

Vol. XXIV No. 3

Oh, Captain Shaw!
SUNDAY, November 7:
IOLANTHE at MIT

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7 at 2:00 PM: MITG&SP IOLANTHE On Sunday, November 7 at 2 PM, NEGASSers will attend the **MIT Gilbert & Sullivan Players'** fall production, **IOLANTHE**. Afterwards, we will enjoy an interval of rest and refreshment at **Mary Chung's**, a great Chinese restaurant a few blocks from MIT.

This **IOLANTHE** features a strong cast with many lead roles taken by students. NEGASSers will recognize the faces of some familiar favorites and have the opportunity to see some fresh new talent appearing at MIT for the very first time. [*Since NEGASS Program Chair (and very talented soprano) Rebecca Consentino, who provided this article, was on the production's casting board, We can be pretty sure she knows what she's talking about - mlc*]

The show features NEGASS members **Katherine Bryant** as the Fairy Queen and **Neil Addicott** (who played Strephon in MITG&SP's last **IOLANTHE**) as Mountarat. [*Dame Rumour whispers that the cast also boasts Mary Tsein, last year's charming Yum-Yum, as Phyllis, and Dawn Perlnor, a past contributor in the violin section who turns out to have a lovely mezzo voice, as Iolanthe.*]

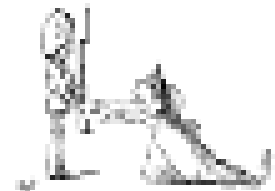
The stage director is **Erik Lars Myers**, whose first gig with MIT was as makeup director for last fall's **MIKADO**, who then served as director for their summer show, **Crichton** [*a world premier of a musical based on The Admirable Crichton*]. The music directors are **Kate Thornton** and **Kevin Mitchell** as One Individual, both of whom have taken roles onstage and behind the scenes in recent years. The orchestra will be conducted by **David Larrick**, a

NEGASS favorite familiar from **The Sudbury Savoyards**.

Myers reports that he was unfamiliar with **IOLANTHE** before he began directing it -- hence the need for a casting team. He believes that his vision is "probably very unique among **IOLANTHEs**," because he had no preconceived notions about the show.

"I see **IOLANTHE** as a play about woman empowerment," said Myers. "I'm trying to keep the fairies as non-girlie as possible. No wings, no pastels. They don't have little wands with stars in the end, they have big sticks that they can whack people with."

His original concept was to put the fairies in combat boots, but he decided against it. "Instead," he said, "I'm shooting for a more ephemeral, timeless feel for the play and just making the fairies as powerful, bright, graceful, and quick as possible... I'm pushing for the anthropomorphic representation of nature, in which each fairy represents either a season or an aspect of nature." [*We like his humour! We've longed to do something along those lines Ourselves! - mlc*]



To reserve tickets, please contact Program Chair **Rebecca Consentino** at 617-731-3998 or <rac@bu.edu>. Tickets are \$5 for MIT/Wellesley students, \$7 for other students, children, senior citizens, and MIT Community, and \$9 for the general public. Groups of 10+ will receive a \$1 discount on each ticket [*so call Rebecca and let's get our group discount!*]. Tickets will be paid for at the

Ghost of Christmas Present *A Spectral Visitation*
Ghost of Christmas Future *A Spectral Visitation*

Bob Cratchit's relatives: Children Belinda, Martha, and Peter;
Aunt Nellie

*Chorus of Ghosts, Chorus of Party Guests, Scrooge's
Relatives, etc.*

Last year's production featured **Amy Allen, Rebecca Consentino** and **Jenna Wilkinson** as the three ghosts ("Three little ghosts for Scrooge are we"), **Sarah Consentino** as Tiny Tim, **Todd Allen Long** as the balladeer ("Bah, humbug. Bah humbug. Bah, humbug"), **Dick Freedman** as the ghost of Jacob Marley ("I am the very model of the mystic supernatural") and **Lee Patterson** as Scrooge. Do you want to perform the same role you did last year? - perform a new one? - or sing in this for the first time? Be in touch - *mlc*

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JANUARY MEETING PLANS: CARTOONS AT MIT. MITG&SP has arranged for rooms to be available on two Sundays in January, for one or two showings of G&S-inspired or related cartoons provided by

NEGASS's **Don Smith**. Once We know which date has been chosen for sure, We'll publish the decision.
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FEBRUARY MEETING PLANS: AN INSTRUMENTAL REMINDER. Instrumentalists who are interested in playing in the **Last Minute Orchestra** performance of **PIRATES**, currently tentatively scheduled for Feb. 27, 2000 [*as close as we could conveniently get to Frederic's birthday*], should sign up by sending email with name and instrument to **Victor Godin** at fhorn@nuhub.neu.edu. Everyone is welcome to come and play; but moderate sight-reading ability is highly desirable.

Be sure to bring your own music stand!
-- **VICTOR GODIN**

[NB: If you want to play, but don't have e-mail access, phone one of the NEGASS board members, or write your information on a piece of paper and send it via ordinary mail to the NEGASS PO Box - and We'll pass the word to Vic. However, Vic will not respond personally via any means but e-mail. --mlc]

♥*♥

FOR HE'S GOING TO MARRY YUM-YUM -- One of our members, enrolled in **match.com** under the "handle" Pooh-Bah, reports having encountered an opposite number enrolled as Yum-Yum. Proceeding from that auspicious beginning, one thing led to another, and he now reports he is engaged (Engaged!) "to a maiden fair, with bright brown hair, and a sweet and simple smile." The two are none other than our recent president **Dick Freedman** and our recent picnic host **Ilana Gerard**. -- **DAME RUMOUR** [*May all good fortune prosper you, Dick & Ilana! - mlc*]

♥*♥

“ ‘ INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL NEWS “ ‘

The 1999 International G&S Festival in Buxton, England ended August 15. For all the details of the Festival - photos, schedules and a general sense of the ambiance of a wonderful experience - visit the **Buxton Festival Site** at:

<http://www.gs-festivals.freemove.co.uk/buxton99/>

(Site authored by SavoyNetters **Bob** and **Jackie Richards**)

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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 listserv@bridgewater.edu - and you'll be sent all the information you need.

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DESIDERATA: PIRATES: *President Patricia Brewer writes:* Ahoy Messmates - I've had a phone call from **Calvin Johnson** of the **Powers Music School** in Belmont [MA]. He'd like to borrow or rent some **PIRATES** scores for his group. Since we are not yet able to supply these, does anyone know of a group who might have some? Calvin's phone number is 617/484-1023.



&&& Further desiderata: CDS WITHOUT DIALOGUE. Dear Marion, I've been a NEGASS member about 5 years (how I got your e-mail). I would like to buy G&S CDs that do NOT have dialogue. I have **YEOMEN** that doesn't (yea) and **PINAFORE** that does. There is nothing on the jacket cover (that I can tell) to indicate either way.

I would like **PIRATES, RUDDIGORE,** and **IOLANTHE**. I can order through **Amazon** or anywhere but I don't know how to get the right one. (I don't think I'm picky about the cast: I'd LIKE **M. Green** or **J. Reed**, but I REALLY want NO

DIALOGUE). Thank you for your time (and I look forward to getting the perfect answer).

-- JANE CLARK



CHRISTMAS SHOPPING THOUGHTS: Former president Dick Freedman gleaned this from SavoyNet: Wildgoose Publications Ltd. presents a wide range of G&S merchandise. Our prints and greetings cards are faithfully reproduced from the original D'Oyly Carte playbills and songsheets, and are a fantastic gift for any G&S fanatic! We also have a limited supply of some brand new products - G&S fridge magnets!

All of our products are available to view on our webpage, which can be found at:

<http://www.wgoose.co.uk/green/>

We also have a new G&S Showtime brochure available (although the fridge magnets aren't in this), if anyone would like a printed copy of our merchandise.

If anyone has any queries, please don't hesitate to contact me. [Since We don't have her contact info, We suggest you contact Dick Freedman at rnf@null.net

Best wishes -- LAURA NUNN
Wildgoose Publications



G&S VIDEOS WITH SUBTITLES: Dick Freedman received this message from David Lutyens: My company distributes 12 G & S operas on video, principally through nationwide catalogs such as Signals, PBS Home Video, Critic's Choice etc. These are English productions from the 1980's, the so-called Brent Walker series, made originally for BBC.TV. Though G & S aficionados pick faults with some of them, they are generally high-quality productions (£1,000,000 was spent on each opera) and they are the only video versions of such operas as IDA, SORCERER, RUDDIGORE, YEOMEN, and TRIAL.

In an effort to make them more accessible to ordinary viewers, I have recently added English sub-titles for the sung lyrics. Please believe me - these really work. They make Gilbert's lyrics easily understandable, even in the fastest patter songs.

Recently, I've been sent a printout of an internet listing of G & S societies. On this, I notice your name appearing repeatedly "thanks to informant." [Ah - our famous former president! - mlc] I am not proficient on the web, nor is my company set up to mail-to (or fulfill

orders from) a large list of customers. However, Opera World (800-99-OPERA) is a mail-order/catalog operation that does offer the individual operas.

-- DAVID LUTYENS



G&S MINIATURES: Fairview Designs has sent Us a "Little List" of their "1/24th scale figures cast in resin and whitemetal and brightly painted. The figures are presented on a classic style base. Each set of characters shows examples of authentic costume designs from the many historic productions of the subject opera." The brochure shows rather small but attractive photos of attractive figurine groups for MIKADO, YEOMEN, PIRATES, PINAFORE, IOLANTHE, PATIENCE, and UTOPIA. Prices range from £9.30 to £10.50 per figurine, plus overseas shipping charges. Write to Fairview Designs at 18, Fairview Road, Chigwell, Essex IG7 6HN, UK, or call them at 0181-500-1012 for information and/or a brochure.



COX & BOX ORCHESTRATION. David Larrick wrote to SavoyNet: If you're planning a production of COX & BOX with full orchestra, have I got a deal for you! I have just completed a full (conductor's) score, based on the Kalmus parts, and I would like to find a production to "beta-test" it under performance conditions. For more information, email me directly, or check my website. -- DAVID LARRICK

dcl@ties.org

<http://www.ultranet.com/~larrick/>



SULLIVAN/DONIZETTI CONNECTION. Daniel Kamalic of MITG&SP wrote to that group's e-mail list: So, I took Donizetti's Don Pasquale out of the library, and I just now noticed something interesting.



The title page says: "Edited by ARTHUR SULLIVAN and J. PITTMAN"

This is a Boosey & Hawkes edition from a real long time ago. The bottom of each page says "The Royal Edition". I can't find a date on it. Anyone know any reason why this shouldn't be the Arthur Sullivan? Did he do editing jobs at some point in his career?

We replied: Actually, it almost certainly was "the" Arthur Sullivan. He did a fair amount of that sort of thing. (A musician has to earn a living!) He also was one of the people - along with Brahms, if I remember

