



# Arts & Entertainment Special



**SIMPLY HEAVENLY** was originally presented by Stella Holt at the 85th Street Playhouse in New York City on May 21, 1957. On August 20 it moved to the Playhouse on Broadway, and from there on November 8 to the Renata Theatre in the Village. On February 14, 1958. The east coast revival opened at the New Freedom Theatre in Philadelphia on February 5, 1987, under the direction of Garland Lee Thompson.

Thomas Meloncon's play, "The Diary of Black Men ... How Do You Love A Black Woman?" is among the first of many plays to be produced by MACEBA AFFAIRS, INC.

"The Diary Of Black Men" originated through a community development program at Shape Community Center in Houston, Texas in 1978. Originally intended as a workshop project, this exciting production was deemed successful.

In 1983, MACEBA AFFAIRS, Inc. acquired the rights to produce Thomas Meloncon's play. This thought provoking, tantalizing and most stimulating production is not just a play of entertainment, but a production with a message ... a positive message personifying

the image of the Black man and his responsibility to his woman and family.

"The Diary of Black Men ... How Do You Love A Black Woman?" has electrified audiences of all backgrounds, and has performed to soldout houses in major theaters throughout the country.

MACEBA AFFAIRS, Inc. is an innovative and aggressive mass media corporation in the business of entertainment. It's primary goal is to enhance the cultural awareness of Black America through the promotion of visual, performing and literary art forms.

MACEBA AFFAIRS, INC. the company, publishes a quarterly magazine to inform, analyze and review the role the media plays in today's society. Reviews are written by talented journalists on various aspects of the television, recording, motion picture and print industries.

Exemplifying a diversified business group, MACEBA AFFAIRS PRODUCTIONS was developed to provide an avenue for promoting visual performing art forms. It has produced its first play, Thomas Meloncon's dramatic portrayal entitled, "The Diary of Black Men ... How Do You Love A Black Women?" Since 1983 this exciting play has toured extensively throughout the country addressing the controversial issue of Black male/female relationships.

MACEBA AFFAIRS, Inc., is committed to Black Americans expanding its perspective to the total development of its culture, to aspire to greater political, economical and spiritual heights.

The Portland Observer encourages the community to come out and experience this exciting play. Starting back with "Red Beans & Rice," by local playwright/director Rosemary Allen, Portland's African-American community has been building blocks that would make it possible for productions like "Diary of Black Men ..." to find success in Portland. Now that it has arrived, we must come in a show of support.

## THE PORTLAND OPERA "TOSCA"

Portland Opera's 24th season opens October 1 with Giacomo Puccini's **TOSCA**, based on the fine 19th century melodrama of French playwright Victorian Sardou. An emotional thriller for welded together by Puccini's sensuous score, **TOSCA** is a mainstay of opera repertory. It is said that **TOSCA** plunges from the battlements of the Castel Sant' Angelo nearly every night in some corner of the globe. Yet this highly charged musical drama never fails to move an audience.

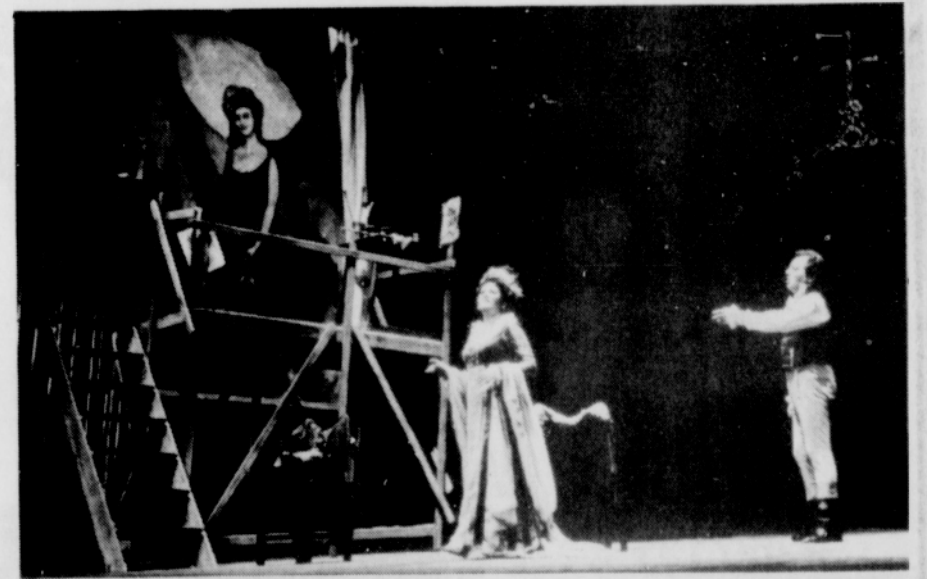
Canadian soprano **Heather Thomason** is the celebrated diva Floria Tosca; Italian tenor **Angelo Marenzi** is her lover Cavaradossi; and American bass-baritone **Donnie Ray Albert** is the evil Scarpia, chief of the Roman police. **TOSCA**, its three acts set in actual Roman landmarks, holds a special appeal for those who have known and loved Rome. The opera will be performed in Italian with projected English titles.

**TOSCA**, by Giacomo Puccini, was first performed in Rome at the Teatro Costanzi January 14, 1900. Despite a bomb threat and the conductor's tearful exit from the podium soon after the opening curtain, the premiere was a success with the Roman public. Today **TOSCA** is a staple of opera repertory around the world.

Offering strong musical and dramatic support are **Ron Brallier** as Cesare Angelotti, an escaped political prisoner; **Archie Drake** as the sacristan; **Kevin Skiles** as Spoletta; and **Uwe Haefker** as Sciarrone.

Performances are October 1, 5, and 8 in Portland's Civic Auditorium, 222 S.W. Clay. The curtain rises at 8 p.m. Saturdays, at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday. "Opera Insights," pre-performance lectures for ticket-holders, begin in the auditorium one hour before curtain time.

**TOSCA** is sponsored in part by a gift from Louisiana-Pacific.



## THE OREGON SYMPHONY

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Weekdays, 9 am to 5 pm



Tickets: \$12 - \$25

Ticket outlets: Oregon Symphony Ticket Office, 228-1353, Mon.-Fri. 9am-5pm, 813 SW Alder; Performing Arts Center Box Office, 248-4496, M n.-Sat, 10 am -5:30 pm; and at G.I. Joe's Ticketmaster outlets

ARLENE SCHNITZER CONCERT HALL



"The Diary of Black Men"

J. Pierpont Morgan, Collector



PLATE, Siena, c. 1500-10, tin-glazed earthenware.

European Decorative Arts From The Wadsworth Atheneum  
September 14-November 6—Portland Art Museum

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