

LIMERICK CHORAL AND OPERATIC SOCIETY

FESTIVAL OF GRAND OPERA

International guest artistes for productions at City Theatre



JAM DICKIE, well known Limerick audiences for his recent performances in "The Barber of Seville" and "La Traviata" three years ago, is a welcome re-appearance in "The Barber of Seville" and "Germont in La Traviata". The Covent Garden no-studied under Professor Pohlmann of Vienna and Tito Ruffo in Italy, and singing leading roles in many opera houses, in the State Opera and the Grand Opera. He has also complete recordings of "Le Nozze di Figaro" and "La Traviata" Scala, Milan, for Columbia.



ELIZABETH RUST, the distinguished Australian soprano whose singing in "The Bohemian Girl" last spring created with a favourable impression, will sing the difficult role of Violetta in "La Traviata"—her favourite role, in which she recently won acclaim with the Welsh National Opera Company. Born in Sydney, she studied singing with Elizabeth Fortini at the National School of Opera in London. She has appeared in leading roles with the Glyndebourne Festival Opera, the Hittlesham Festival, the Welsh National Opera Co. and the Dublin Grand Opera Society.

The fifth of November, 1962, will be a memorable day for Limerick, because on that day, the Limerick Choral and Operatic Society will have made history. For the first time in Ireland, an amateur group will stage three Grand Operas in a fortnight. They have also the honour of an Irish Amateur Premiere. The glorious past of Operatic Limerick will come to life again as the curtain rises on La Boheme, and surely the ghosts of old Theatre Royal days will mingle with the distinguished gathering to witness and applaud Limerick's First Grand Opera Festival.

centre of musical culture. They want no financial profit from their efforts. To bring famous operatic stars to Limerick, Puccini, Verdi, Rossini, Donizetti, being played and sung within our famous Limerick Walls, to have our own local boys and girls join their talents with the great, and maybe some day become great names themselves as were our own Catherine Hayes and Joseph O'Mara—



EDVINA GREY, returning to Limerick for the third consecutive year, will sing Mimì in "La Bohème" and will be remembered for her previous successes in "Lucia di Lammermoor" and "Faust". Trained in Milan, she subsequently sang leading roles in opera houses throughout Italy, including Rome, Milan, Bologna, Parma and the Regio Emilia. She has also appeared in Limerick with the Carl Rosa Opera Company in England, and broadcasts frequently over the Swiss and Italian radio networks, as well as on the BBC.



EDNA GRAHAM, the brilliant New Zealand soprano, will sing Rosina in "The Barber of Seville" and Musetta in "La Bohème". Born in Christchurch, New Zealand, she became a frequent broadcaster while still in her teens and won a scholarship to study at the London Royal Academy of Music for four years. On leaving the academy, she joined the Carl Rosa Opera Co. as principal soprano and since then has appeared as guest principal at Glyndebourne, Sadlers Wells, the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden and the Norske Opera. With a voice of extensive range, she sings fluently in several languages.



CONNELL BYRNE was born in Sydney, Australia, in December, 1928, and sang leading tenor roles at the Sydney Conservatorium and with the Rockdale Opera before going to England in 1957, to study under Dino Borgioli. In 1958 he sang with the Ingebre Festival Opera and it Sadlers Wells, and in the same year went to Milan to study with Maestro Pessina and Dunori of La Scala. He appeared in "Lucia di Lammermoor" in Monga, and "La Traviata" at San Pellegrino. He joined the Glyndebourne Opera in 1961 and on his first visit to Limerick will sing Alfredo in "La Traviata".



DAVID HOLMAN, the Canadian tenor, will sing the role of Count Almaviva in "The Barber of Seville". He was already well known for his lyric tenor voice, and had wide experience in opera throughout Canada, when he arrived in England to sing with the Ingebre Festival Opera. Since then he has appeared with the Alderbury Festival Opera, the Hittlesham Festival Opera and for three years with the Glyndebourne Festival Opera. He broadcasts frequently for the BBC and Radio Elreann, and his television appearances include "Pagliacci" and "Music for You".



SLAY PICZORA, the Polish bass whose performance as Mephistopheles was the highlight of last Limerick season, has been asked to sing Bon Basilio in "Barber of Seville" and in "La Bohème". After singing in Italy, he made his debut in the Warsaw Grand Opera. He practised as a singer in London and made numerous appearances in television before joining the Carl Rosa Opera Company. A radio broadcaster, he has many performances with Sadlers Wells Opera and principal bass with the Nederlandse Opera in Amsterdam.



EDWARD BYLES, fresh from his triumphs in the Sadlers Wells and Welsh National Opera Co. productions of "Murder in the Cathedral", "I Masnadieri" and "William Tell", returns to Limerick to sing his favourite role of Rudolph in "La Bohème". Noted for his thrilling voice, this young Welsh tenor has made guest appearances with the Covent Garden Opera, in Holland and with the Dublin Grand Opera Society. He was a member of the Glyndebourne Festival Opera for many seasons and has been featured in radio and television opera on numerous occasions.



MRS. MARY GRIFFITH (Musical Director)

that is the true idealism of the Society. This idealism has carried and spurred them on since their foundation in 1957, and has never wavered, though at times the obstacles seemed insurmountable. They have struggled through difficult times, but not once have they lost sight of that shining star—their aim—their goal—Music for Limerick. Opera for Limerick—a Festival of Grand Opera—for Limerick.



CAPT. R. B. KEALY, B.Mus. (Conductor)



RUSSELL SMITH comes from Melbourne, Australia, where he made many broadcasts with the Australian Broadcasting Commission. In 1959 he sang the principal baritone roles in two American operas at the Royal Court Theatre, and in that year won a scholarship to the Guildhall School of Music in London. Since then he has sung many operatic roles and appeared at Sadlers Wells. Last year he was a soloist in the Sir Henry Wood Memorial concert at the Royal Albert Hall. He will sing the part of Dr. Bartolo in "The Barber of Seville" and Schaunard in "La Bohème".



COLETTE CANTILLON (Musical Director)



JAMES J. HENRY



EAMONN HENRY (Stage Manager)



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<p>★</p> <p>LA TRAVIATA (VERDI) NOVEMBER 6th, 9th, 12th, 15th, 18th</p>	<p>THE BARBER OF SEVILLE (ROSSINI) NOVEMBER 7th, 10th, 13th, 17th</p>	<p>LA BOHEME (PUCCINI) NOVEMBER 5th, 8th, 11th, 14th, 16th</p> <p>★</p>
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RUSTY BALLORAN



NOEL FRAWLEY



MARTIN CLANCY



BART KIELY



GEORGE MADELEY



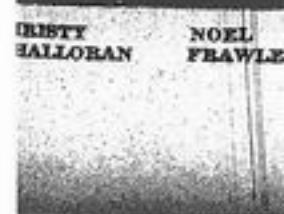
MARTIN HANNAN



TOM CARTER



FRANK BRODY



MARY ALLEN



MICHAEL YELVERTON



RENE MADDEN



JIM GRAHAM



MICHAEL FAHY



MICHAEL O'BRIEN



JOE NEILAND



PEARL O'FARRELL

MICHAEL RYAN