

3-2013

Die Fledermaus Program [2013]

University of Southern Maine Department of Theatre

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School of Music & Department of Theatre



Champagne and
desire can be a
scandalous combination!

Die Fledermaus

Operetta by Johann Strauss • Directed by Assunta Kent
Musical Direction by Ellen Chickering • Conducted by Robert Lehmann
with the Southern Maine Symphony Orchestra

March 8 - 16, 2013

Russell Hall, USM Gorham Campus



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Mad Horse Theatre 2012 - 2013 Season

NOVEMBER

by David Mamet
October 11-28, 2012 - *Maine Premiere*

BENGAL TIGER #BAGHDAD 200

by Rajiv Joseph
January 17-February 3, 2013 - *Maine Premiere*

A SIX PACK OF MILLER

staged readings of six plays by Arthur Miller
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by William Shakespeare
June 6-23, 2013

Mad Horse Theatre
24 Mosher Street, South Portland 207-730-2389 www.madhorse.com



DIE FLEDERMAUS

Operetta by Johann Strauss Jr.

Lyrics translated by Ruth and Thomas Martin
Dialogue Adaptation by Assunta Kent

Directed by Assunta Kent
Musical Direction by Ellen Chickering
Conducted by Robert Lehmann
With the Southern Maine Symphony Orchestra

Scenic Design, Charles S. Kading
Lighting Design, JP Gagnon
Costume Design, Joan Larkins Mather
Choreography, Vanessa Beyland

Setting

Vienna, 1874, at the height of the upper-class waltz craze

Act I

Rosalinda and Gabriel von Eisenstein's upper-middle class apartment
Early evening

Act II

Ballroom of Count Orlovsky's villa;
10 p.m. that night until 6 a.m. the next morning

Act III

Anteroom/Office of the City Jail; Early to mid-morning

*Acts I runs 40 minutes, Act II 50 mins and Act III 35 mins.
With two 12-minute intermissions.*

*Please, no photos are allowed during the performance. Also, please turn off beepers and phones as a courtesy to the actors and other audience members and refrain from making distracting noises. No food or drinks are allowed in the auditorium.
Late arrivals will be accommodated at the House Manager's discretion.*

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USM School of Music

Spring 2013 Highlights

Da Capo Chamber Players
with Lucy Shelton, soprano
Residency Concert
Tuesday, March 19 at 7:30 p.m.

Da Capo Residency Master Class
Wednesday, March 20 at 2 p.m.

Da Capo Residency Public Lecture
Thursday, March 21 at 11 a.m.

The Da Capo Residency events are sponsored by the USM
Gorham Cultural Affairs Committee, and with public funds from the
National Endowment for the Arts.

Chamber Music Awards Concert
Thursday, March 21 at 7:30 p.m.

Larchmere String Quartet Master Class
Monday, April 1 at 5 p.m.

36th Annual Honors Recital
Saturday, April 13 at 8 p.m.
Corthell Concert Hall, USM Gorham
Sponsored by Gorham Savings Bank

USM Youth Ensembles
Spring Instrumental Concert
Thursday, April 11, at 7 p.m. Merrill Auditorium
Southern Maine Children's Chorus
Thursday, May 10, at 7 p.m., Corthell Hall
Sponsored by Macy's



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Hear What's Happening Now!

Southern Maine Symphony Orchestra
Robert Lehmann, conductor

Flute

Phoebe Prosky
Audra Hatch
Bethany Getch

Oboe

Michael Albert
Julia Evans
Hannah Roderick
Lisa Torrey-Roderick

Clarinet

Dalton Ringey
Rachel Shoellkopf
Ben Fox

Bassoon

Nathaniel Vilas
Katie Hendrick
Ryan Blanchard
Michelle Collay

Horn

Heather Hastings
Tim Burns
Scott McAllister
Kathie Tolliver

Trumpet

Trevor Lavenbein
Jeremy Binette
Emma Clark

Trombone

Kevin Serio
Matt Cloutier
Chris Jay
Richard Merrill

Timpani

Shawn McKeown

Percussion:

Nate Gowan
Virginia Hudak

Violin I

Aaron Pettengill,
concertmaster
Jay Smith
Sam Schuth
Aban Zirikly
Sam Lyons
Jon Poupore

Violin II

Victoria Hurlburt,
principal
Cheryl Hall
Don Crandall
Sharon Henderson
Audrey Carman
Pat Garrett
Burt Loudon

Viola

Susanna Adams,
principal
Katie Nastou
Nichole Bell
Heather Kent
Mary Eckstein
David Cosgrove

Cello

Shannon Allen,
principal
Volkhard Lindner
Carrie Beals
Ben Bridges
Cameron Prescott
Ben Heasly
Kathy Anderson
Claire Berg
Dana McDaniel
Daniel Rand

Bass

Charles Oehrtmann,
principal
Andrew Patterson
Tony Palumbo
Kinnon Church
Judson Cease

Cast

In order of appearance

Alfred

Jesse Wakeman
Brad Longfellow (Understudy)

Adele

Jerica Potvin / Jessica Kenlan*

Rosalinda

Kim Ouellette / Anne Leonardi*

Eisenstein

Aaren Rivard / Josh Witham*

Dr. Blind

Kurt Perry
Chris Climo (Understudy)

Dr. Falke

Joshua Miller / Chris Climo*

Frank

Earl Vogel
Matt Laberge (Understudy)

Ivan the Butler

Kelly Scrima

Ida

Eileen Hanley

Prince Orlovsky

Sable Strout / Jazmin DeRice*

Waiter

Phil Chansky

Frosch

Matt West

Chorus:

Chandler Anthony, Eric Berry-Sandelin, James Brown, Jane Clukey, Helena Crothers-Villers, Carolyn Glaude, Eileen Hanley, Jordan Holt, Gregory Judd, Matt LaBerge, Brad Longfellow, Cat Mathews, Karianna Merrill, Ian Vail, Cameron Wright

*** Alternating cast, performing on Fridays and Sunday nights**

Synopsis

Act I From the parlor of Rosalinda and Gabriel von Eisenstein, we hear a modern "minnesinger" pleading with his "turtledove" to return his love. The chambermaid Adele (mezzo soprano) enters, absorbed in a letter from her sister, Ida, imploring her to "borrow" one of her mistresses' dresses and join her at Prince Orlovsky's fabulous ball that night. The singing continues until Adele hears the name of her mistress, "Rosalinda!" and the lady herself enters, believing the singer to be her old lover, Alfred (tenor). Tearfully, Adele asks for the night off to "tend to her sick aunt" but Rosalinda (soprano) sees through Adele's familiar ruse and refuses. Rosalinda gently mocks while Adele laments her "fate as a lowly chambermaid." Moments before her husband is due home from court, Alfred accosts Rosalinda, leaving only after extracting her promise that he may return. Eisenstein (tenor) storms in, livid that his sentence has been extended rather than commuted. In a lively trio, he and his wife blame their bumbling but intrepid attorney, Dr. Blind (tenor) for the increased sentence. Just in time to cheer up Eisenstein, his old friend Dr. Falke (baritone) arrives with a tempting invitation to postpone his *arrival* at the jail by attending Orlovsky's ball. Eisenstein can't resist the chance to flirt with "exotic beauties" and use his famous "ladycatcher," a delightful chiming pocket watch. Little does he know that Falke has also invited Rosalinda to attend disguised as an Hungarian countess. Now that she has two engagements for the evening, Rosalinda finds that she can spare Adele. While Rosalinda covers her own flirtatious plans with a lament about the absence of her husband ("who will ask me for his socks"!?!), Adele absconds with a gown. As soon as she is alone, Alfred slips through the window and into Eisenstein's dressing gown to woo Rosalinda with the seductive aria, "Drink, my darling." Their late night tête-à-tête is interrupted when Warden Frank (bass), also in fancy dress and heading for the ball, arrives in person to take Eisenstein to jail. After covert persuasion, Alfred protects Rosalinda's reputation by going to Frank's "lovely lively pigeon house" as "Eisenstein."

Act II begins after 11 pm with the ball already in progress, vodka and champagne flowing. Ida and the other ladies of the opera ballet company are soon escorted by young men, who came, like Eisenstein, to commune with desirable women. Prince Orlovsky (mezzo soprano) complains of his boredom and Falke explains that he has a "little comedy" planned: "The Revenge of the Bat," with our protagonists as its unwitting actors.

The first "scene" is Orlovsky's unconventional "welcome" to Eisenstein (pretending to be Marquis Renard), followed quickly by Adele's laughing song, during which Eisenstein is humiliated by all the guests for "mistaking" her for a chambermaid! A humorous scene in halting French ensues when Warden Frank (renamed Chevalier Chagrin by Falke) is introduced to "his countryman, the Marquis." But Falke's best prank is sprung when Eisenstein, smitten with the Hungarian Countess (his own wife in disguise), fails to seduce her, while she ends up with his precious watch! Out of pique that she has "lost" Eisenstein's attentions to this newcomer, Adele questions the "Countess's" authenticity. Rosalinda proves that she is "really Hungarian" by singing a Czardas with stirring patriotic feeling. Prompted by Orlovsky, Eisenstein revels in telling of Falke's embarrassment when he was left after a similar party to make his drunken way home costumed as a bat. To enliven the next phase of his party, Orlovsky calls for a toast and dancing. All the guests enjoy champagne, kisses, musical performances, and then join in for a final waltz. As the clock chimes 6 am, Eisenstein and Frank make their frantic way through the revelers to their (joint!) appointment at the jail.

ACT III The jailer Frosch (speaking role) imbibes copious quantities of cheap brandy, complains about the constant singing of "Eisenstein," and tries to make his morning report, before going off to carouse with the prisoner. Frank arrives, reliving his enchanted night, and falls asleep over his reports, only to be interrupted by Adele and Ida, who have come looking for assistance from the "Chevalier." Adele sings an audition for Frank, who vows to support her acting training. When Eisenstein reports to jail, both "Frenchmen" reveal their true identities, just as Dr. Blind arrives to aid "Eisenstein." Eager to see his impersonator, Eisenstein drags Dr. Blind offstage to don his wig and gown – so that he can interrogate his rival personally. By the time Frosch returns with Alfred, his attorney has disappeared; but soon Rosalinda is reunited with Alfred. Their conference is cut short by the arrival of "their attorney," Eisenstein in disguise. They cautiously tell their story, disturbed by the increasing agitation of their advocate. Their trio ends with Eisenstein's revelation and vow that "Vengeance is mine!" Rosalinda dampens his triumph by producing his "lovely little watch." When Frank tries to return "Eisenstein" to jail, no one admits to being he. Even after Adele testifies to his identity, Eisenstein resists, demanding more witnesses than "this perjured chambermaid." His wish is instantly granted as Orlovsky and Falke and all the party guests arrive to bear witness to Falke's elaborate prank.

Musical Director's Note

Die Fledermaus or *The Bat* is probably the most famous comic operetta by Johann Strauss, Jr. Set in his beloved city, 19th century Vienna, this delightful farce was the third in a series of stage works that he embarked upon at the urging of Jacques Offenbach! Written for his first wife, Jetty, a light soprano with a gift for the stage, the work is now firmly embedded in our affections, despite a chilly reception in Vienna at its premier. Strauss' genius for melody lifts *Fledermaus* into a magical never-never Vienna of eternal dance and romance. *Die Fledermaus* was first presented on April 5, 1874, at the Theatre-an-der-Wien, as were all of Strauss' operettas.

Fellow composers recognized Strauss' genius. After hearing *Fledermaus* for the first time, Johannes Brahms wrote, "Now there is a master of the orchestra, a great, great master." Brahms and Strauss often vacationed in the same resort town, and at one time Brahms autographed a fan for Strauss' third wife, Adele, by copying out the melody of her husband's most famous waltz, "On the Beautiful Blue Danube," with a handwritten inscription below: "Not, alas, by Johannes Brahms." At Strauss' death in 1899, one of his most ardent admirers proved to be another composer named Strauss . . . Richard, the creator of tone poems like *Til Eulenspiegel* and operas like *Salome*. He wrote this touching obituary notice: "How could I have composed my *Rosenkavalier* waltzes without thinking of our laughing genius of Vienna? Of all the God-gifted dispensers of joy, Johann Strauss is to me the most endearing.....and enduring!"

—Ellen Chickering

Stage Director's Note

Welcome to USM's quadrennial opera collaboration between the School of Music and the Department of Theatre! This year we hope to brighten your late winter with our "charming little game of cat and spouse." Like traditional comedies, unexpected destabilizing influences threaten the status quo of Mr. and Mrs. von Eisenstein of Vienna; in this case – a short term in jail, the arrival of an old boyfriend, and the husband's one-night relapse into the partying of his bachelor days. Fueled by vodka, champagne, and the public intimacy of waltzing (!), the vengeful practical joke of family friend, Dr. Falke, brings our flirtatious couple to the brink of scandal and dissolution. But, in a jail of all places, the freshened appeal of each partner and their innocent joke is (partially) revealed and any unexplained misdemeanors are blamed on the headiness of champagne. We hope you enjoy your invitation to the elegant *jugend stil* (German art nouveau-style) villa of Prince Orlovsky as much as his Victorian guests in their bustles, tuxedos and top hats. And that you too find yourself humming Strauss' infectious melodies the next morning!

—Assunta Kent

Staff

Production Staff

Stage Manager	Ashley Pettengill
Assistant Stage Manager	Ashley Rose, Tyler Gaylord, Phillip Chansky
Assistant Director	Kurt Perry, Kelly Scrima
Assistant Musical Director	Mark Rossnagel
Guest Artist Accompanists	Kellie Moody, Mark Rossnagel
Hair and Makeup	Abigail Worthing and Joseph D. Sibley
Wig Stylist	Joseph D. Sibley
Technical Director	Perry Fertig
Carpenters	Corey Anderson, Tom Campbell, Callie Cox, Shannon Esslinger, James Futter, John Horton, Zach McEwen, Angelica Pendleton, Emily Waller and the students of Stagecraft Practicum, Production Management, and Theatre Workshop
Lead Stitcher	Jonna Klaiber
Stitchers	Ryan Biggs, Kaleigh Heath, Clare McKelway, Ashley Rose, Joseph D. Sibley, Elinor Strandskov, and the students of Costuming Practicum
Master Electrician	James Futter
Electricians	The students of Lighting Practicum
Properties Master	Emily Waller
Assistant Properties Master	Callie Cox

Production Crew

Deck Crew	Lorraine Rudolph, Luther Vigneault, Floyd Wood
Wardrobe	Melissa Bills, Jake Boyce, Emily Davis, Samantha Daval, Jazmin Knapp, Abigail Worthing
Light Board Operator	Shannon Oliver
Sound Board Operator	Taylor Stenger

Administrative Staff

Theatre Promotions Director	Stephen Legawiec
Music Operations Director/Concert Manager	Lori Arsenault
Theatre Administrative Assistant	Lil Campbell
Music Administrative Assistant	Christenia Alden-Kinne
Theatre Community Outreach Liaison	Emmanuelle Chaulet
Front of the House Coordinator	Kimberly Ann Ouellette
Box Office Managers	Tyler Jamo, Dolly Constantine
House Managers	Dalton Kimball, Zachariah Stearn

Cast Biographies

Chandler Anthony (Ensemble) is a sophomore Voice Performance major from Norwell, MA. While this is her first staged opera, she has been in scenes from Opera Workshop which include the Countess in Mozart's *Marriage of Figaro*; A spirit in Mozart's *Magic Flute*, and a factory laborer in *Carmen*. She is excited for this show (and the dresses you're about to see).

Eric Berry-Sandelin (Chorus) is a freshman Musical Theatre major from South Portland. Recently he performed in *Assassins* as a chorus member. Enjoy the show!

James Brown (Chorus) is a freshman Music Performance major with a Religious Studies minor from Scarborough. This is his first fully-staged production here at the University of Southern Maine. He would like to thank everyone involved for making his first performance a great time.

Chris Climo (Dr. Falke), a fifth year Vocal Performance major from Fryeburg, has been seen on the stage in Corthell Concert Hall many times in recent years. He is actively involved in USM's Opera Workshop, most recently as "Guglielmo" in *Così fan Tutte*. He would like to thank everyone in the production for a wonderful experience!

Jane Clukey (Chorus) is a junior Vocal Performance major from Portland. She has appeared in several opera workshop scene productions at USM and in the chorus of *Madama Butterfly* with PORTopera Company. She would like to thank her voice teacher, Ellen Chickering, and her family and friends for their support.

Helena Crothers-Villers (Ensemble) is a freshman Music Performance major from Brunswick. She recently performed the role of "Nicklausse" in a scene from Offenbach's *The Tales of Hoffman* in USM's Opera Workshop. She is very excited to be performing in her first fully- staged opera. Enjoy the show!

Jazmin DeRice (Prince Orlovsky) is a Masters candidate. She has performed for Lincoln Arts Festival, Southern Maine Symphony Orchestra and Bay Chamber Concerts, PORTopera, and the Crittenden Workshop in Boston. She has received several awards for vocal excellence and recently performed the role of "Hansel" in *Hansel and Gretel* with Paperbull Puppets and "Carmen" in Bizet's *Carmen* for UNE.

Carolyn Glaude (Ensemble, Dancer), a junior Musical Theatre major from Topsham, has performed most recently in *The Drowsy Chaperone* (USM), *Aquitania* (Ziggurat Theater Ensemble), and *Mesmerized* (Snow Lion Rep.). Just returned from study abroad in Winchester, England, Glaude extends special thanks to Ellen and Assunta for making her first operatic experience such a wonderful one.

Eileen Hanley (Ida), junior Musical Theatre major, is thrilled to be back on the main stage after her last performance in *You Can't Take It With You*. She was most recently seen as "Squeaky Fromme" in USM School of Music's production of *Assassins*.

Jordan Holt (Chorus, Dancer) is a sophomore double major in Musical Theatre and U.S. History from Plymouth, MA. She was last seen as "Jack's Mother" in *Into the Woods* and in the chorus of *Assassins*. She would like to thank her family and friends for their continuous love and support.

Gregory Judd (Chorus) is a 4th year Music Education student from Auburn. This is his first time in a production at USM. Gregory hopes that this is a first step into doing more shows before he graduates. Thanks go to the directors for this opportunity!

Jessica Kenlan (Adele) is in her first year as a graduate Vocal Pedagogy student. Since 2005, she has been the choral music teacher at Freeport High and Middle Schools. She's very excited about the opportunity to perform in the USM opera this year and thanks her husband and family for their support!

Matthew LaBerge (Chorus, Understudy Frank) is a freshman Vocal Performance major from South Portland. He was most recently involved in Sondheim's *Assassins* at USM. Matt would like to thank his family, friends, and teachers for supporting his musical endeavors.

Anne Leonardi (Rosalinda), graduate student studying voice with Ellen Chickering, is a native of Mount Desert Island. She earned her Bachelors from Westminster Choir College, and has performed "The Mother" in *Hansel and Gretel* and "The Mother" in *Amahl and The Night Visitors*, "Micaela" in *Carmen*, "Beth" in *Little Women*, "Second Lady" and "Papagena" in *The Magic Flute*.

Brad Longfellow (Ensemble, Dancer, Understudy Alfred) is a senior Music Education major from Farmingdale. He had his first stage performance this fall as Giuseppe Zangara in *Assassins* and is excited to perform in his first Operetta! Brad

works as a private piano teacher and hopes to pursue writing and performing his own music after college.

Cat Mathews (Ensemble) is very excited to be participating in *Die Fledermaus*! She is a freshman studying vocal performance with David Goulet. Cat hails from North Berwick, Maine. Some of her recent roles on the stage have been "Mabel" in *Pirates of Penzance*, "Dorothy" in *The Wizard Of Oz*, "Rizzo" in *Grease*, and "Mickey the cop", in the women's version of *The Odd Couple*. Cat has had fun rehearsing this show and hopes you thoroughly enjoy it!

Karianna Merrill (Chorus/Dancer) is a junior Music Education major from Norway, Maine. *Die Fledermaus* is her first show at USM. She has danced with Art Moves Dance for over fifteen years. She would like to thank her family for all of their unending love and support.

Joshua Miller (Falke) is a first year Voice Graduate student from Southwest Harbor. You may have seen him most recently performing the role of "Father" in *Hansel and Gretel* or singing "Elijah" in Mendelssohn's *Elijah*. He also performed "Gianni Schicchi" in the USM production.

Kimberly Ouellette (Rosalinda) is a sophomore Vocal Performance major from Poland. Most recently she was a soloist in the USM Chorale's presentation of Handel's *Messiah* and a soprano soloist in Wagner College's presentation of Vivaldi's *Gloria*. This summer she appeared as a chorus member in PORTopera's *Madama Butterfly*. She is an active member of the USM Opera Workshop and a proud alumna of Vocal Synergy A cappella group where she was the resident Rap artist. Special Thanks to my ever-accommodating family and to Ellen Chickering and Bonnie Scarpelli for being incredible voice teachers!

Kurt Perry (Dr. Blind) is in his fifth year at USM and is from Falmouth. He spent the fall being the principal swing in USM's *You Can't Take It With You*. He also made his New York City cabaret debut this February in *Bound for Broadway*, where he was a featured performer.

Jericah Potvin (Adele) is a senior Musical Theatre major from Millinocket. Recent roles include "Lynette 'Squeaky' Fromme" in *Assassins*, "Kitty" in *The Drowsy Chaperone*, "Mae" in Andrew Lippa's *Wild Party*, and "Ruth Kelly" in *Harvey*. *Die Fledermaus* is her first opera and she is so excited to share the experience of this wonderful show with you, and the cast and crew, as she performs in her last production here at USM!

Aaren Rivard (Eisenstein), a junior Voice Performance major from South China, has recently performed as the Tenor soloist in Handel's *Messiah*, in Opera Scenes including "Ferrando" in *Così fan tutte* and "Hoffman" in *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*, as well as in PORTopera's *Madama Butterfly*. This has been a wonderful opportunity and a pleasure to perform with fellow musicians.

Kelly Scrima (Ivan) is a freshman Theatre/Art History major at USM. This is her first mainstage appearance in a USM show. Her previous credits include "8" by Dustin Lance Black (USM) and assistant stage manager for SPA's *Almost, Maine*. For the opera, she has also enjoyed the position of assistant director. Thank you to the lovely cast and crew!

Sable Strout (Orlofsky), a junior Vocal Performance major from Richmond, was recently seen as the alto soloist in the USM Chorale's Handel's *Messiah*, and as the "Sandman" in Humperdink's *Hansel and Gretel* in a puppet opera for Paper Bull Puppets. She would like to thank Ellen Chickering who made the singing of this role possible.

Ian Vail (Ensemble) a first year Music major from Norway, Maine, has been in a number of productions such as *Crazy For You*, *Godspell*, *Damn Yankees*, *Cotton Patch* and *Gospel*, and my drama club's one acts.

Earl C. Vogel (Warden Frank) is a senior Voice Performance major from Portland. He has appeared as "Melchior" in *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, and "Captain Corcoran" in the USM's production of *H.M.S. Pinafore*. Earl has performed a variety of scenes in Opera Workshop, including "Don Alfonso" in *Così fan tutte*.

Jesse Wakeman (Alfred) a Music Education major from Belfast, has performed "The Poet" in *Café Vienna* with PORTopera's Young Artists, and also won singing awards, including the Bay Chamber Concerts Young Stars Prize for Vocal Excellence. He would like to thank his parents and teachers for their support over the years.

Matt West (Frosch) is a sophomore Musical Theatre major at USM from Farmington, Maine. He has been performing on stage for many years and is extremely excited to continue his career at USM. He recently portrayed the role of "John Hinckley" in *Assassins*, "Mr. Anthony Kirby Sr.," *You Can't Take It With You*, and "Narrator/Billy/Slutty Dancing Boy," *The Musical of Musicals: The Musical!* (USM). Last year he made his Mainstage debut as "Mr. Feldzig" in *The Drowsy*

Chaperone. He will be playing the role of "Chad" in *All Shook Up* this May at The Portland Players. Matt studies voice with Judith James and Ed Reichert.

Josh Witham (Eisenstein) is a senior Musical Theatre student at USM, originally from Norway, Maine. Recent roles for USM have included "Charles Guiteau" in *Assassins*, "Kolenkhov" in *You Can't Take it With You* and "Underling" in *The Drowsy Chaperone*. He was also "Eddie" in *The Rocky Horror Show* at Arundel Barn Playhouse.

Cameron Wright (Ensemble, Dancer) is a freshman Musical Theatre student hailing from Ellsworth. Most recently he appeared as "Czolgosz" in USM's production of *Assassins* this past fall. He would like to congratulate the entire cast and production team on a job well done!

Production Staff

Perry Fertig – Technical Director: In addition to his work at USM, Perry recently served as Technical Director for PORTopera's *Madama Butterfly* and *Hansel and Gretel*. Before moving back to Maine, he was working in Philadelphia for Ursinus College, the Philadelphia Live Arts Festival, and the Philadelphia Theatre Company. Occasionally, he works as a Flying Director for Foy Invention Enterprises, flying people for shows such as *Peter Pan*, *Wizard of Oz*, and *The Nutcracker*.

Emily Waller – Properties Master: Emily is a fifth year Music Education major from Auburn, Maine, who enjoys spending her time in the scene shop helping with the construction of sets. Her latest interest is working with props. This past summer, she worked as a props carpenter for PORTopera's *Madama Butterfly*. Recent USM props shows include *You Can't Take it With You*, *The Glass Menagerie* and *Zoo Story* and *The American Dream*.

Artistic Staff

Vanessa Beyland (Choreographer) is a professional dancer, instructor and choreographer living in Portland. She has a BFA in Dance from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts and is on the USM faculty teaching Musical Theater Dance. She is a member of Portland Ballet Company, and currently teaches at Portland School of

Ballet and Terpsicore Dance. Her credits include work in NY, NJ, CT, PA, CA, NH and ME with school, community and professional companies.

Ellen Chickering (Music Director) has sung extensively in the New England area as well as throughout the United States. She debuted in Carnegie Hall singing the Soprano I in Mahler's *Eighth Symphony* with the Boston Philharmonic. Soon after, she debuted at the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC singing the soprano solo part in Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis* with the Washington Chorus. She has sung numerous roles in opera including "Amelia" in *Ballo in Maschera*, "Minnie" in *La Fanciulla del West*, "Tosca" in *Tosca*, "Vanessa" in *Vanessa*, "Arabella" in *Arabella*, "Leonora" in *Il Trovatore*, "Leonora" in *La Forza del Destino*, "Donna Anna" in *Don Giovanni*, "Anna Bolena" in *Anna Bolena*, and "Elizabetta" in *Maria Stuarda*. Ms. Chickering was Director of the Young Artists' Program for PORTopera for 14 seasons. She directs the Opera Workshop in the School of Music at USM.

JP Gagnon (Lighting Designer) has been designing in Maine since 1993 and is the Resident Lighting Designer at The Theater Project, where he most recently designed lighting, video and special effects for *Eurydice* and *Winter Cabaret*. Past work includes *The Glass Menagerie* and *Working* for City Theater, *The Drowsy Chaperone* for USM, as well as many shows for Oak Street Theater, Acorn Productions and Mad Horse Theatre. JP trained at the University of Southern Maine in technical theater and then served as Master Electrician for 2 seasons at Portland Stage Company. During the daytime, JP can be found managing High Output, Inc. which specializes in lighting for the entertainment industry.

Dr. Robert Lehmann (Conductor) is Associate Professor of Music and Director of Strings and Orchestral Activities at the USM School of Music. Additionally, he is Music Director of the Portland Chamber Orchestra, the North Shore Philharmonic Orchestra, the White Mountain Bach Festival and is conductor of the Portland Youth Symphony Orchestra. He holds degrees from the University of the Pacific, the Eastman School and Boston University and has been a fellow at the American Academy of Conducting at the Aspen Festival and at the Conductors Institute at Bard College. Dr. Lehmann has concertized as violinist and conductor, in his native Mexico, throughout the US, Puerto Rico, Europe and the Ukraine. He has been a frequent guest conductor with the Portland Symphony and has conducted All State and Festival Orchestras from Maine to California and Hawaii. His new CD, "*Chamber Music for String by Manuel M. Ponce*" was issued by Centaur Records in 2011.

Charles S. Kading (Scenic Designer) has taught design and stagecraft at USM for over 30 years. His professional credits include *Titanic*, *The Wiz*, *Chicago*, *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, and *Aida* for Maine State Music Theatre; *Big River*, *My Fair Lady*, *42nd Street*, *Cabaret*, and *Annie* for Philadelphia's Walnut Street Theater; *Noises Off!* and *Blithe Spirit* at the Alabama Shakespeare Festival. He worked extensively at The Alley Theater in Houston where his credits include the US premiere of Alan Ayckbourne's *Henceforward*. He has also designed scenery for the Seattle Repertory Theatre, Intiman Theatre, Cabaret Repertory Theatre and Portland Stage.

Dr. Assunta Kent (Stage Director) teaches theatre history, dramatic literature, oral interpretation and performance art for the Theatre Department and Medieval Cultures for the Honors Program at USM. She is the author of *Maria Irene Fornes and Her Critics*, the season reviewer of Portland Stage for the *New England Theatre Journal*, and a frequent adjudicator for college and high school productions. Assunta has directed more than 20 shows for USM including *Suor Angelica* and *Gianni Schicchi* (Puccini), a musical adaptation of Marivaux's *The Triumph of Love*, last season's *The Drowsy Chaperone*, and *Inook and the Sun* (Henry Beissel). She has also directed premieres of *Wolf Song* (Annie Finch) for Poets' Theatre of Maine at Mayo Street Arts and *Daughters of Iran* (Reza Jalali) for both USM and UNE. *Die Fledermaus* was the first opera that Assunta worked on (backstage) for the Carbondale, Colorado Arts Council. She has enjoyed collaborating with Music colleagues, Ellen Chickering and Robert Lehmann, and her wonderful cast and crew, especially rehearsal stalwarts: Ashley Pettengill, Ashley Rose, Kurt Perry, Kelly Scrima and Mark Rossnagel.

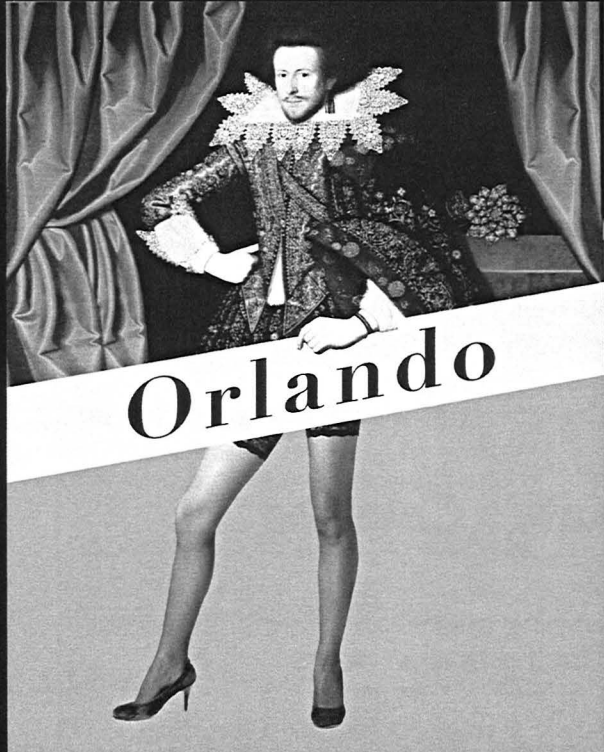
Joan Larkins Mather (Costume Designer) is an Assistant Professor of Theatre in Costume Design. Prior designs at USM include *You Can't Take It With You*, *The Glass Menagerie* and the Albee One Acts *Zoo Story* and *The American Dream*. She also designed the recent production of John Ciarani's *Last Gas* at the Stonington Opera House Arts.

Mark Rossnagel (Assistant Musical Director) is a second-semester graduate student at USM, where he studies piano with Laura Kargul. He plays frequently on and off campus for singers and instrumentalists, and is thrilled to be part of this production. Many thanks to Ellen Chickering and Assunta Kent for their patience, guidance and enthusiasm. To the cast: toi toi!!!!

Joseph D. Sibley (Assistant Costume Designer)

Joseph is a junior Theatre Major originally from Boothbay Harbor. He has had the pleasure of designing both hair and make-up as well as costumes for many productions here at the University. Some of his favorites include costumes for the School of Music's *Musical of Musicals (The Musical!)* and hair and make-up for both *You Can't Take It With You* and *Eurydice*, among others for the Department of Theatre. He has also been seen on the USM stage as a Gangster in *The Drowsy Chaperone* and as Calpurnia Addams in *Don't Ask, Don't Tell*.

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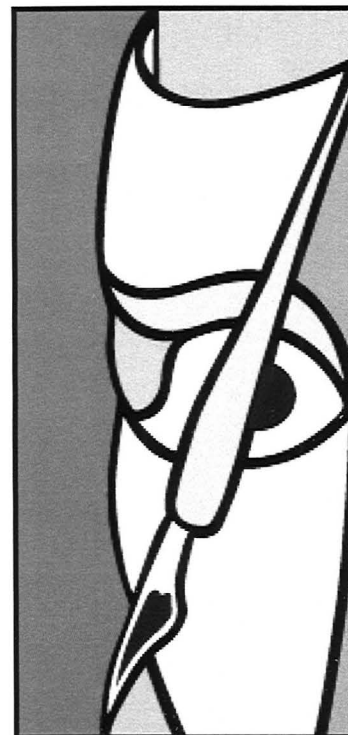
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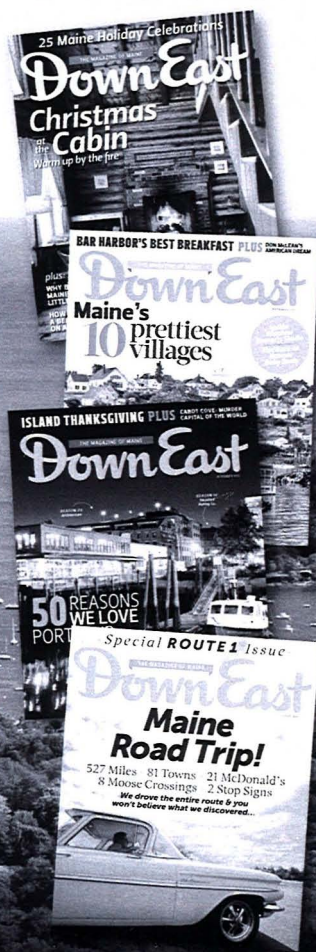
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