

THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
Summer Festival of the Arts

Presents

THE FESTIVAL OPERA COMPANY

"The Impresario Perplex" #1471

By W. A. Mozart

#1472
STEREO #1475
#1476

"Pas de Quatre"

By Cesare Pugni

#1473
#1474

"Gianni Schicchi"

By Giacomo Puccini

STEREO #1477
1478

AUGUST 19, 21, 22, 1959

8:00 p.m.

Meany Hall

THE FESTIVAL OPERA COMPANY

Presents

"THE IMPRESSARIO PERPLEXT"

A Comedy With Music

By W. A. Mozart

Translated and Freely Adapted by Eric Blom

DRAMATIC PERSONAE:

Mr. Buskin, manager of the opera.....**Alan Stanley**, *baritone*
Mrs. Heartfelt, opera singer.....**Joyce Morrison**, *soprano*
Miss Silvertone, opera singer.....**Doris Richards**, *soprano*

SCENE: The manager's room at the opera house

TIME: Late eighteenth century

The Story . . .

Mr. Buskin, the manager of the opera, awaits with some trepidation, the arrival of two rival opera singers. If he can secure the services of either, the success of his new opera will be assured.

Unfortunately the two arrive together and begin to quarrel violently about their respective talents.

Mr. Buskin, in desperation, finally decides to re-write the opera to include a pair of heroines and offers them both a leading role. The ladies enthusiastically accept.

A contract is quickly drawn, which includes an agreement that the ladies will work in harmony for the good of the operatic art. The ladies sign, promising (at least for the moment) to respect each others talent.

INTERMISSION

"GRAND PAS DE QUATRE"

Danced by Students of the Ladre Ballet Academy

Music by Cesare Pugni, orchestrated by John Cowell

This Pas de Quatre known to the present generation of the dance lovers from Chalon's famous lithograph of four great nineteenth century dancers—Taglioni, Grisi, Cerito, and Grahn—was arranged to the music of Cesare Pugni by Jules Perrot, and first performed at Her Majesty's Theatre, London, in the presence of Queen Victoria on July 12, 1845.

CAST

Lucile Grahn.....Mardi Hagen
Carlotta Crisi.....Cassandra Lawyer
Fanny Cerito.....Lynn Simonson
Marie Taglioni.....Ilene Hanover

Choreography by Marion and Illaria Ladre

INTERMISSION

"GIANNI SCHICCHI"

By Giacomo Puccini

CAST

Gianni Schicchi.....**August Werner**, *Bass*
Lauretta (his daughter).....**Peggy Nessel**, *soprano*

Relatives of Busoso Donati:

Zita (Buoso's cousin).....**Emilie Berendsen**, *contralto*
Rinuccio (Zita's nephew).....**Clifton Steere**, *tenor*
Gherardo (Buoso's nephew).....**Walter Cothary**, *tenor*
Nella (his wife).....**Alice Probst**, *soprano*
Gherardino (their son).....**Damien Sokol**
Betto (Buoso's cousin).....**William Smith**, *baritone*
Simone (Buoso's cousin).....**Kurt Steinbrecher**, *bass*
Marco (his son).....**Howard Nelson**, *bass*
La Ciesca (Marco's wife).....**Joyce Amon**, *mezzo-soprano*
Master Sinelloccio (a physician).....**Daniel H. Wing**, *baritone*
Amantio Di Nicolao (lawyer).....**Clemente Penco**, *bass*
Pinellino (a shoemaker).....**Daniel H. Wing**, *baritone*
Guccio (a dyer).....**Bill Clarke**, *baritone*

The Story . . .

Schicci is a shrewd but good-hearted Tuscan who has succeeded in making his way in Florence in spite of many handicaps. Rinuccio, a young fellow in love with Lauretta, Schicchi's daughter, asks his advice over a certain will. Buoso Donati has died without direct descendants leaving all his fortune to a monastery. This is much against the hopes of his relatives who have gathered around his deathbed. Schicchi says there is one remedy only; he can impersonate the dead man whose demise has not yet been announced and dictate a new will, in which each of the relatives will receive just what he wants. The kinsfolk are delighted at this idea, and send for a notary. The notary comes, and Schicchi, in Donati's bed, dictates the will; but after bequeathing a few minor pieces of property to the relatives, he leaves the bulk of Donati's fortune to himself. The relatives do not dare protest for fear of the law. The young lovers, however, are made happy, for Schicchi gives to Lauretta his portion under the mock will, and allows Lauretta to marry Rinuccio.

The School of Music Opera Theatre Staff

Conductor and Director: Stanley Chapple

Stage Director: Ralph Rosinbum

Repetiteurs: Bill Clarke, Warren Swenson

The Festival Opera Production Staff

Art Director and Technical Supervisor: John Ashby Conway

Technical Director: Warren C. Lounsbury

Costumer: James Crider

Properties: Jim Dale

Electrician: Joseph J. E. Poc

Scene Painting: Norman Boulanger

Set Construction: Everett Kent

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