

29

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
OPERA THEATRE PRESENTS

A decorative border consisting of a vertical wavy line on the left and a horizontal wavy line at the top, meeting at a small circle in the upper left corner.

UNDINE

BY DOROTHY CADZOW HOKANSON

Libretto by Esther Shephard and John Ashby Conway

MAY 2, 3, 6, 7, 1958

8:30 P.M.

UNIVERSITY PLAYHOUSE

East 45th and University Way

UNDINE

MUSIC BY DOROTHY CADZOW HOKANSON

Libretto by Esther Shephard and John Ashby Conway

CAST, in order of appearance

THREE SIRENS	Mary Alexander, <i>soprano</i>
	Dena Lampropolus, <i>soprano</i>
	Frances George, <i>mezzo-soprano</i>
MOTHER-OF-PEARL, <i>older-water-spirit</i>	Emilie Berendsen, <i>contralto</i>
PEARL, <i>her daughter</i>	Donna Mathews, <i>soprano</i>
SANDY } <i>Undine's poor relations</i>	Joan Falskow, <i>soprano</i>
SEA URCHIN }	Vera Neufeld, <i>mezzo-soprano</i>
UNDINE, <i>a water-spirit</i>	5-6-58 Sharon Laughlin, <i>soprano</i>
	5-3-58 Emilie Runck, <i>soprano</i>
ANEMONE, <i>Undine's cousin</i>	Suzanne Baker, <i>dancer</i>
CORAL, <i>Undine's cousin</i>	Sharon Feetham, <i>dancer</i>
KING OF THE MEDITERRANEAN, <i>Undine's father</i>	John Iverson, <i>baritone</i>
KUHLEBORN, <i>Undine's uncle</i>	Louis Smart, <i>bass</i>
FISHERMAN, <i>Undine's foster-father</i>	Thomas Tavener, <i>tenor</i>
HULDEBRAND, <i>a knight</i>	Howard Nelson, <i>bass</i>
FISHERMAN'S WIFE, <i>Undine's foster-mother</i>	Carolyn Clarke, <i>mezzo-soprano</i>
FATHER HEILMANN, <i>a priest</i>	Alan Lund, <i>bass</i>
LADY BERTALDA, <i>a lady at the king's court</i>	Doris Dyson, <i>soprano</i>
LADIES-IN-WAITING, <i>attendants to Lady Undine</i>	Joan Falskow, <i>soprano</i>
	Vera Neufeld, <i>mezzo-soprano</i>
	Donna Mathews, <i>soprano</i>
KING	Alan Lund, <i>bass</i>
DUKE } <i>Foster Parents of Bertalda</i>	Joseph La Rocque, <i>bass</i>
DUCHESS }	Jean Sundsten, <i>contralto</i>

Scene II

Kuhleborn reflects on the sad tale of Undine. She has returned to the sea world, but she is unhappy. Also, according to the inevitable plan, Huldebrand's death has come about with his marriage to Bertalda—for a man who has married an undine can never marry another woman and live. The King of the Mediterranean and Kuhleborn try to persuade Undine to join the others and be happy, and gradually Undine is drawn back to her original life. As Kuhleborn has observed, "Undines, like men, can forget."

THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC OPERA STAFF

Conductor and Director	Stanley Chapple
Stage Director	Ralph Rosinbum
Choreographer	Martha Nishitani
Stage Manager	Thomas Tavener

THE SCHOOL OF DRAMA PRODUCTION STAFF

Courtesy of Glenn Hughes, Executive Director

Art Director and Technical Supervisor	John Ashby Conway
Assistant Art Director	Alanson Davis
Technical Director	Warren C. Lounsbury
Costumiere	Marley Miner Hedges
Properties	Don Adams
Electrician	Rex Kleitz

Sponsored by the University of Washington School of Music and the Office of Lectures and Concerts, Division of Adult Education.

1228 (5-6-58)
The Story

ACT I

Scene I, *The Bottom of a Lake*

At the bottom of a lake, perched on a rock, three sirens sing boldly. They are separated from the watersprites, who try to ignore them. Finally an older watersprite, Mother of Pearl, shoos the sirens away. She then discusses with Undine a plan made by Undine's father for her to go up to earth to marry a man. Undine's father, the King of the Mediterranean, and her Uncle Kuhleborn arrive, and tell her how the plan will be accomplished. Kuhleborn has already made all the arrangements. The king gives Undine rings for the wedding, and all join in to bid her farewell.

Scene II, *A Fisherman's Cottage*

1265 (5-6-58)
Huldebrand, a young knight, relates his tale to a fisherman and his wife. Strange events have driven the knight to seek shelter in the fisherman's hut, located on a promontory. Huldebrand is startled by splashes against the window, and soon Undine appears. As the foster daughter of the fisherfolk, she arrives each evening at their home, and frequently teases them with her antics. She sees the knight, sits down beside him, and in a very short time has woven a magic spell. Huldebrand quickly announces that he is in love with Undine, and wishes to marry her. Apparently he has forgotten all about Lady Bertalda, to whom he was betrothed. At this point a priest arrives. He tells how his boat capsized in a terrible storm, and he too seeks shelter. He consents to marry the young couple. The King of the Mediterranean's plan has been carried out—but Undine is disturbed by the sudden appearance of Kuhleborn at the window.

ACT II

The journey through the woods. Outside the fisherman's cottage; in front of a waterfall; near rock.

The fisherman, Huldebrand, and Undine are seated at a wedding breakfast the next morning. The storm is over, and it is a beautiful day. The fisherman wishes to propose a toast to the couple, but finds his wine jug empty.

Undine suggests he and Huldebrand look on the shore of the lake. She has seen a cask of wine there. The men find the cask and praise Undine. Later Huldebrand and Undine depart for his castle.

1266 (5-6-58)
On their journey, Huldebrand asks Undine to whom she has been talking. He remembers the face at the window, has heard the sirens in a dream, and now, as the two stand in front of a waterfall, he finds his wife in conversation with someone. Undine feels she must explain who she is. Huldebrand accepts the explanation as "science," and the two promise to love each other faithfully.

Undine and Huldebrand are resting when the Lady Bertalda, followed by Father Heilmann, comes into sight. The priest has met Bertalda and is trying to dissuade her from continuing her journey through the magic wood. She, however, is determined to continue her search for the young knight whom she had sent on a quest. The priest has seen a knight, but knows it cannot be the same one, for he himself officiated last night at his marriage. At that moment they run headlong into Undine and Huldebrand.

INTERMISSION

ACT III

Scene I, *The King's Castle*

Outside the king's castle, three ladies-in-waiting are gossiping about Undine. They wonder who she is, where she came from, and why she has taken Bertalda to live at their castle. Today Undine is giving a birthday feast for Bertalda. The girls play a game, finding words to describe mysterious Undine, and then run off as they hear her coming.

1222 (5-3-58)
No sooner has Undine arrived than Kuhleborn appears out of a fountain. Undine begs him to go away, but he has followed her life on earth, and is distressed to find her unhappy. This, Undine says, is something he cannot understand—that on earth "happiness and sorrow are the same." He learns of the birthday feast, and offers to bring a special gift for Undine to give Bertalda. Huldebrand comes in, and again finds Undine talking to her uncle. He is disturbed by this, but Undine begs him not to be angry with her, particularly when they are near a fountain.

The king and other guests arrive on the scene, and the birthday feast begins. Kuhleborn's special gift turns out to be Bertalda's real parents for she too has been adopted. Bertalda is infuriated to find that her real parents are none other than the fisherman and his wife. It seems as if the feast has been ruined, but Undine tries desperately to make the occasion a happy one. Instead, another "magic" gift spells her doom. Huldebrand becomes angry, and Undine is forced to return to the sea world again.