

## GOMIDAS CENTENNIAL CONCERT

**Mme. Astghig Dedeyan**, like so many other native American artists, earned her reputation in Europe. The musical talent which began to manifest itself at the age of eight propelled her through elementary school and college, to the New England Conservatory of Music, where she studied voice in Professor Gladys Miller's master classes. An opportunity to attend the Gomidas Conservatory of Music in Erevan, Armenia, was irresistible and the young soprano completed the five-year course, graduating with honors and prizes in 1966. Under Professor Tamara Shahnazerian's tutelage, her voice gained even greater brilliance. In that period, she sang Violetta in "La Traviata," at the Spendiarian Opera House, had a solo recital in that auditorium, and an appearance before the critical Composers' Union. The artist then continued her studies at the Paris Conservatory under Mme. Janine Michaud, a former star of the Paris Opera, and for a year in Milan under distinguished teachers. Her repertory of opera roles increased to more than twenty, in seven languages. In early 1968, a joint concert with Alain Vanzo, a popular French-Italian tenor, in Bordeaux, resulted in Mme. Dedeyan's being invited to sing in four performances at the Bordeaux Grand Theatre: Desdemona in "Othello," Mimi in "La Boheme," and Melisande in "Ariane et Barbe-Bleue." She also recorded broadcasts for BBC Radio and the music of Armenian composers for the USSR radio.

Born in Istanbul, Turkey, of Armenian descent, 21-year-old **Annie Kavafian** immigrated to this country with her parents in 1956. At the age of 10, she began her violin lessons with Mr. Ara Zerounian studying with him for five years. Annie has been the winner of several awards, among which are the Zerounian Award; the National Federation of Music first prize award for the student auditions; the coveted Merriweather Post Contest in Washington, D. C., assuring an appearance with the National Symphony of Washington; and the recent first prize in the AGBU Khachaturian Award in New York City. She has played in numerous recitals in the Detroit, New York and Philadelphia areas. Annie has also appeared as soloist with orchestras at the National Music Camp at Interlocken for five consecutive summers and with orchestras in Detroit and New York. Her most recent appearance was with the Detroit Symphony in its summer season. She was a pupil of Mischa Mischakoff, the former concertmaster of the Detroit Symphony, for three years. Afterward she applied for the Juilliard School as a pupil of Mr. Ivan Galamian. Annie is on a full scholarship at Juilliard and will, in June, be earning her Bachelor of Music Degree. During the summers she attends the Meadowmount School of Music where she is a teaching assistant to Mr. Galamian. Through recent auditions she won the concertmaster position of the Juilliard Orchestra and is now entitled to play the school's \$40,000 De Jesu Guarnerius violin.

**Vartan Manoogian**, violinist, was born in Bagdad of Armenian parents, studied at the Conservatoire Nationale de Paris with Roland Charmy, graduating with First Prize. He also studied with Galamian and Makanowitzky at the Juilliard School in New York where he obtained his M. S. degree. He was engaged as assistant-concertmaster of the Lausanne Chamber Orchestra in Switzerland

when he appeared as soloist with that orchestra in concerts and radio-concerts. He was a member of the "Mozart Trio" with whom he toured in Spain and Germany, and a member of the Lausanne String Quartet. As soloist he toured Germany with the Rheinische Chamber Orchestra. When he was a member of the Suisse-Romande Orchestra, he was invited as concertmaster for the late Pierre Monteux's summer school of conducting in Maine. Recently, Vartan Manoogian, a resident of New York, has been free-lancing, including concerts with Alexander Schneider and the Casals Festival in Puerto Rico. He appeared as soloist for the American Music Festival on radio and T. V. on WNYC. In June, 1968, he was invited as concertmaster to join the Suisse-Romande Orchestra and its conductors, Ernest Ansermet and Paul Klecki. Vartan Manoogian was soloist with the orchestra in Geneva with radio concerts and later in Japan for concerts and television. Currently Vartan is a member of the faculty of North Carolina School of the Arts and of the Claremont Quartet.

**Michael Masters** was born in Columbus, Ohio, in 1948. He began his musical studies at the age of four on the piano and later, at age eight, he took up the cello. His pre-college studies were fulfilled in the universities in the Columbus area: Ohio State University, Ohio Wesleyan, Ohio University, and Capital University. Since the age of 14 Mr. Masters has attended summer schools in Ohio, Michigan, and Colorado where he not only enjoyed excellent teaching but also the opportunity to advance in his favorite hobby-sports. Mr. Masters is now a fourth-year scholarship student at the Juilliard School where he is studying with the renowned soloist and teacher, Professor Maurice Eisenberg. In March of 1969, he had the honor of winning a contest at the school which awarded him a solo appearance with the Juilliard Orchestra under the direction of Alfred Wallenstein playing the Concerto in A Minor by Camille Saint-Saens. For the past three years Mr. Masters has spent his summer in Europe where he studied with his teacher, Professor Eisenberg. He is expected to return to Portugal this summer for his fourth session.

**Harry Zaratzian's** reputation as a distinguished violist preceded him to Europe. A graduate of the Boston Conservatory of Music and of the graduate school at Juilliard, Mr. Zaratzian was selected by the late Bruno Walter in 1947 as a member of the New York Philharmonic. Later he was appointed solo violist of the Philadelphia Orchestra by Eugene Ormandy, the beginning of a long list of solo appearances with the country's leading orchestras. Mr. Zaratzian's considerable contributions to the chamber music field have included performances with the Kroll Quartet, the New York String Trio, Quintetto Chigiano and Albeni Trio. For the past 12 years, he has been a faculty member of Rudolf Serkin's Marlboro (Vt.) Festival, appearing in concerts and coaching chamber music classes. As a soloist, Mr. Zaratzian's career has taken him to Europe, Russia, Japan, Alaska, the Middle East and South America. Not only has he attempted to augment the viola repertoire and contemporary music, but he has also arranged and recorded folk-songs of Gomidas for quartet.