University of Washington
Festival Opera Company

presents

CARMEN

by Bizet

8:00 p.m.  Meany Hall

Thursday, February 16 and Saturday, February 18, 1961
The Festival Opera Company

presents

CARMEN

by Georges Bizet

Libretto by Henri Meilhac and Ludovic Halevy

English translation by Virginia Card and George Huston

CAST: (in order of appearance)

Morales ............................................................................ John Feeley, tenor
Zuniga ............................................................................. Jon Pfaff, bass
Don Jose ............................................................................ Leonard Gaskins, tenor
Carmen ............................................................................. Joan Winden, mezzo-soprano
Micaela ............................................................................. Florence Messler, mezzo-soprano
Frasquita .......................................................................... Gerry Vandervoort, soprano
Mercedes .......................................................................... Donna Fennell, mezzo-soprano
Escamillo ........................................................................... John De Merchant, baritone
Dancailro ........................................................................... Jack Turner, baritone
Remendado ......................................................................... William Humphrey, tenor
Lillias Pastia ....................................................................... Frank Nussbaum

Chorus of soldiers, townspeople, cigarette girls, smugglers and gypsies:
Lucyille Anderson, Carl Blanes, Carol Crozier, Joyce Cole, Judy DeChenne, Carl Forsberg, Gerald Hawe, Minnie Itof, Frances Lowe, Bernard Hartmann, Mary Beth Lanfear, Jean Parsons, Carolyn Rasmussen, George Razzore, Pauline Prindle, Wadad Saba, Arnold Salkin, Oliver Skanse, Winston Vitous, Elliot Wicks. Dancers: Diane Lembo, Mimi Funes, Terry Lee Sparks, Francisco Mena, Maximo Barra, Dan Pozarich, Larry Smith.

Street Boys:

St. Stephen’s Boys Choir
John Andrews, Director

TIME: Spain about 1820

The Story . . .

ACT I: Outskirts of Seville. Morning

As the soldier’s guard is being relieved, Micaela comes to look for Don Jose, a sergeant in the Dragoons, to bring him a message from his mother. At noon, the girls who work in the cigarette factory come out, and Carmen, a fiery gypsy girl, flirts with Don Jose. Later that afternoon, Carmen quarrels with another girl and stabs her. She is arrested by Zuniga who tells Don Jose to take her to prison. Carmen persuades Don Jose to help her escape.

ACT II: Lillias Pastia’s Inn. Evening

Carmen has found her gypsy friends at a tavern where the smugglers gather. She is waiting to meet Don Jose, who has just been released from prison. Escamillo, a famous toreador, enters the inn. Carmen is immediately attracted to him, but is still in love with Don Jose. When Don Jose arrives, Carmen tries to persuade him to stay with her. Zuniga enters and orders Jose to leave, but Jose refuses and threatens Zuniga. Don Jose now decides to flee to the mountains with Carmen.

ACT III: Smugglers Hideout. Night

Carmen is now tired of Don Jose and interested only in Escamillo. She tells her fortune by the cards and finds that she will soon die. Escamillo comes to the hideout to find Carmen. He and Jose have a fight, but before he goes away, he invites Carmen to a bullfight in Seville. Micaela brings Don Jose the news that his mother is dying and wishes to see him. Don Jose warns Carmen that he will see her again and leaves with Micaela.

ACT IV: Escamillo’s Quarters. Afternoon

Carmen promises Escamillo that if he is successful in his fights, she will be his. As the bullfight begins, Jose enters and begs Carmen to return to him. She refuses, and, as the shouts of Escamillo’s victory echo from the bullring, Don Jose stabs her to death.
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Choreographer...................................... Karen Irvin
Chorus Director.................................... John Waddell
Reperteur........................................... William Clarke
Stage Manager...................................... William Winden

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Scene Technician.................................. Scott Strobe
Scene Painting..................................... Yvonne Yu
Properties.......................................... Yvonne Yu

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