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#### Foreword:

In its first season the Elizabethan Trust Opera Company presented a season of four Mozart Operas. This was an ambitious beginning and showed beyond doubt that an enormous demand for classical opera exists in this country. A programme which in Europe or America would be regarded as food for the connoisseur only, here proved a popular diet for all.

This season provides an opportunity for the presentation of some operas that are well-known and well-loved, more samples from the world's storehouse of operatic treasures. The cost of such a season is very great. We are most fortunate in the generous support of State Governments, City Councils and in the co-operation of the Australian Broadcasting Commission, which alone makes possible the continued life of the Company, but it is upon you, the theatre-goer of Australia, that the Opera must always most rely.

Our National talent for the performance of opera has amply demonstrated itself both at home and abroad; if this talent goes forward with the widening appreciation of the art, then the future of the lyric theatre in Australia is assured.

Seb. hoom hs

CHAIRMAN.

# Bernhard HAMMERMAN



FUR SALON7TH. FLOOR, THE TRUST BUILDING, 155 KING STREET - BW 1309

#### JOAN HAMMOND

Has achieved brilliant success as lyric-dramatic soprano since leaving Australia in 1936. Before going overseas she was a violinist with Sydney Conservatorium and Philharmonic orchestras, and a sportswoman of championship standard.

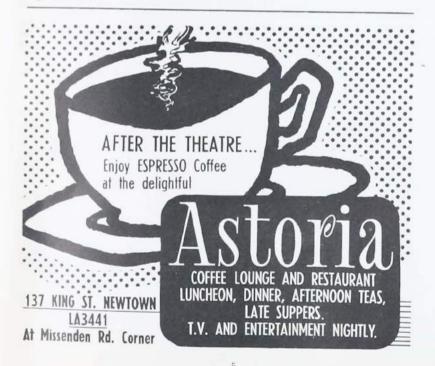
She was engaged for principal roles with the Vienna State Opera after studying languages and opera in that city, and shortly afterwards was asked to appear with the late Sir Henry J. Wood at the opening of London's Promenade Concerts.

During World War II she combined ambulance driving in London's East End with concert and operatic performances, several of which were given in air raid shelters during the "blitz".

Following a recital tour of Australia in 1946, she returned, as the first post-war guest artist, to the Vienna State Opera. This was followed by a recital tour of South Africa, a series of appearances in all the leading opera houses and concert halls in the United States and Canada, British Isles, East and Central Africa and Europe.

In addition to being the first British artist to sing in Russian in Moscow's Bolshoi Theatre since the Revolution, she was also the first Australian to sing in this, the world's largest opera house. Following her appearances with the Elizabethan Trust Opera Company in "Tosca" and "Otello", she will return to concert and TV in the United Kingdom, to be followed by a tour of the United States and Europe, including Scandinavia.









#### ELSIE MORISON

Returns to Australia for the first time since 1946, to appear in "La Boheme" and "The Bartered Bride" for the Elizabethan Trust Opera Company.

Now principal soprano at Covent Garden, she was recently acclaimed by the London press for her interpretation of Gilda in "Rigoletto", whilst guest artist with the Sadler's Wells Opera Company.

Recognised as one of the foremost operatic and oratorio sopranos in England, she won the Melba Scholarship in 1941, and later, with the help of the citizens of Ballarat, Victoria (her birthplace), she studied at London's Royal Academy of Music. During her first year at the Academy she won a further scholarship and the Oueen's Prize.

After three years with the Sadler's Wells Company she made her first appearance with the Glyndebourne Company in Stravinsky's "The Rake's Progress" at the 1953 Edinburgh Festival. The role of Mimi in "La Boheme" is one of her most famous, although she has established such a formidable repertoire in both opera and oratorio during the last few years as to make selection difficult. Nearly one hundred workers are included in her oratorio repertoire, making it one of the most comprehensive of any living singer to-day.

In addition she has sung the role of "Mena" in Arwel Hughes' opera of the same name, for the Welsh National Opera Company.



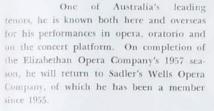


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# LA BOHEME

#### Act I: An Attic-Latin Quarter, Paris.

Rudolph and Marcel are sitting in their attic studio. Rudolph finds his attempts to write frustrated by the intense cold, and Marcel cannot paint. They finally agree to use Rudolph's manuscript as fuel for the stove. Colline enters with books rejected by the pawnshop. The unexpected arrival of Schaunard with fuel, food and money cheers the group as they prepare a meal to celebrate his good fortune. The friends part, and Rudolph is alone with his writing when Mimi, a scanstress, enters. She requests a light for her candle. Rudolph finds reason to detain her. They talk and fall in love.

#### Act II: Cafe Momus, Christmas Eve.

The group of artists are gathered at their usual sidewalk table. Musetta, Marcel's former love, arrives with Alcindoro, an elderly dandy. Eventually, Musetta sends Alcindoro off on the pretext of having her shoe mended, and she and Marcel fall into each other's arms. Realising they have no money for the supper check, the Bohemians, at Musetta's suggestion, leave the check for Alcindoro and join the crowd watching the holiday parade of soldiers.

#### Act III: A City Gate of Paris.

Mimi, ill and troubled by Rudolph's jealousy, seeks out Marcel. As Mimi hides herself within earshot Rudolph enters and tells Marcel of his despairing love for the dying girl. A cough betrays her, and unable to part, they decide to stay together until the end of winter. Marcel and Musetta meanwhile are engaged in a lover's quarrel.

#### Act IV: The Attic-studio.

Marcel and Rudolph find their artistic work impeded by memories of Musetta and Mimi. Schaunard and Colline arrive with a little food, and all four pretend it is a banquet. Musetta enters and, greatly concerned, tells them that Mimi, weak and ill, cannot manage the stairs to the attic. As Mimi is brought in, clinging to Rudolph, Musetta offers her ear-rings, Colline his coat to buy medicine. Alone, Mimi and Rudolph declare their undying love. The others return, and as Musetta prays, Mimi dies.



#### ELIZABETHAN THEATRE

For a Season commenced Saturday, 31st August, 1957

THE AUSTRALIAN ELIZABETHAN THEATRE TRUST

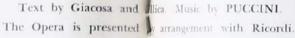
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#### CHARACTERS:

MIMI, a Sempstress	ELSIE MORISON
MUSETTA	JOY MAMMEN
RUDOLPH, a Poet	MAX WORTHLEY
MARCEL, a Painter	NEIL EASTON
SCHAUNARD, a Musician	JOHN GERMAIN
COLLINE, a Philosopher	
BENOIT, Landlord	JOHN YOUNG
PAPIGNOL, Toy Vendor	
ALCINDORO, State Councillor and A	l follower of lusetta JOHN YOUNG
Workgirls, Milkmaids, Hawkers, Urchins, Citizens, Students:  PAMELA COLEMAN, VALERIE, ROSALIND KEENE, MARGARET MCCAUGHAN, GLORIA MCDONELI ROSS, BETTY WEST, JOSEPH DRI WAVERNEY FORD, JOHN GERMAIN	EARL DOROTHY HITCH, H LANNINGAN, BETTINE GWENDELL OBERG, JAN EWNIAK, ANTONY FENECH,

MARDARDY, NOEL McCABE, PETER NORTH, WALTER RYCH

TOWSKI, FERDINAND TONGI, GINO ZANCANARO. With Messes, GERARD FIELD, BRUCE LAURENCE, WESLEY LADD, DUDLEY O'KEEFE, DON POWELL, BRIAN RICHARDSON, MAX

BROWN, ARTHUR KENNEDY.

#### SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

ACT 1	A Garret in the Latin Quarter of Paris
ACT II	A Students' Cafe
AGT III	A City Gate
ACT IV	Same as Act I

There will be three intervals of ten minutes each.

Musical Director - - - JOSEPH POST

Production by - - - - ROBIN LOVEJOY

Scenery designed by DRES HARDRINGHAM

Music Staff: ERIC CLAPHAM GEORG TINTNER GEORGE HUMPHREY

General Manager - - - ROBERT QUENTIN





















































































Opera Staff:

Production Director		STEFAN HAAG
	*	
Stage Managers	7	WILL THOMPSON, JOHN DOWEY
Assistant Stage Manager		RICHARD MOONEY
	*	
Business Manager		LOUIS VAN EYSSEN
		HELEN MCARA
Opera Secretary		HELEN MUNKA
	*	
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The Management reserves the right to make any alteration in the cast which may be rendered necessary by illness or any other unavoidable cause.

The Management reserves the right of refusing admission to the Theatre.

Taking photographs during the performance of this production is prohibited.

Smoking is not permitted in the Auditorium.

#### CREDITS

Scenery and Properties made by Norman Parker and Assistants in the workshop of Television City, Pagewood.

Costumes made under the supervision of Phyll Foulkes in the wardrobe of the National Theatre, Melbourne.

Scenery and costumes of TOSCA by arrangement with The National Theatre Movement, Melbourne; scenery and costumes of LA BOHEME by arrangement with The National Theatre Movement, Melbourne, and The National Opera, sydney; costumes by THE TALES OF HOFFMANN by arrangement with The National Theatre Movement, Melbourne, Projector Slides painted by DESMONDE DOWNING (ABC TV). Pointe and Character Shoes and Tights supplied by J. BLOCH, of Sydney.

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Members of the ST. JOHN AMBULANCE BRIGADE are in attendance at this

theatre on a voluntary basis.

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Sound Equipment installed in Elizabethan Theatre is by Reginald Leaney.

Musical Director and Principal Conductor

#### JOSEPH POST

First conducted grand opera and symphony at the age of 26. Now one of Australia's most distinguished conductors, his work is known throughout Australia and New Zealand.

In 1947 he was appointed associate conductor of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, and in 1948 was invited by the newly-formed Australian National Opera Company to be-

come principal conductor.

He has the distinction of being the first Australian to be sent on exchange to England with a B.B.C. conductor. In 1953 he conducted the Royal Performance of "Tales of Hoffmann", which Her Majesty the Queen attended at the Princess Theatre, Melbourne.



By arrangement with the A.B.C., he was appointed musical director and principal conductor for the 1956 Elizabethan Trust Mozart Opera Season Commonwealth Tour and continues in that capacity for this season.



#### Musical Staff





#### . . . ERIC CLAPHAM

A New Zealander, he became the first pianist and conductor with the Borovansky Ballet in Australia, then, turning to opera, he conducted the National Theatre's annual festivals in Melbourne, and toured Australia in 1953 production of "The Consul", following the N.S.W. National Opera's Brisbane season in 1952. In 1955 he toured as one of the conductors for the J. C. Williamson's Italian Grand Opera Company, and last year toured Australia as associate conductor for the Elizabethan Trust Mozart Opera Season. To date he has conducted more than 300 operatic performances.

GEORG TINTNER: Had his first experience of conducting as boy conductor with the Vienna Boys' Choir. Later became a pupil of world-famous conductor and director of Vienna State Opera, Felix Weingartner. Conducted the Auckland Choral Society and Auckland String Players for several years after his arrival in New Zealand in 1940, and after joining the National Opera during its 1954 New Zealand tour, returned with the Company to Sydney, and conducted subsequent seasons in Brisbane and Newcastle.

GEORGE HUMPHREY: Has been musical director of the Sydney Opera Group since its inception in 1953. A pupil of Alexander Sverjernski, he has conducted for the Metropolitan Opera Society, musical comedy arranged the special score for Robin Lovejoy's production of "The Rivals", as well as appearing with A.B.C. ensembles and chamber music groups. During the Trust's 1956 Mozart Opera Scason he was associate conductor for the Commonwealth Tour.

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#### RIGOLETTO-GIUSEPPE VERDI

Excerpts in Italian - Rita Streich, soprano; Petre Munteanu, tenor: Hermann Uhde, baritone; Kurt Bohme, bass. Munich Philharmonic Orchestra — RIAS Symphony Orchestra, Berlin — Wurttemberg State Orchestra, Stuttgart. Conductors: Ferdinand Leitner, Artur Rother

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Excerpts in German - Annelies Kupper, soprano; Maria Stader, soprano; Elfriede Trotschel, soprano; Josef Metternich, baritone; Josef Greindl, bass. The Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra. Conductor: Fritz Lehmann. The Bavarian Radio Orchestra, Conductor: Eugen Jochum.

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#### TRISTAN AND ISOLDE-WAGNER

Excerpts in German-Astrid Varnay, soprano: Herta Topper, alto: Margarete Klose, alto: Kim Borg, bass; Wolfgang Windgassen, tenor, Wurttemberg State Orchestra. Conductor: Ferdinand Leitner.

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#### Baritones (





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#### Producers of the Operas

ARNOLD MATTERS: Has returned to Australia to produce "Tosca" and "Otello" for the Elizabethan Trust Opera Company.

Known affectionately as "Mr. Sadler's Wells", due to his lengthy association, both as base-baritone, guest producer and foundation member of the Company, he was given his first important engagement as assisting artist by Dame Nellie Melba, who heard him sing at a concert in Adelaide.

In addition to a building repertoire of 90 principal operatic roles, he has also sung lieder and oratorio. He appeared as Sir Robert Cecil in the Coronation opera, "Gloriana", before Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth.

STEFAN HAAG: Has achieved much distinction as an opera producer in Australia since his arrival in 1939 as a member of the Vienna Boys' Choir. His production of "The Consul" created theatrical history when presented by the National Theatre Movement in Melbourne, and prior to leaving to further his studies in Europe he also produced "Cosi Fan Tutte" and "Tosca". Last year he produced "The Magic Flute" and "Cosi Fan Tutte" for the Mozart Opera Season tour of Australia.

ROBIN LOVEJOY: Is one of the most versatile personalities of Australian theatre. Actor, producer and designer, his work is known throughout Australia and New Zealand, and in London. His settings for "The Rivals" in 1956 won the Sydney Critics' Award for the year's best production, and were also featured in Vogue magazine. In 1953 he was able to study overseas trends, assisted by the International Theatre Institute (UNESCO) Travelling Scholarship. In addition to producing "La Boheme", he has also designed and produced "The Relapse", for the 1957 Elizabethan Trust Drama Company Tour of the Commonwealth.



of the master musicians

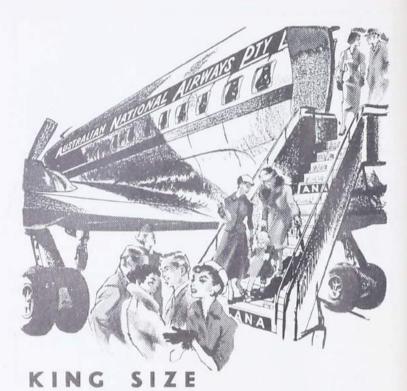
# Other Notable Australian Singers APPEARING WITH THE COMPANY

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#### Elizabethan Theatre Repertoire

PREMIERE, SATURDAY, 31st AUGUST

AUGUST, 1957: Saturday, 31st La Boheme SEPTEMBER, 1957: La Boheme Monday, 2nd Tuesday, 3rd Otello Wednesday, 4th La Boheme Thursday, 5th Otello Friday, 6th Tales of Hoffmann Saturday, 7th (Matinee) La Boheme Saturday, 7th (Evening) Otello Monday, 9th Otello 5 La Boheme Tuesday, 10th Wednesday, 11th Otello Thursday, 12th Tales of Hoffmann Tosca Friday, 13th Saturday, 14th (Matinee) Tales of Hoffmann Saturday, 14th (Evening) La Boheme Monday, 16th Tosca Tuesday, 17th La Boheme Wednesday, 18th Tosca . Thursday, 19th Tales of Hoffmann Friday, 20th The Bartered Bride Saturday, 21st (Matinee) Tosca Properties The Bartered Bride Saturday, 21st (Evening) Monday, 23rd The Bartered Bride Tuesday, 24th Tosca Wednesday, 25th The Bartered Bride Thursday, 26th Tosca Friday, 27th The Bartered Bride Saturday, 28th (Matinee) Tales of Hoffmann Saturday, 28th (Evening) Tosca



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#### Designers for the Operas

TIM WALTON ("The Bartered Bride" and "Tosca"): Was trained by Professor Emil Prectorius, innovator of the Wagner Bayreuth Festival. Worked with both Nicholas Benois in Milan and also with his father, Alexander Benois, who with Diaghileff, created Russian Classical Ballet. In addition to designs for the National Theatre Movement, and Melbourne's Princess, and Little Theatre, his designs were used in the Trust's 1956 production of Mozart's "Cosi Fan Tutte".

LOUIS KAHAN ("Othello"): Born in Vienna of Russian parents, he studied art in Paris and is now living in London. He first came to Australia in 1947, after service with the French Foreign Legion in Algiers. He has designed costumes for Glyudebourne, sets and costumes for Sadler's Wells, and combined stage design with portrait work whilst living in Melbourne.

ANNE FRASER ("Tales of Hoffmann"): Young Melbourne commercial artist who turned to stage design at the suggestion of Ray Lawler. She later designed the sets for "Summer of the Seventeenth Doll", used in both the Australian tours and in London. Has designed for opera, drama and ballet. Her set for Act II Swan Lake for the current Borovansky season was a setting for Dame Margot Fonteyn. Now travelling in the United Kingdom and Europe on UNESCO LTL Scholarship to follow current theatre trends.

DRES HARDRINGHAM (La Boheme), well-known Melbourne painter and designer, who has designed settings for "La Boheme", is considered to be one of the most experienced designer and scenic artists in this country. His many outstanding sets have been used by J. C. Williamson Theatres Ltd., Tivoli Circuit, Prince Edward Theatre and Australian film and television organisations.

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General Manager of the Australian Opera Company, he was educated at Lancing and Oxford (M.A. degree), and came to Australia whilst serving with Naval Intelligence. He produced a number of plays at this time, including "Mourning Becomes Electra", and was stage manager for Cyril Ritchard's post-war tour.

On returning to England he joined the Old Vic. Staff, first as a stage director for the Bristol Old Vic. and later as staff producer and touring manager for the London Company with whom he made extensive tours of South Africa and Northern Europe. He has directed and managed companies both in Repertory and in the West End, and in 1954 toured the United States, lecturing in universities. He produced the successful musical

"The Boy Friend" for the Elizabethan Trust, toured Australia last year as general manager for the Elizabethan Trust Opera Company's Mozart Opera Season.



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