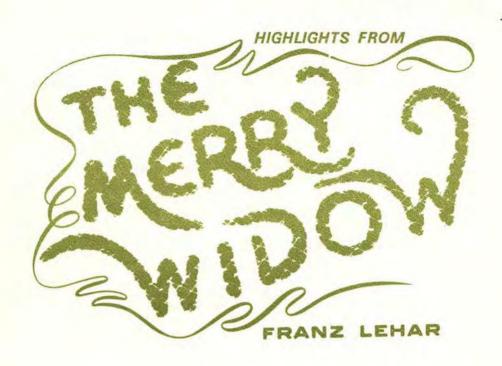
Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra

L'aszlo Somogyi, Music Director





Guest Conductor

OPERA THEATRE OF ROCHESTER

Kenneth Follette, Tenor Ruth Bent, Soprano

Rochelle Abkowitz, Soprano Leon Baltrus, Tenor

January 18, 1969-8:15 PM Eastman Theatre

ROCHESTER PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA THE MERRY WIDOW

OPERA THEATRE OF ROCHESTER

Paul White, Guest Conductor

Camille, a guest Kenneth Follette, tenor

Natalie, Wife of Ambassador Popoff Rochelle Abkowitz, soprano

Sonia, The Merry Widow Ruth Bent, soprano

Danilo, Secretary of the Legation Leon Baltrus, tenor

Waltzing Couple

Gretchen Glover, John Bell

The Scene is Laid in Paris in the Year 1905

This evening's performance presents the best—and strangely the most popular operetta of the twentieth century. The plot (adapted from the comedy L'attaché d'Ambassade) is complex and deserves a capsule summary. Within The Merry Widow, two main plots are intertwined: the love, concealed for a time, of the harum-scarum Danilo for a rich young Balkan widow, Sonia, whose elderly husband had tactfully died, leaving her in possession of a fortune of twenty million francs which the Balkan embassy in Paris would like to be spent in the fatherland; and the coquetries of Natalie, the flirtatious but cautious wife of the famous Balkan ambassador in Paris, with a young Frenchman, Camille, whom Natalie—"a respectable married woman," as she repeatedly assures Camille and us—disinterestedly designs to scoop up Sonia and her millions.

The enduring fascination of Lehár's music is that his melodies maintain all their lilting graceful lines, while the harmonies back of them consistently evade expectation on the second limb of a phrase.

ACT I

Overture

Introduction .								Camille	and Natalie
Ball-Music .									Orchestra
A Dutiful Wife								Natalie	and Camille
In Marsovia .							,		. Sonia
Ball-Music .	•				,		٠,		Orchestra
Maxim's		•	,	,		,			. Danilo
Come Away .								Dan	ilo and Sonia
Ladies Choice				4					Natalie
Villa									Sonia

intermission

ACT II

The Cavali	er .						 Sonia and Danilo
March-Wor	men .						 Orchestra
Merry Wide	w Waltz					•	Danilo and Sonia
Love In My	Heart .						Natalie and Camille
Marriage in	the Mod	dern S	tyle .				Sonia and Natalie
There Once	Were T	wo Pri	ncess	Chile	dren		 Danilo
I Love You	So .						 Danilo and Sonia

OPERA THEATRE OF ROCHESTER

Opera Theatre of Rochester, now in its sixth season, is Rochester's only community opera. It seeks and encourages talent in and about the vicinity; however, interest in performing with the company has spread to

all parts of the county and beyond.

Its production staff: Ruth Y. Rosenberg, General Manager and Producer; David Fetler, Music Director; William Owens and Donald Simpson, Stage Directors; Mildred M. Lipsky, Stage Manager; Evelyn Hirschland, Accompanist; Gretchen Glover, Company Choreographer; and Gerald Rosenberg, Coordinator, have brought to Rochester well-known and well-loved operas as well as less familiar works. It pursues a flexible policy as to language. Having recently presented Mozart's sparkling satire, "Cosi Fan Tutte", in English, it has chosen Puccini's somber drama, "Il Tabarro", to be sung in Italian, coupled with a modern American one-act opera, for its Spring performances.

Assisting with this production . . .

General Manager	and	Proc	lucer	4	4		*	. Ruth Y. Rosenberg
Stage Director .		4						. Donald Simpson
Accompanist .				į.				. Evelyn Hirschland
Choreographer .								. George Francis
Lighting		4	4			,		. Merritt Torrey, Jr.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday, January 27
PHILHARMONIC SERIES
TENTH CONCERT
László Somogyi, Conducting

Eugene List, Piano Soloist

Thursday, February 6
PHILHARMONIC SERIES
ELEVENTH CONCERT
László Somogyi, Conducting
Leonid Kogan, Violin Soloist

Sunday, February 9
3:00 p.m.

MUSIC FOR YOUNG LISTENERS
Samuel Jones, Conducting

Sunday, February 16
Nazareth Arts Center, 4:00 p.m.
MUSICAL SUNDAY AFTERNOON
László Somogyi, Conducting
Thomas Dumm, Viola Soloist

Thursday, February 20
PHILHARMONIC SERIES
TWELFTH CONCERT
László Somogyi, Conducting
Tamas Vasary, Piano Soloist

All performances begin at 8:15 p.m. in the Eastman Theatre unless otherwise indicated.