

SLOC Spotlight

The Newsletter of the
Schenectady Light Opera Company
Volume 39-6
April 2006

NINE Set for Season Finale

826 State St.
Schenectady, NY 12307
393-5732

Web Site:
www.sloctheater.com



2005-2006 Season
Songs for a New World
October 14-16, 20-23
Nuncrackers
December 2-4, 8-11
Sullivan and Gilbert
March 3-5, 9-12
Nine
May 5-7, 11-14



Bonnie Williams
President

Board of Directors
Peter Codella
Marlene Countermine
Jennifer S. Depew
Jodi Gilman
Richard Lenehan
Michelle Sausa-Gatta
Ross Snyder
Bonnie Williams
Ken Zarnoch



Next Newsletter
Deadline:
May 11

SLOC concludes its 79th season of quality community theatre with the compelling and melodic musical, *Nine*. *Nine* debuted on Broadway in 1982 and won several Tony Awards. A revival had a successful run on Broadway several seasons ago in a production starring Antonio Bandaras. The stirring music and lyrics are by Maury Yeston and the many-layered book is by Arthur Kopit. Together they have collaborated on many productions on and off-Broadway.

Nine deals with a world-known Italian filmmaker, Guido Contini (played by local favorite, Eric Shovah) who is hitting a major crisis in his life as he turns 40: he must make a successful movie, or his career is Kaput! To top off his crisis, he is also dealing with the many women and his contradictions with them, in his life, including his wife Luisa (played by Jennifer Payeur, last seen in *Jekyll & Hyde*), mistress Carla (Heather D'Arcy) and his ex-girlfriend and leading lady Claudia (played by Kate Kaufman Burns).

Other women in this production that influence Guido's existence, whether, in flashback or in current time are Leslie Maiello (Guido's mother), Pat Brady (Liliane Lafleur, Guido's Producer), Jennifer Dickerson (Sarraghina) and SLOC newcomer, Liana D. Martino (Our Lady of the Spa). Playing Young Guido is Niskayuna Middle School student Casey Larkin.

Additional cast members, all newcomers to SLOC, are Christine Verderese, Whitney Kaufman, Alyssa Radley, Janet Stasio, Genevieve Messak, Laura Smith, and Jessica Kemper.

Thomas Dalton Bambury is again in the director's chair for this production, as well as being the choreographer. Marlene Countermine and Dave Dixon are the producers, Cathy Giammatteo-Mele is the Musical Director and Donna Baxter is the Assistant Director. Other members of the Production team are Don Countermine (set design/construction), Mary Kozlowski (set painting/artistic), Mary-Ann Muth (Costume Designer), Greg Rucinski (Lighting Designer), Joel Lord (Sound Designer), Loretta Romero (Hair Designer), Thomas Bambury (Make-up Designer), Jodi Gilman (Properties), Regina Baker (Stage Manager), Mike McDermott, Donna Baxter and Dave Dixon (Publicity) and Jenny Depew (Board Liaison).

Nine runs from May 5-14; Friday and Saturday night performances are at 8pm and Sunday's are at 2pm; Thursday night performance is at 8pm on May 11th.

Please contact ticket chairperson, Della Gilman at 280-8076 to reserve your tickets today (or on SLOC's website); SLOC's company premiere of *Nine* is expected to fill the seats, so reserve your tickets today!



Heather D'Arcy, Eric Shovah,
Jennifer Payeur, and Kate Kaufman Burns
rehearse a scene from *Nine*.

Spotlight on...

SAVE THE DATE!!!

**Annual Meeting
Saturday, June 10**



President's Notes...by Bonnie Williams



🎵 Kudos to S&G

This is the space where the president thanks the cast and crew of the previous show. But since I was the producer of *Sullivan & Gilbert*, that seems a little self-serving. I know that everyone involved had a great time. New friendships were made, old ones re-kindled and very old friendships survived working together! It gave those of us of a certain age a chance to be welcomed on the SLOC stage once again. The audiences seemed to enjoy it. I know I loved sitting in the darkened theatre at the beginning of each show listening to the lovely harmonies of the *a capella* madrigal. Little did I know, that I would be pressed into service for the last two performances to fill in for an ailing Melissa Lacijan. Happy to report that she was able to make our cast party and is feeling much better.

🎵 New VP Position Created

At the February board meeting it was proposed to create a VP of Community Relations. To help SLOC have a more forceful presence in the community and develop a working relationship with the political, neighborhood, and business resources in the city and county of Schenectady. I am happy to report that Joe Fava accepted this task and was voted in by the board at the March meeting. Welcome aboard, Joe!

🎵 New Ticket Prices

After many years of no increase in ticket prices, the Board decided to make a change in ticket prices for the 2006-2007 season. Adult tickets will be \$20.00 and children 13 and under will be \$10.00.

🎵 Annual Meeting – Save the Date

The annual meeting will be held on SATURDAY June 10. We are trying something a little different this year. Since we have such a good turnout for the semi annual in January (when we combine a meeting with food), **we're adding food** to the meeting in June. There are 138 eligible members to attend. We need to have ¼ or at least 35 members present. So plan on attending for dinner, dessert and decision! Vote in new board members and hear about the season past and the plans for our 80th anniversary season.

🎵 So Long, Cashman

In a surprise announcement, Dave Cash has had to abandon his musical direction position for *Nine*, to take a **real** job...in Buffalo! This came up very suddenly. As of this date, he has already shuffled off to Buffalo, and Karen will be following shortly. All of us at SLOC who have worked with Dave over the years will miss his talent, good humor and friendship. We can only give him and Karen a sad goodbye and know that they take with them very fond memories and our best wishes for happiness and success in their new home.

🎵 In Memoriam

Those of us in the theatre community were saddened by the recent passing of Bob Couture. Bob founded the Roustabout Players, a community theater troupe in Troy, and directed the first 25 productions at the First United Presbyterian Church in Troy. He acted and directed with other theatrical groups, including the Circle Theatre Players and Riverview Productions, and reviewed plays for the Schenectady Gazette, WAMC and the Bennington Banner. In addition to his passion for theatre, he was active in the First United Presbyterian Church, as an elder, deacon, trustee and member of the choir. Bob was also a member of the Chorale in Bennington, Vt. and was a past president of Troy Chromatics Concerts. Our condolences go out to his family and friends.

🎵 Ellen Rizzo Appeal

On December 31, Ellen Rizzo was in a horrific automobile accident. She has been hospitalized since that time. The doctors have told her family that Ellen will be in the hospital for many more months. She needs several orthopedic operations, followed by a long period of rehabilitation. Ellen has been a member of several pit orchestras here at SLOC and was musical director for *Follies*. It is now your turn to help her. Her family has set up a special bank account at Citizens Bank. You can make contributions at any Citizens Bank branch. All funds will be used to help Ellen while she is recovering from this accident.

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 present quality musical theater to the people in and around Schenectady County, NY.

Newsletter Staff: Jill Coloney, Tom Heckert, Greg Rucinski, Pat Endries and George Endries. 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. 39 Issue No. 7** of the SLOC SPOTLIGHT is **Thursday, May 11, 2006**. Issue No. 7 will be mailed by May 23.

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

The Full Monty Auditions are Coming!!

Though the movie is set in England, the musical takes place in the present in Buffalo, New York. It is a story about 6 "down on their luck" unemployed men and their friends and families. One of the main characters comes up with an idea to make some quick money- to do a strip tease just like the Chippendales. But can they go one step further, all the way - "the full monty" - to attract an even bigger audience?

There are a number of important and poignant themes running through the story lines - the sacrifices people make for their children, the binding ties of friendship, and the risks involved in seeing a wild idea through to the bitter end.

The Full Monty auditions will be held at SLOC, 826 State Street, on Tuesday and Wednesday, May 23 and 24. Sign in will be at 7:00 pm. Please come prepared to sing 16 bars of music, preferably from the show. There will be no a capella singing. Please bring sheet music; an accompanist will be provided. Wear comfortable clothing, as there will be a dancing as well as vocal and reading audition. A note to the adult men only: Be prepared to strip down to your underclothes during the audition process. But fear not- there will be no full frontal nudity in this production.

Show dates are October 13-15 and October 19-22. Rehearsals will tentatively begin sometime in June.

Here is a partial character breakdown with ages and vocal ranges:

Jerry Lukowski 25-45, unemployed mill worker big range, primarily tenor w/a good high belt

Dave Bukatinsky 25-45, unemployed mill worker (Jerry's best friend), same range as Jerry

Malcolm MacGregor 25-45, unemployed mill worker, tenor w/a high falsetto in one spot

Ethan Girard 25-45, unemployed mill worker (some gymnastic ability), high baritone

Harold Nichols 25-45, unemployed supervisor at the mill, high baritone
Noah (The Horse) 30-60, African-American retired mill worker, high baritone

Nathan Lukowski 10-12, Jerry's son

Pam Lukowski 25-45, Jerry's estranged wife

Estelle Genovese 25-45, Jerry's "sometimes" girlfriend, alto

Georgie Bukatinsky 25-45, Dave's wife, mezzo/alto

Vicki Nichols 25-45, Harold's wife, mezzo/alto

Jeanette Burmeister 25-60, piano player, brassy alto

Call Michael C. Mensching at 477-2256 with any questions. The production team looks forward to seeing you all at auditions! The Co-Producers are Ferne L. Dutkin and Marlene Countermine.

NINE actoids

* *Nine* is based on the 1963 Federico Fellini semi-autobiographical film *8 1/2*.

* It took, coincidentally, nine years for *Nine* to make it to Broadway.

* *Nine* won 5 Tony Awards in 1982, including Best Musical.

* Maury Yeston (music and lyrics) wrote the entire production number "Folies Bergeres" on a paper tablecloth in a NYC café. Fortunately, he tore off the tablecloth and took it with him!

* Maury Yeston and Arthur Kopit (book) were reunited as a team for a musical version of *The Phantom of the Opera* which actually predated the more famous version still running on Broadway and a recent visitor to Proctor's Theater.

2006 MEMBERSHIP LIST

(as of February 1, 2006)

138 members - can vote in June, 2006 elections -

* designates new member (cannot run in 2006)

Joseph Agostine, Jr. ('09)	Melissa Lacijan*
Alan Angelo	Peter Lacijan*
Regina Baker*	Pat LaFleur
Donna Baxter	Marcia Lenehan
Ric Bello	Richard Lenehan
Frank Blum	Shirley Levey
Pat Brady	Flora Lovell
Jim Burns*	Jim Lovell
Kate Burns	Carole Mann
Eileen Bush	William McColl
Pat Casey ('07)	Brendan McDermott
Eunice Chouffi	Michael McDermott
Jean Clarke	Joanne Mensching
Varro Clarke	Michael Mensching
Madeline Codella	Jo Ann Menzer
Peter Codella	Judi Merriam
Jill Coloney	Mary Francis Miller*
Joe Concra	Carolyn J. Mills
MaryAnn Concra	Drew Mills ('07)
Dale Conklin	Ginnie Mills ('07)
Don Countermine	Jacqueline E. Mosher
Marlene Countermine	Debra Moyer
Paul Croteau	Howard Moyer
Rita Croteau	Marguerite Murtagh*
Sue Culver	Pat Murtagh*
Gail D'Arcy	Mary-Ann Muth
Heather D'Arcy*	Michael O'Brien*
Jim D'Arcy	Suzi O'Brien*
Tom DellaSala ('07)	Gioia Ottaviano
Gail Denisoff*	Donna Panzl
Bill Depew	Chris Pedersen
Jenny Depew	Larry Pedersen
Ferne Dutkin	Joe Phillips
Bob Farquharson	Margot Phillips
Paula Farquharson	Christina Nicotina Pickreign*
Sally Farrell	Eleanor Pigliavento
Joseph Fava	Orlando Pigliavento
Linda Fetherston	Bill Poppino
Allan Foster ('07)	Brett Putnam
Lois Foster ('07)	Walter Raab
Dolores Fragomeni	Nina Rindenello*
Ron Fragomeni	Greg Rucinski
Gwen Fraser	Sue Rucinski
Richard Gatta	Ted Rucinski
Tom Gatta*	John W. Ryan
Art Gauvreau	Kathryn Sargalis
Paige Gauvreau	Michelle Sausa-Gatta
Charlotte Gerstenberger	Argie Serras
Della Gilman ('07)	Eric Shovah
Jodi Gilman	Ross Snyder
Elisa Harrington-Verb	Jane B. Stewart
Dick Harte	Joan Sticher('07)
Laurel Hayes*	Nancy Stone*
Tom Heckert	Sherry Strichman*
Charlie Hepburn	Eli Taub
Grace Hepburn	Meg Tedesco
Alicia Hermance	Ted Vickery
Myron Hermance	Tom Watthews
Philip Hermance	Dave Weinstock
Bill Hickman	Debra Weiskopf
Maxine Hilderley ('07)	Eric Weiskopf
Mimi Hilderley ('07)	Joanne Westervelt
Jeffrey Hocking*	David Wilkinson
Pat Hoffman	Bonnie Williams
Paul Hooker	Nancy Wozny
Joan Horgan	Ken Zarnoch
Bill Kornrumpf	Melinda Zarnoch
Gina Kornrumpf	Thelma Zeh
Mary Kozlowski	Lillian Zola



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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Nine

May 5-7 and 11-14

Thursday, Friday, and

Saturday at 8:00 PM

Sunday at 2:00 PM

TICKETS: 280-8076

Adults: \$18; Children under 13: \$9

Group rates available! Call for information.

Non-Profit Org.
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Board Nominations

It's that time of year when interested SLOC members are asked to consider running for the Board of Directors. There will be four openings this year. Nominations may be submitted by persons who are voting members. These nominations shall be: (1) submitted in writing to the Secretary; (2) signed by at least 5 persons who are Voting Members; and (3) consented to by the nominee.

Such nominations shall be received by the Secretary (Melinda Zarnoch) at least thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Meeting. This year's Annual Meeting is Saturday, June 10, 2006 so nominations need to be submitted by Thursday, May 11, 2006. They can be mailed to: Melinda Zarnoch 7 Horstman Drive Scotia, NY 12302.

Absentee Ballots Available After May 10

If you are unable to attend the Annual Meeting on June 10th, you may still vote in the election for the Board of Directors. An absentee ballot may be obtained after May 10th by calling Melinda Zarnoch at 382-8497. All absentee ballots must be received by the Secretary (Melinda) prior to the start of the Annual Meeting.

Attention Board Candidates

Candidates for the Board of Directors are reminded that their biographies need to be submitted to the newsletter editor (Jill Coloney at jac12661@aol.com) by the next newsletter deadline (May 11).

Opera House Locks to be Replaced

The front and side door locks at the Opera House will be replaced in May, following *Nine*. If you need a key, contact Ross Snyder, VP Facilities, after May 1, 2006 to get a new key. The same key will operate both the side door and the front door. A five dollar returnable deposit will be required on all Opera House keys (this is being implemented to defray the cost of replacing lost keys and to encourage returning keys when they are no longer needed). We thank you for your cooperation and apologize for any inconvenience this change may cause.

Lost: The "House Manager" pin. If you have it please give it to a board member or mail to: PO Box 1006, Schenectady, NY 12301.

Found: One Ryobi 14 volt battery and charger for a cordless drill (found in the tool room behind the stage). If it's yours please call Richard Lenehan at 785-4296 to arrange for pickup at the Opera House.

Needed: If anyone is in a position to donate a working 13" TV/VCR combination unit to the Archives Room, please contact Alan Angelo at 377-1421 or Richard Lenehan at 785-4296 for pick up.