

THE PORTRAIT OF MANON
Conducted by Stanley Chapple
Directed by Robert DeSimone

Cast, in order of Appearance

Des Grieux	Raeder Anderson
Tiberge	Doug Manning
Jean	Peggy Peterson
Aurore	Letitia Garner
Chorus	Emilie Berendsen-Bloch
	Edward Griffiths
	Linda Haslach
	Linda Knowles
	Doug Manning
	Peggy Peterson
	Steven Tachell

The Story.....

"The Portrait of Manon," Massenet's one-act sequel to his "Manon," appeared in 1894, ten years after the longer work. At the opening of the opera, des Grieux admires a small portrait of his sweetheart, Manon, and sings a bittersweet aria which sums up their tragic love. Determined to protect his nephew, Jean, from similar heartache, he refuses to consider his marriage to Aurore, a penniless young girl who is the pupil of Tiberge, des Grieux' lifelong friend. For a time, the young lovers contemplate suicide in the best adolescent tradition, but Aurore breaks the mood with her carefree ballad about the love of a shepherd. Eventually, Tiberge disguises Aurore as Manon when des Grieux first saw her. Seeing her at a distance, des Grieux believes it to be a vision of his lost love and Tiberge explains that Aurore is the daughter of Manon's brother. Des Grieux relents and blesses the union of the lovers with his realization the "reason is only a sacrilege . . . love is the truth."

I N T E R M I S S I O N

TROUBLE IN TAHITI
Conducted by Stanley Chapple
Directed by Robert DeSimone

Cast, in order of Appearance

Dinah	Emilie Berendsen-Bloch
Sam	Steven Tachell
Trio	Linda Haslach
	Mikel Goring
	Doug Manning

The opera takes place in the late forties. The score is inspired by popular music with its roots in musical comedy. The story relates the domestic difficulties of Sam and Dinah, showing that our ever increasing concern with the quality of domestic life and the culture of suburbanites has an even greater significance today than when the opera was written.

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