UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
Opera Theatre
PRESENTS

Hansel and
Gretel
BY ENGELBERT HUMPERDINCK

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1958
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1958
8:00 p.m. MEANY HALL
Hansel and Gretel
by Engelbert Humperdinck
Libretto by Adelheid Wette
Story based on Ludwig Grimm's fairy tale
English translation and adaptation by Constance Bache

CAST

PETER, a poor broommaker........................................Howard Nelson, Bass
GERTRUDE, his wife..................................................Emilie Berendsen, Contralto
HANSEL, their son.......................................................Mary Alexander, Soprano
GRETEL, their daughter................................................Emilie Runck Haapanen, Soprano
THE WITCH, who eats children.....................................Vera Neufeld, Mezzo-Soprano
SANDBLACK............................................................................Dena Lampropoulos, Soprano
DAWN FAIRY............................................................................Carol Milam, Soprano
GINGERBREAD CHILDREN................................................Shirley Mondt, Mary Ellen Bonham,
Heidi Spaeth, Susan Doar, Leslie Geballe, Arlene Glickman,
Ann Lyda, Annette Gerry, Susan Hartsien, Dorothy Neill,
Bonnie Orth, Brian Partridge, Michael Rosinbum, Jill Turner.
ANGELS.............................................................Mary Ellen Bonham, Marjorie Carrigan, Miriam Felman,
Sandra Ferguson, Leslie Geballe, Arlene Glickman, Mickey
Gustin, Thea Hayashi, Susan Hartsien, Ann Lyda, Dorothy
Neill, Bonnie Orth, Heidi Spaeth, Jill Turner, Mary Jo Tonda,
Barbara Lacy.
ENCHANCED FOREST..................................................Yuanne Anderson, Rick Eckley, Lenita
Foster, Brooke Quigley, Faith Quigley, Arlene Rice, Kit
Canterbury.

THE STORY: R. #1 (1268)

ACT I . . . THE COTTAGE

Once upon a time a poor broom maker and his wife lived in a
lonesome cottage in the Harz Mountains with their son, Hansel, and
daughter, Gretel. When the story begins, the father and mother
have gone away to the neighboring village, leaving the children
at work in the house. But work is tiresome, especially when one is
hungry, and so Hansel and Gretel start romping about the room.
At the height of their frolic their mother enters. She is angry with
them for neglecting their work and so she sends them out into
the forest to pick wild strawberries for supper. Late that evening,
after disposing of his brooms at a good profit, the father returns.
He asks for the children and is horrified when his wife tells him
they have gone into the woods. He describes the wicked witch
who lures children with magic things to eat. The upset mother and
father then hurry out into the night to look for their children.

Night is falling in the deep woods where Hansel and Gretel have
been picking berries. Afraid and in the dark, the children lose
their way. As they imagine all sorts of monsters peering out at
them, their fear increases. Even the trees of the forest seem to take
on fantastic shapes, which clutch and tear at them, as the steep,
rocky bulk of the Ilsestein, a reputed gathering place for evil
sprites, looks up before the eyes of the terrified children. The
children cower beneath a spreading tree as the Sandman appears
and calms them by sprinkling the sand of sleep into their eyes.
After saying their prayers the exhausted children fall asleep in each
other's arms and dream of fourteen angels on a golden stairway
descending to watch over them while they sleep.

INTERMISSION

R. #3 (1289)
R. #4 (1300)

ACT III . . . THE WITCH'S HOUSE

As the mist clears, the Dawn Fairy comes to shake dewdrops on the
children, who rub their eyes and wake up. Hansel and Gretel are
excitedly relating their dreams to each other when suddenly there
appears before them a tempting little house made of cake with a
wall of gingerbread boys and girls. Forgetting their fear, they begin
to nibble hungrily at the house. As they eat, the Witch appears.
The frightened children attempt to run away but the Witch casts
a magic spell over them with her wand. Hansel is locked in a cage
and fed with sweetmeats to fatten him. Meanwhile the Witch tries
to persuade Gretel to bend down in front of the oven because she
wants to push Gretel in and bake her. Gretel pretends not to under­
stand. When the Witch angrily bends down to show her how, the
two children quickly shove her into the oven, bang the door shut
and dance around gleefully. There is a tremendous explosion as the
spell of the wicked Witch is broken and all the children who have
been turned into gingerbread now come back to life. Hansel and
Gretel are found by their parents and all ends happily.
THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC OPERA STAFF

Conductor and Director: Stanley Chapple
Stage Director: Ralph Rosinbun
Choreographer: Marsha Nihtani
Company Managers: Gene Sundstev
Repetiteurs: Bill Clarke, Dave Sannerud
Stage Manager: Howard Nelson
Production Assistants: Richard McCoy, Everett Kent

THE SCHOOL OF DRAMA PRODUCTION STAFF

Art Director: Alanson Davis
Technical Director: Warren C. Lounsberry
Costumiere: James Crider
Design and Painting: John Custer
Scenery: Tom Cook, Dick Montgomery, Dan Goodwin
Lighting: Nolan Debner
Properties: Kayce Mulligan

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