

THE SCHENECTADY LIGHT OPERA CO.

presents

"The Firefly"

by

RUDOLF FRIML

EDGAR L. MOULTON

Director



MONT PLEASANT HIGH SCHOOL
AUDITORIUM

Friday & Saturday, June 28-29, 1946

8:15 P. M.

EIGHTH SEASON

Cast of Characters

(In order of appearance)

| | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| CAPTAIN..... | RICHARD HOTALING |
| SYBIL VAN DARE..... | RUTH WRIGHT |
| SUZETTE..... | FLORENCE JONES |
| PIETRO..... | WILLIAM WERNECKE |
| JENKINS..... | KENNETH HALLENBECK |
| GERALDINE VAN DARE..... | GWENDOLYN OWENS |
| JACK TRAVERS..... | DONALD E. UREN |
| JOHN THURSTON..... | M. R. MARSTON |
| HERR FRANZ..... | FRANK SHARP |
| NINA..... | JEAN PAGE |
| MRS. GODFREY VAN DARE..... | NAOMI GRAMS |
| CORELLI..... | RICHARD HOTALING |
| ANTONIO..... | LOIS SELLMAN |
| SPECIAL DANCE..... | SHIRLEY YAEGER, FRED HERBERT |

Musical Numbers

ACT I

1. A TRIP TO BERMUDA.....*Ensemble*
2. HE SAYS YES—SHE SAYS NO.....*Geraldine, Jack and Chorus*
3. CALL ME UNCLE.....*Thurston, Sybil and Chorus*
4. LOVE IS LIKE A FIREFLY.....*Nina*
5. SOMETHING.....*Jenkins and Suzette*
6. GIANNINA MIA.....*Nina*
7. FINALE*Ensemble*

ACT II

8. IN SAPPHIRE SEAS.....*Sybil and Chorus*
9. TOMMY ATKINS.....*Nina*
10. SYMPATHY*Geraldine and Thurston*
11. A WOMAN'S SMILE.....*Jack*
12. DE TROP.....*Suzette, Pietro, Jenkins*
13. WE'RE GOING TO MAKE A MAN OF YOU.....
.....*Nina, Jack, Jenkins, Thurston, Franz*
14. BEAUTIFUL SHIP FROM TOYLAND.....*Franz and Men's Chorus*
15. WHEN A MAID COMES KNOCKING.....*Nina*
16. FINALE*Ensemble*

ACT III

17. AMERICAN BEAUTY ROSE.....*Thurston and Chorus*
18. LATEST THING FROM PAREE.....*Pietro, Suzette and Chorus*
19. THE DAWN OF LOVE.....*Nina*
20. FINALE*Ensemble*

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Synopsis of Scenes

ACT I—Recreation Pier, Foot of 23rd St., New York, Decoration Day

ACT II—Van Dare Estate, Bermuda, Three Weeks Later

ACT III—Van Dare Home, Fifth Avenue, New York, Five Years Later

Time—Present

Chorus — LADIES

| | | | |
|------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Mary Barker | Elsie Freedman | Anna Murphy | Elizabeth Stilson |
| June Bayer | Sybil Gauvreau | Mary McIntyre | Margie Turpen |
| Kay Blake | Sheila Graves | Mary McNelly | Marian Van Allen |
| Virginia Brown | Janet Kihlmire | Dorothy Olson | Viola Welch |
| Gloria Cammarota | Uvilda Kurtz | Dorothy Patnode | Avis White |
| Helen Carruthers | Ellen Lind | Virginia Rabinoff | Olive Williams |
| Grace Coutant | Lorraine Matarrazzo | Bessie Sands | Marjory Young |
| | Constance Moulton | Anne Scheurer | |

GENTLEMEN

| | | | |
|----------------|---------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Ermino Bianchi | James Coyle | Maurice Kellerhouse | Lee Owens |
| Albert Bloss | Ira Freedman | Willis Kettensen | Robert Stilson |
| Ray Bourgeois | Julius Hauser | Dan Langenwalter | |

THE STORY— ACT I

The curtain rises on a gay scene of preparation for the coming "trip to Bermuda." Sybil Van Dare and the yachting chorus, impatiently awaiting the departure, find out from the Captain that "all's ready to clear," when suddenly they realize that Geraldine, her cousin, is missing and are told by Suzette that she went shopping with her fiance, Jack Travers. Pietro, valet to Thurston, adds that his master will also be a little late.

Jack and Geraldine arrive in a very angry mood, because a little Italian girl laughed (or smiled) at Jack overburdened with bundles. Jack's uncle, Thurston, enters and manages to settle the quarrel temporarily and proceeds to flirt with the yachting girls causing no end of jealousy. Mrs. Van Dare, Jenkins, her secretary, and Franz, a choirmaster, are introduced to Thurston. The party plans to board the yacht when Nina strolls on stage, singing for her living, and, seeing Jack, continues her flirtation. As Nina is counting her pennies, Corelli, her step-father enters, snatches the money from her and scolds her for not making more.

Then follows the intrigue evolved by Suzette and Pietro to get Nina on board the yacht as cabin boy by disguising her as Tony Columbo, a pickpocket. Franz and Jack reenter and coax Nina, now Tony, to sing for them. Franz, delighted with this "boy soprano", suggests he go to Bermuda, but Jack, Geraldine and Mrs. Van Dare can't lower themselves by associating with such a ragamuffin. Corelli enters and tries to take Nina home to punish her for taking Tony's clothes. She escapes and in the confusion runs on board the yacht as the curtain falls.

ACT II

The guests are making themselves at home in the languorous atmosphere of the Bermuda estate. Tony, as bus-boy, is stealing into everyone's heart with her "cute little monkey-shines." Jack and Geraldine still haven't made up and Thurston, in offering sympathy to Geraldine, falls completely in love with her. Simultaneously Mrs. Van Dare confesses to Jack that "Mr. Thurston has come to mean a great deal to me." When Thurston suggests they send a joint proposal to Geraldine, Jack thinks he's referring to Mrs. Van Dare and actually addresses the letter thus.

When Mrs. Van Dare receives a sudden call from the police regarding Tony Columbo, she decides to send him back to New York. Franz, however, finally agrees to adopt him, and, with Thurston, Jack and Jenkins, plan to make a "man of him."

Pietro and Suzette, realizing the complications in such an adoption, enlighten Jenkins and Franz of the truth, but not before the latter has purchased a huge supply of toys for his new son. Franz' bitter disappointment is not changed by Nina's plaintive pleading. Subsequently in trying to escape, Jenkins and Nina are both discovered and the ensemble is very indignant on learning Nina's true identity. It seems certain she will be handed over to the police when Franz finally weakens and agrees to adopt her in spite of Geraldine's warning of disgrace.

ACT III

Some years later at a ball held in Mrs. Van Dare's home, Nina appears as a famous opera singer. When she is recognized again, the plot is straightened out quickly to everyone's complete satisfaction.

THE SCHENECTADY LIGHT OPERA CO.

EDGAR L. MOULTON, *Director*

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ORCHESTRA

WALTER MIKELSON, *Concertmaster*

VIOLINS

Yvonne Devoy
Luba Diakoff
Robert Green
Constance Gordon

FLUTE

Elsa Tillema

CLARINETS

Herbert Vigour
Donald Motter

TROMBONE

John Morgan

PIANISTS

Amy Crabtree
Pauline Van Wert

CELLO

Marie Place
Ezio Verlotti

VIOLA

Werner Feibes

HORNS

Harold Britton
Merton Johnson

OBOE

Peggy Colby

TRUMPETS

Oliver Winn
Louis Cooke

BASS

James Murphy

DRUMS

Robert Burger

At present, plans are being made to present for our fall performance Gilbert and Sullivan's "Pirates of Penzance." For rehearsal dates read your local paper or call any of the officers.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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