THE RALPH OPERA PROGRAM PRESENTS:

THE OLD MAD AND THE THEF AN OPERA IN ONE ACT BY GIAN-CARLO MENOTTI

DIRECTED BY TIFFANY BLAKE FEATURING CSU THEATRE STUDENTS





Colorado State University



THE OLD MAID AND THE THIEF AN OPERA IN ONE ACT BY GIAN-CARLO MENOTTI

OPERA CAST:

Miss Todd: Emily Anderson Laetitia: Mykayla Fitzpatrick Bob: Patrick Saiff Miss Pinkerton: Lucy Logan

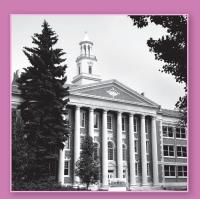
COMMERCIALS CAST:

Fritz Nickels: Scotty Powell Vivian Parker: Kaitlin Kennedy Barney Calhoun: Will Hazel

Pianist and Musical Director: Chris Crans Director: Tiffany Blake Commercial Director: Amy Scholl Commercial Curator: Walt Jones Sound Designer: Mason Dill Commercial Sound Designer: Patrick Middlebrook Recording Engineer: David Walters Sound Supervisor: Chris Carignan Sound Design Mentor: Price Johnston

The Old Maid and the Thief, which premiered in 1939, was commissioned by NBC, and was one of the earliest operas to be composed expressly for radio performance. The composer, Gian-Carlo Menotti, served also as its librettist, and the plot was inspired by a visit to his partner and fellow composer Samuel Barber's hometown. Menotti found that beneath its quaint, "All-American" veneer, the town was a hot bed of gossip and small-town intrigue.

The piece is now largely performed by University opera programs in staged productions, but its inception as a radio production makes it a perfect vehicle for showcasing the talents of our music and theatre students in this time of COVID performance restrictions. We have taken the proverbial "lemons" served up to us by COVID, and created artistic and educational "lemonade", helping the students to learn how to act with their voices, and appealing to a bygone era lacking screens, which required much more of the imagination. Thank you for joining us and enjoy the show!



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