

No. 135  
Betty.

THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON  
THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC AND THE OFFICE OF LECTURES AND CONCERTS

*Present*

THE OPERA WORKSHOP

SUSANNE SZEKELY, *director*

Tuesday, November 25, 1975

Studio Theater, 8:00 PM

No. 7895

PROGRAM

NICOLAI  
(1810-1849)

The Merry Wives of Windsor

Paula Hill...*Alice Ford*  
Dona Uno...*Meg Page*

CIMAROSA  
(1749-1801)

Il Matrimonio Segreto (The Secret Marriage)

*Trio*

Penelope Bourdon...*Elisetta*  
Janis Reiman...*Carolina*  
Carmen Griffiths...*Fidalma*

TCHAIKOWSKY  
(1840-1893)

Eugene Onegin

*Final Scene*

Carol Sams...*Tatyana*  
Daniel Shelhamer...*Eugene Onegin*

## PROGRAM NOTES

### The Merry Wives of Windsor

The story is taken from Shakespeare's play of the same name. Alice Ford and Meg Page, the wives of two wealthy merchants of Windsor have received love letters from Sir John Falstaff which they eagerly show each other in this scene.

### The Secret Marriage

Elisetta and Carolina are the two daughters of a wealthy merchant in Bologna. Fidalma is their aunt who lives in the house and looks after the girls. Carolina is secretly married to her father's poor assistant. The father has left the room, after announcing that a Count Robinson is asking for Elisetta's hand. Carolina's anxiety is mistaken for envy. Elisetta is overwhelmed by the prospect of being a countess and immediately asserts her social superiority in the house. Carolina reacts in true sisterly fashion, the sisters fight and the aunt is caught in the middle.

### Eugene Onegin

Tatyana holds a letter from Onegin in her hand. She is very upset. As a girl she had loved him and revealed her love to him in a letter. His answer was short and simple; he was not interested. After several years of travel abroad he returns to Moscow and attends a magnificent ball at the house of Prince Gremin, where he meets Tatyana again. She is now Gremin's wife, dignified and aloof. He besieges her with letters and finally manages to see her alone.