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PRESENTS



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OF
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With the music of
EDVARD GRIEG

MAY 19, 20, 21, 1960

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To Our Audience:

Welcome to the Schenectady Light Opera Company's performance of "Song of Norway," the delightful musical based on the life of Edvard Grieg. The cast has been rehearsing since late February in preparation for the show and we hope you will enjoy it.

Of course, a musical production requires the coordinated efforts and talents of a great many people in addition to the cast. The scenery was designed, constructed and painted by members of the Light Opera Company. Costumes were also created by company members. The names of the individuals who have capably performed these and other vital tasks, such as staging, lighting, tickets and publicity, are listed elsewhere in the program. Their behind-the-scenes efforts deserve high praise.

The purpose of the Light Opera Company is to produce musical shows for your pleasure and for the enjoyment of the participants. Proceeds from ticket sales are used to help defray production costs and the cost of maintaining facilities for scenery construction, costumes and storage. Funds are also needed for two annual scholarships awarded to qualified residents of the Schenectady area for use in furthering their voice training.

We invite you to contact one of the officers if you would like more information about the company.

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Song of Norway

Based on the Life and Music of Edward Grieg

Music by

EDVARD GRIEG

Lyrics and Musical Adaptation by

ROBERT WRIGHT and GEORGE FORREST

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CAST IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

Act I

RIKAARD NORDRAAK	ALFRED GOLDBERGER
EINAR	LOU DAVIDSON
GRIMA	ELIZABETH FINCH
SIGRID	BARBARA BIEGANSKI
GUNNAR	RICHARD TRAVER
NINA HAGERUP	CAROL NEWKIRK
EDVARD GRIEG	ALLAN FOSTER
YOUNG PEOPLE OF THE VILLAGE—Singers and Dancers	
FATHER NORDRAAK	JOHN INGERSOLL
FATHER GRIEG	WARREN HOLTER
MOTHER GRIEG	VIVIAN TICE
FREDDY (The village fiddler)	JACK MANGO
COUNT PEPPi LeLOUP	RONALD FRAGOMENI
LOUISA GIOVANNI (The Countess LeLoup)	ELIZABETH COE
SERVANT	THOMAS CAROTA

Act II

ELVERA	{ Music Students of Copenhagen Conservatory }	JEAN LISTON
HEDWIG		FRAN BRITT
GRETA		ESTHER RORICH
MARGHARETA		ANNE BRICKLEY
MISS NORDEN—A Faculty Member		MARIE CANNON
MISS ANDERS—A Pupil of the Conservatory		BONNIE JETTER
HENRIK IBSEN		TED COOKE
TITO (Proprietor of the Chocolate Shop)		JACK MANGO
PISONI (Impressario of the Royal Opera)		PETER CLEMM
ADELINA (Prima Ballerina of the Opera)		LINDA STEINBISS

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The Story

Grieg's music, both the familiar and the not so familiar, has been "adapted" and supplied with lyrics by the authors, who have attacked the original compositions with gusto . . . The libretto sticks just about as close to the facts of Grieg's life as the score to his music—meaning not too close to impede the progress of a lavishly conventional operetta conceived and produced in the good old-fashioned way.

The life-and-music of Edvard Grieg gets under way on Troidhaugen—which is to say, Hill of the Trolls—outside Bergen, Norway. It is Midsummer's Eve and the early 1860's. Rikaard Nordraak is on hand, delivering himself of a legend to the tune of the A Minor Concerto. So are Nina Hagerup and Edvard Grieg, forming a triangle which is, as the saying goes, eternal.

The legend concluded, Rikaard and Nina and Edvard turn their three-cornered attention to "Hill of Dreams," also founded on the Concerto in A Minor. Here you discover that while Rikaard admires Nina and Nina loves Edvard, Edvard cares dearly for himself until he catches the eye of opera singer Countess Louisa Giovanni. The Countess is, we are assured, a purely fictional character, dreamed up for theatrical purposes, and . . . is an amiable caricature of a temperamental prima donna; her long-suffering spouse, Count Peppi LeLoup is uncommonly amusing.

Edvard Grieg, the Chopin-to-be-of-Norway, is engaged as Louisa's accompanist. On the piano, mind you! So, to bring about one of those necessary girl-loses-boy mid-operetta finales, our composer-hero departs from Bergen to Copenhagen, from Copenhagen to Rome, becoming more and more famous, sophisticated, and disinterested in the folks back home. But, in the end, Edvard does right by everybody, returning to complete his piano concerto which gives "Song of Norway" its biggest and best ballet.

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SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

Act One

SCENE 1: TROLDHAUGEN—(Hill of the Trolls) just outside the town of Bergen, Norway. Midsummer's Eve in the 1860's.

SCENE 2: A SQUARE ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF BERGEN.

—◆—
INTERMISSION (Fifteen Minutes)
—◆—

Act Two

SCENE 1: COPENHAGEN — Reception Room of the Royal Conservatory One Year Later.

SCENE 2: ROME—Tito's Chocolate Shop More than One Year Later.

SCENE 3: ROME—Ballroom at Villa Pincio.

SCENE 4: TROLDHAUGEN—Interior of Grieg's New Home—Some Time Later.

SCENE 5: THE SONG OF NORWAY.

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MUSICAL NUMBERS

Act I

PRELUDE

Scene 1

The Legend Rikaard
Hill of Dreams Nina, Edvard, Rikaard

Scene 2

Freddy and His Fiddle..... Sigrid, Einar, Ensemble
Now Louisa, Ensemble
Strange Music Nina, Edvard
Midsummer's Eve Rikaard, Louisa
March of the Trolgers..... Ensemble
Hymn of Betrothal..... Mother Grieg, Rikaard, and Ensemble
Finale Ensemble

Act II

Scene 1

Bon Vivant Peppi, Edvard and Ensemble
Three Loves Louisa, Edvard
Finaletto... Edvard, Louisa, Nina, Rikaard, Edward and Ensemble

Scene 2

Scene 3

Waltz Eternal Ensemble

Scene 4

At Christmastime... Father and Mother Grieg, Nina, Boys and Girls
Christmas Postlude Edvard, Nina

Scene 5

Finale—Concerto Ensemble

Singers

Sopranos

Barbara Bieganski
Anne Brickley
Fran Britt
Marie Cannon
Elizabeth Finch
Agnes Frost
Jean Liston

Tenors

Dale Atwell
Lou Davidson
Robert Curtiss
Gene Zola

Altos

Jane Bibber
Esther Rorich
Janice Staples
Sue Watrous
Mary Jane Valachovic

Bass

Hal Dakin Dave Davidson
Jack Hennessey Jim Hurley
 Richard Traver

Dance Numbers

ACT I

Scene 1

Scene 2

Spring Dance ----- *Corps de Ballet*
Halling ----- *Corps de Ballet*
Freddy and His Fiddle ----- *Freddy, Sigrid, Einar*
March of the Trollgers

ACT II

Scene 1

Bon Vivant ----- *Miss Anders and Peppi*

Scene 2

Rigaudon ----- *Tito and the Waitresses*
(*Merry Clarke, Ellen Zeh*)

Scene 3

Waltz Eternal ----- *Ensemble*
Peer Gynt Ballet ----- *Adelina and Corps de Ballet*

Scene 4

Scene 5

Finale—Song of Norway Fantasy { *Maiden Norway* ----- *Marjorie Agens*
Grieg ----- *Ralph Staves*
Northwind ----- *Linda Steinbiss*
Snow ----- *Corps de Ballet*

The Dancers

CORPS DE BALLET

(Members of Schenectady Civic Ballet Co.)

Marjorie Agens, Fulvia Brun, Merry Clarke, Sandra Danzig,
Diane Hamilton, Cathy Relyea, Marsha Silverman,
Linda Steinbiss and Ellen Zeh.

with

Ralph Staves - Jack Mango - Desider Simonovic

The Orchestra

Edward Rice, Concertmaster - John Geddes, Manager

Flute <i>Martha Lowe</i> <i>Eleanor Boot</i>	Trumpet <i>George Coulter</i> <i>Robert Van Degna</i>	Viola <i>Leo Kliven</i> <i>Gladys Newbold</i>
Oboe <i>David Perkett</i>	Trombones <i>Douglas Sager</i> <i>Fred Kirk</i>	Cellos <i>Arthur Catricala</i> <i>George Pestalozzi</i>
Clarinet <i>Clark Eddy</i> <i>Carol Fisher</i>	Violins <i>Edward Rice</i> <i>Walter Mikelson</i> <i>Theodore Takaroff</i> <i>John Geddes</i> <i>Anthony Pezzano</i> <i>George Lohaus</i> <i>Ernest Horvath</i> <i>Lee Owens</i>	Bass <i>Andrej Garoza</i>
Bassoon <i>Eugene Kane</i>	Piano <i>Rheta Auer</i>	Harp <i>Corky Christman</i>
Horns <i>John Adams</i> <i>Ted Rautenberg</i> <i>Richard Hadsell</i>	Percussion <i>Betty Schiff</i> <i>Bedford Bonta</i>	

Who's Who in Production

- JOSEPH BRICKLEY (Director):** Audio-visual producer at GE's Audio-visual communications operation. Has written and directed motion pictures, supervised production of closed-circuit television show. For Mohawk-Hudson Council on Educational Television, adapted, dramatized, and staged Ring Lardner's "You Know Me, Al." Was in Civic Players' "Death of a Salesman." Phi Beta Kappa from Boston U.
- JACK HARRISON (Conductor):** Music department at Scotia-Glenville Central High School. Was chorus master for "Naughty Marietta," in chorus for "Die Fledermaus," in orchestra of "Merry Widow." Member of Madrigal Singers and of St. Joseph's Church choir. Active with Cubs and Boy Scouts. Has assisted and performed in WRGB educational TV programs.
- MARILYN RAMSEY (Choreographer)** Director of Ramsey Schools of Ballet, Schenectady and Mayfair. Has studied at American School of Ballet, School of Ballet Repertory and Ballet Russe, New York City, Jacob's Pillow and locally. Member Schenectady Civic Ballet Company. Choreographer for "Guys and Dolls" and "Kiss Me Kate" for Musicals Under the Stars. Provided choreography for several previous SLOC shows. Dancer-choreographer of past SLOC Christmas show.
- CAROL RUSSO (Chorus Mistress, Assistant to Conductor):** Recently appointed vocal music teacher in Scotia-Glenville schools. Directed Glen Worden Children's Theatre Christmas pageant last December. Played lead singing role of Hattie in "Kiss Me, Kate," staged by Musicals Under the Stars last summer.
- WILLIAM BACHTEL (Production Manager):** Product engineer GE. Member National Society of Professional Engineers, AIEE, Schenectady GE Engineers Association. Worked on scenery last show. Raises tropical fish, enjoys working on automobiles, is an avid reader and an Alfred Hitchcock fan.
- RICHARD LOWE (Stage Manager):** Marketing specialist GE. From Seattle, Washington originally. Business manager Schenectady Choral Society. Longtime SLOC member, in chorus of "Die Fledermaus," "Carousel," "Sweethearts," to name a few. Other interests are photography, outdoor sports, conservation activities.
- JIM MORTON (Set Design):** Advertising copywriter GE. Phi Beta Kappa from DePauw University. Designed for University Theatre productions, Gulfport, Mississippi Community Theatre. Active in Civic Players.
- LEO WILKOSZYNSKI (Set Construction):** Engineer at GE. Born and educated in Brazil, graduate work at RPI. Production manager for "Naughty Marietta." Since then, on set work. Member Board of Directors. Enjoys tennis and sailing.
- THOMAS BENN (Lighting):** General design engineer GE. Has been active in lighting and/or set construction for several SLOC shows—"Trio," "La Perichole," "Finian's Rainbow." Likes gardening, swimming, sailing.
- MARYANNE STAUB (Costume Design):** Born in Amsterdam, Holland. Fashion model, designer, art student. Assisted with costumes for Civic Players' "Seven-Year Itch." Chorus of "LaPerichole," "Fanny," backstage for "Carousel." Also in "Kiss Me Kate" for MUTS.
- BETTY HOWELL (Properties):** Teacher at Elmer Avenue School. Graduate of New Paltz State Teachers. This is her ninth SLOC show, properties being her special talent. Also with Civic Players, props again.

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Who's Who in the Cast

CAROL NEWKIRK (Nina): With SLOC since 1952. Leads in "Brigadoon," "New Moon," "Carousel," and "Showboat." For Civic Players had female lead in "Pursuit of Happiness," was in "Front Page." Played Desdmona in "Othello" done by Union College Mountebanks. Member Music Study Club, Etude Club. Also enjoys outdoor sports year round.

PEGGY COE (Countess): Most recently seen as Lucy in "The Telephone." Also in "LaPerichole," "Die Fledermaus," and many others. Sang Good Friday soprano solo in Faure's Requiem at Schenectady's First Methodist Church. Soprano soloist at First Presbyterian in Troy. Directs Junior League "Tune-Ups." Teaches music at Sunnyview three times a week.

ALLAN D. FOSTER (Edvard): Metallurgical Engineer GE. Yale graduate. There sang with "Jesters" and member of Gilbert and Sullivan Society. With SLOC since 1957, won 1959 Producer's Award for "LaPerichole." Played Captain Dick in "Naughty Marietta," Paquillo in "LaPerichole," Cascada in "Merry Widow." Soccer player—from Yale Varsity team to Schenectady Rangers.

RONALD FRAGOMENI (Count Peppi): In Audio-Visual Communications GE. Siena graduate. First started with SLOC 14 years ago, dropped out to spend more time flying, now has private pilot license. In the rest of his spare time, raises French poodles, and is building his own home.

ALFRED GOLDBERGER (Rikaard): Lawyer. Graduate of Union and Albany Law School. Was class president, is now class representative to Union Alumni Council. Edited college paper, won prize for history thesis. New with SLOC this year.

VIVIAN TICE (Mother Grieg): Secretary GE. Newcomer to SLOC. Church soloist Cobleskill Methodist Church. Has participated in several GE Christmas shows. Won song writing contest for Cobleskill bicentennial celebration.

WARREN HOLTER (Father Grieg): Development engineer GE. Chorus and minor speaking parts in "Music in the Air," "Carousel," "Die Fledermaus," "Showboat." Production Manager for "Merry Widow," "Fanny." Stage manager for "Finian's Rainbow." Producer for "Naughty Marietta." Lighting technician for "LaPerichole." Past Facilities Manager, member of Board of Directors for past four years. Presently Vice President, Production Development. Also golfs and skis.

Song of Norway

Production Staff

Director
JOSEPH BRICKLEY

Conductor
JACK HARRISON

Choreographer
MARILYN RAMSEY

Orchestra Manager
JOHN GEDDES

Chorus Mistress
CAROL RUSSO

Assistant to the Director
MARIE F. CANNON

Accompanists
RHETA AUER
JOANN RAUTENBERG
MARIE PLETENIK

Prompters and Rehearsal Secretaries
FLORENCE MCGINLEY
JEAN DePASQUALE

Set Designer
JAMES MORTON

Costume Design
MARYANN STAUB

Production Manager
WILLIAM BACHTEL

Stage Manager
RICHARD LOWE

Lighting
TOM BENN, Chairman
JACK GINGRICH
BOB WILLARD
AL BINGHAM

Set Construction Design
LEO WILKOSZYNSKI

Set Construction
LEO WILKOSZYNSKI
LENART WUOSMAA
W. P. WILLENDURUP
WILLIAM GLEASON
GEORGE GUILLETTE

Set Painting
BETTY HOWELL
PAT MAGUIRE
NANCEY BLAIR
IRMA WILHELM
GIOA OTTAVIANO
ROBERT CHARMICLE
PHIL WELLS

Stage Crew
LOUIS BYKOWSKI
ROBERT MILLER
ARMOND MASTRO
LARRY KING
GEORGE GUILLETTE
LENART WUOSMAA
WILLIAM GLEASON

Properties
BETTY HOWELL, Chairman
PAT MAGUIRE
NANCEY BLAIR
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LINDA KURZHALS
LYN COBURN

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BETTY BOOTHE
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EDITH STRUGLIA, Co-Chairman
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MARION McKENDREE
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Budget Control	LOU ESTABROOK
Legal Counsel	EDWARD M. ZABIELSKI
Vice-President—Production Development	WARREN G. HOLTER
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Producers Staff Committee	RICHARD LOWE, Chairman
Directors	JACK BYRNE
Conductors	MARTHA LOWE
Technical Committee	LEO WILKOSZYNSKI, Chairman
Set Construction	LEO WILKOSZYNSKI
Stage Lighting	TOM BENN
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Each year the Light Opera Company awards two scholarships of \$200 and \$100 for furthering vocal study. The awarding of these scholarships is based on a public audition in the Spring of each year. The judges are musically qualified residents of this area. This Spring will mark the thirteenth year these scholarships have been awarded. Applications may be obtained at Van Curler Music Store and Roberts Piano Company. Deadline for return of application is May 27.

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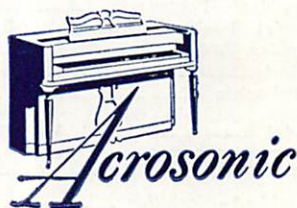
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