

Savoyardage

The Newsletter of the The Madison Savoyards, Ltd.

A Quarterly Newsletter

Issue #94 - May 2010

HMS Pinafore

UW Music Hall

July 23, 24 - 7:30
July 25 - 3:00

July 30, 31 - 7:30
August 1 - 3:00

Midwinter Event

First Unitarian Society

Friday, January 28,
7:30

Save the date!



**The Mikado DVD
Reviewed in Jan/Feb
2010 Fanfare Maga-
zine**

**“All in all, I think
the Madison Sa-
voyards do them-
selves up proud”**

**The Yeomen of the
Guard DVD**

Our latest release

Complete performance

Surround sound



HMS Pinafore

The 48th annual summer production of The Madison Savoyards comes to Music Hall in July. This summer’s *HMS Pinafore* will be the seventh by the Savoyards, having been last seen in 2000. It was first performed by the Savoyards in the fifth season in 1968.

Terry Kiss Frank returns as stage director, having previously performed and directed in many Savoyards’ productions, most

recently assisting with January’s *Tarantara! Tarantara!* and last summer’s *Yeomen of the Guard*. She was stage director for *The Mikado* in 2008 and *Patience* in 2006.

Grant Harville is music director, having previously served as assistant music director in *The Yeomen of the Guard* last summer.

Terry reports that more than 50 “hopefuls” auditioned for a cast of 37. “The

plethora of possibly perfect *Pinafore* personnel made the selection process very difficult!” The cast includes Savoyard veterans and some new to the works of G&S.

Terry’s aim this year in design, costume, and stage business will be to present a real “slice of life” look at the British Royal Navy, circa 1850. To help the cast get into the mood, rehearsals are scheduled using military time. (So our Friday and Saturday curtains are 19:30 and Sundays are 15:00.)



Tickets for *HMS Pinafore* are on sale at the Wisconsin Union Theater Box Office, the UW Theater Box Office, and on-line. We are advised that considerable construction is scheduled for the campus area near the Union Theater Box Office and Music Hall. This is expected to affect open times for the box office and traffic in the area. However, rest assured you will be able to purchase tickets and get to Music Hall for the show. We’ll post the latest information on our website.

PHOTO: THE MIKADO, 2008, DIRECTED BY TERRY KISS FRANK.



Cox & Box. The staircase in the center was added for *Tarantara! Tarantara!*

The show was very well received by the large audiences in attendance. The Madison Savoyards is grateful to The Madison Theatre Guild for their heroic efforts, skill and dedication that made the show such a resounding success.

The net proceeds from the production were shared equally by the Theatre Guild and the Savoyards.

Tarantara! Tarantara!

Produced by The Madison Savoyards and The Madison Theatre Guild and supported by Dane County Cultural Affairs Commission with additional funds from the Overture Foundation and the Pleasant T. Rowland Foundation

Kelly Jetzer, and James Romney. In the tradition of the casting approach of Gilbert, who sought good actors who could sing, Director Joan Brooks successfully brought great talent into this production.

Savoyards fans will recognize that the set used for *Tarantara! Tarantara!* is from

The Madison Savoyards is pleased to welcome the Theatre Guild to the wonderful world of Gilbert & Sullivan and hopes there will be many future collaborations for the delight of our audiences.

Tarantara! Tarantara!, the first joint production by The Madison Savoyards and the Madison Theatre Guild in January 2010, was an artistic and (happily) financial success.

Tarantara! Tarantara!, a play by Ian Taylor, includes music from eight of the Savoy operas by Gilbert and Sullivan and presents a bit of history and the chemistry between the major figures in the Savoy legacy.

Many cast members were Savoyard veterans: Fiona Cahill, Jim Chiolino, Greer DuBois, Ilona Pinzke, Catherine Schweitzer, Molly Spivey, and David Sytkowski. Others were new to Gilbert and Sullivan: Bobby Arnold, Jason Atkins, Stuart Brooks, Eddie Gray,



From the President

Fellow Savoyards,

What a year we are having. You can see pictures here from the joint production with Madison Theatre Guild of *Tarantara! Tarantara!* The show was lots of fun and ended in the black. If you missed the performance, you missed getting some insight into the workings of the partnership between Gilbert and Sullivan.

Tarantara! Tarantara! also served the purpose of testing whether a non-summertime show would appeal to the public. With this smaller show, fewer than 15 performers, we were able to test the proposition that Gilbert and Sullivan would be a draw in the depths of winter. The show also allowed us to team up with another theater group and see if we could pull something off together. We all learned lots of lessons from this effort. And, a big thank you is in order for the staff, crew, and performers who provided a wonderful evening of entertainment.

Almost on the heels of our January *Tarantara!* effort, in February we held our annual midwinter event, *I have A Song to Sing, O!* John Kruse did a marvelous job of rounding up talent and putting together a collection of Sullivan's music with representations of his various genres. Three loud cheers for John and his devoted supporters.

While all this was happening our video specialist, Evan Richards, finished the editing of a DVD of last year's *The Yeoman of the Guard* which has been released to the public. With this release the Madison Savoyards now have a neat little collection of Gilbert and Sullivan shows.

Despite all this good news, it is necessary to report that the difficult economic times are affecting the various granting organizations that have supported us in the past. While we anticipate continued support, the levels will be lower than in previous years. All is not bleak however, although we are tightening our belts, we remain committed to bringing you the best *HMS Pinafore* that

we have ever produced. Early signs indicate we will be successful. We hope you will find ways to help us weather the economic storms. Buy tickets and come to the show, that is very helpful and is a nice thank you to our cast (who work really hard). Donations of money and time are also very useful.

Due to construction in the UW campus area, getting around campus in the area of Old Music Hall will be a bit more difficult this summer. There is talk of turning some streets one way, and access to some parking areas will be blocked. We plan to put information on our website to give you some warning of what to expect. I encourage you to check for suggestions on parking and information on traffic adjustments.

Jim Cain, President of the Board, Madison Savoyards, Ltd.

The Yeomen of the Guard DVD Released

Last summer's show, *The Yeomen of the Guard*, was released on DVD early this year. The DVD contains the complete opera, from the first notes of the overture to the last sounds of the applause after the final curtain call. The video is wide format (16 x 9) and the audio track is surround sound. An additional microphone (bringing the total to 13) was used in the recording this year to properly capture the sound of the Music Hall bell, used as part of the orchestra during the finale of Act 1. The DVD is available from The Madison Savoyards and Amazon.

The DVD of *The Mikado* (2008) received a second review in the January/February 2010 issue of *Fanfare* magazine. It was previously reviewed in the May/June 2009 issue. The review, typically for *Fanfare* reviews, is quite detailed and discusses the cast, the staging, the video and audio qualities, and related aspects. Comparisons are made to other recordings of *The Mikado*. While there are some criticisms, it is pleasing to see how well our production

compares to others around the world. By permission of the publisher, all *Fanfare* Magazine reviews of The Madison Savoyards recordings are available on our website.

www.madisonsavoyards.org



Mark Your Calendar

- The annual meeting of The Madison Savoyards will be held in mid-September. The date, time, and place will be posted on our website.
- The next mid-winter evening of G&S will be on Friday, January 28, 2011 at First Unitarian Society. Nick Schweitzer, John Barker, and John Kruse are collaborating on this event.
- Pre-show dinners are once again offered at the University Club on Fridays: July 23 and 30, gathering at 5:15 PM, dining at 5:45. and a pre-show talk over dessert. Call the University Club (608) 262-5023 for reservations.

Renew Your Membership

I've enclosed my gift to support Gilbert & Sullivan productions:

- Member (\$25–\$49) Patron (\$50–\$99) Sustaining Member (\$100–\$499) Benefactor (\$500–\$999) Sponsor (\$1,000+)
 Endowment Fund (\$_____)* Other _____
 Please list my contribution as “Anonymous” in your program.

* The Endowment Fund is managed by the Madison Community Foundation for the benefit of the Madison Savoyards

Names: _____

Street Address: _____ Apt #: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: () _____ E-mail: _____

Madison Savoyards DVDs and CDs

DVDs/CD desired (please specify quantities)

Quantity		Price	
_____	<i>The Yeomen of the Guard</i> (2009) DVD 152 min Dolby 5.1	@\$25.00	_____
_____	<i>The Mikado</i> (2008) DVD 141 min Dolby 5.1	@\$25.00	_____
_____	<i>Cox & Box</i> and <i>The Sorcerer</i> (2007) DVD 146 min Dolby 5.1	@\$20.00	_____
_____	<i>The Sorcerer</i> (2007) 2 CD set 108 min	@\$20.00	_____
_____	<i>Patience</i> (2006) DVD 125 min Dolby 5.0	@\$20.00	_____
_____	<i>Patience</i> (2006) 2 CD set 125 min	@\$15.00	_____
_____	<i>Ruddigore</i> (highlights) (2004) DVD	@\$10.00	_____

Please mail to:

The Madison Savoyards, Ltd.
PO Box 1612
Madison, WI 53701-1612
 Phone: (608) 231-9005

All prices include sales tax
 Savoyardage 05/10

DVD/CD Total: _____
 Donation: (Thank You!) _____
 Total amount enclosed: \$ _____

www.madisonsavoyards.org
 (payable to Madison Savoyards, Ltd.)

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