Schenectady Light Opera Co. presents

Show Boat

Hammerstein-Kern

Erie Theatre

November 27, 28, 29, 30
SCHENECTADY LIGHT OPERA COMPANY

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Welcome to our first show of the season! In this production of “Show Boat” we have tried to create the atmosphere of Mississippi River life during that wonderful, noisy era when the energy of our people was so great that it burst the confines of both geography and custom. That energy soon transformed the river and the mid-continent it serves into the rich, productive land we know. Meanwhile, the showboats disappeared from the great river, but the heritage they gave, of music and lore, will always be a part of our culture. We hope you enjoy “Show Boat” as much as we enjoy presenting it.

I wish to add this comment to what has been said in recent months concerning Schenectady’s need for a civic auditorium. The Erie Theater has served the Schenectady Light Opera Company well, but the quality of our productions and your favorable reaction to them is due to the creative talent we have been able to command, not only to the stage facilities we have used. If the theater is demolished, we will continue to present shows you will enjoy, using such facilities as we can afford. At the same time, we will work toward the construction of a civic auditorium suitable for our use, and for the use of other civic groups who now make presentations in other, often inadequate, facilities.

We believe that such a civic auditorium is a logical and economically feasible part of the redevelopment of central Schenectady as the focal point of commerce and culture in this world-famous area of research and industry.

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“SHOW BOAT”
Production Staff

Producer ————Jack Byrne
Director—————Bethia D. Vernon
Conductor————Cleveland L. Howard
Production Manager————Jack Ericson
Stage Manager————Jack Byrne
Assistant Stage Manager——Bertha Lloyd
Budget Control and Purchasing———Art Hughes
Orchestra Manager——Frances Donegan
Music Supervisor———Jack Newkirk
Dramatic Coach———Bertha Lloyd
Choreographers——William Werneke, Fred Herbert
Prompter——Melanie Kidder
Student Director——Ann Gouerneur
Librarian——Dave Davidson
Rehearsal Secretary——Martha Lowe
Accompanists——Joan Pollak, Karl Koss, Jane Stchn, Janet Curran, Rita Auer, Liese Pfeiffer, Anne Predko
Set Designer——Betty Eger
Scene Painting——Betty Eger, Chairman; Naomi Smith, Secretary; Jocelyn Beer, Roberta Blackmer, Irene Book, Joan Davidson, Gloria DeCarlo, Suzanne Elliot, Gloria Foy, Ronald Gabis, Erna Hansen, Les Jones, Maureen Kellaker, Barbara Kenny, Jean Moggett, Joy Nicklas, Betty O’Bryon, Gloria Ottaviano, Edna Rice, Charlotte Sweet, Barbara Trask, Margaret Way

Construction Design——Jack Gingrich
Set Technician——Jack Ericson
Scene Construction——Jim Morton, Art Hughes, Bill Gleason, Dave Hastings, Nick Hull, Barry Havens, Warren Holter
Costume Design——Hope Lawrence
Costumer——Gloria Ericson
Costume Committee——Minnie Loewindorff, Ellen Coulter, Betty Boothe, Erna Hansen, Charlotte Sweet, Barbara Trask, Helen Sweeney, Ann George, Helen Simmons, Emily Leonard, Betty Eger, Marie Pletenik, Toni Venneman, Mary D’Arienzo, Jean McKibben, Dee Buffam, Alice Glindmeyer, Arlene Feller
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"SHOW BOAT"

Music by Jerome Kern
Book and Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II
Based on the novel by Edna Ferber

Musical Numbers

ACT I

1. “Cotton Blossom” ......................................................... Ensemble
2. Show Boat Parade and Ballyhoo — Capt. Andy, the Show Boat Troupe and Townspeople
3. “I Drift Along With My Fancy” ........................................ Ravenal
4. “Only Make Believe” ..................................................... Ravenal and Magnolia
5. “Ol’ Man River” ............................................................ Joe and Male Chorus
6. “Can’t Help Lovin’ Dat Man” — Julie, Queenie, Magnolia, Joe and Quartette
7. “Misery” ........................................................................ Ensemble
8. “Life Upon the Wicked Stage” ........................................... Ellie and Ensemble
9. Ballyhoo .......................................................................... Ensemble
10. “You Are Love” ............................................................. Magnolia and Ravenal
11. FINALE .......................................................................... Entire Ensemble

ACT II

1. “At the Fair” ................................................................. Sightseers, Barkers and Sports
2. “Why Do I Love You?” — Magnolia, Ravenal and Ensemble
3. “Bill” (Lyric by P. G. Wodehouse) ................................. Julie
4. Reprise “Can’t Help Lovin’ Dat Man” ............................. Magnolia
5. Scene Music, St. Agatha’s Convent ................................... Ensemble
6. Reprise “Only Make Believe” .......................................... Ravenal
7. “Goodbye, My Lady Love” Cake Walk .............................. Frank and Ellie
8. “After the Ball” .............................................................. Magnolia
9. Reprise “You Are Love” .................................................. Ravenal
10. FINALE ......................................................................... Entire Company
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Cast
(In Order of Their Appearance)

Windy                                        Richard McPhilomy
Steve Baker                                   Ernest Tetraault
Pete                                          Neil Stillman
Queenie                                       Elsie Proctor
Parthy Ann Hawks                              Shirley Phillips
Captain Andy Hawks                            Robert Bogggs
Ellie May Chipley                             Fulvia Bru
Frank Schultz                                 Larry Brown
Julie Laverne                                 Edith Struglia
Clown (with dog)                              Jackie deLaForgue
Gaylord Ravenal                               Jack O'Connor
Vallon (sheriff)                               Warren Holter
Magnolia Hawks                                Carol Newkirk
Joe                                           Scott Conway
Rubberface                                    Peter Strong
Backwoodsman                                  Don Little, Warren Holter
Barkers                                       George Richbein, Jack Gingrich
Strong Woman                                  Martha Lowe
Couchie Dancer                                Wendy Weise
Ethel                                         Mary Brown
Mrs. O'Brien (landlady)                       Ellen Dewey
Jim                                          Ralph Marston
Jake                                         Earl Jerris
Man with Guitar                               Dick Traver
Janitor                                       Neil Stillman
Nun                                          Elaine Hotaling
Kim                                          Debbie Sawyer
Lottie                                        Janet Clarke
Dolly                                         Jeanne Graves

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Synopsis of Scenes

ACT I

Scene 1: The Levee at Natchez on the Mississippi. In the 1880’s.
Scene 2: Kitchen pantry of the “Cotton Blossom.” Five minutes later.
Scene 3: Auditorium and stage of the “Cotton Blossom.” One hour later.
Scene 4: Box-office, on foredeck. Three weeks later.
Scene 5: Auditorium and stage during the 3rd Act of “The Parson’s Bride” that night.
Scene 6: The top deck. Later that night.
Scene 7: The Levee at Greenville. Next morning.

ACT II

Scene 1: The Midway Plaisance, Chicago World’s Fair, 1893.
Scene 2: A room on Ontario Street, 1904.
Scene 3: Rehearsal room, Trocadero Music Hall. A few days later.
Scene 4: St. Agatha’s Convent. About the same time.
Scene 6: Box-office, “Cotton Blossom.” 1920’s.
Scene 7: Levee at Greenville. A few minutes later.

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Bertha Pitkin Lasdon

Members of the Chorus

SOPRANOS
Janet Clarke  Doreen Heard  Martha Lowe  Bernice Schein
Alice DeLaney  Elaine Hotaling  Joyce MacClay  Binnie Streeter
Marlis Drier  Mildred Jones  Florence McGinley  Sonia Swartout
Thomasina Fosegan  Charlotte Laabs  Arleen Saks  Georgia Bascue

ALTOS
Mary Brown  Beatrice Fey  Jeanne Graves  Mary Lou Tullock
Alice Doin  Brooke Frankwitz  Pam Larson

TENORS
Hal Dakin  Jack Gingrich  George Rehbein  Herbert Spriggs
Dave Davidson  Don Little  Neil Stillman  Emerson Smith

BASSES
Ralph Boyd  Russell Felthousen  Armond Mastro  Dick Traver
Leslie Bernd  Warren Holter  Bob Pulver  Stokie Sille
Ralph Marston  Peter Strong

Members of Orchestra

VIOLIN
Edward Rice  Jane Stehn  Robert Goble
Jo Anne Steubing  Rita Auer
Theodore Takeroff
John Geddes
Nancy Miller

VIOLA
Leo Kliwen

CELLO
Arthur Catricala

BASS
Andrajs Garoza

Piano
Flute
Robert Zuvers

Oboe
Zenia Curtis

Clarinet
Richard Smith

Bassoon

Horn
John Adams
Theodore Rautenberg

Trumpet
Joseph Mirate
William Hagel

Trombone
Norman Strehle

Percussion
Harry Waters
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PONY DANCERS
Wendy Weise, Sonia Swartout, Patricia Murphy, Carolyn Lewinski.

KITCHEN PANTRY DANCERS
Rosalind Linder, Judith Linder

Usherettes

Janet Keck
Juanita Albrecht
Evelyn Kuzia
Virginia Coller
Anette Zaino
Carol Paust
Janice Teagle
Mary Jane Maurielo
Ann Maurielo
Sylvia Humphrey
Casey Orzel
Lillian Orzel
Carol Gay
Grace Peppas
Barbara Soellner
Jocelyn Beer
Marian White
Bevery Hommel
Margaret Bakuzonis
Emily Tymula
Eleanor Kornfeld
Betty Helzer
Dorothea Hilbert
Elizabeth Bess
Barbara Butenhof
Peg Bundy
Claire Gitsham
Irma Hamilton
Beverly Gorse
Beverly Fasake
Joyce Berger
Gioio Ottaviano
Marcia Keating
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Thelma Hill
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Who's Who in Cast

ROBERT BOGGS (Captain Andy)—Graduate of Southern Methodist University, appeared in the first off-Broadway production of "The Saint of Bleeker Street". Has also had parts in "The Bartered Bride", "You Can't Take It With You", "Family Portrait", "My Sister Eileen" and various college talent shows and choirs. First Show with SLOC, employed with GE Advertising and Public Relations Training Program.

CAROL NEWKIRK (Magnolia)—Graduate of Roberts Wesleyan College, appeared in several SLOC shows including "The Red Mill", "Brigadoon", and "New Moon". Native of Kittaning, Pa., she is best remembered for her role of Julie in "Carousel". Teaches beginning piano and sells real estate. Recently elected to the NPA.

SCOTT CONWAY (Joe)—First appearance with SLOC, having studied at both the Troy and Albany Conservatories of Music, and graduated from the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston where his teacher was Frederick Jagel, of the Metropolitan Opera Co. Scott has done concert work in New York, Virginia, Philadelphia, has studied with Rhinald Werrenrath and Boris Goldowsky. Now a soloist at St. George's Church, formerly had a radio program on WTRY.

JACK O'CONNOR (Ravenal)—Graduate of Rutgers University, appeared in the Schenectady Light Opera presentations of "Chocolate Soldier" and "New Moon". Employed with GE Advertising and Sales Promotion Department as project supervisor in visual media.

EDITH STRUGLIA (Julie)—A graduate of Cortland State and holding a Master's degree from Boston University, Edith teaches at Grout Park School. Has appeared in SLOC productions of "New Moon", "Sweethearts", "Carousel", and as Martha in "Music in the Air". Winner of SLOC scholarship in 1951. Active in Schenectady Choral Society.

ELSIE PROCTOR (Queenie)—Albany Business College graduate, experience in operetta work in hometown of Canajoharie. "Terrace on Parade" star. Next Terrace Choir, won contest at the Harvest Moon Ball and then danced on TV. Works at Naval Supply Depot.

SHIRLEY PHILLIPS (Parthy Ann)—Potsdam State Teachers College graduate, of their Crane Dept. of Music as French Horn Major. "Show Boat" her 12th show for SLOC. Was Lizette in "Sweethearts". Louise in "Carousel". Has been associate producer, chorus master, scenery painting technician and orchestra member with SLOC.

FULVIA BRUN (Ellie)—Active in several phases of theater, Fulvia has been in SLOC productions of "Chocolate Soldier" and "Fledermaus", Civic playhouse performances of "Miranda" and "Bell for Adano". Studies voice and ballet. In Union College Mountebank's coming production of "Misalliance" does occasional "on-camera" work at WRGB where she is secretary to program manager.

LARRY BROWN (Frank)—B.A. at Union College in 1949. Graduate work at U.C.L.A. Was Dr. Blind in SLOC production of "Fledermaus" and has done chorus and dance work in our productions of "Music in the Air" and "Carousel".
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Back Stage

JACK BYRNE (Producer)—Brings a wealth of stage experience to the job of producer... served Civic Players as chairman of executive committee, director, business manager, stage manager and in several other jobs in addition to acting in various shows... Apparatus Sales with General Electric.

BETTY VERNON (Director)—First show with SLOC... widely experienced with Civic Players, Mountebanks and Alco Thespians... directed “The Barretts of Wimpole Street,” “Strange Bedfellows,” and “Light Up the Sky”. Employed at Alco Products, Inc.

CLEVELAND HOWARD (Conductor)—Schenectady welcomes Cleveland from Wareham, Mass., where he was Supervisor of Vocal Music and directed community performances... Bachelor of Music and Master of Music from Boston University... He was assistant director of the Boston University Choral Art Society and directed the Chapel Choir. Presently employed with the Schenectady school system.

JACK ERICSON (Production Manager)—A native of Whitestone, Long Island, Jack has worked on every SLOC show since “New Moon”. His hobbies, Hi-Fi and wood-working fit him perfectly for his job as production manager. Manufacturing engineer at General Electric Co.

JACK NEWKIRK (Music Supervisor)—Veteran of several SLOC shows... “Brigadoon”, “Red Mill”, “Music in the Air”... metallurgist with the General Electric Co.

BILL WERNER (Choreographer)—Charter SLOC member... he worked with Etta Moore when SLOC was the Bellevue Chorus, and sang tenor leads in “Mikado”, “Pirates of Penzance”, “Gondolier” and “Waltz Dream”. He now teaches dancing at the Fred Herbert Studio... has studied with Danilova, Fokine and Muriel Stewart. The Civic Players and Musical Comedy Players have used his talents.

HOPE LAWRENCE (Costume Designer)—University of Pennsylvania graduate... former art teacher in Schenectady and Philadelphia schools... first SLOC production.

GLORIA ERICSON (Costumer)—Previous SLOC experience in chorus of “New Moon”... active in scenery construction of other shows.

BETTY EGGER (Set Designer)—Native of Schenectady... BFA from Syracuse University... has done television work with WSYR, Syracuse.

JACK GINGRICH (Construction Designer)—Lafayette College... has served as stage manager, production manager, and in chorus in “Carousel”, “Brigadoon” and “Yeoman of the Guard”.

Back Stage
Scholarships

Each year the Light Opera Company sponsors two scholarships for use in furthering the voice training of qualified residents of Schenectady. The awards of these scholarships are based on a public audition in the Spring of each year. The scholarship judges are composed of musically qualified residents of this area. This next Spring will be the tenth year of awarding these scholarships.

To persons or students between the ages of 16 and 30, residing within 50 miles of Schenectady, and planning vocal study—we of the Light Opera Company urge you to watch for announcements of the auditions for 1957.

Thomas Rice was awarded the $100 Scholarship for 1956. Elaine Kokoski was awarded $50.
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