

May To Sing Tenor Lead In 'Madame Butterfly'

When Charles May, tenor, sings the role of Lieut. B. F. Pinkerton in the Baltimore Civic Opera Company's production of "Madame Butterfly" at the Lyric November 15 and 16 he will be making his third appearance with the company.

He made his Civic Opera debut in October, 1956, as Alfred in "Die Fledermaus" and appeared last season in "La Boheme."

In New Orleans Opera

A native Baltimorean, Mr. May was graduated from Patterson Park High School and began his music education at the Peabody Conservatory of Music.

After serving in the Navy, he

continued his music studies at Tulane University and Loyola University of the South in New Orleans.

While in Louisiana, the tenor coached French opera with Louis Hasselmans, former conductor of the French wing of the Metropolitan Opera, and was an active member of the New Orleans Opera Company.

He has also appeared with the New Orleans Symphony

Orchestra and with opera companies in Mobile, Shreveport and Fort Worth.

Last summer, Mr. May sang with the Opera Players, Inc., when they toured in "Carmen." Earlier this month, he appeared in American Symphony Orchestra performances in New York City.

In Title Role

During November 15 and 16 performances of "Madame Butterfly," Kira Baklanova, soprano, will sing the title role, while Mary Kennedy and Bette Hankin alternate as Suzuki, Butterfly's faithful servant. John Jenista, baritone, appears as

Sharpless, United States consul in Nagasaki, and Adrian LaChance as Goro, a marriage broker.

Glen Haagenson takes the part of Prince Yamadori, Howard Schlutter, the Bonze, and John Goulias, the Commissioner. Margot Power will take the role of Kate Pinkerton.

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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1979



"Kiss Me Kate" was one production May starred in during the 1960s in Warren, Ohio.