



∞ NEGASS NEWS ∞

***Fantasies & Finales*, Saturday, October 18, 2014,  
7 pm, Chelmsford Center for the Arts, 1A North  
Rd., Chelmsford, MA**

Our Fantasies and Finales will transpire on October 18 at 7:00pm at the Chelmsford Center for the Arts (1A North Road, Chelmsford MA). This is our gathering of singers and G and S fun in which we plan to sing a few well-known Finales and other numbers with a twist...

Our program will include the Act I Finale of *Mikado*, and the Act I Finale of *Iolanthe*... TWICE! Our rendition includes the unusual aspect of the gender bender! You will be allowed the chance to sing any part, including parts of the opposite gender in your or the other range. It will be safe, if not sane, environment to in which you may explore...

Aside from the finales, please send any requests for solo numbers to **Thomas Dawkins** at pres AT negass DOT org. We look forward to seeing you there!



***A G & S Songbook*, Sunday, November 2, 2014,  
time and place to be announced**

NEGASS is proud to present two of its talented members in an evening of Gilbert & Sullivan favorites. **Rebecca Hains**, soprano, and past president of NEGASS will be accompanied on the piano by **Tom Dawkins**, current NEGASS president, in an evening sure to warm the hearts of all G & S lovers.

The time of the concert and the venue will be announced shortly in the *Trumpet Bray*, on our website [www.negass.org](http://www.negass.org), and on our NEGASS Facebook page.

**NEGASS School Outreach**

I am pleased to announce that in our efforts to reach and impact young audiences, NEGASS is now on the roster for Young Audiences of America. This non-profit organization is effective in educating youngsters in schools through educational and interactive performances that are frequently modified to feature students.

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THE TRUMPET BRAY is published six times a year on the 1st day of February, April, June, August, October, and December by the New England Gilbert and Sullivan Society (NEGASS), P.O. Box 367, Arlington, MA 02476-0004.

GENERAL NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS AND REVIEWS may be sent to editor AT negass DOT org

MEMBERSHIP NEGASS membership dues are \$25. Please join NEGASS online at [www.negass.org](http://www.negass.org), or contact [memb AT negass DOT org](mailto:memb AT negass DOT org).

THE TRUMPET BRAY Members receive the Bray as a PDF email attachment. To receive a paper copy of the Bray via US mail, please send a request to editor AT negass DOT org. All editions including the current one are available at [www.negass.org](http://www.negass.org).

DEADLINES FOR SUBMISSION OF MATERIAL: 15<sup>th</sup> of the months of January, March, May, July, September, and November.



The Young Audiences Organization strives to: *“advance the artistic and educational development of children and youth by bringing them together with professional artists of all disciplines to learn, create and participate in the arts. One of 30 affiliates of Young Audiences – Arts For Learning, the nation’s largest non-profit arts organization, our mission is to initiate life-long involvement in the arts by making them integral to every child’s education.”*

*Since 1962, we have brought nationally and internationally acclaimed artists in music, theater and performing arts, dance and movement, storytelling and literature, and visual arts into Massachusetts schools, for performances, workshops and residencies. Our programming not only meets the highest standards of artistic quality but also ties in closely to state-determined learning objectives and curricula.”* (<http://yamass.org/our-programs/new-england-gilbert-sullivan-society/>).

Recent NEGASS/Young Audiences performances featured an abridged version of the Pirates of Penzance, in which students were given the chance to learn the choral numbers and participate in the performance. Additionally, they were costumed—surely an educational, inspiring memorable day for all students involved!



## RECENT PRODUCTIONS

***The Mikado*, Opera Providence, Saturday, August 13, 2014, Blithewold Mansion and Gardens, Bristol, RI**

Opera Providence traveled south from its usual home at the Columbus Theater in Providence to the seaside town of Bristol, RI. There in a tent on the lovely 50-acre garden estate, Blithewold, on the banks of the Sakonnet River, they presented a splendid *Mikado*.

A list of recent stops on the NEGASS outreach program performances includes: South Lawrence, East Elementary, The Peabody School, Cambridge; Buckingham Brown & Nichols, Townsend Library; and the Young Audiences Showcase, Derby Academy, Hingham. Keep your eyes and ears open for more news about this truly inspired outreach

### NEGASS Member Stars in *Yeomen of the Guard*

NEGASS is proud to announce that a member of our Board of Directors has a starring role in Valley Light Opera's upcoming production of *The Yeomen of the Guard*. **Elaine Crane** will be playing Elsie Maynard, a strolling minstrel who marries a man completely unknown to her while her melancholy suitor looks sadly on. Come see Elaine and the show will be performed November 7 - 16 at the Academy of Music, 274 Main St, Northampton, MA (details in the Calendar).

### Have a Talk with the Bray

Hello out there, we'd love very much to hear from you! I'll start with something simple: *Who has played the same role the highest number of times...? Do you have an interesting story about it?* If you email me an interesting story at editor AT negass DOT org you may see part of it featured in the next edition of the Trumpet Bray. Additionally, we are seeking one or two more reviewers for our shows that we feature. If you feel that you have the eye for art, the mind for critical/objective thinking and the heart for people, we'd love to hear from you.



Stage Director **Adrienne Boris** dressed the cast in traditional and attractive Japanese costumes. Music Director **Mark Conley** led a small (3 or 4-piece) orchestra; while the playing was fine, the sound was so small as to be unconvincing; a single piano would have served well.

**Allison Pohl** as Yum-Yum sang with beauty of tone and a fine technique. Nanki-Poo, **Michael DiMucci**, was a dashing lover whose sweet tenor blended with sly humor. The pair played well together both vocally and comically. **Ian Pomerantz** was a vocally strong and nicely sneering Pooh-Bah. **Arielle Rogers'** warm mezzo moved the audience as she sang of unrequited love. NEGASS member **Roselin Osser** sang Pitti-Sing with a lovely tone and superb comedic timing.

And then there was **Andy Papas** as Ko-Ko, the Lord High Executioner. Andy commands the stage with his dynamic presence, his ability to move his "pleasingly plump" form everywhere quickly, his engagement with all his interlocutors, and of course his rich and flexible baritone.

**Jason Shealy** as the Mikado, **Christopher Davey** as Pish-Tush, and **Aimee-Rose Willett** as Peep-Bo rounded out the cast admirably.

My colleagues in writing this review were my 7 and 4 year old cousins. 7-year old: "I loved it! Can we come back tomorrow night and see it again?" 4-year-old: I want a dress like Yum-Yum's. Can I ask her for it, please?" These "reviews" were a tribute to the production considering that these children do not speak English and understood not a word of the dialog!

A few observations: a sometimes sluggish dramatic pacing weakened the flow of the story; Katisha's makeup didn't make her at all look menacing; and it was difficult to see the stage from many places on the flat floor of the tent. Otherwise a lovely evening on a beautiful estate listening to a wonderful show.

**-Martha Birnbaum**

<b>Upcoming NEGASS Events</b>		
<i>Finales and Fantasies</i> NEGASS	<b>October 18, 2014</b> G+S finales and songs with an interesting twist	Chelmsford Center for the Arts 1A North Road Chelmsford MA
<i>G &amp; S - The Music of England</i> NEGASS/CCSO	<b>January 17 &amp; 18, 2015</b> Cape Cod Symphony Orchestra with NEGASS soloists & chorus <a href="http://www.capesymphony.org">www.capesymphony.org</a>	Barnstable Performing Arts Center 744 West Main St. Hyannis, MA
<b>Upcoming Events</b>		
<i>Ruddigore</i> Brown University Gilbert and Sullivan	<b>Fall, 2014</b> <a href="http://students.brown.edu/BUGS/index.php">http://students.brown.edu/BUGS/index.php</a>	Alumnae Theater Brown University 69 Brown St., Box 1930 Providence, RI 02912
<i>The Gondoliers</i> CT Gilbert and Sullivan Society	<b>October 4-5, 2014</b> <a href="http://ctgands.org/">http://ctgands.org/</a>	Performing Arts Center Middletown High School 200 LaRosa Lane Middletown, CT
<i>The Gondoliers</i> The Harvard-Radcliffe Gilbert and Sullivan Players	<b>October 30- November 9, 2014</b> <a href="http://hrfsp.org/happening-now/">http://hrfsp.org/happening-now/</a>	Agassiz Theater Radcliffe Yard Cambridge, MA
<i>An Evening of Operetta: Gilbert and Sullivan and Friends</i> Troupers Light Opera, Inc.	<b>November 1, 2014</b> <a href="http://trouperlightopera.org/">http://trouperlightopera.org/</a>	MIT Student Center Sala de Puerto Rico 84 Massachusetts Ave. Cambridge, MA
<i>Ruddigore</i> New York GASP	<b>November 1 &amp; 2, 2014</b> <a href="http://nygasp.org/current_season/new_york_season">nygasp.org/current_season/new_york_season</a>	NYU Skirball Center 566 LaGuardia Place New York, NY 10012
<i>The Yeomen of the Guard</i> Valley Light Opera	<b>November 7 - 16, 2014 (2 &amp; 8 pm)</b> <a href="mailto:info@vlo.org">info@vlo.org</a> 413-584-9032 x105	Academy of Music 274 Main St Northampton, MA
<i>The Mikado</i> MITGSP	<b>December 5 - 13, 2014</b> <a href="http://gsp.mit.edu/productions/2014/fall/mikado/">gsp.mit.edu/productions/2014/fall/mikado/</a>	MIT Student Center Sala de Puerto Rico 84 Massachusetts Ave. Cambridge, MA