

FOR RELEASE:

IMMEDIATE

Contact: Bob McGill



Mailed January 6, 1986

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio - WYSU-FM, Classical 88.5 of Youngstown State University, will air the live broadcast of the Metropolitan Opera's presentation of Leos Janacek's "Jenufa" at 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 11.

"Jenufa," broadcast only once before in the 1974-75 season by the Met, will be sung in a new English translation. Making his broadcast debut with the Met will be conductor Vaclav Neumann, chief conductor of the Czech Philharmonic Orchestra and a specialist in the music of his native Czechoslovakia.

Roberta Alexander will sing the title role, with Mignon Dunn as Jenufa's step-mother, Kostelnicka. Timothy Jenkins will have the role of Laca and William Lewis, Steva.

During the first intermission, "Opera News on the Air" will feature Boris Goldovsky discussing Janacek and "Jenufa." Panelists for "Texaco's Opera Quiz" will be opera language coach Susan Gould; executive recording producer John Pfeiffer; and concert manager Christopher Purdy.

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NEWS SERVICE  
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YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio - Youngstown State University, in cooperation with the Mahoning County and Youngstown City Health Departments, will host the first Northeast Ohio Public Health Seminar on Jan. 24.

Keynote speaker will be Dr. David Jackson, director of the Ohio Department of Health.

The seminar has been organized to provide an opportunity for health commissioners, board members and health department personnel to exchange information on public health issues and discuss common problems.

Leonard A. Perry of Austintown, administrator of YSU's Microbiology Laboratory and a member of the Mahoning County Board of Health, said the sponsors plan to hold the seminars on a quarterly basis.

Invitations to the seminar include health representatives from 20 counties in Northeastern Ohio. Perry said reservations have already been received from city, county and state health officials in Mahoning, Trumbull, Columbiana, Portage, Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lorain and Ashland counties.

Between 100 and 150 are expected to attend the program and luncheon, which will be held in the Ohio Room of YSU's Kilcawley Center from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The University has applied to the State Board of Sanitarian Review for approval to grant registered <sup>ok</sup>sanitarian credit to those attending the seminar.

YSU's Microbiology Lab, operated on a non-profit basis, has been acting as the health lab for city and county health departments in Mahoning, Columbiana and Trumbull counties and also as liaison between the departments and the State Department of Health and its nearest laboratory in Cuyahoga Falls.

MORE

ALD ONE

The Microbiology Lab is part of the University's Public Services Institute. It serves as a community service unit and also trains students in many aspects of health and health-related fields, including medicine. Its public health work has been broadening its academic programs.

The lab makes between 500 and 700 different tests a month, some 200 to 250 of them on water supplies for a number of schools as well as health departments.

Test results are often available within 24 hours. Because there are time limits on all tests (water has to be tested within 30 hours, for example), the YSU lab is used by many area governmental bodies and by schools since tests can be done here faster than sending samples to the busy state lab in Cuyahoga Falls.

The wide variety of tests done at YSU cover drinking water, swimming pools, food, including frozen custard, and many others.

Due to this range of testing, the Microbiology Lab is certified by numerous agencies, including the Ohio Department of Health and Environmental Protection Agency, Ohio Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Center for Disease Control.

Daily operation of the lab includes those testing functions as well as providing classroom teaching for students in the College of Applied Science and Technology and others taking Biological Sciences courses in the College of Arts and Sciences.

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YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio - The internationally acclaimed choral conductor and composer, Gregg Smith, will spend four weeks on the Youngstown State University campus as visiting Wean Lecturer.

In addition to being guest lecturer in music history and conducting classes, he will work with choral ensembles and composers in YSU's Dana School of Music. Smith will also give several public lectures and will conduct the Dana Chorale and the Dana Madrigal Singers in a concert and lecture.

That event, free and open to the public, will feature a program of American music. It will be held at 7 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 9, in the Chestnut Room of the University's Kilcawley Center on Spring Street.

At 8 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 21, as he begins his YSU lectureship, Smith will give a public lecture on "The Choral Art in America: 1936" in Bliss Recital Hall, Wick Avenue.

On Thursdays, beginning at 4 p.m. in Bliss Recital Hall, Smith will hold a series of mini-lectures and question and answer sessions. The first, on Jan. 23, will be on "The Professional Audition."

On Tuesdays, Jan. 28, Feb. 4 and 11, he will hear selected high school choral groups, then work with the young singers.

Gregg Smith has not only been active in building his own famous Gregg Smith Singers, but also has been a prime mover in developing professional choral music throughout the U.S.

Among the many rave notices for his work, Irving Kolodin wrote in The Saturday Review, "Gregg Smith impresses me as the best new man in the (choral) field since Robert Shaw."

MORE

AID ONE

Smith has had a long and distinguished musical career as a conductor and composer, and was recently recipient of the Ditson Foundation Award for service to 20th Century American music., joining the ranks of such conductors as Leopold Stokowski, Leonard Bernstein and Eugene Ormandy.

As he grew up in Chicago, Smith studied every instrument from tuba to flute and joined every choral organization. He next combined studies at the University of California in Los Angeles with teaching, composing and conducting the University Opera Chorus and Madrigal Singers.

After forming a number of local choirs, in 1955 he founded the original Gregg Smith Singers. The group not only won acclaim for performances at the prestigious Los Angeles Monday Evening Concerts but made two European tours as well as tours across the U.S. and Canada.

In 1965 Smith joined the music faculty at Ithaca College in upstate New York and his new Gregg Smith Singers went on to perform with Stokowski at Carnegie Hall, with Stravinsky and others, and to again tour Europe.

Since 1968 he has been artist-in-residence at the State University of New York's Stony Brook Campus. He also is director of choirs at the famed Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore.

His mixed voice chorus, the Gregg Smith Singers, perform both contemporary and rarely-done early works. They have recorded more than 50 albums and have received awards from Stereo and Hi-Fi magazines, as well as three Grammy Awards. They have toured the U.S. for 18 consecutive years and performed in Europe and the Far East on eight tours.

One of the most important innovations of the Singers has been their music in multi-dimensional sound, where choristers are positioned in groups of various sizes at all parts of the auditorium, producing what The Washington Star described as "A stereo sound such as you have never heard before."

YSU's Dana School of Music is part of the College of Fine and Performing Arts.

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