

**Schenectady Light Opera Company**

presents

*The Musical Hit*

**MAMMIE**

at  
**Proctor's Theatre**  
432 State Street, Schenectady



**December 1 and 2**  
**December 3, 1989**

**8:00 p.m.**  
**2:00 p.m.**

## To Our Friends

Welcome to the second production of the Schenectady Light Opera Company's *63rd season*. SLOC, as we are affectionately known, is an important community volunteer musical and theatre arts group. As an incorporated, nonprofit organization, governed by a board of directors elected by the membership, *our purpose is to foster light opera and related arts for the people* in and around the Schenectady area.

The Company was born in 1926 when a group of Van Corlaer and Draper alumni joined together to "present short plays containing songs and comedy acts." Directed by Mrs. Etta Moore, a music teacher in the Schenectady schools, the group became known as the Bellevue Young People's Chorus. In 1936 the name was changed to Schenectady Light Opera Company because the membership had increased to include persons from all parts of the city. Though amateurs, SLOC members soon proved they were able to produce even the more difficult Gilbert & Sullivan operettas and full-length Broadway musical productions.

Through the years, many sets, costumes and properties accumulated, so a central headquarters was definitely needed. Our numerous "homes" and "performance locations" soon became the old Craig Schoolhouse on Balltown Road; Mont Pleasant High School; the old Erie Theatre (which closed in 1956 after our six-year stay there); Burnt Hills High School; and Niskayuna High School. In 1972 SLOC finally had a "performing home" of its very own, with the purchase of the Beth Israel Synagogue at 826 State Street, Schenectady, where currently two of our annual four productions are performed and all rehearsals take place. Our set-building facility is now located on Taurus Road in Niskayuna.

There are still challenging times ahead for SLOC. Each season it becomes increasingly difficult to meet expenses *only with ticket revenues*, as we have done in the past. Rising costs of theatre-facility rentals (for our two big productions), orchestra, insurance, advertising, and royalties are a great concern to SLOC's future. Corporate sponsors offer good support, but we need more of them. We also depend upon our faithful friends' and theatre-goers' contributions to help us achieve our current and future theatrical and financial goals.

SLOC offers the community much-needed cultural arts experiences and provides theatrical training onstage and backstage of thousands of young and older people alike. They, in turn, enrich the community through their talents, performance, and service. We invite you to contribute regularly to the Schenectady Light Opera Company so we can, *all together*, keep alive the only community musical theatre group in the area. With your help, SLOC can begin a new decade with a solid foundation.

# Company Operations: 1989-90

SCHENECTADY LIGHT OPERA COMPANY

826 STATE STREET

P.O. BOX 1006, SCHENECTADY, NY 12301 (518) 393-5732

|  |   |
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Schenectady Light Opera Company

*presents*

*The Musical Hit*

# MAMIE



Book by JEROME LAWRENCE and ROBERT E. LEE  
Music and Lyrics by JERRY HERMAN

Based on the novel by Patrick Dennis  
and the Play *Auntie Mame* by Lawrence and Lee

In arrangement with TAMS-WITMARK MUSIC LIBRARY, INC.  
757 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10017

# MAME

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## SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

*The action takes place in Mame's Beekman Place apartment and various locales in which she becomes involved during a period from 1928 to 1946.*

### Act One

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| Scene 1  | Somewhere in New York, 1928              |
| Scene 2  | Mame's apartment                         |
| Scene 3  | Hallway of Mame's apartment              |
| Scene 4  | Mame's bedroom                           |
| Scene 5  | Mame's living room (and around New York) |
| Scene 6  | Mame's apartment                         |
| Scene 7  | Shubert Theatre, New Haven               |
| Scene 8  | Salon Pour Messieurs                     |
| Scene 9  | Mame's apartment                         |
| Scene 10 | Peckerwood                               |

15-MINUTE INTERMISSION

### Act Two

|         |  |
|---------|--|
| Scene 1 | Prep. school and college (and Singapore) |
| Scene 2 | Mame's apartment                         |
| Scene 3 | Mame's apartment, six months later       |
| Scene 4 | Upton Farm                               |
| Scene 5 | Mame's apartment                         |
| Scene 6 | Mame's apartment, 1946                   |

**TAKING OF PHOTOGRAPHS OR RECORDING DURING  
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## CAST [in order of appearance]

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|  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| <i>Patrick Dennis, age 10</i> .....              | Robb Harrison       |
| <i>Agnes Gooch</i> .....                         | Barbara Mahlmann    |
| <i>Vera Charles</i> .....                        | René Balsam         |
| <i>Mame Dennis</i> .....                         | Lois Stilley        |
| <i>Ralph Devine</i> .....                        | Don White           |
| <i>Bishop</i> .....                              | Scott W. Fields     |
| <i>M. Lindsey Woolsey</i> .....                  | Colin McCarty       |
| <i>Ito</i> .....                                 | Alan Angelo         |
| <i>Doorman</i> .....                             | Thomas L. Heckert   |
| <i>Elevator Boy</i> .....                        | Tom Bambury         |
| <i>Messenger</i> .....                           | Rick Walen          |
| <i>Dwight Babcock</i> .....                      | David Perriman      |
| <i>Art Model</i> .....                           | Donna Moore         |
| <i>Artist</i> .....                              | Paul Snay           |
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| <i>Stage Manager</i> .....                       | Scott W. Fields     |
| <i>Madame Branislowski</i> .....                 | Jennifer Snyder     |
| <i>Gregor</i> .....                              | Arthur Forget       |
| <i>Beauregard Jackson Pickett Burnside</i> ..... | Jim Fraser          |
| <i>Uncle Jeff</i> .....                          | Scott W. Fields     |
| <i>Cousin Fan</i> .....                          | Donna Brunkhurst    |
| <i>Sally Cato</i> .....                          | Marion Foster       |
| <i>Mother Burnside</i> .....                     | Lee Anne LeClaire   |
| <i>Patrick Dennis, age 19-29</i> .....           | Steve Kilgore       |
| <i>Junior Babcock</i> .....                      | Christopher Parker  |
| <i>Mrs. Upson</i> .....                          | Pearl Albrechtsen   |
| <i>Mr. Upson</i> .....                           | Mike Knapp          |
| <i>Gloria Upson</i> .....                        | Cynthia Giordano    |
| <i>Pegeen Ryan</i> .....                         | Kelly Doyle         |
| <i>Peter Dennis</i> .....                        | Joseph Gabriel      |

### *Chorus*

Kate Boone, Donna Brunkhurst, Patricia Calkins, Ann F. Conway, William Depew, Scott W. Fields, Arthur Forget, Marion Foster, Alan Foster, Thomas L. Heckert, Philip Kaufman, Christine Koblensky, Lee Anne LeClaire, Donna Moore, Michele Perez, Paul Snay, Jennifer Snyder, Rick Walen, Don White, Leslie Zeh

### *Dancers*

Tom Bambury, Alex Campoli, Beth Campoli, Jennifer Koblensky, Happy McPartlin, Wayne Nelson, Donna Panzl, Scott Westervelt, Ken Zarnoch

# MUSICAL NUMBERS

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## Act One

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <i>Overture</i>                         |   |
| <i>St. Bridget</i> .....                | Agnes and Patrick   |
| <i>It's Today</i> .....                 | Mame and All  |
| <i>Open A New Window</i> .....          | Mame and All  |
| <i>The Moon Song</i> .....              | Vera, Mame and All  |
| <i>My Best Girl</i> .....               | Patrick and Mame  |
| <i>We Need A Little Christmas</i> ..... | Mame, Patrick, Agnes, Ito and Beau                                    |
| <i>The Fox Hunt</i> .....               | Uncle Jeff, Patrick, Cousin Fan,<br>..... Mother Burnside and Cousins |
| <i>Mame</i> .....                       | Beau and All  |
| <i>Finale--Act One</i>                  |   |

## Act Two

|  |               |
|--|---------------|
| <i>Entr'acte</i>                         |               |
| <i>Mame</i> (reprise) .....              | Patrick       |
| <i>My Best Girl</i> (reprise) .....      | Patrick       |
| <i>Bosom Buddies</i> .....               | Mame and Vera |
| <i>Gooch's Song</i> .....                | Agnes         |
| <i>If He Walked Into My Life</i> .....   | Mame          |
| <i>It's Today</i> (reprise) .....        | Mame and All  |
| <i>My Best Girl</i> (reprise) .....      | Patrick       |
| <i>Open A New Window</i> (reprise) ..... | Mame          |
| <i>Finale--Act Two</i>                   |               |



## ORCHESTRA

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| Music Director .....    | Don MacMillan  |
| Orchestra Manager ..... | Don Bush   |
| Woodwinds .....         | David Brown, Don Mealy, Tom Gerbino, Mel Schiff, Ron Serapilio |
| Trumpets .....          | Pat Renzi, Lila Serapilio, Vito Speranzo                       |
| Trombones .....         | Bill Egan, Bill Meckley, Michael Meidenbauer                   |
| Guitar/Banjo .....      | Sam Farkas   |
| String/Bass .....       | Tony Riccobono   |
| Drums .....             | Don Bush   |
| Piano .....             | Rita Croteau   |



*Left to right: Barbara Mahlmann (Agnes Gooch), Robb Harrison (Young Patrick Dennis) and Lois Stilley (Mame).*



*Left to right: Lois Stilley (Mame) and Rene Balsam (Vera Charles).*

## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

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**LOIS B. STILLEY** (*Mame Dennis*) has performed as The Duchess in SLOC's recent *The Gondoliers*, Mrs. Higgins in *My Fair Lady*, and Mme. Dubonnet in *The Boy Friend*. She has also portrayed roles for Schenectady Civic Playhouse, Heritage Artists, and Opera Excelsior. She has a MS in Library Science, is a former Schenectady schools' librarian, and is the Young Audience Coordinator for Opera Excelsior's productions for schools.

**RENÉ BALSAM** (*Vera Charles*) has appeared as Ernestina Money in *Hello, Dolly!* and was a clown and black and white singer in *Barnum*. She is the owner of Say It With Song (singing telegrams), and is a social work assistant at Capital District Psychiatrist Center.

**BARBARA MAHLMANN** (*Agnes Gooch*) last appeared in *The Hollow* with Schenectady Civic. With theatrical arts training from SUNY-Oswego, she has performed in *Little Mary Sunshine*, *Applause*, *The Apple Tree*, *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown*; and *Butterflies Are Free*. She has lived in Schenectady the past 10 years and is a homemaker. This is her first performance for SLOC.

**ROBB HARRISON** (*Young Patrick Dennis*) is a sixth-grade student at Galway Central School. For the Galway Players Productions in May 1988, he was Young Patrick in *Mame*. In Galway children's theatre productions he has performed, sang and danced in *The Snow Queen* and *The Little Matchgirl*. He's been in the elementary chorus, cadet band (trombone), and has participated in Saratoga County Fair Talent Shows from 1987-1989. He has written and performed in his own one-act play.

**STEVE KILGORE** (*Older Patrick Dennis*) has appeared in SLOC's *Brigadoon*. He has portrayed Dr. Anagnos in *Miracle Worker* and also has done costume design for three productions at Schenectady Civic. He is employed by Adirondack Scenic, Inc., and has a BA from Union College.

**DAVID PERRIMAN** (*Dwight Babcock*), a retired NYS administrator, again "stretches" from his real-life madcap self to appear onstage as a dignified professional person. He did it before for us in *Kiss Me, Kate*; *The Sound of Music*; and *Li'l Abner*. He also works backstage, directs, and acts with Schenectady Civic Players.

**ALAN ANGELO** (*Ito*) is another SLOC veteran who often can be seen onstage and backstage helping out in many capacities. He serves on numerous show committees as well. This is his 13th production with the Schenectady Light Opera Company.

**JIM FRASER** (*Beauregard Jackson Pickett Burnside*) last appeared as Roger Sherman in SLOC's *1776* (1989) and as The Captain in *Anything Goes* (1979). In different parts of the country, he has appeared in *Singing in the Rain*, *The Mousetrap*, and various other musicals/dramas. He grew up in this area, spent eight years as a navy pilot, and recently returned to the Capital District. He has a BS in Mechanical Engineering and works at Schenectady Hardware & Electric Company.

**KELLY S. DOYLE** (*Pegeen Ryan*) is making her SLOC debut. She's a student at SUNY-Albany, majoring in classical music. She has appeared in *Annie*, *Anything Goes*, and *Fiddler on the Roof* for Center Stage Players and Colonie Acting Troupe.

**COLINA MCCARTY** (*M. Lindsey Woolsey*) was last seen in Albany Civic's performance of *Crimes of the Heart* as Barnette Loydd and has helped with ESIPA's *Nightingale*. He has a BA and is Director of Activities & Volunteer Services for Eddy Memorial Geriatric Center.

**PEARL ALBRECHTSEN** (*Mrs. Upson*) is making her SLOC debut. She is a graduate of Mont Pleasant High School and SUNY-Oneonta. Currently she is an art teacher at Our Lady of Mount Carmel School and manager at McDonald's, 1224 State Street, Schenectady.

**MICHAEL KNAPP** (*Mr. Upson*) was recently in SLOC's *1776* production as Stephen Hopkins. He is artistic director of the Temple Thespian, Temple Gates of Heaven. He has directed *Guys and Dolls*, *Pajama Game*, and performed in *Li'l Abner*, *The Pajama Game*, *Music Man* and *Carnival* in other church/community productions. His occupation is public relations for the New York State Assembly.

**CYNTHIA GIORDANO** (*Gloria Upson*) appears in her first SLOC production. She's held roles in the chorus and as a dancer in high school and community theatre productions in Baldwinsville, NY. She is a special education teacher at Newmeadow Preschool, Scotia.

**CHRISTOPHER M. PARKER** (*Junior Babcock*) has appeared previously in SLOC's production of *Cinderella*. He has been in numerous shows at Troy High School, and in the Troy High Concert Choir for the past four years. He is a member of his school's drama club.

**JOSEPH GABRIEL** (*Peter Dennis*) has five years' study of violin (Suzuki) and is currently studying piano. He has danced with the Berkshire Ballet (2 years) and is taking tap/jazz lessons at JoAnn's School of Dance. He was the Child Prince in ESIPA's 1988 *Once Upon A Mattress*; Fritz in Berkshire Ballet's 1989 *Nutcracker*. He was a student in ESIPA's 1988 and 1989 Summer Stage program.



Lois Stilley (*Mame*) and Jim Fraser (*Beauregard Burnside*).



Left to right: David Perriman (*Dwight Babcock*), Alan Angelo (*Ito*), Pearl Albrechtsen (*Mrs. Upson*), Michael Knapp (*Mr. Upson*) and Cynthia Giordano (*Gloria Upson*).

## PRODUCTION STAFF

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|                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Co-Producers .....                    | Michael W. Jegabbi and Thelma Zeh   |
| Director .....                        | Carmen Sgarlata   |
| Assistant to Director .....           | Ted Rucinski  |
| Musical Director .....                | Don MacMillan   |
| Accompanists .....                    | Rita Croteau  |
| .....                                 | Judy Esch, Trudy Ferguson, Jim Lovell, Joyce Meader                           |
| Choreographer .....                   | Donna Cerniglia Panzl   |
| Assistant to Choreographer .....      | Beth Campoli  |
| Rehearsal Secretaries/Prompters ..... | Sue Culver, Sally Farrell   |
| Secretary to Producer .....           | Donna Brunkhurst  |
| Set Design and Construction .....     | Don Countermine   |
| Assistants .....                      | Robert Farquharson, Paul Croteau, Herman Mau, Drew Mills,                     |
| .....                                 | Ginnie Mills, Walter Raab, Wendy Wedlake                                      |
| Technical Director .....              | Elaine B. Fortune   |
| Stage Manager .....                   | Matthew Teichner  |
| Assistant Stage Manager .....         | Maia Olf  |
| Stage Crew .....                      | Veronica Cordova, Barry Corlew, Paul Croteau,                                 |
| .....                                 | Alan Foster, Matt Harrison, Peter Holmes, Joe Phillips, Mark Vabney           |
| Lighting Design and Execution .....   | George Cain   |
| Assistant .....                       | Karen Empie   |
| Crew .....                            | Greg Rucinski, Peter Codella, Melissa Putterman,                              |
| .....                                 | Dave Wilkinson, Mary Rainey, Terry McCarthy                                   |
| Sound .....                           | Charles LaMalfa   |
| Makeup/Hair .....                     | Jim Hulett  |
| Makeup .....                          | Joe Agostine, Jacqueline Bee, Mary Ann Condra, Gail Denisoff,                 |
| .....                                 | Lillian Kline, Terry Kinstrey, Ann Krawczak, Barbara Petersen, Vickie Wilison |
| Hair .....                            | Sara Britt, Marg Eriole, Bill O'Brien   |
| Costume Chairwoman .....              | Lyn Bernstein   |
| Assistants .....                      | Juanita Brown, Joanne Farrell, Gail Gardner, Steve Kilgore,                   |
| .....                                 | Abby Knapp, Vera Rabe, Scott Westervelt, Molly Wright                         |
| Properties .....                      | Maia Olf, Jennifer Koblenky, Michael Jegabbi,                                 |
| .....                                 | Matthew Teichner, and the cast of <i>Mame</i>                                 |
| Audition Arrangements .....           | Eunice Chouffi  |
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| .....                                 | Linda Fetherston, Della Gilman, Ira Gilman, Gioia Ottaviano                   |
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## WHO'S WHO IN PRODUCTION

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**MICHAEL W. JEGABBI** (*Co-Producer*) has been props chairman for SLOC's *My Fair Lady*, *Wizard of Oz* and *Little Mary Sunshine*; and makeup chairman for *Cinderella*. He co-produced *Fiddler on the Roof* and *Barnum* and was stage manager for *Sound of Music*. He's a tax auditor.

**THELMA ZEH** (*Co-Producer*) has produced 15 shows for SLOC. She's a past-SLOC president and V.P. and has given of her time and talents for 20 years in production and committee chairmanships. She also has been a past board member, chairman of many committees, and producer for Schenectady Civic. Thelma is a retired school nurse-teacher.

**CARMEN SGARLATA** (*Director*) has directed *The Wizard of Oz*, *My Fair Lady*, *Barnum* and *Hello, Dolly!* In his long association with SLOC, he has also been featured in nearly two dozen other shows. He is a past SLOC president and board member. He is founder-director of On Stage and has appeared in other area theatre groups including Schenectady Civic and TSU. A retired insurance investigator, Carmen is currently a truant officer in the Schenectady schools.

**TED RUCINSKI** (*Assistant to Director*) previously has directed *Anything Goes*, has performed in *Bells Are Ringing*, *Half A Sixpence*, *The Boy Friend*; and *Kiss Me, Kate*. He has been makeup chairman for several SLOC shows, as well as a board member. He's been active with Schenectady Civic, directing four plays and acting in six. For Civic he's been a board member, Audience Services chairman and business manager. Ted is retired from the NY State Department of Transportation and has 35 years in community theatre service.

**DONALD MacMILLAN** (*Music Director*) has conducted SLOC's *HMS Pinafore*, *Little Mary Sunshine*, *They're Playing Our Song*, *On A Clear Day*, *Anything Goes*, and *Ten Nights in A Bar Room*. He is director of Schenectady Choral Society and choir director for Union Presbyterian Church. Don has a Ph.D. in mathematics and works for KAPL.

**DONNA CERNIGLIA PANZL** (*Choreographer*) has choreographed SLOC's *Little Mary Sunshine*, *The Sound of Music*, *Jaques Brel*, and *Li'l Abner*. As a company member for over 20 years, she also has played Chava in *Fiddler on the Roof* and Minnie Fay in *Hello, Dolly!*

**SUE CULVER** (*Rehearsal Secretary/Prompter*) has served in many capacities for SLOC, including co-producer of *Who-#2*, and being onstage in *Oklahoma*; *Kiss Me, Kate*; and *Li'l Abner*.

**SALLY FARRELL** (*Rehearsal Secretary/Prompter*) appeared as the Wicked Witch of the West in SLOC's 1985 *Wizard of Oz* production. She has done makeup for over 10 shows and served on numerous committees. She has long been active with Schenectady Civic Players.

**DON COUNTERMINE** (*Set Design, Construction*) directed SLOC's *Li'l Abner* and Schenectady Civic's *Charlie's Aunt*. He has previously directed/served with Colonie Acting Troupe.

**ELAINE FORTUNE** (*Technical Director*) has been props chairman for SLOC's *Little Mary Sunshine*; *Wizard of Oz*; *Kiss Me, Kate*; *Fiddler on the Roof*; *Sound of Music*; and chaired set construction for SLOC's *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*.

**MATTHEW TEICHLER** (*Stage Manager*) was assistant director for Schenectady Civic's 1988 *I'll Be Back Before Midnight*, and assistant stage manager for two shows for the Greater Miami Opera Association. In the past he has assisted Niskayuna High School in their productions of *Look Homeward, Angel*; *Cabaret*, and *Sound of Music*.

**JIM HULETT** (*Makeup*) has been hair/wig stylist for several recent SLOC productions, including *1776*, *Once Upon A Mattress*, *The Gondoliers*, and *Barnum*.

**LYN BERNSTEIN** (*Costumer*) has designed wardrobes for *Sound of Music*; *Li'l Abner*, *They're Playing Our Song*; *Hansel & Gretel*; *Kiss Me, Kate*; and *Hello, Dolly!* She also has been a director for the Schenectady Theatre for Children.

**CHARLES LA MALFA** (*Sound*) has served faithfully in this capacity for numerous SLOC shows staged at Proctor's. He is manager of Technical Operations for SUNY-Albany.

**GEORGE CAIN** (*Lighting Design and Execution*) has been a SLOC board member and has served as lighting designer for many SLOC productions.

# SLOC Contributors

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## Hats off to...

### VIRGINIA and DREW MILLS

For more than 25 years SLOC has had the good fortune to be graced with the talents and dedication of Virginia and Drew Mills. Ginnie has been in charge of set design/decor for many shows and has been show producer several times. Drew had major roles in more than 10 shows and is especially remembered as Nicely-Nicely in the 1964 and 1978 productions of *Guy and Dolls*.

Ginnie and Drew have been SLOC Board of Directors members, served as officers, chaired or served on most every committee imaginable, co-produced together, and for the past 11 years have created a handsome playbill for each of our shows. Again and again, the talents of these artists have served SLOC in an outstanding manner.

Onstage and behind the scenes, SLOC has been enhanced by the contributions of this remarkable couple. Many, many thanks, Ginnie and Drew!



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SLOC extends appreciation and a special thanks to **Olson Sign Company, Inc.**, for donating their skills and services to repair our building sign on the front of our Opera House facility.



## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

*Mame* Float - Elaine Fortune, Gail Gardner, Nellie Blunt, Ray Vines, and Duane Rentals (free use of generator)

Schenectady Civic Players

Sgarlata's Restaurant

Purple Plum

Dawn

# SLOC'S UPCOMING PRODUCTIONS

OUR 63rd SEASON



at SLOC'S OPERA HOUSE  
826 State Street

March 2, 3, 9, 10, 16, 17  
8:00 p.m.

March 4, 11, 18  
2:00 p.m. matinee

*It's just a simple, struggling flower shop on Skid Row, but the most unpredictable things are going to happen there because of a very **unusual** little plant that grows and grows and .....!*



## Most Happy Fella

at PROCTOR'S THEATRE

May 4 and 5 at 8:00 p.m.

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