

The Impresario



by

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The Lincoln Light
Opera Company
presents
Dinner Theatre
at the Hilton Hotel
August 1989

Scenario...

Mr. Scruples, a Viennese impresario, has grown weary of theatrical production and has decided to turn farmer. Before he manages his escape, his determined assistant, Mr. Bluff, secures for him a contract to produce the next season of OPERA for the Court Theatre. Distressed at the thought of dealing with all those singers — as well as being decidedly “broke” — Mr. Scruples tries even harder to retire to the country. Undaunted, Mr. Bluff introduces Mr. Angel, a local financier, who is desperately trying to secure leading roles for not one but two sopranos — the aging diva Madame Goldentrill, and the fresh and coquettish Miss Silverpeal. The fireworks that ensue when the women discover Angel has made the same promise to both of them provides a frisky entertainment.

The Cast

Mary Schwaner Madame Goldentrill

In addition to singing the role of the aging diva, Madame Goldentrill, Mary has served as Director for this production. Not a newcomer to directing, she gained much experience as founding Artistic Director of the Huntsville Pocket Opera, Huntsville, Alabama. Her troupe performed adapted classic operas through the auspices of a government grant to audiences throughout the state, as well as for area arts councils.

Mary received her undergraduate and graduate degrees at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, and performed numerous leading operatic roles for that institution as well as for Opera/Omaha. Among her favorites are *Susanna* in THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO, *Norina* in DON PASQUALE, and *Gilda* in RIGOLETTO.

A former member of the boards of directors of numerous arts organizations in Alabama, California and Nebraska, Mary is currently a member of the Nebraska District Metropolitan Opera Auditions Committee. She works as a computer consultant and trainer in desktop publishing. She and her husband, Bill, have two children, Ryan and Melissa.

Robert Prenosil . . . Mr. Scruples, the Impresario

Bob has been a member of the Lincoln Light Opera Company since 1983, when he appeared as *Pooh-Bah* in the Company's production of Gilbert & Sullivan's MIKADO. Since that time, he has appeared in many of the Company's productions. His credits include the 1984 Harvest Moon Review as well as a number of other nostalgic shows.

Most recently, Bob reprised his role as *Pooh-Bah* in the 1987 LLOC production at the Hilton, and in 1988 he sang the role of *Dick Deadeye* in HMS PINAFORE. Bob also took part in the 1988 holiday concert for the benefit of the chapel at the old St. Elizabeth Hospital.

Bob is a lifelong Lincoln resident employed by Southeast Community College as an Adult Academic Studies Instructor at the Nebraska State Penitentiary. Bob and his wife, Dayle, have two children, Melissa and Andrew.

Scruples is somewhat of a departure for Bob, marking his first "non-singing" role with LLOC.

William Stibor Mr. Angel

William D. Stibor, an English Master's student minoring in theatre, is Publicity & Promotion Assistant for the 'World on Stage Series' at Kimball Hall. His most recent role was Dr. Caius in the UNL School of Music production of Falstaff. A graduate of Hastings College, he has appeared in a variety of productions including THE CAUCASIAN CHALK CIRCLE, AN ITALIAN STRAW HAT, A MID-SUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM, SPOON RIVER ANTHOLOGY, TARTUSSE, ARSENIC AND OLD LACE, MACBETH, and DEATH OF A SALESMAN, in which he played *Willie Loman*. He was costume designer for the latter two productions as well.

Musical shows at UNL include SWEENEY TODD, NAUGHTY



MARIETTA, DIDO AND AENEAS, and SUSANNAH. Mr. Stibor has a fondness for directing Tennessee William's one-acts, such as 'Auto-da-fé, and 'Twenty-seven Wagons Full of Cotton'. Also a writer, he is recipient of a Plainsongs Award for his poem *Autumn, By Your Leave*, in the October '88 issue of the poetry magazine, PLAINSONGS.

Dr. Tom Blankenau Mr. Bluff

A graduate of the UNL College of Dentistry, Tom has practiced in Lincoln for three years. He has indulged his musical interests as lead tenor of the *Bloomin' Idiots* barber shop quartette, as a member of the Young Nebraskans of Doane College and the UNL Scarlet & Cream Singers.

He has appeared with the LLOC since 1984, having performed the roles of *Marryin' Sam* in LIL' ABNER, *Pish-Tush* in MIKADO, and the *Admiral* in HMS PINAFORE.

He and his wife, Lisa, enjoyed a six month tour of Europe, during which they were able to visit some of the world's most famous opera houses.

Ann Moore Miss Silverpeal
Aug. 10, 17, 18, 19, 20

A Lincoln native, Ann graduated from the University of Nebraska with a Bachelor of Music Education degree and taught music in the Lincoln Public Schools for five years. Currently Ann is at home "playing Mom" to Carolyn, age 14 months, and directs the children's choirs at St. Paul Methodist Church. In her spare time, Ann enjoys performing and directing musical theatre. She has done productions at Southeast High School, the Community Playhouse, Pinewood Bowl, and the Barn Theatre in New Hampshire.

Ann lists her favorite show as KING OF HEARTS at the Lincoln Community Playhouse, where she met and played opposite her husband, Mark.

Marti Baumert Miss Silverpeal
Aug. 11, 12, 13

Marti has appeared in several productions both at Nebraska Wesleyan University and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. This is her first appearance with the Lincoln Light Opera Company. Her performances include *Marian Paroo* in THE MUSIC MAN, *Nettie* in CAROUSEL, *Monica* in THE MEDIUM, *Marie* in THE BARTERED BRIDE, *Duchess of Plaza-Toro* in THE GONDOLIERS, *Prioress* in THE CANTERBURY TALES, and most recently as *Greta Fiorentino* in the UNL production of STREET SCENE.

An active musician in the Lincoln area, Marti has appeared as soprano soloist in several presentations of sacred music. She holds a Bachelor of Music degree in Applied Voice from Nebraska Wesleyan University and a Master of Music degree in Voice Performance from UNL. She has studied with Mary Louise Holding, Dale Ganz and Richard Grace. She is currently employed with the Lincoln Symphony Orchestra Association as Assistant Manager.



Keyboard Artist

Diana Warner, keyboard artist for tonight's Mozart as well as accompanist for Sue Schobert, is a much sought after musician in Lincoln. She holds a Master of Music degree in Performance from Wichita State, and has been listed among Outstanding Young Women of America.

The Cabaret

Clarke Metcalf has established the reputation of being one of the finest classical and flamenco guitarists in the Midwest. Student of noted guitarist Hector Garcia, Mr. Metcalf has also studied in Spain with several master teachers. He is an experienced supper club performer, having been featured at top hotels, country clubs and restaurants in Arizona, New Mexico, Nebraska, and at the famous Mike's of Torremolinos in Spain. Mr. Metcalf makes his home in Lincoln and teaches guitar at Dietze Music House though he continues to concertize.

Malley Patrick Keelan is a native of Lincoln and graduate of UNL School of Music. A tenor, he has performed leading roles with the UNL Opera, Lincoln Community Playhouse, Pinewood Bowl, and the LLOC. While at UNL he was tenor soloist with Collegium Musicum and UNL Oratorio. Mr. Keelan has also appeared on commercial and public television and radio music specials. He hosted "Curtain Calls" on KUCV, and owns Keelan's Music Shoppe in Lincoln. In addition to having been a solo artist with the Nebraska Arts Council, he is principal tenor and managing director of the LLOC, and is affiliated with Jackie Beavers and Group Talent Agency of Nebraska. He and his wife, Kelly, have two children, Sean and Maggie.

Wanda Nelson Mandigo is one of Nebraska's most outstanding and versatile musicians, noted for her talent as lyric soprano, pianist, accompanist and choral director. She holds both Bachelor and Master of Music degrees from UNL, having studied with Kathryn Dean. Wanda has performed leading roles in Mozart's MARRIAGE OF FIGARO, and COSI FAN TUTTE, and in Britten's ALBERT HERRING. Since 1982 she has been principal soprano with the LLOC, appearing in TRIAL BY JURY, MIKADO, HMS PINAFORE, and RUDDIGORE. She often serves as music director for the LLOC, and conducted the recent winter performances of Handel's *Messiah* and Britten's *Ceremony of Carols* at the St. Francis Chapel. Mrs. Mandigo makes her home in Waverly, where she teaches piano and voice, and conducts the choir of First United Methodist Church. She also performs frequently on radio and television and currently serves as president of the Lincoln Music Teachers Association. She and her husband, Roger, have two sons, Kevin and Brian.

Sue Schobert appeared most recently as *Buttercup* in last season's HMS PINAFORE. While associated with the Kearney Community Theatre, Sue sang the role of *Katisha* in MIKADO, and appeared in MUSIC MAN, SOUTH PACIFIC, MOST HAPPY FELLA, and 1940'S RADIO HOUR. She has performed with THE COMPANY, a cabaret group, for four years. She owns THE COOKIE JAR in Kearney. She and her husband, Roland, have two daughters, Sara and Amy.

It's a pleasure to present our 3rd LLOC Dinner Theatre at the Hilton this August. I'm very pleased to introduce Mary Schwaner as both Director and Soprano Artist. We hope you'll enjoy tonight's cabaret and special presentation of Mozart's musical comedy. Stop and say 'hello' after the performance, and please tell your friends about the show! — Malley Keelan