

Knapp, J. Merrill. The Magic of Opera. Harper & Row, 1972.
\$12.95 U.S. paper \$10.95.

An excellent book for any interested person wishing to understand the nature of opera. Divided into two parts, the first deals with structure, terminology, concepts and ideas of librettists and composers, and the second traces the development of opera by analyzing material from the outstanding works in the history of opera. Succinct plot summaries, good musical examples and illustrations, annotated bibliographies, glossary of terms.

Mitchell, Ronald. Opera: Dead or Alive. Univ. of Wisconsin Press, 1970. \$17.50 U.S. paper \$4.75 U.S.

For the generalist ("those who buy tickets and go"). The book is divided into two parts--the first examines the physical aspects of the theatrical experience; the second is devoted to a wide range of musico-dramatic "types". A sensible and sound presentation of how musical theatre works.

The Theatre Student Series:

Kline, Peter. Gilbert and Sullivan Production. N.Y., Richard Rosen Press, 1972. \$12.50 U.S.

Directed toward the completely inexperienced producer of G & S, Kline treats each opera from the point of view of staging and offers advice on casting, rehearsals, production staff, sources of production materials. A volume for the community theatre group or high school director.

Tumbusch, Tom. Guide to Broadway Musical Theatre. N.Y., Richard Rosen Press, 1972. \$12.50 U.S.

For little theatre or school groups, a guide to available shows covering for each title, data on production rights, recordings and text, musical numbers, plot, casting guide, sets and costumes, etc.

Tumbusch, Tom. Complete Production Guide to Modern Musical Theatre, N.Y. Richard Rosen Press, 1969. \$7.97 U.S.

For community or school groups, practical information on producing a show: selecting the best show, production staff, sets, costumes and make-up, lighting, budget, tickets, programs and promotion.

Isabel Rose.

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TIN FUN ALLEY

"Say, are you Bizet?"
"No, I'm just writing an opera."
"How's it Carmen?"
"Very well."

Ed. Itor.