

THE TRUMPET BRAY

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

Vol. XXVII No. 3 November/December 2002 - wish I'd been in time for the performance! -

FALL PERFORMANCE ISSUE: Local G&S Auditions/Performances

FALL PERFORMANCE ISSUE: NEGASS is not planning another formal meeting until January – but the coming months will feature a plethora of local performances, AND one audition - and NEGASS plans to be there! The next issue of **The Trumpet Bray** will be published in early January, 2003, and will, We hope, be filled with **your** reviews of the productions you've seen in October, November and December. (Don't be timid – write what you think! – a pseudonym is fine if you don't want to have your name published.)

প্র AUDITIONS প্র

The Sudbury Savoyards will hold their annual Two-Ring Circus - an party introducing this year's show, **PATIENCE**, and the company at large - on Friday, Nov. 8, 2002 at 7:30 PM at the home of the Brendon and Kristen Chetwynd, 82 Acton St., Maynard, MA. (See Sudbury's contact info below for details.) Auditions for PATIENCE will be held at 7:30 pm, Monday and Tuesday November 18-19 at the Sudbury United Methodist Church; 251 Old Sudbury Rd (Route 27), in Sudbury, MA. As always, no audition is required to sing in the chorus. Stage direction by Kathy Lague and Music Direction by Steve Malionek. Performances will be February 21, 22, 23, 27, 28 and March 1, 2003 at the Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School in Sudbury, MA. For more information, call 978-443-8811, email info@sudburysavoyards.org, or check out their website at http://www.sudburysavoyards.org/

க்க் PERFORMANCES க்க்

***Bridgewater (MA) State College will present *MIKADO*, October 24, 25, 31 and November 1 &2, all performances at 8:00 PM. Pick up tix at the box office, or contact: BSC Theatre Management Office, (508) 531-1321, or mdesantis@bridgew.edu

がめ North Kingston Players (in North Kingston, RI) are presenting *IOLANTHE* Nov. 1-2 at 8:00 PM

and Nov. 3 at 3 PM, at North Kingstown High School, 150 Fairway, North Kingston, RI. Stage Direction is by Jack Higby. For more info, email nkplayers@cox.net, write The North Kingstown Players, PO Box 71 North Kingstown, RI 02852,

Phone: (401) 295-1907 or visit http://members.cox.net/nkplayers

*** Valley Light Opera (Amherst, MA) plans **YEOMEN** with music direction by **Juli Holmes** and stage direction by **Dean Acheson**, to be performed **Nov 1, 2, 3, 8 & 9**. For more info, call producer **Cami Elbow** at 413-549-0024 or visit http://www.vlo.org

November 17, 1877, The Sorcerer opens November 18, 1836, W. S. Gilbert is born. November 22, 1900, Sullivan dies

ற்ற The Connecticut G&S Society will present **PIRATES**, directed by **Bob Cumming** with music direction by John Dreslin, on Nov 8 & 9 at 8 PM and Nov 9 & 10 at 2 PM at the Middletown, CT, High School. They're featuring two alternating casts, both full of recognized stars (so you'll have to go twice!) Tickets: \$18 at the door or \$15 in advance; kids under 12: \$10. Send a self-addressed stamped envelope & check to CG&SS, Box 2152, Middletown, CT 06457, or phone 1-800-866-1606 for more info.

ற்ற் KCT Productions will present PIRATES on Nov 8 & 9 at 7 PM and November 9 & 10 at 2 PM at the Adams Memorial Opera House in Derry, NH. Cast of adults and teens. Director: Michael Curtis. Music Director: Don Tongue, Conductor: Donna Choreographer: Michael Tongue. Ziggerelli. Tickets - Adults \$10, seniors and children under 12 \$8. Tickets are available at the Opera House, 603-437-0505, KCT at 603-434-8524, or at the door.

ற்ற் MITG&SP will present PIRATES Nov. 21-23 at 8 PM and Nov. 23 & 24 at 2 PM. Directors include Brian Bermack (stage), Jen Hazel (vocal) and Jimmy Jia (orchestral), with Nick Bozard as (MIT's Spring 2003 show will be Producer. UTOPIA!) E-mail savoyards-request@mit.edu, visit http://web.mit.edu/gsp/www/, or phone (617) 253-0190 for more info.

November 25, 1882, *lolanthe* opens simultaneously in London and New York.

ற்ற Savoyard Light Opera Company, Carlisle MA will perform *MIKADO* Nov. 15, 16, 22, 23 at 8:00 PM and Nov. 17, 24 at 2:00 PM

Cast includes:

The Mikado: Bob Russell Nanki-Poo: Timothy Carew Ko-Ko: Chris Snell Pooh-Bah: John Bennett Pish-Tush: Benjamin Cole Yum-Yum: Kim Bolling Pitti-Sing: Stephanie Mann

Peep-Bo: Alison Corke



Call 978-371-SLOC (7562), visit their web site (note the new URL) at http://www.savoyardlightopera.org/ or send an e-mail to slocauditions@aol.com for more info.

Tentative Meeting Schedule, 2002-2003	
January 19	Newton Free Library Film: <i>The</i> Story of Gilbert and Sullivan
March	LMLO GONDOLIERS
Late April	Lecture? Cartoons? Film? TBA!
May 18	Elections/Fantasy Day

NEXT BRAY COPY DEADLINE: December 29, 2002

Next Bray Stuffing: Sunday, January 5, 2003 at 3:00 PM. Call Us at (781) 646-9115 evenings and weekends, or send email to marion@leedscarroll.com, for directions to Our easyto-get-to Arlington, MA home.

Welcome, Welcome We New Members Michael Oliver and Mary Hyatt – no details yet about either one of them... Tell Us, Tell Us All About It! Hearty Greeting Offer We!

-mlc

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Have you renewed your membership in NEGASS yet? Janice Dallas, at 63 Everett St., Arlington, MA 02474-6921, is waiting for your check and your information form!

Or catch a sneak preview of their performance on Nov 3, 2002 at 3:00 PM at the Remis Auditorium, Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave, Boston, MA - visit http://www.mfa.org/concerts, or call 617-369-3306 for tix.

- The Gilbert & Sullivan Society of New York plans meetings this year on Nov. 15, Dec. 14, Jan. 16, Feb. 12, March 15, April 11, May 14, and June 14 at CAMI Hall, 165 W. 57 St., NY. Doors open at 7:30; the meeting starts at 7:45, and the Inner Brotherhood go out for coffee afterwards. Visit http://g-and-s.org/ for more details.
- The Raylynmor Opera will perform IOLANTHE November 22-24 at the Colonial Theatre, 95 Main St., Keene, NH. Performance times: 8:00 PM on Nov. 22 & 23 and 2:00 PM on Nov. 24. Prices range from \$23-\$24. Box office: 603-352-2033 or 358-6316.
- The Boston Academy of Music will present PIRATES Nov 2930 at 7:30 PM, and Nov 30-Dec

1 at 2:00. During the restoration of the Emerson Majestic Theatre, BAM is in residence at Blackman Auditorium at Northeastern University. Info: visit http://www.bostonacademy.org/, call 617 242-0055, or e-mail bosacademy@aol.com [News Update! – Dame Rumour whispers that **Richard Conrad** is no longer the head of BAM – can this be possible?!

December 7, 1889, **The Gondoliers** opens December 23, 1871, **Thespis** opens. December 31, 1879, **The Pirates of Penzance** opens in New York

- ### Harvard-Radcliffe Gilbert and Sullivan Players will perform *MIKADO* December 5-7 & 12-14 at 8:00 PM, and December 7, 8 & 14 at 2:00 PM. HRG&SP's opening night is always Black Tie, and closing night is Hack Night. December 7 features a special Children's Matinee. For more info, write to hrgsp@hcs.harvard.edu or visit the HRG&SP Web page: http://hcs.harvard.edu/~hrgsp/.
- ற்ற **UMGASS** (The U. Michigan G&S Soc) will present **YEOMEN** Dec 5-8. Visit http://www.umgass.org for more info.

January 5, 1884, **Princess Ida** opens January 22, 1887, **Ruddigore** opens

න්න් **The Master Singers** of Lexington, MA will present music concerning the legal profession, including a complete production of *TRIAL*, Feb 15, 2003 – visit http://www.themastersingers.org/ for more info

తేత Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Hancock County (GSSHC) plans *PATIENCE*, directed by the company's new



artistic director,
Geoffrey
Shovelton, of the
D'Oyly Carte
company, assisted
by his wife,
Deborah Clague,
as choreographer.
Returning as
musical director will
be Fredric

Goldrich. Performances will be January 31, Feb 1 and 2 (matinee) and Feb 7, 8 and 9 (matinee), 2003 at The Grand Theater, Main Street, Ellsworth, ME. Email **Irv Hodgkin** at <u>IHodgkin@acadia.net</u> or visit http://ellsworthme.org/gsshc/ for more info. (Box office telephone: 207- 667-9500)

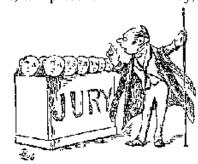
resent An Evening of Gilbert and Sullivan on February 2 at 7:00 p.m. at Goff Memorial Hall, Bay State Road, Rehoboth, MA. Performing will be the quartet Operartisti: Cecelia Schiano Rodi, Soprano; Georgette Ross Hutchins, Mezzo; Edward Doucette, tenor; and Kevin Harrop Valentine, Bass-Baritone. Tix: \$18 (\$15 for RAS members). Send checks to Rehoboth Antiquarian Society, P.O. Box 2, Rehoboth, MA 02769

March 7, 1896, **The Grand Duke** opens March 14, 1885, **The Mikado** opens March 25, 1875, **Trial by Jury** opens April 3, 1880, **The Pirates of Penzance** opens in London

> April 23, 1881, **Patience** opens May 13, 1842, Arthur Sullivan is born May 25, 1878, **H.M.S. Pinafore** opens May 27, 1883, Sullivan is knighted May 29, 1911, W.S. Gilbert dies

න්න් **Jim Keyes**, Music Director, **Delaware Community Chorus**, *writes*: Delaware Community Chorus (Delaware, Ohio) will present *TRIAL* in May,

2003. Any help publicizing the event will be appreciated. And let us know how we can help you. Delaware, Ohio is just north of Columbus in Central Ohio. I wonder if there are societies



similar to yours in the state of Ohio. [We sent him to Sarah Cole of the Midwestern G&S Society – is that really all that much closer? There are performing groups closer, but We don't know of any Appreciation Societies in Ohio. Can anyone help him out? He's at JimKeyes7@msn.com. —mlc]

June 30, 1907, Gilbert is knighted

- *** Ohio Light Opera's summer 2003 repertory season, which will begin in early June, will include **PIRATES** and **GRAND DUKE**. For more info call (330) 263-2345, email: OH LT OPERA@wooster.edu, or visit http://www.wooster.edu/OH LT OPERA/
- **Salisbury Lyric Opera** will present **MIKADO** June 12-29, Thurs, Fri and Sat at 8 PM, Sun at 2 PM at the Foothills Theater in Worcester, MA. Call the Foothills box office at 508-754-4018 for tix & info.

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OCTOBER MEETING: MASTER CLASS On October 6, **Eileen St David** worked her usual magic, this time with the help of accompanist **David Goldhirsch**. We heard **Kathryn Denney** in a lovely rendition of

Josephine's scena from **PINAFORE**; **Tony Parkes** in a spirited *If* you want a receipt (which he was planning to use as

he was planning to use as his audition piece for the **Sudbury Savoyard**'s upcoming **PATIENCE**); and **Art Dunlap** in a



resonant *There was a king* (*GONDOLIERS*). Carl Weggel revealed a fine tenor voice in *Ida was a twelvemonth old*; and **Peter Ambler** ended the class with a touching *Tit-Willow* from *MIKADO*.

Eileen's emphasis was on technical matters such as proper breathing, stress on final consonants, and a relaxed stance, with gestures kept to a minimum, leaving the voice to flow freely and expressively. Yet this technical work, as usual, led to greater artistic expression. Even in these short sessions, the improvement in some of the performances was apparent to all. – **EMILY, JOHN, JAMES AND I**

IOLANTHE COSTUMES FOR SALE The Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Tulsa produced a stunning production of **IOLANTHE** this past season and the physical elements are now for sale. We typically do not keep productions, but this was truly an inspired design and one of our loyal patrons encouraged us to



save the production elements to share with another company. We have a storage facility through the end of the year, due to this patron, and we are spreading the word!

A full set of silk fairy costumes (including Iolanthe and the Queen), Peer robes, children's supernumerary costumes (little fairies and bugs) and properties are available. The set is an enormous "Fantasia-esque" realization of over-sized flowers. It is truly stunning. Please view pictures on our company's website at http://www.lightoperaok.org.

Thanks, and please pass this information on to anyone you think might be interested!

- ERIC GIBSON

Artistic Director, **Light Opera Oklahoma** Harwelden - 2210 South Main Tulsa, Oklahoma 74114 (918) 583-4267

READABLE SORCERER PIANO-VOCAL SCORE Many of you know that I have been working on a more readable piano-vocal score of **SORCERER**.

A couple of people have offered to read it meticulously, but I would welcome comments for corrections and improvements from any of you.

The score has measure numbers in every piece,

includes the rehearsal letters from the orchestra parts and includes rehearsal "numbers" that correspond to the page numbers in the Kalmus score.

The score is completed and is and always will be free for anyone's use, and I anticipate updating it regularly as people



propose corrections or other improvements. You can down load the PDF files from

http://trouperslightopera.org/Troupers/Scores/Sorcerer/r/sorcerer.htm

The dialog pages are also provided as Word files which interleave between the music pages.

Please give me your feedback at any time.

– JIM COOPER jim@labsoftware.com

PROJECT GUTENBERG Have you always wanted a complete set of the **Bab Ballads**? (We have!) **NY G&S Society** member **Stuart Shapiro** sent information about the **Project Gutenberg** website, http://promo.net/pg/, to **The Palace Peeper**, the NY Society's newsletter. Of course, there are many other things available on this site... in fact, anything the organizers of the site could find and upload that's in the public domain can be downloaded free... but what *We* always wanted was...

NOVA SCOTIA IN TORONTO: Last month We wrote: The Gilbert and Sullivan's Society of Nova Scotia's Sing-Out, held in Toronto in July, was apparently "a smashing success." Well, Tom Drucker writes in response: Did the Nova Scotia group really hold its sing-out in Toronto? That does seem rather a geographical stretch, like NEGASS's performing in Chicago. We apologize – Our brain obviously was on vacation in Montreal that week...

Tom says further: I tried to check the web site and couldn't find any information retrospective about the Sing-Out. The answer: It's buried in http://www.gandsnovascotia.ca/25th anniversary ne wsletter forSept02.htm - the "newsletter" link. Look for it there! -- mlc the embarrassed

GRAND DUKE QUERY: I was looking at your site and I want to hear your opinion on something. I am a mezzo who has performed a number of the "Jessie Bond roles", a la Phoebe and Lady Angela. I am looking at the GRAND DUKE score and the part of Lisa seems well within my vocal range. Here's the one question. I am very tall -- 5'11" to be exact. I sing with the Ohio Light Opera where there are a number of tall men and a few other tall women (due to the fact that the director hires opera singers, who happen to be slightly larger than normal people:)), so I don't stick out TOO much in this ensemble... but looking at the role of Lisa it could be construed that she would need to be a small and petite little thing to contrast against Julia. What do you think about this? I have a thin build and I am very young looking (baby face)... feel free to give me any opinions you many have on this subject!! -thank you so much!

- LAUREN

We wrote back to say that We agree that the ideal Lisa would be small – but that, in Our experience, directors' discretion and the available casting pool make a big difference... what do Our readers think? Would you cast Lauren as Lisa? – mlc

GILBERT & SULLIVAN NEWS The Gilbert and Sullivan Society (our parent group, in England), sends Us a newsletter several times each year which often contains truly interesting articles. The Summer 2002 issue includes articles on "indulgence slips" in **D'Oyly Carte** programs over the decades; a

profile of Frederick Billington; an article about soprano Viola (Wilson) Tait; a review of **Cynthia Morey**'s professional memoir, **A Set of Curious Chances**; a discussion of Gilbert and Carr's **His Excellency**; a description of a celebration and concert at Grim's Dyke; another on a G&S convention in Manchester, England... and a review of the latest **D'Oyly Carte** production of **YEOMEN**, which, the reviewer declared, had production values "more like a musical rather than Gilbert and Sullivan Comic Opera" (although other reviews quoted following this one seemed to like the production.)

We receive newsletters from a number of other G&S Societies as well – one from as far away as Western Australia! We make a point of bringing these to meetings that We attend, so that members can borrow them. If you'd ever like to see what We've got, ask Us and We'll tell you all about it! --mlc



Jessie Bond in *His Excellency* – reprinted from *Gilbert & Sullivan News*

₩\$\$\\$`\\$\\$\$\\ **REVIEWS** ₩\$\$\\$`\\$\\$\$\\

COURTHOUSE CENTER FOR THE ARTS YEOMEN Under separate cover I am sending you a review of **YEOMEN** which appeared in *The*Providence Journal. [He did – and the reviewer, **Channing Gray**, clearly enjoyed the show – but the review was very long... so We'll excerpt from it, among Alan's comments – mlc]

By the way, I am one of the founding members of NEGASS, but due to a change in my work schedule, I have not been able to attend many meetings in recent years, although when we had the summer outings in Bristol, RI, I along with my wife and some friends always attended the picnic and the operas which were performed in Providence.

At any rate, I had the pleasure of attending a performance of **YEOMEN** and was quite pleased with many aspects of the show. For one thing,

David Price was in it. We have seen him in such shows as IOLANTHE, COX & BOX and others and he is always a treat to see. [The reviewer says, "Director David Price... has provided the comic glue that holds... **YEOMEN** together. Price, who also plays jester Jack Point with a squealing cackle reminiscent of **Tom** Hulce's Amadeus, lends his great sense of timing to the show, without yukking things up too much, the greatest sin committed by most amateur G&S groups."]



Another treat was the inclusion of Wilfred's song, When jealous torments. This, of course, had been cut during rehearsals for the original run and I quite enjoyed **Thomas Epstein**'s rendition. ["The leather-clad Epstein" says the review "... makes his entrance sniffing his armpits..."]

It set me up to expect Sgt. Meryll's cut song, which unfortunately was not included in this show. [Too bad! - since the Meryll was NEGASSer Ken McPherson!]

I agree with the review for the most part. David Price was his best as Jack Point, and **Valerie Remillard** was a riot as Phoebe. Little fault could be found with the rest of the cast and we had quite an enjoyable evening.

-- **ALAN HOPFENBERG**

[The reviewer singled out the Fairfax, Mark Conley, and the Elsie, Joanne Mouradjian, as "The two strongest voices on the stage, his being a sweet Irish tenor, hers a solid soprano capable of some impressive coloratura flourishes unusual in G&S." She describes the company thus: "Place it somewhere between community and semi-professional theater, with local teens, college students and average townsfolk making up the chorus, and veteran troupers... assigned to leads." So – all in all, it sounds like North Kingston, RI, which is also the home of the North Kingston Players, who plan IOLANTHE this fall, is quite a hotbed of G&S talent!

We'd like to remind folks: **To subscribe to SavoyNet**, the G&S mailing list, send the message "Subscribe SavoyNet (your full name)" to the address <u>listserv@bridgewater.edu</u> - and you'll be sent all the information you need.

THE NEW ENGLAND GILBERT AND SULLIVAN SOCIETY

PO Box 367, Arlington, MA 02476-0004

Send electronic contributions to our NEW e-mail address: editor@negass.org

NOTE: NEGASS is no longer using <u>iname.com</u> as our email provider. <u>Anything@negass.org</u> will get to one of us!

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