

SCHENECTADY LIGHT OPERA COMPANY

presents

fionello!

Book by
Jerome Weidman
and
George Abbott



Music by
Jerry Bock
Lyrics by
Sheldon Harnick



October 9 - 25, 1992

Performances at 826 State Street, Schenectady
Fridays and Saturdays • 8 p.m.
Sundays • 2 p.m.

• COMPANY OPERATIONS: 1992-93 •

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<i>Secretary</i>	Della Gilman
<i>Treasurer</i>	Michael W. Jegabbi
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Vincent Bonafede	Thomas L. Heckert, Jr.	Orlando Pigliavento
Allan Foster	Colin A. McCarty	Thelma Zeh

• *FIGRELLO!* FACTS •

The Pulitzer Prize-winning play, *Fiorello!*, opened in 1959 at the Broadhurst Theatre in New York City. The story is timely, the music is delightful and the dynamic little man is history. And so, from that history, we've gathered some dates and events in the life of Fiorello H. LaGuardia that we thought might be of interest to our audience:

Born: December 11, 1882, in New York City of immigrant parents.

Elected to Congress: 1916.

Entered World War I: 1917, U. S. Army.

Returned to the United States: 1918, with a rank of Major.

Married: 1919 to Thea Almerigatti. Both wife and infant child died within months of each other in 1921.

Married: 1929 to Maria Fischer (long-time secretary to LaGuardia).

Lost race for Mayor of New York City to James L. Walker: 1929.

Elected Mayor of New York City: 1933. Reelected twice.

Retired at age 63 because of ill health: 1945.

Died: September 20, 1947.

TAKING OF PHOTOGRAPHS OR RECORDING

during the show is prohibited.

SMOKING is not permitted in the building.

• SPECIAL THANKS •

- To *Barbara Mahlmann*, for all her help and support.
- To anyone who helped in any way with this production, especially to the cast and crew, the house manager(s) and the ushers.
- To *B & N Floor Covering* for use of their parking lot during the performances.
- To *Adirondack Chapter of the NY Telephone Pioneers*.
- To *Leslie Mix*, for the loan/use of her trumpet.

• MUSICAL ACCOMPANIMENT •

Musical Director	Jean Van Syckle
Trumpet	Peter Giroux
.....	Mike Canonico (Oct. 18 only)
Reeds	Tom Gerbino
Keyboard	Valerie Lord
Bass	Dave Beck
Percussion	Joe Conroy

fiorello!



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• CAST OF CHARACTERS •

(In order of appearance)

<i>Fiorello H. LaGuardia</i>	Ted Peck
<i>Neil</i>	Randall B. Mix
<i>Morris</i>	Tom Watthews
<i>Mrs. Pomerantz</i>	Seana Munson
<i>Mr. Lopez</i>	John Drahzal
<i>Mr. Zappatella</i>	John M. O'Donaghue
<i>Dora</i>	Mychelle Lee Vedder
<i>Marie</i>	Barbara Mahlmann
<i>Ben Marino</i>	Mark A. Alciati
<i>Dealer</i>	Hank Pedicone
<i>Card Players</i>	Matthew Archibald, Alan Angelo, Joe Malone, Colin A. McCarty and Bill McColl
<i>Hecklers</i>	Colin A. McCarty, John M. O'Donaghue, John Drahzal
<i>Nina</i>	Debbie Paul
<i>Floyd</i>	Bruce Williams
<i>Sophie</i>	Suzane Talarico
<i>Thea</i>	Ruth Moore
<i>Senator</i>	Bill McColl
<i>Chadwick</i>	Colin A. McCarty
<i>Frantic</i>	John M. O'Donaghue
<i>Derby</i>	Matthew Archibald
<i>Fedora</i>	Debbie Paul
<i>Frankie</i>	John Drahzal
<i>Mitzi</i>	Debra Fredette
<i>Florence</i>	Kim Knightes
<i>Reporter/Tough Guy</i>	John Drahzal
<i>Woman</i>	Jacqueline Bee
<i>Man</i>	Alan Angelo
<i>Judge Carter</i>	Alan Angelo

• Ensemble •

Alan Angelo, Matthew Archibald, Jacqueline Bee, John Drahzal,
Rosana Escobar, Debra Fredette, Kim Knightes, Joe Malone,
Colin A. McCarty, Bill McColl, Seana Munson,
John M. O'Donaghue, Debbie Paul, Hank Pedicone and Suzane Talarico

• SCENES AND MUSICAL NUMBERS •

ACT I: Shortly before World War I (circa, 1914)

- Scene 1** Fiorello's Law Office, Greenwich Village
On the Side of the Angels Neil, Morris, Marie, Mrs. Pomerantz,
 Mr. Lopez and Mr. Zappatella
- Scene 2** The Ben Marino Association
Politics and Poker Ben and Card Players
- Scene 3** Strike Headquarters
Unfair Fiorello and Girls
- Scene 4** Fiorello's Office
Marie's Law Marie and Morris
- Scene 5** Streets of New York
The Name's LaGuardia Fiorello and Ensemble
- Scene 6** A Street
The Bum Won Ben and Card Players
- Scene 7** Rooftop of a Greenwich Village Tenement
I Love A Cop Dora
- Scene 8** Fiorello's Office, Congressional Building, Washington, D.C.
- Scene 9** A Street
I Love A Cop (Reprise) Dora, Floyd and Ensemble
- Scene 10** The Ben Marino Association
Till Tomorrow Thea, Morris, Marie and Ensemble
- Scene 11** Gangplank in New York Harbor
Home Again Ensemble

• 15-MINUTE INTERMISSION •

ACT II: Ten years later.

- Scene 1** The LaGuardia Home
When Did I Fall in Love? Thea
- Scene 2** The Penthouse
Gentleman Jimmy Mitzi and Girls
- Scene 3** Fiorello's Law Office, Greenwich Village
- Scene 4** Madison and 105th Street
- Scene 5** Fiorello's Law Office
- Scene 6** A Street
Gentleman Jimmy (Reprise) Ensemble
- Scene 7** The Ben Marino Association
Little Tin Box Ben and Card Players
Very Next Man Marie
Politics and Poker (Reprise) Ben and Card Players
- Scene 8** Fiorello's Law Office
Very Next Man (Reprise) Marie
Finale Fiorello, Marie and Ensemble



The Fiorello! Cast • October 1992 SLOC Production

• WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST •

TED PECK (*Fiorello*) is appearing in his 19th SLOC production. Since joining the organization in 1986, Ted has been seen in *Forum*, *1776*, *Lil' Abner* and *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*, to name just a few. He has also served as director for SLOC's *Sound of Music*, *1776*, *Annie* and last season's *Pirates of Penzance*. Ted also directs at Schenectady Civic, mostly recently for *Hay Fever*, and is a past president of SLOC.

BARBARA MAHLMANN (*Marie*) marks her fifth production with SLOC. She has also been seen in *Mame* (Gooch), *Annie*, *Baby* and *Pirates of Penzance*. Last season she produced *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. Her favorite roles have been Portia in *Cinderella*, Lucy in *Charlie Brown* and Mary in *Little Mary Sunshine*. A homemaker, she owns/operates Sugar 'n Spice Cakes.

MARK A. ALCIATI (*Ben*) is making his SLOC debut; in fact, this is his first acting role since high school. Mark has also performed in local variety shows and area coffeehouses where he has been able to perform some original music. Mark is a speech pathologist with the Amsterdam Memorial Hospital.

RUTH MOORE (*Thea*) first appeared with SLOC as Edith in last season's *Pirates of Penzance*. Her favorite roles include Sarah in *Guys and Dolls*, Dorothy in *The Wizard of Oz*, and Josephine in *Pinafore*. Ruth has also directed dinner theatre and has costumed several productions, including Hilltown Players' upcoming show, *The Miracle Worker*. In her spare time, she is an attorney for a state agency.

TOM WATTHEWS (*Morris*) last appeared with SLOC in *Forum* as Hysterium. He has appeared in many area musicals, most recently in *Bells Are Ringing* and *Pajama Game* with the Village Stage in Delmar. Newly-retired from teaching high school biology for 32 years, Tom looks forward to more time for travel, the opera and performing.

RANDALL B. MIX (*Neil*) is marking his first performance with SLOC, following a very busy year in area theatre, including performances as Verges in *Much Ado About Nothing* with Actor's Shakespeare Company, George Scheider in *Chapter Two* with Schenectady Civic Players, Odin in *The Necklace Brisingamen* with Masque Theatre, and as Stanley Jerome in *Broadway Bound* with Albany Civic Theatre. Randy also recently appeared in his first "industrial" video.

MYCHELLE LEE VEDDER (*Dora*) performed the lead as Melody in SLOC's *Tied to the Tracks*, and as Shy in *Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*. She has also performed at the Queen's Theatre as Terry in *Extremities*, as Alais in Albany Civic's *The Lion in Winter*, and in ESIPA's *The Snow Queen*, *Knockabout Boy* and *Sleeping Beauty*, *Kabuki Style*--which continued to an off-Broadway run in NYC. Mychelle is thankful to her family and God for their love and support.

BRUCE WILLIAMS (*Floyd*) has appeared in numerous SLOC shows over the past several years, but this role brings him to the spotlight. Bruce has been in the chorus of *Chicago*, *Tied to the Tracks*, *Whorehouse*, *Gondoliers* and *Once Upon A Mattress* with SLOC. Bruce has appeared in many other local theatre company shows and in Northeast Ballet Company's *The Nutcracker*.

• PRODUCTION STAFF •

<i>Producer/Assistant Director</i>	Thomas L. Heckert, Jr.
<i>Director/Set Designer</i>	Dick Harte
<i>Musical Director</i>	Jean Van Syckle
<i>Choreographer</i>	Caren Lessner
<i>Lighting Design and Execution</i>	Greg Rucinski
Assisted by	George Cain, Karen Empie, Jenny Novosel, David Paul, Mary Rainey, Matthew Thornton
<i>Set Construction/Painting</i>	Dick Harte, Tom Heckert, Tom Watthews, Bill McColl, Colin A. McCarty, Ted Vickery, John M. O'Donaghue, Joe Malone, Mark A. Alciati, Barbara Mahlmann, Mychelle Lee Vedder, Suzane Talarico, Nina Rindenello, Bryant Empie, Bob Farquharson, Jacqueline Bee and Andrew LaPiona
<i>Stage Manager</i>	Clair Bee
<i>Costumes</i>	Molly Wright
Assisted by	Linda Howe, Midge Consler, Joy Siskin, Christina Pedersen
<i>Makeup Design</i>	Joseph A. Agostine, Jr.
<i>Hair Design</i>	Loretta Romero
<i>Properties</i>	The Cast
<i>Sound</i>	Paul Croteau
<i>Rehearsal Secretaries</i>	Nina Rindenello, Linda Howe
<i>Audition Arrangements</i>	Eunice Chouffi
Assisted by	Paige and Arthur Gauvreau, Christina and Larry Pedersen, Nina Rindenello, Gioia Ottaviano and Sue Culver
<i>Publicity</i>	Matthew Teichner
Assisted by	Paige Gauvreau, Ted Peck, Barbara Mahlmann, Randall Mix, Mychelle Lee Vedder, Bruce Williams, Mark Alciati
<i>Playbill Design, Layout and Typesetting</i>	Madeline Codella
<i>Posters and Flyers</i>	Madeline Codella
<i>T-Shirts</i>	Ginnie Mills
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<i>Cast Party</i>	Barbara Mahlmann



• WHO'S WHO IN PRODUCTION •

THOMAS L. HECKERT, JR. (*Producer/Assistant Director*) is producing for SLOC the second time. Tom has been involved with SLOC in many capacities on stage and off. He has been stage manager and assistant director for *Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*, on the lighting crew for *Cabaret*, and house manager for *Little Shop of Horrors*.

DICK HARTE (*Director/Set Designer*) brings his 31 years of regional theatre experience in all capacities to his first directorial assignment at SLOC. Dick has appeared in professional summer stock and dinner theatre productions. At SLOC, Dick has been seen as Billy Flynn in last year's *Chicago*, and previously as Captain Von Trapp in *Sound of Music* and as Captain Hook in *Peter Pan*.

JEAN VAN SYCKLE (*Musical Director*) hails from Altamont and is making her SLOC debut. Jean maintains an ambitious schedule as a private piano/vocal instructor, organist/director of church music, and creator/writer of numerous variety shows. She has also served as musical director with Family Players for *Oklahoma*, *Cinderella*, *On the Town* and *42nd Street*. She has appeared in their production of *Rumors*, and in *Cinderella* as the Fairy Godmother. Jean is also the director and founder of the Suburban Sounds Community Chorus of Guilderland.

CAREN LESSNER (*Choreographer*) has danced with the NJ Ballet, as lead dancer at Circus World in Orlando, Florida; and performed in Mark Wilson's *Magic of the Globe* at Busch Gardens, Williamsburg, Va. She has toured the U.S., Canada and South America with Warner Bros. *Bugs Bunny Follies* as well as performed at major resorts in the Catskills and Poconos. She is currently performing with husband Lawrence and has recently choreographed the SLOC production of *Cabaret*.

GREG RUCINSKI (*Lighting Designer*) began his theatrical career at SLOC in 1979. His experience has grown to include lighting designs for 19 productions (including SLOC's *Sing for Your Supper*, *Amahl & the Night Visitors* and *Peter Pan*), several set designs, and numerous crew positions at SLOC and Schenectady Civic Players. He has a B.A. in theatre from SUNY-Albany. He met his wife, Sue (who appears in *Fiorello!*), right here at SLOC.

• MUSICAL THEATRE AWARDS •

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