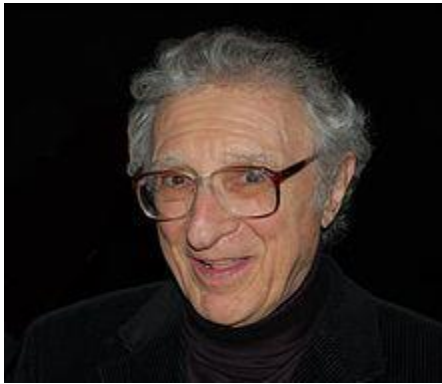




≈ G&S EVENTS ≈

NY Gilbert & Sullivan Players to Honor Sheldon Harnick at Special Awards Gala



Mr. Harnick in 2006

by BWW News Desk

The New York Gilbert and Sullivan Players will honor Tony Award-Winning lyricist and NYGASP Honorary Board member, Sheldon Harnick as part of their Spring Gala on Wednesday, May 2 at The Players Club

Mr. Harnick, best known for his Broadway productions of *Fiddler on the Roof*, *She Loves Me*, *Fiorello!*, and the *Apple Tree*, will be present to accept the award. Highlights of the evening include dinner, a concert in honor of Harnick and his commitment to the living legacy of Gilbert and Sullivan. The evening is generously underwritten by One Ocean Expeditions.

***The Gondoliers* is sailing into Simsbury**

Courtesy of SLOCO

The Simsbury (CT) Light Opera Company will be presenting *The Gondoliers* on April 7,8,14 and 15 at

the Eno Memorial Hall, 754 Hopmeadow Street (Route 10), Simsbury CT.

Principals in the cast are Marco -**Peter Bailey**, Giuseppe - **Jerald Lentini**, Tessa -**Emily Trudeau**, Gianetta - **Janet Aldrich**, the Duke of Plaza-Toro - **Ralph Sherman**, the Duchess of Plaza-Toro - **Julie Martini**, Casilda - **Sierra Manning**, Luiz - **Jay Wolman**, Don Alhambra -**Steven Fasano** and Inez - Lea Kessler-Shaw.

Mike Reynolds is SLOCO's artistic director and is also a long-time performer with the Connecticut Gilbert & Sullivan Society. He recently served as Associate Director for CT Gilbert & Sullivan's production of *Iolanthe*. Mike is the Director of the Theatre Program at Norwich Free Academy.



Nathaniel Baker is SLOCO's music director and has recently served as music director for the West Hartford Community Theater and Connecticut Theatre Company, among other groups.

IN THIS ISSUE

- 1 G&S Events
- 4 A Puzzlement
- 4 G&S News
- 6 Calendar

FIRST CONTACT

How did you first get introduced to the fun of Gilbert and Sullivan? Share your recollections with other readers of *The Trumpet Bray*. Send your story to editor@negass.org



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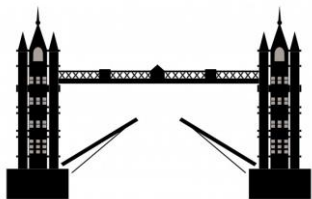
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www.negass.org



Raylynmor to present *Iolanthe* on June 2

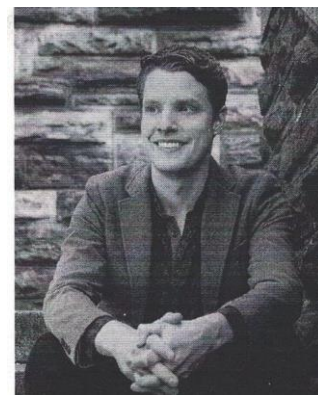
From Raylynmor Opera website

Raylynmor Opera in Keene NH, will present *Iolanthe* for one performance on Saturday, June 2, 2018 at 7:30 pm. The venue for this production will be the Congregation Ahavas Achim at 84 Hastings Avenue in Keene.



This Savoy classic continues Raylynmor's long-standing tradition of performing the works of Gilbert and Sullivan. Come and enjoy the riotously funny tale, sublime music, and tongue-twisting words in this send up of the English Parliament.

In charge of continuing Raylynmor's tradition of performing the works of Gilbert and Sullivan is Artistic Director **Ben Robinson**. In this position for nearly four years, he is an active operatic tenor with a career that has found him on major stages from Alaska to New Hampshire.



Ben Robinson

Beginning as a performer with Raylynmor, he appeared in *The Pirates of Penzance* in 2011. He is a native of Raleigh, North Carolina. He has performed in other G&S productions elsewhere including *The Pirates of Penzance* (Frederic), *The Gondoliers* (Marco), and *The Mikado* (Nanki-Poo).

Maine's Theatre at Monmouth plans *Pirates of Penzance* in September 2018

From Theatre at Monmouth website

The Theatre at Monmouth in Maine is scheduled to present *The Pirates of Penzance* on September 13-23, 2018. Gilbert and Sullivan's hilarious farce is packed full of sentimental pirates, bumbling



Frederic's plea
(Oh! is there not one maiden breast).

British Bobbies, and improbable paradoxes. Join the band of swashbuckling buccaneers, Victorian maidens, and the delightful "model of a modern Major-General" for a rollicking romp over the rocky coast of Cornwall. Sponsored by Granite Hill Estates. Director of the program will be Adam Blaise. More details to follow.

Iolanthe to be Sudbury Savoyards offering in April

From Sudbury Savoyards

Members of Parliament will meet their matches as the Sudbury Savoyards present *Iolanthe* on April 7 and 14, 2018 at Maynard High School, 1 Tiger Drive, Maynard MA.



Ben Morse, Mike Lague, and Tim Daughters rehearsing. (Photo from Sudbury Savoyard's Sandwich Board.)

Tony Parkes is the stage director and **Kathryn Denney** is the music director. **James Raven** is the

producer assisted by **Paul Baxter**.

Principals in this production will be:

Phyllis - **Elaine Crane**
Celia - **Lindsey Sobeleski**
Leila - **Laura Proctor**
Fleta - **Kerry Tamm**
Iolanthe - **Chloe D'Addio**
Fairy Queen - **Ann Ferentz**
Lord Chancellor - **Ben Morse**
Private Willis - **Matt Tragert**
Lord Tolloller - **Tim Daughters**
Lord Mountarat - **Mike Lague**
Strephon - **Brad Amidon**

The Mikado to take on a new twist in Troupers production set in Milan, Italy

Connecticut's Troupers Light Opera will present *The Mikado* with a different twist on April 14 and 21. Instead of being set in Japan, *Il Mikado* will take place in Milan, Italy. The Lamplighters Music Theatre of San Francisco developed this production to show that "Gilbert and Sullivan's most popular opera is not really about Japan at all, but about villagers engaged in love, graft and petty politics...." and it allows Troupers to utilize their beautiful Renaissance costumes.



Is this Il Ducato, Niccolu, Pooba, or Coco? To find out, you'll have to see the show in April or you'll have to wait until the April issue of *The Trumpet Bray*.

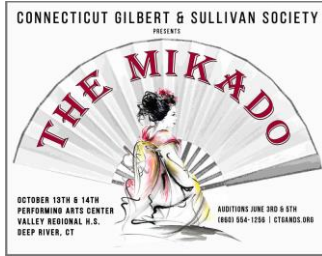
The music and dialog remains unchanged. The main changes are to the references of Japan to Milan and the principal players name changes from Japanese to Italian. For example, *The Mikado* becomes *Il Ducato*. Nanki-Poo becomes Niccolu. Koko becomes Coco. Poo-Bah becomes Pooba, and Katisha becomes Caticcia.

The performances will be held at the Norwalk Concert Hall in Norwalk CT. See the Troupers Light Opera website for further details.

CTGANDS sets audition dates for Fall production of *The Mikado*

By John Freedman

The Connecticut Gilbert and Sullivan Society will be holding auditions on Sunday, June 3 and Tuesday, June 5 for their Fall 2018 production of *The Mikado*. Congregation Adath Israel at 8 Broad Street in Middleton, Connecticut is the location for the auditions. Anyone interested in a principal role must audition. Callbacks, if needed, will be on Sunday, June 10. Please check out the CTGANDS website for more details.



❧ A PUZZLEMENT ❧

Match the clue with the opera. If we paid you \$10 for each correct answer, you could potentially earn \$140. That is, of course *if* we were paying! (Answers are on next page.)

<u>Clue</u>	<u>Operas to choose from</u>
1. Three disguised	H.M.S. Pinafore
2. Ranks switched	The Grand Duke
3. Actors take political power	Thespis
4. Elderly gods	The Mikado
5. Beauty in elderliness	Ruddigore
6. Painted emblems	The Yeomen of the Guard
7. O woe is me	The Gondoliers
8. A leveling of ranks	The Pirates of Penzance
9. Leap year leapt	Trial by Jury
10. "a dramatic cantata"	Utopia, Limited
11. Island in the south seas	The Sorcerer
12. Tea time	Patience
13. All in good time	Iolanthe
14. Lords and ladies	

❧ We Have a Little List ❧

We wish to thank those who contributed in any way to this issue of *The Trumpet Bray* including The Sudbury Savoyards, Troupers Light Opera, The Theatre at Monmouth, Simsbury Light Opera, BWW Newsdesk, Raylynmor Opera, John Dreslin, John Freedman and the Connecticut Gilbert and Sullivan Society. (Please forgive any omissions!)

❧ G&S NEWS ❧



John Dreslin (center in light colored shirt) is shown conducting the first rehearsal of the American Chamber Orchestra. (Photo by Monika Dreslin.)

Selections from Gilbert and Sullivan presented by ACO, CTGANDS and TLO

The American Chamber Orchestra together with singers from the Connecticut Gilbert and Sullivan Players and Troupers Light Opera presented a program of selections from *Yeomen of the Guard*, *Iolanthe*, *Pirates of Penzance*, and *The Mikado* on Saturday Evening Mar. 3, 7:30 PM. The program was held at First Presbyterian Church of Fairfield CT and was co-conducted by Christopher Hisey and John Dreslin.

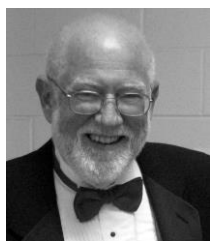
American Chamber Orchestra Concert A Reminiscence

By John E. Dreslin, D.M.D., Connecticut Gilbert & Sullivan Society

The American Chamber Orchestra, based in Fairfield, CT presented a program of selections from Gilbert and Sullivan on Saturday, March 3, at the 1st Presbyterian Church of Fairfield in conjunction with the Connecticut Gilbert and Sullivan Society and Troupers Light Opera.

The program consisted of the overtures from *Yeomen of the Guard*, *Pirates of Penzance*, *Iolanthe* and *Mikado*, plus about five or six selections from each. I had the pleasure to co-conduct this performance along with Maestro Christopher Hisey, its music director. The orchestra is a 65 member ensemble of excellent amateur musicians, about 50 of whom participated in the concert. The vocal ensemble consisted of 17 singers from CG&SS and Troupers. The impetus for the concert was the product of discussions by Maestro Hisey (who had previously served as music director for Troupers), myself, and David Schancupp, who has performed many leading roles with both groups. I was flattered that Maestro Hisey was willing to entrust his fine

orchestra with me for half the concert, as he only knew of my conducting abilities through reputation. Indeed, I was somewhat apprehensive of standing up in front of 50 strangers at the first of five of my scheduled rehearsals on February 11. However the orchestra members immediately made me feel very much at home. My sections of the program consisted of the *Pirates* and *Iolanthe* selections. The first three rehearsals were with orchestra only, which presented some problems, as without the singers, it was hard to assess what volume levels were appropriate, and which sections the orchestra should stand out. I would find myself singing the recitative sections to demonstrate, and I am NO singer!



**Maestro
Dreslin**

The orchestra rehearsed in Norwalk, CT, a 1½ drive from my home in Stonington, and after a couple of the rehearsals there I would then have to drive about an hour up to Middletown, CT, to rehearse the singers. However, on Thursday, March 1, finally everybody was assembled at the performance venue to put the whole program together. We worked through our balance problems and ran the whole program. One particularly hard selection to balance was the



Nightmare Song from *Iolanthe* which is very heavily scored, especially towards the end. We were supposed to then have a final “dress” rehearsal on Friday, but a destructive nor’easter decided to come through that day. My house was one of many in the region that lost power. We decided with the high winds that were bringing down tree branches all through Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Massachusetts, that we would have to cancel the rehearsal. Fortunately the winds had died down in time for performance day on Saturday; although my home power had not yet been restored (it came back on at 9 PM).

Despite this setback the concert went very well. It was absolutely wonderful to hear this music with a full string complement. Our typical CG&SS pit orchestra usually consists of 11 strings vs. the 28 of the ACO. All involved in the concert seemed to have an enjoyable time, and our singing cast was



most enthusiastic about being able to partake in this wonderful experience. Many of them have expressed hopes that we can at some time in the future share another joint effort. Both Maestro Hisey and I were very gratified with the outcome. Although we do not at this time have a video of the actual performance, my wife did capture the *Pirates* and *Iolanthe* overtures on her phone at the Mar. 1 rehearsal. If interested the links are:

Reviewers Rewarded

Have you ever wanted to comment on your colleagues’ hard work somewhere other than Facebook? Now is your chance! *The Trumpet Bray* seeks peer reviewers for local G&S productions. Plus, write a review that goes to publication, and we’ll refund up to \$25 towards your ticket cost. Send copy of ticket stub for reimbursement. Contact editor@negass.org for more info. *The Trumpet Bray* welcomes reviews of recent G & S shows. The editor reserves the right to amend submissions to adhere to publication requirements.

❧ A PUZZLEMENT ❧
ANSWERS

1. Princess Ida
2. H.M.S. Pinafore
3. The Grand Duke
4. Thespis
5. The Mikado
6. Ruddigore
7. The Yeomen of the Guard
8. The Gondoliers
9. The Pirates of Penzance
10. Trial by Jury
11. Utopia, Limited
12. The Sorcerer
13. Patience
14. Iolanthe

G&S Events

Yeomen of the Guard
Harvard-Radcliffe G&SP

March 23-April 1, 2018
hrgsp.president@gmail.com

Agassiz Theater
Radcliffe Yard – 5 James Street
Cambridge MA 02138

Iolanthe
Sudbury Savoyards

April 7 & 14, 2018
sudburysavoyards.org
see article on page 3

Maynard High School
1 Tiger Drive
Maynard MA 01754

The Gondoliers
Simsbury Light Opera Co.

April 7-15, 2018
Sloco.org
see article on page 1

Eno Memorial hall
754 Hopemeadow St, (Rt 10)
Simsbury CT

Ruddigore
New York GASP

April 14 & 15, 2018
nygasp.org

Hunter College
E 64th Street (Between Park &
Lexington Avenues, NYC, NY

The Mikado
Troupers Light Opera

April 14 & 21, 2018
trouperlightopera.org
see article on page 3

Norwalk Concert Hall
125 East Avenue
Norwalk CT 06851

H.M.S. Pinafore
MITG&SP

May 2-11, 2018
gsp.mit.edu

MIT Student Center
Sala de Puerto Rico 84
Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge MA 02139

Iolanthe
Raylynmor Opera

June 2, 2018
raylynmor.com
603-357-1086
see article on page 2

Congregation Ahavas Achim
84 Hastings Avenue 03431
Keene NH