

# The Wagner Society

IN NEW SOUTH WALES INC.

Registered Office: 4/22 Read Street, Waverley, 2024



## Newsletter

No. 64 SEPTEMBER 1996

Print Post Approved PP242114/00002

**PATRON:** SIR CHARLES MACKERRAS  
**HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS:** Miss RITA HUNTER, CBE  
Miss LEONIE RYSANEK  
Prof MICHAEL EWANS  
Mr RICHARD KING  
Mr REG MALONEY

### COMING EVENTS

<i>DATE</i>	<i>EVENT</i>	<i>LOCATION</i>
8 September	<i>Die Walküre</i> . New CD set from Karlsruhe. John Wegner as Wotan	Goethe Institut 12.30 pm
20 October	Florence Austral - talk by James Moffat, illustrated by historic recordings	Goethe Institut 1.00 pm
17 November	Seminar on <i>Die Walküre</i> (Application coupon page 2)	Goethe Institut 11.30 am
8 December	Christmas party	Goethe Institut 2.00 pm

### COMMITTEE

The following members were re-elected unopposed at the Annual General Meeting on 14/7/96

President	Paul Lehmann	9411 7899 (work) 9413 1035 (fax)
Vice President	Barbara McNulty	9487 1344
Vice President and Treasurer	Olive Coonan	9387 6403
Membership Secretary	Janet Wayland	9332 3926
Secretary	Ira Kowalski	9560 5859
Members	Barbara Brady (Editor Newsletter)	9956 5132
	Shirley Robertson	9521 3281
	Ivor Zetler	9871 4566 (home) 9872 2723 (work)
Public Officer	Reg Maloney	

### ADDRESS

Please note our permanent address for all correspondence, and the telephone and fax number:

The Wagner Society in New South Wales Inc  
GPO Box 4574 SYDNEY NSW 2001  
Tel: 9411 7899 (Paul Lehmann, business hours) Fax 9413 1035

All contributions to the *Newsletter* are gratefully received and may be sent to the editor at this address.

---

## THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear Members,

I think it appropriate at this point in time to summarise what I consider to be some of the more notable events that occurred during the first year in which I had the privilege - with commensurate responsibilities - of being president.

Probably the most important single event was our return to the Goethe Institut for our monthly meetings. For me this signifies the end of our "nomadic" period and will mean that, at committee level, we will not have to spend so much time as we did in the past dealing with the numerous problems that erupted with our other venues, so we can now spend more time considering what we can do to further the aims of our society. My special thanks to Olive Coonan who was responsible for the "break through" that enabled us to successfully firm up our return. Once we were back it was broadly "business as usual". However, thanks to the entrepreneurial skill of our member Dr Ivor Zetler, we arranged a public playing of the Solti *Rhinegold*, which, costwise, was about "break even", and we turned our hands to the "rag trade" with the marketing of our T-shirts. As a committee we discovered from these exercises that we have a lot to learn about the skills needed to undertake these activities. And I note that D.J.'s HAVE NOT asked any of our committee to join their board of directors. However, thanks to Ivor for his initiative. Thanks also to Hilda Perini and Christiana Stold who were conscripted to act as our German translators. It is obvious that our German friends have been quite agreeably surprised to receive letters in their native language.

My personal thanks are also due to each and every committee member. Very rarely does a committee meeting last as short as two hours, and we meet once a month. However each member devotes a considerable amount of additional time to the other chores that must be done. Some of these duties include the collection of the mail, gathering information for our newsletter including typing up whatever may be necessary, writing the various letters that must be sent, managing our membership list, monitoring renewals, catering for functions, paying bills, banking receipts, preparing minutes of meetings, "distributing" our Bayreuth ticket allocation, organising theatre parties, arranging the annual luncheon/dinner (eg sorting out the venue, arranging menu, organising members' bookings), and KEEPING OUR AUDITOR HAPPY - and so the list goes on.

As for the next twelve months I would like to see us, as a committee, establish a rapport with the major music schools such as the Conservatorium of Music and the University of Western Sydney. I would like us to consider whether or not we could make a special effort to attract some young members and do more to help those members who are new to Wagner's music. Finally, with the economy being what it is, we will have to "toughen up" on budgetary matters. Be that as it may, even though I am by profession a pessimist (I always have to be alert to what might go wrong) I am by nature an optimist so I am looking forward to a year of growth for our society.

And finally thanks to you all for allowing me to continue as your president for another year.

PAUL LEHMANN  
President

### NEW MEMBERS

We are very pleased to welcome the following new members: Janice May Brown, Evelyn Sullivan and John and Margaret Sachs.

### THE ADELAIDE RING

In response to a request from the organisers of the Adelaide Ring we contacted those members who had previously expressed interest in attending the 1998 Ring and supplied Adelaide with details of numbers, cycle and seating preferences. We have since received the following acknowledgment dated 5th August from Stephen Phillips, General Director of State Opera Ring Corporation:

"Re: The Ring Cycle

Thank you for your letter dated 31 July regarding the ticketing requirements for Wagner Society in NSW. We will endeavour to satisfy these requirements and will pass on the allocations to Qantas who will be handling all ticketing for this production. National ticketing does not start until March/April 1997 so you will not hear anything regarding this for some time."

### SEMINAR ON DIE WALKÜRE

In part preparation for the concert performance of *Die Walküre* to be given by the SSO in February 1997 the society is presenting a seminar to be held on Sunday 17 November at the Goethe Institut. It will start at 11.30 am to allow time for one speaker before lunch (which will be approximately 12.30 to 1.30) and there will be three speakers after lunch with a mid- afternoon break. Please bring your own lunch but afternoon tea will be supplied. Please mail the coupon to the society's GPO box enclosing a cheque made out to the Wagner Society in NSW Inc. Names of applicants will be recorded but tickets will not be sent out.

We are very pleased that the following academics and musicians have agreed to address us.

**Anthony Ernst, Michael Ewens, Richard Toop and Peter Pfuhl**

<b>DIE WALKÜRE</b>
I/We wish to attend the seminar on 17 November at 11.30 am
Enclosed is \$-----covering -----people at \$30.00 per person
Name: .....
Address: ..... .....
Telephone .....

---

**Financial members of the Wagner Society in NSW Inc as at 31 July 1996**

Dr L. Aitken Mr P. Alger; Mr & Mrs D W. Allen; Dr & Mrs G Amigo; Mrs J Anderson; Mrs S Baer; Mrs C Bailey; Ms P Baillie; Mr K Baldenhofer; Mrs M Baumgartner; Dr B Boman; Dr M Bookallil; Mr T Borrer; Mr & Mrs I Brady; Miss L Brauer; Mrs M Bridges; Mr & Mrs J Buchanan; Mrs M Budge; Mrs A P Byrne; Hon. R J Carr MP; Mr & Mrs Robert Carr; Mr A Carter; Dr J H Casey; Miss A Casimir; Mr & Mrs A Cater; Dr & Mrs G Chesher; Dr and Mrs R Clarke; Miss D Cleaver; Mr A Cohen; Dr & Mrs R Cohen; Ms C Cole; Dr J Daniels; Mr & Mrs M Connery; Mrs O Coonan; Mr. & Mrs R Cooper; Mr & Mrs R Cousens; Mrs M Crane; Mr R Cruikshank; Mrs J Darlington; Mr & Mrs M Day; Mr & Mrs H Derichs; Mr B G Dexter; Mr H Donaldson; Dr and Mrs N Dorsch; Mr J Drew; Mr B C Ducker; Ms H N Dunlop; Mr C W Dyer; Mr H Ebert; Mr G Evans; Mr C A Evatt; Ms J A. Fahey; Mrs J Ferfaglia; Mr & Mrs A Ferlisi; Mrs J Ferns; Mr and Mrs O. Ferrara; Mr G Fleischer; Mrs N Fleming; Dr and Mrs G Fletcher; Dr S Freiberg; Lady P Galleghan; Mr R Gastineau-Hills; Ms L Geeves; Mr R Gibson; Ms S Gillies; Ms D Goss; Dr A Goy; Mrs J Grant; Mr & Mrs K Grant; ;Ms N Grant; Mrs J E Griffin ; Mr & Mrs A Hamlin; Mrs S P Handley; Mrs M Harris; Mr & Mrs B Hartnett; Drs F & P Harvey; Mr S Hatcher; Mr C J Heathers; Ms C Hennessy; Ms M Hennessy; Ms M Hiscock; Ms A Howard; Mr T Hudson; Ms C Hughes; Mr E Insausti; Mr J Iredale; Mr H H Jamieson; Ms A Johnston; Mr A N Jones; Ms E Jones; Misses D & I Kallinikos; Mr K J Kelleher; Dr S M Kelly; Mrs B Kiessling; Dr and Mrs D King; Mrs V King; Dr K Koller; Ms I Kowalski; Mrs E Kraefft; Ms T A Kram; Mrs R Kruszelnicki; Mr P A Lehmann; Ms E Lenthall; Mr L A Le Leu; Mrs M Lichtenbergers; Mr & Mrs H Littman; Mrs E Long; Mr B R Love; Mr A Mackerras; Mr G Magney; Ms L Magree; Mrs S Major; Mrs B Maloney; Mr E Manass; Ms J Manton Mrs A Marshall; Dr R C Mason; Ms S Mason; Dr D Mather; Justice Jane Mathews; Dr I Maxwell; Mrs D McBain; Mr T McBride; Mr J McCarthy; Dr D L McCarthy; Mrs D McCormac; Ms K McCormack; Mr A McDonald; Mrs P McGaw; Bro J A McGlade; Mr. J.M. McGrath; Mr B McKenzie; Mrs B McNulty; Ms J Merkel-Stol; Mr & Mrs W Merretz; Dr P Milewski; Dr & Mrs T A Mitchell; Mr J. Moessis; Ms P Moore; Mrs E M Moser; Ms R Moss; Mr C Muché; Mrs J Mulveney; Mr & Mrs W F Naylor; Mrs K Newton; Mr & Mrs P Nicholson; Mr W Norris; Mrs H Perini; Mr C Piper; Mrs F Pisier; Mr A J Pittorino; Mrs C Preece; Mr & Mrs H Pritchett; Mr G Ramsay; Ms J E Read; Mr K Reed; Mr G Richards; Mr & Mrs G Roberts; Mrs S Robertson; Mrs E Robinson; Mrs M Saunders; Mr S Sheffer; Ms N Siano; Mr J A Simmonds; Mr R Smallwood; Mr A Smith; Ms N E Smith; Prof & Mrs R M Spillane; Mr & Mrs W Spiller; Mr & Mrs R Staniland; Mr R Steele; Ms C Stoldt; Mr R Stone; Ms A T Straube; Dr & Mrs W Suthers; Mr & Mrs A J Sutton; Rear Admiral & Mrs R. Swan; Ms A Swebbs; Mr G Symons; Mr D G Tabrett; Mr B Tarver; Mr C Terrasson; Mr and Mrs G. Thomas; Mrs P E Thompson; Mr J Thomson; Miss J Tomkinson; Mr D J Triggs; Ms I Vance; Mr & Mrs B Walters; Mr W and Dr E Watson; Dr T G Watson; Mr and Mrs H Wayland; Ms L Webster; Ms A Weeden; Mr & Mrs C F Westrip; Mr & Mrs T. Wheeler; Miss J Whitehouse; Mr R Whitelaw; Mrs M Whitlam; Mrs A Williamson; Mr G. L Wilson Ms S Wilson; Mr & Mrs A Woodward; Dr I Zetler; Dr A Ziegler

**THE WAGNER SOCIETY IN NEW SOUTH WALES INC  
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH, 1996**

<b>1995</b>	<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>1996</b>
1821.00	Prepayments - Theatre parties	0.00
250.00	Luncheon May	500.00
4121.37	Cash at bank	1458.52
15227.97	Investment	16239.42
1666.83	Public Donation Account	421.57
0.00	Debtors	560.00
1172.00	Stock P/S; brochures and raffle tickets	800.00
506.65	2 libretti & music score	0.00
30.00	1 Elektra video tape	0.00
<u>6956.00</u>	46 items Lohengrin set design/frames	<u>6956.00</u> <u>7756.00</u>
<u>31751.82</u>		<u>26935.51</u>
	<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>	
185.00	Filing cabinet	185.00
(185.00)	less depreciation	(185.00)    0.00
990.00	Set of speakers	990.00
(990.00)	less depreciation	(990.00)    0.00
695.00	Typewriter	695.00
(695.00)	less depreciation	(695.00)    0.00
100.00	Urn	100.00
(100.00)	less depreciation	(100.00)    0.00
230.00	Answerphone	230.00
<u>(168.00)</u>	less depreciation	<u>(214.00)</u> <u>16.00</u> <u>16.00</u>
<u>31813.82</u>	<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u>26951.51</u>
	<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	
4299.00	Prepaid theatre parties	0.00
505.00	Prepaid membership	0.00
700.00	Prepaid functions	0.00
87.00	Prepaid annual competition	<u>0.00</u>
<u>5591.00</u>	<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<u>0.00</u>
<u>26222.82</u>	<b>TOTAL ACCUMULATED FUNDS AS AT 31/3/96</b>	<u>26951.51</u>
	<b>ACCUMULATED FUNDS ANALYSIS</b>	
	Surplus as at 31/3/95	26222.82
	Plus surplus for year 1995/1996	<u>728.69</u> <u>26951.51</u>

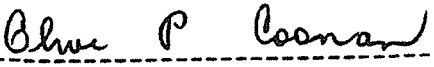
**THE WAGNER SOCIETY IN NEW SOUTH WALES INC**  
**REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1996**

<b>1995</b>	<b>CURRENT ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1996</b>
5250.00	REVENUE - MEMBERSHIP		8510.00
	Less administration cost		
2291.16	Newsletters: printing and distribution	1901.68	
911.91	Printing, stationery, postage and telephone	1104.35	
63.34	Bank charges	68.28	
46.00	Depreciation of fixed assets	46.00	
337.10	Subscriptions	410.88	
509.93	Insurance	545.02	
30.00	Statutory and other fees	30.00	
<u>288.00</u>	Disposal of furniture	<u>0.00</u>	<u>4106.21</u>
<u>772.56</u>	Surplus / (deficiency)		<u>4403.79</u>
	REVENUE - OTHER		
265.00	Sale of books, CDs, journals etc	0.00	
5086.30	Lectures and functions	9602.00	
660.00	Theatre parties	6363.00	
3240.00	Annual luncheon May 1995	3336.00	
966.00	Annual competition 1995	1526.50	
<u>26.17</u>	Bank interest	<u>62.56</u>	
<u>10243.47</u>		<u>20890.06</u>	20890.06
	LESS EXPENSES		
200.00	Books, CDs, journals etc.	0.00	
4525.97	Lectures and functions	7543.70	
612.00	Theatre parties	4911.00	
3895.00	Annual luncheon May 1995	3340.00	
335.20	Annual competition	0.00	
<u>396.00</u>	Miscellaneous & advertising	<u>0.00</u>	
<u>9964.17</u>		<u>15794.70</u>	<u>15794.70</u>
<u>279.30</u>	Surplus / (deficiency)	<u>5095.36</u>	<u>5095.36</u>
<u>1051.86</u>	TOTAL CURRENT ACTIVITIES		<u>9499.15</u>
	Surplus/ (deficiency)		

1995	PUBLIC DONATIONS AND INVESTMENT ACCOUNT	1996
	REVENUE	
2000.00	Donations	1150.00
<u>758.14</u>	Interest	<u>1028.41</u>
2758.14		2178.41
	LESS EXPENDITURE	
4280.00	Sponsorships and donations	10935.65
9.16	Bank charges	13.22
<u>(1531.02)</u>	TOTAL EXTRAORDINARY ACTIVITIES	<u>(8770.46)</u>
	Surplus / (deficiency)	<u>8770.46</u>
<u>(479.16)</u>	TOTAL SURPLUS / (DEFICIENCY) FOR THE YEAR	728.69


Note: Details of donations and sponsorship:

Airfares - Bayreuth Scholarship	2299.00
Donation - Narrabri High School	100.00
Sponsorship Das Rheingold	3000.00
Sponsorship Flying dutchman	<u>5000.00</u>
Ex cash-books payment total	10399.00
plus donations of two libretti and scores and one video tape to Sydney University	<u>536.65</u>
<u>TOTAL DONATIONS AND SCHOLARSHIPS</u>	<u>10935.65</u>

  
-----  
Olive P. Coonan (Hon. Treasurer)

#### AUDITOR'S REPORT

After having examined the books and records of the WAGNER SOCIETY IN NEW SOUTH WALES INC., in my opinion the above balance sheet and attached statement of revenue and expenditure represent an accurate state of the financial affairs of the Society

  
-----  
J. Ferfaglia (Hon. Auditor)  
( Retired Accountant )

#### BAYREUTH SCHOLARSHIP WINNER: GEOFFREY HARRIS

Each year the society offers a scholarship in the form of a return air fare to Europe to a singer nominated by the Opera Foundation. We are delighted to announce that this year's recipient is tenor Geoffrey Harris, who has been appearing regularly with the major Australian and New Zealand opera companies in a wide variety of roles. Many members will remember his impressive singing as Mime in the SSO's concert performance of *Das Rheingold* last year. Geoffrey is a product of The Australian Opera Studio Training Programme and his Wagner roles with the Australian Opera have included Steersman in *Der Fliegende Holländer* and Melot in *Tristan und Isolde*. His ability to bring conviction to dramatic roles together with his obvious enjoyment of comedy have lead him to perform in a wide range of operatic repertoire. The society wishes Geoffrey Harris a rewarding study tour in Germany.



## FLORENCE AUSTRAL

### Letter from Mr James Moffat:

“...I would like to propose that the Wagner Society take an active interest in the renovation of the gravesite of Florence Austral. I have visited the site at the Beresfield Crematorium and it was certainly a disheartening site. The plaque, which is badly worn, is identical to hundreds of others and reads simply: “Florence Mary Amadio, died 15 May 1968 aged 76 years”. There is no mention of Florence Austral, and no indication that there was anything at all remarkable about her.

When Austral died she had no next of kin. One Marjorie Eliza Foote was responsible for the interment. I have been unable to track her down, and I think it is reasonable to assume that she has since passed away as well. I enquired at Beresfield about the possibility of having the gravesite upgraded. I was told that it was no problem to have a new plaque made - although I suspect that to do so properly would be beyond my means. There is the added urgency that in 1998 Austral’s ashes will have been interred for thirty years and unless permanent arrangements are made the state will be at liberty to remove and scatter them.

Since Austral is recognized as one of the country’s great Wagnerian voices, and Australia’s only real link with that “Golden Age” of Wager of the inter-war years, this seems an appropriate project for the Society to tackle. I am, of course, happy to lend whatever assistance you feel I may give.”  
**JAMES MOFFATT**

*Members are invited to contact the committee with suggestions. Mr Moffatt is the author of the recent biography of Austral (reviewed below) and is guest-speaker at the society’s October function..*

The following book review is reproduced by kind permission of the author, Michael Tesoriero, and of *Stereo FM Radio 2MBS-FM Program Guide*. It was published in the *May 1996* issue.

**Book Review: FLORENCE AUSTRAL: ONE OF THE WONDER VOICES OF THE WORLD**, by James Moffatt. (Currency Press 1995, 278pp, \$45).

“Today Florence Austral is a name nearly forgotten in the operatic world. In fact if it wasn’t for the keen record collector who occasionally speaks of this great Wagnerian of the 1920s and 1930s, Austral would indeed be unknown today. Here was a great artist who was on the verge of a major international career and at the peak of her powers, when she was struck down with Multiple Sclerosis. Perhaps our English or American record collectors and music lovers had a better appreciation of her abilities than we Australians. What is sad to state is that this major artist, heralded at the time as Australia’s major singer and successor to Melba (not that their voices had any similarity) was to spend her last years alone, unrecognised and in poverty. Yes, we Australians should feel ashamed. Now, at least, a young Australian writer has taken time and effort to put into print the achievements of this forgotten lady. The author is James Moffat, a young Melbourne-born researcher and opera enthusiast, who is an avid record collector, especially of singers of the past. This biography is his first book. I must say immediately that on reading it, one would certainly not be aware of this fact, for the book flows so well. Unlike so many biographies on singers, where one success follows another and (quite frankly) your attention starts to wander, Moffat carefully weaves Austral’s professional and private life into what can only be described as ‘a good read’. A biography on Austral (and this is the first to have been written) would not have

been an easy one to write, for there is a large amount of contradictory material about. At the book's launch in Sydney late last year, it was amusingly quoted that 'Florence Austral never once said a true word to a journalist in her entire life'. Even in her later years when she occasionally had an admirer or record enthusiast visit, she never seemed to give the same story the exact way twice - always adding or subtracting the so-called facts. Moffat, when relating some incident that may seem contradictory, clearly gives 'both sides of the story', often allowing the reader to come to a conclusion. He definitely has done much research - Austral's date of birth is a perfect example. It was always stated as 1896 or sometimes 1894, but Moffat has established that Austral was actually born in 1892. There is much to learn from the book. I for instance knew little of her married life. She married Melba's flautist John Amadio - another Australian artist who was well known in his time and forgotten today. Neither was I aware that Austral sang the coloratura repertoire in concerts, as it would seem these were more popular pieces than her usual Wagner. It seems hard to believe when you are accustomed to Austral's large dramatic voice, that she would attempt the mad scene from Donizetti's *Lucia di Lammermoor*. 'By all accounts Austral sang the music splendidly', Moffat writes, 'and she certainly sang it frequently. The cadenza she used was the one that Mathilde Marchesi had devised for Melba'.

Austral's debut at Covent Garden in May 1922 was an amazing feat. Stepping in as a last-minute replacement, Austral took on the difficult role of Brünnhilde in *Die Walküre*. She had no orchestral rehearsal and a quick 'walk through' for stage direction. In fact, time did not allow for the third act to be rehearsed at all! As the book says, 'In the best show business tradition she arrived at Covent Garden that night unheralded and unknown, and awoke the next morning a celebrity'. Austral's health problems began as early as 1930 when she made her Berlin debut, again in *Die Walküre*. 'She delivered the Battle Cry from the top of the stage with all of her accustomed exuberance, but as she attempted to make her way down a narrow path to the footlights, she found herself immobilised by Brünnhilde's heavy armour. Ingeniously she used her spear and shield as walking sticks and eventually arrived in front of Brockelmann, her Wotan'. But as Austral was very much a person who kept to herself she stubbornly refused over the next decade to go public about the reality of her condition. She 'simply mistrusted the public which was far more sympathetic and understanding than she gave them credit for ... she might well have served to educate the public about Multiple Sclerosis and preserve her own integrity. In leaving the public to draw its own conclusions [about her many cancellations], she did herself a grave disservice', Moffat argues. "...

**MICHAEL TESORIERO**

*[Here the editor regrets lack of space for the final section of this review and reference to Rita Hunter's sympathetic forward to the book].*

## CDs

**FLORENCE AUSTRAL: ONE OF THE WONDER VOICES OF THE WORLD** The awaited two-CD set produced by Larrikin Records (LRH453) is due for release in mid-September. This was compiled in part by James Moffatt and partly from recordings in the National Film and Sound Archive. Disc One, which is dedicated to opera arias, includes Senta's ballad from the *Dutchman*, Todesverkündigung from *Die Walküre*, Zu Neuen Taten and Starke Scheite (Brünnhilde's immolation) from *Götterdämmerung*. Disc Two, which is in lighter vein, includes an extract from the forest bird scene in *Siegfried*.

**KARLSRUHE RING:** We announced in the previous issue that the society would import a few sets of the Karlsruhe Ring as we did not expect it to be readily accessible in the record shops. We have now been informed that Classics Direct will be making this recording available.

## THE RAVENS REPORTING

compiled by CAMRON DYER

- Adelaide *The Ring* - 3 cycles in 1998. November 18, 19, 21, 24; November 27, 28, December 1, 4; Dec. 5, 7, 9, 12.
- Amsterdam *Parsifal* - Wolfgang Schöne (Amfortas), Carsten Stabell (Tituel), Robert Lloyd Gurnemanz), Poul Elming (Parsifal), Günter von Kannen (Klingsor), Violeta Urmana (Kundry). Conductor Simon Rattle, director Klaus Michael Grüber, designer Gilles Aillaud, costumes Moidele Bickel. January 28, 31 Feb 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 1997.
- Antwerp/  
Ghent *Tannhäuser* - Gary Lakes, Nina Stemme, Yvonne Naef, Jorma Hynninen, Carsten Stabell. Conductor Stefan Soltesz, producer David Alden, designer Roni Toren Antwerp - Mar 25, 28, 31m, Apr 2, 5; Ghent - Apr 12, 15, 19, 22, 1997.
- Bastille *Lohengrin* - new production - Gösta Winbergh, Karita Mattila, Gwyneth Jones, Jan-Hendrik Rootering, Tom Fox, M. Volle. Conductor James Conlon, producer Robert Carsen, designer Paul Steinberg. Nov 22, 25, 28 Dec 1m, 4, 7, 10, 13, 1996. Kristinn Sigmundsson, Thomas Moser, Eva Johansson, Jean-Phillipe Lafont, Sabine Hass, Peter Sidhom. May 12, 15, 18m, 21, 24, 1997. *Parsifal* - new production - Thomas Moser, Kristinn Sigmundsson, Wolfgang Schöne, Gwynne Howell, Jan-Hendrik Rootering, Kathryn Harries. Conductor Horst Stein, producer Graham Vick, designer Paul Brown. Mar 28, 31m Apr 3, 5, 9, 12, 16, 19, 1997.
- Brussels *Tristan und Isolde* - Ronald Hamilton (Tristan), Anne Evans (Isolde), Oddbjorn Tennfjord (K.Marke), Tom Fox (Kurwenal), Kerstin Witt (Brangaene) Conductor Antonio Pappano, producer & designer Achim Freyer. Jan 22, 26, 30 Feb 4, 8, 12, 15, 1997.
- Chatelet *Lohengrin* - Emily Magee, Deborah Polaski, Johan Botha, Falk Struckmann, Roman Trekel, René Pape. Conductor Daniel Barenboim, producer Harry Kupfer, designer Hans Schavernoch. Apr 10, 13m, 16, 19, 1997.
- Copenhagen *Tannhäuser* - Stig Fogh Andersen (Tannhäuser), Tina Kiberg (Elisabeth), Aage Haugland (Graf). Conductor Dietfried Bernet. Sep 21, 28 Oct 1, 9, 15, 21. *Die Meistersinger* - Bent Norup, Stig Fogh Andersen, Tina Kiberg, Guido Paevatalu, Christian Christensen, Gert Henning. Conductor Heinz Fricke, director Francesca Zambello. Nov 29 Dec 3, 17, 21, 26, 1996 Jan 23, 29, Feb 1, 1997.
- Covent Garden *The Ring* - Ekkehard Wlaschiha (Alberich); Jane Henschel (Fricka), John Tomlinson (Wotan), Matthias Hölle (Fafner, Hunding), Philip Langridge (Loge), Poul Elming (Siegfried), Ulla Gustafsson (Sieglinde), Deborah Polaski/Anne Evans (Brünnhilde), Siegfried Jerusalem (Siegfried), Alan Held (Gunther), Kurt Rydl (Hagen). Conductor Bernard Haitink, director Richard Jones. 3 cycles - Sep 21, 30 Oct 7, 12; Oct 2, 5, 16, 19; Oct 24, 25, 28 Nov 2. *Lohengrin* - Karita Mattila (Elsa), Gwyneth Jones (Ortrud) Gösta Winbergh (Lohengrin), Sergei Leiferkus (Telramund), Anthony Michaels-Moore (Herald) René Pape (King Henry). Conductor Valery Gergiev, director Elijah Moshinsky, designer John Napier. February 8, 11, 14, 17, 20, 22, 1997. *Die Meistersinger* - Nancy Gustafson (Eva), Catherine Wyn-Rogers, Gösta Winbergh (Walther), Herbert Lippert, Alasdair Elliott, Robin Leggate, Paul Crook, Francis Egerton, Thomas Allen (Beckmesser), John Tomlinson (Hans Sachs), Anthony Michaels-Moore, David Ellis, Gordon Sandison, Gwynne Howell (Pogner). Conductor Bernard Haitink, director Graham Vick, designer Richard Hudson. March 15, 18, 21, 24 & Verdi Festival July 7, 12.

**RAVENS... contd**

- Holland *Holländer* - Nationale Reisopera - Bonnema, Meeuwssen, Henckens, Perrin, le Texier. Conductor Minkowski, producer te Nuyl. Enschede Jan 31 Feb 2, Nijmegen Feb 6, Leeuwarden Feb 8, Arnhem Feb 11, Rotterdam Feb 14, 16m, The Hague Feb 18, Utrecht Feb 20, Groningen Feb 22, Maastricht Feb 27, Eindhoven Mar 1, 1997.
- Leeds *Tannhäuser* - Opera North - new production - Jeffrey Lawton, Rita Cullis, Ane-Marie Owens, Keith Letham. Conductor Paul Daniel, producer David Fielding. Opens May 3, 1997.
- Munich *Die Meistersinger* - Bernd Weikl (Hans Sachs), Gwynne Howell (Sep)/Kurt Moll (Jul) (Pognor), Claes H. Ahnsjö, Alan Opie (Beckmesser), Gösta Winbergh (Walther), Ulrich Reß (David), Adrienne Pieczonka (Sep)/Renée Fleming (Jul) (Eva). Conductor Peter Schneider, director August Everding, designer Jürgen Rose. September 19, 1996 July 31, 1997. *Holländer* - Jaakko Ryhänen (Daland), Luana DeVol (Senta), Peter Straka (Erik), Marita Knobel (Mary), Ulrich Reß (Steersman), James Morris (Nov)/Simon Estes (Holländer). Conductor Peter Schneider (Nov)/Hans Drewanz, director & sets Henning von Gierke. November 3, 6, 9, 1996 April 19, 23, 1997. *Parsifal* - John Bröcheler (Amfortas), Karl Helm, Hans Sotin (Gurnemanz), John Keyes (Mar 23, 27)/Gösta Winbergh (Parsifal), Tom Fox (Klingsor), Deborah Polaski (Kundry). Conductor Peter Schneider, director Peter Konwitschny, designer Johannes Leiacker. March 23, 27, 30 April 4, 1997. *Die Walküre* - Siegfried Jerusalem (Siegmond), Matti Salminen (Hunding), John Tomlinson/James Morris (Jul) (Wotan), Nadine Secunde (Sieglinde), Gabriele Schnaut (Brünnhilde), Felicity Palmer (Fricka). Conductor Peter Schneider, director Nikolaus Lehnoff, sets Erich Wonder. May 25, 29, June 1, July 29, 1997. *Das Rheingold* - James Morris, Jürgen Freier, Stig Andersen, Graham Clark, Fran-Josef Kapellmann, Helmut Pampuch, Jan-Hendrik Rootering, Kurt Rydl, Felicity Palmer, Pamela Coburn, Kathleen Kuhlmann. Conductor Peter Schneider, director Nikolaus Lehnhoff, sets Erich Wonder. July 27.
- San Francisco *Lohengrin* - new production - Ben Heppner/Chris Merritt (Oct 6,12), Karita Mattila, Elizabeth Connell, Jan-Hendrik Rootering, Tom Fox, Okerlund. Conductor Donald Runnicles, director Laurie Feldman. Sep 28, Oct 1, 4, 6m, 9, 12.
- The Met *Das Rheingold* - March 26 - Hei-Kyung Hong (Freia), Hanna Schwarz (Fricka), Birgitta Svendén (Erda), Philip Langridge (Loge), Graham Clark (Mime), James Morris (Wotan), Ekkehard Wlaschiha (Alberich), René Pape (Fasolt) Stephen West (Fafner) Conductor James Levine *Die Walküre* - April 7 - Hildegard Behrens (Brünnhilde), Deborah Voigt (Sieglinde), Hanna Schwarz (Fricka), Plácido Domingo (Siegmond), James Morris (Wotan), John Macurdy (Hunding) Conductor James Levine April 17 - Cast changes to above: Janis Martin(Brünnhilde) Matti Salminen(Hunding) *The Ring* - 3 cycles - Mar 29m April 12m, 19, 26; 25, 28, 30 May 3; 5, 6, 8, 10 1997.
- Vienna *Holländer* - October 19, 22, 1996 April 4, 9, 1997. *Die Meistersinger* - December 8, 11, 1996. *Lohengrin* - February 20, 23, 26 April 13, 16, 20, 1997. *The Ring* - 2 cycles - March 12, 16, 20, 23; June 3, 5, 11, 15, 1997. *Parsifal* - March 27, 29, 1997. *Tannhäuser* - May 4, 8, 11.