



~NEGASS EVENTS~

**NEGASS group outing to MITG&SP's performance of *Patience*, Sunday, November 7, 2010, 2 pm, MIT Student Center, Sala de Puerto Rico, 84 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA.**

Join us for another wonderful outing, this time to see the MIT Gilbert & Sullivan Society's production of *Patience*, at 2 pm at the MIT Student Center. John Deschene is the Stage Director and Barratt Park is the Music Director.

Directions to MIT Student Center: [http://ilp-www.mit.edu/display\\_page.a4d?key=P4h59](http://ilp-www.mit.edu/display_page.a4d?key=P4h59). The Student Center has a ramp and elevators for accessibility.

Directions;  
 •By subway: Red Line to Kendall/MIT; walk down Vassar St, left on Mass. Ave.  
 •By bus: #1 MBTA Bus on Mass Ave. stops at MIT.

There is open parking on Sundays in Cambridge - meters not in effect and resident-only parking suspended.

**NEGASS Last Event of 2010! Spontaneous Savoyards sing-through of *The Mikado*, December 19, 2010, 3 pm, Park Avenue Congregational Church, 50 Paul Revere Rd., Arlington, MA**

Join NEGASS as it closes its 2010 season in December with a 'Spontaneous Savoyard' sing-through of *The Mikado*. Roles will be chosen at the meeting (no pre-casting) and scores will be available for you to sing along.

The roles (first-come, first served!) are:

- The Mikado of Japan - Bass
- Nanki-Poo (his Son, disguised as a wandering minstrel and in love with Yum-Yum) - Tenor
- Ko-Ko (Lord High Executioner of Titipu) - Baritone
- Pooh-Bah (Lord High Everything Else) - Bass-Baritone
- Pish-Tush (a Noble Lord) - Baritone
- Yum-Yum - Soprano
- Pitti-Sing - Mezzo-Soprano
- Peep-Bo - Soprano or Mezzo-Soprano
- Katisha (an elderly Lady, in love with Nanki-Poo) - Contralto
- Chorus of School-Girls and Nobles

Directions:  
 •From Arlington Center take Mass. Ave. west for 1.8 miles, turn left onto Park Ave, right onto Paul Revere Rd. Parking on Paul Revere Rd and Park Ave.  
 •From Rte 2, take the Park Ave exit. At the bridge, go north on Park Ave; church is on left, one block before lights at Mass. Ave.

**IN THIS ISSUE**

NEGASS Events .....	1
Upcoming Productions .....	2
Recent Productions .....	3
NEGASS News .....	4
G&S Around Town.....	4
Not G&S But .....	5
Calendar .....	6



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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 memb AT negass DOT org.

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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: November 30, 2010

WWW.NEGASS.ORG

## Celebrating NEGASS's 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: SING-OUT! A Marathon Weekend of Gilbert & Sullivan, Saturday, June 11 and Sunday, June 12, 2011, 51 Walden (The Performing Arts Center), Concord, MA.

Mark your calendars for NEGASS's gala 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration June 11 and 12! To celebrate this great occasion, we will gather at the Performing Arts Center in downtown Concord to sing through all the G&S operettas (barring *Thespis*) in one weekend.

Registration details, including rates for members and non-members, will be available in an upcoming edition of *The Trumpet Bray*. We will also provide hotel registration information for our out-of-town guests.

If you are a NEGASS member in the Metro-Boston area and would like to join the board in planning this exciting meeting, please contact pres AT negass DOT org. If you are a pianist and you would like to play one or more of the operettas at our Sing-Out, please contact progchair AT negass DOT org with your interest.

## ≈ UPCOMING PRODUCTIONS ≈

### ***Hot Mikado*, Artbarn Community Theater, December 18 & 19, 2010, 3 & 7 pm; Maliotis Cultural Center, 50 Goddard Ave., Brookline, MA**

Artbarn Community Theater presents an abridged version of *Hot Mikado*, a jazzy musical made from the classic G&S operetta, *The Mikado*. Artbarn is a non-profit organization based in Brookline, MA. Its mission is to support students working together in the performing arts and foster creativity, self-esteem and social confidence. Rafters, Artbarn's program for children in the 6th-8th grades, contains Artbarn's oldest actors, and will be putting on the show, which is the first Savoy Opera (sort of) produced by the troupe. Directed by **Matthew Kossack**, musically directed by **Adam Brooks**, choreographed by **Emma Putnam**, sets and costumes by **Kerry O'Donnell**.

Visit <http://www.artbarn.org/> for more information.

## RECENT PRODUCTIONS

### ***Trial By Jury, Friends of the Performing Arts (FOPAC), September 26, 2010, 51 Walden St., Concord, MA.***

For the Massachusetts town of Concord's 375th birthday, the Concord Chamber Ensemble and Chorus presented its Annual Benefit Concert on September 26 at its recital hall on Walden Street. Billed as a Special Event to benefit the general operating expenses of the Concord Orchestra, it featured not only a concert performance of *Trial by Jury*, but also Bach's *Brandenburg Concerto No.5* and three works by P.D.Q. Bach: *Schleptet in E-flat Major*, the madrigal *My Bonnie Lass She Smelleth*, and the cantata *Iphigenia in Brooklyn*.

**Alan Yost** conducted, with **Robin Farnsley** as chorus director. **Ray Bauwens** gave a hilarious account of the 'Bargain Counter Tenor' in the cantata *Iphigenia in Brooklyn* but exhibited a more serious demeanor as the Counsel for the Plaintiff in *Trial by Jury*. **Tom Frates**, as the Learned Judge, sang and acted his part with humor and avoided being farcical. **Sarah Telford**, the Plaintiff, had the right voice and expression for her rather equivocal role. Her transference of affection from the Defendant, **Thom Kenney**, to the Learned Judge was masterfully done. **Thom Kenney**, as the Defendant, presented his side with great good humor and, we think, won everyone (except the Jury) to his side. All in all, everyone taking part in *Trial by Jury* performed with professional enthusiasm - the mixed chorus of 28, the 25-piece chamber ensemble, and, of course, the soloists and the conductor. Bravo!

-Ann & Dick Luxner

### ***Iolanthe, Mass Theatrica, October 2 & 3, 2010, Lynn Arts Neal Rantoul Theater, 25 Exchange St., Lynn, MA.***

My wife and I had delayed our first trip to see a Mass Theatrica performance as the driving time between home and Lynn promised to be an hour or more. However, when we saw the notice for *Iolanthe* and its stellar cast roster in the September Bray, we decided to wait no longer.

The venue at the Neal Rantoul Vault Theatre at LynnArts is indeed a former bank vault, with the time-locking door retired but still present; a passage through the vault wall reveals its thickness and construction. The black box theater is cozily small, with seating for perhaps sixty or so. Though the audience was smaller than that on Saturday, its

responses to the performance were enthusiastic and sustained.

We were greeted warmly on arrival by Mass Theatrica's **Artistic Director Angeliki Theoharis**, costumed for her role as Queen of the Fairies, and thus began a splendid late afternoon.

The overture, played by the skillful **Music Director Thomas B. Dawkins** on an electronic keyboard, initiated the performance pleasantly. The simple set - a row of room-divider screens - formed the background for the entrance of the Fairies (**Beth Grzegorzewski, Kaori Emery, Lara Fox, and Christie Gibson**) whose beautiful voices blended perfectly deliciously together. Once the fairies' yearning words for their banished sister reached the ears of the Queen, she agreed to pardon Iolanthe (**Susan Craft**), who emerged from the bottom of the stream where she had raised her son Strephon (**Thomas René Brennan**), who had spent enough time on dry land to woo Phyllis (**Rebecca Hains**), both of whom were welcomed by the fairies.

Presently came the grand entrance of the Peers, dressed in business suits rather than the more customary ceremonial attire - a budget-driven decision which worked well. The trumpet fanfare was provided by Peer **Brad Amidon**, an able trumpeter as well as a singer. Three more Peers, Montararat (**Tom Weber**), Tolloller (**Lonnie Powell**), and an unnamed Peer (**Miles Rind**), brought the group to four, whose voices filled the room generously with sound. These were joined by the Lord Chancellor (**Benjamin Clark**), himself a Peer. All the Peers lustily coveted Phyllis, who, having no interest in riches or rank, informed them to their horror that her heart had already been given to Strephon. The first act concluded with its glorious ensemble resoundingly performed.

Act 2 began with the solo of Private Willis (**Miles Rind**), a sentry outside Parliament, musing on the comical fact that every baby born in England is either a Liberal or a Conservative. Montararat and Tolloller attempt to resolve which of them will get Phyllis, but decide that the bonds of their friendship are more important and drop their pursuits of her. Meanwhile, the Chancellor has settled his conflict with himself over Phyllis in favor of awarding her to himself, and plans to marry her.

Iolanthe made her beautifully plaintive appeal to the Chancellor on behalf of her (and his) son, which ultimately ends happily with Peers, Fairies, Queen, and Willis paired off.

**Stephanie Mann, Stage Director**, deserves credit for a smooth and authentic performance within what must have been a tight budget. The theater's modern-looking lighting instruments were put to fine use by **Lighting Designer Ronald Pittenger**. **Meredith Lavine**, Mass Theatrica's **Executive Director**, did Publicity for the show, and **David Chin** manned the Box Office.

It can be a rare and memorable experience to hear G&S performed by singers all of whom are outstanding soloists. In this performance the players, the small black-box environment, and excellent accompaniment combined with breathtaking effect. We will now be much more attentive to future events offered by Mass Theatrica – for example, the reading of *La Bohème* there on Saturday, November 20, at 2pm. One hopes that the financial challenge of providing first-rate shows can be met successfully by this ambitious organization!  
-**Jim Miller**

## ❧❧ NEGASS NEWS ❧❧

### New Members – Eric Reines

NEGASS welcomes new member Eric Reines of Marblehead, who tells us about himself in the delightfully dizzy style of a true Savoyard:

(to the tune of "A Wand'ring Minstrel I")  
A PACE physician I,  
of stethoscopes and house calls,  
of geriatric pratfalls,  
and memories of yore:  
a sixth grade Pinafore.

(to the tune of "When I Was a Lad")  
When I drove to work,  
what caught my eye,  
but a wondrous painting of the night sky!  
I joined LynnArts and walked the gallery,  
and I studied up that painting so carefully.

I studied up that painting so carefully,  
that now I am a member of th' Society.

LynnArts sent some mail  
that said go see  
a G&S play called "Iolanthe."  
I saw that play and kept the program with  
me  
And I studied up that program so carefully.

I studied up that program so carefully  
That now I am a member of th' Society.

## ❧❧ G&S AROUND TOWN ❧❧

### G & S SpooF on YouTube – "A Modern US President"

People of all political persuasions will enjoy this hilarious send-up and homage to The Major General's Song from HMS Pinafore at [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y54FRMedT\\_s](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y54FRMedT_s).

### Need a Gondola for *Gondoliers*?

Do you need a gondola for *The Gondoliers*? We have a beautiful wooden boat but cannot store it. Contact Mary Hepburn if you can use it! 802-869-2729 (located in southern Vermont, near Brattleboro)

### Connecticut G & S Society (CG&SS), 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary & Awards Evening, September 11, 2010

As 60 people gathered for a combined benefit G&S program for the East Haddam Historical Society and CT G&S Society on September 11, we remembered the 3,000 who perished earlier, while giving flowers to the living in celebration of CG&SS's 30th year. Following our one-hour program of excerpts from eight Savoy sallies, ten soloists, accompanied by **Dr. John Dreslin**, received a lively reception and standing ovation. Amusing and scholarly narration was provided by **Don Shirer** (who also performed two selections) for **Kathleen Thompson, Dave Henderson, Renee Haines, Betty Olson, Bill Sorensen, Allan Church, Hal Chernoff, Leighton Phraner** and **Bob Cumming**--all highly spiced veterans of G&S.

Before serving cake, nuts, wine and soft drinks, we honored **Ralph MacPhail, Jr.**, Professor of Theatre Emeritus, Bridgewater College in Virginia, whose "Connecticut Connection" has been G&S Elderhostels in Ivoryton for the past 15 years; "Rafe" is Artistic Director of the Austin, Texas G&S Society; he and wife Alice were present to accept the award.

In October, **Dr. John Dreslin**, Musical Director of the East Lyme Arts Council, presents *The Mikado*, his 23rd production with CG&SS. He has received nine Eugene O'Neill awards and orchestrated Jonathan Strong's version of *Thespis* in 1989, now available for rental via <http://ctgilbertandsullivan.org>.

Also receiving awards were **Edward "Ted" Wiseman**, who served as producer and lead comic with the East Lyme Arts Council, winning O'Neill Awards as best actor and supporting actor. He performed in *Trial by Jury* as The Judge and Lord Chancellor with CG&SS. **Jean Wiseman** received an

award for her astounding costumes that have brought dozens of Savoy works to life, making us all look better than we normally do.

A posthumous award was awarded to **Constance Unsworth**, daughter of soprano **Maria Silveira Reep** (raised in Gloucester) and tenor **Philip Reep**. Maria Silveira was known as "The Portuguese Nightingale" on early radio, concert and opera stages, and produced her own G&S productions in Sharon, CT for many years before serving for 12 years as President of CG&SS.

Also receiving awards were: **Deborah Lyon**, accompanist for Elderhostels in Ivoryton during **Bob Cumming's** dozen years there as director and still serving as musical director with Ralph MacPhail; and **Lucy Jackson Weed**, whose idea it was to form the Ivoryton Elderhostel "long years ago" at The Episcopal Camp & Conference Center. Lucy coordinated costumes for numerous CG&SS productions, performed major roles with both ELAC and CG&SS, and directed *Pirates*, *Mikado* and *Patience* revivals for CG&SS.

CG&SS encourages Savoyards everywhere to look around and designate their own local heroes and heroines with Lifetime Achievement Awards. Our major achievers should be recognized as role models for members of the younger generations fortunate enough to witness and participate in the unique art form of The Savoy.

--**Bob Cumming, Founder/Director, CG&SS**



## **G & S Holiday Workshop offered by Music Amici, July 17 - 24, 2011, Costa Adeje Gran Hotel, Tenerife, Canary Islands, Spain.**

If you are looking for an unusual way to satisfy your G & S craving, this event may be for you. The 1-week workshop provides master classes from the well-known British Grim's Dyke Opera Company, and ends with course participants performing *Trial By Jury* and *HMS Pinafore* with professional orchestra conducted by Colin Price. See <http://www.musicamici.org> for more details.

## ❧ Not G&S But... ❧

The Trumpet Bray likes to call its readers' attention to events of interest that have 'a touch of G & S' in them or that feature NEGASS members and other Savoyards. Here are a few such performances that you may enjoy.

## **Rebecca Hains in Concert, November 3, 2010 (7 pm), Wiggin Auditorium, Peabody City Hall, 24 Lowell St., Peabody, MA**

Explore some of the musical paths taken by European operetta, Gilbert and Sullivan, and American opera and musical theater, with soprano Rebecca Hains as she performs *From Operetta to Broadway: A Musical Journey*. Program highlights will include selections from the Gilbert and Sullivan soprano arias and a set of musical theater selections that trace a line from Kurt Weill to Stephen Sondheim. Thomas Dawkins will accompany at the piano. Free admission; seating is limited. Please register for this event at <http://tinyurl.com/peabodyrecital>.

This program is generously funded by the McCarthy Family Foundation and the Peabody Institute Library Foundation.

## **The Music Man, Savoyard Light Opera Company (SLOC), November 13, 19, 20 (7:30 pm), November 14, 21 (2 pm), 2010, Corey Auditorium, Church St., Carlisle, MA**

SLOC alternates its usual G & S fare with other selections from musical theater. For details of *The Music Man*, see <http://www.savoyardlightopera.org>; 978-371-7562.



### NEGASS Calendar 2010

*Patience*  
NEGASS group outing

**Sunday, November 7 (2 pm).**  
NEGASS hosts a group outing to MITG&SP's production of *Patience*

MIT Student Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor  
Sala de Puerto Rico  
48 Massachusetts Ave.  
Cambridge, MA.

### Upcoming Productions 2010

*Patience*  
MIT G&SP

**November 5, 6, 11, 12 (8 pm), 7, 13 (2 pm).**  
MIT Gilbert & Sullivan Players  
<http://web.mit.edu/gsp/www>.

MIT Student Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor  
Sala de Puerto Rico  
48 Massachusetts Ave.  
Cambridge, MA.

*Iolanthe*  
Valley Light Opera

**November 6, 12, 13 (8 pm), 7, 14 (2 pm).**  
Valley Light Opera  
<http://www.vlo.org>.

Amherst Regional High School  
21 Mattoon Street.  
Amherst, MA

*Hot Mikado*  
Artbarn Community Theater

**December 18 & 19 (3, 7 pm).**  
Rafters Children's Group (6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grades)  
Information at <http://www.artbarn.org>

Maliotis Cultural Center  
50 Goddard Ave.  
Brookline, MA

### Upcoming Auditions 2010

*Trial by Jury & HMS Pinafore*  
Sudbury Savoyards

**November 15 & 16;**  
callbacks November 17

<http://www.sudburysavoyards.org>  
for audition information;  
email [kathy@lague.org](mailto:kathy@lague.org)

*G & S Scenes Night*  
MITG&SP

**November 16, 17, 18 (7-10 pm);**  
performances January 28-30, 2011

email [gsp-scenes@mit.edu](mailto:gsp-scenes@mit.edu) for  
audition appointment and  
directions

### Upcoming Productions 2011

*Pirates of Penzance*  
Wellesley Choral Society

**January 29, 2011 (7 pm)**  
concert performance  
[www.wellesleychoralsociety.org](http://www.wellesleychoralsociety.org)

Wellesley Hills Congregational  
Church  
207 Washington St. (Rte. 16)  
Wellesley Hills, MA

*Trial by Jury & HMS Pinafore*  
Sudbury Savoyards

**February 25, 26, 27 & March 11, 12, 2011**  
<http://www.sudburysavoyards.org>

Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High  
School  
390 Lincoln Road  
Sudbury, MA 01776

*Ruddigore*  
NEGASS/Mass Theatrica

**March 13, 2011 (3 pm)**  
Joint LMLO (Last Minute Light Opera)

Lynn Arts Neal Rantoul Theater  
25 Exchange St.  
Lynn, MA

**Gilbert & Sullivan Sing-Out!**  
New England Gilbert & Sullivan  
Society

**June 11 - 12, 2011**  
NEGASS Gala 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary G & S  
Sing-Out

The Performing Arts Center  
51 Walden St  
Concord, MA