

For Immediate Release  
Wednesday, July 14, 1976

THE WHITE HOUSE  
OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY TO MRS. FORD

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The President and Mrs. Ford have invited opera soprano Phyllis Curtin to entertain Thursday, July 15, at the State Dinner honoring His Excellency, The Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany and Mrs. Schmidt.

This will be Phyllis Curtin's first appearance at the White House. She has performed in North and South America as well as in Europe and is currently heard in the operatic recital and orchestral repertoire throughout the United States. She is known for her roles in both classic and contemporary opera.

In the 1950's, Miss Curtin won international acclaim for her performance of the title role in Strauss' "Salome" with the New York City Opera. She subsequently debuted at the Vienna State Opera and at Milan's La Scala. In 1961, she appeared with the Metropolitan Opera in Mozart's "Cosi Fan Tutte." Other performances include: Mozart's "Don Giovanni;" Puccini's "Madama Butterfly;" and Carlisle Floyd's "Susannah" and "Wuthering Heights."

Miss Curtin has also appeared in the major music festivals in the country, including: Tanglewood Music Festival with the Boston Symphony Orchestra and the Blossom festival with the Cleveland Orchestra.

She has a great interest in American contemporary composers, and records their music for RCA, Columbia and Desto. She also teaches graduate courses to voice students at Yale University.

Phyllis Curtin was born in Clarksburg, West Virginia and now lives in Hamden, Connecticut. She is married to Eugene Cook and they have a teenage daughter, Claudia.

Miss Curtin is a political science graduate of Wellesley College and has studied voice privately throughout the East Coast.

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