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Gala Finale, December 1, 1998

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Illinois State University
Department of Music

Gala
Finale

Normal Theater
Tuesday Evening
December 1, 1998
8:00 p.m.

The seventy-fourth program of the 1998-99 season.

Program Notes

Program

Moods of the Sea: A Pictorial Fantasy Slavko Vorkapich & John Hoffman
Music by Felix Mendelssohn
(1809-1847)

Comments by Ron Mottram, Acting Dean, College of Fine Arts

Carmen Cecil B. DeMille
Music by George Bizet
(1838-1875)
Arranged by Hugo Riesenfeld

Reception immediately following the conclusion of this evening's performance.

Orchestra

Glenn Block, *Conductor*

Violins
Sarah Gentry
Al Bartosik

Flute
Kim Risinger
Sabina White

Trumpet
John Hoagland
Tara Nogle

Viola
Kate Hamilton

Oboe
Judith Dicker
Deana Rumsey

Trombone
Steve Parsons

Cello
Brian Gaona

Clarinet
Aris Chavez
Kim Scharf

Percussion
David Collier
Jeff Matter

Double bass
Brian Dollinger

Bassoon
Jeffery Womack
Laura Maland

Keyboard
Julian Dawson

Horn
Joe Neisler
Victor Pesavento

Moods of the Sea: A Pictorial Fantasy was a short 10-minute silent film, made in 1941 by Hollywood montage specialists Slavko Vorkapich and John Hoffman. In tonight's screening, the film's images of waves and sea gulls on a coastal landscape have been juxtaposed with music composed by Felix Mendelssohn. Mendelssohn's *Fingal's Cave Overture* was composed in 1830 and was inspired by a sea journey Mendelssohn made to London that took the boat past the famous island off the coast of Scotland called The Hebrides.

The film *Carmen* has been fully restored, with English subtitles, by the music publishing company Boosey and Hawkes. It is part of a series called "Sounds of Silents," a selection of silent films made available for wider use by orchestras. Illinois State's Department of Music is one of the first in the country to present this program.

Metropolitan Opera star soprano Geraldine Farrar and veteran actor Wallace Reid star in the silent screen version of Georges Bizet's opera *Carmen*. Reid was a veteran of 185 flickering motion pictures, and Farrar, despite her acclaim as an opera singer, was chosen for the title role for her acting skill. Although her voice was of little use in this Cecil B. DeMille production because it was filmed in 1915 during the silent movie era, her charisma jumped off the screen and electrified the audience at the movie's debut at Boston's Symphony Hall. The filmed scene of her fight in the cigarette factory was such a sensation that it was added to her live stage production of *Carmen* the next year opposite Enrico Caruso at the Metropolitan Opera.

Farrar was born in 1882 and *Carmen* was the first of 14 films she made while continuing her successful operatic career. She made her opera debut in Berlin during the 1910 season and was the first American singer to become an internationally recognized opera star. Reid was Farrar's junior by nine years when *Carmen* was made, but had many movies to his credit. *Carmen* still attracts a great deal of attention as one of the first major movies in modern cinema history along with the influential *Birth of a Nation*. A known drug addict, Reid died only seven years later of complications perhaps attributed to his many years of drug abuse.

We would like to thank the following people for their contribution
to this evenings performance:

Teresa Gatewood
Pam Miller
Mona Rains
Roar Schaad
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College of Fine Arts
Delta Omicron
Phi Mu Alpha