Svithiod Singing Clvb

ANNIVERSARY CONCERT

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SVITHIOD SINGING CLUB

PRESENTS

ITS

SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT

ORCHESTRA HALL

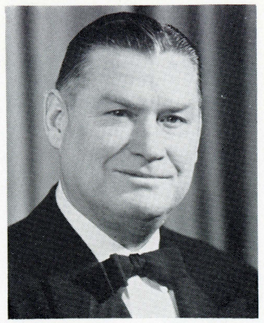
APRIL 12, 1957

Guest Soloist

LEONARD WARREN

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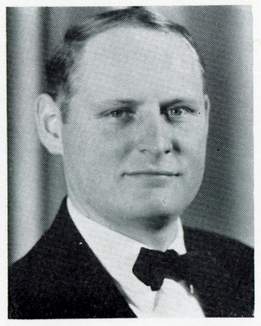
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President's Message

IT is with a deep feeling of pride that we have the privilege of welcoming you to our concert, which is in celebration of our 75th Diamond Jubilee Year.

This evening, we have the distinct privilege of bringing to you the Metropolitan Opera star, Mr. Leonard Warren, a thirty-six piece symphony orchestra, and the talented and internationally famous chorus of the Svithiod Singing Club of Chicago, under the direction of Mr. Knute Hansen.

An outstanding event such as this is made possible only through the efforts of all of the members of Svithiod and the cooperation of our many wonderful friends.

We sincerely trust that you will have an enjoyable evening and want to express our pleasure in sharing this occasion with you.

H. R. Hagedorn

Musical Director

Well known in musical circles throughout the United States and Europe, Mr. Knute Hansen's vital personality, as well as his musicianship, has endeared him to legions of devotees of male chorus singing wherever he has appeared. Director of the Svithiod Singing Club Chorus for the past twenty-four years, Mr. Hansen occupies a unique position in Svithiod's history.





Guest Soloist

One of the most eminent of contemporary singers, Leonard Warren dominates the baritone roster of the Metropolitan Opera with the heroic and expressive grandeur of his singing. His concerts, his appearances on radio and television, and his many best-selling recordings have made Warren a favorite with hundreds of thousands of music-lovers on two continents.

The CHORUS

Knute Hansen, Director, seated at the piano

BOTTOM ROW (left to right): Everett W. Westman, Henry Hogstrom, Lars Larson, George J. Johnson, Eric V. Erickson, Norman J. Peck, Robert H. Anderson, Einar Olson, Gunnard O. Hagen, Sigfrid Erickson, Conrad E. Hegstrom, Evar L. Miller, Ernst N. Nobbe, Jr., Lennart N. Bloom, Allan M. Wennerstrand, Winston W. Wicklund.

SECOND ROW: Martin Ahlm, Gustave M. Palmer, Gust Pearson, Einar Berg, Ernest J. Lohberg, Trygve J. Birkhaug, Gustaf F. Fredrickson, Walter G. Johnson, Elmer W. Hallberg, Gunnard J. Hagen, Harry Lind, Donald Ahlm, Ernst A. Lohberg, Fred Erickson, Donald Ericson, Kenneth Wolf.

THIRD ROW: Rolf Bjorling, Christ Rolfsen, Holger Holm, Gunnar Noreen, Raymond O. Anderson, Raymond Waage, Jr., Gustaf Soderblom, Arthur Nickelson, Fred Johnson, Hubert Ramberg, Gustaf E. Rickan, Viktor Hedgren, Ralph T. Anderson.

FOURTH ROW: Gosta Plato, George A. Nelson, Viggo Hoyer, Edward M. Erickson, Carl R. Brundin, Robert J. Carlson, Philip F. Mostrom, Axel Nelson, Lambert Shodeen, Carl G. Allen, Charles W. Toon, Melvin C. Werner.

FIFTH ROW: Samuel V. Houghtaling, Arvid W. Nelson, Charles J. Johnson, Melvin Wagner, Roy Ekholm, Clydelle A. Baseler, Clarence Swanson, Paul F. Reykjalin, E. Albert Jehander, Lawrence Venell, George L. Benson, August Nordmark, Thure Bodine, C. Ellis Nyblom, Alfred F. Angster, Jr., Einar Anderson, Sven Landin, Loran Nordgren.

SIXTH ROW: John P. Nelson, George R. Nelson, Stanley K. Hannibal, M. J. Ahlstromer, Jr., Donald Lundell, Gunnar Bloom, James H. Ganzer, Sven J. Streed, Arthur Y. Johnson, Jr., Carl Lundius, J. Herbert Lund, Gordon T. Johnson, Hilding A. Johnson, Lee Bergstrom, Robert Monroe, Robert Birkhaug, S. Robert Northfell, Harry Sulken, Robert Christopher, Arnold D. Johanson, Claude C. Smith.

SYNOPSIS

WELCOME TO SPRING

After dark and dreary winter days Spring is welcomed with its fragrance, sun and song. Listen to the birds in the glen and to the brooks in their lusty play. Every heart is welcoming the arrival of beautiful Spring.

THE 24th PSALM

Lift up your heads, O ye gates;
And be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors;
And the King of glory shall come in.

Who is the King of glory?
The Lord, strong and mighty,
The Lord, mighty in battle.

CALMLY REST THE WATERS

The waters are still as eventide sweeps silently over hill and dale, the flowers bend their heads in evening prayer, while the birds have stilled their song. The stars are peacefully glittering from the heavens admonishing the hearts of men to also seek peace.

A PEASANT WEDDING

The music to this narrative of Richard Gustafson as arranged in four cycles by the famous Swedish composer August Söderman, describes the scenes at a peasant wedding in Sweden long ago.

(A) WEDDING MARCH — At daybreak the bridegroom rides to the farm house where the bride, already dressed in wedding finery, is awaiting his arrival . . .

"Play up, ye fiddlers, put music in your strings,
That Nature will awaken, and woods and valleys ring!"

Led by the fiddlers, they commence the march to the church and . . .

"The church bells are pealing — listen to their play —
They speak of a glorious wedding day."

(B) IN THE CHURCH — The church is bedecked with flowers and garlands of roses. The organist pompously leads in song . . .

"On the path these two shall travel,
Let, O Lord, Thy wisdom shine.
May they be of help to each other,
Aided by Thy grace divine."

After the holy bonds have been tied, the wedding group returns to the bride's home for further festivities.

(C) A WISHING SONG — This cycle brings felicitations and best wishes to the bridal couple for . . .

"Cows and pigs and horses in the stall,
And lots of boys, both big and tall."

(D) AT THE BRIDE'S HOUSE — This cycle takes us to the final festivities at the bride's home, with plenty of strong drink, food, music and dancing . . .

"Strong ale we'll be drinking,
'till we hiccup, blinking;
Throats from casks a-wetting,
Not a drop forgetting!
Stamp the beat there, laddies —
That's the way to dance."

PROGRAM

VÄLKOMMEN TILL VÅREN (Welcome to Spring) ..... *Petschke*
PRAYER IN THE STORM ..... *Durrner*
SALVATION BELONGETH TO OUR GOD ..... *Tchesnokow*
24th PSALM ..... *Wennerberg*
(Incidental solo: Ralph Anderson)
SVITHIOD SINGING CLUB CHORUS
Knute Hansen, Director

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L'ULTIMA CANZONE ..... *Tosti*
MATTINATA ..... *Leoncavallo*
TWO ENGLISH SHANTIES ..... *Traditional*
a. Shenandoah
b. The Drunken Sailor
LEONARD WARREN
Willard Sektberg at the Piano

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ETT BONDBRÖLLOP (A Peasant Wedding) ..... *Aug. Soderman*
a. Bröllopsmarsch (Wedding March)
b. I kyrkan (In the Church)
c. Önskevisa (A Wishing Song)
d. I bröllopsgården (At the Bride's House)

LUGN VILAR SJÖN (Calmly Rest the Waters) ..... *Swedish Folk Song*
SVITHIOD SINGING CLUB CHORUS

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INTERMISSION

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ARIAS FROM "RIGOLETTO" ..... *Verdi*
Pari siamo
Cortigiani, vil razza dannata
LEONARD WARREN

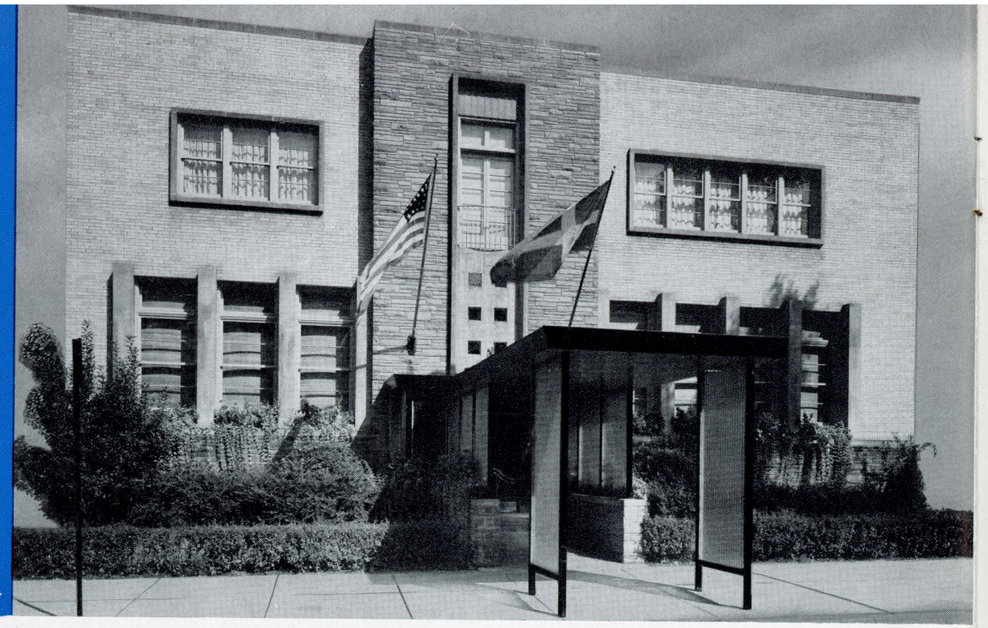
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THE HOUSE I LIVE IN ..... *Robinson*
(Incidental solos: Raymond Anderson and Everett Westman)
SOON AH WILL BE DONE ..... *Wm. L. Dawson*
THE OMNIPOTENCE ..... *Fr. Schubert*
(Incidental solo: Rolf Bjorling)
AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL .....
(Incidental solo: Claude C. Smith)
SVITHIOD SINGING CLUB CHORUS

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FLORENCE HENLINE AT THE PIANO — STANLEY MARTIN AT THE ORGAN
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

1882 1957



A CONDENSED

History

ORGANIZED in June, 1882 by a group of fifteen Swedish immigrants, the Svithiod Singing Club, during the past seventy-five years, has grown to a membership of nearly 1,300, with a chorus of 100 trained voices. From the small rented halls in the early 1880's to the present magnificent, ultra-modern clubhouse, lies a span of love and effort for the perpetuation of Swedish song and culture which challenges the imagination.

The history and growth of Svithiod Singing Club is closely related to the history and growth of the City of Chicago. The great Chicago fire still showed ugly scars on the Near North Side when Svithiod Singing Club was organized in June of 1882.

One of the greatest events in Svithiod's history took place on January 11th, 1896 when, at an international singing contest, the Chorus carried away first honors.

In 1899 the Club purchased the property at 624 Wrightwood Avenue, a site that has become a landmark for Swedish singing ever since. All Swedish choruses on tour in this country have been guests at the Club, from the Lund University singers in 1904 to the Stockholm YMCA chorus last November.

The Svithiod Singing Club has sent its chorus to Sweden twice—in 1928 under the direction of Mr. Joel Mossberg, and again in 1947 under the present director, Professor Knute Hansen. In both instances all proceeds from the concerts were given to charity in the cities visited.

The tremendous popularity of the Club and the ever-increasing membership made the quarters of the Club obsolete and in 1949 Svithiod began erecting a new, modern edifice to meet the need. The new building was dedicated in 1951. Besides a banquet hall, seating 400 people, a Marine Dining Room, a large Rehearsal Hall, a Swedish Room, a Viking Room, and a modern stainless steel kitchen, there are several conference rooms, air-conditioned for the comfort of the membership.

During these seventy-five years of the Club's existence the original purpose has never been forgotten. Like a thread running through the fabric of the years, Swedish song, culture, and charity have been, and remain today, the predominant theme.

Svithiod Singing Club is proud of its achievement in preserving its Swedish heritage and song for future generations.

BANQUET HALL

With a seating capacity of over 400, the dignity and elegance of the Banquet Hall is enhanced by indirect lighting, parquet floor, and decorative schemes with seasonal motifs. Air-conditioned for comfort.



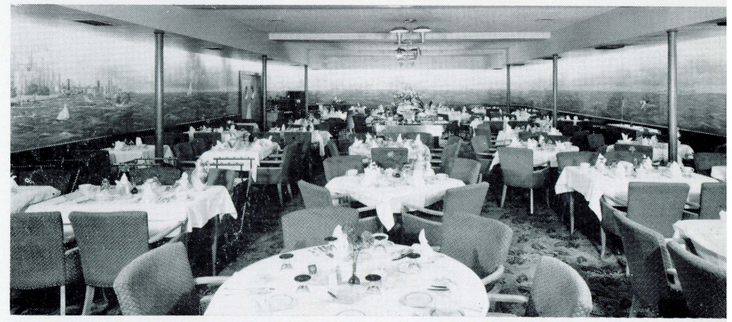
MAIN LOUNGE

The spacious and restful atmosphere of the Main Lounge, the comfortable chairs and seating arrangements, all contribute to a sense of well-being and relaxation on entering this large, pleasant room.



MARINE DINING ROOM

The most discriminating gourmet will find a great selection to choose from in the Marine Dining Room cuisine, appealing to the eye as well as the palate. The excellence of service is a matter of note.



VIKING ROOM

A tastefully decorated room, designed for the small group. The spirit of the Vikings is captured on the wall murals as well as in the beautiful furniture and hand-carved wood panels. Truly a conversation piece.



SWEDISH ROOM

With the Land of the Midnight Sun, its snow-covered slopes and ski-trails for its motif, the Swedish Room has left nothing to be desired in its versatility and adaptability for medium-sized private parties.





Concert Committee on Arrangements

Top Row — Left to Right:

HUGO W. MORTENSON, Chairman

DUDLEY L. ECKHOLM, Co-Chairman

HAROLD A. SCHOTT, Publicity

GUNNAR A. BLOOM, Publicity

Center:

EDWARD C. ERICKSON, Ticket Holder

GEORGE R. NELSON, Chairman,
Music Committee

Bottom:

CLAUDE C. SMITH, Arrangements

Souvenir Program designed by Lennart N. Bloom



SEVENTY-FIVE YEARS OF PROGRESS···