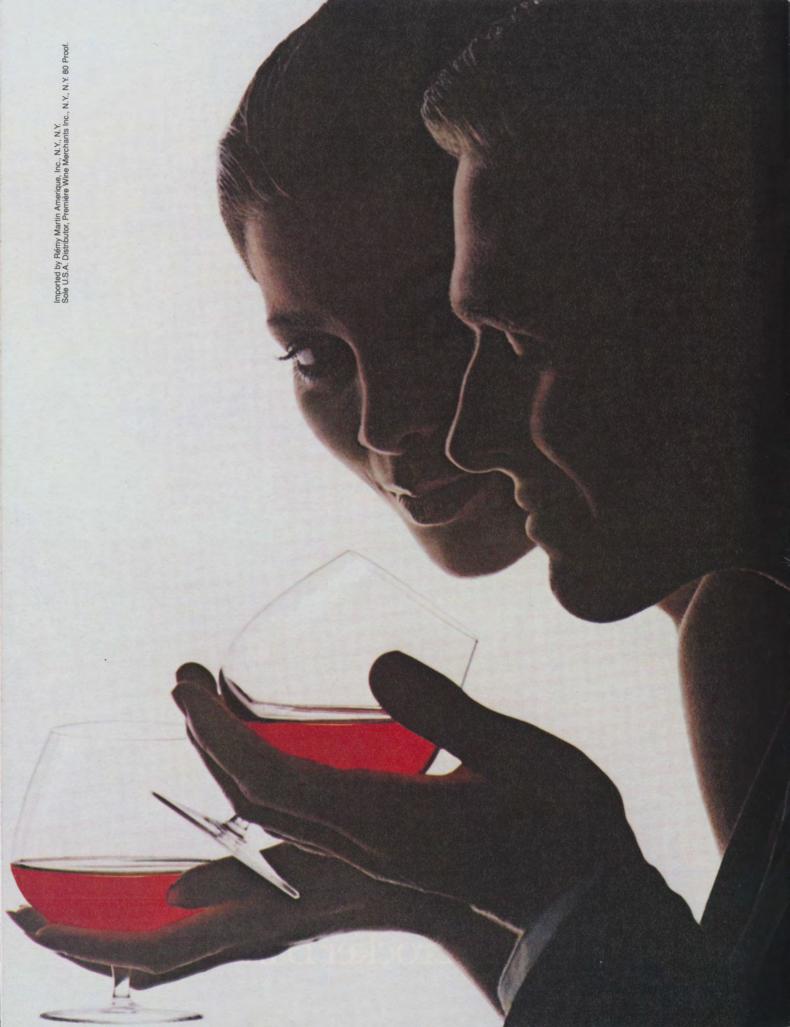
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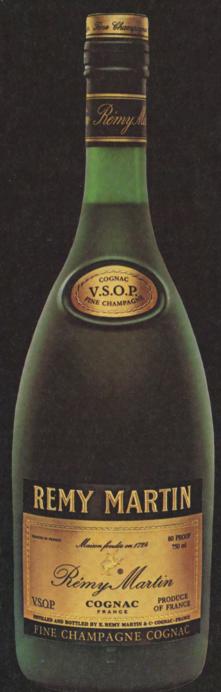
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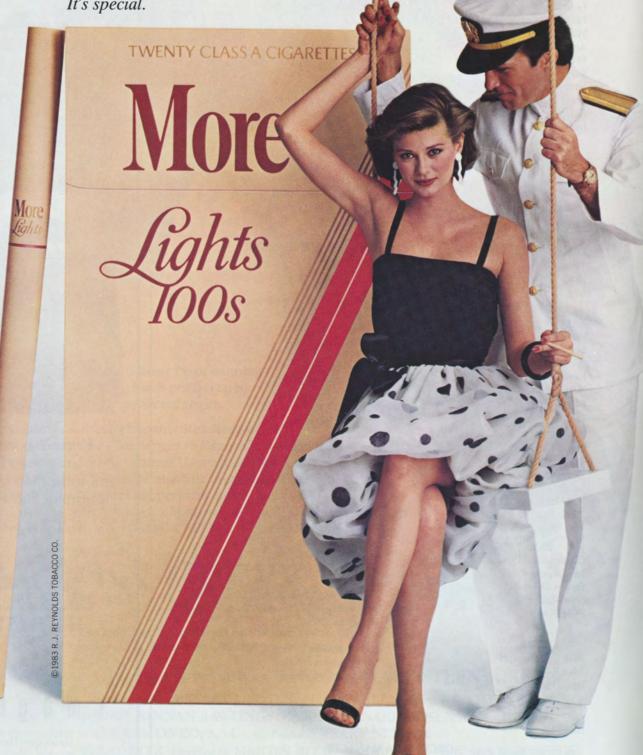


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1983 Fall Opera Previews

Information on opera previews and lectures is carried in San Francisco Opera Magazine in order to enable patrons to make advance plans. The following is a list of previews and lectures that are open to the public.

SAN FRANCISCO OPERA GUILD

Opera "Insights" held in the Herbst Theatre, Veterans Building, Van Ness and McAllister, in San Francisco. All panel discussions begin at 6 p.m.; doors open at 5:30 p.m. Series subscription for Guild members is \$12; Non-Guild member \$18; Individual tickets are \$4. For further information, please call (415) 565-6432. Programs subject to rehearsal schedules.

Kathleen Battle/Walter Berry	9/14
Evelyn Lear	9/20
Anja Silja/Christoph von Dohnányi	9/27
John Copley/Robin Don	10/12
Mirella Freni/Nicolai Ghiaurov	12/1

SAN FRANCISCO OPERA GUILD PREVIEWS

MARIN

Previews held at Park School Auditorium, 360 East Blithedale, Mill Valley; refreshments served at 7:30 p.m., previews at 8:00 p.m. Series registration is \$17.50 for 6 previews (\$15.00 for students and seniors). Single tickets are \$3.50 (\$3.00 for students and seniors). For further information, please call (415) 388-6789.

9/8
9/15
10/13
11/3
11/10
11/17

NORTH PENINSULA

Previews held at The Central Park Book Store, 32 East 4th Ave., San Mateo. Lectures begin at 7:30 p.m. Series registration is \$20.00; single tickets are \$5.00. For further information, please call (415) 593-2935.

call (415) 593-2935.	
KATYA KABANOVA Eugene Marker	9/15
THE MIDSUMMER MARRIAGE James Keolker	10/6
LA GRANDE DUCHESSE Jan Popper	10/20
BORIS GODUNOV Blanche Thebom	11/3



Ron Scherl

SOUTH PENINSULA

Previews held at the Palo Alto Senior Center, 450 Bryant Street, at 8:00 p.m. (with the exception of 10/27, which will be held at the Palo Alto Cultural Center, 1313 Newell Road). Series registration is \$18.00; single tickets are \$4.00. For further information, please call (415) 941-3890.

Arthur Kaplan	9/1
THE MIDSUMMER MARRIAGE James Keolker	10/1
SAMSON ET DALILA Blanche Thebom	10/18
LA GRANDE DUCHESSE Jan Popper	10/2
MANON LESCAUT Arthur Kaplan	11/8
BORIS GODUNOV Blanche Thebom	11/15

SAN JOSE OPERA GUILD

Previews will be held at the Saratoga Community Center, 19655 Allendale Avenue, Saratoga. All lectures are on Thursday mornings at 10:30. Series is open to the public at a cost of \$4.00 per lecture, \$3.00 for students and senior citizens (free of charge to San Jose Opera Guild members). For further information, please call (408) 741-1331 or (408) 354-7525.

(408) 741-1331 or (408) 354-7525.	
ARIADNE AUF NAXOS Dale Harris	9/8
KATYA KABANOVA Arthur Kaplan	9/13
OTELLO James Keolker	9/22
THE MIDSUMMER MARRIAGE James Keolker	9/29
SAMSON ET DALILA Blanche Thebom	10/6
MANON LESCAUT Arthur Kaplan	10/13
LA GIOCONDA Blanche Thebom	10/20
BORIS GODUNOV James Keolker	10/27
Junico Accounce	10/2

JUNIOR LEAGUE OPERA PREVIEWS

All Junior League opera previews will be held in Herbst Theatre in the Veterans Building, Van Ness at McAllister. Lectures begin at 11 a.m. There is no admission charge. For information, please call Joni Settlemier at (415) 922-7100.

ARIADNE AUF NAXOS Dale Harris	9/7
KATYA KABANOVA Michael Barclay	9/14
THE MIDSUMMER MARRIAGE James Keolker	10/5
LA GRANDE DUCHESSE Jan Popper	11/2
MANON LESCAUT Arthur Kaplan	11/9
BORIS GODUNOV Blanche Thebom	11/15

NAPA OPERA LECTURE SERIES

For the 11th year there will be a 10-week course called "Adventures in Opera" in Napa. The course, which accompanies the Saturday and Sunday series at the San Francisco Opera, will be held at 7:30 in St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 1917 Third Street, in Napa. Ernest Fly will again teach the course. Cost for the entire series will be \$20.00. Individual lectures will be \$3.00. For further information, please call Mr. Fly at (707) 224-6162.

OTELLO	9/8
ARIADNE AUF NAXOS	9/15
KATYA KABANOVA	9/22

Francisco

AY AREA radio audiences will have three opportunities to hear each of nine broadcasts selected from the 1982 Summer Festival and Fall Seasons. These repeat broadcasts, produced by San Francisco Opera in cooperation with KOED-FM, will also be heard nationwide on member stations of National Public Radio and other selected stations throughout the country. Recipient of the 1980 George Foster Peabody Award, the 1982 broadcasts were originally made possible in part by grants from Standard Oil of California and the Chevron companies, R.J. Reynolds Industries, and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

Local broadcasts will be on the traditional Friday evenings at 8 p.m. and Saturday mornings at 11 a.m., with the exception noted below. The broadcasts may also be heard Saturdays at 1:30 p.m. on KCSM, 91.1 FM, beginning October 8 (all times listed are Pacific Time).

9/30 Julius Caesar Norma 10/14 The Barber of Seville 10/21 Turandot 10/28 The Marriage of Figaro 11/4 La Cenerentola 11/11 Cendrillon 11/18 Lohengrin (Saturday at 10 a.m on KQED-FM) 11/25 The Queen of Spades

For broadcast times outside the Bay Area, contact your local NPR station or consult local listings. Executive producer for the San Francisco Opera broadcasts is Robert Walker; producer, Marilyn Mercur. Gene Parrish is host, and Fred Krock the audio engineer.

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1983 Fall Season

Opening Night Friday, September 9, 7:00 Otello Verdi

The revival of this production has been made possible by a much-appreciated grant from Bernard and Barbro Osher.

M. Price, Richards/Cossutta, Carroli, Davies, Halfvarson, MacNeil, Will, MacAllister Janowski*/Ponnelle/Asagaroff/Ponnelle/Munn

Saturday, September 10, 8:00 Production New To San Francisco

Ariadne auf Naxos Strauss

Production owned by the Metropolitan Opera Association, Inc. and made possible by a generous and deeply appreciated gift from Mr. Francis Goelet.

Plowright* (September 10, 13, 17, 21), Reppel** (September 25, 28; October 2), Battle, Quittmeyer, Parrish*, Swenson, Rice/Bailey (September 10, 13, 17), Johns (September 21, 25, 28; October 2), Berry, Titus, Langan, Gordon, Kelley*, Tate, Matthews*, Patterson, Stitt*, Reinhardt

Von Dohnányi/Neugebauer*/Messel*/ Greenwood/Munn

Monday, September 12, 8:00 Otello Verdi

Tuesday, September 13, 8:00 Ariadne auf Naxos Strauss

Thursday, September 15, 7:30 Otello Verdi

Saturday, September 17, 8:00 Ariadne auf Naxos Strauss

Sunday, September 18, 2:00

Otello Verdi Wednesday, September 21, 8:00

Ariadne auf Naxos Strauss

Friday, September 23, 8:00 Otello Verdi

Saturday, September 24, 8:00 Katya Kabanova Janáček

Silja, Lear, Rice, C. Cook*, Bruno/Jobin, Belcourt, Devlin, Kunde*, Matthews, MacAllister, Von Dohnányi/Freedman/ Schneider-Siemssen/Walek/Munn

Sunday, September 25, 2:00 Ariadne auf Naxos Strauss

Tuesday, September 27, 8:00 Otello Verdi

Wednesday, September 28, 7:30 Ariadne auf Naxos Strauss

Friday, September 30, 8:00

Katya Kabanova Janáček

Saturday, October 1, 8:00

Otello Verdi

Sunday, October 2, 2:00 Ariadne auf Naxos Strauss

Tuesday, October 4, 8:00

Katya Kabanova Janáček

Wednesday, October 5, 7:30

La Traviata Verdi

This production made possible in part through a donation from the Charles E. Merrill Trust

Ricciarelli, Gustafson, Bruno/Cupido**, Nucci*, Tate, Matthews, MacAllister, Patterson, Thomas, Will Bradshaw/Farruggio/Businger/

Friday, October 7, 8:00

Katya Kabanova Janáček

Saturday, October 8, 8:00

La Traviata Verdi

Gladstein*/Munn

Sunday, October 9, 2:00 Katya Kabanova Janáček

Tuesday, October 11, 8:00

La Traviata Verdi

Wednesday, October 12, 7:30

Katya Kabanova Janáček

Friday, October 14, 8:00 La Traviata Verdi

Saturday, October 15, 8:00 American Premiere

The Midsummer Marriage Tippett

This new production made possible through the generosity of the Paul L. and Phyllis Wattis Foundation.

Johnson, Greenawald, Nadler, Richards/ Bailey, Davies, Herincx, Langan Agler/Copley/Don**/Gilbert**/Munn

Tuesday, October 18, 8:00 La Traviata Verdi

Wednesday, October 19, 8:00 The Midsummer Marriage Tippett

Thursday, October 20, 8:00

Samson et Dalila Saint-Saëns

This production made possible by and produced through the cooperation of the

Gramma Fisher Foundation of Marshalltown, Iowa, The Lyric Opera of Chicago and the San Francisco Opera.

Horne/Chauvet, Quilico, Del Carlo, Langan, Thomas, Will, Tate Fournet/Ioël/Schmidt/Robbins/Gladstein/Munn

Friday, October 21, 8:00 La Traviata Verdi

Saturday, October 22, 2:00 Family Matinee

La Traviata Verdi

Vanelli*, C. Cook, Bruno/MacNeil, Woodman, Thomas, Will, MacAllister, Patterson Cathcart*/Zambello*/Businger/Gladstein/Munn

Sunday, October 23, 2:00

The Midsummer Marriage Tippett

Tuesday, October 25, 8:00 Samson et Dalila Saint-Saëns

Wednesday, October 26, 7:30

The Midsummer Marriage Tippett

Thursday, October 27, 8:00

La Traviata Verdi

Friday, October 28, 8:00 Samson et Dalila Saint-Saëns

Saturday, October 29, 8:00

The Midsummer Marriage Tippett

Sunday, October 30, 2:00

La Traviata Verdi

Tuesday, November 1, 8:00

The Midsummer Marriage Tippett

Wednesday, November 2, 7:30 Samson et Dalila Saint-Saëns

Saturday, November 5, 8:00

Samson et Dalila Saint-Saëns

Sunday, November 6, 2:00 San Francisco Opera Premiere

La Grande Duchesse de Gérolstein Offenbach

Crespin, Erickson, Parrish, Swenson, Bruno, C. Cook/Raffalli**, Trempont**, Corazza,

Matthews, Tate Soustrot**/Ducasse**/Monloup**/ Sakellariou/Munn

Tuesday, November 8, 8:00

La Grande Duchesse de Gérolstein Offenbach

Wednesday, November 9, 8:00 Samson et Dalila Saint-Saëns



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Friday, November 11, 7:30 La Gioconda Ponchielli

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Caballé (November 11, 15, 20, 24), Slatinaru** (November 27, 30; December 3), Paunova*, Nadler/Bonisolli, Manuguerra, Kavrakos*, MacAllister, Thomas, Patterson, Woodman Meltzer/Mansouri, Thompson/Brown/ Sulich/Munn

Saturday, November 12, 8:00 La Grande Duchesse de Gérolstein Offenbach

Sunday, November 13, 2:00 Samson et Dalila Saint-Saëns

Tuesday, November 15, 7:30 La Gioconda Ponchielli

Wednesday, November 16, **7:30 La Grande Duchesse de Gérolstein** Offenbach

Thursday, November 17, 8:00 Production New To San Francisco

Manon Lescaut Puccini

Production owned by Greater Miami Opera Association and Dallas Opera.

The revival of this production has been made possible by a much-appreciated grant from The Koret Foundation.

Freni, Bruno/Mauro, Sardinero, Capecchi, MacNeil, MacAllister, Gordon, Will, Thomas Arena*/Asagaroff/Klein/Arhelger*

Saturday, November 19, 8:00

La Grande Duchesse de Gérolstein Offenbach

Sunday, November 20, 1:30 La Gioconda Ponchielli

Tuesday, November 22, 8:00 Manon Lescaut Puccini

Wednesday, November 23, 7:30 Production New To San Francisco Boris Godunov Mussorgsky

Production owned by the Metropolitan Opera Association, Inc. This production made possible by a generous and deeply appreciated gift from Mrs. DeWitt Wallace.

Troyanos, Swenson, Petersen, Richards/Ghiaurov, Ochman, Belcourt, Tomlinson*, Del Carlo, Langan, Gordon, Tate, Woodman, MacAllister, Matthews, Will, Patterson Janowski/Everding/Kneuss*/Lee/Hall/ Sulich/Munn

Thursday, November 24, 7:30 La Gioconda Ponchielli

Friday, November 25, 2:00 Special Holiday Weekend Matinee La Grande Duchesse de Gérolstein Offenbach

Friday, November 25, 8:00 Manon Lescaut Puccini

Saturday, November 26, 7:30 Boris Godunov Mussorgsky

Sunday, November 27, 1:30

La Gioconda Ponchielli

Monday, November 28, 8:00 Manon Lescaut Puccini

Wednesday, November 30, 7:30 La Gioconda Ponchielli

Thursday, December 1, 8:00

La Grande Duchesse de Gérolstein Offenbach

Friday, December 2, 7:30 Boris Godunov Mussorgsky

Saturday, December 3, 7:30

La Gioconda Ponchielli

Sunday, December 4, 2:00

Manon Lescaut Puccini

Monday, December 5, 7:30 Boris Godunov Mussorgsky

Tuesday, December 6, 8:00

La Grande Duchesse de Gérolstein Offenbach

Wednesday, December 7, 7:30 Manon Lescaut Puccini

Thursday, December 8, 7:30 Boris Godunov Mussorgsky

Saturday, December 10, 8:00

Manon Lescaut Puccini

Sunday, December 11, 1:30 Boris Godunov Mussorgsky

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SAN FRANCISCO OPERA GUILD PRESENTS

Opera for Young Audiences

LA TRAVIATA

Verdi/in Italian

Tuesday, October 18, 1:00 Tuesday, October 25, 1:00 Thursday, October 27, 1:00 Matinees for Senior Citizens and Disabled Patrons:

Saturday, October 8, 1:00 Wednesday, October 12, 1:00



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Created to provide a coordinated sequence of performance and study opportunities for young artists, the San Francisco Opera Center comprises the Company's numerous affiliate programs, including Western Opera Theater, Brown Bag Opera, the Merola Opera Program, Showcase Season and the Adler Fellowships.

The San Francisco Opera Center receives major support from the Atlantic Richfield Foundation, Mr. and Mrs. Warren J. Coughlin, Crocker National Bank Foundation, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, the G.H.C. Meyer Family Foundation and the David and Lucile Packard Foundation.

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

During intermission. while you are here at the Opera House, visit the San Francisco Opera Center Exhibit located on the South Mezzanine Box Level behind the Opera Boutique.

This display highlights the Opera Center Artists and introduces you to the myriad of activities and events that comprise the San Francisco Opera Center.

San Francisco on Radio

AY AREA radio audiences will have three opportunities to hear each of nine broadcasts selected from the 1982 Summer Festival and Fall Seasons. These repeat broadcasts, produced by San Francisco Opera in cooperation with KOED-FM, will also be heard nationwide on member stations of National Public Radio and other selected stations throughout the country. Recipient of the 1980 George Foster Peabody Award, the 1982 broadcasts were originally made possible in part by grants from Standard Oil of California and the Chevron companies, R.J. Reynolds Industries, and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

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9/30 Iulius Caesar

Norma 10/7

10/14 The Barber of Seville

10/21 Turandot

10/28 The Marriage of Figaro

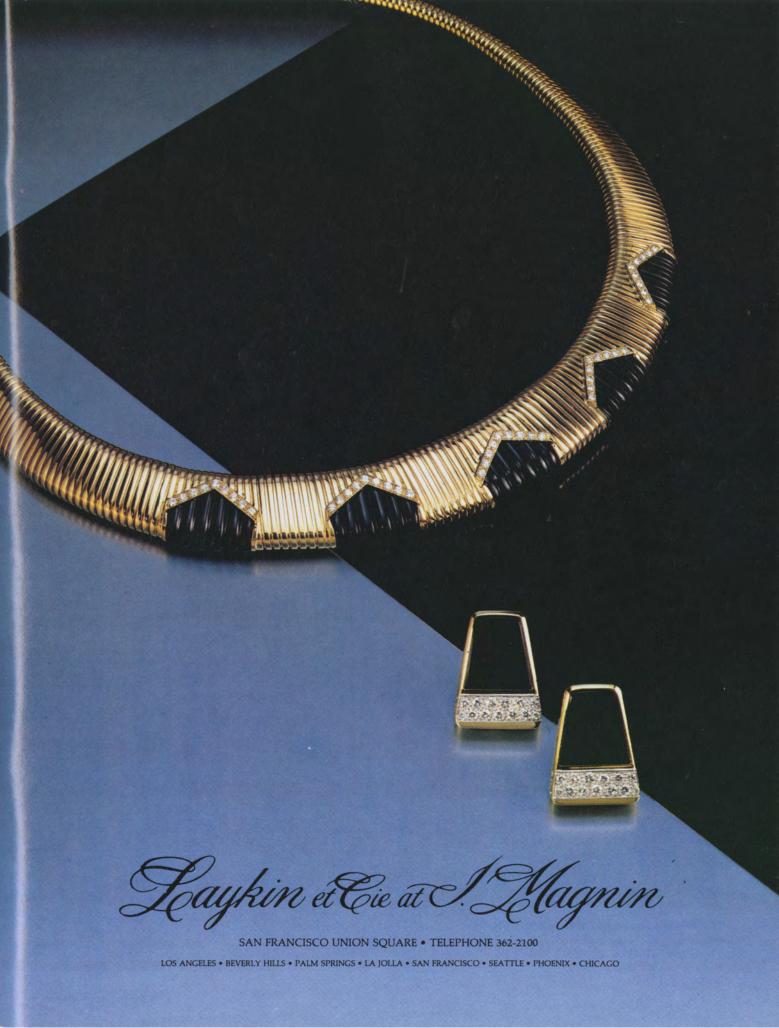
11/4 La Cenerentola

11/11 Cendrillon

11/18 Lohengrin (Saturday at 10 a.m on KQED-FM)

11/25 The Queen of Spades

For broadcast times outside the Bay Area, contact your local NPR station or consult local listings. Executive producer for the San Francisco Opera broadcasts is Robert Walker; producer, Marilyn Mercur. Gene Parrish is host, and Fred Krock the audio engineer.



The Life of Leoš Janáček (1854-1928)

by Christopher Hunt

ANÁČEK's career is one of the strangest in the history of music, indeed in any of the arts, for he was almost completely unknown outside his native Moravia until he was over 60, and his still-increasing reputation as one of this century's most important composers rests on a handful of works written only in his final decade, between 1917 and his death at age 74 in 1928. Although a partisan minority has championed his music, especially his operas, since the 1920s, his remarkable achievements have only been widely recognized in the past twenty years.

Janáček's late development and belated recognition are fascinatingly highlighted when his career is compared to that of his near-contemporary Puccini. Puccini was born four years after Janáček, in 1858, and died four years before him in 1924. Taking the Trittico as one work, Puccini wrote ten operas to Janáček's nine. Both wrote two unsuccessful operas before finding their mature styles. But whereas Puccini, at the age of 35, achieved immediate international renown with his first mature work, Manon Lescaut, Janáček had to wait twelve years before his first masterpiece, lenufa,—finished when he was 49—was first heard outside his provincial home-town of Brno, in 1916. By 1918 Puccini had written all his operas except Turandot, and was acclaimed throughout the world. In contrast, Janáček had barely finished writing his second major opera, The Excursions of Mr. Brouček, and the first production of one of his works outside Czechoslovakia had only just occurred (Jenufa, in Cologne, under Otto Klemperer, a tireless advocate of new music). Puccini, after 1918, wrote little more—only Turandot, which he never finished. Janáček, on the other hand, began an astonishing lateflowering of creative energy that in the last decade of his life produced two masterly string quartets, the popular Sinfonietta, the Glagolitic Mass, the exquisite song cycle Diary of One Who Disappeared, the sextet Mládi ("Youth"), and four masterpieces that are among the finest examples of musical theater in this century: Katya Kabanova, The



on Scherl

Two scenes from San Francisco Opera's 1977 staging of Katya Kabanova



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Cunning Little Vixen, The Makropulos Case, and From the House of the Dead.

Leoš Janáček was born in Hukvaldy, a village in Eastern Moravia, on July 3rd, 1854. He was the ninth of thirteen children, and the fifth son. His father was the local schoolmaster, as his father and grandfather had been before him. When Janáček was eleven he was sent to the Monastery School in Moravia's capital city of Brno, three days away in those days of horse transport. He spent four years there, taking music lessons from the monastery's choirmaster, Pavel Křížkovský, who had a considerable local reputation as a composer of church music. In 1869 Janáček, whose musical talent was pronounced but not extraordinary, entered the Imperial & Royal Teachers' Training Institute in Brno, and his career seemed safely and unambitiously set as a music teacher. After graduation, he returned to the Monastery School as Křížkovský's assistant, and eventual successor. His first surviving compositions, for unaccompanied chorus, date from this period. After two years, in 1874, he took leave from the Monastery School to enter the three-year Organ course at the Prague Organ School. His developing talent, however, was such that he graduated in one year. Apart from two short and unhappy six-month courses that he undertook successively at Leipzig and Vienna Conservatories some five years later, he had no further formal training. As a composer, therefore, he was significantly self-taught.

For the next forty years (after his Prague graduation), Janáček remained in Brno. He was a notable teacher, and was indefatigably active in encouraging the growth of musical education in Moravia, then still an independent state. He composed when his other activities allowed him time. In 1881 he married the sixteen-year old Zdenka Schulzová, a piano pupil of his and daughter of his predecessor as Music Director at Brno's Teacher Training Institute. They were to have two children, both of whom tragically died in childhood, a son Vladimir in 1890 aged two, a daughter Olga in 1903, aged eleven. His charming child-bride turned gradually into a tiresome bourgeoise. She has been compared to Wagner's first wife Minna, and it is often suggested that her character lies behind those fearsome middle-aged symbols of prejudice, the Kostelnička in Jenufa and Kabanikha in Katya Kabanova. Despite Zdenka's growing petulance and provincial narrowmindedness, Janáček and she staved together until his death in 1928. She survived him for another ten years, dying in 1938.

Janáček went on writing music alongside his continued teaching and his determined efforts to develop Moravian culture. Between 1886 and 1888 he finished his first opera, Śárka. He had no real expectation of a performance, and in fact Šárka (which he revised in 1918 and again in 1924) did not get produced until 1925. His first significant work for orchestra, the Lachian Dances of 1890, followed, and in the next year he completed his second opera, The Beginning of a Romance. This time he saw the work in performance, a single semi-professional production in Brno in 1894.

Unhappy with what he saw and heard, Janáček destroyed the score after the premiere.

For the next nine years he worked at what was to become his first mature work for the theater—the opera Jenufa. It had its premiere in the Moravian National Theater in Brno on January 21, 1904, six months before Janaček's fiftieth birthday. Jenufa attracted much local attention, and earned high praise from local critics. That was all. Janaček made efforts to get the authorities at the Prague National Theater to consider the work, but met with no success. So he went on with his teaching, and he went on writing. The composition of his next opera, Osud ("Fate"), took him from 1903 to 1906. It was not staged



Leos Janáček

until 1958, thirty years after its composer's death. Other, instrumental works followed—a piano sonata, two suites of impressionistic piano pieces *In the Mist* and *On an Overgrown Path*, and the orchestral suite *Taras Bulba*. And he worked at a one-act opera on the fantastic story of a drunken philistine, Mr. Brouček, who believes he has journeyed to the moon. He was by now (1916) over sixty, and there was no indication that the future held anything for him except further unavailing struggle for recognition, and further musico-political effort in Brno.

Then, three things happened that changed his life. In themselves they may not account for the miraculous outpouring of creativity in his remaining twelve years: his wholly individual mature style is after all fully fledged in Jenufa, which he had begun some 22 years earlier. But the events were catalysts that released all his energies for composition and gave him new inspiration and direction. The first was the unexpected and long-delayed staging in Prague of Jenufa in 1916. Although its success was not on the level of, say, Puccini's with Manon Lescaut, it led to a commission from Prague for another opera, and the staging of Jenufa in Germany. Janáček returned to Brno with new enthusiasm. He added a second equally fantastic adventure to Mr. Brouček's Journey to the Moon, and with a Prologue and Afterword, the two formed his fifth opera, The Excursions of Mr. Brouček. A little more than a year after his return from Prague, Janáček took a much-needed



Kamila Stösslova. Courtesy, Lim M. Lai

cure at the spa of Luhačovice, not far from his birthplace of Hukvaldy, among the wooded valleys of Eastern Moravia.

It was at Luhačovice that the second crucial event occurred, one that was to change his life: he met the 25-year old wife of a Prague antique dealer, Kamila Stösslova. For the rest of his life he was to be devoted to her, in a curious affair whose exact nature remains uncertain. Kamila became his muse, inspiring one work after another for the next eleven years. Janáček wrote more than 700 letters to her in that time; he dedicated works to her; and his last work of all, the second String Quartet (subtitled Intimate Letters, originally Love Letters) is an overtly autobiographical portrait of their affair. Yet the gypsy-like Kamila was an unreliable muse: she rarely answered his letters, rarely attended the performances of his works for which

he arranged tickets. It seems probable that Janáček's love for her was entirely one-sided, and never consummated. She remained happily married to David Stössl, and although she kept Janáček's letters, she never referred to their affair and died in 1935 without commenting on it. Whatever the truth of the matter, Kamila inspired in the 63-year old composer a stream of works, many of which contain characters who are plainly influenced by his adoration of her. Perhaps the most notable of them is the title character of his sixth opera, begun in 1919, Katya Kabanova. In one of his letters to Kamila during the composition of Katya, Janáček professed that it was her dedicated love of her husband that inspired him. Perhaps it was-Janáček was a warmly emotional and sympathetic man, whose warmth had had no personal outlet in his doggedly unhappy life with his tiresome wife. He was a man of absolute rectitude, and was perhaps more in need of an object for the love within him than of any reciprocation.

The Prague premiere of Jenufa had given him new hope and encouragement in his career. Kamila had given him inspiration. And a year later, in 1918, the creation, at the end of the First World War, of the Czechoslovak state, gave him the freedom he needed to exploit his new urge to compose, for it released him from the continuing need to devote himself to the time-consuming pursuit of solely-Moravian cultural development.

From 1918 onwards, therefore, Janáček wrote, and wrote, and wrote. There is no parallel in musical history for Janáček's artistic fecundity in his last decade. Verdi and Richard Strauss, Monteverdi and Schütz, all wrote masterpieces in their old age, but none had an Indian Summer that produced such an abundance of inspired works as did Janáček between the ages of 62 and his death at 74. With the possible exception of Haydn's final decade, one must look to the visual arts and the career of Titian to find anything comparable.

Operatically, the decade produced four new works, the completion of a fifth (Brouček, his only comedy), and the major revision of another, his first opera Sárka. Katya Kabanova was the first of the four new operas. Its premiere on November 23, 1921, in Janáček's home-town of Brno where all his operas save Brouček were first given, was a triumphant success. A second production, in Prague, followed within a year. The Prague production was seen a few months after that in Cologne, where it was conducted as Jenufa had been two years previously—by Otto Klemperer. Germany took to Katya faster than other countries, not least due to the enthusiastic advocacy of Janáček's friend Max Brod. Brod, friend and supporter of another misunderstood Czech genius Franz Kafka, worked on the German translation of Katya even while Janácek was still composing it.

If compared with the instant international popularity of Puccini, Janáček's success was modest. If one considers his total lack of recognition up to then, it was immense. Freed from the constraints of his teaching—he resigned as Director of the Brno Organ School in 1919—he threw

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himself into his work with the energy of a twenty-year old. A tireless advocate of his own music, he now began to attend international music conferences: between 1923 and 1927 he was present at performances of his own work at congresses in Salzburg, Venice, London and Frankfurt. And he supervised even the smallest details of new productions of his operas in Czechoslovakia. He was an indefatigable correspondent, notably with Brod (who always replied) and Kamila Stösslova, who usually didn't. He kept a journal filled with jottings about art, music, and comments on his life, and wrote numerous articles for Czech and German newspapers. And all the time he continued to compose. Vocal, instrumental and operatic works poured from him, as if for the previous forty years he had been storing up music in his head, and was now desperate to get it written down before he died.

His scores are extremely difficult to read. Obviously written at enormous speed, they look as if a bird had dipped its feet and bill in ink and jumped over their pages. His letters, too, have the same sense of urgency, reflecting a nature rebellious yet humane, although in his outward life Janácek was a kindly and conventional figure. His handwriting had always revealed, it may seem, the passionate character behind the quiet exterior. Many of his early notebooks have survived, and are now kept in the Janácek archives in Brno. The same scrawled writing is there from the 1880s, when, under the influence of Mussorgsky's *Boris Godunov*, Janáček was developing his lifelong fascination with the sounds of human speech.

It was human speech that became the dominant element of his originality in music. Like Mussorgsky, he believed that speech was the foundation of music, and he would write down conversations or remarks he overheard, in musical notation in his notebooks. His interest in speech was an extension, of course, of his profound humanity: individuals fascinated him; crowds, much less. That double interest in people and in their speech dominates his music: his phrases, whether instrumental or vocal, are founded on the sound of the human voice. Their distinctive shapes and character—which hindered early acceptance of his music-stem from the distinctive sounds of the Czech language. For that reason, his operas are extremely difficult to translate: Czech as a language has stresses so different from more familiar Western languages, both Romance and Germanic, that early pessimists predicted not only that his operas could never be given outside Czechoslovakia, but that his instrumental works, too, no less imbued with the sound of the Czech tongue, would never find acceptance in the West.

Janáček's concern with speech rhythms and intonation combined in his music with his deep love for the folk music of his native Moravia. But although Moravian folk music is plainly at the base of his music, he rarely used recognizable folk melodies, and there is none of the folksiness that is a feature of his contemporaries in Hungary, Britain or America.

Although he was a little younger than his fellowcountryman Dvořák, and was brought up in Western



Manuscript for Jenufa...

...and The Excursions of Mr. Brouček.



traditions of music in the 19th century, his own music is essentially original, essentially of the 20th century, and fundamentally un-Western. Its influences, beyond speech and folksong, are to be found in the Slavic composers, especially Mussorgsky, rather than in the German or Italian schools that dominated music in his youth and middleage. Some of his earlier works show the influence of Debussy, but his mature style is so distinctive that a single bar from any of his later works is instantly recognizable as his. Although he was outstandingly original, he was not avant-garde—his music is tonal throughout, even when at its most dissonant. As the critic Winton Dean has remarked, Janáček "inconveniently proved the continuing vitality of the tonal tradition just when it was to the interest of many to suppose it was exhausted."



Janáček's birthplace and home at Hukvaldy.

His music, though fundamentally simple and lyrical, is often dissonant and with multiple rhythms whose complexity on paper belies their clarity in performance. His themes, what he called "motivic fragments," tend to be very short, often of only two or three notes, repeated and endlessly transformed. These fragments function on a subtle leitmotivic basis, whose cumulative effect is immensely powerful even though they can rarely be identified with a particular subject, individual or idea.

In his use of instruments, too, Janáček's style was highly original. His characteristic very high writing for violins, for example, which can be heard throughout *Katya*, is of extraordinary technical difficulty; and his tendency to write very high and very low musical lines, with nothing in

between, or his demands for solo instruments to penetrate very busy orchestral textures, can make a proper balance within the orchestra very hard to achieve. Early performances of his works suffered from these technical problems, especially because of the way in which crossrhythms and large numbers of busy notes combine: they can sound messy and merely hyperactive, instead of producing that fine shimmering radiance, flowing effortlessly, that is his true soundscape. A particular instrumental idiosyncrasy of his late years can be detected in Katya, which includes in several passages of Katya's own music, the use of a solo viola d'amore. The viola d'amore, an obsolete instrument whose soft nasal tone is enhanced by sympathetic resonance from a second layer of strings strung under the fingerboard and bridge, plainly had an emotional and symbolic significance for Janácek. In practice, he seems to have expected the music he wrote for it to be performed by a normal viola or even a group of violas, but symbolically it is probable that the instrument represented for him his adored muse, Kamila. His final work, the string quartet Intimate Letters, was written for a viola d'amore rather than an ordinary viola, and it plainly stands in that touching, valedictory work of musical autobiography for Kamila herself. Janáček's writing for the viola d'amore has no special characteristics distinctive to the instrument itself, so one may suppose that his use of the name was a symbolic act, a cypher within those compositions most directly inspired by the willful Mrs. Stössl.

Just as Russian music influenced him, so Russian literature provided a recurring source for his later works. The romantic and revolutionary elements in the literary works of 19th century Russia greatly appealed to him. Katya herself is of course one of the classic female roles of the Russian theater—Ostrovsky's play, *The Storm*, from which Janáček drew his own libretto for *Katya*, is the accepted test-piece for classical Russian actresses, rather as *Hamlet* is in the West for classical actors. Ostrovsky's heroine is in the great tradition of tragic Russian heroines, like Tatyana and Anna Karenina (though there is also a good deal of Emma Bovary in her). Janáček plainly saw Kamila Stösslova in just such a romantic Russian light, and his Katya became an avowed portrait of Kamila, who probably didn't see herself that way at all.

Slowly Janáček's music made its way out of Czechoslovakia to the West. The dramatic realism of his operas in particular has found new and widespread acceptance since the Second World War. Even thirty years ago, major operatic reference books regularly omitted any mention of Janáček, or at best gave him a few lines. Since then, however, what amounts to a Janáček-mania has grown in Europe, and shows no sign of slackening. America has been a little slower in taking his highly original, intensely dramatic style to its heart, but there now seems to be every sign that his operas will form a permanent part of the standard repertory, even rivaling the popularity of the less-demanding but no more dramatic works of his contemporary, Puccini.





In 1908, famed actress Marianne Kase lit up a cigarette during a performance on a showboat stage.

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Ken Howar

HE late Calvin Simmons may have had the definitive reaction to Anja Silja's art. After a performance of Shostakovich's Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk, which he conducted and she sang for the San Francisco Opera in 1981, Simmons said: "In the last act, when she just stood there and stared, and stared, I'd get so mesmerized, I'd forget to conduct."

Regular operagoers remember those performances, where the Berlin-born soprano stood motionless for minutes, staring straight into the audience as the music crashed around her, every aspect of Katerina's tragic life and coming death vibrating through the tense stillness of Silja's tall, slender body. They also remember a scene earlier in the opera where Katerina lounged on her bed, lazily

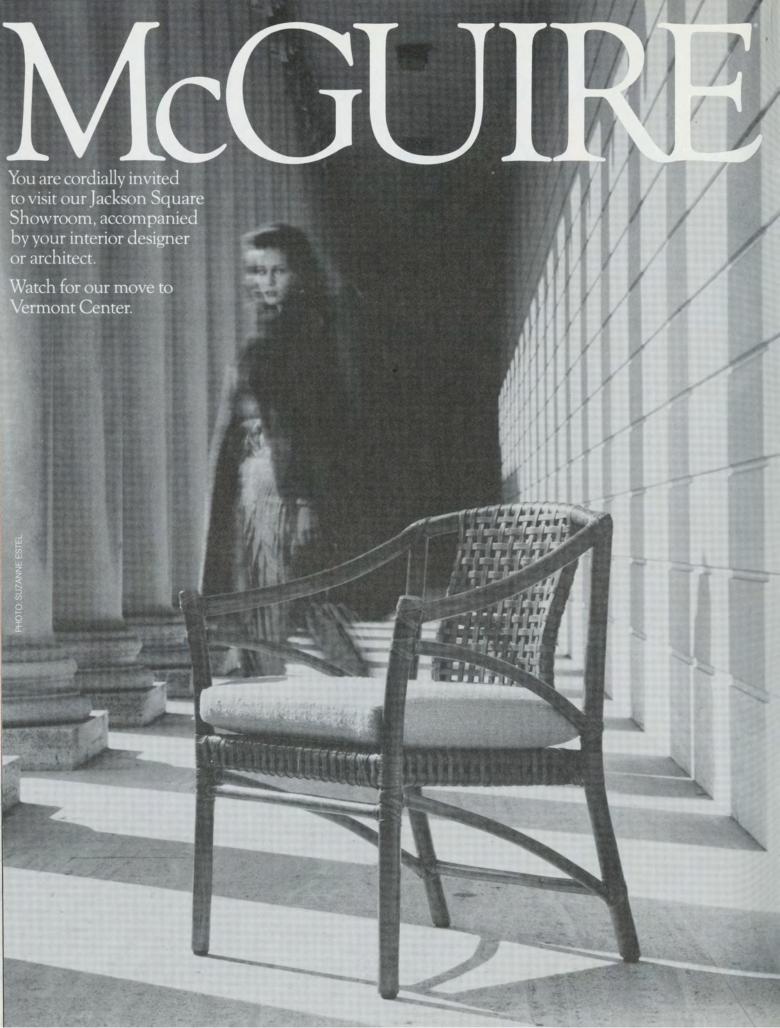
Stephanie von Buchau is the Performing Arts Editor of San Francisco Magazine and the Bay Area correspondent for Opera News.

taking a sponge bath that raised the temperature in the War Memorial at least twenty degrees.

For these moments, and for myriad others, Anja Silja has become known as "one of the greatest singing actresses of the day." Her intensity on stage, the febrile excitement she brings to dramatic roles, her generous soprano with its choirboy overtones and sensual undertones give rise to a vision of a tempestuous, fiery personality, spewing outrageous opinions and trampling on the lesser talents in her path.

Nothing could be farther from the truth. Just as one of her colleagues reports that "I've never heard anybody who worked with her say a bad word about Anja," an interviewer is charmed and surprised by the placid demeanor of this dynamic operatic artist. Silja laughs readily; her manner is frank and friendly. Her triangular Teutonic face

(Continued on page 60)



Artist Profiles

Anja Silja



Evelyn Lear



Laura Brooks Rice



beth of Mtsensk. She made her Chicago Lyric Opera debut in 1970 as Senta in The Flying Dutchman, and in 1972 she bowed at the Metropolitan Opera in Fidelio. Miss Silja has made numerous recordings on the London, Philips and Angel labels.

Internationally acclaimed singing actress ANIA SILIA performs the title role in Katya Kabanova. Born in Berlin, Miss Silja was singing publicly by the age of 10 and five years later made her operatic debut at Braunschweig as Rosina in Il Barbiere di Siviglia. Appearances at Stuttgart preceded her discovery by Wieland Wagner in the 1960 Bayreuth auditions. She became the focus for many of the famed director's most important productions, portraying Senta (1960), Salome (1962), and Lulu (1966); in these roles and the principal female roles of Fidelio, Elektra and Tannhäuser, she has been acclaimed by audiences in her native land as well as in Geneva, Amsterdam, Barcelona, London, Vienna, Brussels and other opera centers. She has been applauded as Lady Macbeth, Medée, Carmen and Brünnhilde in Die Walküre. which she sang at Japan's Osaka International Festival. Her repertoire ranges from standard operas, including Turandot, Les Contes d'Hoffmann, La Forza del Destino, Les Troyens, Otello and Eugene Onegin, to such 20th-century works as The Fiery Angel, Wozzeck, Erwartung and Mahagonny. She made her American debut at San Francisco Opera with her celebrated portrayal of Salome in 1968, a role she repeated here in 1970. In 1971 she returned as Lulu, and during the 1976 Fall Season, appeared as Emilia Marty in the American premiere of The Makropulos Case, both conducted by her husband Christoph von Dohnányi. She was most recently seen with the Company during the 1981 Fall Season in the title role of Shostakovich's Lady Mac-

Soprano EVELYN LEAR returns to the San Francisco Opera as Marfa Kabanikha in Janácek's Katya Kabanova. She began her singing career in Berlin, where in 1957 her portrayal of the Composer in Ariadne auf Naxos attracted the attention of the music world and earned her assignments at many of the major European theaters. Among these were Cherubino at the Salzburg Festival, Donna Elvira at Covent Garden and Fiordiligi at the Vienna Staatsoper. She achieved a major triumph as Berg's Lulu at the Vienna Festival, resulting in seven new productions of the opera mounted for her around the world. She made her American debut in 1965 as Cleopatra in Handel's Julius Caesar with the Kansas City Performing Arts Foundation, followed in rapid succession by Lulu in San Francisco, L'Incoronazione di Poppea with Chicago Lyric Opera, the world premiere of Levy's Mourning Becomes Electra at the Metropolitan Opera and her La Scala debut as Marie in Wozzeck. She returned to San Francisco in 1973 as Fiordiligi in Così fan tutte and Marina in Boris Godunov. She portrayed an opera singer who rejects Paul Newman in Robert Altman's 1978 film Buffalo Bill and the Indians. Ever ready to expand her large and varied repertoire, Miss Lear sang her first Merry Widow during the Lyric Opera

of Chicago's first spring season in 1981, and that same year she starred in the world premiere of Robert Ward's Minutes Till Midnight at the Miami Festival. During the 1982-83 season she sang the first Despina of her career opposite the Don Alfonso of her husband, Thomas Stewart, with the Baltimore Opera, as well as repeating performances of her renowned Marschallin in Der Rosenkavalier at the Metropolitan Opera, and opening performances of the Ravinia Festival with James Levine and the Chicago Symphony. Miss Lear has been extensively represented on recordings. which include the complete Der Rosenkavalier, Lulu, Boris Godunov and Wozzeck. Future engagements include Countess Geschwitz in Berg's Lulu and the Marschallin at the Met in the 1985-86 season. Next year she will create the leading role in the opera of Chekhov's The Cherry Orchard by Swiss composer Rudolf Keltenborn for the reopening of the Zurich Opera House.

LAURA BROOKS RICE sings Dryade in Ariadne auf Naxos and Barbara in Katya Kabanova. During the 1983 Summer Festival, she sang Flosshilde in Das Rheingold and Grimgerde in Die Walküre, the latter being the vehicle of her 1981 Company debut. The young mezzo-soprano, currently an Adler Fellow with the San Francisco Opera Center, appeared in the title role of the Center's 1983 Showcase production of The Rape of Lucretia. In the 1982 Showcase, she appeared as Rosina in Scarlatti's The Triumph of Honor and as Gertrude Stein in Vivian Fine's The Women in





CARLA COOK makes her first appearances with San Francisco Opera singing the role of Glasha in *Katya Kabanova*, as Flora in the family matinee performances of *La Traviata* and as Charlotte in *La Grande Duchesse de Gérolstein*. The young mezzo-soprano recently appeared in the 1983 San Francisco Opera Center Showcase productions of Cavalli's *L'Ormindo* and Britten's *The Rape of Lucretia*. Born in Salt Lake City, Utah, Miss Cook was invited to join the 1982 Merola Opera Program, during which she appeared in *The Magic Flute* and *Rigoletto*. She received the Jean Donnell Memorial Award in the 1982

Robert Shaw. Earlier this year, Miss Rice

participated in a special concert for Queen

Elizabeth II and President Reagan on the

occasion of the royal visit to California.



San Francisco Opera Auditions and, last fall, won third prize in the prestigious Munich International Competition. Also a winner of the 1982 Metropolitan Opera Auditions, Miss Cook has completed her Master of Music Degree at Boston University and is currently in the postgraduate program at the Manhattan School of Music. Her repertoire includes the following roles: Octavian in Der Rosenkavalier, Tisbe in La Cenerentola, the Composer in Ariadne auf Naxos, Charlotte in Werther, Marcellina in Le Nozze di Figaro, Siebel in Faust, and Dame Quickly in Falstaff. She has performed these roles with companies such as the Mississippi Opera Company, the Washington Civic Opera, the Utah Opera Company, the Lake George Opera and the Des Moines Metro Opera. She will make her Seattle Opera debut as Waltraute in the 1984 Pacific Northwest Festival production of Wagner's Die Walküre.

Mezzo-soprano DONNA BRUNO sings four roles during the 1983 Fall Season: Feklusha in Katya Kabanova; Annina in both the international and student/family matinee casts of La Traviata; Amélie in La Grande Duchesse de Gérolstein: and the role of a Musician in Manon Lescaut. She made her San Francisco Opera debut during the 1983 Summer Festival as Siegrune in Die Walküre. A 1982 Merola Opera Program participant, Miss Bruno appeared in Merola productions of The Magic Flute and Rigoletto. She also performed in Western Opera Theater's fall 1982 touring production of Rigoletto and was recently seen as Mirinda in the San Francisco Opera Center's 1983 Showcase production of Cavalli's L'Ormindo. For the 1983 Merola Opera Program, Miss Bruno sang the trouser role of Niklausse in the Stern Grove presentation of Offenbach's The Tales of Hoffmann.



Winner of the Cenacolo Award in the 1982 San Francisco Opera Auditions and the Jean Donnell Memorial Award in 1983, she was also a winner of the 1979 National Association of Teachers of Singing competition and was selected to sing for the National Opera Association convention. The Chicago native recently received her Master of Music Degree from the University of Illinois and has sung several seasons with the Lake George Opera Festival and the DuPage Opera Repertory Theater, where she portrayed Meg Page in The Merry Wives of Windsor. She has appeared with Chicago's Music of the Baroque and was a winner of the 1982 American Opera Auditions in New York. Future engagements include Rosina in Scholar Opera's production of Rossini's The Barber of Seville early next year.

Canadian tenor ANDRÉ IOBIN returns to the San Francisco Opera after an absence of 17 years to sing the role of Boris in Janácek's Katya Kabanova. He made his initial appearance with the Company in 1965, appearing as Pelléas in Pelléas et Mélisande. Born in Quebec, Jobin made his theater debut as an actor with the Compagnie Jean-Louis Barrault-Madeleine Renaud in Paris. Shortly thereafter, he began his singing career, quickly making a name for himself in operetta and musical comedy and gradually immersing himself in the field of opera. His first operatic role was one he performed many times throughout the world-that of Pelléas. He then expanded his repertoire by adding the roles of Romeo in Roméo et Juliette, Werther, Don José in Carmen, and the title roles of Faust and The Tales of Hoffmann. Jobin has sung at many of the world's major opera houses, including those in Berlin, Madrid, Brussels, Geneva, Montreal, the New York City







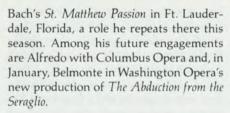
Opera, and the Opera Comique of Paris. He was most recently seen at the Lyric Opera of Chicago as Danilo in *The Merry Widow*. Other recent engagements include performances of *Manon* and *Louise* throughout northern France and Belgium. Future assignments include *Le Cid* in Rouen to mark the third centenary of the death of Corneille; *Carmen* in Toulouse; Berlioz's *Faust* and *Benvenuto Cellini* in Nice; and *Hérodiade* in Belgium. Jobin is the son of the legendary tenor Raoul Jobin, a regular performer at the Metropolitan and Paris Operas, who sang with the San Francisco Opera every year from 1940-49.

Tenor EMILE BELCOURT returns to the San Francisco Opera as Tikhon in Janácek's Katya Kabanova and Prince Shuisky in Mussorgsky's Boris Godunov. He made his San Francisco Opera debut during the 1982 Fall Season as Herod in the muchdiscussed production of Strauss' Salome. Born in Laflèche, Saskatchewan, Belcourt originally studied to be a pharmacist. He sang in the Glyndebourne Chorus and subsequently went to Vienna where he studied at the Academy as a baritone. Between 1956 and 1959 he was a member of the opera companies in Ulm and Bonn, where his roles included Guglielmo, Sharpless, Falke, Escamillo, Don Giovanni and Julius Caesar. In 1959 he changed to the tenor repertoire and went to study in Paris. Following a broadcast performance of Debussy's Pelléas et Mélisande, he was engaged by Scottish Opera to repeat the role. While in England, he auditioned for Sir Georg Solti and was invited to sing Gonzalve in L'Heure Espagnole at Covent Garden. Belcourt began his long association with the English National Opera in 1962. He is best known for his performances as Loge in Das Rheingold (which he recently presented at Seattle's Pacific Northwest Wagner Festival), Herod in Salome and many operetta parts, notably Danilo in The Merry Widow and Eisenstein in Die Fledermaus, which he recently sang at Covent Garden. Other companies with which he has performed are the Welsh National Opera and the Canadian Opera Company. Recent engagements include Lulu at Covent Garden, The Merry Widow with the Théâtre Châtelet in Paris and, earlier this year, Boris Godunov with the English National Opera.

MICHAEL DEVLIN appears as Dikoy in Janácek's Katya Kabanova during the 1983 Fall Season. Earlier this year, he sang the role of Wotan in Das Rheingold for the first time in his career for the Company's 1983 Summer Festival, during which he also appeared as Escamillo in Carmen. Devlin made his San Francisco Opera debut in 1979 as Golaud in Pelléas et Mélisande and sang the title role of Dallapiccola's Il Prigioniero that same season. He also appeared here as Jokanaan in the 1982 Fall Season production of Salome. Since his first appearance with the New Orleans Opera in Les Contes d'Hoffmann in 1963, Devlin has sung with nearly every major company and orchestra in this country. The American baritone made his New York City Opera debut in Ginastera's Don Rodrigo in 1966 and has since returned for a variety of assignments, including the title roles of Julius Caesar and Mefistofele, Count Almaviva in Le Nozze di Figaro, Don Alfonso in Così fan tutte, Reverend Blitch in Susannah, Golaud, and Escamillo, the vehicle of his 1978 Metropolitan Opera debut. That same year he made his first appearance with the Canadian Opera Company in the title role of Don Giovanni, a part he has sung to great acclaim in Munich, Frankfurt, Hamburg, London (Covent Garden), Santa Fe and, most recently, with the Fort Worth Opera Association. Devlin made his European debut in 1974 portraying Count Almaviva at Glyndebourne, and was first heard at Covent Garden the following year as Hector in Tippett's King Priam. He returned to the Met for the title role of Eugene Onegin, and appeared there during the 1981-82 season as the four villains in The Tales of Hoffmann. During the 1980-81 season he took part in the Paris Opera productions of Carmen and in Rameau's Dardanus. Recent performances include Count Almaviva with the Santa Fe Opera and Ford in Falstaff with the Washington Operá.

Illinois-born tenor GREGORY KUNDE makes his San Francisco Opera debut in Janácek's Katya Kabanova singing the role of Vanya Kudryash. A finalist in the Metropolitan Opera Regional Auditions in both 1976 and 1977, Kunde made his Chicago Lyric Opera debut in 1979 as the Shepherd in Tristan und Isolde. The following year he was heard with that company in Attila, Un Ballo in Maschera and Boris Godunov. In 1981, Kunde appeared as Rodolfo in La Bohème and Ramiro in La Cenerentola with Texas Opera Theater. Last year he repeated his portrayal of the Puccini poet with Western Opera Theater, also singing Almaviva in The Barber of Seville. That same season he appeared as Alfredo in La Traviata with Opera Columbus, Melot in Tristan und Isolde with the Lyric Opera of Chicago and made his Bear Valley Music Festival debut as Pinkerton in Madama Butterfly. Recent engagements have included performances of Don Quichotte and Roméo et Juliette with the Lyric Opera of Chicago, the Verdi Requiem for the Midland Music Society and the Evangelist in





Baritone IOHN MATTHEWS essays five roles during his debut season with the San Francisco Opera: the Wigmaker in Ariadne auf Naxos; Kuligin in Katya Kabanova; Baron Douphol in the international cast of La Traviata; Baron Puck in La Grande Duchesse de Gérolstein; and a Boyar in Boris Godunov. Earlier this year, the Los Angeles native appeared in the San Francisco Opera Center 1983 Showcase series as Osmano in L'Ormindo and Tarquinius in The Rape of Lucretia. During the fall of 1982, Matthews took his portrayal of Rigoletto on a nationwide tour with Western Opera Theater, the touring arm of the San Francisco Opera. Center. On the 1981 Western Opera tour, he sang the roles of Marcello in La Bohème, Count Almaviva in The Marriage of Figaro, and Figaro in the young audience production of The Barber of Seville. Matthews was the recipient of the Classical Vocalist of the Year Award from the United States Air Force while on a tour of duty in the Orient, and has been a finalist in the Metropolitan Opera and San Francisco Opera Auditions. He has performed professionally over 30 operatic roles and, in the fall of 1980, participated in the Taipei International Music Festival where he was featured as Germont in La Traviata. In addition to his operatic assignments, his concert work includes Bach's Passions, Handel's Messiah and Judas Maccabeus, Mendelssohn's Elijah, Brahms's Requiem, Stravinsky's Les Noces and the Verdi Requiem.



Maestro CHRISTOPH VON DOHNÁ-NYI returns to the podium of the San Francisco Opera for Strauss' Ariadne auf Naxos and Janácek's Katya Kabanova. Currently the Intendant of the Hamburg Staatsoper, the native Berliner will take over the prestigious position of music director of the Cleveland Orchestra in 1984. The grandson of famed Hungarian composer Ernst von Dohnányi, the maestro made his San Francisco Opera debut in 1971 conducting Berg's Lulu, returning in 1976 for Janáček's The Makropulos Case, both featuring his wife, soprano Anja Silja. Internationally renowned as one of Europe's most prominent conductors, Dohnányi came to this country as a conducting apprentice at Tanglewood under the tutelage of Leonard Bernstein. Returning to Europe, he was engaged by Sir Georg Solti as coach and ballet conductor at the Frankfurt Opera. In 1957 he became general music director at Lübeck and was appointed to a similar position with the State Theater in Kassel in 1964, the year he became chief conductor of the West German Radio Symphony Orchestra in Cologne. He later became director of the Frankfurt Opera and the famous Museum Orchestra, a position he left in 1977 to go to Hamburg. During these years he was also guest conductor at the principal opera centers of Europe, in addition to leading the continent's major orchestras. He was on the podium for the world premieres of Henze's Der Junge Lord at Berlin, and The Bassarids at the Salzburg Festival, and in 1983 conducted the world premiere of Austrian composer Friedrich Cerha's controversial opera Baal at the Vienna Staatsoper. Dohnányi's 1969 American debut took place at the Chicago Lyric Opera with Wagner's The Flying Dutchman. He returned there in 1972 for Così fan tutte and Un Ballo



in Maschera and made his Metropolitan Opera debut that same year conducting Verdi's Falstaff to wide critical acclaim. In 1981 he gave his first New York Philharmonic performance, returning last season for three weeks of concerts. The 1982-83 season also saw him leading both the Pittsburgh and Detroit Symphony Orchestras, as well as a special gala benefit concert with the Cleveland Orchestra, with which he appeared earlier this season at the Blossom Music Festival. Early next year, Dohnányi will conduct Berg's Wozzeck at Covent Garden.

Director GERALD FREEDMAN returns to the San Francisco Opera to stage Janácek's Katya Kabanova. His work was most recently seen here with the 1982 Summer Festival production of Verdi's Nabucco. Receiving wide-spread recognition for his work on Monteverdi's L'Orfeo, Bach's St. Matthew Passion and Britten's Death in Venice for Spring Opera Theater, he made his San Francisco Opera debut with the 1976 world premiere of Andrew Imbrie's Angle of Repose, returning in 1981 for the highly acclaimed Fall Season production of Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk. Additional opera credits include the world premiere of Ginastera's Beatrix Cenci in 1971 for the Opera Society of Washington; Die Fledermaus, L'Incoronazione di Poppea and Idomeneo for New York City Opera in 1974; and Jenufa and a synthesis of Molière's The Would-be Gentleman and Ariadne auf Naxos (as originally conceived by Strauss and Hofmannsthal) for the American Opera Center. His theater credits include the original off-Broadway production of Hair and the recent Broadway revival of West Side Story. As artistic director of the New York Shakespeare Festival and American Shakespeare Festival, he was responsible

(Continued on page 58)

Katya Kabanova PHOTOS TAKEN IN REHEARSAL BY WILLIAM ACHESON

Anja Silja

51 | Fall Season 198







Carla Cook, Gregory Kunde

Anja Silja, Emile Belcourt, Evelyn Lear





Opera in one act by LEOŠ JANÁČEK Libretto by VINCENC ČERVINKA and LEOS JANÁČEK Based on the play The Storm

by ALEKSANDR NIKOLAEVICH OSTROVSKY

English translation by NORMAN TUCKER

(Used by arrangement with European American Music Distributors Corporation, sole U.S. agent for Universal Edition, publisher and copyright owner.)

Katya Kabanova

Conductor

Christoph von Dohnányi

Stage Director Gerald Freedman

Set Designer

Günther Schneider-Siemssen

Costume Designer Maria-Luise Walek

Lighting Designer Thomas J. Munn

Chorus Director Richard Bradshaw

Musical Preparation Jeffrey Goldberg* Marvin Tartak* Philip Eisenberg

Prompter Philip Eisenberg

Assistant Stage Director Paula Williams

Stage Manager Gretchen Mueller

First performance: Brno, November 23, 1921

First San Francisco Opera performance September 17, 1977

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 AT 8:00 FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30 AT 8:00 TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4 AT 8:00 FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7 AT 8:00 SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9 AT 2:00 WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12 AT 7:30

CAST (in order of appearance)

Vanya Kudryash. clerk to Dikou

Gregory Kunde*

Glasha, a servant

Carla Cook*

Dikoy, a rich merchant

Michael Devlin

Boris Grigorievich, his nephew

Feklusha, a servant

André Jobin

Marfa Kabanova (Kabanikha),

Donna Bruno Evelyn Lear

a rich merchant's widow Tikhon Kabanov, her son

Emile Belcourt Anja Silja

Katya Kabanova, his wife Barbara, foster-child in the

Laura Brooks Rice

Kabanov household Kuligin, friend of Vanya

John Matthews

A woman

Rose Parker

A bystander

Bruce Bell

Townspeople

*San Francisco Opera debut

TIME AND PLACE:

About 1860; the small town of Kalinov on the banks of the Volga

> Scene 1: In front of the Kabanov

Scene 2: A room in the Kabanov

house

Living-room in the Scene 3: Kabanov house

Scene 4: Garden behind the Kabanov house

Deserted ruins of a church Scene 5:

on the banks of the Volga

The banks of the Volga Scene 6:

Latecomers will not be seated during the performance after the lights have dimmed.

The use of cameras and any kind of recording equipment is strictly forbidden.

The performance will last approximately one hour and forty-five minutes.

Katya Kabanova Synopsis

Outside the Kabanov house on the banks of the Volga in the small Russian town of Kalinov during the 1860s. The household is ruled by Marfa Kabanova, the widow of a rich merchant, and includes her son Tikhon, his wife Katva and a young foster daughter Barbara. As the curtain rises, Vanya Kudryash, a young teacher, extols the beauties of the countryside and the river to Glasha, the housemaid to Kabanova. They are interrupted by the arrival of the merchant Dikoy, who is quarreling with his nephew Boris. Dikoy leaves in an angry rage and Boris explains to Kudrvash that he tolerates his uncle's abuse in order to receive an inheritance left by his grandmother. The terms of the will made Dikoy his guardian until he comes of age. He also confesses that he is in love with a married woman, Katva Kabanova. Katva herself comes back from church with her husband and mother-in-law. Kabanova, or Kabanikha as she is called, orders her son to go to the annual fair at Kazan. Though he agrees to obey her in this, Kabanikha accuses him of neglecting her in favor of his wife. Tikhon protests, and Katva professes her love for Kabanikha as well. The mother-in-law turns on Katya and insults her. Katva leaves and Kabanikha continues berating her son he is too easy on Katva; he wouldn't even protest if she took a lover. Kabanikha exits, and Barbara turns on Tikhon for not standing up to his mother and defending Katva. The scene shifts to a room in the Kabanov house. Katya recalls for Barbara her life as a girl and her dreams of love. This leads to her confession that she has fallen in love with another man. Barbara, unhampered by the feelings of convention which bind Katya, airily suggests that Katya rendezvous with her lover. This Katva rejects. Tikhon enters to bid his wife farewell before setting out for Kazan. She begs him not to go or to take her along. He refuses. She then begs him to make her swear that she will not look at another man while he is gone. Tikhon again refuses, but Katya nevertheless swears. Kabanikha enters and demands that Tikhon instruct Katya on how to behave while he is away. He obeys, humiliating Katya, and departs.

Another room in the Kabanov house. Kabanikha scolds Katya for not taking her husband's departure more seriously. Other women would sob and cry, Kabanikha tells her daughter-in-law. Then, left alone with Katya, Barbara tells her that she has stolen the key to the gate at the far end of the garden. She gives it to Katya so that she can meet Boris in secret. Katya vows at first to throw the key away, but then decides that fate has decreed her liaison with Boris whatever the consequences. As she leaves, Dikoy arrives to see Kabanikha. He has come to the widow to seek help in his personal problems.

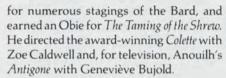
The scene changes to the garden behind the house. It is a hot summer night, and Kudryash is singing a peasant song while awaiting a tryst with Barbara. To his surprise, Boris arrives saying that he had received a message to be in the Kabanov garden that evening. Barbara comes and whispers to Boris to wait; he will not be disappointed. Boris can hardly believe his good luck when Katya arrives. He proclaims his love and she makes an effort to reject him. Finally, however, overcome by her true feelings, she embraces him passionately. Barbara returns and urges the lovers to go off to a secluded spot, telling them that she and Kudryash will keep watch for them. Kudryash berates Barbara for arranging this affair, but she tells him that she has taken care that Kabanikha will not find out. Soon Katya and Boris return and bid each other farewell for the night.

A fortnight later, in an old ruined church near the Volga, Kudryash and his friend Kuligin have taken refuge from a threatening storm. During their conversation, Dikoy arrives also seeking shelter. The rain soon stops and Barbara comes searching for Boris. She tells him that Tikhon has returned and that Katya is so distraught over her betrayal of Tikhon that she might confess all to him. Katya, driven by her guilty conscience, rushes in, followed by Tikhon and his mother. Boris hides. The storm begins again. At its height, and despite the efforts of Barbara, Katya confesses to Kabanikha and Tikhon not only her adultery, but the name of her lover as well. Tikhon attempts to comfort Katya while his mother gloats in triumph. Katya, her own soul in torment, rushes into the storm.

The scene shifts to the banks of the Volga. Tikhon and Glasha have been searching for Katya. Tikhon is torn between his willingness to forgive his wife and his mother's demand that she be punished. After a short scene between Barbara and Kudryash, in which the girl resolves to run away from Kabanikha's tyranny, Katya enters, hoping to see Boris once again. As if in answer to a prayer, Boris suddenly appears. He tells Katya that he is being sent away in disgrace by his uncle. Both sense that this is their last meeting. Boris leaves, and Katva now realizes there is no longer a place for her in the world she knows. She throws herself into the river. Voices are heard from people who have seen Katya jump, and soon Tikhon and his mother arrive. Kuligin brings in Katya's lifeless body. The last words of the opera are Kabanikha's. Seeing the rigid order of her matriarchal world restored, she righteously says to all, "Let me thank you for your kindness, let me thank you."











Comoedia (1973) at the Salzburg Festival, Von Einem's Besuch der alten Dame (1972) in Vienna and, in 1977, the world premiere of Hochhuth's play Death of a Hunter in Salzburg. Among his recent assignments are Arabella, seen earlier this year at the Met; La Fanciulla del West at the Deutsche Oper in Berlin in January; new productions of Orfeo ed Euridice and Parsifal in Munich; Luisa Miller and Tannhäuser in Vienna; and The Tales of Hoffmann with the Houston Grand Opera.

Viennese-born MARIA-LUISE WALEK designed the costumes for Janácek's Katya Kabanova for the San Francisco Opera in 1977. A frequent collaborator with scenic designer Günther Schneider-Siemssen, she worked with him for the first time in 1969 on Gogol's The Inspector General at the Theater an der Wien in Vienna, and later for the Metropolitan Opera production of Jenufa (1975), among others. Miss Walek also designed the costumes for Hindemith's Cardillac and Gounod's Faust at the Teatro Colón in Buenos Aires, Verdi's Don Carlos in Essen, Berg's Lulu in Stockholm and Franz Schmidt's Notre Dame in Vienna. She studied scenic and costume design at the Academy of Arts in Vienna, where she received her diploma in costume design in 1970, and obtained additional training at the Munich Staatsoper. Miss Walek has also worked for the Burgtheater in Vienna and from 1972 to 1975 was head of costume design for the Bregenz Festival.

In his eighth year with the San Francisco Opera, THOMAS J. MUNN is responsible for the lighting designs of Otello, Ariadne auf Naxos, Katya Kabanova, La Traviata, The Midsummer Marriage, Samson et Dalila, La Grande Duchesse de Gérolstein, La Gioconda and Boris Godunov during the 1983 Fall



Season. For the 1983 Summer Festival, Munn designed the lighting for Das Rheingold, Die Walküre, Carmen and Così fan tutte. The 1982 Fall Season saw his designs for Un Ballo in Maschera, The Queen of Spades and Lohengrin; found him as the lighting supervisor of Tosca; and the scenic supervisor and the lighting designer for Salome. During the 1982 Summer Festival his lighting was seen in productions of Julius Caesar, Turandot and Nabucco, for which he also designed the sets. For the first Summer Festival in 1981, he created the lighting for Don Giovanni, Lear and Die Meistersinger. In 1980 he originated the lighting designs for the productions of Samson et Dalila and Don Pasquale, and the previous year won an Emmy Award for the production of La Gioconda that was telecast internationally. That year he also designed the scenery for Roberto Devereux and Pelléas et Mélisande. In past seasons he has created special effects for the Company's productions and served as supervising set designer for Adriana Lecouvreur, Faust and Billy Budd. Since 1976 he has designed the lighting for nearly all of the new productions of the San Francisco Opera, including the world premiere of Imbrie's The Angle of Repose in 1976. Munn has created the scenery and lighting projection for the Hartford Ballet's acclaimed multi-media productions of The Nutcracker; created the scenery and lighting designs for Don Quichotte with the Netherlands Opera; and, last year, designed the lighting for the Washington Opera Society's productions of Tristan und Isolde and Lucia di Lammermoor. Other recent design credits include La Bohème and Rigoletto with the Houston Grand Opera. Munn's recent television projects include Luciano Pavarotti's live concerts from Houston and San Francisco earlier this year.

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ANJA (Continued from page 45)

is scrubbed clean of both makeup and guile. She wears a simple dark blue cotton dress. Her legs are bare, her feet stuffed into high-heeled sandals. Her ash blond hair is cut short and brushed casually back from her forehead. She looks much less like a glamorous operatic diva than like a happy housewife, which in fact she is.

She makes no bones about it. "Of course I keep on singing," she says in her accented but excellent English. "But I am much happier to spend time with my family." This includes husband Christoph von Dohnányi, the music director designate of the Cleveland Orchestra, and their three children, Julia, 9, Benedict, 7, and Olga, 5. "When I was younger and didn't have the



Above: Richard Lewis (Herod) and Anja Silja (Salome), 1968. Below: Anja Silja as Salome.

children," the 43-year-old soprano says, "I traveled freely and worked very hard at my career. But now I would rather cancel a performance than be without the children. They love to travel and I like to have them with me. Children make life much nicer, much more human." The Dohnányis will live half the year in Hamburg and half in Cleveland where they have bought a home.

Silja needs the peace and contentment of family life for, despite her relative youth, she has been on stage for over thirty years. Her parents were actors, and she was raised by her grandparents. "My grandfather was a painter and sculptor, but he was interested in the singing voice. how it worked. He studied with Gigli's teacher." At age four, Anja started piano lessons, which she hated. "I play very badly still," she laughs, "but playing the piano was how they discovered I had a voice. Instead of counting, I would sing. At six I started voice lessons with my grandfather. and he was my only teacher until he died in Bayreuth in 1962."

At age ten, Silja started giving lieder recitals, and by fifteen she was a bona fide opera singer, making her debut with the Braunschweig Opera as Rosina in Rossini's *The Barber of Seville*. At first she was classified as a coloratura. "I sang Zerbinetta, Queen of the Night, Constanze, Fiordiligi, but I didn't like to sing coloratura. I didn't like the parts; those characters are too easy. Yes, Fiordiligi has her problems but they are not a problem for the singer, if you understand what I mean. It is too easy to figure those women out and to portray them. I prefer to dig into a real character."

At nineteen she went to Bayreuth and



arolyn Mason Jone







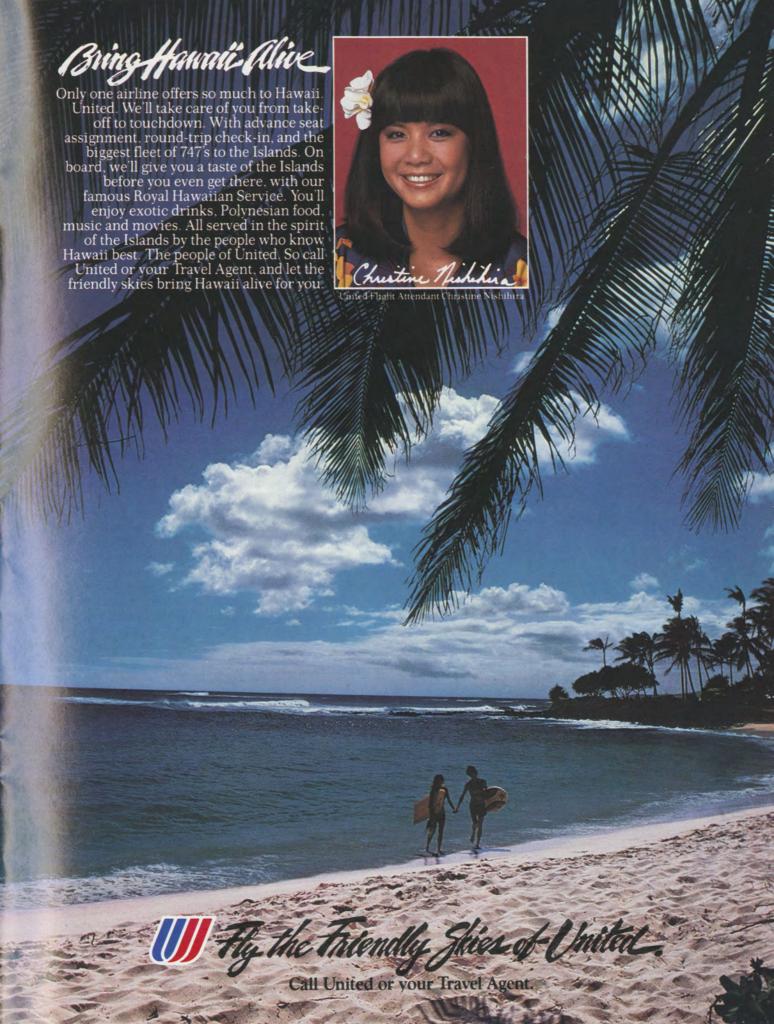
Left: Anja Silja as Lulu in 1971. Below: Anja Silja (Lulu) and Lorenzo Alvary (Schigolch). met Wieland Wagner, whose personal and professional relationship with the young soprano caused much comment at the time. Asked how much the German director, grandson of Richard Wagner, influenced her growing talent, Silja says frankly: "Well, I can't say because we were so on a line together. How much is him and how much is me I don't know. I like to tell a story about the first rehearsal I had with him. After two-and-a-half hours' work, he called me into his office and I thought, here we go, I am fired. Instead, he said, 'I cannot show you anything more, so you needn't come back until the last rehearsal."

Silja's artistic collaboration with Wieland led the young soprano to attempt Isolde at age twenty. Asked if this was difficult, she says simply, "Well, when you are that young you don't think about the difficulty. If Wieland thought I could do it, then I could. In fact, I got very good reviews. One critic said he had never seen an Isolde like me before and he never would again." She giggles a little. "Of course you could take that two ways, but what he meant was that it was the Isolde interpretation Richard Wagner wrote—she is a young girl, only sixteen."

Under Wieland's tutelage, Silja sang all the major Wagnerian soprano roles except the *Götterdämmerung* Brünnhilde, which she felt lies too low for her voice. There was much talk at the time that such a strenuous regimen would lead to a vocal decline, but in fact the soprano's instrument sounds now almost exactly as it sounded then. It still has the same ability to cut through the orchestra ("I didn't have the largest Wagner voice ever, but you could always hear me"), and it still has the same slow, wide vibrato that some listeners dislike and others find sexy.

After Wieland's death in 1966, Silja gave up Wagner. Her candid, blue-grey eyes look straight at you. "I just couldn't hear that music any more." (She gives another, more practical reason for dispensing with Wagner. "For a role like Isolde you need a week of quiet before the performance and a week of quiet afterward. This is not possible with children." She grins happily and you realize that Julia, Benedict, and Olga are much more important to her than Isolde ever was.)

She also gave up Elektra, another role she had performed with Wieland, but this was more for artistic than personal reasons. "That is a very difficult part, and



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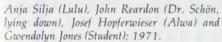
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perhaps I was a little afraid of it." But Salome, which had been one of her greatest successes with Wieland, remained in her repertory. She has sung the part over 400 times and it served as her introduction to San Francisco. She made her American debut here as Salome in 1968.

No one who saw that production, posthumously revived by Robert Darling and Renate Ebermann from the original Wieland Wagner conception, will ever forget the sight of Silja, her body wrapped daringly in a snake-like sheath, lying motionless on the stage, pouting straight at the audience for a quarter of an hour while the music tells us that Salome has come to a monumental decision about Jokanaan's rejection of her advances. And who could forget the "Dance of the Seven Veils," sans veils, with the lissome Silja stalking the cistern in black spangled tights, like some dangerous jungle cat?

With Wieland, Silja had enlarged her repertory to include Berg's Lulu and Wozzeck. "I had to find a new way after Wieland's death. I couldn't go on with Wagner, and you don't have to act in Il Trovatore. I liked the Berg operas, and I had always liked Russian and Czech operas, so there was my new repertory." In addition to Lulu, Katerina, and Katya, Silja also sang Emilia Marty in San Francisco in The Makropulos Case. She had to learn it in English,

and she learned *Lady Macbeth* phonetically in Russian ("a very beautiful language to sing"). With major orchestras in America, she has sung a number of Schoenberg performances, including the composer's oneact melodrama, *Erwartung*, in Chicago with Dohnányi conducting.

She regrets she doesn't work with her husband as much as she would like since he is committed to orchestral music these days. "But I have been lucky," she says. "Both Wieland and Dohnányi were very good musicians; I trust them far more than any singing teacher." She also trusts the audience. "Audiences all over the world are similar, I think. They have a good feeling for quality, whether it is in a voice, or a personality, or in acting. If one person in a performance is much better than the others, the audience always recognizes this."

There have been discussions throughout her career about the quality of Silja's voice. She acknowledges that "If you are special, unique in any way, then not everybody is going to like you. It was like that with Callas." She describes her voice as 'very German. It is not a common voice." (This is said in the most matter-of-fact tone, though her voice is, of course, the clue to Silja's uniqueness. No matter how fine an actress she may be, if she didn't have that distinctive vocal quality, she would not be the great operatic artist she is.) "I think of myself as having a quality like Birgit Nilsson, though her soprano was much, much bigger. But that clear,

(Continued on page 70)





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How to Make More Money by Giving It Away

by Robert C. Hobson

AKE more money by giving something away? "Preposterous," you say — but it is very true. People who are charitably minded are making more money for themselves every day by doing some rather simple tax- and estate planning.

We all know that Uncle Sam has encouraged private philanthropy for years by providing special deductions and other tax advantages for charitable contributions. With just a little planning you can put these benefits to work for you and actually increase your income for the rest of your life.

This is accomplished by what is called deferred charitable giving, and here is how it works

We are all familiar with ordinary charitable giving, which usually involves a cash gift of \$5, \$100, or even \$1,000 or more. This direct giving is generally from income received from one source or another (wages, salary, dividends, interest, etc.), and reduces disposable income when made. This common form of charitable giving is called OUTRIGHT giving.

The more sophisticated donor will make a charitable gift of assets rather than dollars. For example, Mr. Jones may make a gift of \$1,000 worth of stock instead of \$1,000 in cash. Even though Mr. Jones may have only paid \$100 for the stock when he bought it 20 years ago, he gets full \$1,000 income tax deduction when he makes the gift, AND he does not have to pay capital gains tax on the \$900 gain. In addition, by making the gift of stock, Mr. Jones has not directly reduced his disposable income, and he has saved \$610 in federal and California

income taxes, assuming he is in the 50% income tax bracket.

It is this concept of giving assets which leads us directly to DEFERRED charitable giving. In its essence, a deferred gift is one where the donor transfers assets (or money) to a charity, but keeps the *income produced* by that gift for the rest of his or her life. The gift is now, and it is irrevocable (otherwise there would be no income tax deduction), but the benefit to charity is delayed for the lifetime of the donor.

The basic benefits to an individual who makes a deferred gift of assets (stock, for example) are:

- 1. Donor *keeps the income* for the rest of his or her life.
- 2. Donor gets an immediate income tax saving.
- 3. Donor avoids capital gains tax.
- Donor will usually increase his or her income for life.
- 5. Donor will *reduce or eliminate* federal *estate taxes* and *probate* expenses.
- And donor will provide a very substantial long term benefit for his or her favorite charity.

Let's look a little closer at Mr. Jones and see just how this deferred giving will provide all those benefits to him compared to his next door neighbor, Mr. Smith. (Continued)

Robert C. Hobson is an attorney who has practiced in the area of taxation and estate planning. He is currently vice president for Bank of America and is the national director for the bank's Endowment and Charitable Trust Services. *Aonticello* Cakebread Dehlinger Edmeades J. Lohr av Round Hill ter Home Bear Franciscan oncannon os Du Val Rive Chateau St. I Who says Dry Creek K fine wine ek Fetzer Rut has to be n-Smith Monte expensive? undlach-Bundsc If you're thinking about buying a fine, ca Mesa Mont Preston Burge expensive wine, why not buy it at a fine, inexpensive price? At Liquor Barn you can choose from over 2,400 domestic and imported Dehlinger Ed davi Callaway wines including those hard to find California boutique wines; and you can find them all at low, discount g I.W. Morris prices. e Ridge Franci So next time you're looking for a fine wine, come into a Liquor Barn. We'll make your visit as inexpensive Phelps Clos Du Rutherford Ran as possible. Chappellet Firestone Chateau St. Jean David Bruce Dry Hop Kiln Mill Creek Fetzer Rutherford Hill Roudon-Sm eyard Conn Cr enswood Prest You get whatever you want, ebread Dehlin, Stonev Ridge and you get it for less. Lohr Robert Mondavi Callaway Round Hill Sterling Regulier Pine Ridge Franciscan Mirasson





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Mr. Smith and Mr. Jones are each 65 years old, each is married and their wives are each 63 years old. They are both in the 50% income tax bracket and they both own \$25,000 worth of ABC stock which each purchased 20 years ago for \$2,500. ABC stock currently pays a dividend of 3%, so both Mr. Smith and Mr. Jones receive a dividend of \$750 per year from the ABC investment.

Smith and Jones are both good businessmen and believe they can do much better than a 3% return in today's market. So, Mr. Smith decides to sell his stock and reinvest the proceeds of the sale in a deal he has found which will pay him 10%. Here is what happens when Smith sells and reinvests:

1. He incurs a federal and California capital gains tax of \$5,737

 Subtracted from his \$25,000 sales price of the ABC stock, he has left to reinvest \$19,263

3. Invested at 10%, this returns to Smith each year \$1,926

\$750

\$1,176

4. He was earning from the ABC stock

5. So he has increased his income by

The life expectancy of Mr. and Mrs. Smith, taken from life insurance tables, is approximately 20 years. So, when you multiply the additional income of \$1,176 by their life expectancy, Mr. and Mrs. Smith have come out ahead by \$23,520. Not too bad a business decision by Mr. Smith, but Mr. Jones has another idea.

Jones decides to make a deferred gift of his stock, and here is what happens to the Joneses:

1. After the gift, the ABC stock is sold for \$25,000

2. But, there is no capital gains tax -0

So all the proceeds of sale are reinvested \$25,000

 Jones gets the same 10% return Smith got. 10%

5. But, Jones will get each year \$2,500

6. He was earning from the ABC stock \$750

7. So Jones income increase is \$1,750

The life expectancy of Mr. and Mrs. Jones is also 20 years, so when the Joneses' additional income is projected for 20 years, they come out \$35,000 better off.

But the story is not finished here. In addition to the increased income for the rest of their lives, the Joneses get an income tax deduction which saves them \$5,152 in federal and California taxes, and they save \$12,750 in federal estate taxes (50% bracket) and probate expenses.

In summary, the Joneses' benefits from making the deferred gift are:

1.	Additional income	\$35,000
2.	Income tax saving	5,152
3.	Estate tax and probate saving	12,750

\$52,902

In addition, they avoided \$5,737 of capital gains tax and provided a gift of \$25,000 to orite charity.

It appears that both Jones and Smith were receiving 10% on their new investments. But on closer analysis, we see that Smith is only earning \$1,926 based on the investment of proceeds left after capital gains tax. That is a return of only 7.7% on the \$25,000 value of the ABC stock which Smith sold. Jones, on the other hand, got a tax deduction of \$5,152 from his \$25,000 gift. This makes the net cost of that gift to him only \$19,848 (\$25,000-\$5,152) and the rate of return for his \$2,500 income based on net cost is really 12.6%.

To be sure, the Jonses did give away \$25,000. But this was a deferred gift, and the benefits they received for the gift totalled \$52,902. It sounds like they made money by giving something away. In fact, they more than doubled their money while giving \$25,000 to their favorite charity.

The Smith-Jones illustration is hypothetical, but the results do graphically show that, when properly planned and executed, a deferred gift can provide many benefits to the donor and the donor's favorite charity. Deferred giving is properly one vital tool in estate- and taxplanning, but is often overlooked because it involves giving something away. Mr. Jones has proved, however, that you can make more money by giving something away—if your gift is properly planned. Perhaps we have a new meaning for the term "keeping up with the Joneses."



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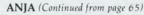
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white quality is what we have in common." She laughs gently. "I do not sound Italian."

Yet she has sung Italian opera, including Il Trovatore, and La Forza del Destino when she was only eighteen, and Tosca as recently as a few years ago with director Jean-Pierre Ponnelle. Reminded that she once released an album of Tosca highlights in German, Silja points out that much of the Italian opera she has sung has been auf Deutsch. "Tenjoy singing Tosca, but I would never do it in a house like the War Memorial or even in Frankfurt any more, where people are accustomed to a Tosca who sounds Italian. The ideal sound for that music is something like Renata Tebaldi."

Silja's favorite artists are all singing actresses. "Callas, of course. I am sometimes called 'the German Callas,' " she admits, showing a slight amount of embarrassment,"though on stage we couldn't be more different. She was a very artificial actress, but when you saw her it all went together with the music. She was very, very strong. My favorite singing actress is Astrid Varnay. She was really my idol. She had, what do you call it, inner music. There was always something going on; she never just sang the notes."

Asked how, as a singing actress, she prepares for a role, Silja looks vague and says helplessly, "I can't really explain it. I mean, if I knew how I do what I do, I could probably be a teacher which I'll never be because I lack patience. I learn the notes. I don't do much research; it is all in the music. I listen to the music. I interpret the music. And that's all I can tell you. Everything about the character in an opera by Wagner, Strauss, Janáček is there in the music. That's why I like to play those ladies."

Asked to compare Katya Kabanova, which she is singing this season, to her last role here, Katerina Ismailova, Silja looks uncomfortable. She obviously finds this intellectual game playing not to her taste. But she makes a stab at it. "Katya is less strong, she is like a weeping willow. She feels guilty about everything. Katerina, on the other hand, is not guilty until the very end. She knows what she wants and she goes after it." Here the analysis trails off. The suggestion is made that Silja is an "instinctive" actress and she grasps it like a lifeline. "All I have to do is fulfill the music," she says, relieved to be understood and not to have to try to justify her art. "I never think about what I do; I just do it. If I thought about it, I probably couldn't do it." She has the same attitude toward her many years on stage. "If I think about all the years I have been a singer, it makes me



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tired. But when I am on stage, I don't think about it."

From the mysterious depths of this artist, who seems so uncomplicated on the surface, comes a further contradiction. Asked if she finds it an insult or a compliment to be called a "singing actress," Silja says: "It is more important for me to be an actress than a singer." And in the next breath: "But acting alone is boring and would not make me happy. I must have the

Below: Anja Silja as Emilia Marty in Janáček's The Makropulos Case, 1976.





Above: The Makropulos Case, 1976.

music." She seldom attends the opera. "I don't go unless it is going to be something special, otherwise it makes me unhappy. I avoid operas where the singers don't have to act. But sometimes I go to hear great singing; when Marilyn Horne performs you know you are going to hear something wonderful." Silja almost never listens to recordings, "especially not my own. One has to see and touch music. It is too perfect on records."

One gets the feeling that she has a mystical rapport with music that she would prefer to play down in her typical diffident manner. Yet this striking woman with the ready laugh is not a cultural snob. She enjoys not only the heavy dramatic roles of her current Fach, but also such frivolous creations as all three soprano roles in Tales of Hoffmann, the title role in The Merry Widow (a score for which she has much affection), and Jenny in Kurt Weill's Mahagonny. She was offered, but had to turn down, the lead roles in productions of My Fair Lady and Evita. "The first I was pregnant and the second I did not care for the place it was to be performed, but I would love to do a musical as long as I can keep singing my regular roles."

One of the things that keeps Silja performing is rapport with good stage directors. She names a couple of unknown Germans she has enjoyed working with, and adds Ponnelle and Gerald Freedman. who directs this season's Katua Kabanova. She says seriously, "I agree to work these days only when I know the producer is a good one. Then I try to do things his way. In the beginning of my career, when I was first in Stuttgart, I had problems because the stage director was so stupid he didn't know how to handle me. When I first worked with Freedman in Lady Macbeth. he didn't know me, but I tried to do what he wanted. Together we arrived at an interpretation. I am not hard to work with, but that is because I don't agree to do an opera unless I trust the producer."

She has an unusual way of rating directors. "Crazy is always good," she says straight-faced. Asked why, she elaborates, "It is better to have ideas even if they are wrong than to have no ideas at all. I did Carmen with Ponnelle and, of course, it is not right for my voice, but it worked because of the acting." One gets the feeling that here is one opera singer who will not complain about the tyranny of the producer, as long as the producer is as sharp as his leading lady.

Lately, however, she finds "that producers are not so interesting, and I've sung everything there is to sing. I've looked at contemporary scores but I find that the music is not so exciting, or else is bad for the voice. I was originally in Penderecki's mind for The Devils of Loudon, but I looked at the score and I was afraid it would not be good for me. It is a dangerous piece. Fortner's Elisabeth Tudor was another opera I was supposed to do. Christa Ludwig and I were to sing Elisabeth and Mary Stuart, but somehow it didn't work out. They



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gave the premiere with other singers, and it was not a great success. I don't think the piece was that good."

In Germany, Silja is a household name and face ("like your Beverly Sills"), partly because of her relationship with Wieland Wagner. "When I was young and scandals surrounded me, people thought they knew me from what they read in magazines. But it was not all true. Everything is not so simple as magazines like to pretend. I tried not to let it bother me, but sometimes I would get anonymous letters, and that was not nice. People seemed to think I was singing only because of my relationship with Wieland, which was not true. I was lucky to find Wieland because he recognized my talent for acting, but I was singing long before I met him. Today it is much better. People accept me. They stop me on the street to tell me they enjoy my performances." She mockingly refers to herself as "the grand old lady of German opera."

Asked how she attained the strength and serenity she now exhibits through what must have been trying times, Silja looks a little startled and says, "But I have always been like this. I try not to think too much. I try to be friendly, to do my work. I find if you are friendly, most people will be friendly in return. You see the way I am? I have friends all over the world. I am good friends with Gwyneth Jones, Hildegard Behrens. We are not rivals; we are all trying our best. Singers are more normal now than they used to be, they accept each other's successes. Of course," and here she looks a little mischievous, "sometimes I wonder to myself, 'How could so-and-so be so popular?' But then I am sure that he or she thinks the same thing about me.

Below: William Lewis and Anja Silja in Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk, 1981.



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ONORS have come to understand how life insurance may present a wonderful opportunity to endow the San Francisco Opera. Nevertheless, contributors do not always understand the nature of life insurance policies or how to use them effectively in making gifts. Although we cannot cover these new products and ideas extensively, we will outline here various gift possibilities which can benefit the San Francisco Opera tremendously.

Outright Gifts of Life Insurance Policies. If a donor transfers to SFO all ownership rights in a life insurance policy on his or her life, he or she may deduct as a charitable contribution for income tax purposes the cash value of the policy (or, if less, the total premiums paid). Each year the donor would make an additional contribution to the Opera in an amount equal to the premium of the policy. The Opera will ultimately receive the full life insurance proceeds.

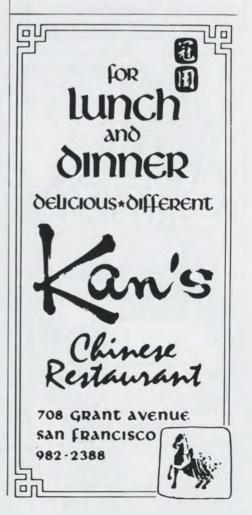
Let's attach numbers to this concept. For example, if a male donor age 50 purchased a \$1,000,000 "vanishing premium" policy (one where interest earned and credited to the policy reduces future premiums, permitting them to be fully paid within a fiveto-ten-year period, depending upon interest rate, mortality rates, issue age, amount, and underwriting classification), the donor would pay a \$25,000 annual premium for nine years (\$225,000 in all). If he is in the 50 percent income tax bracket, these contributions have a net cost of only \$112,500. Upon receipt of the \$1 million in life insurance proceeds, the Opera may underwrite productions, endow a chair in the orchestra or accomplish another major purpose. This example furnished in conjunction with information from Prudential Life Insurance Company.)

Note also that an outright gift of a life insurance policy can enable the donor to achieve lifetime charitable goals. Many organizations, including SFO, maintain "philanthropic funds" within their endow-

ments. A donor who transfers a substantial sum into the endowment may advise as to where or how he desires the fund and/or income therefrom to be spent. Control over the income cannot be retained, but the donor may suggest how this should be used. Ultimate control must remain with the Opera. A life insurance policy can make the same concept available for donors of less substantial means. For example, assume Mrs. Donor, age 47, purchases a \$250,000 whole life policy, paying annual premiums of \$1,850. If she transfers the policy to the Opera, she may deduct the annual premiums. If she is a 50-percent-bracket taxpayer, her net cost of each premium payment is only \$925. After five years her net investment (after tax) is \$4,625 and the policy has accumulated cash value of about \$8,000. The Opera may then borrow against the cash value and request the donor's advice as to how this amount is to be used—for partial support of a revival production, to underwrite programs of the San Francisco Opera Center, or whatever. The Opera may do this periodically. After 10 years, another \$13,000 is available for policy loans to the Opera, and after 20 years, another \$31,000 is available. Even if the full \$52,000 referred to above (\$8,000 plus \$13,000 plus \$31,000) were borrowed and spent, net proceeds of almost \$200,000 would still belong to the Opera at Mrs. Donor's death. Meanwhile, even though Mrs. Donor has only invested about \$18,500 in the policy in this 20-year period, she has had the opportunity to advise and see to the expenditure of \$52,000 on her chosen projects. (Information for this example, furnished by Brennan-Howe Associates, was based on a Kemper Life Insurance quote.)

Gifts of Life Insurance Policies in Trust. A gift of life insurance policies to a net income charitable remainder unitrust can effectively achieve a donor's estate-planning goals while ultimately providing a substantial benefit to the Opera. Assume Mr. and Mrs. Donor, aged 55 and 50, respec-







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tively, create a nine percent income jointand-survivor unitrust. The trust has a deficiency make-up provision so that income the trust earns in later years may be available for payout based on prior years' accrued deficiencies (the difference between the stated nine percent payout and the lesser net income actually paid out, aggregated over the years). Mr. and Mrs. Donor fund the unitrust with life insurance policies of \$250,000 on each of their lives. During their joint lifetimes little or no actual income is paid by the trust, but income is provided for the surviving spouse from the trust's receipt of \$250,000 from one policy (with no delay for estate administration or distribution). As soon as the funds generate income, the trustee may pay not only the \$22,500 current unitrust distribution to the survivor, but also the difference between the low or zero payout over the years and nine percent of each year's "fair market value" of the policy.

The initial transfer (and subsequent premiums) are free of gift and estate tax. The actuarial value of the income portion of the trust qualifies for the marital deduction under IRS Sections 2523(g) and 2056 (b)(8), and the remainder qualifies for the charitable deduction. The second policy, still owned by the trust, can serve one of two functions. If more income is needed to support the surviving spouse, it may be surrendered for its cash value and the proceeds invested for higher income. Alternatively, the policy may be continued by the

The San Francisco Opera has applied for Treasury Fund and Challenge Grants from the National Endowment for the Arts. If awarded, your gift may be used to complete required matches associated with these grants.

survivor, so that a larger charitable contribution will result to the Opera.

Combining Charitable Gifts and Life Insurance Policies. Another use of life insurance is to replenish assets used in a charitable transfer. For example, if Mr. Donor transfers \$100,000 to a charitable remainder unitrust, with a 10 percent annual payout, he would receive approximately \$10,000 annually. This unitrust distribution could be used by the donor/beneficiary to purchase a life insurance policy, the proceeds of which would replace at least the \$100,000 originally transferred to the trust, or perhaps more. If all or part of the unitrust distributions were gifted to children or to an irrevocable life insurance trust used to purchase the policy, the policy proceeds could be kept out of the donor's estate for tax and probate purposes. This simultaneously achieves a substantial gift to the Opera, some income to the donor or spouse (especially if a vanishing premium policy is used) and a total replacement to the family of the assets transferred to the

The same concept may be used in reverse with charitable lead trust. Like a family using life insurance to replace assets transferred to the Opera, SFO may consider using a portion of its lead trust distributions to purchase a policy on the donor in order to replenish support when the lead trust terminates. A policy on the donor's life would provide a substantial endowment to continue the income stream the lead trust had provided for the Opera's programs.

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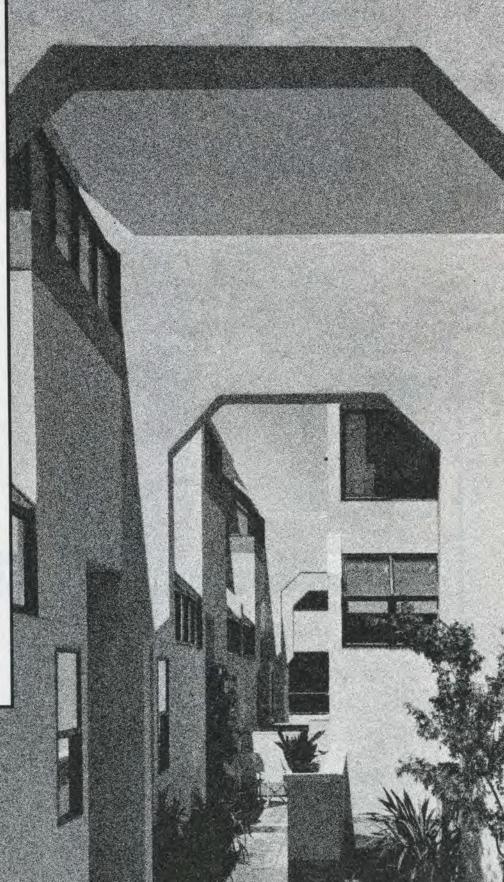


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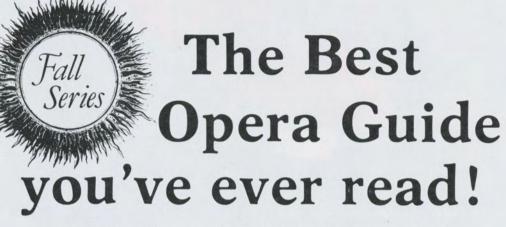
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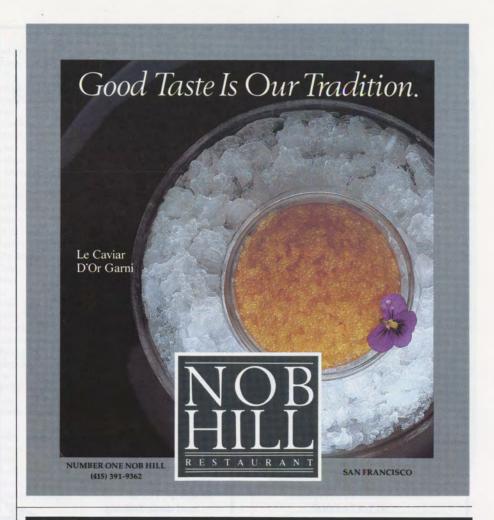
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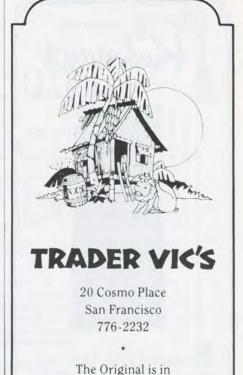
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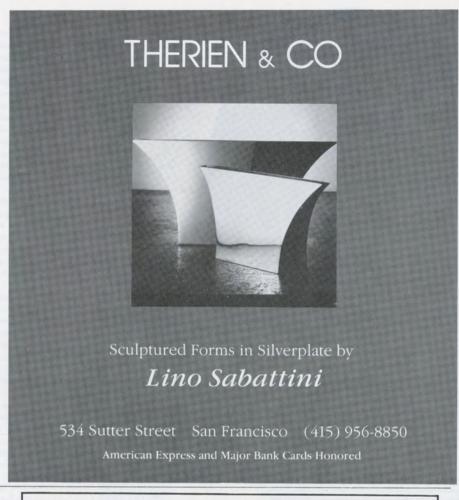
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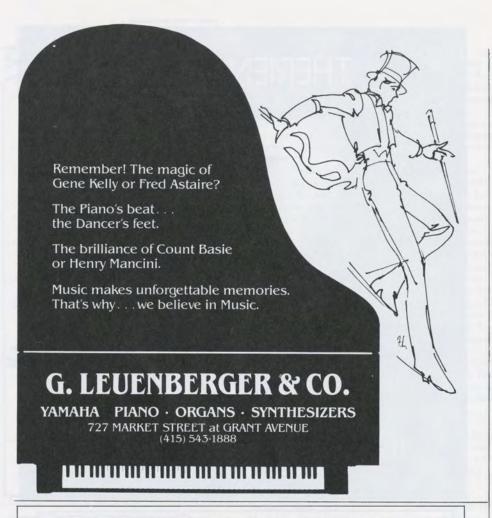
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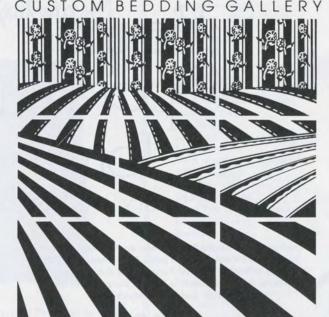


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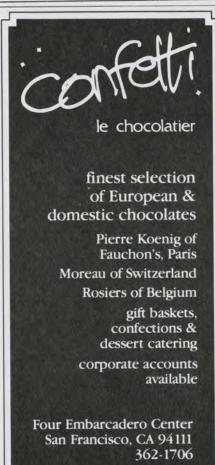
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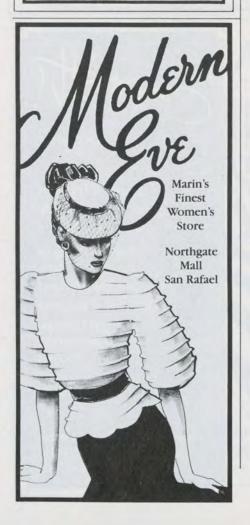
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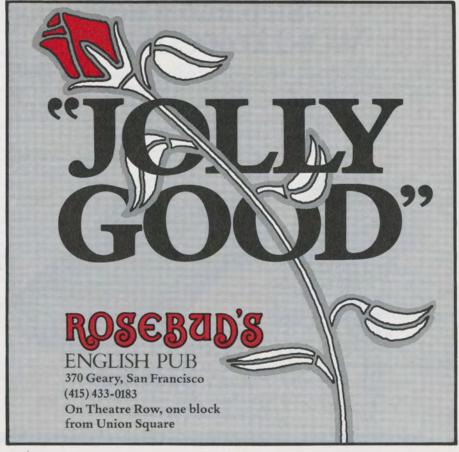
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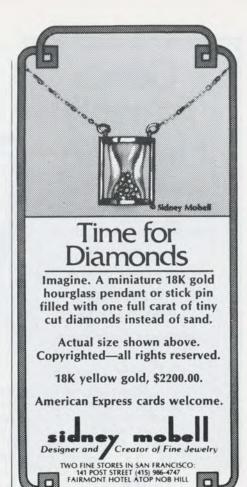
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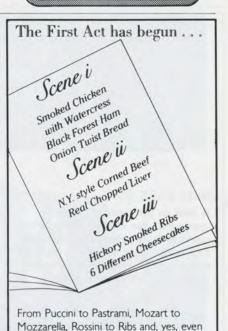
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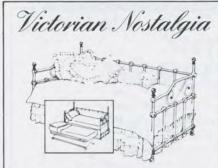
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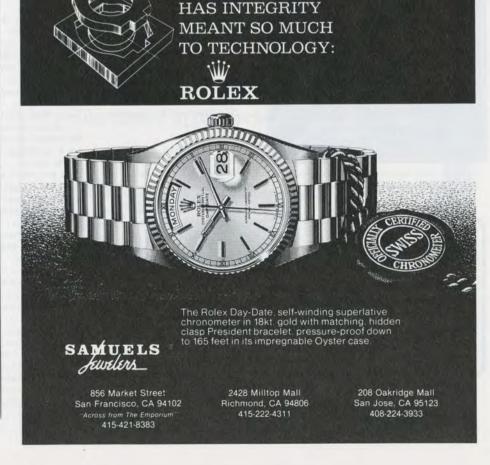
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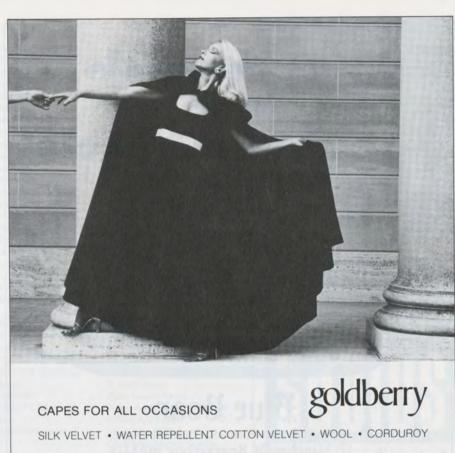
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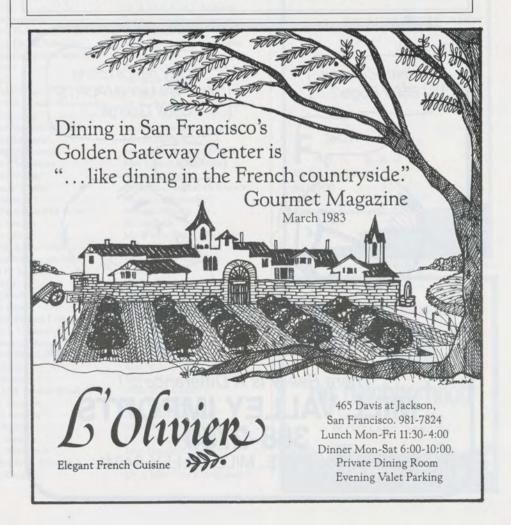
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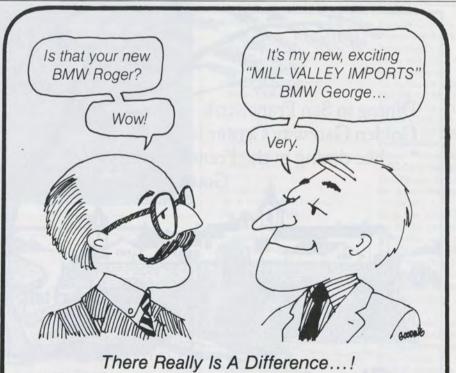
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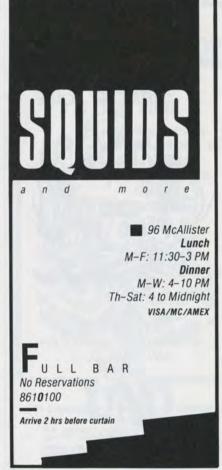
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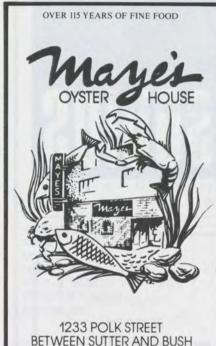
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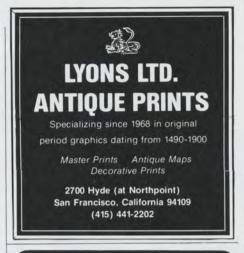
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Many Opera goers who live in the northern section of San Francisco are regular patrons of the Municipal Railway special "Opera Bus."

This bus is added to Muni's north-bound 47 line following all evening performances of the Opera, Symphony, Ballet and other major events. The service is also provided for all Saturday and Sunday matinees.

Look for this bus, marked "47 Special," after each performance in the bus zone at Van Ness Avenue and Grove Street—across Van Ness from the Opera House.

Its route is as follows:

North on Van Ness to Chestnut, then left to Divisadero where it turns left to Union. It continues on Union over Russian Hill to Columbus, then left to Powell—then right to the end of the line at North Point.

Taxi Service

Patrons needing a cab at the end of the performance should reserve one with the doorman at the Taxi Entrance before the end of the final intermission.

Food Service

The lower lounge in the Opera House is now open one and one-half hours prior to curtain time for hot buffet service. Patrons arriving before the front doors open will be admitted at the Carriage Entrance.

Refreshments are served in the box tier on the mezzanine floor, the grand tier and dress circle levels during all performances.

Emergency Telephone

The telephone number 431-4370 may be used by patrons for emergencies only during performances. Before the performance, patrons anticipating possible emergencies should leave their seat number at the Nurse's Station in the lower lounge, where the emergency telephone is located.

Fire Notice: There are sufficient exits in this building to accommodate the entire audience. The exit indicated by the lighted "Exit" sign nearest your seat is the shortest route to the street. In case of fire please do not run—walk through that exit.

Watch That Watch

Patrons are reminded to please check that their digital watch alarms are switched OFF before the performance begins.

Ticket Information

San Francisco Opera Box Office. Lobby, War Memorial Opera House: Van Ness at Grove, (415) 864-3330. 10 A.M. to 6 P.M. Monday through Saturday. 10 A.M. through first intermission on all performance days.

Important Notice: The box office in the outer lobby of the Opera House will remain open through the first intermission of every performance. Tickets for remaining performances in the season may be purchased at this time.

Unused Tickets

Patrons who are unable to attend a performance may make a worthwhile contribution to the San Francisco Opera Association by returning their tickets to the Box Office or telephoning (415) 431-1210. Donors will receive a receipt for the full value, but the amount is not considered a contribution to the fund—drive or fulfillment of a fund drive pledge.

Opera glasses are available for rent in the lobby.

Please note that no cameras or tape recorders are permitted in the Opera House.

Children of any age attending a performance must have a ticket.

Management reserves the right to remove any patron creating a disturbance.

For lost and found information, inquire at check room No. 3 or call (415) 621-6600, 9 A.M. to 4 P.M.

Performing Arts Center Tours

Tours of the San Francisco Performing Arts Center, which include the War Memorial Opera House, the Louise M. Davies Symphony Hall and the Herbst Theatre take place as follows:

Mondays, 10:00-2:30 on the hour and half hour.

Davies Hall only:

Wednesday 1:30/2:30—Saturday 12:30/1:30 All tours leave from Davies Symphony Hall, Grove Street entrance.

General \$3.00—Seniors/Students \$2.00 For further information, please call (415) 552-8338.

THE OPERA HOUSE MUSEUM, located on the south mezzanine (box) level behind the Opera Boutique, currently houses an exhibit on the San Francisco Opera Center. Featuring photographs and information on the talented young singers of the Center, the display, assembled by Christine Albany, provides an introduction to the many activities and events that make the San Francisco Opera Center unique among operatic training programs in this country.



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