





IN HONOR OF
THE RIGHT HONORABLE
THE PRIME MINISTER OF AUSTRALIA
AND MRS. FRASER

THE WHITE HOUSE
TUESDAY, JULY 27, 1976

SHERRILL MILNES stepped onto the stage of the Metropolitan Opera for his debut in 1965 and became a star overnight. Every critic in New York hailed his performance as spectacular. He followed that debut with one triumph after another; and with each new role he undertook, whether for the Metropolitan or other major American companies, the critical acclaim increased to the point that he was compared with such opera greats as Ezio Pinza and Cesare Siepi.

It may seem a long way from a grain farm to the opera stage, but for Milnes, whose parents were passionately fond of music, it was quite natural. "Music has always been an integral part of my life," proclaims the young baritone.

After a brief attempt at medicine, Milnes turned again to music, developing the most promising of his musical talents—his voice. His formal education complete, he found his first professional singing job with the Margaret Hillis Choir, which is attached to the Chicago Symphony. In 1960, he decided to venture into opera and auditioned for Boris Goldovsky under whose tutelage he made five cross-country tours. Milnes' first appearance in a large opera house took place in 1961 when he bowed with the Baltimore Civic Opera. The following year, he won a Ford Foundation Award, a prize which included performances with major United States opera companies.

Although his career has been American-made, over the past decade Milnes has been no stranger to audiences in Milan, London, Vienna, Hamburg and Buenos Aires. In addition to the ovations he has garnered overseas and at home, he has brought listening pleasure to still more people with some three dozen albums, several of which have won major awards for operatic recordings.

SHERRILL MILNES

BARITONE

JON SPONG

PIANIST

"Si puo, si puo"Leoncavallo
Prologue from *Pagliacci*

"Avant de quitter ces lieux"Gounod
from *Faust*

Champagne AriaMozart
from *Don Giovanni*

"Shenandoah"arr. Dougherty

The Gettysburg AddressWilliam S. Walker
(A Musical Setting)



