



CHARLES MAY

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Southwest Tenor in 'Cinderella'

Charles May, who claims both New Orleans and Dallas as his home, will sing the role of Prince Ramiro here Friday, April 26, in the Shreveport Civic Opera production of Rossini's "Cinderella."

The opera, which will be a highlight of the 1957 "Holiday in Dixie" festival, will be the third and final presentation of the local association this season. Officials of the association said plans now are under way to make opera an integral part of "Holiday in Dixie" each year.

The downtown box office for the production now is open daily in the outer lobby of the Strand Theater, and a residential box office will be opened Tuesday at the Lambert Landscaping Co., 727 Azalea Dr. Early reservations have been advised by Mrs. W. F. Woods, business manager.

May, a young dramatic-lyric tenor, has appeared in opera, oratorio and recital throughout the country. In addition, he has enjoyed success in the related fields of radio and television.

May's musical career began at Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore, and, although interrupted by military service, was continued at Tulane and Loyola Universities in New Orleans. In the Crescent City, he coached French opera with the well-known ex-conductor of the French wing of the Metropolitan opera, Louis Hasselmans.

An active member of the New Orleans Opera Assn. for six years during the directorship of Walter Herbert, May participated in many performances and sang 40 different roles. Two of the leading roles he sang during this period were those of Turridu in "Cavalleria Rusticana" and Canio in "Pagliacci."

He also has appeared in the summer pops concerts of the New Orleans Symphony and with the Nord Summer Operetta series. He sang for several seasons in the opera festival in San Antonio and has appeared with the Mobile Opera and the Fort Worth Opera Companies in various roles.

With the Dallas Lyric Theater, he sang Ernesto in "Don Pasquale," Alfredo in "La Traviata," and a number of other leading roles. With the Fort Worth Company, he sang Rinuccio in "Gianni Schichi" in the first live television performance of opera to originate in the Southwest.

May was a winner of the national auditions of the Experimental Opera Theater of America in New Orleans in 1956 and was a soloist with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra in Carl Orff's "Carmina Burana." May sang Alfred in "Fledermaus" with the Baltimore Civic Opera Assn. in November, 1956, and in February he appeared as Rodolpho in "La Boheme" with the Baltimore Civic Opera.