

"I was sitting in the 1st seat, 2nd row center at this concert. When Jussi came out to sing an encore, he announced the name of the encore. I stood up in the second row and shouted, "Nessun dorma!" Jussi turned to his accompanist and said, "I think that I will sing Nessun dorma," which he did in glorious tones. I was never sorry I acted so brashly, and I don't think Jussi was either."

Become A Member of JBS-USA!

Act now! Don't delay!

Subscribe to the Jussi Björling Society -USA, Inc. As noted in our last information letter, we are aiming at offering a variety of benefits that we think you will enjoy:

1. Quarterly journal.
2. JBS – USA Convention. We're hoping to arrange our first convention in late May, possibly in Washington, DC.
3. Opportunities to share knowledge and experiences.
4. Special gifts (Copies of articles, reviews, etc.)
5. Website in 1999.
6. Planned Jussi Björling Memorial Tenor Competition group visit to Sweden in the year 2000.

If you wish to become an official member of the Society or if you can help with a contribution in any amount, we would greatly appreciate it. We'd like to suggest the following membership levels:

Individual Contribution:

\$35 per year. Includes the quarterly Journal of JBS – USA.

Family Contribution:

\$50 per year. Includes the Journal, and extends individual benefits to the entire household, including the option to register for any future Society- sponsored trips and meetings at a reduced family rate.

Founder Contribution:

\$100 per year. Includes all of the above benefits plus a handsome 8 1/2 inch by 11 inch gold and black parchment membership certificate suitable for framing.

Lifetime Contribution:

\$1000. All of the above with no annual membership renewals required. (May be made in four equal installments over a one year period.) Lifetime membership includes an elegant, ready to hang 11 1/2 inch X 14 inch membership plaque in your choice of finishes.

To become an official member of the Society, please send your check or money order (payable to the Society) to the following address:

The Jussi Björling Society - USA, Inc.
 C/O Florence Dove
 109 Melrose Road
 Broad Brook, CT 06016

Please be certain to include your address so that we can acknowledge your contribution. If you know of other committed fans of Jussi who'd like to hear about our organization, please notify them and ask them to get in touch with us via "control headquarters," (a.k.a. Mickey Dove)

Comments about JB from...

Jürgen Kesting, author of The Great Singers: "With his intensity in tonal formation and nobility in performing, he is to me the classical tenor, the true inheritor of Caruso."

And from journalist Yrsa Stenius: "When Jussi sings, I think of God." And he asks if Jussi hadn't the most beautiful male voice ever.

(Compiled and translated by Jan Sterner, The Scandinavian JB Society)

Looking Ahead:

1. Bertil Bengtsson's article about Jussi's phenomenal 1934-1935 season.
2. *En Minnesbok!* Two to three reminiscences (translation by Gail Campaign).
3. The first installment of *Jussi Björling's Saga*, also from Ms. Campaign.
4. A feature on the JB Museum and "Jussi In America."
5. 1999 Convention update.
6. Ideas from you! Your suggestions and ideas are always welcome.
7. How to order CDs from the JB Museum. Many of you have asked where you can get hard-to-find live performances. We'll provide a complete list of what's available from the Museum with prices and shipping information in dollars.

Test your Knowledge Answers to the Questions:

1. Bette Björling (wife of Jussi's brother Gösta).
2. Don Ottavio in *Don Giovanni*; Arnaldo in *William Tell*; Almaviva in *Barber of Seville*.
3. *Rigoletto*; the Duke of Mantua; Lawrence Tibbet.
4. *Il Trovatore*; Gina Cigna as Leonora.
5. *La Boheme* at Covent Garden.
6. Ivor Newton.
7. *Prince Igor* and *Faust*.
8. Arturo Toscanini.
9. Gennara Papi
10. Renata Tebaldi.