THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
Summer Festival of the Arts
Presents

THE FESTIVAL OPERA COMPANY

"The Impressario Perplext" #1471
#1472
By W. A. Mozart

"Pas de Quatre"
By Cesare Pugni

"Gianni Schicchi"
By Giacomo Puccini

AUGUST 19, 21, 22, 1959

8:00 p.m. Meany Hall
THE FESTIVAL OPERA COMPANY

Presents

"THE IMPRESSARIO PERPLEXED"
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 (Busoso's cousin) ....................................................... Emilie Berendsen, contralto
Rinuccio (Zita's nephew) .................................................... Clifton Steere, tenor
Gherardo (Busoso's nephew) ................................................ Walter Cothary, tenor
Nella (his wife) ................................................................. Alice Probst, soprano
Gherardino (their son) ....................................................... Damien Sokol
Betto (Busoso's cousin) ....................................................... William Smith, baritone
Simone (Busoso'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
Amanatio Di Nicolao (lawyer) ............................................. Clemente Penco, bass
Pinellino (a shoemaker) ..................................................... Daniel H. Wing, baritone
Guccio (a dyer) ............................................................... Bill Clarke, baritone
The Story . . .

Schicchi 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. Lounsbery
Costumer: James Crider
Properties: Jim Dale
Electrician: Joseph J. E. Poc
Scene Painting: Norman Boulanger
Set Construction: Everett Kent

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