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The University of Washington
Opera Theatre

2-24-59,

2-24-60
STEREO

presents

SUSANNA'S SECRET

1660

by
Wolf-Ferrari

R#1
(1606)

MIRANDA AND THE DARK YOUNG MAN

1661

by
Siegmeister

R#1 (1608)
R#2 (1609)

University Playhouse

8:00 p.m.

February 23

February 24

February 26

February 27

SUSANNA'S SECRET

Music by Ermanno Wolf-Ferrari

Libretto from the French by Erico Golisciani

English version by Claude Aveling

CAST:

Count Gil	Jack Turner, <i>baritone</i>
Countess Susanna, his wife	Doris Richards, <i>soprano</i>
Sante, a servant	Ralph Rosinbum, <i>mute</i>

SCENE: The apartment of the Count, Piedmont.

TIME: About 1890

THE STORY

Countess Susanna, a devotee of the cigarette, takes the opportunity to smoke during her husband's absence. Count Gil is very much in love with his wife, but is averse to cigarette smoke.

Returning to their apartment, he smells smoke and questions the servant, Sante, who denies being the smoker. The Count immediately concludes that his wife is receiving the attentions of another man.

The Countess attempts to pacify her husband, but he angrily leaves the house. On his departure, the Countess immediately decides to have another cigarette. Her husband returns unexpectedly, but, with the help of Sante, she is able to escape detection. However, her husband smells the fresh smoke, and, after an unsuccessful search of the apartment, he leaves, determined to find her out. The Countess again lights a cigarette. This time the Count surprises her, discovers her secret, and begs forgiveness for his jealousy. Happily, they both enjoy a cigarette together as the curtains close.

INTERMISSION

MIRANDA AND THE DARK YOUNG MAN

Music by Eli Siegmeister

Libretto by Edward Eager

CAST:

Miranda	Sharen Feetham, <i>soprano</i>
The Father	Howard Nelson, <i>bass-baritone</i>
Aunt Nan	Nancy Nuckols, <i>mezzo-soprano</i>
The Dark Young Man	William Humphrey, <i>tenor</i>
The Fair Young Man	Rolfe Simonsen, <i>speaking part</i>
The Middle-Aged Man	Donald Turner, <i>speaking part</i>

SCENE: The yard and interior of a house in the suburbs

TIME: Yesterday

THE STORY

Miranda, a girl of seventeen, is unable to obtain her father's permission to go to a dance. Even her Aunt Nan is unable to change his mind. Miranda is heartbroken.

Aunt Nan decides to take matters into her own hands, and plots to get a nice young man to take Miranda to the dance in spite of her father's objections. The object of the plot is the unsuspecting Dark Young Man who regularly passes the house. Coached by Nan, Miranda intimates to her father that the young man is showing more than a casual interest in her. The father is furious and orders the bewildered young man away.

The young man decides the father is mad and, although his curiosity is aroused, he leaves without even looking up at Miranda's window.

A second attempt to interest the young man also ends unsuccessfully. This time the young man is convinced that the whole incident is a case of mistaken identity. The last attempt is made on the evening of the dance. The Dark Young Man, unable to curb his curiosity any longer, meets Miranda secretly and takes her to the dance while Nan successfully keeps the father occupied with a game of chess.