

A DINNER DANCE

Armenian Music by JOHN VARTAN

Date: Friday, May 17, 1985

Time: Dinner 6 - 9 p.m.  
Dance 9 - 1 p.m.



Place: Kavookjian Auditorium  
Armenian Diocese  
630 Second Avenue @ 34th St.

Admission: Dinner & Dance \$10  
Dance \$ 6

Diocese of the Armenian Church

Invites you to its final

Friday Night Open House

Of the season.

---

OPEN

F.A.S.T.

---

1

November 8, 1985

Performers

Donali Peter - Soprano

Vincent di Benedetto - Tenor

Russell Harris - Piano

Programme

E la solita storia.....Cilea

Vissi d'arte.....Puccini

E lucevan le stelle.....Puccini

Che gelida manina.....Puccini

Mi chiamano Mimi.....Puccini

L'altra notte.....Boito

Lontano, Lontano.....Boito

## Programme Notes

### **E la solita storia**

Federico, a peasant, is in love with a girl from Arles. He is heartbroken at the reports of her faithlessness. In the fields he is told an idyllic story by a shepherd who falls asleep in the middle of telling the story. Federico reacts by singing of how envious he is - "I too would like to sleep like that... but I have before me always her sweet image."

### **Vissi d'arte**

Tosca has been pleading with Scarpia for the life of her lover, Cavaradossi, whose tortured screams she can hear from the next room. Scarpia tells her that she herself is the price of her lover's freedom. As she hears the sound of drums preparing for the march to the gallows she prays - "I have lived for art and love... why do you, Lord, reward me thus?"

### **E lucevan le stelle**

In prison awaiting his execution, Cavaradossi sits down to write his farewell letter to Tosca, but his thoughts wander of to the last happy moments they spent together - "I die in desperation, and never was so much in love with life."

### **Che gelida manina**

Mimi has knocked on Rudolfo's door seeking a light for her candle. She drops her key, and as they two of them hunt for it in the darkness, Rudolfo clasps his hand on Mimi's and sings - "Your tiny hand is frozen." He goes on to tell her that although he lives in poverty, he is "in spirit a millionaire."

### **Mi chiamano Mimi**

Mimi replies to Rudolfo by telling him that her real name is Lucia and that she makes her living by embroidering flowers - "I love all things that have a gentle magic, that talk of love, of spring, of dreams and fancies..."

### L'altra notte

Marguerite is in prison awaiting her execution. She tells how she was accused of the crimes and how she longs to be free as a bird "flying, flying off."

### Lontano, lontano

Faust arrives with the devil to save Marguerite from execution. Marguerite thinks they are her executioners and becomes frenzied. Then she recognizes Faust and reminisces about their first meeting. Faust begs Marguerite to come away with him and they sing of their "dream island, far far away, circled by a rainbow, where fugitive lovers can flee to safety and happiness."

|||||

### D O N A L I P E T E R

Donali was born in West Virginia and raised in Montana. She has a Bachelor of Music in vocal performance from the University of Montana where she studied with Esther England. Recently arrived in New York, Donali is currently studying with Jeannette Walters from C.W. Post. Donali has given solo recitals in Billings, Montana, and appeared as Suzanna in the University of Montana's production of Mozart's Marriage of Figaro.

### V I N C E N T D I B E N E D E T T O

Vincent was born in Chicago and studied voice first at Harvard College. Since arriving in New York he has sung with The Brooklyn Lyric Opera, Opera Enterprise and Regina Opera. He gave a solo recital last May at St. Vincent de Paul Church in Brooklyn.