


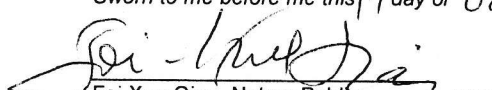


This exceptional success comes, above all, from the musical quality of the ensemble. Philippe Béran's direction, precise, enthusiastic, and often subtle, seconded by an expanded and attentive orchestra (excellent horn solo at the beginning of the first act...and just one entrance missed by the violins during the rallentando of Fiorella's rondo "and if father finds you there") shows, if it were still necessary, that Offenbach needs a real orchestra leader and not just a measure beater. The effectiveness of his interpretation is never to the detriment of the subtleties of the orchestration (excellent bassoons in the chorus entry giving the nocturnal impression deserving of *Freischütz*) and the conductor obviously has an innate sense of Offenbach agogic. The grand ensemble of the third act making Falsacappa's troupe stand out from the rest of the courtiers by using two different, cleverly counterpointed themes shows that he has infiltrated the classical essence of the composer's views. Treated like a true solo piece, he got an audience excited discovering Offenbach whose musical technique and sense of scenic effect are every bit as good as the greats.

Bulletin de la Société, Jacques Offenbach

Michael Kowalewski, a professional translator of French into English, has translated the attached document under contract to 1-800-Translate, an American Translators Association (ATA) corporate membership company. We have examined the document and have found it to be a complete and accurate translation of the original provided to us.


Janneth Alfaro, Project Manager

State of New York, County of New York
Sworn to me before me this 7th day of Oct. 2007

Fei-Xue Qian, Notary Public

Fei-Xue Qian
No. 01Q16057816
Qualified in New York County
Commission Expires April 23, 2011