



CARMEN

**An original production by State Street Ballet
Performed at The Granada Theatre, Santa Barbara, CA
April 5, 2014**

Performance Sponsors

Léni Fé Bland & Tim Mikel

Additional Sponsors

Barbara Burger, Dinah & Jerome Baumgartner, Sonja Renda

Choreography: William Soleau

Music: Georges Bizet

Arrangement: Rodion Shchedrin

Rehearsal Directors: Marina Fliagina & Gary McKenzie

Lighting and Set Design: Mark Somerfield

Scenic Design: Stefania Piazzo

Costume Design: A. Christina Giannini

Costume Construction: Denise Caracas, Milly Colahan, Ben-Oni Cortes

CAST

Carmen: Leila Drake

Don Jose: Ryan Camou

Escamillo (Toreador): Randy Herrera

Micaela (Don Jose's girlfriend): Cecily Stewart MacDougall

Mercedes (Carmen's gypsy friend): Kate Kadow

Zuniga (Captain of the Guards): Jack Stewart

Ensemble: Samantha Bell, Anna Carnes, Sergei Domrachev, Angela Guerena,

Meredith Harrill, Lilit Hoggatian, Deise Mendonça, Armand Moyano, John

Christopher Piel, Parsifal Pittendorfer, Samantha Schilke, Mauricio Vera

SYNOPSIS

Scene One | A City Square in Sevilla

Carmen, a gypsy woman working in a cigar factory, enchants and bewitches a young soldier Don Jose. Although he is already betrothed to Micaela, a country girl from his hometown, he cannot resist the attraction of Carmen. After causing a fight in the factory, Carmen is arrested and Don Jose is told to take her to jail. Left alone, Carmen exerts her wiles on the innocent soldier. He agrees to let her escape if she promises to love him. Carmen flees and it is Don Jose who is arrested.

Intermission

Scene Two | The Tavern of Lillas Pastia

Carmen and her gypsy friends are entertaining officers in a local tavern. During the dancing the great swaggering toreador Escamillo enters and immediately sets his eyes on Carmen. Each attracted by the sense of conquest over the other, they become lovers.

Scene Three | A Gypsy Camp in the Mountains

Released from jail, Don Jose comes looking for Carmen. Though she still loves him, she has also been taken by the dashing bullfighter. Don Jose's desire to possess her makes her grow tired of him. Escamillo arrives at the camp and invites Carmen to his next bullfight, but Don Jose confronts him and Carmen intervenes. Micaela slips into camp to tell him that his mother is dying and that he must return home. Don Jose vows to Carmen he will return and that she will never leave him. Severing her relationship finally, a cold and dispassionate Carmen urges him to go. Her friend Mercedes foretells death for her and Don Jose in the cards of Fate, but Carmen is not afraid.

Scene Four | Outside the Bullring

A crowd has gathered to watch Escamillo enter the arena. Mercedes warns Carmen that Don Jose has been told of her affair with the handsome toreador, and has returned to claim her. Unafraid Carmen waits for him; he appears and desperately pleads with her to return to him, but Carmen will not be possessed. As she tries to enter the arena Don Jose stabs and kills her in a jealous rage, just as the crowd cheers Escamillo's conquest of the bull in the ring.