

METROPOLITAN OPENS ITS SEASON AT THE ACADEMY

Return to "Home" Auditorium Marked by a Remarkable Performance of Halevy's "La Juive," With Stellar Cast, Given Before Brilliant Audience

AFTER an absence of ten years the Metropolitan Opera Co. opened its 1920-21 season with a stellar performance of Halevy's opera, "La Juive," in the Academy of Music, its original Philadelphia home and an edifice which is probably richer in operatic and musical history and tradition than any other public building in the United States.

Every seat in the house had been sold long before the day of the performance, and had standing room been provided there is little doubt that the crowd would have overflowed far into the aisles, for many were turned away at the doors. The remodeled Academy provided one of the great days of its career for the opening of the current season of the Metropolitan Opera Co.

One of the principal advantages of the Academy is the fact that the nature of the relations of the company and the audience. The work of reconstruction done on the building, showed that the changes made, such as the raising of the stage "apron," has many advantages without any apparent disadvantages.

Word of the Governor's refusal to further discuss the change was given out by Harry McDevitt, his secretary, when told that the Rev. Dr. C. O. Swann, of Lancaster, charged the Governor with being untruthful in the matter.

Not the main difference was in the attitude of the audience, but only toward the performance, but also in itself, as must be the case in a house in which access to practically all parts is as easy as in the Academy. There was an incident in the first act of the opera, in which the audience was taking a part a little more sympathetic than that of mere spectators or hearers, as was evidenced by the extremely close attention paid to every note of the opera, and the entire attitude had an apparent effect upon all the members of the company.

Indeed, the attentiveness of the huge crowd was more like that of a symphony concert than of an opera, according to American tradition, is perhaps a little more than semicircular and a little less than semicircular. Last evening's audience went far to disprove this statement. During the various acts there was not a sound to be heard in the sudden pauses in the music, and before it is safe to say that not a sound was made, the acoustics of the Academy are just as good for the audience as from the stage, and a few words spoken in a low tone can carry a disconcertingly long distance.

But if Philadelphia put "its best foot forward" in the audience both in number and impressiveness of personnel, the Metropolitan Co. responded in kind, for the opera given was the same that New York season chose to open the New York season at the Metropolitan. The strongest which could be selected from the formidable list of singers on the Metropolitan. Headed by the mighty Caruso, the cast was the best taken by an artist of the first rank, that person being chosen who was best adapted to the requirements of the role selected for him.

In addition to this Mr. Bodansky was the conductor. It was he who did the "editing" of "La Juive," necessary to bring the score, or rather the orchestration, up to date, for the opera was written by a French operatic composer never brilliant in his orchestration, is now light years away of age. Therefore the selection of Mr. Bodansky as conductor was, in a manner, something like having the composer himself conduct the work. The cast, as selected by Mr. Gatti, was as follows:

Label: Rosa Ponselle, Enrico Caruso, Cardinal Brogni, Evelyn Scott, Robert Leach, Louis D'Amico, Paolo Anghileri, Conductor—Arthur Bodansky.

Mr. Caruso, of course, carried off the honors of the evening as he always does, and as his voice and art deserve. Perhaps the fact that "La Juive" is an essentially spectacular opera, and that the music in it is chiefly dramatic and declamatory, rather than lyric, causes the comparatively few real "slugging" numbers to stand out that may be a little more than their actual music value. At any rate, Mr. Caruso took the role afforded for singing of this type, and like the artist that he is, always took his proportionate place in dramatic and scenic scheme. The great set with Brogni, in the fourth act, was superbly done, as was the solo immediately following.

Miss Ponselle made a charming Rachel. Her acting had gained in intensity since her last performance of that role here, and the opera, being practically no "set" numbers, gives little opportunity for lyric work, her best number, she was particularly impressive in the dramatic aria closing the third act and in the denunciation of Leopold.

Two Great Tenor Parts "La Juive" is unique in having two great tenor parts. Mr. Diaz, who made his debut here, labored under two manifold disadvantages, one in taking the part at short notice, Mr. Orville Harford having been originally cast for the part and compelled to relinquish it owing to sickness; the other at having to sing "opposite" Mr. Caruso, a task which might well give pause to any operatic tenor. He acquitted himself splendidly, being at his best in the fine trio at the close of the second act and in the lovely romance.

Mr. Rothier made an excellent Cardinal Brogni. If his voice may have presented something of the tonal, the impression of that of Mr. Mardones in the performance of the same part, it was fully compensated for in his conception of the part and the dignity and stately manner with which the role was sung and acted. Miss Scully gave a very good impersonation of the princess, both vocally and dramatically. She has gained enormously in confidence since her debut here last season (in this very part, by the way) with a corresponding gain in histrionic and tonal qualities.

The remodeling of the academy has allowed the Metropolitan to use the

SOCIETY TURNS OUT IN FORCE AT OPERA

Handsome Gowns and Brilliant Jewels Vied With Singers for Attention

Not since the opening opera at the Academy of Music, nearly seventy-five years ago, when Gaszania sang Leonora and Brignoli was Manrico in "Il Trovatore"; not since the night of the ball which opened the dear old Academy when a fountain of real elegance played in the center of the great dance floor, has that historic old home of music and arts in Philadelphia housed such a brilliant audience as that which attended the opening opera of the season last evening.

Gowns and jewels and beautiful women vied with Caruso, Ponselle and the other great singers, and wonderful as the artists and the opera were, it was difficult to say if they or the audience were the victors.

Brilliance was the keynote of the performance, of the gowns, of the jewels and the great opera house itself, while the rejuvenated foyer was only subdued by the soft amber-colored lights which threw a golden glow over the entire scene.

If there ever was any doubt as to how the social world in this city would respond to a return to the Academy, it was entirely dispelled last night, for society, with an extra large and very gay party, was there, and every man, woman and child in the audience responded to a return to the Academy. In fact many of the boxes were empty until nearly the end of the first act.

There is a homeliness about the Academy that seems typical of all Philadelphia, and those in the parquet and circle, the balcony boxes and the seats back of them appeared to be all one great party. Every one knew every one else, and between the acts the buzz of conversation was incessant.

Diamond and Sapphire Collar Mrs. Alexander Van Rensselaer wore a beautiful collar of diamonds and sapphires about her throat, and Mrs. Charles W. Lancaster, who was in the box with her, wore a magnificent cap coronet of diamonds set in platinum.

Mrs. T. DeWitt Cuyler wore very handsome jewels, too, and Mrs. Theodore Cramp had a sleet-shaped coronet flat on her head, which was extremely brilliant on her blue-black hair. Mrs. Cramp wore cream satin trimmed with bands of silver, and Mrs. Barkle's gown was of gold brocade, while Mrs. Vaux chose pale blue silk, with silver sequin straps across the shoulders.

Some of the new styles of wearing the hair are very unusual. Mrs. Stephen Calhoun, the former Miss Mary Dickinson Newbold, had her hair arranged in an entirely new way. Across her forehead was drawn a full band of rose red velvet, the exact shade of her gown. Then her dark hair was arranged out over the ears and curled rather high in the back, but no hair showed above the band in front. The Colhouns had Mr. and Mrs. Richard Tighe as their guests. Mrs. Tighe looked very pretty in a black velvet dress made on distinctly plain lines and with no touch of color. It was square necked, cut rather high and had sleeves to the elbow. She wore a remarkably beautiful pair of dull gold oriental earrings with this costume.

Adjoin to the Foyer Between the second and third acts the audience adjourned to the foyer on the second floor of the Academy which has been made into one of the most beautiful ball rooms in the country. The crystal mirrors and chandeliers gleamed in the golden light and the pale purple cream and gold walls made a wonderful contrast between the mirror-filled windows and doors. Palms and flowers decorated the end of the room where the orchestra played for the dancing

which followed the opera and tables were placed about the walls of the room for the supper club dance guests.

Among those in the foyer during the intermission were Mr. and Mrs. J. Bertram Lippincott, Mrs. Lippincott wearing a very handsome gown of black and gold-striped brocade and diamonds. Others were Mr. and Mrs. Paul Deneka Mills, who were guests of Mr. and Mrs. George W. Childs Drexel; Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Ridgway, Mr. and Mrs. Saunders Lewis, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Harold A. Sands, Mr. and Mrs. Eli K. Price, Mr. and Mrs. John Frederick Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph W. Lippincott, Mr. and Mrs. Charlton Yarnall, Mr. and Arthur Emien Newbold, Jr., Mrs. Thomas McKean, Miss Nancy McKean, Miss Jane Yeatman, Miss Virginia Carter, Mr. Edward Brooke, Mr. Saunders Meade, Miss Elizabeth Brock, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur H. Lee, Mr. Charles Curtis Harrison and Mr. and Mrs. Fraser Harris.

The gowns were rather severe in type but extremely colorful. Mrs. B. Frank Clyde wore a gown of cherry red satin and tulle which was extremely becoming. She had Mr. and Mrs. Charles Edward Tageroll as her guests.

Mrs. Thomas DeWitt Cuyler's gown was a rich shade of orchid satin and tulle and was trimmed with orchid colored sequins. Mrs. Arthur Lee selected a gown of black and gold brocade which was made on plain lines. Mrs. Thomas McKean's gown was of gold brocade, cut in a very low V at the back and trimmed across the front of the square cut bodice with bands of tulle.

Mrs. Paul Deneka Mills' gown, which was made of a rich shade of henna velvet, was unusual in its treatment. The back of the bodice was finished in a V and then from the sides across to either shoulder were bands of velvet about two inches in width. Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Starr had Mr. and Mrs. Randal Morgan as their guests. Mrs. Starr was wearing a beautiful dress of pale rose satin trimmed with silver and silver and opal sequins adorned the bodice. Mrs. Morgan was in black satin, the décolletage outlined with brilliant green satin. Mrs. Stanley G. Flag, Jr., wore a stunning frock of black and silver and Mrs. J. Kearney Mitchell wore a gown of pale blue and crystal.

The first meeting of the opera Supper Club was held immediately after the performance in the foyer. The guests were received by Mrs. Alexander Van Rensselaer, Mrs. George W. Childs Drexel, Mrs. Charles Randolph Wood, Mrs. Charlton Yarnall, Mr. Charles W. Henry, Mrs. John White Geary, Mrs. Harold Ellis Yarnall, Countess Santa Eulalia and Mrs. L. Howard Weatherly and Miss Frances Winter. Among those who entertained at supper and dancing were Dr. and Mrs. Thomas G. Ashton, Mr. and Mrs. George Brooke whose guests included Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Montgomery, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Ridgway, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Wain Harrison, Mr. and Mrs. John White Geary, Miss Lucile Carter and Mr. C. William Hare. Mr. and Mrs. George W. Childs Drexel also entertained at supper, as did Mr. and Mrs. Yarnall, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur H. Lee and a number of others.

WANAMAKER'S DOWN STAIRS STORE WANAMAKER'S

Wanamaker's Down Stairs Store - A Bright and Jolly Christmas Store

Unusually Fine Strap-Wrist Gloves for Women

Real Christmas gloves, and a beautiful gift! They are of softest caeskin, pearl white and washable. The leather is light weight, very elastic and of remarkable quality. Either pique or oseteam sewn, these gloves have spearpoint or embroidered backs. \$5 a pair.

Duplex Chamois-Lisle Gloves, \$1.75

Two-clasp gloves, in white, brown, café or chamois color, are half pique sewn and have spearpoint backs. 8-button-length chamois-lisle gloves, in café and beaver colors, are \$1.85 a pair. (Central)



BRIGHT HATS of Orange and Copper Tints

Quite a procession of bright new hats is wending its way into the Millinery Salons. Small hats and toques of burnt orange satin or taffeta and in pinkish shades or gold are making the Gray Salons radiant with color.

Gay hats seem lovelier than ever this season of year when skies and streets are often alike in their grayness. Hats of silk lace for evening, small black hats, beautiful shades of pearl and squirrel gray, and these bright hats are here to make selection interesting. Prices begin at \$8.50. (Market)

Women's Rubbers 50c

Only small sizes, 2 1/4 to 4, among them, so if you have a small foot you're doubly fortunate. This is less than half price. (Chestnut)

Bag Tops at \$1.25

You might call them the beginnings of gifts, for that is what most of them will be. They are of celluloid imitation shell and have metal catches and chains. With beautiful bag ribbons at the very next counter, it will not take long to assemble the "makings" of exceptionally lovely bags. (Central)

Hundreds of Delightful Coats and Wraps, \$59 to \$97.50

Of fashionable materials, they are in Winter's most charming moods. The Coat Pictured at \$59



is of soft, lustrous black plush with a cozy shawl collar of raccoon or skunk-dyed opossum. Scores of other coats of suede, bolivia, woolyde, tinseltone, silver-tip, evora, chameleon cord and camel's-hair can be had with or without fur trimmings.

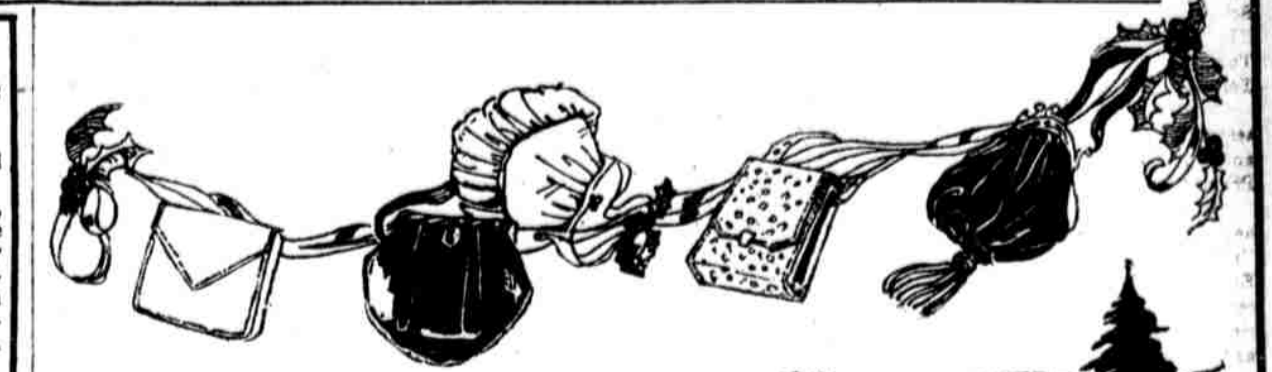
Navy, brown, reindeer, taupe, Nankin blue and black are the favorite shades. Every coat is lined throughout with pretty silk. If you want a fur-trimmed coat you may choose mole, Australian opossum, squirrel, raccoon, sealene or nutria. The variety is most unusual. Sizes range from 14 to 44. (Market)

Christmas Slippers Are Gifts of Comfort

Every Sort of a Slipper a Woman Would Want!



Plain slippers, \$2, are in brown, red, green, taupe, midnight blue and Oxford gray. They are soft and comfortable; the soles and heels are padded. House slippers, \$2.75, have leather soles and low heels and are in Oxford gray. Julietts, \$3, are of Oxford gray felt, trimmed with plush, and have leather soles and heels. Cuff and button slippers are also \$3 a pair.



Christmas Leather Goods Are Spread Out for Everybody to See

Overnight they have moved from Chestnut to Market street. They have more than doubled their space. Now one can see what wonderfully interesting things there are in the Leather Goods Store. Hundreds of beautiful things at moderate prices. Majority of them purchased recently and priced at the new low rates. Many of them freshly unpacked, ready for this Christmas exhibition.

Almost 500 Different Kinds of Handbags

Too many shapes, colors and interesting fittings to attempt to describe. Ever so many new ideas. It is pleasant to give things that look different. Women's leather bags, specialized at \$1.50 to \$12. Women's strap books of leather, specialized at \$1 to \$10. Women's bags of panne velvet at \$2; of chiffon velvet, \$3 to \$8.

Unusually Good Luggage for Men and Women

Suit cases of fabrikoid, which looks like leather and doesn't scratch. Riveted corners at \$4.50, sewn leather corners at \$9. The better ones have leather handles and excellent locks. Suit cases of good heavy cowhide, leather lined, \$13.50 to \$25. (Market)

Children's Leather Mittens, \$1

Warm and snug and the best dollar mittens we've had in a long time. They are fine cape leathers in brown, tan and gray, fleeced lined. Elastic jersey tops keep little wrists warm. (Central)

27-Inch Outing Flannel, 25c Yard

Think of all the nightgowns, pajamas, little petticoats and wrappers that can be made of this, some of them for Christmas gifts! Plenty of pink and blue stripes. (Central)

Children's Bathrobes, \$4

Sizes 8 to 12 Years Bathrobes for both boys and girls are here in a Christmasy array of soft, warm comfort. They are good looking and will please the eyes of children. Flowered patterns, some Indian designs and a few plaids make up the assortment. You might select a rich brown plaid for a boy or a soft gray with a touch of pink for a little girl. (Central)

Gift Blouses 18 Styles at \$5.90

Every Christmas the Blouse Shop daintily packs, ready for its customers, thousands and thousands of gift blouses. This year because of the recent drop in prices there are many lovely blouses at very moderate cost. These eighteen models, at \$5.90, are an illustration of that pleasant fact. Tie-on wool jersey blouses in dark colors to match suit colors. Tricolette slip-on blouses in dark colors, embroidered in contrasting shades. Tricolette slip-ons in dark blue with jade green trimmings. Flesh-pink Georgette crepe blouses with lace collars and revers. Flesh-pink crepe de chine blouses in tailored styles, some with Peter Pan collars. Tailored satin and crepe de chine blouses in dark blue. Georgette crepe blouses with a touch of real felt lace. Batiste blouses, copied from higher priced models and trimmed with pleatings, pin tucking or narrow quillings. (Market)

Little Animal Boas \$11.25 to \$37.50 Savings of 25 Per Cent

Especially suitable for gifts for young women, although a woman of any age would appreciate one. There are boas of natural opossum, kollinsky, mink, squirrel and fitch from which to choose. (Central)

L'Artiste Phonographs Will Make the Whole Year Happy

Think what this artistic phonograph will give to your whole family or your friends. Beautiful music for every day or evening throughout next year and many a year to come. Operatic music or the latest "jazz." Music for the time when one is gay or sad or when one wishes to dance. Music which becomes your own personal expression because L'Artiste phonographs have a modulator which permits one to emphasize the music as one likes. Come and hear this very unusual phonograph in the Little Phonograph shop. Priced only \$90, and we don't know of any phonograph which compares with it at this price. L'Artiste plays any disc record. Terms \$5 Down and \$5 Monthly (Central)

Cut in Bread Price Kolb's Bond Bread beginning today will be Reduced 2 Cents per loaf Kolb's Vienna, French, Bran, Rye, etc., will be reduced 1 cent per loaf

Advertisement for shoes and slippers, including illustrations of various styles and prices.