

# Simone Mantia

## Palermo, Sicily

- 1873 Simone Mantia is born on February 6 in Sicily.
- 1882 Mantia starts learning the baritone.
- 1890 Simone and his father Cal (a shoemaker) emigrate from Naples, Italy and arrive in New York on September 16th.
- 1895 Simone replaces his teacher Josef Raffayolo as Euphonium soloist with the Sousa band.
- 1897 Simone is naturalized in Kings County, NY, and living at #41 Harrison Ave.
- 1903 Simone marries Elgie Bower of Ohio (census).
- 1904 Simone leaves Sousa to join Arthur Pryor's band.
- 1905 Living in Manhattan (census).
- 1908 Simone starts play with the Metropolitan Opera which he continues with for the next 37 years; the last 12 of which he was the manager.
- 1918 They are living at #703 Emory St, Asbury Park, NJ and he is listed as a musician with Arthur Pryor (draft).
- 1922 Leading the Simone Mantia Orchestra (photo 2).
- 1926 Described as living at Wanamassa & New York.
- 1930 Living at #550 Riverside Dr, Manhattan. Both he and Elgie are listed as music studio teachers (census).
- 1935 Living at #1506 S. Wanamassa Dr, Monmouth, NJ (census).
- 1936 Teaching at the Associated Artists School of Music in White Plains, NY, with Del Staigers.
- 1940 Living at #1506 S. Wanamassa Dr, Monmouth, NJ. Simone is listed as a grand opera musician (census).
- 1948 Simone is still soloing with Paul LaValle's Band of America. Appears at Sawanhaka HS in Floral Park, NY.
- 1951 Simone dies on June 25th in Flushing, Queens.

Other professional work was done with the NY Philharmonic, NBC Symphony, Chicago Lyric Opera, Philadelphia Grand Opera, and Victor Hubert's Orchestra.

He was a Conn sponsored artist and often used a double-bell euphonium (photo 3).

