

# TAKARAZUKA



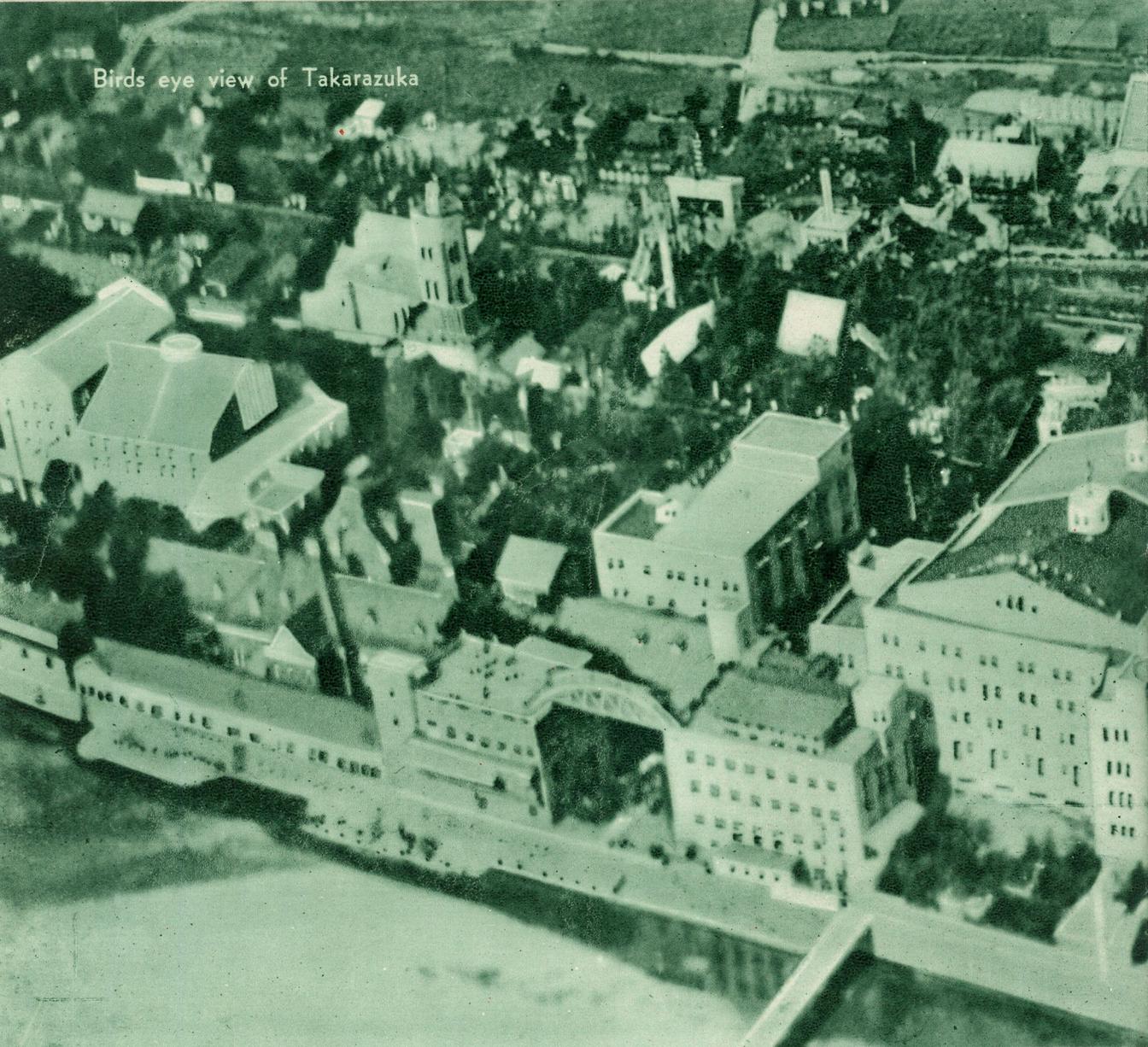
"KAGAMIJISHI"  
AMATSU OTOME





**Fantasy of Wisteria Flowers.**

Birds eye view of Takarazuka



## THE ORGANIZATION OF TAKARAZUKA GIRLS' OPERA

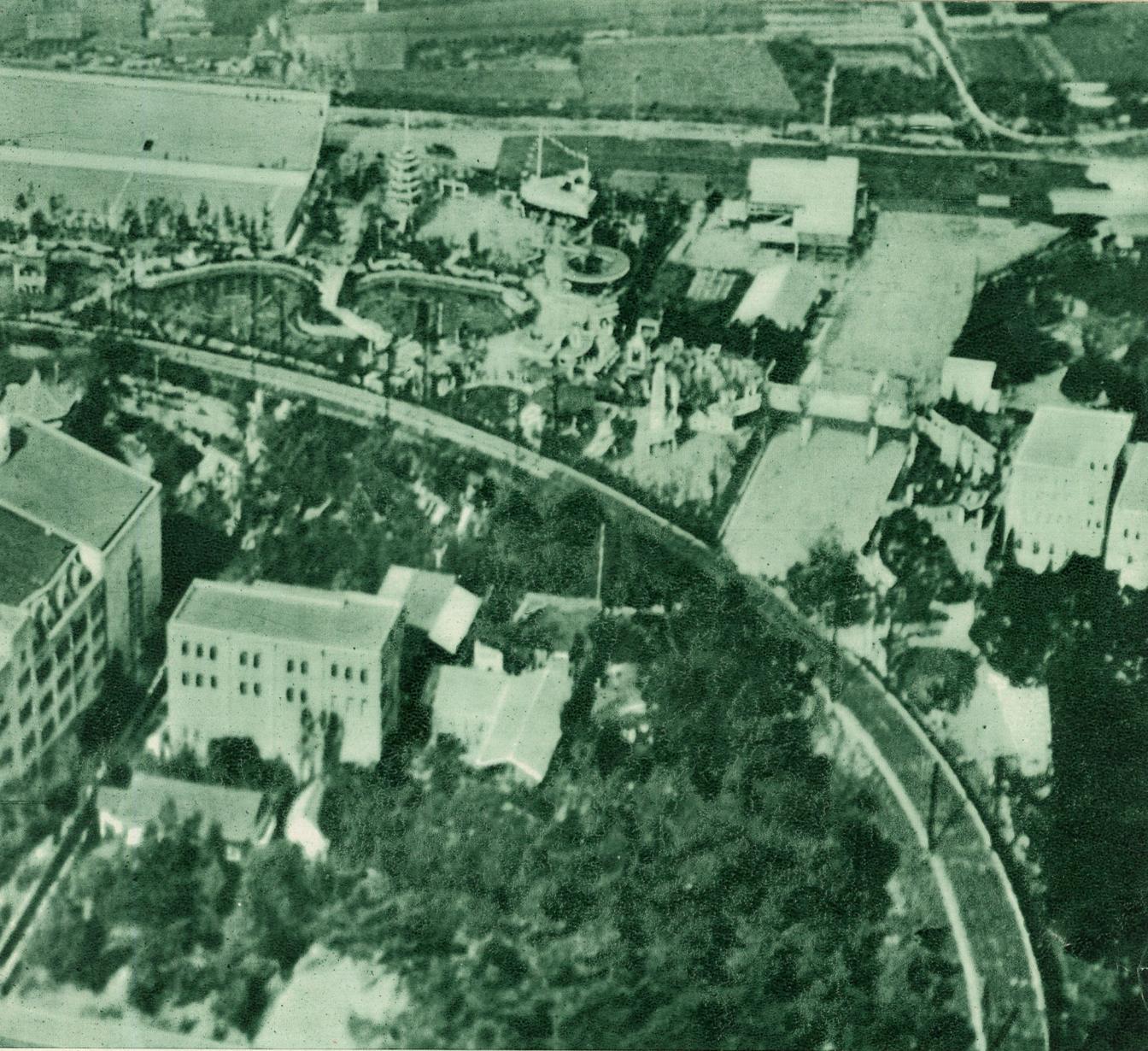
The Takarazuka Girls' Opera, founded in 1912 in this scenic spot Takarazuka, is the oldest and largest organization wholly devoted to music and drama. The organization owns, besides The Takarazuka Grand Theater, a number of large theaters, each of which has a seating capacity of over 4,000, in Tokyo, Osaka, Yokohama, Kobe, Nagoya, and elsewhere, where the organization presents all the year round a new style Opera and Kabuki acted entirely by the young girls.

Ten year's ago, the organization had the happy opportunity of sending a special group of these girls to Europe and the enterprise was a great success.

In the following spring, forty performers newly selected from among the 600 girls of the organization went to U. S. A. to represent THE TAKARAZUKA GRAND CHERRY SHOW at THE GOLDEN GATE INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITION in San Francisco and at the NEW YORK WORLD'S FAIR 1939. This tour also scored a great success.

### The Takarazuka Music And Opera School

The Takarazuka Music And Opera School, famous not only in Japan but also abroad, is the only institution of its kind in Japan. Only girl students are admitted. During the first year, they

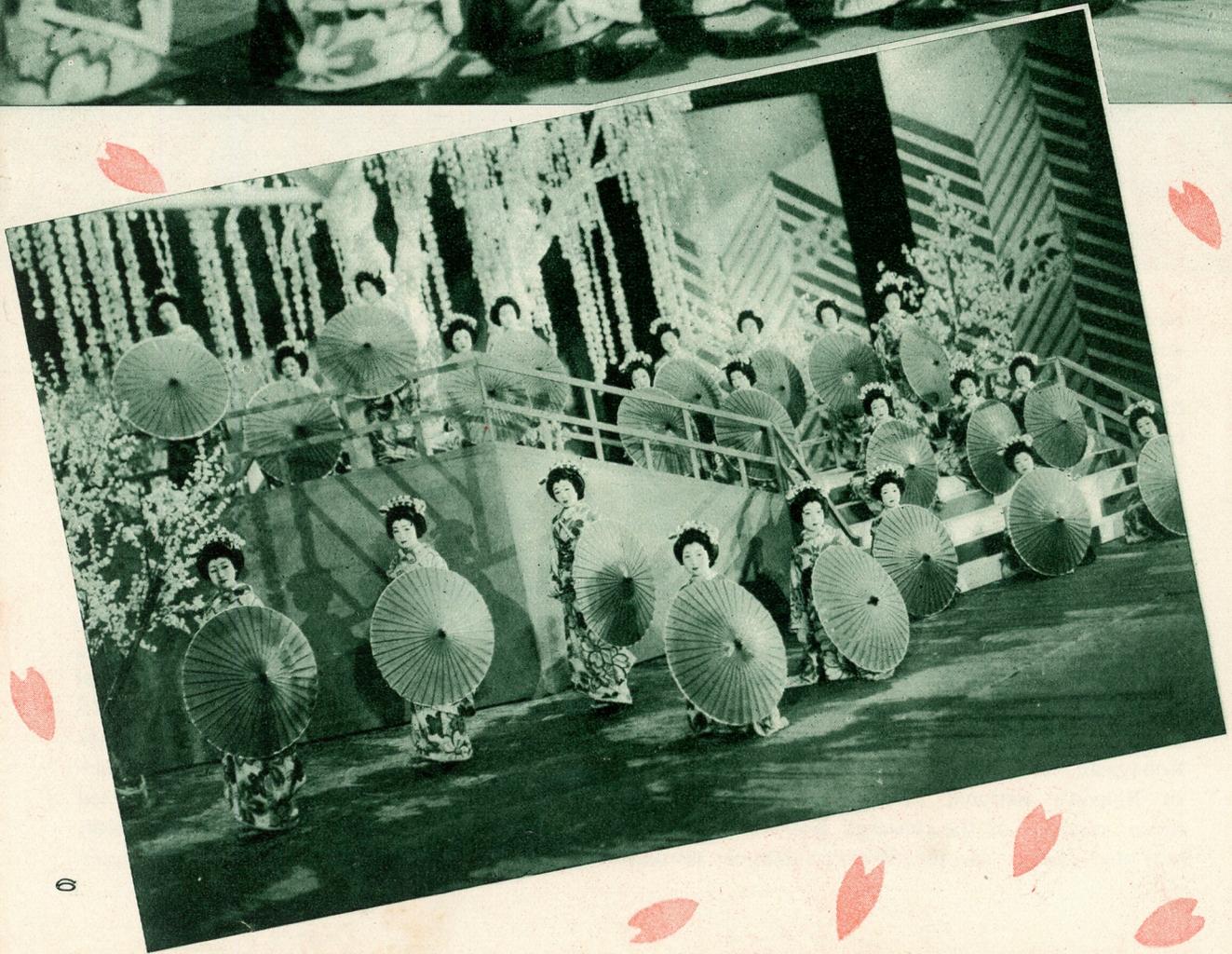


receive fundamental training in music, drama, and dancing, Occidental and Japanese. Divided among the vocal, dramatic, Western dance and Japanese dance departments, they then receive specialized training for a period of five years in accordance with their individual abilities. One of the salient characteristics of this institution is that it attaches just as much importance to moral training as to training in the arts. "Be pure, be right, and be beautiful" is the motto of the Takarazuka students.

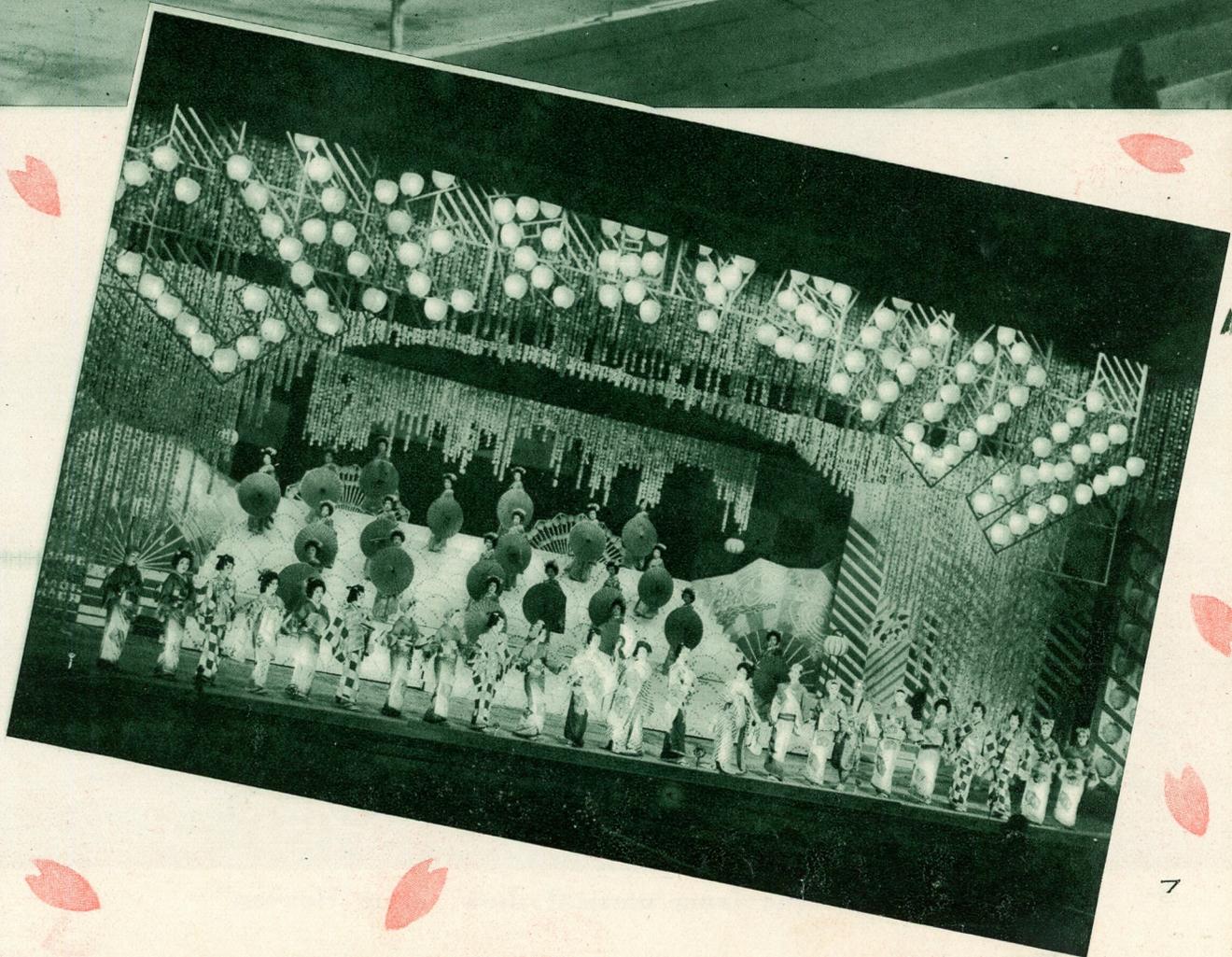
### Japanese Drama And The Takarazuka Girls' Opera

In the field of dramatic activities in Japan, the Bugaku, which developed as a Court musical dance, has a brilliant history of more than 1,000 years. During the Kamakura period, i. e. about 700 years ago, the "Noh" play was perfected, while during the Edo period, some 300 years ago, Kabuki came into existence. These three different schools of classical drama are still flourishing in Japan. During the first year of the Meiji era (1868) Occidental dramatic style was introduced and, affected by its introduction, a new dramatic movement began. In this atmosphere, the Takarazuka Girls' Opera was founded during the early period of the Meiji era by Ichizo Kobayashi, under whose able guidance and zealous direction it has developed as a new branch of Nippon's national drama. The Takarazuka Girls' Opera presents not only the modernized revue versions of the classical Kabuki and comic Kyogen plays, to an orchestral accompaniment, but also ballets of the Western school, ultra-modern shows and Occidental revues.

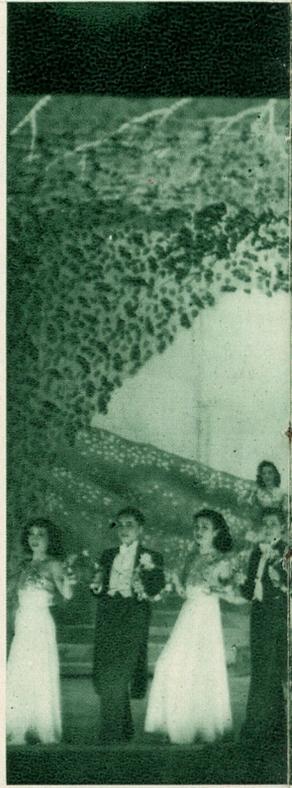
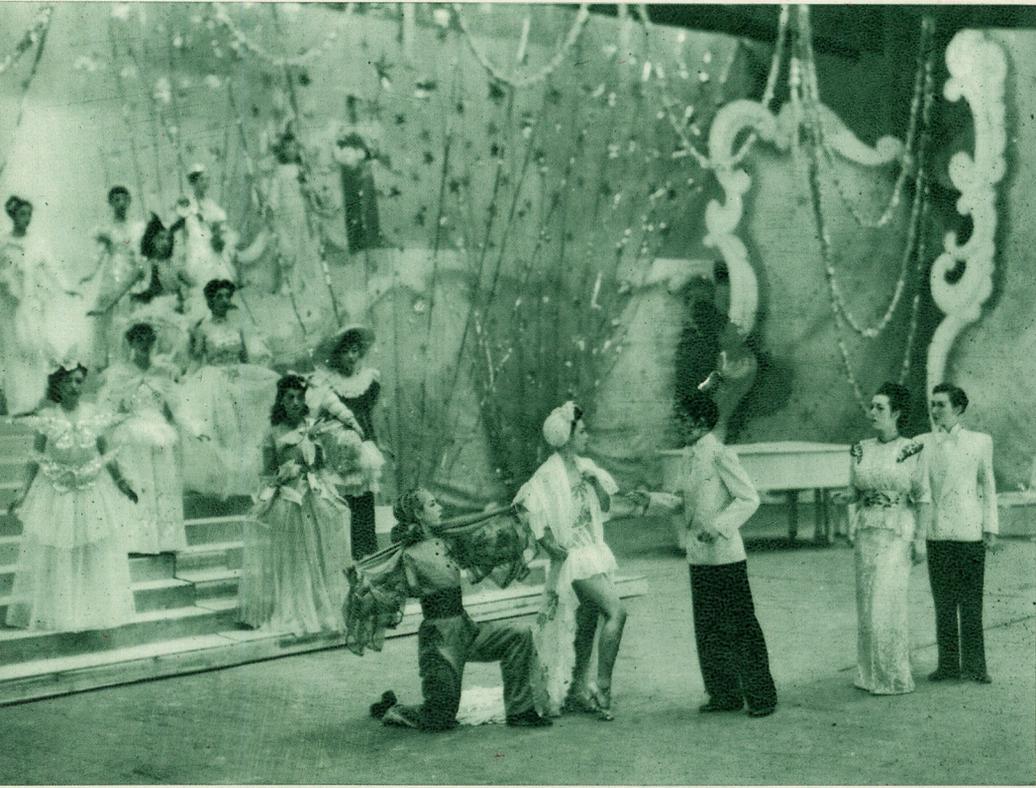
# C H E R R Y



# SHOW



A scene from musical show "Blue Heaven"



# TAKARAZUKA REVUES

Finale scene from operette "Romance of Paris"

# FINE SCENES FROM

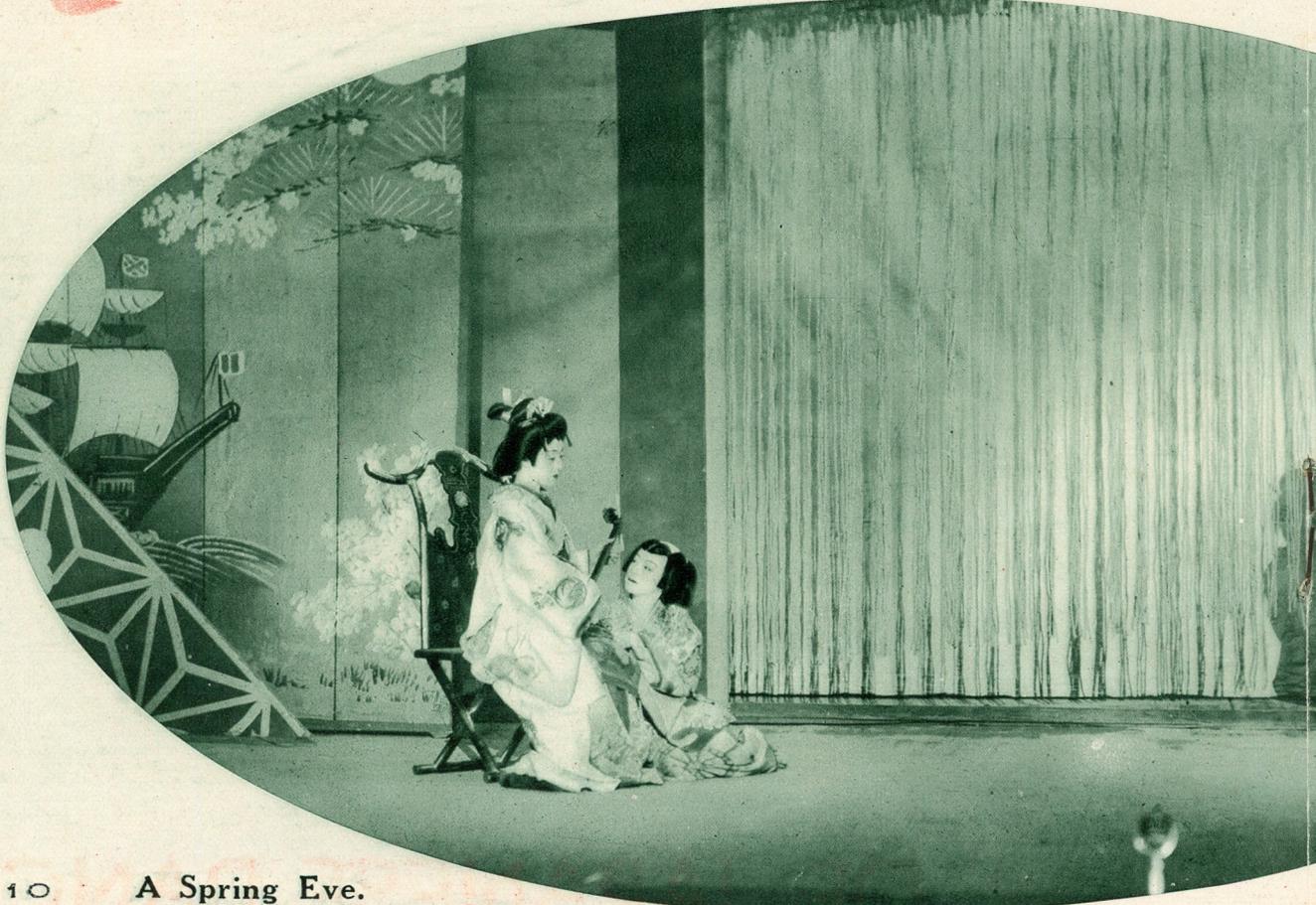


A ballet scene from operette "Romance of Paris"

# FOUR EXQUISITE SCENES



Hawks and Wisteria.





Fantasy of Cherry Blossom.



Dance of Country Children.



OF JAPANESE DANCE



# BEAUTIFUL



FINALE



Finale scene from "Venice Tale"



# FAMOUS EUR

La Traviata.



# EUROPEAN OPERAS

Madame Butterfly.



Carmen.



By the waters where iris flowers blooming.

A Heron in the Snow





Ukiyoe Style.

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