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the university of washington

OPERA THEATER *presents . . .*

RIDERS TO THE SEA

Music by Ralph Vaughan Williams

Play by J. S. Synge

AM AHL and the NIGHT VISITORS

By Gian-Carlo Menotti

PERFORMANCES:

DECEMBER 7, 8, 11, 12, 14, 15
1956 8:30 P.M.

CHILDREN'S MATINEE
3 P.M. DECEMBER 15

AT THE UNIVERSITY PLAYHOUSE

East 41st and University Way
Seattle

Riders to the Sea

Music by Ralph Vaughan Williams

Play by J. S. Synge

Cast, in order of appearance

	Dec. 7, 8, 15		Dec. 11, 12, 14
Cathleen	Barbara Workman	<i>soprano</i>	Barbara Workman
Nora	Donna Fennell	<i>mezzo-soprano</i>	Donna Fennell
Maurya	Lorna Perrin	<i>contralto</i>	Joanne Forstrom
Bartley	Howard Nelson	<i>baritone</i>	Howard Nelson
A Woman	Vera Neufeld	<i>soprano</i>	Vera Neufeld

Peasant women: Ada Hebrank, Joyce Cole, Marinelle Winder, Donna Matthews, Paula Shervold, Sophia Trembanis

Fishermen: Dave Vangelisti, Thomas Tavener

Scene: A cottage on one of the bleak, windswept

Aran Islands off the west coast of Ireland.

The story . . .

Maurya, an old woman, mourns the loss of her son Michael who has been recently lost at sea. The body has not yet been found, but as the opera opens, Nora, the youngest daughter, enters the cottage with bundle containing the clothing of a drowned man who may have been Michael. Before they can open the bundle, Maurya enters. Not wishing to distress her further, they hide the bundle, intending to examine it later.

Bartley, Maurya's only remaining son, enters and tells Maurya that he must go to the fair at Connemara to sell a horse. Maurya, sensing further disaster, tries to dissuade him. Bartley takes no heed of her warnings, and as he turns to go, Maurya refuses to give him her blessing. After he has gone Maurya repents her actions and the girls prevail upon her to go after him and give him her blessing. When she is gone, the girls open the bundle and discover Michael's clothes.

Maurya returns lamenting, and tells of having seen Bartley riding on his horse, followed by Michael on the other horse. When Cathleen gives her Michael's clothes she is sure that Bartley has gone to his death.

Mourning women enter and tell of Bartley's drowning in the sea. Bartley's body is brought in and the opera closes with Maurya's prayer over the body.

INTERMISSION

Amahl and the Night Visitors

by Gian-Carlo Menotti

Cast, in order of appearance

	Dec. 7, 8, 15		Dec. 11, 12, 14 Dec. 15 Matinee	
Amahl (a crippled boy).....	Jimmy Codling	<i>soprano</i>	Gerry Hoban	
His Mother.....	Caroline Clarke	<i>soprano</i>	Betty Matthias	
The Three Kings	{ Melchior.....	Mark Baer	<i>baritone</i>	Ernest Rice
	{ Balthazar.....	Kurt Steinbrecher	<i>bass</i>	Louis Smart
	{ Kaspar.....	Tommy Goleeke	<i>tenor</i>	Ira Jones
The Page.....	Walter Hansen	<i>baritone</i>	Walter Hansen	
The Shepherds: (<i>Singers</i>) Joyce Cole, Julia Detrick, Dave Vangelisti, Thomas Tavener				
(<i>Dancers</i>) Francia Scheiber, Nancy Shoji, John MacKay				

Scene: *A shepherd's hut and the yard outside*

The story . . .

Somewhere in the world lives a crippled little shepherd called Amahl, with his mother, an impoverished widow. Nothing is left to them of the little they ever had, and they are now faced with hunger and cold in their empty house.

Three Wise Men, on their way to Bethlehem, stop at the hut and ask to be taken in for the night. Amahl and his mother welcome them as well as they can, and are much astonished at the splendor of their robes and the wealth of gifts they are carrying with them. When Amahl's mother realizes that the Three Kings are looking for a newborn babe and that the expensive gifts are destined for him, she becomes bitter and envious. She cannot understand why at least some of these gifts are not to be bestowed upon her own child, who is so poor and sickly.

Under cover of darkness, while the Three Kings are asleep, she attempts to steal some of the gold from them but is discovered. When she explains to the Three Kings that she needs this gold to feed her starving child, she is readily forgiven. With great tenderness they try to explain to her who this newborn child is and how much he needs the love of every human being to build his coming kingdom. Touched by their words, the poor widow not only gives back the stolen gold, but wishes she could add a gift of her own. Little Amahl comes to her rescue. He impulsively hands to the Three Kings his wooden crutch, his most precious possession, and in doing so he is miraculously cured of his lameness.

As dawn appears in the sky, the Three Kings make ready to resume their journey. Amahl begs his mother to let him join them, and he is finally allowed to follow the Kings to Bethlehem to adore and give thanks to the Christ Child.

The School of Music Opera Staff

Conductor and Director..... Stanley Chapple

Assistant Conductors..... { Desmond Kincaid
Nathan Cammack }

Stage Director..... Ralph Rosinbum

Assistant Stage Directors..... { Robert Loy
Angelo Manzo }

Choreographer..... Martha Nishitani

Repetiteur..... Warren Babb

Property Managers..... Mary Alexander, Emilie Runck

The School of Drama Production Staff

Courtesy of Glenn Hughes, Executive Director

Art Director and Technical Supervisor..... John Ashby Conway

Assistant Art Director..... Alanson Davis

Technical Director..... Warren C. Lounsbury

Costumiere..... Marley Miner Hedges

Properties..... Jean Wing, Daniel Wing

Electrician..... Dale Palmer