



SLOC Spotlight

The Newsletter of the
Schenectady Light Opera Company
Volume 43-6
March 2010/April 2010

Kiss Me, Kate SLOC's 83rd Season Closer!

When Kiss Me, Kate was first produced on Broadway in 1948, the show represented a personal triumph for Composer Cole Porter and the rest of the theatre world. Kiss Me, Kate also represents a prism or look back into the history of SLOC. Viewing our current production (third time it has been produced by SLOC), should invoke fond memories of past actors, directors, and chorus members who have graced SLOC's stage. Previous productions in 1965 and 1986 included such memorable talent as Howard Moyer, Eileen Bush, Ted Peck, and Patty Searle. Their performances still hold a place in our hearts. Kiss Me, Kate will also make us recall with fond memories, SLOC artists, Carmen Sgarlata, Ira Gilman, and Jack Byrns who have joined "the grand stage up above". We dearly miss them.

SLOC's current production of Kiss Me, Kate is the 1991 revised version, which includes "From This Moment On", a haunting and tender love duet from the movie version. This production is set in present time utilizing a mixture of contemporary and Shakespearean costumes. A Shakespearean set will be used. The audience will find this to be an interesting theatrical device. The set's simplistic design creates a more authentic mood for the Taming of the Shrew portion of the musical. SLOC sends good wishes to the show's list of talented production staff members: Alan Angelo, Director; Eileen Bush, Assistant Director; Richard Lenehan, Producer; Sherri Strichman, Music Director; Donna Hatch, Choreographer; Costume Coordinator, Debbie Lummis(assisted by Joe Fava, Sandy Boynton, Mandy Moore); Shakespearean Speech Coach, Clarence Finn; Set Construction, Michael Lake; Sound Design/Operation, Winn Huntley; Lighting Design/Operation, Victor Friend & Jim Mackenzie; Stage Crew, Keith Mooney; Make Up Design, Marcia Lenehan; Hair Design, John Fowler; Opening Night Party, Barb Mahlman; Strike and Cast Party, Melinda Zarnoch; Playbill, Jeffrey Hocking; Publicity and Props, Joe and MaryAnn Concra(Publicity Assistant, Thomas Dalton Bambury); Photo Shoot, Thomas Dalton Bambury.

Congratulations to the following CAST MEMBERS:

Fred/Petruchio: Richard Mazzaferro, Lilli/Kate: Siriah Patrick; General Harrison Howell: Adam Fine, Lois/Bianca: Monet Thompson, Gangster #1: Bob Hegeman, Gangster #2: Ross Snyder, Riley/Hortensio: Zachary McKeeby, Flynt/Gremio: Travis Brunnell, Hattie: Cheryl Glenn, Pops/Padua/Priest: Bill McColl, Harry Trevor/Baptist Minola: Jimmy Strosberg, Ralph: Monique Taylor, Paul: David Benjamin, Cab Driver: John Reheuser

Break-a-leg to the following CHORUS MEMBERS: Janis Walz(and Soloist for "Too Darn Hot"); Barbara Mangino(Wardrobe Lady); Katie Kampf, Emily Billig and Alyssa Pyle.

Good Seats are selling quickly for some selected performances!! Tickets available by calling, 1-877-350-7378 or www.sloctheater.org

Mark Your Calendars Now!

Ross Snyder, SLOC President & Director for the first show of our 2010-2011(84th Season), is pleased to announce the auditions for Pirates of Penzance. Please mark you calendars for the week of June 20, 2010. Exact dates to be announced in the May 2010 Newsletter.

This Gilbert & Sullivan favorite is a Company Premier. Hope to see you then!

826 State St.
Schenectady, NY 12307
393-5732
1-877-350-7378

Web Site:
www.sloctheater.org

2009-2010 Season
THE PAJAMA GAME

Directed by:
Jennifer S. Depew
October 16-18, 22-25

JOSEPH AND THE
AMAZING TECHNICOLOR
DREAMCOAT

Directed by:
Matthew T. Teichner
December 4-6, 10-13

SIDE BY SIDE BY
SONDHEIM

Directed by:
Thomas Dalton Bambury
March 5-7, 11-14

KISS ME, KATE

Directed by:
Alan Angelo
April 30, May 1-2, 6-9

Ross Snyder
President

Board of Directors
Thomas Dalton Bambury
Bob Farquharson
Joe Fava
Lisa Franklin
Bob Harrison
Kate Kaufman Burns
Orlando Pigliavento
Brett Putnam
Nancy Stone

Next Newsletter
Deadline:
April 29, 2010

Spotlight on...

Side by Side by
Sondheim -
Wins 7 TANYs Awards
(see article on page 3)

President's Notes...by Ross Snyder

Following up on New Year's resolutions, You may recall that in the last newsletter I mentioned a couple of resolutions for 2010. I would like to update you on these resolutions:

1.) Yours truly resolved to lose weight - To date I have lost over 25 pounds. I still have a ways to go to meet my goal, but progress is steady, Maybe those romantic lead roles are possible?

2) Find better ways to show our appreciation to our members, volunteers and patrons - We have made progress on this goal. Nancy Stone has accepted the position of VP of Volunteers and Membership and she has been busy organizing her team. Now this vital area of SLOC can get the attention it deserves. I expect to see positive changes in the near future.

3) Improve communications between the production teams, the Board, and SLOC officers - The Board has approved the creation of a new position called "Board Vice President". Primary responsibilities include: meetings with the appropriate VP's and Producers. This new position will significantly improve overall production coordination and communications. This role has not yet been filled, but our goal is to have it fully implemented for next season.

4) Implementing our new organizational structure (as identified in our Strategic Plan) - This new organizational structure is progressing well (see items 2 & 3 above). We have established a VP Audience Services position. This position incorporates many of the responsibilities of the former VP Company position (which has been eliminated), along with other functions directly associated with serving our audience. Melinda Zarnoch is now our VP Audience Services. We're also in the process of redefining the VP PR position to incorporate a more broad-based Marketing perspective. With this change we'll focus not only on publicizing our shows, but marketing the entire company. Thomas Dalton Bambury is our VP PR and Marketing.

5) Put on great shows (as usual) but let's make sure we have fun in the process - Just come to our shows, or better yet, be a part of a show by volunteering and you'll quickly learn that we are meeting our goal. The show selection committee and Board had put together a strong 2010-11 season that I'm confident will be a success. Thank you to Kate Kaufman Burns (Chair) and her committee for their efforts.

6) Complete our migration to the SLOC Performing Arts Center. - There is so much work to be done to get our new home ready for us. The Building Committee, chaired by Bob Farquharson, has done a stellar job so far. But our biggest obstacle at this point is money. Bob Harrison and team continue their extraordinary efforts to raise money in a difficult economy. Please consider helping us get our new theatre by contributing to our CAPITAL CAMPAIGN. Donations may be made on line (www.sloctheater.org) or mailed to: PO BOX 1006; Schenectady NY 12301-1006.

Our production of "13: the Musical" at GE's Black Box Theatre had a successful run. What a fantastic group of local young actors!! "Hats off" to Joe Fava, Michael Gatzendorfer & the entire production staff. This show was a direct result of one of our Strategic Goals to focus on youth theatre. BRAVO!

Congratulations to Side by Side by Sondheim! Seven (7) performances brought both enthusiastic audiences and 7 TANYS awards (see separate article)! This company premier celebrated the music & lyrics of Stephen Sondheim and honored his 80th Birthday (3/22/10).

Kiss Me Kate is gearing up for opening night! We look forward to your return to our theatre April 30-May 9th (see separate article on front page).

In closing I would like to express my appreciation to all those that support the company with their time, their efforts, their energy, and their dollars. We are a volunteer company and without YOU we could not function.

Sincerely (on behalf of the board and officers),
Ross M. Snyder, SLOC Board President

Etta Moore Award Winner Announced

Congratulations to Mary Kozlowski, our 2010 Etta Moore Award recipient! The Etta Moore is awarded annually to honor an individual for both their long term SLOC support & contributions. Mary is truly deserving of this award. Her efforts and energy have been recognized for many years. List of Mary's duties: Former SLOC Treasurer (many, many seasons!) Artistic Designer/Set Builder (an encouraging list of shows & TANYS Awards), Box Office Support, Current Member of our Finance Committee, Current Website Coordinator, Current Box Office Software/Ticket Coordinator, Current Member of our Data Base Committee. SLOC is lucky to have Mary with us for so many years. We sure wish cloning was an option. The Etta Moore Award Winner was announced at our January Semi-Annual Potluck Dinner/Meeting.

Congratulations to Mary!!

SLOC Spotlight

SLOC Spotlight is a newsletter of the Schenectady Light Opera Company, P. O. Box 1006, Schenectady, NY 12301. SLOC is a community volunteer musical and theatre arts incorporated, nonprofit organization. Governed by a Board of Directors elected by the membership, SLOC's purpose is to present quality musical theater to the people in and around Schenectady County, NY.

Newsletter Staff: Dave Dixon, Eric Shovah, and Thomas Dalton Bambury. Subscription Rates: \$5 per year, check payable to SLOC. Send subscription inquiries and address changes to the address listed above.

DEADLINE for submissions to **Vol. 43 Issue No. 7** of the SLOC SPOTLIGHT will be April 29, 2010. Issue No. 7 will be mailed by approximately May 13, 2010.

Please submit articles to Dave Dixon at luvsbabs@yahoo.com or 4 Hall Pl., Apt B, Albany, NY 12210

Wanted:

Board Members for the 2010-2011 Season

The SLOC Nominating Committee Chairpersons, Thomas Dalton Bambury & Joseph Fava and their support team are seeking members to fill the positions that will be vacant in June, 2010.

The Nominating Committee have several candidates and are awaiting additional responses. The slate will be announced in the next newsletter (May 2010) and presented to the membership at the Saturday, June 12th annual meeting (with elections to follow).

If there are any company members who wish to be added to the slate of Board candidates, a petition/letter of intent with signatures of five(5) eligible voting company members must be submitted to Thomas Dalton Bambury by MONDAY, APRIL 26th. You must be a paying member for two (2) consecutive years in order to be eligible as a Board Candidate. NO EMAIL PETITIONS can be accepted. Please mail intent to Thomas: 4 Hall Place; Apt B; Albany NY 12210.

Board Candidate BIOS will be published in the next newsletter (May/June issue). Approximate mailing date is May 13, 2010. Board Bios MUST BE submitted to Dave Dixon, Newsletter Editor, NO LATER THAN Monday April 26th, 2010. Emailed Bios ARE accepted. E-Mail to: Dave, luvsbabs@yahoo.com.

Side by Side by Sondheim Wins Seven TANYS Awards

TANYS (Theatre Association of NYS) awarded 7 Roving Adjudicator Merit Awards to our March Production!

Side by Side by Sondheim received the following recognitions:

OUTSTANDING DIRECTION - Thomas Dalton Bambury
EXCELLENCE IN MUSIC DIRECTION - Kate Kaufman Burns
EXCELLENCE IN PRODUCTION DESIGN AND EXECUTION - Doug Peek & Mary Kozlowski (Set Design/Construction; Artistic Scrims); Greg Rucinski (Lighting); Paul Kraus (Sound Design); Nadia Graziano (Costume Design); Marcia Lenehan (Make-up Design).

EXCELLENCE IN PERFORMANCE - Corie Rowe
EXCELLENCE IN PERFORMANCE - Christine Verderese
EXCELLENCE IN PERFORMANCES FOR RENDITION OF "ANYONE CAN WHISTLE"
- Ryan Glynn and Michael Aniolek - (TANYS Award Each)

Adjudicator's Comments: "SLOC has scored high marks once again with their musical review of the early works of Stephen Sondheim. SLOC consistently produces musical theatre at a level of excellence not routinely seen in the state. The Direction and overall value of this piece was truly noteworthy and a very strong cast with a number of exceptional performances made this an engaging & profoundly entertaining musical experience."

Congratulations to everyone!

Annual Meeting

ANNUAL MEETING: Saturday, June 12th, 2010
(Time, Location TBA in the next newsletter)
Highlights: Board Member Elections, Annual VP and Board Member Reports, Capital Campaign/Fundraising Updates; Updates on Auditions for next season.

Follies Cast and Crew

10th Anniversary Reunion

2010 marks the 10th Anniversary since our SLOC staging of the 1971 Musical classic FOLLIES (Stephen Sondheim, music and lyrics). FOLLIES is set on the stage of a crumbling Broadway Theatre scheduled for demolition during a reunion for all the former cast members. To honor our 10th anniversary, the company premier of Side by Side by Sondheim, and also the theme of reunions a few cast & crew reunion photos were taken at SLOC following the Sunday March 7th Matinee of Side by Side. Many FOLLIES cast members attended the 2pm matinee & were treated to numerous FOLLIES numbers performed during Side by Side.

Returning to SLOC for the photos were: Production Staff: Ted Rucinski, Director; Ellen Rizzo, Music Director; Jenny Depew, Producer; Greg & Sue Rucinski, Lighting; Michelle Sausa Gatta, Stage Manager; Marcia Lenehan, Makeup; Jodi Hebert, Props; Connie Rowe Rauhauser, Costume Assistant; Peggy Girardi, Costumer Coordinator/Designer. Cast Members that posed for Reunion photos were: Corie Rowe, Carol Jones, Jean Foss, Joe Malone, Pat Hoffman, Pat Brady, Mark Burgasser, Paula Ginder, Dave Dixon and Allan Foster.

If any member would like to see these FOLLIES Reunion photos, please visit our website: www.sloctheatre.org!!! Thank you to Brett Putnam (Photographer), Greg Rucinski (Lighting), Thomas Dalton Bambury (Photo Posing), Mary Kozlowski (Website Photo layout). All cast & crew members were contacted but we missed seeing those cast & crew members that either couldn't attend or have unfortunately moved out of the area. We hope they can reunite at SLOC sometime again soon.

KISS ME KATE WANTS YOU!

As of this mailing the following roles & positions are available:

- 1.) Male chorus members: ages 20 and up. Dancing a plus. Some "one liners" also available for the three "stage hands."
- 2.) Major/Featured Role (Bill Calhoun): mid twenties, early thirties, sing, dance and act.
- 3.) Production Stage Manager.

Rehearsals are in full swing!! Call Alan Angelo, Director at 377-1421 or Sherri, Music Director at 322-6277 or Richard Lenehan, Producer at 466-6252.

Kiss Me Kate opens April 30.



P.O. Box 1006
Schenectady, NY 12301-1006

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Why not pay a regular visit to SLOC's website?

www.sloctheater.org

Aside from the regular show/ticket information,

highlighted webinfo includes:

*SLOC's Outreach Program, List of Past
Productions, Our Strategic Plan, Photos and more!*

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SLOC Announces Its 2010 - 2011 Season!!

Please join us for our 84th Season & mark you calendars now for the following company productions:

October, 2010 - PIRATES OF PENZANCE

Directed by Ross Snyder (Auditions: Week of June 20, 2010)

DECEMBER, 2010 - NUNSENSE

Directed by Orlando Pigliavento

March, 2011 - THE DROWSY CHAPERONE

Directed by Jeffrey Scott

May, 2011 - CAROUSEL

Directed by Joe Philips

Youth Production - ~~Date~~ JBA - Beauty and the Beast

Directed by Michael Gatzendorfer

Audition dates for the remaining 4 productions are forthcoming
Congratulations to the Directors and their production staff!!

AD for ADS

Do you (or anyone you know) own your own business? Looking for some extra advertising? If so, SLOC is looking for ad patrons for our playbill. We have a variety of sizes and prices to fit any company or business needs. In addition, most packages include complimentary tickets. Advertise for your business and enjoy quality musical theatre. If interested, please contact Heather at hdarcy78@hotmail.com.