

Johann Strauss - Die Fledermaus (Bonynge) [1973]

Written by bluesever

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1. Act I 2. Act II 3. Act III Gabriel von Eisenstein - Nolan Van Way Rosalinde - Joan Sutherland Frank - Spiro Malas Prince Orlofsky - Huguette Tourangeau Alfred - Ragnar Ulfung Dr. Falke - Bruce Yarnell Dr. Blind - Daniel Sullivan Adele - Judith Blegen Ida - Angie Reynal Frosch - Walter Slezak Ivan - Douglas Broyles San Francisco Opera Orchestra and Chorus Richard Bonynge – conductor San Francisco Opera's Historic 1973 in Archival Radio Broadcast on KDFC, Sunday, December 1.

The historic performance stars Joan Sutherland as Rosalinda; Judith Blegen as Adele; Ragnar Ulfung as Alfred; Nolan Van Way as Eisenstein; and Huguette Tourangeau as Prince Orlofsky. Maestro Richard Bonynge led the San Francisco Opera Orchestra and Chorus in a production directed by Lotfi Mansouri. Presented in three acts, the Company's 1973 Die Fledermaus featured lyrics and dialogue based on the English translation by Ruth and Thomas Martin. This performance is further distinguished by the inclusion of ballet music in Act Two featuring various music by Johann Strauss, Jr., performed by the San Francisco Opera Corps de Ballet with choreography by Norbert Vesak.

San Francisco Opera dedicates this critically acclaimed broadcast performance to Lotfi Mansouri, who passed away on August 30, 2013, and directed more than 75 productions at the War Memorial Opera House, in addition to serving as the Company's fourth general director from 1988 to 2001.

Mansouri's fabled association with Joan Sutherland and Richard Bonynge began in 1963 with the San Francisco Opera production of Bellini's La Sonnambula. Over the ensuing decades, this formidable trio worked together on Verdi's La Traviata in 1964; Die Fledermaus in 1973; Massenet's Esclarmonde in 1974; Lehar's The Merry Widow in 1981; followed by the legendary production of Bellini's Norma in 1982, which also featured Marilyn Horne in the cast; and

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Donizetti's royal Anna Bolena in 1984. Their final appearance together on the War Memorial Opera House Stage was September 2000 for the Gala Concert in tribute to Lotfi Mansouri. ---
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