

THE TRUMPET BRAY

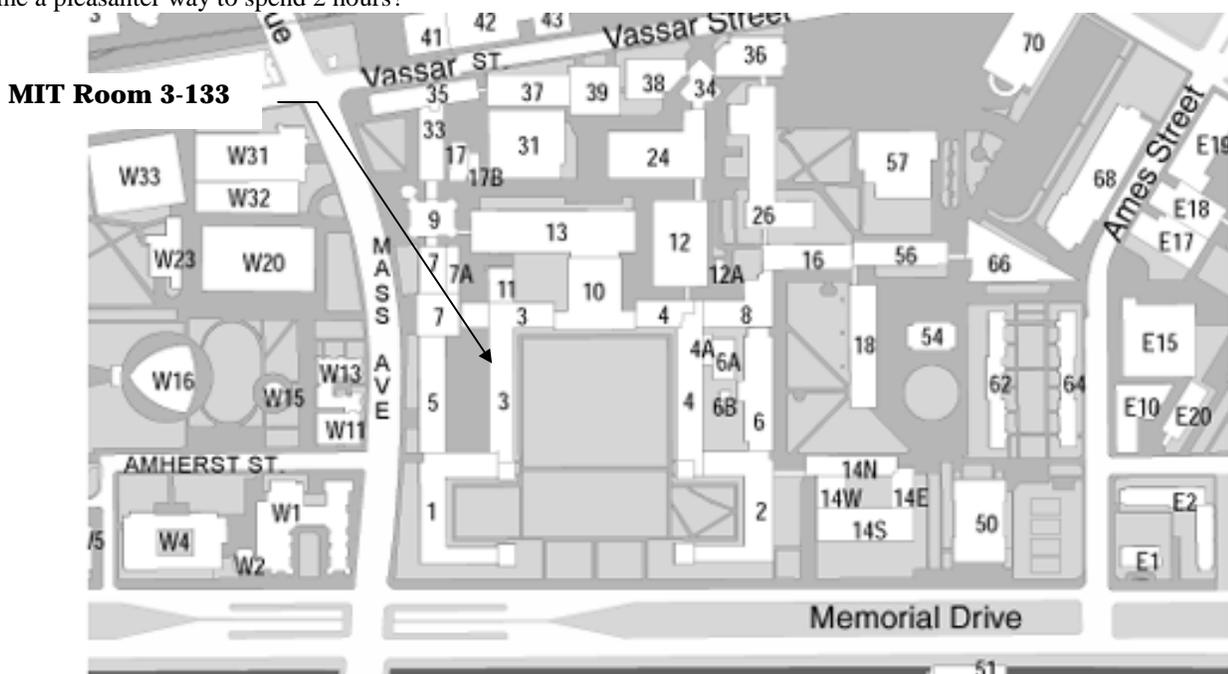
NEGASS
The New England Gilbert and Sullivan Society
P.O. Box 367, Arlington, MA 02476-0004

Vol. XXIV No. 5
...bogies spectacular...

**SUNDAY, January 23
ANIMATION AT MIT**

JANUARY 23 MEETING: CARTOON SHOWING AT MIT. At 2:00 PM on Sunday, January 23, **NEGASSers** and **MITG&SPers** will gather in MIT's **Rm. 3-133** to enjoy a screening of G&S-inspired or related animated cartoons provided by NEGASS's **Don Smith**. Don tells Us that the two major items planned are the Halas & Bachelor **RUDDIGORE** (with a soundtrack featuring the **D'Oyly Carte Opera Company**), and **Gentlemen of Titipu**, which is a 'hip' version of the **MIKADO** from Australia. There will also be several short subjects. Total showing time will be 2 hours - can you imagine a pleasanter way to spend 2 hours?

HOW TO GET THERE: MIT is easily accessible by T: Take the Red Line to the Central Square stop, and walk south (or catch the #1 Bus) down Massachusetts Ave. - or go to the Kendall Square stop and walk west through the campus. If you're driving, take Mass. Ave. from anywhere to about a block north of Memorial Drive (on the Cambridge side of the Charles River), and find a parking space. (MIT parking lots, although posted "restricted", are actually free and open to all comers on Sunday, as are the parking meters on Mass. Ave.). See the map below to find Room 3-133 on campus.





NEWS FLASH!!! PREVIEW SCREENING OF TOPSY-TURVY!!!

Our honored VP **Don Smith** has arranged for NEGASSers to be invited to a **preview screening** of the hit film *Topsy-Turvy* - which will take place on Thursday, January 13 at 7 p.m. at the **Kendall Square Cinema**, One Kendall Square, Cambridge. The film will not be open to the general public until Jan. 21 - but if you will have to miss the preview [*as, alas, We will have to do!*], you can attend on that date or later.

Watch your mail box - since Don tells Us: Tickets will be mailed to all members of the **New England Gilbert and Sullivan Society** in the six state New England area, and to those 2 **SavoyNetters** who are not NEGASS members and who asked for tickets.

Please note that seating is first-come-first-served!!!

If you have Web access and would like to see an announcement and the trailer for the film, take advantage of the URL **Janice Dallas** has sent Us:

http://movies.excite.com/movie/?movie_id=-22275

A G&S CHRISTMAS CAROL IN WATERTOWN
On Sunday, December 5 a small contingent of NEGASSers gathered for the society's third performance of **Gayden Wren's** fun little pastiche, *A G&S Christmas Carol*. In past years, notices in *The Boston Globe* have attracted a fairly large audience for this event, but this year only two non-NEGASS visitors plus a minimal number of non-singing NEGASSers joined the small group of performers in the hall.

President **Patricia Brewer** welcomed us before disappearing into the character of Bob Cratchit (later filling in as a Gossip in the Christmas Future scene). **Peter Cameron** started off the singing as the Balladeer, later becoming Mr. Goodman, a Gossip and a Passer-By. Mme President's husband, **Bob Casey**, held the story together very well as the Narrator (also appearing briefly as the Ghost of Samuel).

Tiny Tim, in the person of **Marion Leeds Carroll**, was seen to drop her crutch and metamorphose into the Ghost of Christmas Present. Fred Scrooge, in the person of **Katherine Bryant**, remained a powerful presence while costumed as Mr. Kindheart, the Ghost

Tentative Meeting Schedule, 1999-2000	
1/23	G&S Cartoons at 2 PM in MIT Rm. 3-133
Sat. 2/26	Sudbury's <i>RUDDIGORE</i> - unofficial meeting/ group attendance
3/26	LMLO: PIRATES
4/9	Sudbury Retrospective
5/21	A G&S Masterclass, led by Eileen St. David
6/18	Election Meeting plus Fantasy performances

~ NEXT BRAY COPY DEADLINE: January 30, 2000~

Next Bray Stuffing: February 6, 2000 at 3:00 PM. Call Us at (781) 646-9115 evenings and weekends, or send email to **Our new address:** MLCarroll@MailandNews.com, for directions to Our snug and easy-to-get-to home.

—mlc

୧ ୨ ୩ ୪ ୫ ୬ ୭ ୮ ୯ ୧୦ ୧୧ ୧୨ ୧୩ ୧୪ ୧୫ ୧୬ ୧୭ ୧୮ ୧୯ ୨୦ ୨୧ ୨୨ ୨୩ ୨୪ ୨୫ ୨୬ ୨୭ ୨୮ ୨୯ ୩୦ ୩୧ ୩୨ ୩୩ ୩୪ ୩୫ ୩୬ ୩୭ ୩୮ ୩୯ ୪୦ ୪୧ ୪୨ ୪୩ ୪୪ ୪୫ ୪୬ ୪୭ ୪୮ ୪୯ ୫୦ ୫୧ ୫୨ ୫୩ ୫୪ ୫୫ ୫୬ ୫୭ ୫୮ ୫୯ ୬୦ ୬୧ ୬୨ ୬୩ ୬୪ ୬୫ ୬୬ ୬୭ ୬୮ ୬୯ ୭୦ ୭୧ ୭୨ ୭୩ ୭୪ ୭୫ ୭୬ ୭୭ ୭୮ ୭୯ ୮୦ ୮୧ ୮୨ ୮୩ ୮୪ ୮୫ ୮୬ ୮୭ ୮୮ ୮୯ ୯୦ ୯୧ ୯୨ ୯୩ ୯୪ ୯୫ ୯୬ ୯୭ ୯୮ ୯୯ ୧୦୦

Welcome, Welcome, Welcome We new member **Ralph Wilbur** of North Andover, MA. How did you hear about NEGASS? Do you sing, or play or... ? **Tell Us, Tell Us All About It!**

of Christmas Past and yet another Gossip. (Katherine's other role of the afternoon: she designed and printed very handsome souvenir programs for the event.) **Melissa Hirshson** started as the Ghost of Christmas Future and ended as Dora Lincoln. A few cast members were satisfied in but one role: **Randi Kestin** was the Ghost of Marley, **Art Dunlap** played Old Fezziwig, and **Larry Seiler** shone in the starring role of Scrooge - which was admittedly larger than all the other roles put together.

Even the accompanist, **Jason Whiting**, threw in a spoken Pooh-Bah line.

This was an amusing afternoon, with some good characterizations, fun costume changes and fine singing, but it was really a performance of, by, and for the performers rather than for an audience. This reviewer suspects that, unless a large crowd of NEGASSers long to put together a complete performance and beat the bushes for a large audience, this show will take a rest next year.

-- DAME RUMOUR

୧ ୨ ୩ ୪ ୫ ୬ ୭ ୮ ୯ ୧୦ ୧୧ ୧୨ ୧୩ ୧୪ ୧୫ ୧୬ ୧୭ ୧୮ ୧୯ ୨୦ ୨୧ ୨୨ ୨୩ ୨୪ ୨୫ ୨୬ ୨୭ ୨୮ ୨୯ ୩୦ ୩୧ ୩୨ ୩୩ ୩୪ ୩୫ ୩୬ ୩୭ ୩୮ ୩୯ ୪୦ ୪୧ ୪୨ ୪୩ ୪୪ ୪୫ ୪୬ ୪୭ ୪୮ ୪୯ ୫୦ ୫୧ ୫୨ ୫୩ ୫୪ ୫୫ ୫୬ ୫୭ ୫୮ ୫୯ ୬୦ ୬୧ ୬୨ ୬୩ ୬୪ ୬୫ ୬୬ ୬୭ ୬୮ ୬୯ ୭୦ ୭୧ ୭୨ ୭୩ ୭୪ ୭୫ ୭୬ ୭୭ ୭୮ ୭୯ ୮୦ ୮୧ ୮୨ ୮୩ ୮୪ ୮୫ ୮୬ ୮୭ ୮୮ ୮୯ ୯୦ ୯୧ ୯୨ ୯୩ ୯୪ ୯୫ ୯୬ ୯୭ ୯୮ ୯୯ ୧୦୦

Dame Rumour also whispers that **Wally Mason**, a frequent correspondent, has been in a nursing home recovering from surgery. Glad you're better, Wally!



୫ ୩ **FEBRUARY MEETING PLANS:** After much debate internal, the NEGASS Board has decided to move the **Last Minute Light Opera** meeting to **March**, so that NEGASSers can attend the unusually early **Sudbury Savoyards** production of **RUDDIGORE**, which will take place February 25-27 and March 2-4 - and, more to the point: so that Sudbury members will be able to take part in LMLO! (This is not merely an early performance, but, We believe, the company's first two-weekend production!)

୫ ୩ **MARCH MEETING PLANS: LMLO PIRATES.** We'll be celebrating Frederic's birthday nearly a month late - on March 26. Look through the score and choose your role for this exciting production, which will feature a **Last Minute Orchestra**. **AN INSTRUMENTAL REMINDER:** Instrumentalists who are interested in playing in the **Last Minute Orchestra** performance of **PIRATES** should sign up by sending email with name and instrument to **Victor Godin** at fhorn@nuhub.neu.edu or fhorn@neu.edu.

Everyone is welcome to come and play; but moderate sight-reading ability is highly desirable.

Vic reminds you: Be sure to bring your own music stand!

NB: If you want to play in the orchestra, but don't have e-mail

access, phone one of the NEGASS board members or write down your information and send it via ordinary mail to the NEGASS PO Box, and We'll pass the word to Vic. However, Vic won't respond personally via any means but e-mail. -- mlc]



HA! AN IDEA! **Geoffrey Shovelton**, long-time principal tenor for **D'Oyly Carte**, and experienced stage director as well, now lives in Maine. And he's seeking venues in which to present master classes. Are there people interested in such an opportunity? Shall we see, first, how the local master class tentatively planned for this year works out? - or shall we start negotiations for a brush with fame?

୫ ୩ ୫ ୩ ୫ ୩ ୫ ୩ ୫ ୩ ୫ ୩ ୫ ୩ ୫ ୩ ୫ ୩

୫ ୩ ୫ ୩ ୫ ୩ ୫ ୩ ୫ ୩ ୫ ୩ ୫ ୩ ୫ ୩ ୫ ୩

MORE ON TOPSY-TURVY: The 12/27-1/3 issue of *The New Yorker* includes a review of the film by **David Denby**. He begins, "**Mike Leigh's Topsy-Turvy** revisits, with excited admiration and free-ranging intelligence, the most famous partnership in the British theatre -- the collaboration of W.S. Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan in the glory days of imperial rule. There are elements here of a traditional bio-pic -- failure, triumph, intimations of immortality -- but none of the stodginess and self-congratulation that usually plague the form." After raving for a page and a quarter about this "...extraordinary portrait of how something of lasting value is made," Mr. Denby concludes, "In 1884, Gilbert and Sullivan's work hadn't yet become camp. **PRINCESS IDA** and **THE MIKADO** are comic operas, inspired by the dignity of fully felt theatrical emotion. By honoring that emotion, **Topsy-Turvy** becomes a triumph from start to finish."

And the Autumn/Winter 1999 issue of the newsletter of **The Gilbert and Sullivan Society** (yes, *The Society*) features stills from the movie on its cover - and reports on page 26 that "**Jim Broadbent** has won the Venice best actor Lion for his portrayal of W. S. Gilbert in **Topsy-Turvy**."

Janice Dallas writes: There are some good **Topsy-Turvy** movie stills and the covers of the CD and the book at this website.

<http://www.concentric.net/~Oakapple/gasdisc/mdtopsy.htm>



୫ ୩ ୫ ୩ ୫ ୩ ୫ ୩ ୫ ୩ ୫ ୩ ୫ ୩ ୫ ୩ ୫ ୩

POST-CHRISTMAS SHOPPING LIST. Now that the Christmas rush is over, you can take those gift certificates you received and check out **Sam Silvers'** "list of the videos most highly recommended by a consensus of SavoyNetters and info re: how to buy them." *Sam continues:* Thanks to **Marc Shepherd** and others who gave suggestions and information. Errors are my responsibility. Of course, you may have your own favorites, which may not be on this list, but I think this is the best list of videos for each show that I could compile.

COX AND BOX:
1982 Brent Walker Productions

TRIAL:

1972 G&S For All (available from Festival - see below)
1982 Brent Walker Productions

SORCERER:

1982 Brent Walker Productions

PINAFORE:

1997 Essgee Entertainment (Non-traditional)
Houston (1995) (available from Festival - see below)
Seattle G&S (1996)
1973 D'OC (this has been called dull)

PIRATES:

1994 Essgee Entertainment (Non-traditional - Papp inspired)
South Anglia (1994) (available from Festival - see below)

PATIENCE:

1982 Brent Walker Productions
1995 Australian Opera

IOLANTHE:

Seattle G&S (1997)
1982 Brent Walker Productions

IDA:

Derby (1997) (available from Festival - see below)
Lamplighters (1995) (available from Festival - see below)

MIKADO:

1939 D'OC Technicolor film
1966 D'OC film (available from Festival - see below)
ENO-Jonathan Miller (1986) ('20's setting?)
1984 Stratford Festival (Non-traditional)
Australian Opera (1987??) (1995??)

RUDDIGORE:

Seattle G&S (1995)
1982 Brent Walker Productions

YEOMEN:

South Anglia (1996) (available from Festival - see below)
Second choices available from the Festival:
Houston (1998) and Derby (1999).

GONDOLIERS:

1982 Brent Walker Productions
St. Mary's R.C. H.S. (1994) (Non-traditional)
(available from Festival - see below)

UTOPIA:

Trent (1999) (futuristic setting) (available from Festival - see below)
Hancock County (1994) (available from Festival - see below)

GRAND DUKE:

Seattle G&S (1999) (1930's setting)

The Zoo:

Stanford Univ. (1996)

Other:

1953 The Story of Gilbert and Sullivan (available from Festival - see below)
Topsy Turvy (1999) (should be available at video stores some time in 2000)
Edinburgh G & S Society's Ivanhoe (1999)
Beauty Stone, G & S of Retford (1997)
Rose of Persia, G & S of Retford (199??)

Where to obtain the videos:

(Bear in mind that, for all videos, there are US (NTSC) and UK (PAL) formats)

All the Festival videos are available from:

Musical Collectibles, The Old Vicarage, Haley Hill, Halifax HX3 6DR. 44 (0)1422 323252 (No "0" needed from outside the U.K.). The fax number is 355604, but it's better to phone.

Seattle videos are available by e-mailing credit card and address info to manager@pattersong.org, or call 206-682-0796 and leave a message for Julie. GD is \$33 (incl. shipping) and I imagine the others are a similar price.

Brent Walker videos can be found at:

<http://www.operaworld.com/> or <http://www.amazon.com>
(In the U.K., <http://www.amazon.co.uk>).

If **Amazon** does not have the one you want, **Opera World** might, but they're cheaper at Amazon than at OperaWorld.

Essgee videos can be found at:

<http://www.ozemail.com.au/~essgee/>

Australian Opera videos can be found at:

<http://shop.abc.net.au/>
but these will all be PAL versions.

Stratford videos can be found at:

<http://www.culturenet.ca/stratford/home.htm>

Retford videos and **Edinburgh G & S Society** videos: Ask **Stephen Turnbull, Sir Arthur Sullivan Society**.

☞☞ **The G&S Society of Hancock County** (Maine) plans **SORCERER** for 2/4, 5, 11 and 12 at 7:30, and 2/6 and 13 at 2:00. Stage direction is by the excellent **Dede Johnson**, who's joined by a new music director, **Frederic Goldrich**. For more info call Irv Hodgkin at (207) 667-7235, or their box office at (207) 667-9500.

☞☞ The **Toronto-Ra** (newsletter of guess which Canadian city?) announces that the **North Toronto Players** will present a production of **IDA** "set in ancient Greece" from 2/11-20, 2000. For further info, call (905) 727-2209, or visit:
www.NORTHTORONTOPLAYERS.com

☞☞ **THE SUDBURY (MA) SAVOYARDS** have a wonderful cast for their spring **RUDDIGORE**: **Zoe Daniels** is Rose, **Todd Allen Long** is Robin, **Amy Allen** is Margaret, **Dan Merrill** is Richard, **Peter Stark** is Despard, **Tony Parks** is Old Adam, **Tom Weber** is Roderick, and **Laura Guillard** is Hannah. Stage direction is by **Kathy Lague**, with music direction by **Steve Malonek**. Performances will be February 25-27 and March 2-4, 2000 For more info call 978-443-8811, or check out their web site at <http://www.sudburysavoyards.org>.



☞☞ **The Simsbury (CT) G&S Society** will perform **MIKADO** April 1, 8, & 15 at 8 PM and April 2, 9 & 16 at 2:15 PM. For more info, call (860) 521-8076, or visit their web site at <http://www.sloco.org/>.

☞☞ **Troupers Light Opera Company** will perform **GONDOLIERS** May 13, 14, 19 and 20, 2000 in New Canaan High School, New Canaan, CT. For further info call **Jane Bernd** at 203-254-8140.

☞☞ **SLOC (The Savoyard Light Opera Co.)** of Carlisle, MA plans **PIRATES** in November, 2000. For more info, call 978-371-7562 or visit their web site at <http://www.tiac.net/users/sloc/>.

☞☞ **Valley Light Opera** of Amherst, MA plans **IOLANTHE** in November, 2000. For more info, contact producer **Cami Elbow** at (413) 549-0024, e-mail her at celbow@external.umass.edu, or visit their web site at <http://www.vlo.org/>

☞☞ We're looking forward to **THE MILLENNIUM SINGOUT**, to be held in **Toronto, Ontario, Canada, August 18-20, 2000** - for details, contact

Ori Siegel <oris@interlog.com> or **Herschel Rosen** <torontosingout@home.com> or write to: **G & S T2K Singout**, 22 Royal Street, Oshawa, Ontario, Canada L1H 2T6.

THE NEW ENGLAND GILBERT AND SULLIVAN SOCIETY

PO Box 367, Arlington, MA 02476-0004

Send electronic contributions to our e-mail address:
negass@iname.com

President **PATRICIA BREWER**: (617) 323-3480;
gacee@aol.com

Vice-President **J. DONALD SMITH**: (508) 823-5110;
dsmith@umassd.edu

Secretary **CAROL MAHONEY**: (781) 648-1720;
MAHONEY.CAROL@EPAMAIL.EPA.GOV

Treasurer **PHIL BURSTEIN**: (781) 646-3698;
plburst@rcn.com

Program Chair **REBECCA CONSENTINO**: (617) 731-3998; rac@bu.edu and <http://people.bu.edu/rac>

Members at Large:

Company Promoter **KATHERINE BRYANT**: (617) 491-0373; klb@cybercom.net and
<http://www.cybercom.net/~klb>

SHELDON HOCHMAN: (508) 842-7617;
GAMAREX@aol.com

RICHARD FREEDMAN:
(617) 630-9525; rnf@null.net and
<http://people.ne.mediaone.net/rnf>

Membership Officer: **BILL MAHONEY**: (781) 648-1720

Newsletter Editor: **MARION LEEDS CARROLL**
(781) 646-9115;

MLCarroll@MailandNews.com (new address!!!) - and:
<http://web.mit.edu/mlcar/Public/www/mlcarroll.html>

*NEGASS membership dues are \$15 and up. Please send membership inquiries to **Bill Mahoney** C/O the above address.*

Visit the **New NEGASS Web Site** at
<http://www.negass.org>

The Trumpet Bray can be read on line at
http://www.negass.org/bray/html/Trumpet_Bray.html

Effective Sunday, November 28, the URL of the **Gilbert and Sullivan Archive** has changed to:
<http://diamond.boisestate.edu/gas>

Make a note of it!