

FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATE

Mailed March 14, 1986

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio - The Metropolitan Opera's new production of Bizet's "Carmen" will be broadcast live from the Met at 1:30 p.m. March 22 and will be heard locally over Youngstown State University's fine arts radio station, WYSU-FM (88.5).

Maria Ewing will sing the title role and Placido Domingo will be heard as Don Jose, with Catherine Malfitano as Micaela and Michael Devlin as Escamillo. Met Music Director James Levine will conduct.

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Contact: Bob McGill

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YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio - Lectures concerning the Jewish encounter with the Soviet government and Communism and the experience of the Jewish immigrant in the United States will be presented April 14 and 15 at Youngstown State University by the Schermer Scholar-in-Residence Program.

Dr. Stephen M. Berk, noted scholar and professor of history at Union College in Schenectady, N.Y., will be the featured speaker. He is also chairman of Comparative Communist Studies and coordinator of Judaic Studies at Union College, and had traveled extensively in the Soviet Union and Israel.

Dr. Berk has been a visiting professor at various colleges and universities in the eastern U.S. and his writings have been widely published. His most recent publication is "Year of Crisis, Year of Hope: Russian Jewry of 1881-1882."

He will discuss "Soviet Jewry at the Crossroads" at 8 p.m. Monday, April 14, in the Ohio Room of Kilcawley Center. A reception will follow at 9:30 in the Special Lectures Lounge.

At 10 p.m. Tuesday, April 15, in the Ohio Room, Dr. Berk will speak on "The Immigrant Experience."

Both events are free and open to the public. Free parking is available in the University parking decks or any of the surface lots.

The Schermer Scholar-in-Residence Program was established at YSU in 1980 through an endowment from the Frances and Lillian Schermer Charitable Trusts, administered by the Youngstown Zionist District of the Zionist Organization of America and B'nai B'rith Mahoning Lodge 339. It memorializes the Schermer family and seeks to advance their interest in young people, education, the Jewish community and the community at large.

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