



Gilbert and Sullivan's

# Ruddigore

or, The  
Witch's Curse

Directed by  
Helen Aberger

Music Direction by  
Joseph Sorge

June 11-13, 19 + 20, 2015 at 8pm

June 14, 20 + 21, 2015 at 2pm

THE  
ACTORIAN  
*Lyric*  
OPERA  
COMPANY

F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre  
Rockville Civic Center Park  
603 Edmonston Drive  
Rockville, MD 20851

arts & humanities  
COUNCIL OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

The Victorian Lyric Opera Company is supported in part by funding from the Montgomery County government and the Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County.

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## Cast

<b>Robin Oakapple/Sir Ruthven Murgatroyd</b> .....	Joshua Hughes
<b>Richard Dauntless</b> .....	Joseph Wilson
<b>Sir Despard Murgatroyd</b> .....	Michael Beder/Blair Eig *
<b>Sir Roderic Murgatroyd</b> .....	Tom Goode
<b>Old Adam Goodheart</b> .....	Joshua Milton
<b>Rose Maybud</b> .....	Keely Borland/Emma Jensen*
<b>Mad Margaret</b> .....	Amanda Jones/Carla Rountree*
<b>Dame Hannah</b> .....	Mary Mitchell
<b>Zorah</b> .....	Kris Devine
<b>Ruth</b> .....	Margot Perry

\* performing 6/11, 6/13, 6/20 – 2pm, 6/21

## Chorus

Kevin Caughlan, Denise Cross, Kayla Cummings, Rick DuPuy,  
Noah Friedlander, Lena Goldweber, Chuck Howell, Ralph Johnson,  
Gabriella Jones, Joshua Katz, Jennifer Lauren Lee, Carlton Maryott,  
Jane Maryott, Stevie Miller, Roger Porres, Bill Rogers, Sarah Seider,  
Stephanie Shade, Maria Wilson, Kent Woods

## Orchestra

### Violin I

Steve Natrella (CM)  
Bonnie Barrows  
Carolyn Larson  
Irv Berner

### Violin II

Peter Mignerey  
Martin Brown  
Audrey Chang  
Edwin Schneider  
Andrew Nixon

### Viola

Amanda Laudwein  
E. Foley

### Bass

Ross Capon

### Cello

Michael Stein  
Sheryl Friedlander

### Flute

Jackie Miller  
Louise Hill

### Oboe

Gwen Earle  
Linda Eagleson

### Bassoon

Betsy Haanes

### Clarinet

Laura Langbein  
Laura Bornhoeft

### Horn

Joe Cross  
Gail Hixenbaugh  
Lora Katz

### Trumpet

Curt Anstine  
Rick Pasciuto  
Tom Gleason

### Trombone

Steve Ward  
Frank Eliot  
Al Potter

### Percussion

George Huttlin

## Production Crew

<b>Producer</b> .....	Denise Young
<b>Director</b> .....	Helen Aberger
<b>Music Director</b> .....	Joseph Sorge
<b>Assistant Music Director</b> .....	Jenny Craley Bland
<b>Assistant Conductor</b> (6/13 - 8pm, 6/20 - 2pm).....	Rebecca Henry
<b>Assistant to Director/Stage Manager</b> .....	Douglas Maryott
<b>Assistant Stage Manager</b> .....	Devin Work
<b>Rehearsal Pianists</b> .....	Jenny Craley Bland, Ross Capon
<b>Choreography</b> .....	Helen Aberger
<b>Assistant Choreographer</b> .....	Sara Collins
<b>Diction Coach</b> .....	Gary Sullivan
<b>Technical Director</b> .....	Bill Rogers
<b>Scenic Designer</b> .....	Bill Pressly
<b>Scenic Painter</b> .....	Timothy Ziese
<b>Master Carpenter</b> .....	Devin Work
<b>Costume Designer</b> .....	Jesse Shipley
<b>Costume Construction</b> .....	Louise Capon, Kathie Rogers, Denise Cross Denise Young, Elena Porres, Maria Wilson, Sara Collins
<b>Lighting Designer</b> .....	A. Dawson Smith
<b>Properties Designers</b> .....	Carl & Jane Maryott
<b>Makeup/Hair Designer</b> .....	Renée Silverstone
<b>Set Crew/Painters</b> .....	Ralph Johnson, Blair Eig, Tony Dwyer, Bill Rogers, William Kolodrubetz, Felicity Brown, Stevie Miller, Jackie Rogers, Ben Aberger, Devin Work, Douglas, Carl & Jane Maryott
<b>Photography</b> .....	Harvey Levine
<b>Program</b> .....	Courtney Kalbacker
<b>Supertitles Operator</b> .....	Kevin Schellhase
<b>Graphic Design</b> .....	Amanda Koss May
<b>Marketing</b> .....	Carla Rountree, Felicity Ann Brown, Courtney Kalbacker
<b>House Management</b> .....	Cassandra Stevens
<b>Set and Costume Storage</b> .....	Rockville Civic Center
<b>SPECIAL THANKS TO:</b> Ashburton Elementary School; City of Rockville; and the Montgomery County Government	

*And a big thank you to all those who have helped make this production a success whose names weren't available at the time of printing.*

## From the Director

Overshadowed in its time by the success of Gilbert & Sullivan's previous work *The Mikado*, *Ruddigore* was and is not often produced. On its face, it's a rather bizarre story about ridiculous characters with whom it is difficult to sympathize. Without context, modern day audiences can be left feeling like they've missed a greater point.

At its inception, however, *Ruddigore* was conceived as a parody of British melodrama- a popular theater genre in the 1880s. Melodrama features stock characters and plots- for example, a noble and heroic tenor loves the beautiful and chaste maiden but is thwarted by a villainous baritone. Gilbert and Sullivan turned this on its head and produced a story about a flighty soprano who is loved afar by a cursed comic baritone in disguise and is temporarily swept away by a roguish tenor sailor. Audiences in 1887 would've been familiar with the stock melodrama characters and been amused by the lampooning.

But not all the twists are turns- Gilbert's characters defy complete categorization as good or bad, wrong or right- they actually live in a grey area of real, human qualities. And this is what we present day audiences can hang our hats on- who hasn't put on airs to be someone they are not? Who hasn't listened to their hearts dictates under the premise of doing right but ultimately served themselves? Who hasn't bowed to societal pressures? Through parody, reality peeks out to reveal how "topsy-turvy" life can be.

I am delighted to present you with a traditional treatment of the operetta *Ruddigore* with a corps of fantastic artists, all of them here for their love of the art form. Gilbert & Sullivan are their own animal in the opera world – loved fiercely by their fans and looked sometimes skeptically upon by *opera seria* buffs – but their works have endured. I invite you to enjoy this seldom performed work and hope you come back for more!

- Helen Aberger, Director

## MUSICAL SELECTIONS

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### Act I: The fishing village of Rederring in Cornwall

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<b>Fair is Rose</b> .....	Bridesmaids & Zorah
<b>Sir Rupert Murgatroyd</b> .....	Dame Hannah & Bridesmaids
<b>If somebody there chanced to be</b> .....	Rose
<b>I know a youth</b> .....	Robin & Rose
<b>From the briny sea/I shipped d'ye see</b> .....	Bridesmaids & Richard
<b>My boy, you may take it from me</b> .....	Robin & Richard
<b>The battle's roar is over</b> .....	Richard & Rose
<b>If well his suit has sped</b> .....	Bridesmaids
<b>In sailing o'er life's ocean wide</b> .....	Rose, Richard & Robin
<b>Cheerily carols the lark</b> .....	Mad Margaret
<b>Welcome, gentry</b> .....	Chorus
<b>Oh, why am I moody and sad?</b> .....	Sir Despard & Chorus
<b>You understand</b> .....	Sir Despard & Richard
<b>Hail the bride</b> .....	Ensemble

## INTERMISSION

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### Act II: Picture Gallery in Ruddigore Castle

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<b>I once was as meek</b> .....	Robin & Adam
<b>Happily coupled are we</b> .....	Richard, Rose & Bridesmaids
<b>In bygone days</b> .....	Rose, Robin, Richard & Bridesmaids
<b>Painted emblems of a race</b> .....	Ancestors, Robin & Sir Roderic
<b>When the night wind howls</b> .....	Sir Roderic & Ancestors
<b>He yields!</b> .....	Ancestors
<b>Away, remorse!/For thirty-five years</b> .....	Robin
<b>I once was a very abandoned person</b> .....	Sir Despard & Mad Margaret
<b>My eyes are fully open</b> .....	Robin, Sir Despard & Mad Margaret
<b>Melodrama</b>	
<b>There grew a little flower</b> .....	Dame Hannah & Sir Roderic
<b>When a man has been a naughty baronet</b> .....	Ensemble
<b>Oh, happy the lily</b> .....	Ensemble

## SYNOPSIS

### ***Act I - The Fishing Village of Reddering, in Cornwall***

An early Baronet of Ruddigore had a witch burned at the stake, and she cursed him and all his line dooming them to commit at least one crime a day, under penalty of dying in unspeakable agony. Dame Hannah narrates this legend to the Chorus of Professional Bridesmaids, gathered around the cottage of Rose Maybud, an attractive young damsel who has not yet found a husband. Robin Oakapple, a young farmer, is in love with Rose but is too bashful to declare his passion. We now learn through Adam, an old retainer, that Robin is really Sir Ruthven (pronounced "Riven") Murgatroyd, the true Baronet of Ruddigore, who has fled from the Curse, leaving it, with the title and estates, to his younger brother, Despard. His foster-brother, Richard Dauntless, who has just returned from the sea, also knows Robin's true identity. Learning of the deadlock in Robin's love affair, Richard volunteers to see the lady and clear up the situation. On meeting Rose, however, he too falls in love with her, and, as his guiding principle is to obey "the dictates of his heart", avows his love to her, and is accepted. But when Rose learns of Robin's love for her, she promptly transfers her affections to him, remarking that while Richard is a penniless sailor, Robin is a prosperous farmer.

Mad Margaret enters, and we learn that she had been in love with the present bad baronet, Despard. In a song, Despard reveals the depths of his infamy, but notes that he makes a point of atoning for every bad action by following it with a good one. Richard, still obeying the "dictates of his heart," reveals to him that his brother, Sir Ruthven, is alive, and is in this very village, masquerading as Robin Oakapple. Robin now enters with his promised bride and the Chorus of Bridesmaids to celebrate the nuptials. But the wedding is rudely interrupted by the revelation that Robin is really the Bad Baronet. Rose promptly offers herself to Despard, who declares that he being no longer the Bad Baronet but a virtuous person, will be true to Mad Margaret. So Rose, not at all abashed, once more falls back on Richard, and a dance ends the first act.

### ***Act II -The Picture Gallery in Ruddigore Castle***

The second act takes place in the gloomy Picture Gallery of Ruddigore Castle, where the portraits of his ancestors look grimly down upon a sadly changed Robin. Richard and Rose dance in with their train of Bridesmaids to ask Robin's consent to their marriage. After some trouble, they obtain it, and depart. Robin then makes an impassioned appeal to his ancestors to relieve him of the



necessity of doing a daily crime. Stepping down from their frames, and led by his uncle Roderic, they accuse him of evading the terms of the Curse, and order him to do something really wicked--carry off a maiden that very day. When he refuses, they give him a sample of the "agonies" they have the power to inflict, and he is compelled to yield. The ancestors return to their frames and Robin orders Adam to go at once and bring him a maiden---any maiden!

A reformed Despard and Margaret now appear, soberly attired, and describe themselves as District Visitors engaged in charitable activities. They have come to implore Robin to forswear his wicked ways. He declares he will do so, when, upon their departure, Adam enters with the "maiden" he was sent to abduct. She turns out to be none other than the mature Dame Hannah, who proves so well able to protect herself that Robin has to call upon his uncle Roderic for help. Roderic steps down from his frame, and we learn that he and Hannah were once lovers. Robin is summarily dismissed, and the reunited pair indulge in a sentimental duet. Their reunion is interrupted by the excited entrance of Robin---he has the solution of the whole business. Pointing out that, as a refusal to fulfil the terms of the Curse amounts to suicide, and as suicide is itself a crime, it follows that the Curse is inoperative! So Roderic finds that he must still be alive, Rose at once becomes the bride of a reformed Robin. Richard appropriates the chief bridesmaid and all ends in general rejoicing.

Sullivan, Arthur, W. S. Gilbert, and Edmond W. Rickett. *Ruddigore, or, The Witch's Curse.*

New York: G. Schirmer, 1953.

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## COMPANY BIOGRAPHIES

**HELEN ABERGER** (Director) is an emerging Stage Director in the DC Metro area. An avid chorister and board member of VLOC, she most recently served as Assistant Director for VLOC's *Haddon Hall*, and sang and assistant directed *Pirates of Penzance* and *The Yeomen of the Guard*. She is also a member of the Rockville Chorus. By day, Helen works for Washington Performing Arts in downtown D.C as a fundraiser. Much love and thanks to her husband, Ben, for his unwavering faith and support.

**MICHAEL BEDER** (Sir Despard Murgatroyd) is delighted to make his VLOC debut. He's more often backstage than onstage, but he has appeared in GG&SS's *Pirates of Penzance* (Police), *Spamalot* (Black Knight), and *Trial by Jury* (Usher). He's had *Ruddigore* stuck in his head since he stage-managed GG&SS's 2009 production and is thrilled to be returning to his favorite G&S. Rumor has it that he works as a communications lawyer by day.

**JENNY CRALEY BLAND** (Rehearsal Pianist/Assistant Music Director) has been playing for VLOC rehearsals since the early 1990s. Formerly a member of the World Bank's translation staff, Jenny is the accompanist for the World Bank/IMF Choral Society. Conductor for many years of a madrigal group composed of fellow employees, she now enjoys participating in a *cappella* choral workshops, especially those offered by The Western Wind and Chorworks, and plays chamber music regularly with friends.

**KEELY BOSWORTH BORLAND** (Rose Maybud) most recently performed in *The Impresario* (Mme. Silberklang) and *Cendrillon* (Noémie). Last year she was a Young Artist at Fargo-Moorhead Opera covering roles in *Buried Alive* and *Embedded* – two world premiere operas. Other credits include *The Pirates of Penzance* (Mabel) with VLOC, *Princess Ida* (Princess Ida), and *H.M.S. Pinafore* (Josephine). Keely was a 2015 Annapolis Opera Vocal Competition Semi-Finalist, 2014 Career Bridges Grant Finalist, and 2013 Baltimore Music Club Winner. Keely completed her M.M. at USC Thornton School of Music. Upcoming: *Le nozze di Figaro* (Barbarina) [www.KeelyBosworthBorland.com](http://www.KeelyBosworthBorland.com)

**KEVIN CAUGHLAN** (Chorus) last performed with VLOC in 1992 in *Yeomen of the Guard* and is happy to be singing with them once again. He met his wife in 1987 while singing in the chorus of *Ruddigore*. He currently sings in the Rockville Chorus and has sung in the chorus of most G&S Operettas while a math teacher at SSFS. He is a retired High School math teacher and currently tutors that subject.

**SARA COLLINS** (Assistant Choreographer) is excited to be choreographing for her very first VLOC production. Her past choreography credits include GG&SS's *Pirates of Penzance*, *Spamalot*, and *Iolanthe*. She would like to thank Felicity and Helen for giving her the opportunity to teach this wonderful ensemble.

**DENISE CROSS** (Chorus) got the 'acting bug' performing Bloody Mary in *South Pacific*. Since then her roles have included Tituba in *The Crucible*, Copy Runner in *Broadcast News* and other movie, TV and video roles. She has announced for WMAL and WGMS; and sung with UMD's Gamer Symphony Orchestra. She wrote and performed her one-woman show, *Madam*, to an SRO audience at the National Theater's Helen Hayes Gallery. This is her fourth role for VLOC.

**KAYLA CUMMINGS** (Chorus) is in her 3rd performance with VLOC, after participating in Chorus for *Utopia*, *Limited & Pirates of Penzance*. She's a sophomore at Suitland HS Center for the Visual and Performing Arts. She's performed at Carnegie Hall, and has just been accepted to The Tanglewood Institute's 2015 Summer Vocal Program which will be a great experience to prepare for her college. If you're interested in contributing to her attendance, please follow this link. <http://www.gofundme.com/oI4lzk>

**KRIS DEVINE** (Zorah) is pleased to be returning to VLOC after appearing in *The Charlatan* (chorus) and *The Pirates of Penzance* (chorus). As an avid choral musician, Kris also performs with Choralis and its chamber choir Échos. Recent performances with TWC include Handel's *Messiah* with the NSO, and Ginastera's *Turbæ ad Passionem Gregorianam* at Carnegie Hall in New York City. She is a graduate of the USC Thornton School of Music.

**RICK DUPUY** (Chorus) has appeared in ten mainstage shows with VLOC, most recently as Samuel in *Pirates of Penzance*, Ernst Dummkopf in *The Grand Duke* and Pish-Tush in *The Mikado*. A native Washingtonian and retired Latin teacher, he has also performed G&S operettas with the Washington Savoyards and at the International Gilbert and Sullivan festival in England.

**BLAIR EIG** (Sir Despard Murgatroyd) has played many roles for VLOC, both on and off stage. Recent performances include Phantis in *Utopia Limited*, Judge in *Trial by Jury*, Pooh Bah in *The Mikado*, Agammenon in *La Belle Helene*, Dick Deadeye in *H.M.S. Pinafore*, Prince of Monte Carlo in *Grand Duke*, Don Alhambra in *Gondoliers*, Dulcamara in *Elixir of Love*, Sergeant in *Pirates of Penzance*, Arac in *Princess Ida* and Zsupan in *Gypsy Baron*. Blair has also performed with Washington Savoyards, Potomac Theater Company and Forgotten Opera Company. When not on stage, Dr. Blair is Chief Medical Officer at Holy Cross Hospital.

**NOAH FRIEDLANDER** (Chorus) is ecstatic to be back with VLOC after a two-year hiatus. He is a rising junior at Montgomery Blair High School. After having performed as Luiz in *The Gondoliers* and Teyve in *Fiddler on the Roof*, he is happy to rejoin the good chorus of VLOC. Many thanks to his parents for schlepping him around and to Rick for being a great hornpipe partner.

**LENA GOLDWEBER** (Chorus) is thrilled to be in *Ruddigore*. With the Whitman Choir, she sang at Carnegie Hall, Kennedy Center and Strathmore Hall. Theater credits include *Zombie Prom*, *From Page to stage: an original musical revue*, and *La Belle Helene*, *The Sorcerer*, *Trial by Jury*, *Iolanthe* and *The Yeomen of the Guard* at VLOC. Thanks to voice coach Joy Stevens, family, and friends for all their support.

**TOM GOODE** (Sir Roderic Murgatroyd) returns to this role, which he played once before for VLOC in a previous afterlife (the Thriller Dance is seared, seared in his memory!). More recently, he has appeared in VLOC's productions of *Haddon Hall* (Major-domo), *The Pirates of Penzance* (Sgt. of Police), *The Red Mill* (Burgomaster), and *Iolanthe* (Lord Mountararat). By day, he hangs in a garage over a calendar for October 1996.

**REBECCA HENRY** (Assistant Conductor – 6/13 – 8pm, 6/20 – 2pm) is thrilled to be making her conducting debut with VLOC this season. Rebecca had the pleasure of conducting *Ruddigore* at the 5th Annual GGSSO. When she is not conducting, she can be seen as a mezzo soprano throughout the country and abroad. This past summer she joined ISing International Young Artist Festival on a one month tour of China. While in China, Ms. Henry sang a program in Mandarin at some of the most prestigious houses throughout the country. For more info visit [www.rebeccaHenry.org](http://www.rebeccaHenry.org)

**CHUCK HOWELL** (Chorus) Mild-mannered Archivist and Curator by day, Chuck Howell is glad to return to the VLOC stage again at night (and for the matinees, too). When not working at the UMD Libraries or alternately growing and shaving off facial hair for VLOC productions, he can be found at one of the frequent concerts, performances or recitals of his much more musically talented family. Thanks to daughters Anna and Rebecca and wife Carol.

**JOSHUA HUGHES** (Sir Ruthven Murgatroyd/Robin Oakapple) is currently pursuing a Master of Music in Voice Performance and Pedagogy at the Peabody Conservatory of Music. Performance Credits: *Die Entführung aus dem Serail* (Bassa Selim), Charpentier's *La Descente d'Orphée aux Enfers* (Apollon & Titye), *Hansel and Gretel* (Father), *Così fan tutte* (Guglielmo), *Gianni Schicchi and Buoso's Ghost* (Marco and Magistrate), *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* (Fiorello and Ufficiale). In 2013, Joshua received his Bachelor of Music Education from Oklahoma City University.

**EMMA JENSEN** (Rose Maybud) is excited to be back at VLOC and join this wonderful cast. She was recently seen as “Lady of the Lake” in *Monty Python’s Spamalot* at Silhouette Stages. Past performances with VLOC include *The Red Mill*, *The Sorcerer*, and *Die Fledermaus*. She has also appeared with Laurel Mill Playhouse productions of *Annie*, *Company*, *Pirates of Penzance* and *Into the Woods*. Thanks to her family and friends for their love and support.

**RALPH JOHNSON** (Chorus) has performed in 26 VLOC productions. He sings with the Prince William Sound barbershop quartet, in the Bull Run Troubadours and Harmony Heritage Singers (male choruses), and in the NOVA Annandale Chorale. A DoD retiree with a math PhD., Ralph volunteers with Meals on Wheels and Red Cross blood drives. He and his wife, Ellen, met in a *Ruddigore* production in Durham, NC. Thanks to Ellen for many years of patient support.

**AMANDA JONES** (Mad Margaret) is thrilled to be in her seventh production with VLOC after appearing in *Iolanthe* (Fleta), *The Red Mill* (Tina), *The Yeomen of the Guard* (Phoebe), *The Pirates of Penzance* (Kate), *The Charlatan* (Katrinka), and *Haddon Hall* (Dorcas). By day, Amanda is a nurse practitioner at NIH. She would like to thank her daughter Gabriella and husband Greg for all their love and support.

**GABRIELLA JONES** (Chorus) is very excited to be in her second production with VLOC after making her theatrical debut in *The Pirates of Penzance* (Young Frederic). Gabriella is 5 years old and in kindergarten at Kensington Parkwood Elementary. Her favorite activities include swimming, dancing, and ice skating.

**JOSH KATZ** (Chorus) is proud to be participating in his fourth VLOC production, having previously played Piet (*The Red Mill*), the Parrot Pirate (*The Pirates of Penzance*) and Barnabas Bellows-to-Mend (*Haddon Hall*). Other musical roles include Wallace McGregor (*Brigadoon*), male Ensemble (*Aida*), Noah Claypole (*Oliver the Musical*), and Chain Gang (*Parade*). Josh thanks his friends and fellow artists at VLOC for granting him this opportunity and for their continued support.

**JENNIFER LAUREN LEE** (Chorus) returns to the stage after a long absence, having most recently played the Tin Man in a junior high school production of *The Wizard of Oz*. By day she is a physics writer/video producer for NIST and is the immediate past president of the DC Science Writers Association.

**CARL MARYOTT** (Chorus/Props) has been lurking around VLOC productions since 2006, usually in the back row of the chorus or in the prop room. In past productions he has portrayed a British tar, an Italian gondolier, a Pontevedrian attaché, a Hungarian gypsy, an Irish adventurer, a Spanish priest, Peruvian rebel, a French musketeer, a German actor, a Greek blacksmith, and a “gentleman of Japan”. Now if he can just get a chance to visit all of these places...

**DOUGLAS MARYOTT** (Stage Manager) has worked backstage with several theatre companies in the area. He previously stage managed *The Pirates of Penzance* and has run the supertitles for most of VLOC’s recent shows. For the In Series, he has also stage managed *Don Giovanni*, *La Sonnambula*, both runs of *The Cole Porter Project*, and *Lady of Spain*, as well as performing various additional functions in other shows.

**JANE MARYOTT** (Chorus/Props) has sung with VLOC in most of their productions since *Gypsy Baron* in 2006. Roles include Inez (*Gondoliers*), Miss Spiff (*Fogerty’s Fairy*), Mrs. McFarlane (*Engaged*) and, most recently, the Grand Duchess (*The Charlatan*). She is happily retired and is attempting to enjoy as much world travel as possible while missing the minimum number of rehearsals (thanks to Doug for the blocking notes!)

**STEVIE MILLER** (Chorus) is very excited to be part of another VLOC production! Since joining in 2012, she has appeared as a tabloid reporter (*Trial by Jury/The Sorcerer*), a fairy (*Iolanthe*), Heather (*The Red Mill*), Isabel (*The Pirates of Penzance*) and Deborah (*Haddon Hall*). She holds a B.A. in Music from Bryn Mawr College and has studied acting at the William Esper Studio and at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art.

**JOSH MILTON** (Old Adam) is an insurance agent by profession, and has been a singer and songwriter for many years. He is the artistic director of Players Unlimited, which is a theatre group of developmentally disabled adults. *Ruddigore* will be his 14th VLOC show. Josh is a habitual parodist, and he co-wrote the parody lyric for the Major General's encore verse in the recent VLOC production of *The Pirates of Penzance*. Josh and his wife Suzanne have two children who love music, Sam and Anabel.

**MARY MITCHELL** (Dame Hannah) returns to VLOC in *Ruddigore*. First appearing in VLOC's *Haddon Hall* as the Housekeeper/Alto Servant Quartet, Mary has performed in the DC Metro area with the Annapolis Opera, Kinder Opera, Odyssey Opera Theater and as guest soloist with the PGCS. Thank you VLOC and cast mates for another thoroughly enjoyable production!

**MARGOT PERRY** (Ruth) is extremely proud to perform in G&S's *Ruddigore*. This is Margot's third production and she appeared in VLOC's *The Charlatan* and *Haddon Hall* in 2014. During the day Margot is a Social Insurance Specialist for the Social Security Administration, Office of Earnings and International Operations in Baltimore, Maryland. While proudly serving as a public servant, Margot continues to hold excitement for the stage and is ever grateful for the opportunity.

**ROGER PORRES** (Chorus) is glad to work on his third show with VLOC, after appearing in *Haddon Hall* (Footman) and *The Charlatan*. He also performed recently in MAD's production of *Fanny* (Marius). Currently, he studies full-time at Montgomery College, and will begin a Master's at Catholic University in the Fall. Roger studies voice with Dr. Molly Donnelly, and would like to thank her and his family for all their support.

**BILL PRESSLY** (Scenic Designer) is excited to be back in the Fitz and designing a set for VLOC. Previously he stage managed the Rockville Civic Ballet for many years, designed sets for MTC, and KAT. Currently he designs sets for Bravo Productions and is the Technical Director (volunteer) for the Drama program at Middletown High School in Middletown, MD. Bill has designed sets for over 100 different productions but *Ruddigore* is his first opera.

**BILL ROGERS** (Chorus/Technical Director) is happy to be in his 5<sup>th</sup> VLOC production, including *Haddon Hall*, *Pirates of Penzance* and *Yeomen of the Guard*. A member of VLOC's Board of Directors, Bill chairs the Production Committee. Prior to VLOC, Bill volunteered with ATMTC in many backstage positions and appeared onstage as Mr. Ickes in *Annie!* Thank you to the production team and my family, and enjoy the show.

**CARLA ROUNTREE** (Mad Margaret) is thrilled to return to VLOC after a 2-year hiatus! She has performed in *Andrea Chénier* (Madlon), *Patience* (Bunthorne), *Hansel and Gretel* (Hansel), *Iolanthe* (Iolanthe), *The Sorcerer* (Lady Sangazure), *Die Fledermaus* (Prince Orlofsky), *La Belle Helene* (Orestes), *Alcina* (Ruggiero), and *I Capuleti e I Montecchi* (Romeo). Carla has also performed with ROC, ROTW, OI, CHAW, LLO, and OOT, and she serves as co-director of OOT DC Metro. Love to Chris!

**SARAH SEIDER** (Chorus) is thrilled to be performing in her second chorus with VLOC after *Pirates of Penzance* last summer. She has been a G&S fan since seeing HMS Pinafore at age 5. Favorite musical theater roles include *Lucky Stiff* (Annabel), *Once Upon a Mattress* (Winnifred), *Fiddler on the Roof* (Tseitel), and *Hello Again* (Young Wife). Special thanks to Dad for bribing us all to go to operettas with intermission ice cream sandwiches.

**STEPHANIE SHADE** (Chorus) last appeared with VLOC in *Haddon Hall* (Nance) and is thrilled to be working with them again. She loves performing all types of theatre, including straight plays, musicals and opera. Favorite past roles include Gerda Cristow in *The Hollow* and Susan in *Company* (Laurel Mill Playhouse). She thanks her family and friends for all of their love and support.

**JESSE SHIPLEY** (Costume Designer) recently designed costumes for VLOC's *Haddon Hall*. Other Design credits: WR (*Campsite Rule*, *In the Forest She Grew Fangs*, *Mitzi's Abortion*), Flying V (*Flying V Fights: Love is a Battlefield*), Alden Theater (*Totally RED*, *Raggedy Ann and Andy*), Doorway Arts Ensemble (*Morning Miranda*), to name a few. Some additional credits: Wardrobe/Constructionist for No Rules Theater Co. (*Peter Pan: The Boy Who Hated Mothers*), Wardrobe: The Hippodrome (*Wicked: Tour II*) and Studio Theater (*Penelope*).

**RENEE SILVERSTONE** (Makeup/Hair Designer) is a London-trained makeup and hair stylist who has worked with community theatre in England and the U.S. for years. She always has time for Look Good Feel Better program for women undergoing cancer treatment.

**A. DAWSON SMITH** (Lighting Designer) has worked in many theatrical capacities in DC for the past five years, as an actor, lighting designer, and tech director for the Georgetown Gilbert & Sullivan Society, as well as appearing in VLOC's production of Foggerty's Fairy for the Summer and Fall Fringe Festivals. ) Having designed a number of recent VLOC shows, including *Trial by Jury*, *The Sorcerer*, *Iolanthe*, *The Red Mill*, *The Yeomen of the Guard* and *Haddon Hall*, he is happy and proud to be working with VLOC again. He currently resides in NYC.

**JOSEPH SORGE** (Music Director/Conductor/Artistic Director) first joined VLOC in February 1996, when he went on stage as Count Raoul de St. Brioche in *The Merry Widow*. He is responsible for starting the September concert series, bringing rarely performed works to the Fitzgerald stage, such as *Mlle. Modiste*, *The Desert Song*, *Naughty Marietta*, *The Grand Duke*, and John Philip Sousa's operettas *Desirée*, *El Capitan*, *The American Maid*, and *The Charlatan*. He has also broadened the repertoire of VLOC in its fully staged productions outside the standard Gilbert and Sullivan canon by introducing works by Offenbach (*La Belle Hélène*, *La Vie Parisienne*), Strauss (*The Gypsy Baron*), and Donizetti (*The Elixir of Love*). In 2011, Maestro Sorge was awarded Best Conductor for *The Mikado* at The Gettysburg International Gilbert & Sullivan Festival. On December 23, 2012, Maestro Sorge took the podium as a guest conductor at the annual Messiah Sing-Along at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. With the completion of September 2013's concert presentation of *Utopia, Limited*, Joe has now conducted all 13 existing Gilbert and Sullivan operettas—many more than once.

**GARY SULLIVAN** (Dialect Coach) is thrilled to be the "Lord High Elocutioner" for this production, and has been a regular on the VLOC stage since 2005, appearing in many of the patter baritone roles, including Ko-Ko in *The Mikado* and the Lord Chancellor in *Iolanthe*. During the day, he plays his most challenging role: a training manager at Marriott headquarters in Bethesda. Love as always to Amy, Catherine, and Rebecca.

**MARIA WILSON** (Chorus) loves to sing but never expected to be on stage until joining VLOC in 2011. Now she is very proud to be in her 11th production with VLOC. She is honored to perform with very talented and intelligent cast, staff and orchestra members. Many thanks to the wonderful and cheerful audience and to her biggest fan, her husband, Roy (frequent usher).

**JOSEPH WILSON** (Richard Dauntless) is very excited to be involved with his first VLOC production. He most recently played Frederic in Loudoun Lyric Opera's production of *The Pirates of Penzance*. Other roles include Peppe (*I Pagliacci*), Herman (*The Most Happy Fella*), Orphée (*Orphée aux enfers*), Roméo (*Roméo et Juliette*), Camille (*The Merry Widow*), Mr. Erlansen (*A Little Night Music*), and Tamino (*Die Zauberflöte*). He currently studies with Fabiana Bravo and Henriette Lund.

**KENT WOODS** (Chorus) has performed in many VLOC productions since he joined the company in 1988. A retired federal attorney, Kent has recently portrayed the Solicitor in *The Red Mill*, the Lord Chamberlain in *Utopia, Limited*, and Sing-Song Simeon in *Haddon Hall*.

**DEVIN WORK** (Master Carpenter/Stage Manager) has worked for more than 10 years in theater, during which time he has done 40 shows, working all positions backstage, in particular as set-crew chief and stage manager. This is his third show with VLOC, and he is looking forward to many more in the future.

**DENISE YOUNG** (Producer) has worn many hats with VLOC, producing and costuming most of VLOC's shows over the last 17 years. Her stage appearances with VLOC include *Iolanthe* (Fairy Queen), *The American Maid* (Mrs. Vandevere), *La Belle Hélène* (Bacchis), *The Merry Widow* (Hannah Glawari), *The Elixir of Love* (Adina), *The Gypsy Baron* (Saffi), *The Magic Flute* (Queen of the Night), and *Die Fledermaus* (Rosalinda), in addition to most of the sopranos in the Gilbert and Sullivan canon.

Theatre Abbreviations

<b>ACT</b> Alliance of Community Theatres	<b>QTC</b> Quotidian Theatre Company
<b>ATMTC</b> Adventure Theatre Musical Theater Center	<b>RCP</b> Reston Community Players
<b>BP</b> British Players	<b>ROC</b> Riverbend Opera Company
<b>CHAW</b> Capitol Hill Arts Workshop	<b>ROTW</b> Repertory Opera Theater of Washington
<b>CCP</b> Capital City Players	<b>RLT</b> Rockville Little Theatre
<b>CUA</b> Catholic University	<b>RMT</b> Rockville Musical Theatre
<b>DTC</b> Damascus Theater Company	<b>SCT</b> Springfield Community Theatre
<b>GG&amp;SS</b> Georgetown Gilbert & Sullivan Society	<b>SMP</b> St. Mark's Players
<b>GGSSO</b> Great Gilbert & Sullivan Sing Out	<b>SSS</b> Silver Spring Stage
<b>KAT</b> Kensington Arts Theatre	<b>SSTG</b> Sandy Spring Theater Group
<b>LLO</b> Loudoun Lyric Opera	<b>ST</b> Signature Theater
<b>MAD</b> Music and Drama Club of NASA	<b>TAP</b> The Arlington Players
<b>MCP</b> McLean Community Players	<b>TWC</b> The Washington Chorus
<b>MTC</b> Musical Theater Center	<b>UMD</b> University of Maryland
<b>MP</b> Montgomery Playhouse	<b>USC</b> University of Southern California
<b>NSO</b> National Symphony Orchestra	<b>VLOC</b> Victorian Lyric Opera Company
<b>OOT</b> Opera On Tap	<b>VT</b> Vienna Theatre Company
<b>PGCS</b> Prince George's Choral Society	<b>WS</b> Washington Savoyards
<b>PTC</b> Potomac Theatre Company	<b>WSC</b> Washington Shakespeare Company

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## Past Performances

### The Performing Arts Theatre of Sandy Spring

1978 Cox and Box/Trial by Jury  
Victorian Arts Summer Theatre  
Company

1979 The Sorcerer  
Haddon Hall

### The Victorian Lyric Opera Company

1980 The Yeomen of the Guard  
1981 The Mikado  
The Pirates of Penzance  
1982 Patience  
The Gondoliers  
1983 Cox and Box/Trial by Jury  
H.M.S. Pinafore  
1984 The Mikado  
1985 Iolanthe  
The Yeomen of the Guard  
1986 Trial by Jury  
The Pirates of Penzance  
1987 H.M.S. Pinafore  
Ruddigore  
1988 The Mikado  
Patience  
1989 Trial by Jury  
The Gondoliers  
1990 Iolanthe  
The Pirates of Penzance  
1991 Princess Ida  
H.M.S. Pinafore  
1992 The Yeomen of the Guard  
The Mikado  
The 1st Great Gilbert &  
Sullivan Sing-Out  
Ruddigore  
1993 Patience  
1994 The Pirates of Penzance  
Iolanthe  
1995 The Gondoliers  
H.M.S. Pinafore  
1996 The Merry Widow  
The Mikado

1997 Trial by Jury/The Sorcerer  
The Pirates of Penzance  
1998 Orpheus in the Underworld  
The Yeomen of the Guard  
The 2nd Great G&S Sing-Out  
1999 Princess Ida  
H.M.S. Pinafore  
2000 Die Fledermaus.  
Ruddigore  
2001 The Mikado  
Patience  
Gilbert & Sullivan  
Drawing Room  
2002 La Vie Parisienne  
The Gondoliers  
The Zoo/Trial By Jury  
2003 The Pirates of Penzance  
Iolanthe  
The 3rd Great Gilbert &  
Sullivan Sing-Out  
2004 The Magic Flute  
H.M.S. Pinafore  
The Desert Song  
2005 The Mikado  
The Yeomen of the Guard  
G & S by Request  
2006 The Gypsy Baron  
Princess Ida  
2007 Ruddigore  
Pirates of Penzance  
Desirée  
2008 The Elixir of Love, Patience  
Cox and Box  
(Capital Fringe Festival)  
The 4th Great Gilbert &  
Sullivan Sing-Out  
2009 The Merry Widow  
The Gondoliers  
Naughty Marietta  
2010 The Grand Duke  
H.M.S. Pinafore  
Engaged (Capital Fringe)  
El Capitan

**(Past Performances, Continued)**

2011	La Belle Helene, The Mikado Foggerty's Fairy (Capital Fringe Festival) Mlle. Modiste	2013	Iolanthe The Red Mill The 5 <sup>th</sup> Great Gilbert & Sullivan Sing Out
2012	Die Fledermaus Trial by Jury/Sorcerer The American Maid Many Moods of Christmas	2014	The Yeomen of the Guard The Pirates of Penzance The Charlatan
		2015	Haddon Hall

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2012 - 2nd Runner-Up Outstanding Achievement in a Musical—*Die Fledermaus*  
2010 - 2nd Runner-Up Outstanding Achievement in a Musical—*The Grand Duke*  
2005 - 2nd Runner-Up Outstanding Achievement in a Musical—*The Gypsy Baron*  
1998 - 1st Runner-Up Outstanding Achievement in a Musical—*Orpheus in the Underworld*  
1986 - 3rd Runner-Up All Round Excellence—*The Pirates of Penzance*  
1982 - 2nd Runner-Up All Round Excellence—*Patience*
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