



~ ~ NEGASS EVENTS ~ ~

**A Read-through of W.S. Gilbert's play
Engaged, April 10, 2011, 3 pm, 63 Everett St.,
Arlington, MA**

"*Engaged* is a parody of romantic drama written in the 'topsy-turvy' satiric style of... the Savoy Operas, with one character pledging his love.... to every single woman in the play; the "innocent" Scottish rustics ... making a living throwing trains off the lines ..., and romance being gladly thrown over in favour of monetary gain." (from Wikipedia)

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

- Cheviot Hill, a young man of property
- Belvawney, his friend
- Mr. Symperson
- Angus Macalaster, a Lowland peasant lad
- Major McGillicuddy
- Belinda Treherne
- Minnie, Symperson's daughter
- Mrs. Macfarlane, a Lowland widow
- Maggie, her daughter, a Lowland lassie
- Parker, Minnie's maid

A script can be downloaded at
http://math.boisestate.edu/gas/other_gilbert/engaged/index.html

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Directions to 63 Everett St., Arlington:

- From Cambridge take Mass. Ave. west past Rte 16; turn right onto Harlow, right onto Broadway, right onto Everett.
- From Rte 2, take Lake St exit; at end of Lake St. take left onto Mass. Ave and follow above directions. See <http://dallas-family.com/DallasDirections.html>

**NEGASS Elections & Sudbury Savoyards
50th Anniversary Sing-Along, Sunday, May 15,
2011, 3 pm, Sudbury United Methodist Church, 251
Old Sudbury Road, Sudbury, MA**

NEGASS and the Sudbury Savoyards will have a joint meeting to celebrate Sudbury's 50th anniversary with a G&S Sing-Along. The Sing-Along will be part of a larger anniversary celebration weekend (see p. 3 for details).

NEGASS will be holding elections for Board of Director positions on May 15, 2011 at **2 pm** – immediately preceding the Sudbury Sing-Along. We encourage all NEGASS members to vote in this important election. Watch for a separate mailing listing the candidates for the open positions (President, Program Chair, Treasurer, and four



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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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THE TRUMPET BRAY is published six times a year 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 AT negass DOT org . REVIEWS may be sent to progchair AT negass DOT org . CALENDAR ITEMS may be sent to calendar AT negass DOT 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 memb AT negass DOT org .

Members may opt out of the mailed issues of the Bray and receive it as via email. 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 memb AT negass DOT 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>

BRAY DEADLINES: 15th of the months of January, March, May, July, September, and November.

www.negass.org

Members-at-large) along with their photos and statements of interest in these positions.

Celebrate NEGASS's 35th Anniversary SING-OUT! A Marathon Weekend of G & S, Saturday, June 11 & Sunday, June 12, 2011, 51 Walden, The Performing Arts Center, Concord, MA

Mark your calendars for NEGASS's gala 35th 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 materials, including rates for members and non-members, and hotel registration information for our out-of-town guests, are in the attachment to this *Trumpet Bray*. Deadline for role requests is April 15.

If you are a NEGASS member in the Metro-Boston area and would like to volunteer to help staff at this exciting meeting, or 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](mailto:progchair@negass.org).

RECENT PRODUCTIONS

MITG&SP's *A G & S Reunion Mashup*, during IAP, January, 2011

I had the pleasure of participating in MIT Gilbert and Sullivan's 2011 IAP (Independent Activity Period) presentation: *A G&S Reunion Mashup*. During January, classes are not in session, but the campus is far from inactive. I sang in the chorus of *Trial by Jury* last year, and in 2002, so this makes the third one.

The 2011 IAP show was at first advertised as an evening of Gilbert and Sullivan scenes: not very tempting for an experienced performer, but I auditioned anyway. And, oh how glad I was!

John Deschene, director of last fall's *Patience*, and Duchess (!) of Plaza- Toro in last spring's *Gondoliers*, concocted a hilarious script that included songs from every G&S show except *Thespis*, *Trial by Jury*, and *Yeomen of the Guard*. The production was staged by **Erin Huelskamp** and music directed by **Julia Scott Carey**. We began with the opening of Act 2 of *Sorcerer*, and ended with "Welcome Gentry" from *Ruddigore* and "Hail Poetry" from *The Pirates of Penzance*.

Here is the link to pull up all eight posted videos of the dress rehearsal:

http://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=mi+t+g%26s+iap+2011+&aq=f

You can get a sense of the show, by watching them in the following order:

- Here Is a Case Unprecedented
- When I Was a Lad
- One scene consisting of: Three Little Nerds, A Lady
- Fair, A British Tart, Long Years Ago
- With Wily Brain
- Poor Wandering One

-Juliet Cunningham

NEGASS/New England Opera Club Joint Meeting, February 20, 2011, 2 pm, Waltham Public Library, 735 Main St., Waltham, MA

LOST OPPORTUNITY: I was somewhat disappointed by the joint meeting on February 20 with the New England Opera Club. Billed as "a presentation on the Grand Operas and musical influences that affected and inspired Gilbert and Sullivan's operas", those influences were never presented and discussed. Rather, the meeting consisted largely of a list of names of composers of operettas and musical comedies; a personal account of a Peter Sellars production of "The Mikado" in Chicago; biographical information on Sir Arthur Sullivan; viewings of film clips of the finales of "Il Trovatore", "Pinafore" and "Gondoliers", on the grounds that the plots of all three of these hinged on babies exchanged in infancy (!). These remarks were followed by viewings of a long unbroken string of film clips of scenes from "Don Giovanni", "Elisir d'Amore", "Barbiere di Siviglia", "Fledermaus", etc.

The most enjoyable parts of the afternoon for me were (a) hearing a recording of Caruso singing "The Lost Chord" in his accented English and (b) seeing female impersonators George Logan and Patrick Fyffe in the personae of Dame Hilde Bracket and Dr. Evadne Hinge performing "Three Little Maids from School" to entertain Prince Orlovsky's guests in "Fledermaus". I also especially enjoyed the superb and lively dancing in the two G & S clips.

But it could have been so much more! I would love to see a re-match between NEGASS and NEOC in which our talented members performed live back-to-back pairings of G & S and grand opera numbers. I believe we actually did this once a-many years ago. Some obvious candidates: "Sempre libere" and "Poor wand'ring one"; "A nice dilemma" and the Sextet from "Lucia"; Dulcamara's entrance and "My name is John Wellington Wells"; Azucena's aria "Condotto ell'era in ceppi" and Dame Hannah's song

"Sir Rupert Murgatroyd" -- I could go on all day!
And so could we all!

- Nancy Burstein

❧❧ NEGASS NEWS ❧❧

New NEGASS Members

NEGASS welcomes new members: **Kathleen Larson Day** of Framingham, MA, who was Little Buttercup in the 2011 Sudbury Savoyards HMS *Pinafore*; and **Rich Wiley**, North American International Gilbert & Sullivan Festival Director.

❧❧ UPCOMING EVENTS ❧❧

50th Anniversary Celebration, Sudbury Savoyards, May 14, 15, 2011, Sudbury United Methodist Church, 251 Old Sudbury Road, Sudbury, MA

The Sudbury Savoyards started celebrating its 50th year with the February/March performances of *Trial by Jury*, originally presented in 1961, coupled with *H.M.S. Pinafore* for a special double-bill anniversary production.

The festivities continue **May 14 and 15** at the **Sudbury United Methodist Church**. Food will be available to purchase. Admission to all events is free and open to everyone; however, donations will be gratefully accepted. Our goal is to reach \$200,000 in donations to UMCOR - the United Methodist Committee on Relief - for World Hunger.

For more information, schedule of times, and updates as they occur, please visit www.sudburysavoyards.org or follow us on <http://www.facebook.com/sudburysavoyards50th>

Events on **Saturday, May 14:**

- Visit Hawes Hall for 50 years of Memorabilia; a hands-on "**Discovery Room**" will be available for the entertainment of the "younger Savoyards".
- "**Three's Company, Four's a Madrigal**", musical vignettes coordinated by Tony Parkes and accompanied by Barry Singer
- "**The View from the Pit**" or "**14 Operas and 8 Recordings of G&S**" by Keynote Speaker **Mr. Royston Nash**, Music Director and Conductor of the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company at 2 pm
- "**Not My Job: Unlikely Celebrities Sing G&S**" presented by Tony Parkes.

- **50th Anniversary Commemorative Video** - historic photos and musical recordings.
- **"Places, Please"**, a concert version of favorite G & S selections by Benjamin Keaton and directed by Kathryn Denney at 8 pm

Events on **Sunday, May 15**

- **Presentation** of the annual donation check from the net proceeds of *Trial by Jury* and *H.M.S. Pinafore* during the church service at 9:30 am followed by coffee and fellowship in Hawes Hall.
- **"Behind the Scenes of The Sudbury Savoyards on a Grand Scale"** coordinated by Technical Expert Tom Powers.
- Encore presentation of the **50th Anniversary Commemorative Video**, noon.
- **NEGASS Annual meeting and elections**, 1:30 in the Chapel.
- **"50 Years of Great Choruses"** A Company Sing-along directed by David C. Larrick and co-sponsored by NEGASS featuring soloists from recent and not-so-recent productions with a 14-piece orchestra, 3 pm.
- **Reception** at 4:30 pm in Hawes Hall to wrap up the weekend celebrations.

Soloists are needed for the May 15 concert at 3 pm. http://d.larrick.home.comcast.net/~d.larrick/Singalong_charts.html has information about auditions.

For further information, please visit www.sudburysavoyards.org or the Facebook page <http://www.facebook.com/sudburysavoyards50th> or contact Andrea Roessler, Archivist & 50th Committee Chair, at 508-628-9772 or archivist@sudburysavoyards.org

❧❧ G & S NEWS ❧❧

Criterion Collection Releases DVD and Blu-ray *Mikado* and *Topsy-Turvy*

Orange Media Relations of New York announces the Criterion Collection release of *The Mikado* and *Topsy-Turvy* in both DVD and Blu-ray versions.

We quote from Orange's press release - "The D'Oyly Carte Opera Company ...joined forces with Hollywood for this 1939 Technicolor version of the *Mikado*, the first complete work by G & S to be adapted for the screen, directed by musician and Oscar-nominated filmmaker."

ISBN: 978-1-60465-398-4; \$39.95 Blu-Ray
ISBN: 978-1-60465-399-1; \$39.95 DVD

"*Topsy-Turvy*... is a vivid and extraordinary dramatization of the staging of the 1885 comic opera *The Mikado* from Mike Leigh. Jim Broadbent and Allan Corduner brilliantly inhabit the roles of the world-famous Victorian librettist and composer, respectively, who must battle personal and professional demons while mounting this major production."

ISBN: 978-1-60465-396-0; \$39.95 Blu-Ray

ISBN: 978-1-60465-397-7; \$39.95 DVD

Gettysburg G & S Festival Auditions for *The Pirates of Penzance* in May, 2011

Long-distance auditions will be held for the Gettysburg G & S Festival's production of *The Pirates of Penzance*. Stage Director for the production will be NYC's Gary Slavin and the music director will be Andrew Nicklin of Great Britain.

<http://www.gsfestivals.org> has all the necessary information regarding auditions. All auditions on DVD must be submitted to the Director, Rich Wiley, Festival Director - North America, International Gilbert & Sullivan Festival, 49 East Springettsbury Avenue, York, PA 17403.

Links to YouTube audition material should be sent to Rich Wiley at rich.wiley@gs-festival.co.uk and to Gary Slavin at slavingaryslavin@gmail.com. The deadline for submissions is April 15. Casting decisions will be announced by May 1. Please address all artistic questions about auditioning to Gary Slavin.

- **Rich Wiley**, 717-683-2328

Symposium Papers Sought for Gettysburg G & S Festival June 27-28, 2011

"Papers, Presentations, and Patter: A Savoyards' Symposium" will be held June 27 and 28, 2011. There is still room for more papers, and attendees are encouraged to submit topics. There is no limit to the scope of presentations, except that they should not be musical or theatrical performances.

Please submit papers to Ralph MacPhail at rmacphai@gmail.com. See <http://www.gsfestivals.org/content/symposium-learning-usa> for more information.

A Review of New G & S Books

Regina B. Oost, *Gilbert & Sullivan: Class and the Savoy Tradition, 1875-1896* (Ashgate Press, England, 2009; ISBN 978-0-7546-6412-3). An examination of how G&S and D'Oyly Carte approached the operas from a commercial point of view. About \$100. Available from the publisher (www.ashgate.com) or the usual web sources; look for discounts.

Josephine Lee, *The Japan of Pure Invention – Gilbert & Sullivan's The Mikado* (University of Minnesota Press, Minneapolis, MN, 2010; ISBN 978-0-8166-6579-2 - hard-cover, or 978-0-8166-6580-8 - paper). An agenda-driven book with the thesis that the Mikado is racist. Not objective or balanced but exemplifying what passes for scholarship in some academic circles. Would be more balanced if, for example, the author had used other examples such as "The Geisha." Has been showing up on eBay recently.

Carolyn Williams, *Gilbert and Sullivan: Gender, Genre, Parody* (Columbia University Press, New York, NY, 2011; ISBN 978-0-231-14804-7). Also available as an eBook. A very thorough analysis of the antecedents of the G&S Operas and what was really being parodied. The discussion on gender roles and sexuality in *Patience*, *Iolanthe* and *Princess Ida* is particularly revealing. Whether or not one agrees with all, most or none of Prof. Williams' analysis, one will never look at a G&S Opera in the same way

again! Cheapest source seems to be directly from the publisher (www.cup.columbia.edu)

Fred M. Sander, M.D, *Created in Our Own Images.com – W.S. Gilbert's Pygmalion and Galatea, An introduction to the art, ethics and science of cloning* (IPBooks.net, International Psychoanalytic Books, Astoria, NY, 2010; ISBN 978-0-615-39004-8). The title says it all; a fascinating discussion of the issues. A very easy but thought-provoking read. Available directly from the publisher: www.ipbooks.net (\$25 plus shipping.)

Andrew Crowther, *Gilbert of Gilbert and Sullivan: His Life and Character* (due out July 1, 2011). A new look at WSG as a person. From my discussions with the author, he has unearthed a lot of new material, in case one thought the subject had been fully dissected previously. Available as a pre-publication order from www.amazon.com.

- J. Donald Smith



35th Anniversary Sing-Out

A Marathon Weekend of G&S!

June 11 & 12, 2011

You will find a complete list of all events, a sign-up sheet for roles, a choice of delicious edibles, local hotels, and directions in the accompanying SING-OUT registration form.

Date: Saturday, June 11 and Sunday, June 12

Venue: The Performing Arts Center, 51 Walden Street, Concord, Massachusetts.

For further information or answers to your questions, please contact Stephanie Mann at [progchair AT negass DOT org](mailto:progchair@negass.org).

We look forward to seeing you at the SING-OUT to celebrate our gala
NEGASS 35th Anniversary
June 11 & 12, 2011



NEGASS Calendar

<i>Engaged</i> NEGASS play read-through	April 10, 2011 (3 pm) Read-through of W.S. Gilbert's play <i>Engaged</i>	Home of Janice & Ron Dallas 63 Everett St. Arlington, MA
NEGASS Elections & Joint NEGASS/Sudbury Savoyards Sing-Along	May 15, 2011 (2 pm) see page 2 - 3 for further information	Sudbury United Methodist Church 251 Old Sudbury Road Sudbury, MA
Gilbert & Sullivan Sing-Out! New England Gilbert & Sullivan Society	June 11 - 12, 2011 NEGASS Gala 35 th Anniversary G & S Sing-Out	The Performing Arts Center 51 Walden St Concord, MA

Upcoming Productions & Events

<i>The Mikado</i> Boston Conservatory	March 31, April 1 - 3, 2011 (8 pm) www.bostonconservatory.edu 617-536-6340	Boston Conservatory Theater 8 The Fenway Boston, MA
<i>The Pirates of Penzance</i> NYGASP	April 16, 2011 (8 pm) www.zeiterion.org	Zeiterion Theater 684 Purchase St New Bedford, MA
<i>Princess Ida</i> BUGS	April 8 (8 pm), 9 (2 & 8 pm), 10 (3 pm) Brown University G & S Society students.brown.edu/BUGS/	Alumni Hall 194 Meeting St. Providence, RI
<i>The Mikado</i> NYGASP	April 17, 2011 (4 pm) Portland Ovations www.portlandovations.org	Merrill Auditorium 239 Park Ave. Portland, ME
<i>Yeomen of the Guard</i> MITG&SP	April 29 & 30, May 5 & 6, 2011 (8 pm) May 1 & 7, 2011 (2 pm)	MIT Student Center, 2 nd floor Sala de Puerto Rico 48 Massachusetts Ave. Cambridge, MA
G & S Sing-In BUGS	April 30, 2011 (10am - 5pm) Brown University G & S Society sign up at students.brown.edu/BUGS	Alumni Hall 194 Meeting St. Providence, RI
Sudbury Savoyards 50 th Anniversary Celebration	May 14, 15, 2011 www.sudburysavoyards.org	Sudbury United Methodist Church 251 Old Sudbury Road Sudbury, MA
International G & S Festival Gettysburg, PA	June 24 - July 3, 2011 Festival Director Rich Wiley, 717-683-2328; rich.wiley@gs-festival.co.uk	Majestic Theater Performing Arts Center, Gettysburg, PA www.gs-festivals.org
International G & S Festival Buxton, Derbyshire, UK	July 30 - August 20, 2011 for more information contact sarah@gs-festivals.co.uk	See http://www.gs-festival.co.uk/ for tickets, venues, accommodations