

AGMAZINE

VOLUME XXXIV, No. 1

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF MUSICAL ARTISTS
A Branch of the Associated Actors and Artistes of America, Affiliated with the AFL-CIO

FALL, 1979

AGMA achieves new three year opera agreement covering singers from coast to coast

For the first time in AGMA's history national negotiations for the repertory opera basic agreement were held with a consortium of major regional opera employers in Houston, Texas. The final negotiations were concluded at the New York regional headquarters of the federal mediation and conciliation services. DeLloyd Tibbs and Joan Greenspan worked for several months to achieve the new wages and working conditions outlined below in conjunction with the support of the AGMA Soloist Committee. The average wage increases represent

10% in the first year of the agreement and 8% in each of the next subsequent years of the collective bargaining agreement. One of the major accomplishments of this new agreement is the establishment of a daily per diem for artists employed on a weekly basis outside of their own city of origination. The results achieved from this new agreement reflect the betterment of working conditions and wages throughout the opera world which is consistent with the high standards which union members all struggle to achieve as performing artists.

We urge all opera singers to confer with their individual company delegates to obtain full details of the new agreement and suggest you read it carefully in order to be informed of your rights and privileges as AGMA members. Terms and conditions for opera chorus singers and corps de ballet dancers will be negotiated on a local basis as has been customary throughout our history. The summary of local San Diego Opera chorus negotiations and achievements is elsewhere in this issue as an example of local terms and conditions.

Opera Salaries—Rehearsal and Performance Fees

	Per performance in city of origination as of 8/1/79	8/1/80	8/1/81	
Single performance fees:				
Leading and featured roles	\$220.00	\$237.00	\$256.00	
Supporting roles	150.00	162.00	175.00	
Solo bit roles	65.00	70.00	75.00	
Choreographer/Ballet Mistress	150.00	162.00	175.00	
Solo dancer	150.00	162.00	175.00	
Stage Director and Stage Manager	220.00	237.00	256.00	
Asst. Stage Director and Stage Manager	150.00	162.00	175.00	
Per Diem	37.50	40.00	42.50	
	Minimum weekly wage in city of origination as of 8/1/79	8/1/80	8/1/81	Maximum No. of performances per week
Weekly rates:				
Leading roles	\$321.00	\$343.50	\$367.50	3
Featured roles	321.00	343.50	367.50	4
Supporting and solo bit roles	267.50	286.25	306.25	6
Stage Director and Stage Manager	321.00	343.50	367.50	7
Choreographer/Ballet Mistress	267.50	286.25	306.25	7
Asst. Stage Director and Stage Manager	235.40	251.90	269.50	7
Solo dancer	267.50	286.25	306.25	7
Per Diem	25.00	27.50	30.00	

Per Diem payments for all weekly artists shall be made when the Artist performs beyond a fifty-five (55) mile radius of his own city of origination.

Benefit improvements for the AGMA P & W Plans

By DeLloyd Tibbs
National Executive Secretary



The Trustees of the AGMA Pension and Welfare Funds recently announced major benefit improvements for both the Welfare and Pension plans which were adopted at their meetings in

July and August 1979, with other various effective dates as follows:

Welfare Plan

1. Effective September 1, 1979, the Prudential major medical insurance maximum benefit payable during the insured's life time was increased from \$20,000 to \$50,000.

Pension Plan

These benefit improvements are effective retroactively to September 1, 1978.

1. Minimum benefit: \$50 a month will be added to the amount derived from the existing benefit formula for all three types of pensions: regular, deferred or disability.

2. Pre-retirement Death Benefit: Should a vested (five service credits or more) participant die prior to reaching age 65 benefit will be paid to the participant's designated beneficiary. This is a graduated benefit giving \$2,500 for five service credits up to a maximum benefit of \$5,000.

The members currently receiving pension benefits from the AGMA Pension Fund have received the \$50 a month increase to their monthly benefit as well as lump sum checks for the retroactive portion of the benefit improvement.

This is the second benefit improvement to the AGMA Pension Plan. The first was in 1976, and it is hoped that the Fund will continue to grow so additional improvements might be considered in the future.

As a representative of AGMA members, I commend all of the parties responsible for the success of these two meaningful programs.

AGMA ZINE

Editorial Consultants, Dick Moore and Associates

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Lafayette Bldg. 8th Floor
5th and Chestnut Streets
Philadelphia, Pa. 19106
215-925-8400

Washington, D.C.

EVELYN FREYMAN
Suite 210
Chevy Chase Center Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20015
202-657-2560

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KAY LONG
34 San Jose Ave.
Jefferson, La. 70121
504-835-4180

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307 N. Michigan Ave.
Chicago, Illinois 60601
312-372-8081

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11 Beacon Street
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Mesquite, Tex. 75149
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704 Bellevue East
Seattle, Wash. 98102
206-323-0438
206-622-8199

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1625 West Olympic Blvd.
Suite 805
Los Angeles, California 90015
213-385-3071

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DONALD TAYER
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San Francisco, Calif. 94104
415-986-4060

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64 Shuter Street
Toronto, Ontario M5B 2G7
416-869-1334

Notice to New York

Area members re Sterling Optical Company

Due to the sale of the building, the Sterling Optical Company's store at 1290 Broadway in Manhattan has been closed. Records from that location are maintained in Sterling's executive office in Huntington, Long Island (212) 895-4030. Sterling will be pleased to transfer your records to any other Sterling Optical Company store convenient to your home or place of business.

Sterling's stores in Manhattan are presently at the following locations:

Port Authority Terminal
41st Street and 8th Avenue
61st Street and Lexington Avenue
Fulton Street between Nassau
and Broadway

Query

I am engaged in research concerning composer, teacher, singer and conductor MARY CARR MOORE (1873-1957), and would appreciate hearing from any AGMA member who might have any of her music or papers in their possession. Please contact Dr. Catherine P. Smith, Associate Professor, Department of Music, University of Nevada, Reno, Nevada 89557.

New San Diego Opera agreement provides for all AGMA choruses

As in the instance of the regional opera companies who are signatories to the National Opera Basic Agreement, local negotiators have concluded a new agreement covering terms and conditions for employment of the San Diego Opera chorus. Under the terms of the previous agreement, the company employed 16 professional choristers along with auxiliary non-union choristers. Under the new agreement, all members of the chorus will be employed on AGMA contracts. Depending upon the requirements of specific operas, 24 to 50 choristers could be employed for a given production.

Under the old agreement, choristers were required to participate in uncompensated rehearsals in varying degrees depending upon seniority. Under the new agreement, choristers are paid for all hours of rehearsal. The AGMA negotiators, the AGMA Committee and representatives of management are to be complimented for these substantial advances.



AGMA Chorus Negotiating Committee: (l. to r.) Dennis Moss, AGMA Southern California Representative; Dru McCain; Grace Magee, Chorus Delegate; Jeff Shipman. (Photo by Tom Clarke, Chairman, Los Angeles Executive Committee.)

Four earn Life Membership for Distinguished Service

In 1964 the Board of Governors adopted an amendment to the AGMA Constitution which honored qualified members with Life Membership for Distinguished Service to the Guild.

The amendment defines the qualification as follows: "An Active Solo, Chorus or Dance Member who has served as an Officer and/or member of the Board of Governors for no fewer than twelve years" shall be entitled to be reclassified as an "Active Life Member for Distinguished Service to AGMA."

At its meeting on July 16, 1979, the Board of Governors of AGMA awarded Life Membership for Distinguished Service to AGMA to the following four members:

Lorraine Keane
Eugene Lawrence
Dale Muchmore
Ann Turner



Keane



Lawrence



Muchmore



Turner

Notice to New York Area members re Union Dental Program

New York Area members who wish to use the Union Dental Program should call the following numbers to obtain information about the Dental Centers near their home or work:

New York City (212) 343-1850
Long Island (516) 536-0600
Westchester &
Upstate New York (800) 632-2540

(Please disregard the telephone numbers listed on the earlier Dental Program cards as there have been changes in locations.)

Author's query

For a biography of LAWRENCE TIBBETT, I would appreciate hearing from anyone with pertinent letters or reminiscences.

Hertzel Weinstat
29-09 137th Street
Flushing, New York 11354

Singers wanted

The Connecticut Grand Opera, Inc. is interested in using in principal roles, singers who reside in or originally come from the State of Connecticut. Please send a letter of your interest to the Connecticut Grand Opera, 576 Post Road, Darien, Connecticut 06820.

Deceased

Elizabeth Caldwell
Harry Davis
Alfred Deller
Carol Franke
Joseph Laderoute
Raiford Spencer
Gerhard Stolze
J. A. Thomas

Managements Under AGMA Agreements

AGMA artists may perform only with Producers or Associations listed in these columns. Any violations of this ruling will result in disciplinary action by the Board of Governors.

OPERA

Artists Internationales, Inc.
Fletcher Building, Union St. Suite 409
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

Asolo Opera Company
c/o James H. Poulliot,
173 W. 78 Street, #3C,
New York, N.Y. 10024
or Box 638, Sarasota, Florida 33578

Associate Artists Opera Company
Boston Center for the Arts
551 Tremont St., Boston, Mass. 02116

Augusta Opera Association
Box 3865 Hill Station, Augusta, Ga. 30904

Baltimore Opera Company
40 Chase Street, Baltimore,
Maryland 21201

Boston Lyric Opera Company
551 Tremont Street,
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Central City Opera Assn.
910 16th St., Denver, Colo. 80202

Chattanooga Opera Assn.
P.O. Box 1212, Chattanooga, Tenn.

Chautauqua Institution
Chautauqua, New York

Cincinnati Opera Assn.
Cincinnati Music Hall
1241 Elm St., Cincinnati, Ohio 45210

City Center of Music and Drama
New York City Opera
New York State Theatre
Columbus Ave., at 63 St., N.Y.C. 10023

Connecticut Grand Opera Co.,
576 Post Road
Darien, Conn. 06820

Connecticut Opera Association
15 Lewis Street, Hartford, Conn.

Dallas Civic Opera Association
3000 Turtle Creek Plaza, Suite 100
Dallas, Texas 75219

Dayton Opera Association, Inc.
c/o Lester Freedman
Biltmore Towers Lobby,
210 N. Main Street, Dayton, Ohio 45402

Educational Opera Association, Inc.
1976 North Normandie Ave.
Los Angeles, Calif. 90027

The Florentine Opera Company
750 No. Lincoln Memorial Drive
Milwaukee, Wisc. 53202

Florida Lyric Opera
P.O. Box 5162
Clearwater, Florida 33518

Fort Worth Opera Assn.
3505 W. Lancaster, Ft. Worth, Tex.

Goldovsky Opera Institute, Inc.
183 Clinton Road, Brookline 46, Mass.

Guild Opera
427 W. 5 St., Suite 722
Los Angeles, Calif. 90013

Hawaii Opera Theatre
Suite 303, Bishop Trust Bldg.
1000 Bishop St., Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Hollywood Bowl Association
Music Center, 135 No. Grand Avenue
Los Angeles 90012, Calif.

Houston Grand Opera Association
615 Louisiana, Houston, Texas 77002

Kentucky Opera Ass'n of Louisville
Gardencourt, Alta Vista Rd.,
Louisville, Ky.

Lake George Opera Festival
Box 471, Glens Falls, N.Y.

Lyric Opera of Chicago
20 North Wacker Drive
Chicago, Ill. 60606

Lyric Opera of Kansas City
1029 Central, Kansas City, Mo. 64105

Lyric Opera of Orange County
608 Laguna Canyon Road
Laguna Beach Calif.

Metropolitan Opera Assn.
Lincoln Center Plaza, N.Y.C. 10023

Minnesota Opera
850 Grand Avenue, St. Paul,
Minnesota 55105

Mississippi Opera Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 1551, Jackson, Miss. 39205

Mobile Opera Guild
P.O. Box 8366, Mobile, Ala. 366608

New Jersey State Opera
Symphony Hall
Newark, New Jersey 07102

New Orleans Opera Assn.
Suite 907, Masonic Temple Bldg.
333 St. Charles Ave., New Orleans,
La. 70130

New York Grand Opera Co.
c/o Vincent LaSelva,
2188 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10024

Opera Classics, Inc., of New Jersey
c/o George Ungaro
P.O. Box 394, Paramus, N.J.

Opera Company of Boston
539 Washington St.
Boston, Mass. 02111

Opera Company of Philadelphia
1518 Walnut St., Suite 600
Philadelphia, Pa. 19102

Opera Guild of Greater Miami
1200 Coral Way, Miami, Fla. 33145

Opera Company of Nassau
c/o Vincent LaSelva,
2188 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10024

Opera Memphis
3830 Norrisswood
Memphis, Tenn. 38152

Opera Orchestra of New York
10 East 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10022

Opera Theatre of Northern Va.
300 North Park Dr., Arlington, Va. 22203

Pacific West Coast Opera Co.
2125 Mayview Drive
Los Angeles, Calif. 90027

Pittsburgh Opera, Inc.
Heinz Hall, 600 Penn Ave.
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15222

Portland Opera Association
P.O. Box 8598
Portland, Oregon 97201

Providence Opera Theatre
O.S.P.A.C. Bldg. (3rd Floor)
228 Weybosset St., Providence, R.I. 02903

Renaissance Opera Co. of Detroit
Ford Auditorium
Detroit, Mich. 48226

Riverside Opera Association
3940 Chapman Place, Riverside, Calif.

San Antonio Symphony
600 Hemisfair Plaza Way, Suite 102
San Antonio, Texas

San Carlo Opera of Florida, Inc.
112 East Cass St., Tampa, Florida 33603

St. Petersburg Division
P.O. Box 12729, St. Petersburg, Fla.
33709

Pinellas Division
P.O. Box 5162, Clearwater, Fla. 33518

San Diego Opera Company
House of Hospitality, Balboa Park
P.O. Box 988, San Diego, Calif. 92112

San Francisco Opera Association
War Memorial Opera House,
San Francisco, Calif. 94102

Santa Fe Opera Association
P.O. Box 2408, Santa Fe, New Mexico
48 East 63 St., New York City

Seattle Opera Association, Inc.
305 Harrison St.
P.O. Box 9248, Seattle, Wash. 98109

Spring Opera of San Francisco
War Memorial Opera House,
San Francisco, Calif. 94102

State Opera Company, Inc.
74 Barmore Drive,
Stamford, Connecticut 06905

Toledo Opera Association, Inc.
Sheraton Westgate, Suite 212
3540 Secor Rd., Toledo Ohio 43600

Tulsa Opera, Inc.
1610 S. Boulder, Tulsa, Okla.

Verismo Productions, Inc.
17 John Street, New Orleans 10038

Washington Opera
The Kennedy Center,
Washington, D.C. 20566

Western Opera Theater
War Memorial Opera House
San Francisco, Calif. 94102

DANCE

Alvin Ailey Dance Theatre
Minskoff Bldg.
1515 Broadway NYC 10036

American Ballet Theatre
888 Seventh Avenue, N.Y.C. 10019

Ballet Spectacular, Inc.
P.O. Box 4871, Miami, Florida

Boston Ballet
19 Clarendon Street,
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Chicago Ballet
1060 N. Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill. 60610

Cunningham Dance Foundation
463 West Street, N.Y.C. 10014

Dance Theatre of Harlem
466 West 152 Street,
New York, New York 10031

Eliot Feld Ballet
890 Broadway, New York 10003

Martha Graham Dance Company
315 East 63rd Street, N.Y.C.

Houston Ballet Company
615 Louisiana, Houston, Texas 77002

Joffrey Ballet
130 West 56th St., New York, N.Y. 10019

Lola Montes
1529 No. Commonwealth Ave.,
Los Angeles, Calif. 90027

London Festival Ballet
Festival Ballet House
39 Jay Mews
London SW 2 ES, England

Metropolitan Fair & Exposition Authority
McCormick Place-on-the-Lake

New York City Ballet Company
New York State Theatre
Columbus Avenue at 63rd St.
New York City

New York Dance Festival
c/o T.A.G. Fdn., 463 West St.,
New York 10014

Pennsylvania Ballet Company
2333 Fairmount Ave.
Philadelphia, Pa. 19130

The Royal Ballet
Royal Opera House
Covent Garden
London, W.C. 2, England

San Francisco Ballet
378—18th Ave., San Francisco, Calif.

(Continued)

Managements Under AGMA Agreements

(Continued)

CONCERT SINGERS

Amor Artis, Inc.
c/o Johannes Somary
620 West 254 St.
Riverdale, New York 10471

Bach Aria Group
1860 Broadway, N.Y.C. 10023

Belafonte Enterprises, Inc.
157 West 57 St., N.Y.C. 10019

Camerata Singers
150 West End Ave., N.Y.C. 10023

Caramoor Center for Music & the Arts, Inc.
Katonah, New York 10536

Century Artists Bureau
866 Third Ave., New York City 10022

Clarion Music Society, Inc.
1860 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10023

Cobble Hill Chamber Singers
136 Kane Street, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11231

Los Angeles Master Chorale
Music Center, 135 N. Grand Ave.
Los Angeles, Calif. 90052

Norman Luboff Choir
35 W. Shore Drive, Port Washington,
N.Y. 11050

Musica Sacra of New York
20 W. 86 St.
New York, New York 10024

National Chorale
250 West 57 Street, Rm. 1429,
New York City 10019

New Little Orchestra Concerts
1860 Broadway, N.Y.C. 10023
c/o Dean Anagnost

Orpheon Chorale
1860 Broadway NYC 10023

The Philadelphia Singers, Inc.
1830 Spruce Street
Philadelphia, Pa. 19103

Schola Cantorum
c/o Dr. Hugh Ross
410 E. 57 St., New York 10022

Gregg Smith Singers
c/o Gregg Smith
171 West 71 St., N.Y.C. 10023

Southern California Choral Music Ass'n.
Music Center, 135 N. Grand Ave.
Los Angeles, Calif. 90053

Clyde S. Turner
240 West 65 St. Apt. 12-C
New York, New York 10023

Roger Wagner Chorale
1401 Stone Canyon Road
Los Angeles, Calif. 90024

Frederic Waldman
375 Riverside Drive N.Y.C. 10025

Dorothy Wareskjold Musical Theatre
c/o CAMI, 165 W. 57 St.
New York City 10019

AMATEUR CHORUSES (Covers AGMA soloists only)

Brooklyn Philharmonia Chorus
Brooklyn Academy of Music
Brooklyn, New York

Canterbury Choral Society
Church of the Heavenly Rest
2 East 90th Street,
New York, New York 10028

Collegiate Chorale, Inc.
130 West 56th Street, New York 10019

Dessoff Chorus
28 Gramercy Park South
New York City 10003

Masterwork Chorus
300 Mendham Rd., Morristown, N.J.
New York Choral Society
165 West 57 St., N.Y.C. 10019

Oratorio Society of New York
504 Carnegie Hall
57 St. & 7th Ave., N. Y. C.

St. Cecilia Chorus
c/o Thomas L. Sheridan
St. Peter's College
Jersey City, New Jersey 07306

SYMPHONY ASSOCIATIONS

Brooklyn Philharmonia Orchestra
Brooklyn Academy of Music
Brooklyn, New York

Chicago Symphony Orchestra
Orchestra Hall, Room 700
220 So. Michigan Ave.
Chicago, Ill. 60604

Duluth-Superior Symphony Orchestra
506 West Michigan Street,
Duluth, Minn. 55802

San Francisco Symphony Ass'n.
War Memorial Opera House,
San Francisco, Calif.

Shreveport Symphony Society
P.O. Box 4057, Shreveport, La. 71104

CONCERT MANAGERMENTS

American Concert Management
Ansonia Station, P.O. Box 748
New York, New York 10023

Associated Concert Artists
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120 W. 70 Street, New York 10023

Dina Bader Associates
444 E. 82 St., N.Y.C. 10028

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1860 Broadway, N.Y.C. 10023

Bellamente & Hammel Mgt., Inc.
309 Edgewood Ave., Teaneck, New Jersey

Bernard and Rubin Management
255 West End Ave., N.Y.C. 10023

Wayne Bolton Agency
6347 Hillcrest Pl., Alexandria, Va. 22312

Joseph N. Catania Associates
215 West 78 St., N.Y.C. 10024

Colbert Artists Management
111 West 57 St., N.Y.C. 10019

Columbia Artists Management Inc.
(including Community Concerts)
165 West 57 Street, N.Y.C. 10019

Courtenay Artists, Inc.
411 E. 53 St., Suite 6F, N.Y.C. 10022

D. M. I. Talent Associates, Ltd.
250 West 57 Street, New York City 10019

Dubé Zakin Management, Inc.
1841 Broadway, New York 10023

Elwood Emerick
596 Crystal Lake Rd., Akron, O. 44313

William Felber Agency
2126 Cahuenga Blvd.
Los Angeles, Calif.

John B. Fisher
Dorchester Towers
155 W. 68 St., Suite 801, N.Y.C.

Erica Gastelli
50 Riverside Drive, New York, N.Y.

Robert M. Gewald
Suite 1530, 2 W. 59 St., N.Y.C.

Reuben Guss Artists Mgmt.
120 W. 70 Street
New York, New York 10023

Tony Hartman Associates
250 West 57 Street Suite 1128-A
New York, New York 10019

Kazuko Hillyer International, Inc.
250 West 57 St., N.Y.C. 10019

Beverly Hoffmann Artists Management
3313 N. 38th, Milwaukee, Wisc. 53216

Hans J. Hoffmann
200 West 58th Street, N.Y.C.

ICM Artists Ltd.
40 West 57th Street, New York 10019

Helen Jensen Artists Management
716 Joseph Vance Building
3rd and Union, Seattle, Wash.

Paulina Kakides
170 W. 74 Street
New York, New York 10023

Katherine Dome Artists Representatives, Inc.
23 West 73rd Street,
New York, New York 10023

Melvin Kaplan, Inc.
85 Riverside Drive, N.Y.C. 10024

Albert Kay Associates
58 West 58 Street (31E)
New York City 10019

Kolmar-Luth Entertainment, Inc.
1776 Broadway, N.Y.C. 10019

Richard Lescsak
60 West 68 St., New York City 10023

Lew/Benson
204 West 10th Street,
New York, New York 10014

Judith Liegner
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Ludwig Lustig and Florian, Ltd.
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250 W. 57 Street
New York, New York 10019

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270 West End Ave., New York City 10023

Mariedi Anders Artists Management, Inc.
535 El Camino Del Mar,
San Francisco, Calif. 94121

Mirya Roche Management
7224 1/2 Sunset Boulevard,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Emmy Niclas
147 W. 55th St., New York City 10019

Overland Talent Association, Inc.
210 East 52 Street
New York City 10022

Thomas Rowe Artists Management
170 West 75th Street #15,
New York 10023

Salmon & Stokes
280 Riverside Drive
New York, New York

Sardos Artist Management Corporation
180 West End Ave., New York City

David Schiffman
60 West 68 St., N.Y.C. 10023

Jim Scovotti Associates
185 West Ened Avenue, N.Y. 10023

Joseph A. Scuro International
Artists Management
111 W. 57 Street
New York, New York 10019

Eric Semon Associates
111 West 57 Street, Suite 1412, N.Y.C.

Shaw Concerts, Inc.
1995 Broadway, New York City 10023

Sheldon Soffer Management, Inc.
130 West 56 Street, New York City 10019

Tornay Management
1995 Broadway, New York 10023

Unique Talent Association
(William H. Johnson)
297 Lenox Road, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11229

Vincent Attractions, Inc.
435 W. 57 Street
New York, New York 10019

Louise Williams
124 E. 91 St. Suite 4-B
New York, New York 10028

An open letter from Emile Renan

To my colleagues and friends in AGMA and on the AGMA Board of Governors,

Well, it's official I've retired from the Board after 35 years, and now the new Board takes over.

I want to thank all those who voted for me over the years, as well as all who worked with me. It wasn't always easy nor always pleasant, but it did always "work out" to the best interests of us and our profession, and I certainly enjoyed my association with all the officials of AGMA and the Board members I knew.

I think it's instructive now to remind us (and especially those who say that AGMA doesn't "DO" enough) of what conditions were like when I began to perform in opera, about nine years after the start of my radio days.

In 1944 and for several years thereafter, we rehearsed an unlimited number of hours, virtually seven days a week, and for this we received *no compensation*. In the early days at City Center, my rehearsal day began at 10 a.m. and continued throughout the day until 11 p.m. On Sundays, in consideration of church services, we began our rehearsals at noon. Moreover, during the weeks we performed, we continued to rehearse quite strenuously—and for no compensation.

Sort of separating "the men from the boys?" It was unbelievably taxing, and promising young careers were strewn along the way as many found they could stand neither the pace nor the demands.

Per diem expenses when out of town? Forget it! You were delighted to be working! Beyond those practiced by whoever was in charge of your rehearsal, there simply were no "rules" governing rest or meal "breaks," etc. Many a time I was rehearsing one opera until vir-



tually *minutes* before the "call" for the opera which was being presented.

Then there was the matter of "compensation," with choristers receiving all of \$30 a week and many principal artists receiving the princely sum of \$50 to \$75 a week! And that was for performances only.

I could, of course, go on ad nauseam, but I won't. Suffice it to say that, at Lawrence Tibbett's urging, I wrote a column of anecdotes which appeared in AGMA-ZINE for several years. Its purpose was the establishment of links between AGMA newcomers (many of whom thought AGMA weak and ineffectual) and the old-timers who had sweated things through. It also served to establish emotional bonds between AGMA's throughout the country.

And so, now I am one of those old-timers! A living memory!

So be it.

But don't let the memory of all that

AGMA has done and has meant die out. Ours is a wonderful profession.

I commend the new Board and our harried AGMA executives, and I urge them on to meet the needs of the future.

Aside from my continuing to serve on the Welfare Committee and as an alternate delegate to the Four A's, please don't hesitate to call on me if I can ever be of any future service.

Fondly and fraternally,
Emile Renan

Unfair

The following organizations and individuals have been declared unfair by the AGMA Board of Governors and AGMA members are hereby advised that it is not in their best interests and the interests of their fellow AGMA members to accept employment from these organizations and individuals:

The Bronx Opera Company

**Garden State Opera Company
of New Jersey**

**Robert T. Gaus & Robert T. Gaus
Associates, Inc.**

**Laszlo Halasz and the Concert
Orchestra & Chorus of L.I.**

New Jersey Symphony Orchestra

New York Lyric Opera Company

**Michael Signorelli and the Lyric
Opera Company of L.I.**

Dennis Wayne Dance Theatre

AMERICAN GUILD OF MUSICAL ARTISTS
1841 Broadway New York, New York 10023



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