

# KISS OF THE SPIDER WOMAN



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# FROM THE PRESIDENT



Robert C. Farquharson  
*SLOC President*

"They're at the gate" comes to mind as we kick off SLOC's 81st season with Kiss of the Spider Woman. It's the end of August and the flat track is still open. I am feeling as excited as I would at the races. We are starting our 81st season with an avant-garde show followed by some favorite musical chestnuts: Music Man in November and Annie in December. The production team, crew and staff for Kiss have worked diligently most of the summer and September to bring you a class "A" production of this show. We applaud their diligence and dedication.

SLOC members also appreciate your wonderful dedication and support by being a patron and audience member. You are what keep us going- both for artistic achievement as well as financial success.

"THEY'RE AT THE  
GATE" COMES  
TO MIND AS WE  
KICK OFF SLOC'S  
81ST SEASON

We have been working to make your theater experience more enjoyable and convenient. We've installed a new on-line ticket ordering system that allows you to purchase tickets using a computer. This system also allows our volunteers to handle ticket sales from home. We are also looking for a new home for SLOC that is more convenient and comfortable in many ways for you. A capital project of this magnitude requires a great deal of support and we hope you will help us with this. You'll hear more about this as we progress with this project.

We hope you enjoy this show, return for more of our 81st season and invite others.

*Robert C. Farquharson*

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## FROM THE DIRECTOR



Michael C. Mensching  
Director

WE ARE ONLY AS  
GOOD AS WE ARE  
IN HOW WE TREAT  
THOSE LESS  
FORTUNATE

I have to admit, I have never read the novel *Kiss of The Spider Woman*, by Manuel Puig, even though I am a Spanish teacher. (Interestingly enough, it is *Kiss of the Panther Woman* in Spanish.) When I was deciding what to submit to SLOC to direct, my Producer Michael McDermott recommended it. I jumped at the suggestion—the story that is told here is real, it is relevant and it still happens.

I had such a great experience directing last season's *The Full Monty*, but wanted to do something completely different, something dark and dramatic and meaningful. I included it in the submissions, but really didn't expect it to be selected—it has not really been done much, and is not really the light entertainment type of show or feel good kind of show that the company usually likes to open the season with. But, once selected I was energized to jump in full go with this production.

I want you to be aware that events similar to those depicted in this play really did and do happen in other countries. The play may be fictional, but there are hundreds of stories just like it that are real and hundreds of people that “disappear” without a trace...others become nameless, faceless people unmercifully tortured, maimed or killed in the name of one man's concept of justice.

I urge you to become more aware of what happens beyond our community by reviewing the information from Amnesty International, in the green room downstairs. This is not an issue that is about political right or left, but about what is right and what is wrong about how we treat each other. We are only as good as we are in how we treat those less fortunate, those different, those with opposing ideas values from us.

Lastly, I ask you to delve into these characters and feel the love and friendship that bonds them in the most desperate of times. In their dedication towards each other, they find redemption and victory. It is the dedication that friends give to each other unconditionally and willingly. It is in recognition of this kind of friendship that I dedicate my work on this production to my dear departed friend Peggy Moore. You may have never known Peggy onstage, or heard her voice, but if you saw *Jane Eyre*, *The Full Monty* or *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, then you saw her impact in her work as my Stage Manager. She left this life we share at far too early an age, and she is dearly missed by many of us.

I sincerely hope that you will find *Kiss of The Spider Woman's* music and haunting songs as beautiful as I have, and that you will leave here thinking and wanting to make a difference.

VIVA WHATEVER IT IS!

*Michael C. Mensching*

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Lillian T. Zola (38)

NOTE: Numbers in parentheses indicate ten or more years of financial support.



SCHENECTADY LIGHT OPERA COMPANY'S

# 81st Season

PRESENTS

## **Kiss of the Spider Woman**

September 28-30, October 4-7, 2007

## **Annie**

November 30, December 1-2, 6-9 & 14-16, 2007

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SCHENECTADY LIGHT OPERA COMPANY  
PRESENTS



**KISS OF THE SPIDER WOMAN**

BOOK BY:  
**TERRENCE McNALLY**  
(BASED ON THE NOVEL BY MANUEL PUIG)

MUSIC BY:  
**JOHN KANDER**

LYRICS BY:  
**FRED EBB**

ORIGINALLY DIRECTED BY: HAROLD PRICE

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MUSICIANS:

**VALERIE A. LORD**  
PIANO AND KEYBOARD

**RICHARD CHERRY**  
KEYBOARD

**DAVE BECK**  
BASS

**JIM IACKETTA**  
PERCUSSION

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Audio or video recording is strictly prohibited

# MUSICAL PROGRAM

The action takes place in a prison in Latin America, sometime in the recent past.

## ACT 1

Prologue	Spider Woman, Prisoners
Scene 1: Her Name is Aurora	Molina, Aurora, Aurora's Men, Prisoners
Scene 2: Over the Wall	Prisoners
Scene 3: Bluebloods Dressing Them Up/I Draw the Line Dear One	Molina Molina, Valentin Molina's Mother, Marta, Valentin, Molina
Scene 4: Over the Wall II	Prisoners, Molina, Valentin
Scene 5: Where You Are	Aurora, Aurora's Men, Prisoner's
Scene 6: Over the Wall III—Marta	Valentin, Prisoners
Scene 7: Come	Spider Woman
Scene 8: I Do Miracles	Aurora, Marta
Scene 9: Gabriel Letters/My First Woman	Gabriel/Valentin
Scene 10: Morphine Tango You Could Never Shame Me A Visit	Orderlies, Nurse Molina's Mother Spider Woman, Molina
Scene 11: She's a Woman	Molina
Scene 12: Gimme Love	Aurora, Molina, Aurora's Men

*Intermission (15 Minutes): Refreshments are available downstairs at the concessions bar. Restrooms are downstairs near the stairwells assembled in the Green Room.*

## ACT 2

Scene 1: Russian Movie/Good Times The Day After That	Aurora, Molina, Valentin Valentin, Families of the Disappeared
Scene 2: Mama, It's Me	Molina
Scene 3: Anything for Him	Spider Woman, Molina, Valentin
Scene 4: Kiss of the Spider Woman	Spider Woman
Scene 5: After Spider Woman	Molina, Valentin, Esteban, Marcos
Scene 6: Over the Wall IV— Lucky Molina	Warden, Prisoners
Scene 7: Only in the Movies	Molina and the People in His Life

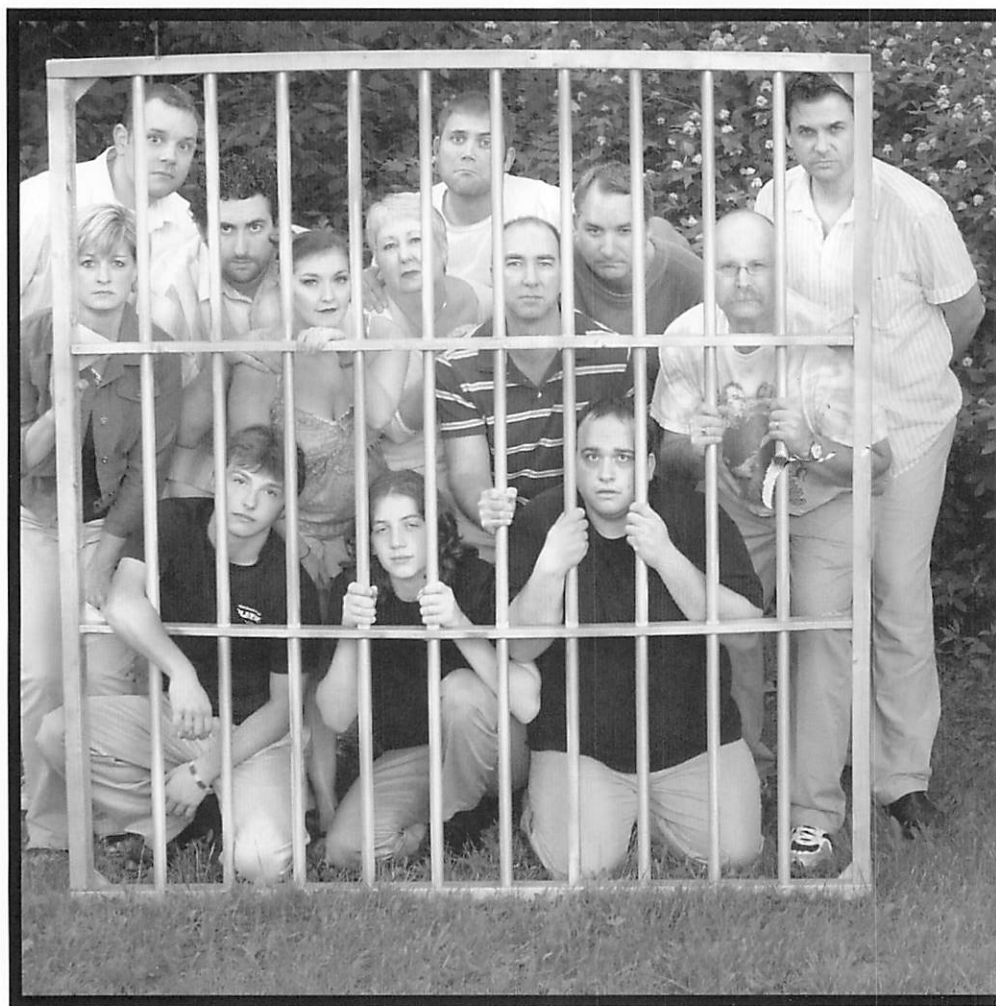
*After the Show, you are invited to come downstairs to the Green Room to meet the cast and staff of this production.*

# THE CAST

(In Order of Appearance)

Aurora/The Spider Woman	HEATHER D'ARCY
Molina	WILLIAM HARRISON
Warden	ERIC SHOVAH
Valentin	SHAWN HAHN
Esteban	BILL DEPEW
Marcos	DAVID BACHELDOR
Aurora's Men/Prisoners	ADAM M. COONS PETER LACIJAN JOEL SHAPIRO MICHAEL WHITNEY
Molina's Mother	GAIL GARRISON
Marta	LAURIE LARSON
Faceless Prisoner	JOHN SUTLIFF
Religious Fanatic	MICHAEL WHITNEY
Amnesty International Observer	ALDO SCOTTO DI CARLO
Gabriel	RICH SATTERLEE
Window Dresser at Montoya's	ADAM M. COONS
Prisoners	JOE KIVLEN ALDO SCOTTO DI CARLO RICH SATTERLEE JOHN SUTLIFF

# THE CAST AND CREW



## THE CAST

Top: Laurie Larson, Rich Satterlee, Eric Shovah, Heather D'Arcy,  
Gail Garrison, Shawn Hahn, William Harrison, Joe Kivlen,  
David Bachelder, Peter Lacijan

Bottom: Michael Whitney, Joel Shapiro, Adam M. Coons



# THE CREW

Top: Olivia Smith, Ken Zarnoch, Zina Lawrence,  
Dawn Ruggles, Michael C. Mensching

Middle: Michael McDermott, Marcia Lenehan, John Sutliff

Bottom: Valerie A. Lord, Mary Kozlowski

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## David Bachelidor (Marcos)

David is delighted to be back on the stage of SLOC, after performing in last season's *Oliver* and *Once on This Island*. He was also in a production of *Pirates of Penzance* this past summer. Most of David's performance career has been spent playing bass in area rock bands, most recently "Men Without Heads". David would like to thank Laurie for her continued support of his musical endeavors!

## Adam M. Coons (Prisoner, Window Dresser)

Adam is honored to returning to SLOC in *Spider Woman*. He was recently seen as Barnaby Tucker in *Hello Dolly!*, where he won a TANYS award for his performance. Other SLOC performances include *Grease*, *City of Angels*, *Drood*, *Babes in Arms*, and *Forum* where he also won a TANYS award. Thanks to the entire SLOC family. Adam dedicates his performance to his mother and Peter Tyger.

## Heather D'Arcy (Aurora/Spiderwoman)

Heather is thrilled to be back on the SLOC stage after having just choreographed *Hello Dolly* and appearing as Nancy in *Oliver*. Favorites include Lucy Harris (*Jekyll & Hyde*), Carla (*Nine*), Princess Leonide (*Triumph of Love*), Anybody's (*West Side Story*) and Maggie (*A Chorus Line*). "Thank you to the production staff for this amazing opportunity." To her soon to be husband Eric-"I love you, you know!"

## Bill Depew (Esteban)

Bill is very happy to working with Mike Mensching and a unique cast and crew. Bill was seen in last year's *The Full Monty* as Reg Willoughby, most recently in *Pajama Game* (Clifton Park) and Big Jule in *Guys & Dolls* (NSCP). He worked on SLOC's *Nuncrackers* as lighting designer and with NSCP in various capacities backstage. He thanks Jenny for her love and support.

## Gail Garrison, (Molina's Mother)

Gail's happy to be part of KOTSW after much too long an absence from SLOC. Her last role was Mrs. Johnstone, in *Blood Brothers* in 1998! Other roles/shows she has enjoyed are the Beggar Woman in *Sweeney Todd*, Abigail Adams in 1776, and *Harry Chapin's Lies and Legends* which was honored to perform at an international theatre festival in Spain in 1990. Gail's first SLOC show was in 1971.

## Shawn Hahn (Valentine)

Shawn hails from Michigan but considers himself a New Yorker. He has been in several SLOC productions including *Stone* (*City of Angels*), *King* (*Victor/Victoria*), (*Songs for a New World*) and *Jerry* (*The Full Monty*). A graduate of Northern Michigan University in General Theatre, he has performed both regionally and professionally. Favorite roles include Bernardo (*West Side Story*) and Valmont (*Les Liaisons Dangeruses*). Much love to my Dear One, Joey. ILY!

## William Harrison (Molina)

Bill was last seen at SLOC in the *80th Anniversary Show*. His association with the company dates back to 1992 when he appeared in *Pirates of Penzance*. Credits include *Rothschilds*, *Little Night Music*, *Man of LaMancha*, *Secret Garden* and *World Goes Round* (SLOC); *Little Shop*, *Noises Off* and *Fantastics* (Home Made Theater); *Music Man* and *My Fair Lady* (Park Playhouse); *Magic Flute*, *Three Penny Opera* (Chautauqua Opera).

## Joe Kivlen (Prisoner)

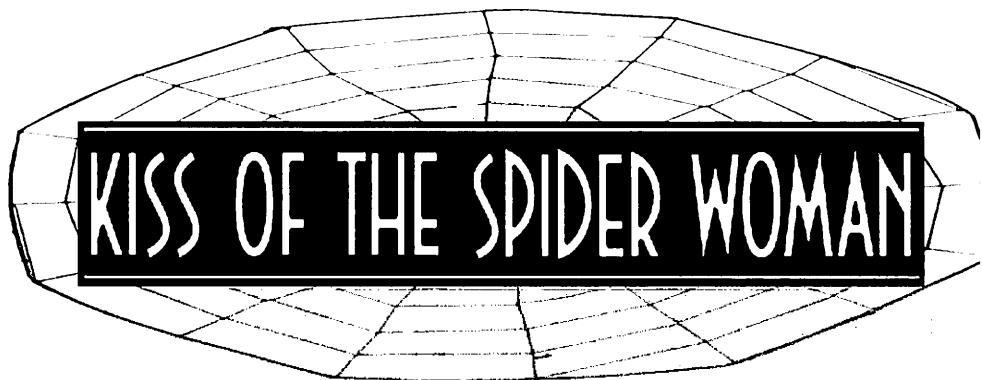
Joe returns to SLOC, where was last in *Oliver*. Favorite characters: Park Playhouse, Nachum/Begger, (*Fiddler/Roof*) and Marine (*South Pacific*); Family Players, Pap-Drunk (*Tom Sawyer*). Ensemble: Cohoes Music Hall (*Jekyll & Hyde*); and several with Galway Players. Operas: Kaspar (*Amahl*), Noah (*Noye's Flud*). Also: Sand Lake Chorale, St. Peters Choir and Cathedral of All Saints in Albany. Received *Choir Masters Award* & the *RSCM Scholarship*. Love/thanks to Mary, Patrick & Beth.

## Laurie Larson (Marta)

Laurie is pleased to be back on the SLOC stage after a long hiatus. She was most recently Little Becky Two Shoes in the HMT production of *Urinetown*. Roles at SLOC include Mrs. Walker (*Tommy*), Anne (*Shenandoah*), Eve (*Ruthless*), and Mabel (*Mack and Mabel*). Laurie is a theatre teacher at Ballston Spa High School and Home Made Theatre and teaches voice for musical theatre.

## Peter Lacijan (Prisoner)

Peter returns to the SLOC stage, having appeared as Harold Nichols in last season's *The Full Monty*. Other favorites include Cornelius (*Hello, Dolly!*), Cinderella's Prince (*Into the Woods*), Booth (*Assassins*) and Eddie Lyons (*Blood Brothers*). Peter has appeared in several corporate industrial videos and commercials. He is happy to finally share the stage with Heather, Eric and Adam. Thanks to Lisette, Zhushka and Pierre Henri for their love and support. 316



### Rich Satterlee (Gabriel, Prisoner)

Rich is thrilled to be part of his first SLOC show. He was recently seen in *Spotlight Players* production of *Pirates of Penzance*. Rich holds a BA in Music from SUNY Fredonia, and his MSED from The College of Saint Rose, where he is happily employed. He and his partner recently purchased their first home in the city of Albany, where they reside with their two dachshunds, Zeke and Rex.

### Aldo Scotto di Carlo (Prisoner)

Aldo is excited to join the cast of *Kiss of the Spider Woman* this season. He has played Tom Sawyer in SLOC's production of *Big River* and looks forward to a successful run of *Kiss*. Aldo wants to thank his family and friends for their continuing support.

### Eric Shovah (Warden)

Eric is thrilled to be showing his dark side in his seventh SLOC show, previously having played Pseudolus (*Forum*), Utterson (*Jekyll and Hyde*), Agis (*Triumph of Love*), Guido (*Nine*), and Cornelius (*Hello, Dolly!*) for which he won a TANYS Award. Eric also won a TANYS award for his direction of *Oliver!* and for his role in *I Love You...Now Change*. Thanks to Mike, Mike, Val, Dawn, Olivia, Melissa, and his love, Heather.

### Joel Shapiro (Prisoner)

Joel, who is now a sophomore in high school, is thrilled to be in his third show at SLOC, last season performing in *Oliver!* and *Hello, Dolly!* He was recently seen as Lumiere in *Beauty and the Beast* (Niskayuna HS), and was nominated for a SLOC Award. This summer, Joel attended NYSSSA Choral Studies at SUNY Fredonia. He hopes to do many more SLOC shows in the future.

### Michael Whitney, (Prisoner)

This is Michael's 3rd production with SLOC, having performed in *Hello Dolly*, (spring 2007) and *Oliver* (fall 2006). He has performed in *Beauty and the Beast*, as Le'Fou and *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, both at Niskayuna High School. "I would like to thank SLOC for giving me this opportunity, as I receive much joy working in the theater". Michael hopes to pursue musical theater arts as a career.

## SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Chris Trombley

Mohawk Ambulance Company

The Theater Barn

Zina Lawrence

# PRODUCTION STAFF

Co-Producers .....	Michael McDermott, Dawn Ruggles
Director .....	Michael C. Mensching
Musical Director .....	Valerie A. Lord
Choreographer .....	Melissa Mason LaciJan
Set Designer .....	Mary Kozlowski
Set Construction Crew .....	Mary Kozlowski, <i>Assisted by: Richard Lenehan, Michael McDermott, Ted Vickery, Jamie Vickery, John Julian, Richard Heymer, Doug Peek, Copper, Michael Mensching, Allan Angelo, Adam Coons, Eric Shovah, Joe Kivlen, Mary Kivlen, Beth Kilven, Edward Bell, Keith Quennville, William Harrison, Michael Whitney, Holly Dystra, David Bachelder, Rich Satterlee, Bill Depew, Olivia Smith, Ray Burns, Lizzy Adams</i>
Costume Designer .....	Chris Persans
Lighting Designer .....	Ken Zarnoch <i>Assisted by: Tom Gatta, Brett Gatta, Mike Whitney, Joel Shapiro</i>
Stage Manager .....	John Sutliff <i>Assisted by: Sarah Sutliff, Michael Silva, Barbara Mahlman</i>
Sound Designer .....	Eric Bello
Sound Assistant .....	Janet Bello
Second Sound Assistant .....	Erin Hodgdon
Videographer .....	Chris Conto, Denise Rafferty
Properties .....	Ferne Dutkin
Makeup Designer .....	Marcia Lenehan <i>Assisted By: Sheila Bouchard</i>
Wigs .....	John Fowler
Auditions Arrangements .....	Eunice Chouffi
Audition Accompanist .....	Valerie A. Lord
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Show Publicity .....	Michael McDermott
Photography .....	Tim Raab & Northern Photo
Show T-Shirts .....	Marlene Counterline
Strike Party.....	Melinda Zarnoch
Cast Party.....	Melinda Zarnoch

# THE PRODUCTION STAFF

## Valerie A. Lord (Musical Director)

Val returns to SLOC after having a rousing time with *The Full Monty* last season. Prior to that production, she last worked as Musical Director for *Songs for a New World* at SLOC. Val has been musical director at Home Made Theater (*Man of No Importance*), SCP (*The Cradle Will Rock*), and this coming May, *The Last Five Years*, Albany Civic (*Working*), and countless other productions.

## Michael C. Mensching (Director)

Mike returns to open the SLOC Season, after last season's *The Full Monty*. At SLOC he also helmed *Jane Eyre*, *Songs for a New World* and *Forum*. *The Pirates of Penzance* (Spotlight Players), *Nunsense* (Ghent), *I Love You...Now Change* (Circle Theater) were other recent directing efforts. Mike dedicates his work in honor of Peggy— Somewhere in Heaven a lady with rubber chicken is smiling on us all.

## Michael McDermott (Co- Producer)

Michael returns as a producer at SLOC, having also produced *Songs for a New World*, *Jane Eyre the Musical*, and *Forum*. Last on stage with *The Full Monty*, Michael promises to keep his pants on during this effort. For Peter, "I wish I could see the angel's faces when they hear your sweet voice sing."

## Dawn Ruggles (Co-Producer)

Dawn is thrilled to be making her SLOC producing debut with such a talented cast and crew. A full-time wife and mother, Dawn keeps busy taxiing her children to and from their varied activities. Dawn is employed at Cobb Memorial School as a Therapeutic Crisis Councilor and Librarian. She would like to thank her husband Steve for everything and Ferne Dutkin for showing her the ropes during *Pirates of Penzance*.

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# THE PRODUCTION CREW

## Eric Bello (Sound Design/Execution)

Ric is happy to be back at SLOC. He previously worked on *The Full Monty*, *Jane Eyre*, *Grease* and *Songs for a New World* (SLOC) *Laramie Project* (SCP) and *Guys and Dolls*, *South Pacific*, *Secret Garden* and *Baby* (Spotlight Players). He is serving his fourth year as Co-VP of Technical Operations for SLOC and is on the board of Spotlight Players as well. Congratulations to the *Kiss* cast and crew!

## Ferne Dutkin (Properties)

Ferne is excited to return to SLOC. She has produced a variety of shows in the Capital District including: *The Full Monty*, *Songs for a New World*, *Jane Eyre* (SLOC), *Laramie Project* (SCP), *Nunsense* (CCP), *Blithe Spirit* (ACT) and *Guys and Dolls* and *The Pirates of Penzance* (Spotlight Players). Ferne has served on the SLOC Board and is Spotlight Players President. In her very distant past, she has also performed on stage.

## Mary Kozlowski (Set Design and Construction)

Mary is happy to be part of the creative team for this production. She has worked in various capacities on over 50 sets in the past 15 years. Many of them at SLOC, including *Once on this Island*, *Triumph of Love*, *Jekyll and Hyde* and *Zombie Prom*, for which she received a TANY Award. Mary is also a SLOC board member and the company treasurer.

## Melissa Mason Lacijan (Choreographer)

Melissa is thrilled to be part of the *Kiss* team. She has been involved in regional theater for over 25 years and has played many roles at SLOC, from Actress to Director to past President. She was last seen onstage as Vicki in *The Full Monty*. Melissa is a professional voice-over artist and is on the faculty of Proctor's Summer Institute. Thanks to the boys for sweating it out, and to Heather for her grace and magic. Peter, Sophie and Henry, you're the music in me.

## Marcia Lenehan (Makeup Design)

Marcia is usually been found behind the scenes as makeup designer for over 32 productions for various community groups. Favorite shows include *Zombie Prom*, *Jane Eyre*, *Triumph of Love*, *Songs For A New World*, *Full Monty* (SLOC) and *Into The Woods* (Not So Common Players). Lots of love and "Kisses" to the *Spiderwoman* cast and fellow crew members.

## Olivia Smith (Dance Captain)

This is Olivia's debut at SLOC. Her dance career spans twenty years and includes many college-level dance courses. In July, Olivia performed a living history role at the reception for the dedication of Martin Van Buren's statue in Kinderhook, New York. She has also been a parrot in *Treasure Island* and a dancer/reporter in *The Who's Tommy* with Center Stage Productions in Aston, Pennsylvania.

## Ken Zarnoch (Lighting Designer)

Ken is a chemist at GE and has over 30 US Patents; has been with SLOC for almost 20 years and enjoys acting and lighting design. He and his wife, Melinda, are the recent recipients of SLOC's prestigious Etta Moore Award for their years of dedicated service. Ken was most recently seen on stage as Mr. Bumble in *Oliver!* (December 2006), and as Horace Vandergelder in *Hello, Dolly!* (May 2007).

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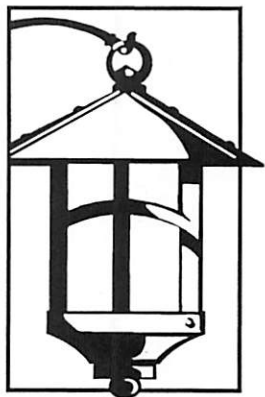
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