

All About Opera - The Las Vegas Symphony Orchestra



(L-R) Susan Houston, Betty Miller, Virko Baley, Kenneth E. Miller & Bodo Igesz.



(L-R) Scott MacTaggart & Judith Markham.

A sold out house braved a cold evening to enjoy the wonderful performance of "I Pagliacci" by Ruggiero Leoncavallo. The audience was mesmerized by the well known story of the famous clown. Under the combined talents of Lighting Director Bill Kickbush, the incredible State Direction of Bodo Igesz of the Metropolitan Opera, and the polished performances of John Duykers (who recently portrayed Mao Tsai Tung in "Nixon in China"), Sharon Spinetti, the beautiful and moving Nedda, and John Matthews the consummate opera baritone in the role of hunchback Tonio, the audience was moved to shouts of Bravo! What made the opera all come together was the magnificent orchestral accompaniment guided by the genius of Maestro Virko Baley.

Toasting the performance in the lobby of Artemus Ham Concert Hall was Col. P.K. Robinson and wife Rita, Dr. Thomas and Caryn Gott, Dr. Patrick Flanagan and wife Melitisa, Board Member Lilly Fong and husband Wing Fong, Scott MacTaggart, Secretary of the Las Vegas Symphony Board, Aileen O'Neill, Dennis L. and Victoria Morgan, Robert and Jo Waters, Irene Perer and Dr. Marvin Perer, Joyce LaGrange, Colleen Schroeder, Judith Markham, Executive Director, Ron Gomes - Vice President and General Counsel of the Las Vegas Symphony, Elizabeth Castle, Ethel Trione, Nancy Austin and David London, Roberts King, Victor Hancock and Judge Miriam Shearing and husband Dr. Steven Shearing.

Polish Government Says Convent At Auschwitz Will Be Relocated

GENEVA (JTA) — The Polish government has given written assurances that a Carmelite convent built on the grounds of the former Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp will be removed, in compliance with an agreement reached here last February 22 between high-level delegations representing Jewish organizations and the Catholic Church. Church officials in

Poland apparently stalled on implementing the agreement. Visitors returning from Auschwitz have reported that no steps have been taken to remove the convent and that, in fact, the number of nuns in residence has increased.

The World Jewish Congress, which played a key part in reaching the agreement, was concerned. Gerhart Riegner, co-chairman of the WJC's governing board, visited the Polish minister of religious affairs, Dr. Wladyslaw Loranc, in Warsaw last November to raise the issue.

Riegner made public a letter he received from Loranc, promising that the nearly year-old agreement will be implemented without further delay.

Riegner told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that church representatives in Poland claimed they could not act as long as they had no permission from the government. Loranc promised to make things move and, in fact, kept his promise, Riegner said.

The Geneva meeting last year followed longstanding expressions of deep distress by Jewish groups that a convent was located at a place where hundreds of thousands of Jews died in the Holocaust. Many ranking church officials in Europe expressed sympathy with Jewish concern over the issue.

The matter was raised by Edgar Bronfman, president of the WJC, when he met with

Polish Premier Wojciech Jaruzelski in Warsaw in December 1985.

Riviera Executive Casino Host Wins Role In "Crime Story"



THE "GOOD GUYS" -- Riviera Hotel Executive Casino Host Nick Georgiade (right) chats with Dennis Farina, star of the popular NBC TV series "Crime Story," during a break in filming of a recent episode in Las Vegas. Georgiade played Lt. Peterson, a Las Vegas policeman and friend of the show's hero (Mike Torello), played by Farina. The show is tentatively scheduled to air March 8.

Riviera Hotel & Casino Executive Casino Host Nick Georgiade has landed a feature role on the NBC television hit series "Crime Story."

The episode, entitled "Last Rites," was recently filmed in Las Vegas and is tentatively scheduled to air March 8.

Georgiade played role Lt. Peterson, a Las Vegas policeman and good friend of Mike Torello, played by the show's star, Dennis Farina.

"It was a big thrill," said Georgiade. "One of the reasons I was excited about doing 'Crime Story' was because all of my scenes would be played with Dennis."

Georgiade's versatile show business career has included performances on Broadway in such plays as "The Rose Tattoo" and "A View From The Bridge," and more than 350 performances in TV hits such as "Rockford Files," "Delvecchio," "Starsky and Hutch," and "The Untouchables." He is best known for his portrayal of Ricco in "The Untouchables."

The actor/casino host recently co-starred in the Lorimar film production, "Picasso Trigger," which will be released March 25.

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