THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
SCHOOL OF MUSIC
AND THE
OFFICE OF LECTURES AND CONCERTS

present

An Evening of Opera Excerpts

FAUST
MADAME BUTTERFLY
SUSANNAH
OTELLO

Monday, November 22, 1971
Tuesday, November 23, 1971

GLENN HUGHES PLAYHOUSE
N.E. 41st & University Way N.E.
FAUST
Duet from Act I, Faust, by Charles Gounod (1818-1893)

Clayne Robison, ** Conductor
Leonard Denham, *** Director

Cast:
Faust ............................................................. Robert Julien
Mephistopheles .................................................. Stan Wexler
Marguerite ........................................................ Kris Cooke

Synopsis
In despair at the failure of his life's work, Faust curses and calls upon Satan, whereupon Satan appears. At first overcome by disgust and fear of the devil, he is not tempted by power, glory, or gold - but later succumbs to the temptation of youth and its joys and to the vision of Marguerite. He signs a contract with the devil, drinks from a goblet and is transformed into a young man.

MADAME BUTTERFLY

by

Giacomo Puccini (1858-1924)
Scenes from Act II

Edward Wojtkowski, *** Conductor
Sherman W. Dearth, ** Director

Cast:
Madame Butterfly ................................................. Vivien Robison
................................................................. Sue Thomle*
Suzuki, her maid ................................................. Roberta Cook
Sharpless, the American Consul ......................... Winston Cook
....................................................... Steven Tachell*
Goro, a marriage broker .......................... Daniel Shelhamer
Trouble, Butterfly's son .............................. Brett Parkin

Synopsis
Butterfly, having given up the Japanese way of life in favor of the American ways of her husband, awaits his return from his own country. Sharpless comes to suggest that Butterfly forget her American husband and accept the proposal of the wealthy Prince Yamadori, since he knows that though Pinkerton is coming back, he brings with him an American wife. When he attempts to prepare Butterfly, she reveals that she has had a child by Pinkerton, and the consul leaves without delivering his sad message. ... The harbor cannon announces the arrival of a ship. It is Pinkerton's, and Butterfly prepares the house for his return. Then she, with the child and Suzuki, prepares to wait his arrival.

INTERMISSION
SUSANNAH

by
Carlisle Floyd (b. 1926)

Donald James,** Conductor
Sherman W. Dearth,** Director

Cast:

Susannah ................................. Christine Lightfoot
Sam, her older brother ..................... William Harness
Olin Blitch, an evangelist .................. Stan Wexler

Synopsis

Floyd derived the story of this opera from the Apocryphal Susannah and the Elders, with the locale transferred to the Tennessee mountain valley, a credible setting for the primitive religion with which it deals. The story tells of the Elders' discovery of Susannah bathing in the creek sought by them as a baptismal font. Susannah is branded as evil, and her case is put before the visiting evangelist Olin Blitch, who exhorts her publicly without success. She is seduced by Blitch, who then tries to convince the Elders of her innocence. In the end he is destroyed by Susannah's brother, and the lonely, embittered woman protects herself from the mob by threat of gunfire.

The scenes to be presented this evening are as follows:
Act I Scene II Susannah returns from the square dance and talks to Sam.
Act I Scene V Sam tries to comfort Susannah after the Elders have accused her.
Act II Scene I Sam convinces Susannah that she should attend the prayer meeting to prove that she isn't afraid of the people and their lies.
Act II Scene III The confrontation between Susannah and the preacher.

OTELLO

Act IV, Otello by Giuseppe Verdi (1813-1901)

Dan Shelhamer,** Conductor
Leonard Denham,*** Director

Cast:

Desdemona, Otello's wife .................... Karen Noble
Emilia, Desdemona's companion and Iago's wife ......................... Valerie Bodington
Otello, Moor of Venice, Governor of Cyprus  Robert Julien
Lodovico, Venetian Ambassador .................. Stan Wexler

(Continued next page)
Otello Cast (concluded)

Iago, ensign under Otello ............ Winston Cook
Cassio, captain under Otello .......... Bruce Browne
Montano, former Governor of Cyprus . Robert Lewis
Attendant ................................ Brian Bailey

Synopsis

The action prior to Act IV is as follows: Otello has victoriously returned from battle. Iago plans to punish Otello for promoting Cassius to captain rather than him. He plants jealousy in Otello's mind, telling him to look for a handkerchief which Iago has given to Desdemona's supposed lover. All this intrigue bears fruit and Otello is convinced of Desdemona's infidelity. He swears to strangle Desdemona while Iago swears to kill her "lover."

Act IV opens with Desdemona in her bedroom as she bids Emilia goodnight. Otello steals in, awakens and suffocates her. Emilia rushes in, followed by Iago and others. She tells of Iago's intrigue, Iago escapes, and the agonized Otello kills himself.

* In November 23rd performance
** In partial fulfillment for the degree of Master of Music
*** In partial fulfillment for the degree of Doctor of Music

Accompanists
James Van Horn and Chung Lee

PRODUCTION STAFF

Set Designer . . . . . . . . . John Ashby Conway
Costume Designer . . . . . . James R. Crider
Technical Director & Lighting .. Phil Shermer
Properties . . . . . . . . . . . Surapone Virulrak
Make Up . . . . . . . . . . . . John Ruppeck
Advisor . . . . . . . . . . . . Ralph Rosinbumb