



❧UPCOMING MEETINGS ❧

**HMS Pinafore Screening – Sunday, February 28, 2010, 2 pm, Waltham Library 735 Main St., (third floor), Waltham, MA, 781-314-3428.**

A Joint NEGASS/New England Opera Club screening of Opera Della Luna’s innovative video of the classic G & S operetta, *HMS Pinafore*.

Directions:  
Mass Pike to Rte 128/95 North; exit 26 to Rte 20 East (Main St); library is approx. 2 miles after Mass Pike exit

<http://www.negass.org/directions/index.html>

For more help with directions to our meetings, please contact member-at-large Tom Dawkins: 978-225-0522, [pooh-bah@negass.org](mailto:pooh-bah@negass.org).

**The Sorcerer – LMLO - Sunday, March 14, 2010, 3 pm, LynnArts, 25 Exchange St., Lynn, MA.**

Mass Theatrica and NEGASS will co-sponsor a Last Minute Light Opera performance of *The Sorcerer*. The opera will be unrehearsed and presented on book; the audience is invited to join us in singing the chorus parts. Bring a score if you like! Admission is \$10 and free to NEGASS members.

All are welcome to come and sing or just enjoy the impromptu show!

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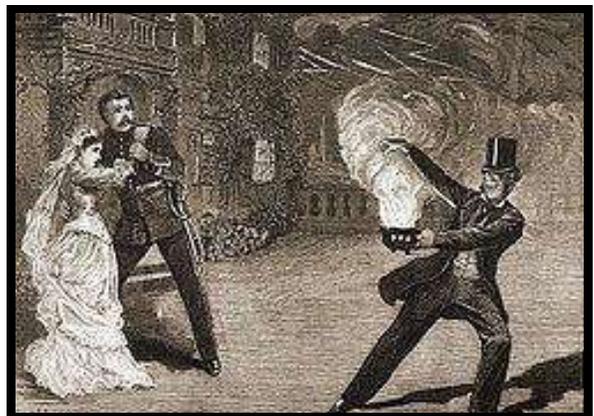
The featured performers are:

- Sir Marmaduke Pointdextre – Miles Rind
- Alexis – Brad Amidon
- Dr. Daly – Thomas B. Dawkins
- Notary – Tony Parkes
- John Wellington Wells – Ben Clark
- Lady Sangazure – Linda Nadeau
- Aline – Beth Grzegorzewski
- Mrs. Partlet – Angeliki Theoharis
- Constance – Sarah Berggren
- Chorus of villagers

Directions:

- From Boston, take 1A North to Lynn; take Market St exit on left; right at lights onto Broad St (1A), 1<sup>st</sup> left onto Union St, 2<sup>nd</sup> right to 25 Exchange St
- From North, take 1A South to Lynn, take Market St exit as above.
- Parking on the streets adjacent to and in front of LynnArts and in lot at the rear of the building

<http://www.lynnarts.org/directions.html>





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THE TRUMPET BRAY is published eight to ten times a year (or more, or less) by the New England Gilbert and Sullivan Society (NEGASS), P.O. Box 367, Arlington, MA 02476-0004.

GENERAL NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS may be sent to editor@negass.org. REVIEWS may be sent to programchair@negass.org. CALENDAR ITEMS may be sent to calendar@negass.org.

SUBSCRIPTIONS Standard membership in NEGASS pays for a printed copy of each issue of the Bray, plus a password to the current issue of the online PDF version. NEGASS membership dues are \$20, \$30, \$50 and \$100. To join, please contact membership chair Janice Dallas, 63 Everett St. Arlington, MA, 02474-6921 or mail membership@negass.org.

Members may opt out of the mailed issues of the Bray and receive it online only. Members may also receive Brays as PDF email attachments. To receive a password and/or to receive the Bray online only or as an email attachment, please email membership@negass.org.

ARCHIVES Past issues of *The Trumpet Bray* can be read or downloaded from <http://www.negass.org/bray/>

BETWEEN-BRAY ANNOUNCEMENTS Members can sign up to receive our special *Between-Bray emails* at <http://www.negass.org/join/email.html>

NEXT BRAY DEADLINE: March 24, 2010

WWW.NEGASS.ORG

## UPCOMING PRODUCTIONS

**NEGASSers in Sudbury Savoyards'**  
*Princess Ida* – February 20 – 27, 2010 (see  
Calendar p.6 for details)

12 NEGASS members will be appearing in Sudbury Savoyards' upcoming *Princess Ida*. They are:

Cyril – Brad Amidon  
Hilarion – Tom Frates  
King Hildebrand – Tom Weber  
Men's chorus: David Baldwin, Fred Hughes, Neil McCormick, Jim Miller, Tony Parkes.  
Women's chorus: Janice Dallas, Ann Ferentz, Janine Gaunt, Erin Van Speybroeck.

**NEGASSers in G & S Benefit Concert -**  
**BPeace** – Sunday, March 7, 2010, 3-5 pm (see  
Calendar p.6 for details)

The Social Action Committee of Beth El Temple Center in Belmont is planning a concert of Gilbert & Sullivan's songs to benefit Bpeace (Business Council for Peace), a non-profit organization helping women entrepreneurs expand their businesses in countries emerging from war, such as Rwanda and Afghanistan.

NEGASS performers include Tony Parkes, Kaori Emery, Marion Leeds Carroll and others, serenading us with favorite solos, duets, and ensemble pieces from the G & S repertoire. Joe Reid is on piano. <http://www.bpeace.org/>

## RECENT PRODUCTIONS

□ **NEGASS/MITG&SP Fantasy Day – Saturday**  
**January 30, 2010**  
<http://web.mit.edu/gsp>

On Saturday, January 30, the MIT Gilbert & Sullivan Players played host to NEGASS at a joint **Fantasy Day**. At the well attended event, everyone was encouraged to sing his/her favorite G & S arias and to join others in duets, trios, and larger ensemble pieces. The group warmed up with a rousing chorus from *The Pirates of Penzance*, "When the foeman bears his steel." Other selections from *The Gondoliers*, *Iolanthe* and *Utopia Limited*, to name a few, were performed with great enthusiasm and musical flair. The performers were accompanied on piano by none other than our own Pooh-Bah, **Thomas Dawkins**. Other NEGASSers in attendance were: **Juliet Cunningham**, **Mike Bromberg** (who also took a quick turn at the piano)

and **Connie Benn**. NEGASS would like to thank the MIT Gilbert & Sullivan Players for providing the meeting space, tasty treats and eager participants.

-**Connie Benn**

### ***Trial By Jury*, MIT G&SP, Cambridge, MA, January 22-23, 2010**

<http://web.mit.edu/gsp>

MIT Gilbert & Sullivan Society treated its audience to a splendid production of *Trial By Jury* at the theater at Simmons Hall, an MIT dormitory on Vassar St. This performance space, smaller and cozier than Kresge Auditorium, was a perfect setting for the well-paced and intimate performance; and the Simmons theater, if you overlook its steep narrow stairway descending to the stage below (I'd rank it a black diamond if it were a ski slope), put the audience in close and pleasing touch with the performers.

*Trial By Jury* pits Angelina, the jilted lover, against her fiancé, Edwin, whom she is suing for breach of promise. A man's promise to marry a woman was long considered a legally binding contract. If the man were to break this "contract", he could be subject to litigation. Initially it was felt that a woman who had been intimate with her fiancé was then "damaged", making a suitable marriage to a socially appropriate man difficult or impossible. Later the breach of contract suit was felt to be compensation for the woman's loss of becoming securely established in her own (husband-supported) household.

*Trial By Jury*, a satire of these conventions, was produced in 1875, and was an immediate hit with the British public. People in high positions and supposedly motivated by noble impulses behave basely or, as often in G & S, hypocritically. In this opera we see judges, lawyers, bailiffs, jury, even the plaintiff and defendant paying lip service to convention while behaving in self-serving, and hugely comic, ways.

**Emily Quane** directed the show with a clear understanding of Gilbert's witty and pointed jibes at quirky legal conventions and proper matrimonial behavior. Her excellent blocking kept the stage constantly balanced, providing a visually pleasing flow: characters moved into highlighted positions for their solos and ensembles and then gracefully and with excellent timing retreated to let others take the downstage position. The chorus, as the jury, sat upstage center, moving forward to support the story. Dressed as they were in outfits denoting their varied occupations, most of them developed corresponding characters adding to the comic effect.

**David Wilson** was a standout as Edwin, the flippant, slightly bored defendant. His clear and beautiful

tenor was matched by a secure vocal technique and strong dramatic presentation. Buffing his fingernails and reading the newspaper were a fine touch to his character's reaction to the tedium of the proceedings. **Betsey Flowers** gave a vocally charming and dramatically convincing performance as Angelina, the jilted fiancée. Her costume, as well as those of her bridesmaids, underscored the "delicacy" of these maidens who showed that they could indeed resort to trickery to turn the affections of judge and jury.

**Ginny Quaney** as Counsel for the Plaintiff cut a dashing figure in her man-tailored suit and sang with authority. To the role of the Usher **Johari Fraser** lent a strong baritone and good diction; a wider emotional range beyond anger could add nuance to the role. David Rolnick as the **Judge** looked suitably comic in his long dark robe and enormous barrister's wig. His naturally appealing baritone is affected by vocal unevenness and occasional loss of clear diction.

All praise to the **Jury**, a group who created six individuals through costuming, gesture, and vocal line. Their diction was clear, their tone was strong, and their sense of fun contagious. The ensemble piece "A Nice Dilemma" was well choreographed and executed. A standout was **Joey Cotruvo**, the talented accompanist who kept the pace moving and provided excellent musical support to the singers.

-**Martha Birnbaum**

## 🎭 ANNOUNCEMENTS 🎭

### **NEGASS Board Nominations Sought**

We are now accepting self-nominations for positions on the NEGASS board. This spring, the NEGASS nominations committee will assemble a slate of candidates for the following positions: Vice-President; Secretary; Publicity Chair; and Member-at-Large. We would love to hear from you! Please send expressions of interest to [president@negass.org](mailto:president@negass.org) by February 22.

-**Rebecca Hains, President**

### **New Members**

The Trumpet Bray welcomes **Mike Halperson**, an old member who has rejoined us. In grammar school, the 8th-graders presented an abbreviated *HMS Pinafore*, and he was hooked on G&S. In high school, he discovered the Harvard-Radcliffe Gilbert & Sullivan, whose performances are still a Rite of Spring and Fall for him. D'Oyly Carte's visits to Boston were an exhausting treat, as was Martyn Green's performance at the Boston Arts Festival

on the Common. Even though he claims to be completely devoid of performing talent, he continues to be a very enthusiastic member of the audience.

### **Gilbert & Sullivan Courses in New England**

We are introducing a new feature in our NEGASS newsletter, and hope that our listing of local G & S courses, workshops and seminars will prove useful to our readers. Please send your course listings to [editor@negass.org](mailto:editor@negass.org).

**"Gilbert & Sullivan: Beyond Pirates and Patter"**, Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass. Instructor is NEGASSer Tony Parkes. Wednesdays, 5:45-7:45 p.m., six weeks starting March 31. Tuition is \$144. To register, go to [www.ccae.org](http://www.ccae.org) (the course is listed under "Music").

From the catalogue: "Is your knowledge of Gilbert and Sullivan limited to their grand-opera parody *The Pirates of Penzance*? Or not even that? Lucky you! You have a dozen more of their shows to experience for the first time - some with surprising depth and beauty, all with sparkling verbal and musical wit. We'll look at them all, using old and new audio and video recordings (some very hard to find)."

**"The Topsy-Turvy World of Gilbert & Sullivan"**, Exploritas (was Elderhostel). West Dover, VT; June 6 - 10, 2010. A 5-day course with all meals and lodging. From \$770. See <http://www.exploritas.org/>

From the web site: "The Victorian masters of English Operetta are celebrated in a lively, musical adventure. Through live concerts by noted performers, movies and recordings, the class experiences the delights of *The Pirates of Penzance*, *HMS Pinafore*, *The Mikado* and other operettas while exploring the background and history of the Savoy masterpieces. Sing-alongs, scene readings and enactments bring the humor, poetry, music and genius of 'G and S' to sparkling life in a wonderful week of 'innocent merriment'."

### **Gilbert & Sullivan Resources Online**

The Petrucci Music Library, [www.imslp.org](http://www.imslp.org), has scores of all Gilbert & Sullivan operas available free downloading, as well as just about all 19<sup>th</sup> century operas and *lieder* - anything whose copyrights have expired.

Complete Schirmer scores of Gilbert & Sullivan operas are available free at [http://imslp.org/wiki/Category:Sullivan,\\_Arthur](http://imslp.org/wiki/Category:Sullivan,_Arthur)

Thanks go out to Joseph A. Reid of Belmont, MA for this excellent information.

### **Buxton, UK International G & S Festival announces American Leg**

The International G & S Festival announces an American leg in Gettysburg, PA June 20 - 27, 2010. Full details may be seen at <http://www.gs-festival.co.uk>. Festival organizers want to hear from any American or Canadian companies who might like to participate. Please respond immediately to allow organizers to announce the final program before year's end. No *Mikado* or *Pirates* but all other offers will be considered. If your group has performed previously in Buxton you simply need to email: [ian@aimuk.org](mailto:ian@aimuk.org) with your offer prior to December 22. If you have not performed before but would like to be considered please send a DVD of a recent production to: Ian Smith, G & S Festivals, The Old Vicarage, All Souls Road, Halifax HX3 6DR, West Yorkshire, UK.

The organizers will be putting together tours for UK visitors and will have package prices available soon. There will also be a wide variety of local sightseeing. Please watch our website or email [sarah@gs-festival.co.uk](mailto:sarah@gs-festival.co.uk) to ensure you receive details by e-mail.

### **New Recording of Sir Arthur Sullivan's *Ivanhoe***

We hear from Robin Gordon-Powell via savoy.net that a new recording of Sir Arthur Sullivan's grand opera *Ivanhoe* was released on February 1<sup>st</sup> of this year on the Chandos label. This is the first professional recording of the opera with the BBC National Orchestra of Wales under conductor David Lloyd-Jones and excellent British singers led by Toby Spence and Janice Watson. Copies of the recording can be ordered from the Sir Arthur Sullivan Society. Contact Doreen Harris at [doreenh52@btinternet.com](mailto:doreenh52@btinternet.com).

The new recording of *Ivanhoe* will be broadcast on BBC Radio 3 on Thursday, February 25, 2010, starting at 2:05 pm (that's British local time). American fans should be able to listen to the live broadcast online at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/radio3/>.

From *Ivanhoe*:

Drink to the house of Cedric!  
Hoch! the house of Cedric!  
Drink hael! Was hael!  
Hoch! Hoch! Was hael!

This quiz is taken from the Summer edition of the GASBAG, U. Michigan's G&S newsletter. See how much G & S trivia you know!

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Grading scale:

0-6: Yikes!

7-13: Stick to it; nothing like work!

14-20: Budding Genius

21-27: Stick GS.D. after your name

## Questions

1. Name calling in the world of G&S:

- which character calls another a buffoon? (one point)
- Who called W. S. Gilbert "Gilbertius the Never Wrong" (one point)
- Which two characters are deemed miscreants? (one point each)
- Which chorus is collectively called "fools?" (one point)
- How about "rascallions?" (one point)
- which character refers to another as a "scoffer?" (one point)

2. There is almost nothing of religion in the G&S canon, but there are some biblical references to name:

-Four references to the story of Noah. (one point each)

3. Name five characters who refuse the chance to eat in the G&S operas. (one point each)

4. Which three characters sing about members of Parliament (M.P.s) who vote without thinking? (one point each)

5. There is some strange dialogue in G&S. Which character (for one point each)...

- Compares his/her love to a husky coconut?
- Identifies the man who first determined longitude?
- Says he/she is looking to buy an electuary electuary for another's mother?
- Says his love is a pure gem sparkling on his brow?
- Deducts 10% for prompt cash when selling wares?

6. Which two G&S operas did Gilbert set in 1750? (one point each)

Answers –

1a. Mikado: Pooh-Bah on Ko-Ko in "Young man despair."  
 1b. Sir Arthur Sullivan in a letter to D'Oyly Carte.  
 1c. Mikado: Ko-Ko by Katsusha. Ruddigore: Robin by Dame Hannah in Act Two.  
 1d. Patience: Rapturous maidens by Lady Jane in the opening dialogue.  
 1e. Grand Duke: Collective chorus by Rudolph in Act I finale.  
 1f. Princess Ida: Hilarion on Florian in Act Two trio.  
 2. Pinafore: Josephine's "When to the ark the wearied one flies from the empty waste of water."  
 Jolanthe: Tolloffer's "Though dating from the flood, blue blood!"  
 Jolanthe: Jolanthe's "If thou shouldst need an ark, I'll give thee one."  
 Jolanthe: Mountararat's name is a pun on the ark's mythical resting place.  
 3. Mikado: Pooh-Bah doesn't want any lunch.  
 Ruddigore: Both Dick Dautness and Mad Margaret refuse Rose's apple.  
 Gondoliers: Don Alhambra refuses a plate of macaroni and a rusk.  
 Grand Duke: Rudolph resolves to save the Baroness; jube for supper.  
 Give yourself a half point if you name the chorus from Grand Duke, most of whom express an aversion to sausage rolls.  
 4. Pinafore: Sir Joseph Porter, I never thought of thinking for myself at all!"  
 Jolanthe: Private Willis, "They've got to leave that brain outside, and vote just as their leaders tell 'em to."  
 Ruddigore: Robin Okapple, "And vote black or white as your leaders indie, which saves you the trouble of thinking" (in the often cut "Hence forth all the crimes", 5a. Utopia: Princess Zara to Fitzbatteaxe in Act Two.  
 5b. Princess Ida: Hilarion in Act Two quoting Psyche as a child.  
 5c. Yeomen: Jack Point explaining his and Elsie's presence in town to Lieutenant Cholimondeley in Act 1.  
 5d. Pinafore: Racketstraw speaking of Josephine to Sir Joseph Porter in Act 2.  
 5e. Sorcerer: John Wellington Wells dealing with Alexis in Act 1.  
 6. Gondoliers and Grand Duke.



## NEGASS Calendar

Trumpet Bray stuffing Sunday, February 14, 2010 2 pm.	Come chat with friends and share some snacks while we prepare the <i>Bray</i> for mailing.	Email <a href="mailto:editor@negass.org">editor@negass.org</a> for details on how to attend.
Screening of Opera Della Luna's <i>HMS Pinafore</i> Sunday, February 28, 2010 2 pm	<b>Joint NEGASS/New England Opera Club event</b> Come join members of the NE Opera Club for a video screening of Opera Della Luna's innovative <i>Pinafore</i> .	Waltham Library 735 Main St. Waltham, MA 781-314-3428
<i>The Sorcerer</i> Last Minute Light Opera Sunday, March 14, 2010 3 pm	<b>Joint NEGASS/Mass Theatrica event</b> Leads will be cast in advance; no rehearsal! Come, sing, and enjoy!	LynnArts 25 Exchange St. Lynn, MA
Outing to BUGS (Brown University G&S) production of <i>Pirates of Penzance</i> Saturday, April 10, 2010	For those interested in joining our trip to BUGS <i>Pirates</i> , please email <a href="mailto:programchair@negass.org">programchair@negass.org</a> with a headcount. We'd like to carpool and have dinner at Kabob & Curry before the show.	Brown University Providence, RI
<b>NEGASS Elections</b> May 16, 2010 2 - 5 pm	<b>NEGASS Elections/Fantasy day</b>	Park Avenue Congregational Church 50 Paul Revere Rd. Arlington, MA
<b>NEGASS performs in Vermont</b> week of June 12, 2010	<b>NEGASS/Montreal West Operatic Society</b> <a href="http://www.haskellopera.org/opera_index.html">http://www.haskellopera.org/opera_index.html</a>	Haskell Free Library & Opera House Derby Line, VT

## Upcoming Productions

<i>Princess Ida</i> Sudbury Savoyards February 20,21,25,26 & 27, 2010	For more information, go to <a href="http://sudburysavoyards.org">http://sudburysavoyards.org</a> or call 978-443-8811	Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School 390 Lincoln Rd. Sudbury. MA 01776
<i>The Sorcerer</i> G & S Society of Maine February 18-21, 2010	<a href="http://www.gilbertsullivanmaine.org">http://www.gilbertsullivanmaine.org</a> 7 pm on February 18, 19, 20; 2 pm on February 20, 21	Grand Theater Ellsworth, ME
<b>G &amp; S benefit concert - BPeace</b> Sunday, March 7, 2010 3-5 pm	Social Action Committee - helping women entrepreneurs in war-torn countries <a href="http://www.betheltemplecenter.org">http://www.betheltemplecenter.org</a>	Beth El Temple Center 2 Concord Ave. Belmont, MA
<i>Mikado</i> Worcester Opera Works Saturday, March 13, 2010	<a href="http://www.worcesteroperaworks.com">http://www.worcesteroperaworks.com</a> 508-930-7062	Worcester State College Sullivan Auditorium 486 Chandler St. Worcester, MA 01602
<i>Gondoliers</i> MIT G&SP April 30, May 1,2,6-8, 2010	Contact <a href="mailto:gsp-ec@mit.edu">gsp-ec@mit.edu</a> ; <a href="http://web.mit.edu/gsp">http://web.mit.edu/gsp</a>	MIT Student Center, room 407 84 Massachusetts Ave Cambridge, MA
<b>G &amp; S Festival</b> July 31-August 21, 2010	17 <sup>th</sup> Annual G 7 S Festival, Buxton, England <a href="http://www.gs-festival.co.uk">www.gs-festival.co.uk</a>	American leg: June 19 - 26, 2010, Gettysburg, PA