



SLOC Spotlight

The Newsletter of the
Schenectady Light Opera Company
Volume 36-4
January 2003

Zombie Prom Cast Announced

Zombie Prom blasts into SLOC with its rockin' 50's style and sound. Producer Ted Vickery, Director Tom Heckert, Musical Director Theresa Fitzmaurice, Choreographer Heather D'Arcy and the *Zombie Prom* crew have assembled an atomic cast. Cast members include: Gwen Fraser (Delilah Strict); Colin McCarty (Eddie Flagrante); Brendan McDermott (Johnny Warner); Julie Vitullo (Toffee); Courtney Van Dyke, Jessica DiSciprio and Kristen Becker (Candy, Coco, and Ginger), Kyle Griffin, Richard Gatta, and Craig Shapiro (Joey, Jake, and Josh); and Laura Skladzinski and Quinn Hagstrand (Swings).

Also working on the production are Marlene Countermine (Rehearsal Secretary), Mary Kozlowski (Set Designer), Ken and Melinda Zarnoch (Lighting Designers), Pat Casey (Costume Designer), Marcia Lenehan (Makeup Designer), Kathy Friscic (Properties), John Fowler (Hair and Wigs), Joe and Mary Ann Concra (Publicity), and Deb Weiskopf (Opening Night Party).

The Nuclear Opening night is March 7, 2003 and the zombies will all be glowing from the reactor surge. Call Paige at 377-5101 to reserve the best seats in Enrico Fermi High for our production of *Zombie Prom*!

City of Angels Sets Audition Dates

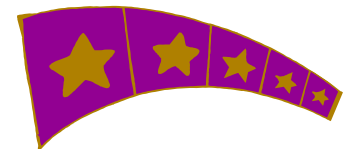
A private eye, femme fatales, murder, mystery and mayhem; add a healthy dose of humor along with all the drama and you have *City of Angels*! When novelist Stine writes (and re-writes) the screenplay for one of his best sellers, we not only get to see the trials and tribulations of all he has to go through, but we see his work come to life in the form of an onstage mini-private eye movie...with a twist; the twist being that everyone in Stine's real life plays a character in his movie script! In fact, with the exception of Stine and his private eye character "Stone", everyone plays a dual role (or more!) It's a fast paced, wise-cracking film noir-type of show that keeps the audience guessing...and grinning.

(Continued on page 3)

Company Wins Several TANYS Awards

Congratulations to the cast and crew of *Company* for winning the following TANYS (Theater Association of New York State) Awards:

Outstanding Direction: Joe Phillips
Outstanding Ensemble: Cast and Crew
Outstanding Acting: Pat Brady
Thomas Warner
Outstanding Acting Ensemble:
Bonnie Williams, Mark Jones
Michele MacShane, Justin Ruchalski



Spotlight on...

Semi-Annual Meeting

Saturday, January 25

6:30 PM

(See announcement
on back page)

826 State St.
Schenectady, NY 12307
393-5732

Web Site:
www.sloctheater.com



2002-2003 Season
Company
October 18-20, 24-27
Forum
December 6-8-12-15
Zombie Prom
March 7-9, 13-16
City of Angels
May 2-4, 8-11



Tom Heckert
President

Board of Directors
Peter J. Codella
Jodi Gilman
Dick Harte
Tom Heckert
Judi Merriam
Brett Putnam
Michelle Sausa-Gatta
Ted Vickery
Bonnie Williams



Next Newsletter
Deadline:
February 11



President's Notes...by Tom Heckert



Forum Gets a Rest

Congratulations to Mike Mensching, Bonnie Williams, Mike McDermott, Lee Ryan and the cast and crew of *Forum* for a job well done! The show played to full houses both weekends! Congratulations to the co-winners (it was a statistical tie) of the SLOC ticket selling contest for *Forum* – Brett Putnam (our first ever technical staff winner!) and Gary Hoffman, who were both presented with gift certificates to the Van Dyck.

SLOC Potluck/Semi-Annual Meeting

Mark your calendars for January 25th and come join us for the annual SLOC potluck dinner and semi-annual meeting. Festivities include great food, conversation and the announcement of next year's season. Get the full details in the related article on the back page.

Farewell to Tim And Karen Koch

We will also be bidding farewell to Tim and Karen Koch at the Potluck in January. The Kochs are moving to sunny Arizona in February. Tim and Karen have devoted much time (did you know that Karen served as Board Secretary for 14 years?), energy and love over the years to SLOC. We would like to celebrate their involvement, reminisce, and say goodbye. Remember to bring your best Koch story to share!

Kudos to Tree Decorators

Hats off to the decorators of the SLOC tree displayed in the Proctor's Festival of Trees. The theme this year was: A Forum Holiday – A Funny Thing Happened On the Way to Christmas. The tree was decorated with gold lights, grape clusters and Roman pillars. Thanks go out to Bryant Empie, Deb Weiskopf, Mary Kozloswki, and myself! If you have an idea that you would like to offer for next year's tree, it's not too early! Contact Deb or Eric Weiskopf to volunteer!

Membership has its Privileges

Please remember to pay your dues before the February 1st deadline for voting privileges at the June meeting. By becoming a member, you can vote for the candidates you feel will best represent your views for SLOC's future. For your convenience a form is available on the back page of this issue. If you have any questions about the status of your membership, please call Della Gilman (355-1699), SLOC membership chairperson.

Workshops Coming in January

Mary Kozlowski is working on the organization of a set building workshop in late January/early February. Flyers will be sent to people who have indicated that they might have an interest in helping with set construction or design. If you would like more information, give Mary a call (482-1052).

Outreach Program Very Active

Our SLOC Outreach Program was extremely busy in November and early December. First of all, a very large "thank you" to Andrea Merrill and Kate Kaufman Burns who are always so willing to play the piano for these various performances. Secondly, "thank you" to all the singers who represented SLOC and did such fine jobs.

In mid-November, Allan Foster, Ira Gilman, Gracie Hepburn, Andrea Merrill, Judi Merriam, Debra and Howard Moyer, and Peter Lacijan performed for a delightful audience at the Glen Eddy Retirement Complex in Niskayuna.

On November 24th, Andrea Merrill, Sev Moro, Sue Rucinski, Deb Weiskopf and Bonnie Williams entertained the senior group at Temple Israel in Albany.

Kate Kaufman Burns, Tom Heckert, Melissa Lacijan and Tom Warner performed at the Proctor's Christmas Tree gala on December 1st. And to close out the holiday season, Kate Kaufman Burns, Pat Hoffman, Elisa Verb, and Tom Warner sang for the Delmar Progress Club's holiday tea on December 3rd.

If you would ever like to perform, let Judi Merriam (346-5093) know.

SLOC Spotlight

SLOC Spotlight is a newsletter of the Schenectady Light Opera Company, P. O. Box 1006, Schenectady, NY 12301. SLOC is a community volunteer musical and theatre arts incorporated, nonprofit organization. Governed by a Board of Directors elected by the membership, SLOC's purpose is to foster light opera and related arts for the people in and around Schenectady County, NY.

Newsletter Staff: Jill Coloney, Tom Heckert, Jackie Mosher, and Greg Rucinski.

Subscription Rates: \$5 per year, check payable to SLOC. Send subscription inquiries and address changes to the address listed above.

DEADLINE for submissions to **Vol. 36 Issue No. 5** of the SLOC SPOTLIGHT is **Tuesday, February 11, 2003**. Issue No. 5 will be mailed by February 24.

Please submit your articles to Jill Coloney at jac12661@aol.com or 92 Cooks Court, Waterford, NY 12188.

2003 MEMBERSHIP LIST

(as of November 2002)

* designates a new member

Joe Agostine	Bill Hickman
Alan Angelo	Maxine Hilderley
	Mimi Hilderley
Gary Carter*	Joan Horgan*
Eunice Chouffi	
Jean Clarke	Debbie May*
Varro Clarke	Jo-Ann Menzer
Madeline Codella	Judi Merriam
Peter Codella	
Joe Concra	Gioia Ottaviano
MaryAnn Concra	
Paul Croteau	Chris Pedersen
Rita Croteau	Larry Pedersen
	Frank Pickus*
Tom DellaSala	Brett Putnam
Bill Depew	
Jenny Depew	Walter Raab
	Nina Rindenello
Sally Farrell	
Ron Fish*	Greg Rucinski
Mary Ann Flansburg*	Sue Rucinski
Allan Foster	John W. Ryan
Marion Foster	
Dolores Fragomeni	Michelle Sausa-Gatta
Ron Fragomeni	Argie Serras
Richard Gatta	Elisa Verb
Art Gauvreau	
Paige Gauvreau	Debra Weiskopf
Della Gilman	Eric Weiskopf
Ira Gilman	David Wilkinson
Jodi Gilman	Bonnie Williams
	Nancy Wozny
Dick Harte	
Tom Heckert	Ken Zarnoch
Charlie Hepburn	Melinda Zarnoch
Grace Hepburn	Thelma Zeh

City of Angels Auditions continued

Characters to be cast:

Stine: a writer of fiction. 30's - 40's. Low G sharp to high G

Stone: a private eye. 30's - 40's. Low G sharp to high F

Buddy/Irwin: producer-director/movie director. 40s - 50's. Middle C to high E flat

Donna/Oolie: Buddy's secretary/Stone's secretary. 30s. Low G to high F

Gabby/Bobbi: Stine's wife/Stone's love. 30's. Low E flat to high F

Carla/Alaura: Buddy's wife/Luther's wife. 30's. Low G to high E

Munoz/Pancho: Cop/Actor. 30's - 40's. D to high F sharp

Mallory/Avril: Luther's daughter/Actress. Early 20's. Low G sharp to B

Jimmy Powers: Radio crooner. 25 - 30's. Middle C to high G

Angel City 4: Radio back up singers. 20 & up. Soprano-low A to high A, Alto-low A to high D, Tenor-D sharp to high B, Base-low G to high G sharp

Luther Kingsley: Millionaire. 70's. Spends all of his time in an iron lung.

Mandril: Luther's spiritual therapist. 40's - 60's.

There is also an ensemble of 7 men and 3 women who will need to be versatile enough to play several roles each.

Audition dates: February 4th & 6th. Sign in time 7:00pm. Please come prepared with a song to sing. Accompanist provided. For more information, please contact Barbara Mahlmann (Director) at 372-3488.

SLOC Members Participate in Benefit

SLOC members joined other performing groups from the area in a musical evening titled *Damn Yankees in Concert*. The event, hosted by Liz Bishop, was held at the Swyer Theater in The Egg on January 11, 2003. The proceeds from the evening benefited the Albany High School Drama Club. The group will travel to Edinburgh, Scotland to perform the musical *Ragtime* as part of the prestigious Fringe Festival. Thanks to all who attended or participated to help in this exciting venture!

Zombie F actoids

**Zombie Prom* started as a 30 minute musical. Nate Weiss, a lawyer who represented the likes of The Beatles and James Taylor, convinced John Dempsey (book and lyrics) and Dana Rowe (music) to expand the piece to a full length musical. Mr. Weiss served as producer for the Off-Broadway production.

**Zombie Prom* played 17 previews and 11 performances before closing. Its biggest obstacle was competition from big name musicals such as *Big* and *The King and I* opening in the same season on Broadway and *I Do! I Do!* and *Cowgirls* both Off-Broadway.

*Original production cost was \$1 million.





P.O. Box 1006
Schenectady, NY 12301-1006

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Zombie Prom

March 7-9, 13-16
Thursday, Friday, and
Saturday at 8:00 PM
Sunday at 2:00 PM

TICKETS: 377-5101

Adults: \$18; Children under 13: \$9
Group rates available! Call for information.

Non-Profit Org.
U. S. Postage
PAID
Schenectady, NY
Permit #120

Membership Has Its Privileges

Are your dues paid? Here's your chance to become a member this season. SLOC by-laws state that membership dues must be paid by February 1st of each year to be eligible to vote during the Annual Meeting. Please use the convenient form below to remit your dues to our membership chair, Della Gilman. Checks and charges are both welcome. A list of paid members is included on page three of this newsletter. If you are unsure of your status, contact Della at 280-8076.

2002 - 2003 New Membership/Membership Renewal Form

Please return by February 1, 2003 to:
Della Gilman • 125 Glen Eddy Drive, Schenectady, NY 12309

PLEASE PRINT Name(s) _____

Address, incl. 9-digit zip _____

Phone _____ Today's Date _____

My/Our last show involvement was _____
(Membership requires participation in some aspect of a recent production.).

I/We have enclosed my/our \$10 membership fee *per person*.
Dues paid now will make me/us a member **through June 2003**.

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____ Check # _____ payable to **SLOC**.
Credit Card number _____ MC/Visa Exp.date _____

Signature (Charges only) _____



Semi-Annual Meeting

Just a reminder to get in touch with Michelle Sausa-Gatta (377-1905) with RSVPs for the Semi-Annual Meeting on Saturday, January 25th 2003. Let Michelle know how many people will be coming and what food dish you would like to bring to share. The meeting will begin at 6:30 pm followed by food, fun and awards. We hope to see you all there!