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PALM BEACH
2001 - 2002 SEASON OPERA

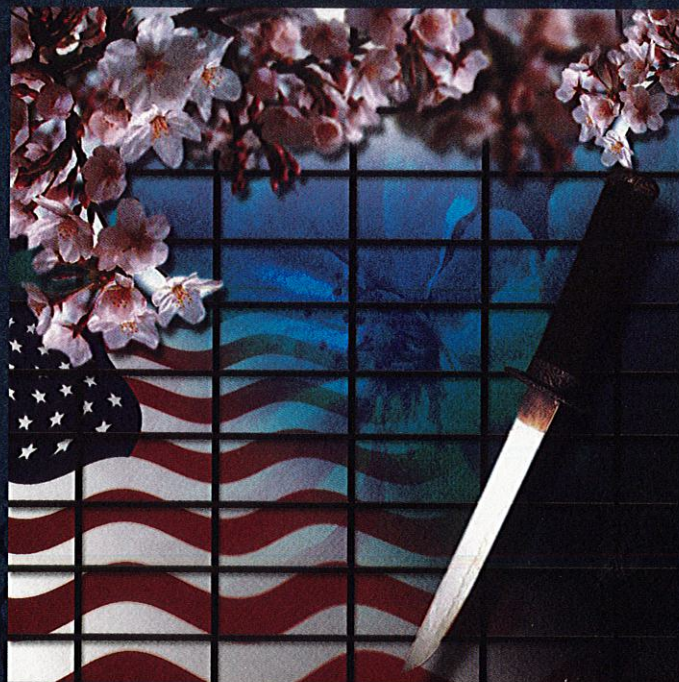
NORMA
MADAMA BUTTERFLY
SUSANNAH
TANNHÄUSER

MADAMA BUTTERFLY

BY GIACOMO PUCCINI

Libretto by Luigi Illica and Giuseppe Giacosa, based on a play by David Belasco.

Premiere: Milan, February 17, 1904



Lieutenant Pinkerton, an American naval officer on duty in Japan, marries Cio-Cio-San, called Madame Butterfly, despite the misgivings of the American Consul, Sharpless. Even Butterfly's loving relatives are shocked, and desert her when she exchanges her religion for Pinkerton's. Soon Pinkerton's duty calls him away, but Butterfly, with their child, faithfully waits. After three years he returns, but with an American wife, Kate. Kate asks Cio-Cio-San to give up her child to be raised in America, and tearfully Cio-Cio-San agrees, if his father will come to take him. Before Pinkerton arrives, the traumatized Butterfly kills herself.

JANUARY 25 - 28, 2002



CHIHO OIWA

Cio-Cio-San • Soprano | Jan. 25 & 27

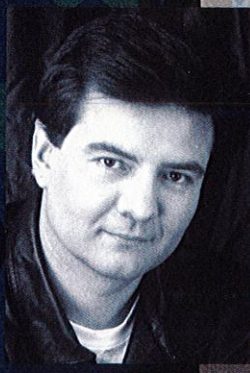
Ms. Chiho Oiwa, one of the most promising young sopranos of her generation in the international world of opera, has sung Micaela in *Carmen* with the New National Theatre for Tokyo in 1999 followed by Mimi in *La Bohème* at Hungarian State Opera and *Madama Butterfly* in Milan. Shortly thereafter she performed to great success the role of Violetta in *La Traviata* at Bregenz Festspielhaus. She is scheduled for several engagements all over Europe as Gilda in Verdi's *Rigoletto*. In her native Japan, Ms. Oiwa has won the Global Atsuko Azuma Award, the Muramatsu Award, and the Gotoh Memorial Award for Promising Opera Singers in 1998. She appeared in the Gala Concert with the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra in March 1999.



KAORI SATO

Cio-Cio-San • Soprano | Jan. 26 & 28

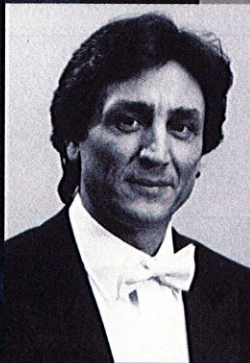
Kaori Sato, also from Japan, sang her first performances of *Madama Butterfly* with the Opera Ensemble at the Mannes School of Music, where she received her Master of Music degree. Cio-Cio-San has become a signature role in her operatic repertoire, having sung the popular heroine for Cleveland Opera, Virginia Opera, Shreveport Opera and Tacoma Opera. She has also sung Micaela in *Carmen* with Dallas Opera, Santuzza in Mascagni's *Cavalleria Rusticana* with both Sendai Opera in Japan and with Opera Asia in New York and Mimi in *La Bohème* with Fort Wayne and Harrisburg Symphonies. She has performed Liù from *Turandot* in association with the Enrico Caruso International Voice Competition.



JOSÉ LUIS DUVAL

Pinkerton • Tenor | Jan. 25 & 27

Born in Guanajuato, Mexican tenor José Luis Duval has thrilled audiences in his native country, South America, the United States and Europe in both opera and zarzuela. He has worked with such renowned conductors as Plácido Domingo, Enrique Patron, Alfredo Silipigni and Miguel Ron. He has sung Manrico in *Il Trovatore* and Loris in *Fedora* with the Bellas Artes in Mexico City and will return there to sing Alfredo in *La Traviata*. Throughout Mexico he has sung such roles as Calaf in *Turandot*, Pinkerton in *Madama Butterfly*, Cavaradossi in *Tosca* and Don José in *Carmen*. He has performed the zarzuela *Doña Francisquita* with Washington Opera.



GIUSEPPE CATALDO

Conductor

Born in Palermo, Italian conductor Giuseppe Cataldo, received his musical education in choral music, choral conducting, orchestral conducting, and percussion instruments at the Vincenzo Bellini Conservatory of Music. Maestro Cataldo has been guest conductor with such orchestras as Radio Praga Symphony, Munich Symphony, Stuttgart Philharmonic, Slovenian Philharmonic, Cracow Philharmonic, Moscow Symphony, Seoul Philharmonic and Istanbul Philharmonic. He has also conducted at the Maggio Musicale Fiorentino and for the Symphonic Orchestra of the Tivoli Festival. Since 1998, Maestro Cataldo has served as the Music Director of the Sicilian Symphonic Orchestra.