

the Arts

Puccini's Turandot

"She has a large dramatic colouratura voice of remarkable accuracy and agility. She is a singer to be reckoned with, and I hope to hear her again."

These words of Winthrop Sargeant music critic of the New Yorker, are for Pauline Tinsley.

The British soprano will sing the lead role in Puccini's TURANDOT, the last

production of the season by the Edmonton Opera Association at the Jubilee Auditorium March 21, 23, and 25th.

The production, staged by Irving Guttman, will be under the baton of Pierre Hetu, and will also feature Barnabe Marti, Ruth Huang, and Claude Corbeil.

In December of 1973 the

Sadlers Wells Company in London staged its premiere performance of Maria Stuarda by Donizetti. The title role was sung by Janet Baker. The part of Elizabeth I was taken by Pauline Tinsley. The role was not new to miss Tinsley. She had sung it in 1971 in New York. Her vocal partner at that time was Beverly Sills.

Miss Tinsley has sung many of the dramatic roles of Verdi with outstanding success: Abigail in Nabucco for the Amsterdam Opera, both Leonoras for Covent Garden, Elizabeth in Don Carlos, Lady MacBeth and Amelia in the Masked Ball. She has yet to do Aida. Pauline Tinsley is equally at home in the "strong" soprano roles of Tosca (a role she sang for the first time in Edmonton in 1973) and Turandot.

The Santa Fe Summer Opera in New Mexico, considered to be the summer opera season in the United States, mounted a new production of Wagner's "Flying Dutchman" last summer. Miss Tinsley sang the role of Senta. Following her Santa Fe appearance she went on to do ten Lady MacBeths in Washington, Houston, Philadelphia, and New Orleans.

It is perhaps the role of "Turandot" that has given Miss Tinsley her greatest success and moved her into the superstar category of opera singers. She was recently asked to do the role at the Metropolitan Opera in New York. She has sung Turandot 59 times with companies like Covent Garden, Welsh National Opera, Scottish Opera, Netherlands Opera, Fenice in Venice and the Vienna Staatsoper. Her appearance in Edmonton will be the first time she has sung the role in North America.

Ruth Huang (Hwang) petite soprano from Vancouver, will replace Yasuko Hayashi in the role of Liu (Lee you) in the Edmonton Opera Association's production of "Turandot" (pronounce as is).

Miss Hayashi was operated on in Rome on March 4th for acute appendicitis.

During the Vancouver Opera Association's production of "Turandot" in 1971, the singer assigned to the role of Liu, Evelyn Mandac was stricken with chicken pox three days before opening! Miss Huang stepped into the role and had a very substantial success! History repeats itself, Miss Huang again steps into a role on short notice!

Born in Taiwan, Ruth Huang came to Canada ten years ago and settled in Vancouver. She auditioned for the Vancouver Opera Chorus. Her untrained voice was recognized as worthy of training. She was at once signed to the Vancouver Opera Association chorus as a full time member and continued her training. She made her North American Operatic debut in the aforementioned "Turandot". Miss Huang sang the role of Frasquita in the Vancouver Opera Association's production of "Carmen" in February.

Appearing in "Turandot" with Ruth Huang will be Pauline Tinsley in the title role, Bernabe (Bare naa bee) Marti as Calaf, Claude (Cload) Corbeil (Korbay) as Timur, Alexander Gray, Andre Lortie and Alan Crofoot as Ping, Pang and Pong. Locals, Lary Benson and Ron Nelsen will essay the parts of the Emperor and the Mandarin.

The orchestra is under the direction of Pierre Hetu.

"Turandot" which runs March 21, 23, and 25th at the Jubilee Auditorium will be directed by Irving Guttman.

Tickets at the Opera Box Office 3rd floor the Bay 422-7200, Students 1/2 price.

Immigration history on CBC radio

"Western Canada, A Land of Unprecedented Progress", "How to Succeed in Canada", "Canada, the Land of Opportunity" ran the titles of pamphlets designed to lure immigrants to settle the rich farmlands of the west around the turn of the century. Between 1880 and 1914, Canada attracted over two million immigrants - Ukrainian, Hungarian, Swedish, Finnish, Russian, German, Japanese and Chinese.

In 1896 Sir Clifford Sifton, minister of the interior, initiated a campaign to "settle the empty west with producing farmers" and for the first time, the Canadian government looked beyond the British Isles for settlers. "Free Homesteads for Actual Settlers" ran the ads in central and eastern Europe.

Contrary to the inviting promises of the federal government, the welcome was not always a warm one. They encountered the inevitable language difficulties, poverty,

the harsh climate, mosquitoes - and prejudices.

CBC Radio's multicultural series, Identities, presents a dramatization of Canada's immigration history entitled Canada - Work, Wage, and Land on Monday, March 25 at 8:30 p.m. EST (Sunday, March 24 at 5:27 p.m. on CBC-FM.) Over a year in the making, the program is based on research material taken from old letters and public documents now stored in the National Public Archives. The policies of the commissioner of immigration are recorded in reports made to Ottawa by government officials. In light of Canada's changing immigration policies, the program has considerable contemporary significance.

The program largely concentrates on the flow of people from eastern European countries and the Orient to the Canadian west between 1890 and 1914. Producer Barbara Uteck, who along with freelance broadcaster Bernice Hune, a Chinese Canadian, prepared the program, is herself a descendent of one of the early Ukrainian families who settled in Manitoba.

Identities co-ordinating producer Geraldine Sherman says of the program: "Our past record of bigotry and hysteria might depress you, but we feel this show tells an important part of Canadian history."

J.S. Woodsworth, the Methodist minister from Winnipeg, and social reformer, witnessed the arrival of many of the immigrants, and in his book, Strangers Within. Our Gates (published in 1909) he voiced the concern of the Anglo-Saxon settlers to the new influx.

His words are heard throughout the script, and one admonition in particular is worth noting, because it is still relevant: "In the first place, we must divest ourselves of a certain arrogant superiority and exclusiveness, perhaps characteristic of the English race. ... We must learn that the world is wide, and that there are a great many other types than our own, and some just as good, though different."

The letters, journals and memoirs of these people document their hardships, disappointments, and fears. But they also chronicle their later prosperity. Takacs Istvan of Hungary, who emigrated to Saskatchewan in 1896, wrote: "I am now the owner of 320 acres of land.... I have my own buggy, wagons, ploughs, sleighs, harness and every description of farming implements.... I can conscientiously say that there is no better land for the poor, but hard-working people in the world than Canada."

Those heard taking part in the Identities program of Monday, March 25 are: Allen Doremus, Len Doncheff, Michael Hersche, Albert Leung, Arch McDonnell, Bill Osler, Frank Perry (as commentator), Renate Plestina, Ruth Springford, John Stocker, and Michael Zenon.

Host of Identities is Lubomyr Mikiutiuk.

Harold's music notes

Bob Dylan's new record company Asylum has recorded several concerts of the Dylan/Band tour for a future live album. It should be a profitable idea since only six hundred thousand out of five million ticket applications had a chance to watch Dylan in person. Dylan has indicated that he might tour again next year.

Mick Jagger and Roger Daltrey will star in a movie version of "Tommy". -Another "Tommy" double album?

The New Seekers will split up after completing a current tour of Britain.

Jethro Tull are currently working on a new studio album and the soundtrack for the film "War Child", for which Ian Anderson co-wrote the script.

Edmonton's Bob Ruzicka has been nominated for a Juno award in the category for "Most Promising Folk Singer" and "Canadian Composer of the Year" for his song "Dirty Old Man".

Maple Leaf music is booming south of the border.

Terry Jack's "Seasons in the Sun", Anne Murray's "A Love Song", Wednesday's "Last Kiss", "Let It Ride" by Bachman Turner Overdrive, "Star Baby" by the Guess Who and "Virginia" by Toronto's Bill Amesbury are all in the U.S. charts. Bachman-Turner Overdrive's albums "I" and "II" are also doing well as is Gordon Lightfoot's latest release, "Sundown".

New Sounds:

Doobie Brothers: What were once vices are now habits

Seals and Crofts: Unborn Child

Deep Purple: Burn

Roy Buchanan: That is What I'm Here For

Viva La Meurte

In Spain, a young boy with a sandwich in his hand...A worm pokes out of the sandwich and is about to fall to the ground when the boy's finger pushes it back in. He takes a bite with little compunction. He must. He has little else to eat...

This film, at the same time a protest against the Spanish regime and a personal statement by director Fernando Arrabal was produced in 1970 as a Franco-Tunisian venture. It concerns Fando, a 12 year old victim of the Spanish civil war. Growing up in Spain in the aftermath of the fascist-communist conflict is rendered all the more difficult when Fando learns that it was his mother who denounced his father to Franco's police. This knowledge nourishes an interior love-hate relationship towards his mother. A further complication is introduced by the presence of his young aunt who provokes an continuous flow of sexual fantasy in Fando's mind

Much of the material for this film comes directly from Arrabal's personal experience. He is preoccupied with inducing in his viewers a horror of the privations, the injustices and the human degradation inflicted by the franco regime, in power to this day. The anger which the director feels contributes to the clarity and force of the indictment of Franco.

"This very personal film, in which is manifested a protest against a regime considered unjust, develops excessively obsessed visions marked by their cruelty and eroticism."

The Alberta premiere of VIVA LA MUERTE will be the 16th and 17th March at 7:45 p.m. in the amphitheatre of College St-Jean, 8406-91st Street, provided it is passed by the censor board....! Certain scenes may be found objectionable by some. French, no subtitles.

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ORACLES

theatre lives

That Championship Season by Oscar nominee Jason Miller. Next at the Citadel. Directed by Tibor Feheregyhazi and featuring Richard Kuss, Douglas Chamberlain, Michael Donaghy, Edward Rodney and Peter Rogan. Previews are available on Thursday and Friday night at 8:30 p.m. for the cheap, cheap price of \$1.50 for students. Warning: In all fairness, the language used may be objectionable to some.

Walterdale Playhouse will be opening Warren Grave's *The Hand That Cradles the Rock* on March 19. Unfortunately all the tickets have already been sold. You have to get in line early for their presentations. The play will be featuring a strong local cast under the direction of John Rivet. Grave's play has already enjoyed considerable success at several centres in Canada. Who says Canadian plays never get produced?

opera

Turandot will be at the Jubilee March 19, 23 and 25. The production to be staged by Irving Guttman and under the baton of Pierre Hetu. Featured artists are Pauline Tinsley, Barnabe Marti, Ruth Huang, and Claude Corbeil. Student tickets are now available at half price at the Opera Box office on the third floor of the Bay.

poetry

David McFadden will be reading from his works at the Centennial Library on Friday night.

the eyes have it

Walter Jule is having an exhibit of his recent drawings at Latitude 53 at 10048-101 A Ave. Until March 22.

The Edmonton Art Gallery is featuring an exhibition of recent drawings and paintings by Doug D. Barry until March 26.

easy on the ears

The University of Alberta String Quartet plays Bartok's Quartets No. 1 and No. 2. Humanities Centre Lecture Theatre 1. Wednesday, March 13 at 4:30 p.m.

There will be a graduate student recital by M.Mus. student, Barbara Ellis on piano. Thursday, March 14 at 8:00 p.m. in Con Hall. Free.

The University of Alberta String Quartet (they do get around, don't they) will play Bartok again in Con Hall, Friday, March 15 at 8:00 p.m.