

LIGETI

Desire singer

1950

**TURCANO AND LIGETI
HEARD IN 'TURANDOT'**

Two changes in cast featured last night's performance of Puccini's "Turandot" at the City Center. One involved the role of Timur, which was sung by Desire Ligeti; the other presented Lucia Turcano, in her debut with the company, as Turandot.

Miss Turcano, who has sung with the Salmaggi Company in Brooklyn, and with La Scala of Milan, sang with a hard, brilliant, powerful voice that had more amplitude than color. She was a little unsteady on her initial appearance, though later on she was in better control of both her nerves and her voice. There was something of an edgy quality to her singing at best.

Turandot, however, is a cruel role for any soprano, and occasionally Miss Turcano's interpretation suggested that when she feels more relaxed in the opera she will be able to do it greater justice.

Physically, she is a stately woman, and she acted in a stately manner. It is doubtful if she ever will win prizes for histrionic subtlety.

Desire Ligeti sang the part of Timur resonantly, if not always with absolute control. Others in the cast included Dorothy MacNeil, Giulio Gari, Lawrence Winters, Luigi Vellucci, Nathaniel Sprinzena, Edwin Dunning and Arthur Newman. Laszlo Halasz conducted.

H. C. S.

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tenor baritone, for 14^{years} leading
bass with San Francisco
opera - 1958 Head
of Vocal Dept, Denton
Univ.

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