



GLIESE

Stage Settings
for "Martha"
Opera House, Berlin

of these two Barlachs alone gives an idea of the astonishing development of the artist's development during this period. In his setting of a market-place, Gliese has certainly achieved an apex of decorative scene-painting. The splendid settings of Billinger's "Frosty Night" and Neumeyer's "The Herd Astray" will remain unforgettable; here a master-hand has given a mystical play its appropriate form.

There seem to be no limits to the versatility of his creative genius. Besides his long years of work at the State Theatre and the People's Theatre, Gliese has also done fine work for the Berlin Opera House. Every one of his settings is born of a deep understanding of music. We are still under the influence of his impressive settings of the season just passed. How magically the romantic atmosphere of "Martha" was caught in his pictures! How beautifully he rendered the fairyland of the "fisherman's island" (Undine). His phantasy never deserts him, whatever demands the music may make upon him. Thus in the admirable "Hugenots" he perfectly expressed the full dramatic quality of Meyerbeer. Again he understands how to surround the gentle grace of Offenbach with the right quality of piquant mood and sparkling humour.

A particular characteristic of the stage pictures of Rochus Gliese is his joy in detail, always kept splendidly within bounds. The whole scene is permeated with a delightful multitude of details, worked out with



Figurines