

THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC AND THE OFFICE OF LECTURES AND CONCERTS

No. 39
Betty.

Present

THE OPERA WORKSHOP

RALPH ROSINBUM, *director*

Monday, March 14, 1977

Studio Theater, 8:00 PM

Tape No. 1-8402

GOUNOD
(1818-1893)

PROGRAM

FAUST (Act III, Scene I) in French

Time and Place: Sixteenth Century, Germany

On her way home from Mass, Marguerite has met a handsome young stranger. She shyly turned aside his advances but now alone in her garden she cannot help thinking of him. Discovering a casket of jewels placed there by Mephistopheles, she excitedly tries them on, imagining that they will make her more attractive to the handsome stranger.

Marguerite.....Judith Page

(Act III, Scene II)

Mephistopheles calls upon the night and the flowers to conspire with bewitching shadows in his designs on Marguerite's soul. As he watches, Faust woos the unsuspecting Marguerite. Genuinely affected by her youthful innocence, Faust abandons his plan to seduce her. As he turns to leave, Mephistopheles scornfully condemns him for his failure. Commanding Faust to wait, they observe Marguerite from the shadows.

As she sings of her love for Faust, begging him to return Faust steps from his hiding place and rushes into Marguerite's arms, as Mephistopheles laughs in satanic triumph.

Mephistopheles..... Paul Berkholds

Faust..... Tom Chambers

Marguerite.....Janice Ironside

THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO (Act I)

Time and Place: Eighteenth-century Seville.

The palace of Count Almaviva

A vacant room in the palace. Count Almaviva, tired of his wife, seeks the companionship of her maid, Susanna. The count's page, Cherubino, has observed his master's actions and as a result has been ordered into the army. As the scene opens, Figaro, valet to the Count, teases the unhappy Cherubino by contrasting the ease of his life at court with the rigors of army life. He is joined in the fun by his fiancée, Susanna.

(Act II)

The apartment of the Countess. Alone in her room, the unhappy Countess despairs of her husband's lost love. Figaro enters and attempts to cheer her by devising a plan to teach the philandering Count a lesson. The women will dress Cherubino as a girl and send him to a secret rendezvous with the Count. Surprised by the Countess, the embarrassed Count will then return to his wife.

Tape No. 2-8403

MOZART
(1756-1791)

GLUCK
(1714-1787)

ORPHEUS AND EURIDICE (Act IV) in Italian

Time and Place: Legendary Greece. A Forest.

To successfully rescue his wife, Euridice, from death in the Underworld Orpheus has been commanded by the gods not to look on her face. As they approach the upper world Euridice's wonder and unhappiness increase. She believes Orpheus no longer loves her because he has not looked at her. Orpheus begs her to follow without question, Euridice unhappily declares that she would prefer to remain among the dead rather than live without the love of her husband. She cries out in such sorrow that Orpheus, forgetting his promise, looks back upon her and she falls lifeless before him.

Euridice.....Jacalyn Schnieder
OrpheusHarriet Taylor
Stage directorUna Stewart*

THEODORE DEACON

TWILIGHT

Time and Place: The present. A rest home

On the lawn four of the eldest residents are watching the sun set. Jonathan reflects upon his past only to exhaust himself to sleep. Martha and Millicent feel pity for Jonathan's lonely existence, while Argile the cynic feels nothing but cold and death. Elsworth, the eldest member of the group, is led to his seat by Nurse Davis. Argile's preoccupation with death has an unsettling effect on the young nurse, who promptly rushes off in tears. Dr. Phillips, the director of the home, goes after her leaving instructions that no one should exert himself while he is gone.

As soon as they are alone, Elsworth, Martha, and Millicent suddenly leap from their chairs as if they were very young again. They induce Jonathan to play their "game," which consists of an active round of "kick-the-can," while Argile, because of his lack of faith and restricted imagination, sits motionless, unable to perceive what is going on.

The game is stopped short by the return of Dr. Phillips who, due to his clinical short-sightedness, is unaware that anything has happened in his absence.

Jonathan Ray Bannon
Martha..... Yvonne Nam
Millicent..... Janet Bliss
Argile Paul Berkolds
Elsworth..... Tom Chambers
Nurse Davis Una Stewart
Dr. Phillips..... Ralph Rosinbum
Conductor and stage director.. Theodore Deacon*

Musical preparation and accompanist for *Faust*, *Marriage of Figaro* and *Orpheus and Euridice*.....Claire Detels

Furniture, costumes and properties courtesy of the School of Drama.

*In partial fulfillment of the requirements for Music 493 (Opera Production and Directing).