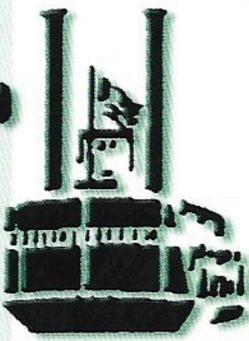


**Muddy
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company**



**2003-2004
SEASON**

The Muddy River Opera Company

2003-2004 Season

A Little Night Music

Music by

Stephen Sondheim

September 6, 2003, 8:00 p.m.

September 7, 2003, 3:00 p.m.

Quincy Senior High School Auditorium



Rigoletto

by

Giuseppe Verdi

Will be sung in English

January 9, 2004, 8:00 p.m.

January 11, 2004, 3:00 p.m.

Quincy Community Theatre



Little Red Riding Hood

by

Seymour Barab

A Children's Opera

March 8-15, 2004

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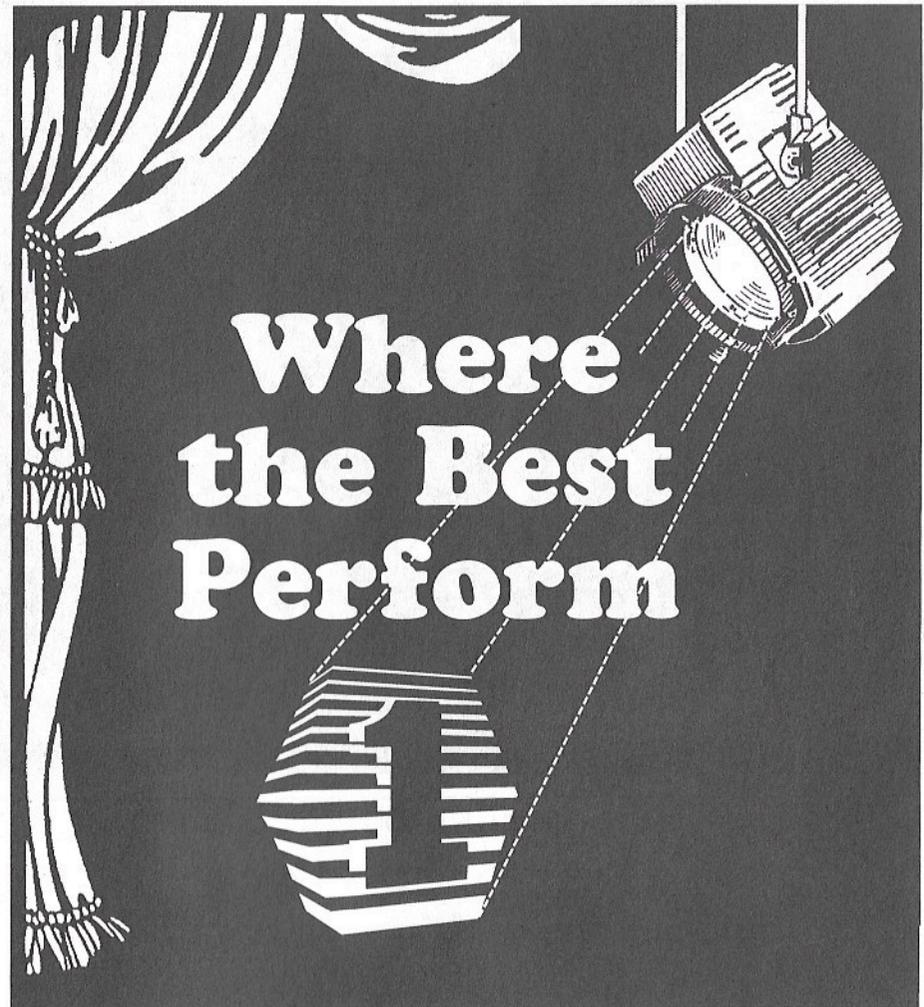
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- ◆ The opera is a play set to music.
 - ◆ George Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess* is an opera. It has been produced by opera companies around the world, including the Metropolitan Opera in New York.
 - ◆ A story about the famous composer, Sir Arthur Sullivan, is related here. He once attended a performance of one of his own works and caught up in the music, he began to hum with the orchestra. An angry patron, sitting in front of him, turned and growled, "Will you be quiet? I came to hear Sullivan's music, not yours."



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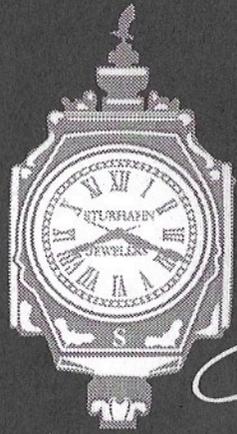
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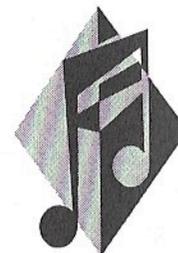
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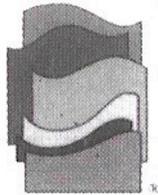
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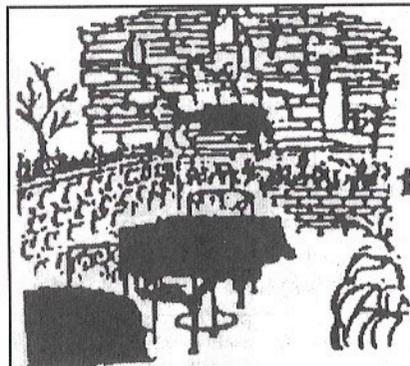
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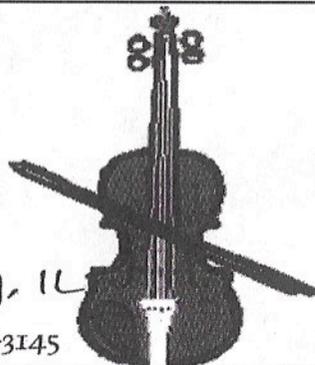
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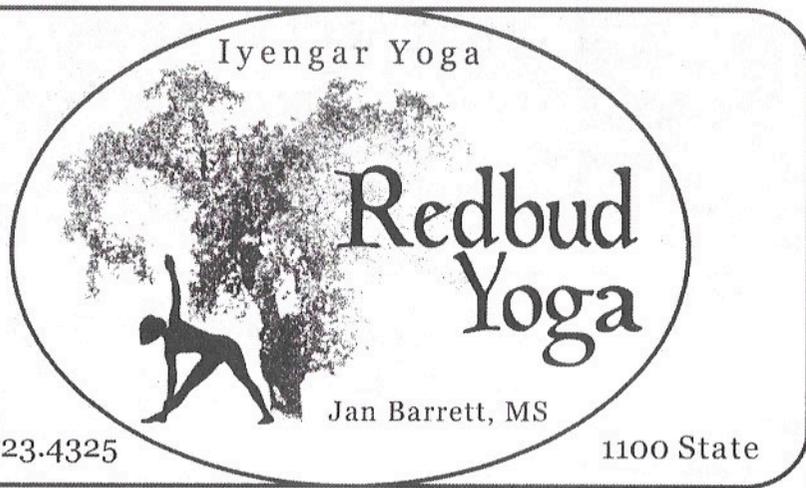
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The Muddy River Opera Company

presents

A Little Night Music

Music and Lyrics by
Stephen Sondheim

Book by Hugh Wheeler

Act I - 7 scenes

Act II - 8 scenes

A Little Night Music presented through special arrangement with
and all authorized performance materials are supplied by
Music Theatre International, 421 West 54th Street,
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Saturday, September 6, 2003, 8:00 p.m.

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Quincy Senior High School Auditorium

This production is partially supported by a
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(In order of appearance)

Mr. Lindquist	Thomas Hall
Mrs. Nordstrom	Mary Jane McCloskey
Mrs. Anderssen	Carol Mathieson
Mr. Erlanson	Michael Skyles
Mrs. Segstrom	Gina Swickard
Fredrika Armfeldt	Megan Knoche
Madame Armfeldt.....	Avril Marie Bernzen
Frid, her Butler	Jason Stone
Henrik Egerman	Robert M. Boldin
Anne Egerman	Kathryn Kamp
Fredrik Egerman.....	Troy Clark
Petra, Egerman Maid	Emily DePauw
Desirée Armfeldt.....	Jodi Karem
Malla, her Maid	Caitlin Memken
Bertrand, a Page	William B. J. Winn
Count Carl-Magnus Malcolm.....	Anthony Barton
Countess Charlotte Malcolm.....	Jessye Wright
Osa	Caitlin Memken

The Place - Sweden

The Time - The Turn of the 20th Century

Musical Numbers

Act I

<i>Overture</i>	Liebeslieders
<i>Night Waltz</i>	Company
<i>Now</i>	Fredrik
<i>Later</i>	Henrik
<i>Soon</i>	Anne, Henrik, Fredrik
<i>The Glamorous Life</i>	Fredrika, Desirée, Madame Armfeldt Mrs. Nordstrom, Mrs. Segstrom Mrs. Anderssen, Mr. Lindquist, Mr. Erlanson
<i>Remember?</i>	Mr. Lindquist, Mrs. Nordstrom, Mrs. Segstrom, Mr. Erlanson Mrs. Anderssen
<i>You Must Meet My Wife</i>	Desirée, Fredrik
<i>Liaisons</i>	Madame Armfeldt
<i>In Praise of Woman</i>	Carl-Magnus
<i>Every Day A Little Death</i>	Charlotte, Anne
<i>A Weekend in the Country</i>	Company
<i>Entr'acte</i>	Company
<i>Night Waltz</i>	Company

Act II

<i>The Sun Won't Set</i>	Mrs. Anderssen, Mrs. Segstrom, Mrs. Nordstrom, Mr. Lindquist, Mr. Erlanson
<i>It Would Have Been Wonderful</i>	Fredrik, Carl-Magnus
<i>Perpetual Anticipation</i>	Mrs. Nordstrom Mrs. Segstrom, Mrs. Anderssen
<i>Send In The Clowns</i>	Desirée
<i>The Miller's Son</i>	Petra
<i>Reprises</i>	Company
<i>Last Waltz</i>	Company
<i>Finale</i>	Company

A Little Night Music

The Opera Synopsis

Based on the Ingmar Bergman film *Smiles of a Summer Night*, Stephen Sondheim's *a Little Night Music* tells the story of middle-aged Fredrik Egerman and his teenage bride, Anne, with whom he has never had sexual relations in spite of the fact that they have been married for eleven months. The couple lives in the same house with Fredrik's son, Henrik, a seminary student one year older than Anne. The lack of intimacy aside, things seem to be going tolerably well for the couple until they attend a comedy at the theatre that features Desirée Armfeldt, an actress with whom Fredrik once had an affair. When Anne notices Desirée making eyes at Fredrik, she demands to be taken home immediately.

Once home, however, Fredrik can't stop thinking of his former lover, and he goes to visit her. They are interrupted by Count Carl-Magnus Malcolm, a married man with whom Desirée is having an affair. Malcolm is a self-proclaimed man of the world and knows how these things work, but the situation grows more complicated the next morning when the Count baldly relates the evening's events to his wife, Charlotte, whose little sister happens to be a girlhood friend of Anne's. Later, when the Count drifts to sleep, Charlotte decides to tip Anne off about Fredrik's activities. Meanwhile, however, Desirée has obtained permission from her mother, Madame Armfeldt, and has issued an invitation to Fredrik and his family to spend a weekend with her at the Armfeldt country estate. In spite of what she now knows, Anne decides to accept the invitation, looking as young as possible, so as to shame Desirée

back behind her wrinkles. When Malcolm learns of the invitation, he announces that he and Charlotte will attend as well, invited or not, as he is determined not to lose his mistress. Once all of the players arrive at the isolated estate, the tension is palpable, but under the benevolent glow of the midnight sun, the potential for true love begins to blossom as each of the characters experiences a moment of insight. As Desirée sings in the show's most famous song, "*Where Are the Clowns? . . . Don't bother, they're here.*"

Sondheim's score contains two interesting innovations. First, it is composed entirely in 3/4 time, or multiples thereof. The composer explains his reasoning for this choice, "*In Night Music I put everything in some form of triple time so that the whole score would feel vaguely like a long waltz with scherzi in between so that no song would seem to have come from another texture.*" As a result, the entire score maintains a strong sense of unity, with each song contributing to the total mood and feel of the show. The second innovation Sondheim introduces in this musical is a quintet which opens the show and reappears throughout the evening, serving much like a Greek chorus.

A Little Night Music was originally produced at the Schubert Theatre, New York, on February 25, 1973, with Glynis Johns as Desirée, Len Cariou as Fredrik, Hermione Gingold as Madame Armfeldt, Victoria Mallory as Anne, Patricia Elliott as Charlotte, and Laurence Guittard as Carl-Magnus. The show went on to win Tony Awards for Best Musical, Best Music and Lyrics (Stephen Sondheim), Best Book (Hugh Wheeler), Best Actress in a Musical (Glynis Johns), and Best Supporting Actress in a Musical (Patricia Elliott). *A Little Night Music* moved to the Majestic Theatre, New York, on September 17, 1973, and closed on August 3, 1974, after 601 performances.

Biographies

Troy Clark - Fredrik Egerman - baritone

Troy Clark's recent engagements include Wilfred Shadbolt in *The Yeoman of the Guard* with the Young Victorian Theatre company in Baltimore; Opera Delaware's *The Mikado*; Falke in *Die Fledermaus* with the Gulf Coast Symphony and various recitals. His 2002 roster included Jules Massenet's *Manon* for Summer Opera Theatre Company, Washington, D.C.; Marcello in *La Bohème*; and Masetto in *Don Giovanni* with the Baltimore Opera Studio. Other roles with the Baltimore Opera Company include Fiorello in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, and Fleville in *Andrea Chenier*. Elsewhere: Germont in *La Traviata* for the Opera Theatre of Philadelphia; Count Almaviva in *Le Nozze Di Figaro* with CandleOpera, and Danilo in *The Merry Widow* for Light Opera Works, both of Chicago. Additional contemporary opera and musical theatre include the role of The Reporter for Hagen's critical success, *Shining Brow*, concerning the life of Frank Lloyd Wright, Chicago Opera Theatre; Duke in *Big River*, Croswell Opera House; and Richard Henry Lee in *1776*, Hope Summer Repertory Theatre. Mr. Clark resides in Baltimore with his wife, Helen.



Jodi Karem - Desirée Armfeldt - mezzo-soprano

Jodi Karem has just finished appearing with the Union Avenue Opera company in St. Louis, singing the role of Olga in the Russian opera, *Eugene Onegin*. Her repertoire includes, among others, Suzuki in *Madame Butterfly*, Hansel in *Hansel and Gretel*, Carmen in *Carmen*, and Charlotte in *Werther*. Her upcoming performances include Cerentola in *La Cererentola* with the Springfield, Missouri, Regional Opera Company; Santuzza in *Cavalleria Rusticana* for the Cape Cod Opera Company; and a solo recital at Wabash College. She is an accomplished Flamenco dancer and has studied Stage Combat. Ms. Karem has won several prestigious opera competitions including the National Opera Competition and Opera Columbus competition. She is now a resident of Chicago. This is Ms. Karem's debut appearance with Muddy River Opera.



Anthony Barton - Count Carl-Magnus Malcolm - baritone

Anthony Barton is fresh from a three-year venue in the sparkling city of Las Vegas. He recently was honored with rave reviews for his performance as Figaro in *the Marriage of Figaro*. Other roles which he has performed include Dr. Falke in *Die Fledermaus*, Sgt. Belcore in *L'Elisir D'Amore*; Schaunard in *La Bohème*, and Morales in *Carmen*. In 2003, he performed the role of Father in *Ragtime* with Light Opera works, a concert performance of *Shining Brow* with the Buffalo Philharmonic, and he is also featured on a premier recording of *Shining Brow*. He is making his debut with Muddy River Opera this weekend. He lives in Chicago.



Jessye Wright - Count Charlotte Malcolm - mezzo-soprano

Jessye Wright is an accomplished pianist and vocal technician. She has a striking stage appearance and has recently sung the roles of Cherubino in *The Marriage of Figaro*, Dorabella in *Così fan tutte*, Pitti-Sing in *The Mikado*, with the Nashville Opera, the Witch in Sondheim's *Into the Woods*, Maddalena in *Rigoletto* with L'Opera Piccola in Chicago. She has appeared frequently on the concert stage with symphonies in both Illinois and Michigan. She will be making her debut with Muddy River Opera in this production and will reappear on with Muddy River Opera in the role of Maddalena in their production of *Rigoletto* in January 2004. She now resides in Evanston, Illinois.



Robert M. Boldin - Henrik Egerman - tenor

A native of Pittsburgh now living in Chicago, Robert Boldin is pleased to be making his debut with MROC as Henrik Egerman. Most recently he was seen as Lt. Joseph Cable in *South Pacific* and The Priest and Armoured Man in *The Magic Flute* with the Ash Lawn Opera Festival in Charlottesville, Virginia. He recently made his European debut in a review of Stephen Sondheim pieces at Le Gran Teatre del Liceu in Barcelona, Spain. He has been a featured young artist with Chautauqua Opera and Chicago Opera Theater, and can be heard on their world premier recording of the *Good Soldier Schweik*. He also holds a B.F.A. and M.M. from Carnegie Mellon and Northwestern Universities, respectively. Upcoming engagements include the Hotel Porter in *A Death in Venice* at Chicago Opera Theater and debuts with Skylight Opera Theater as Tybalt in *Romeo and Juliet* and Opera for the Young as Frederick in *Pirates of Penzance*.



Kathryn Kamp - Anne Egerman - soprano

Kathryn Kamp has enjoyed performing roles such as Despina, Adina, Rosina, Clorinda, Miss Sweetsong in *The Impresario* and Gilbert and Sullivan's *Patience*. Oratorio works include Handel's *Messiah*, the *Bach Mass in B Minor*, and Brahms' *Liebeslieder Waltzes*. Ms. Kamp was featured in a 2001 staged version of Bach's *Coffee Cantata*, in which she played a spunky caffeine addict. Ms. Kamp has appeared as a soloist with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and is a member of the Chicago Symphony Singers. She is a member of the 9-voice Chicago capella, a group which performs everything from madrigals to rock and roll. Kathryn is the stage director for Bowen Park Opera's 2003-2004 season, which includes Bizet's *Carmen* and Barab's *Little Red Riding Hood*.



Avril Marie Bernzen - Madame Armfeldt

Avril Marie Bernzen has served as president of Muddy River Opera for the last three years and has been elected to serve a fourth term. She is a graduate in piano and voice and has her own voice and piano studio at the present time. In the past, she has appeared with the St. Louis Grand Opera Company, USO in Cuba, performed in concerts, dinner theatre, and plays in many of the cities where she lived in past years.

Megan Knoche - Fredrika Armfeldt

Megan Knoche is a senior at Quincy Notre Dame High School. She has appeared in *Jonah* and *Evita*, past productions of Muddy River Opera. She played the title role in *The Diary of Anne Frank* at Quincy Community Theatre and won the Quilta Award for Best Actress for the role. She studies voice and is a member of the Show Choir at Notre Dame.

Emily DePauw - Petra

Emily DePauw is a junior at Quincy University. She appeared as Pertolete in the Muddy River Opera children's opera, *Chanticleer*, this past spring. She also sang in the chorus for MROC's production of *Carmen*. She has appeared in many Quincy University productions, most recently *Godspell* and *A Lotta Night Music*. She will perform in *Scene Play* in November and presents her Junior Voice Recital in October.

Jason Stone - Frid

Jason Stone is an attorney with the law firm of Lewis and Longlett in Quincy. He is secretary of the Muddy River Opera Board. He is also a member of the Quincy Symphony Chorus and is an accomplished pianist.

Caitlin Memken - Malla/Osa

Caitlin Memken is a sophomore at Hannibal Senior High School. She is playing two roles in *A Little Night Music*. She has appeared in the High School production of *Cinderella* and sang a solo in the variety show *Starstruck*. She studies voice and piano.

William B. J. Winn - Bertrand

William Winn is a board member of Muddy River Opera and has appeared in many productions of the Company. He sings with the Quincy Symphony Chorus. He has also appeared in several Quincy Community musicals, most recently appearing in *My Fair Lady*.

Fr. Dennis Schafer, OFM - Music Director

Fr. Dennis has studied conducting with Ann Howard Jones, Don V. Moses, Robert Page, Vance George, and Paul Vermel. His varied experiences in instrumental and vocal performance, music education and choral music enable him to draw on the strong background in conducting opera. He has performed with major symphonies, with Cleveland Opera and Illinois Opera Theatre in musical theatre. At present, Fr. Dennis is teaching music and liturgy for the Archdiocese of St. Louis at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary and at the Paul VI Institute. He also sings with the chorus of the St. Louis Symphony and, in addition, is ministering at a retreat house in Dittmer, Missouri.

Carol Mathieson - Mrs. Anderssen

Carol Mathieson is professor of music and director of Culver-Stockton College Opera Workshop, Canton, Missouri. She is currently appearing in *The Swedish Nightingale Tours America* with fellow MROC board member, Leonora Suppan-Gehrich. She will sing Mozart's *Alleluia*, from *Exultate Jubilate* with the Quincy Symphony Chorus in October 2003. She resides in Canton, Missouri.

Mary Jane McCloskey - Mrs. Nordstrom

Mary Jane McCloskey is one of the co-founders of the Muddy River Opera Company. She served as a Board Member for thirteen years and was Artistic Director before moving to the Phoenix, Arizona, area. She has appeared in many productions of the Muddy River Opera Company and has a great love for it. She also served on the Outreach Children's Education Tour which brought opera to school children. She will begin her second season with the Arizona Opera in Phoenix this fall and will appear in *The Mikado* and *LaBohème*.

Gina Swickard - Mrs. Segstrom

Gina Brown Swickard lived in Quincy for several years before moving to Springfield, Illinois, two years ago. She has appeared in several MROC productions, the last being *Jekyll & Hyde*. She has a voice studio in Springfield and is active in school and church music. She and her husband, Bob, perform Christian contemporary music. She has three children, Elyssa, Joshua, and Kalia.

Thomas Hall - Mr. Lindquist

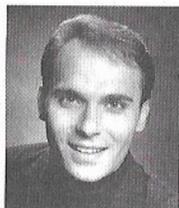
Thomas Hall recently appeared in the Muddy River Opera production of *The Barber of Seville*, as Dr. Bartolo. His recent opera roles have been Amonastro in *Aida*; Sharpless in *Madama Butterfly*, Scarpia in *Tosca*; and Marcello in *La Bohème*. He is a native of Florida but has lived in Chicago for the last six years. He has been a part of several Chicago area performing groups including Lyric Opera of Chicago, Chicago Symphony and the Grant Park Symphony.

Michael Skyles - Mr. Erlanson

Michael Skyles has performed featured roles with opera companies such as Lyric Opera of Cleveland, Natchez Opera and Brevard Music Center. Recent roles include Ferrando in CandleOpera's production of *Così fan tutte*, Rudolfo in N.O.V.A.'s production of *La Bohème*, Arturo in *Lucia di Lammermoor*, Basilio in *The Marriage of Figaro*, and a featured role in American Opera Groups' world premiere production of *The Overcoat*. He lives in Chicago.

Mark James Meier - Stage Director

Mark James Meier is delighted to be back in Quincy to direct *A Little Night Music*. He has worked with MROC as director for the world premiere of David Conte's *The Gift of the Magi*. As a performer with MROC, Mark has been seen as Eisenstein in *Die Fledermaus*, Che in *Evita*, and the title characters in *Jekyll & Hyde*. Mark also directed and starred as the Phantom in *The Phantom of the Orchestra* with the Quincy Symphony Orchestra. Meier has appeared with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, St. Louis Symphony and Colorado Symphony Orchestra. Notable operatic roles include Pang in *Turandot* with New Orleans Opera, Tybalt in *Romeo et Juliette* with Opera Grand Rapids, Tanzmeister in *Ariadne auf Naxos* with Sorg Opera, and Goro with Union Avenue Opera Theatre. Mr. Meier is currently composing the score for a musical about Michelangelo painting the Sistine Chapel called *The Ceiling*. The concert premiere of *The Ceiling* will be heard on February 8, 2004, in Chicago.



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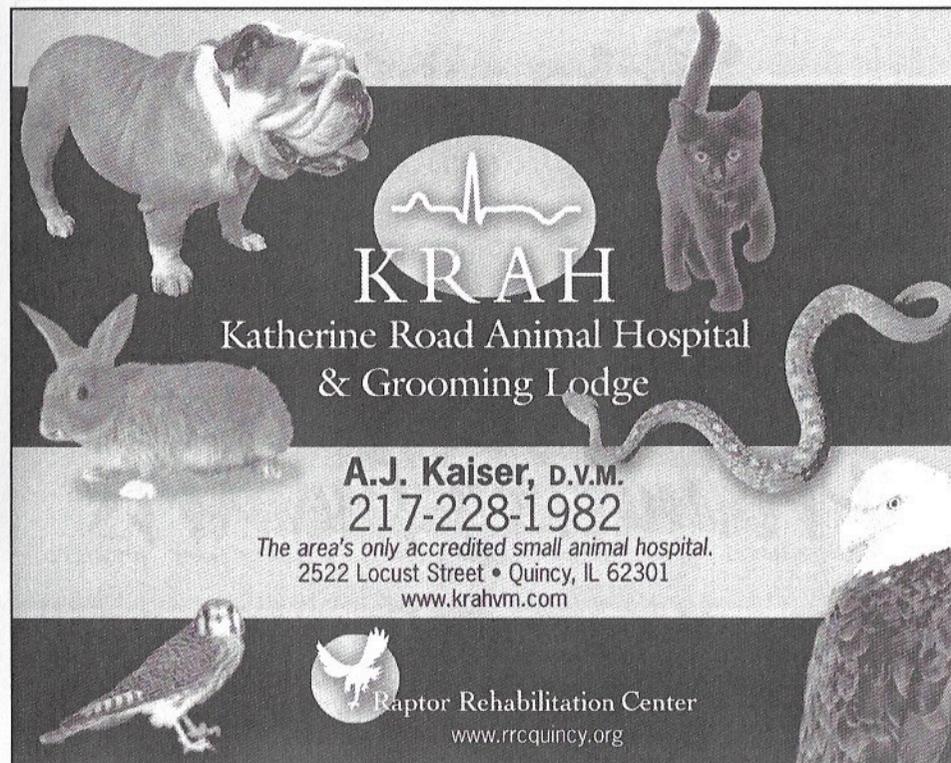
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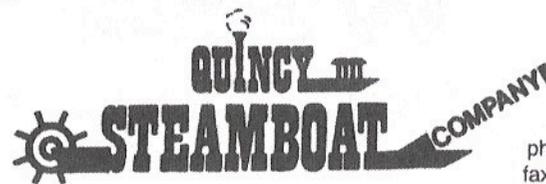
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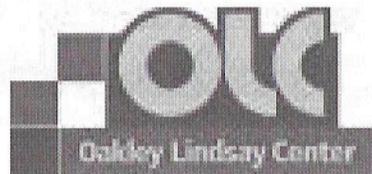
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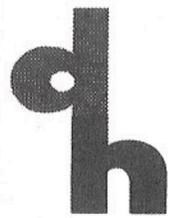
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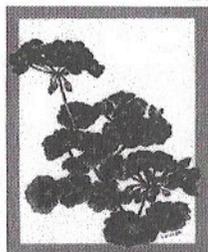
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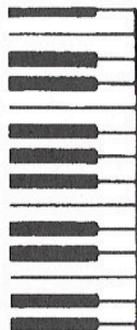
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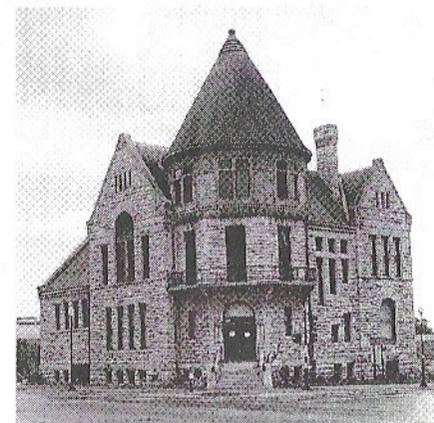
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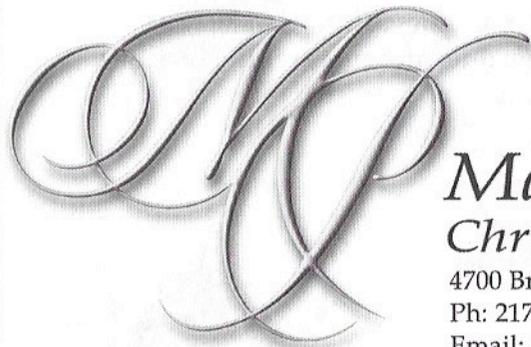


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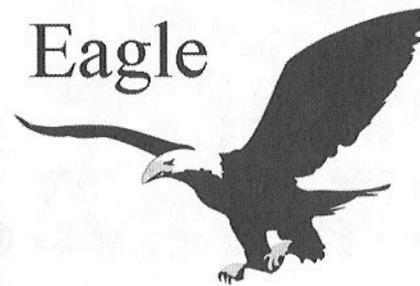
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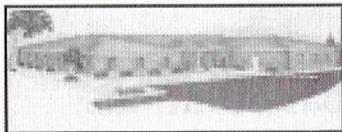
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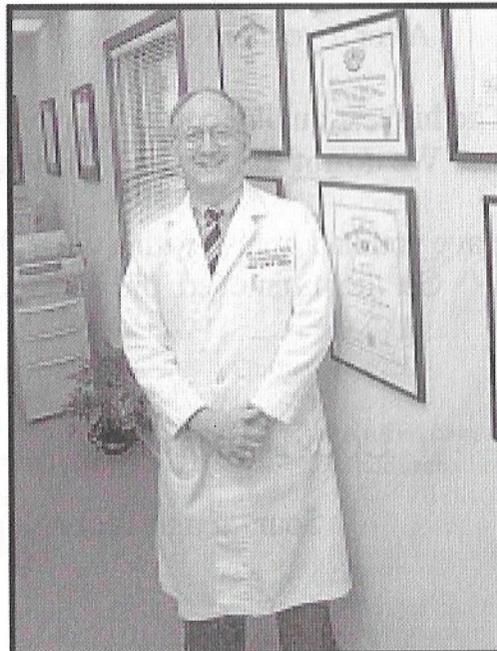
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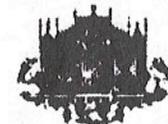


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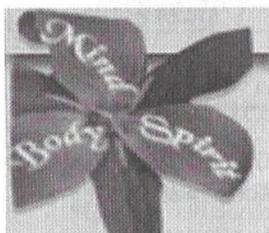
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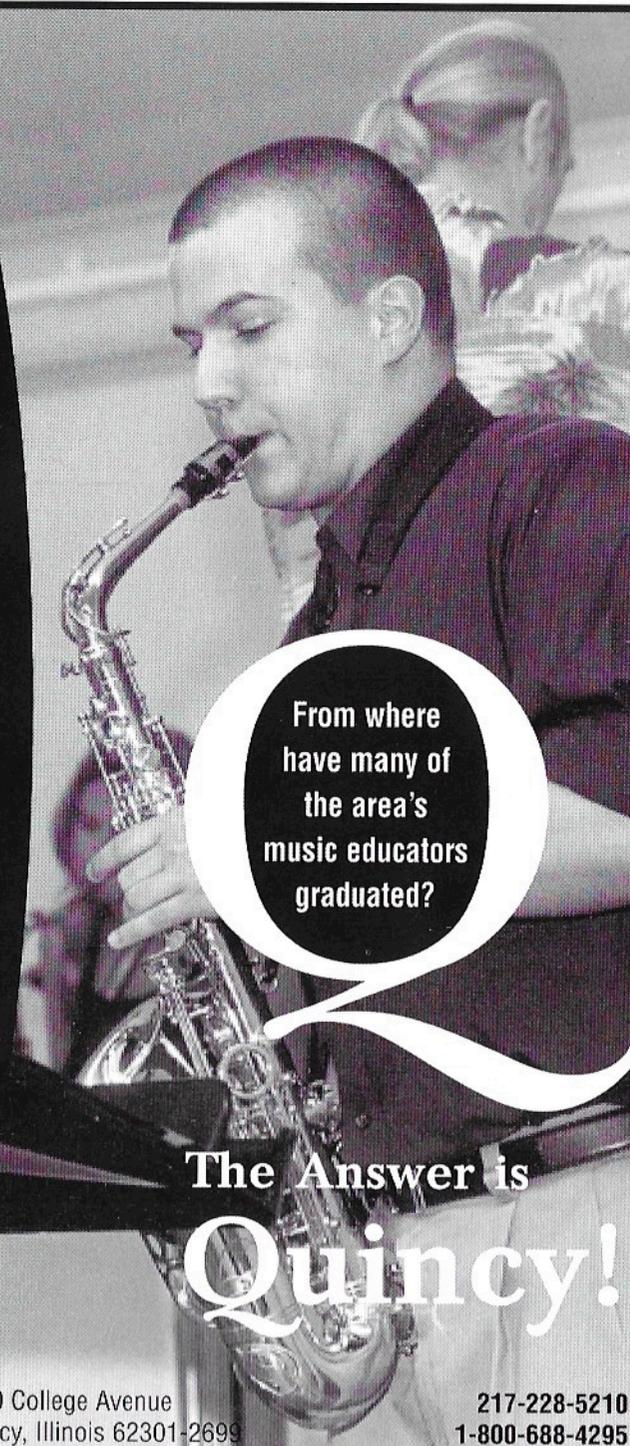
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