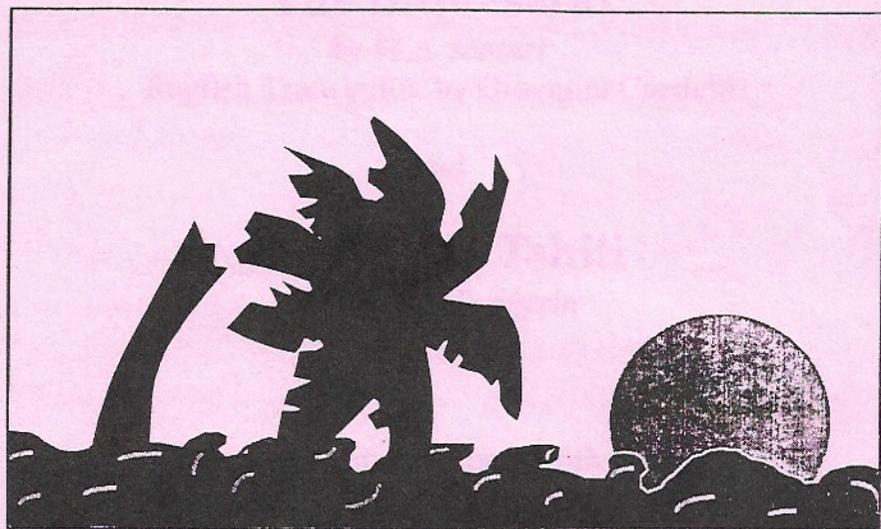


The Muddy River Opera Company
presents

The Impresario
by W.A. Mozart
and
Trouble in Tahiti
by Leonard Bernstein



Friday and Saturday • June 7 & 8 • 8:00 p.m.
&
Sunday • June 9 • 2:00 p.m.
Nineteen Hundred & Ninety One

Quincy Community Little Theatre
635 S. 13th • Quincy, Illinois

TROUBLE IN TAHITI

An Opera in Seven Scenes

Prelude

Scene I Sam's and Dinah's kitchen

Scene II Sam's office

Scene III A psychiatrist's office

Scene IV A street in the city

Interlude

Scene V A gymnasium

Scene VI A hat shop

Scene VII Sam's and Dinah's house

The Muddy River Opera Company

presents

The Impresario

by W.A. Mozart

English Translation by Giovanni Cardelli

and

Trouble in Tahiti

by Leonard Bernstein

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THE IMPRESARIO

Characters

Mr. Scruples, the old school ImpresarioHugh Fitzgerald
Mr. Bluff, his assistantMark Gilgallon
Mr. Angel, an elderly stage struck financier ..Thomas Hueber
Madame Goldentrill, an aging opera starMary Anne Scott
Silverpeal, an aspiring opera starMary Jane McCloskey
PianoNancy Hueber

The scene is a theater in Salzburg, late 18th century.

TROUBLE IN TAHITI

Characters

Dinah, a suburban wife,Michelle Younes
Sam, her husbandMark Gilgallon
The Trio, a Greek chorus born of a radio commercial
.....Amelia Fairchild
.....Mark D. Williams
.....Michael Krueger
ClarinetLouis Margaglione
Flute and PiccoloSue Cutrone
PercussionDavid Schuster
PianoNancy Hueber

Time - 1950's

Place - Any American city and its suburbs



The Muddy River Opera Company was formed in the summer of 1989 by Mary Anne Scott and Mary Jane McCloskey to bring quality operatic performances to the tri-state area using local professionals as well as guest artists from the region. The first performances were for the Quincy Civic Music Association annual meeting and for the Gardner Museum's Endowment Fund benefit honoring Mr. George Irwin. In June of 1990, Muddy River Opera Company produced a condensed English version of Mozart's *Così fan tutte* and in December the company produced Randall Thompson's *The Nativity According to St. Luke*.

This production of *The Impresario* and *Trouble in Tahiti* is partially funded by a grant from the Lindsay - Oakley Foundation.

Muddy River Opera Company Board of Directors

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THE IMPRESARIO

Written for a garden-party given by the emperor Joseph II at Schönbrunn in 1786, this is Mozart's spirited spoof on the problems of an opera manager's life. The plot describes the rivalries between his two prima donnas, Madame Goldentrill, and Miss Silverpeal. Each sings a sample of her ability, the former with lyrical sentimentality, and the latter in a bright rondo. They come to blows over who deserves the higher salary, and try to out sing each other in a trio with the tenor, Mr. Angel, a stage-struck financier. This all takes place in the presence of the long-suffering impresario.

In its original version the opera had two sections; the first was entirely spoken, and filled with allusions to the theater of the day, while the second section, containing all of Mozart's music, forms the basis for performances today. While many presentations took place at the principle musical centers in Europe during the 18th and 19th centuries, it was not until 1916 that the first English translation was made and the work given in New York. This year it is entirely fitting to commemorate the 200th anniversary of Mozart's death in 1791 with performances of his beautifully melodious compositions.

TROUBLE IN TAHITI

On June 12, 1951 the world premiere of *Trouble in Tahiti* took place at the first annual Festival of Creative Arts at Brandeis University in Waltham, Massachusetts. Shortly before this Leonard Bernstein said of his work, "It's a lightweight piece. The whole thing is popular-song inspired and the roots are in musical comedy or, even better, the American musical theatre." Its seven scenes center around the domestic bickering of a typical American couple, Sam and Dinah, living in a typical American suburb. There is no plot in the ordinary sense; rather the unifying factor is a trio, "a Greek chorus born of the radio commercial." The trio sings close harmony in the refined and sophisticated high-priced dance-band tradition of the 1940's. Throughout, they never stop smiling, especially as they sing the theme song, "Island Magic."

In November, 1952, *Trouble in Tahiti* was part of NBC's TV opera season. In 1955 it received its first Broadway presentation. The recent death of Leonard Bernstein, one of America's foremost contemporary composers, has brought a renewed interest in his music, and this presentation illustrates the continuing appeal of Bernstein's work.

THE PRODUCTION STAFF

Musical Directors	Dennis Schafer, O.F.M. Nancy Hueber
Artistic Directors	Mary Anne Scott Mary Jane McClosky
Stage Director	Ginny Sims
Set Design	Joe Harris
Costume Designer	Patricia Dureska
Costume Assistant	Vivian Langllier
Lighting	Jim Drew
Stage Managers	Todd Pettit Doris Sanders
Program Notes	Dr. Laverne Wagner
Program	Suzanne Galloway
Tickets	Cathy O'Neal
Publicity	Mary Jane McCloskey
Rehearsal Accompanists	Leonora Gehrich Nancy Hueber

THE ARTISTS

HUGH D. FITZGERALD, a native of Chicago, has lived in Quincy and taught at Quincy College for more than half his life. A graduate of Loyola University (Chicago) and Catholic University, he studied with the late great Fr. Gilbert Hartke, O.P. and with noted playwright Leo Brady. In 1977 he was awarded an NEH grant to study classical comedy at the University of California at Berkley. Since coming to Quincy College Hugh has taught a full range of theater theory, history, literature, directing and acting. He has directed something of everything from Aeschylus to Behan. From 1984 to 1989, with Fr. Dennis Schafer, O.F.M., he staged and produced six annual musicals from *Pinafore* to *Leader of the Pack*. Tonight, he returns to the public stage after too long a time.

Mark Gilgallon, baritone, returns to the Muddy River Opera where he was heard as Simeon in "*The Nativity According to St. Luke*". This past year he was chosen to sing on a series of Schubert recitals with world renown accompanist John Wustman. Mark received rave reviews as Don Quixote in the Illinois Opera Theatre's production of *The Man of La Mancha*. He attained two Bachelor's Degrees in music education and vocal performance from Illinois State University and will be returning there this fall to complete a Master's Degree in vocal performance. Mr. Gilgallon can be heard as Masetto in Peoria Civic Opera's production of *Don Giovanni* this fall.

THOMAS HUEBER, *tenor*, was born and raised in Sycamore, Illinois and later attended Wheaton College where he majored in vocal performance. He has recently completed his doctoral studies in voice at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor where he studied with George Shirley. Thomas has performed major roles in such operas as *The Magic Flute*, *The Merry Widow*, *La Rondine*, *Falstaff*, *Albert Herring*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *The Turn of the Screw*. He was a scholarship student for two summers at the Aspen Opera Theater Center. As an oratorio soloist, Thomas has performed works of Bach, Handel, Haydn, and Mendelssohn. He is currently on the music faculty of Northeast Missouri State University teaching voice. He performed the role of Ferrando in the Muddy River Opera Company's production of *Così fan tutte*.

MARY ANNE SCOTT, *soprano*, is originally from Warsaw, Illinois, and began her professional career, after graduating from Wheaton College, in the Chicago area. She has studied with such coaches as Giulio Favario of the Chicago Lyric Opera and Julius Berger of the Metropolitan Opera. She was awarded a fellowship for two summers at the Wolf Trap Farm Park for the Performing Arts. In 1975 she began a three year engagement with the Stadttheater in Berne, Switzerland, where she performed many leading roles, including Mimi in *La Bohème*, Donna Anna in *Don Giovanni* and Pamina in the *Magic Flute*. She has also performed extensively as an oratorio soloist and recitalist. She is currently on the music faculty at Millikin University, Decatur, Illinois. Locally Mary Anne has appeared as the soloist with the Quincy Symphony and on the Sunday Music Series and has appeared on Civic Music Association concerts this year.

MARY JANE McCLOSKEY, *soprano*, began her vocal studies with Naomi Watts in Quincy and later attended Wheaton College and the University of Michigan where she completed her Bachelor's and Master's degrees in vocal performance. She has performed with the Aspen Opera Theater, the Tanglewood Festival of contemporary Music, and the Cape May Festival. She has most recently performed with the Pennsylvania Opera Theater in the creation and premier of a new opera based on the children's book *The Secret Garden*. She teaches music in Quincy Public Schools and is co-founder of the Muddy River Opera Company.

MICHELLE YOUNES, *mezzo-soprano*, received her undergraduate degree from Drake University and has done graduate work at the University of Iowa and, currently, at the University of Illinois where she studies voice with Sylvia Stone. She has performed in numerous operatic productions, including Noye's Wife in Benjamin Britten's *Noye's Fludde*, the Mother in *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, and Lollette in *La Rondine*. Her oratorio work includes performing as alto soloist in a performance of Bach's *St. John's Passion* with Robert Shaw conducting. In 1984 she was the First Place winner of Iowa N.A.T.S. (National Association of the Teachers of Singing). She appeared in the role of Elisabeth in *The Nativity According to St. Luke*.

AMELIA FAIRCHILD, soprano, is a Quincy native. She has been involved in musical productions since high school. While at Millikin University, Amelia participated in Camelot and Die Fledermaus and won the concerto/aria competition which resulted in a performance with the Decatur Symphony Orchestra. Since returning to Quincy, Amelia has taught music in the public schools, performed with the Quincy Community Little Theatre and the Muddy River Opera Company.

MARK D. WILLIAMS, tenor is currently an adjunct Assistant Professor of Voice at Millikin University in Decatur, Illinois. He is a graduate of Luther college in Decorah, IA and holds the MA and DMA degrees in Vocal Performance from the University of Iowa and University of Illinois respectively. Dr. Williams has appeared in a variety of roles at the August Opera, Theatre of Springfield, Illinois Opera Theatre, and Light Opera Works, as well as in regional dinner theatres, summer stock and rep. Some of his roles include: Henrik in *A Little Night Music*, Tony in *West Side Story*, Tommy in *Brigadoon*, both Curly and Will in *Oklahoma!*, in addition to character roles such as Bardolph in *Falstaff*, Cascada in *The Merry Widow*, and before becoming a tenor, Papageno in *The Magic Flute* and Antonio in the *The Marriage of Figaro*. He is pleased to be making his debut at the Muddy River Opera Company.

MICHAEL KRUEGER, baritone, is making his debut with the Muddy River Opera Company. He is currently enrolled in the doctoral program in choral music at the University of Illinois. Michael has appeared as Pepi in *Song of Norway*. He also sang in the Axidentals Vocal Jazz Sextet, the first college vocal jazz ensemble to be nominated for a Grammy Award. Michael is also a former football player.

DENNIS SCHAFER, O.F.M., conductor and musical director, has been a familiar figure in the musical life of Quincy, having taught for many years at Quincy College in the Music Department. He has performed with the Quincy Community Little Theater and sung with the Quincy Symphony Chorus and assisted in directing musical productions at Quincy College. He has sung with the Cleveland Orchestra Chorus, the Chicago Symphony Chorus and the University of Illinois Graduate Chorale. He is currently on leave from the college to pursue a doctoral degree in Choral Music at the University of Illinois. He is involved in choral clinics and festivals throughout the Midwest, is conductor of the Central Illinois Children's chorus and the University of Illinois Madrigal Singers. He recently participated in a performance of the Brahms *Requiem* conducted by Robert Shaw in Carnegie Hall during its Centennial celebrations. In February he toured Japan with a Kabuki production of *Achilles*. This summer he will be performing the role of Lun-Tha in the *King and I* at the University of Illinois.

GINNY SIMS, *stage director*, makes her debut with the Muddy River Opera Company with *The Impresario* and *Trouble in Tahiti*. Ms. Sims has just finished a season with Opera Memphis and the Indianapolis Opera Company where she served as assistant director on their productions of *The Magic Flute*, *Anna Bolena* and *Don Carlos*. Last summer and fall she directed the enormously popular *Man of La Mancha* for the Illinois Opera Theater. A versatile artist, Ms. Sims, a mezzo-soprano, comes to Quincy from New York City where she was a finalist in the Metropolitan Opera National Auditions.

NANCY HUEBER, *music director*, was born and raised in New York and New Jersey. While in the metropolitan area, she studied at Juilliard School under Leonard Eisner. As a piano performance major at Wheaton College (IL), Ms. Hueber accompanied the Men's Glee Club, with whom she also performed as soloist throughout Europe, Israel, the British Isles, Canada, and much of the United States, including the Lincoln and Kennedy Centers. Ms. Hueber studied piano and voice over two summers at Tanglewood, and was a fellowship coach at the Aspen Opera Theater Center in 1985 and 1988. Recently she completed both the Master's and Specialist Degrees in accompanying under Martin Katz at the University of Michigan. Currently Ms. Hueber is the staff accompanist at Northeast Missouri State University in Kirksville.

LOUIS MARGAGLIONE is the chairman of the Music Department at Quincy College. He also plays in the Quincy Symphony Orchestra.

SUE CUTRONE plays in the Quincy Symphony Orchestra and also is a private flute instructor.

DAVID SCHUSTER is a student at Quincy College.

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