

Schenectady
Light Opera
Company
Presents

**the
telephone**

Menotti

Kurt Weill

**down in
the valley**

R.S.V.P.

Offenbach

NISKAYUNA HIGH SCHOOL NOV. 19, 20, 21

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To Our Audience:

Welcome to the "Trio" and the first production in the Schenectady Light Opera Company's 1959-60 season.

Our production this Fall is unique. Each element of the "Trio" is a complete musical show entirely independent of the others. There are separate casts for each show and each has its own musical conductor, stage director and set designer. Thus, three teams of people have been working and rehearsing diligently for the past two months under the supervision of the Producer, Martha Lowe. We trust you will enjoy the result.

A word about the Light Opera Company for the benefit of those of you who are attending one of our shows for the first time. The company is a non-profit organization chartered under the educational laws of the State of New York. Proceeds from ticket sales are used to help defray production costs and the cost of maintaining facilities for scenery construction, costume fabrication and storage. Funds are also needed for two annual scholarships awarded by the company to qualified residents of the Schenectady area for use in furthering their voice training.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the company, in trying out for a part in a show, or in helping out in other phases of company activities, please contact one of the officers. They will welcome your interest and gladly give you more information about the company.

John L. Ingersoll
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The Stories

"RSVP" by Offenbach has been called the "My Fair Lady" of Light Opera. It is a delightful comic opera which humorously pokes fun at the standard classics of opera. The story is about a young man also named Offenbach, who receives the composer's trunk by mistake. This leads the imaginative young man to believe that he too, can write an opera. His hilarious attempts to draft his family and friends into his "masterpiece" forms the plot of this gayest of Offenbach's works.



"THE TELEPHONE" is Gian-Carlo Menotti's ever popular comic opera telling the story of a young man's attempts to propose to his sweetheart who is constantly talking on the telephone. Finally, in desperation, because he can not get a word in edgewise, he leaves to seek a telephone as a means of contacting her. Only then does the young man's sweetheart listen to him long enough to accept his proposal.



"DOWN IN THE VALLEY" is a pleasing study in simplicity itself, which reflects the rustic lives of its characters. It is the love story of Brack Weaver and Jennie Parsons. With the music of Kurt Weill, "Down In The Valley" is really an extended ballad. Four American folk songs are woven into the work, which the listener will recognize as "Sourwood Mountain," "The Little Black Train," "The Lonesome Dove" and "Hop Up, My Ladies." The themes are integrated with the action on stage to capture completely the home spun texture of the native American scene.

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I.

"R. S. V. P."

by Jacques Offenbach

or A Musicale at Mr. Cauliflowers'

Adaptation and Translation by Dino Yannopoulos

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Ernestine	Sylvia Horwitz
Offenbach	Ed Dahlsted
Babylas	Gino Bianchi
Madam Balandard	Sylvia Mallery
Balandard	William Nickerson
Pieterman	Andrew Starr
Mr. Cauliflower.....	Thomas Rice

Chorus: Maxine Robbins, Thomasina Fosegan, Ann Tetrault, Dale Atwell,
David Jacobs, William Lange, Richard Traver.

INTERMISSION

II.

"THE TELEPHONE"

by Gian-Carlo Menotti

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Lucy	Elizabeth Coe
Ben	Frank Sharp

INTERMISSION

III.

"DOWN IN THE VALLEY"

Music by Kurt Weill

Libretto by Arnold Sungaard

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Jennie Parsons	Sandra Whitbeck
Brack Weaver	Arthur DeLuke
Thomas Bouche	Henry McCadden
Mr. Parsons	Hal Dakin
The Leader	Joseph S. Hines
Prison Guard	Claude Hayward
Peters	Jack Hennessey

CHORUS—Marie Cannon, Micky DeMarco, Barbara Hayward, Marion Foster,
Joan Holter, Zahna Winick, Janine Husted, Joan Small, Joyce
Parker, Joan Ross, Viola Hangs, Ester Rorick, Thomas Brown, Kenneth Gar-
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Synopsis of Scenes

R.S.V.P. -----by *Jacques Offenbach*

Scene: The New York Apartment of Stuart Offenbach

Time: 1833



The Telephone -----by *Gian-Carlo Menotti*

Scene: Lucy's Apartment

Time: Present



Down in the Valley -----by *Kurt Weill*

SEQUENCE OF SCENES — Jail, Home, Church Interior, Church Exterior,
Shadow Creek Cafe, Porch, Street, Jail.

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Production Staff

Trio Producer.....Martha Lowe

Conductors

RSVPErnest Horvath
The Telephone...Lozare Thompson
Down In The Valley...Albert Moser

Stage Directors

RSVP.....Eleanor Weinrich
The Telephone...Dorothea Hilbert
Down in the Valley
.....Marion McKendree

ChoreographerMarilyn Ramsey

Orchestra Manager.....John Geddes

Accompanists

RSVPMarie Phillips
.....Alice Lutzel
The Telephone.....Jane Stehn
Down in the Valley...Joan Rautenberg,
Phyllis Olin

PrompterPatricia Howard

Rehearsal Secretaries

Patricia Howard
David Davidson

Set Designers—

RSVP—Lee Cheatham and Edward Kao
Telephone—Robert Carmichael
Down in the Valley—Phil Wells

Production Manager—Lou Estabrook.

Stage ManagerRichard Lowe

Asst. Stage Mgr......Patricia Howard

Set Construction — Louis Estabrook,
William Bachtel, Richard Lowe,
Warren Holter, Garry Reilly, Peter
Oldow, Robert Ney, Allen Foster,
William Gleason, Jack Ericson and
George Giuletti.

Set Painting—The designers and Patricia McGuire, Nancy Blair, Elizabeth Howell, Irma Wilhelm, Gioia Ottaviano.

Lighting — Robert Willard, Albert Bingham, Thomas Benn, Peter Strong.

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Properties—Elizabeth Howell, Nancy Blair, Pat Maguire, Irma Wilhelm, Betty Howell.

Costumes—Coreta Porter...Chairman Gloria Ericson, Carolyn Harrison, Mary Herrick, Carol Newkirk, Elizabeth Howell.

Casting Director.....Jack Byrne

Show Finance Manager — Gary Reilly.

Set Production—Len Wuosmaa.

Tickets — Lucy Purcell, Chairman; Eleanor Gleason, Elaine Rinaldi, Arline Bay, Gene Quine, Ruth Pfau, Dorine Gingerich.

Understudies—Joan Roth for Elizabeth Coe; Carol Newkirk for Sandra Whitbeck.

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Who's Who In Production

- MARTHA LOWE (Producer The Trio) . . . has been in the chorus and minor parts in *Music in the Air*, *Die Fledermaus*, *Fanny*, *Carousel*, *Showboat*, *Finian's Rainbow* . . . Played in orchestra of *Merry Widow*, *Naughty Marietta* and *La Perichole* . . . Member of Schenectady Symphony and Schenectady Choral Society.
- ELEANOR WEINRICH (Director R.S.V.P.) . . . First appearance with S.L.O.C. . . . Member American Theatre Wing Workshop . . . Appeared on TV in N.Y.C. Hallmark Theatre, Martin Kane, Studio I, and under-study for Arlene Francis.
- ERNEST HORVATH (Conductor "R.S.V.P.") . . . Instructor of string instruments in Scotia School System . . . Member of Schenectady, Tri-City, and Albany Symphony Orchestras . . . A jet pilot with the 139th Fighter Squadron of the NYANG, he holds the rank of Captain . . . In his spare time is a dedicated amateur photographer.
- DOROTHEA HILBERT (Director "The Telephone") . . . Teacher—Housewife . . . Producer, Director of "*Brigadoon*" and "*Sweethearts*." . . . Dramatic director of "*Iolanthe*" and associate producer of "*School for Wives*" by SLOC . . . Member Board of Civic Music Association . . . and American Association of University Women.
- LOZARE THOMPSON (Conductor "The Telephone") . . . Extensive background . . . Was soloist on nationwide broadcast of the *Messiah* . . . Played the part of Camille de Jolidan in "*The Merry Widow*." Sang under Nadia Boulanger, Robert Shaw, Thor Johnson, and other noted conductors . . . Instructor Schenectady School Music Dept.
- MARION MC KENDREE (Director "Down in the Valley") . . . Active in Civic Players . . . Leads in *The Desperate Hours*, *My Three Angels*, and *Witness for the Prosecution* . . . Directed *Sabrina Fair* . . . For MUTS. She played Adelaide in *Guys and Dolls* and Louise Lane in *Kiss Me, Kate*. . . . Part of Lizette in *Naughty Marietta* for SLOC.
- ALBERT MOSER (Conductor "Down in the Valley") . . . Instructor of vocal and instrumental music in Scotia school system. . . . Author/lecturer on educational TV program on WRGB five years . . . Studied voice with Neville Lander of New York City.
- MARILYN RAMSEY (Choreographer "Down in the Valley") . . . Choreography for *Carousel*, *Die Fledermaus* and *Naughty Marietta*, ballet mistress for *Music in the Air*, *Finian's Rainbow*, and *La Perichole*. For MUTS she did choreography and danced in *Guys and Dolls* and *Kiss Me, Kate* . . . She is a senior member of the Schenectady Civic Ballet and choreographed the '59 fall demonstration *A Glimpse Behind the Scenes*, slated for Nov. 22, Craig St. School.

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Who's Who In The Cast: R.S.V.P.

SYLVIA HORWITZ (Ernestine) . . . University of Maine . . . Jolliard School of Music . . . Lead roles in *Chanticleer Hall*, *Wizard of the Nile*, *Chocolate Soldier*, *Yeoman of The Gaurd*, *Die Fledermause* and *Merry Widow* . . . Member of the Etude Club . . . Native of Bangor, Maine, is married to Dr. Seymour Horwitz.

ED DAHLSTED (Stuart Offenbach) . . . Summer Stock at Lake George . . . Radio and TV dramatic work . . . WGY . . . WRGB 1943-1956 . . . Active in Schenectady Civic Players . . . in twenty-two plays since 1946 . . . Sales Specialist, General Electric Company . . . Graduate of Union College.

GINO BIANCHI (Babylas) . . . Mannes Music School N.Y.C. . . . Performed with Albany Opera Company . . . London Opera Company in New York. Winner of the Albany History and Art Contest . . . Tenor soloist at St. George Church . . . Hobbies gardening and astronomy . . . Barber by trade.

THOMAS RICE (Mr. Cauliflower) . . . Winner SLOC Scholarship award . . . Chorus of Baltimore Opera Company . . . Studied under Brooks Dunbar, and Sydney Dietch . . . Graduate of Potsdam . . . Instructor in Mohanosen High School . . . Choir Director Union St. Christian Church.

WILLIAM NICKERSON (Balandard) . . . Music teacher in Schenectady school system . . . Chorus of several SLOC productions . . . chorus music coach *Finian's Rainbow*.

SYLVIA MALLORY (Madame Balandard) . . . Assistant professor State University Institute in Cobleskill . . . Student at Tanglewood . . . Fred Waring's Workshop . . . Studied voice with Frederick Jagel, New England Conservatory of Music.

ANDREW STARR (Peterman) . . . First participation on SLOC stage . . . 2 years as set construction . . . Is a contractor Carmen Enterprises.

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Who's Who In The Cast: THE TELEPHONE

ELIZABETH M COE (Lucy) . . . Vassar graduate, Drama Major . . . Many Light Opera Co. shows . . . Most recent, *La Perichole* . . . Directs the "Tune Ups" of the Schenectady Junior League . . . Soprano Soloist at First Presbyterian Church, Troy, N. Y. . . . Last winter presented recital at Schenectady Museum.

FRANK SHARP (Ben) . . . Bass soloist at Trinity Methodist Church, Albany . . . and prior to this at First Presbyterian Church, Schenectady . . . Played in SLOC productions of *The Firefly* and *Pirates of Penzance*.

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Who's Who in the Cast: DOWN IN THE VALLEY

SANDRA WHITBECK (Jennie Parsons) . . . Senior at Scotia-Glenville High School . . . Member National Honor Society . . . Scotia-Glenville Choralists . . . Treasurer Student Council . . . Winner Joseph Martinec award (2) years . . . D.A.R. award and Medallion . . . In finals of Women's Federation Music Festival for two years . . . Presented a two piano concert with her sister at the Schenectady Museum.

ARTHUR DeLUKE (Brack Weaver) . . . Winner of SLOC Scholarship award, S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., and the WTRY new voices contest . . . Concert performances Schenectady Museum and "Singers Club" of Poughkeepsie . . . guest soloist with the General Electric Electricaires . . . Appeared in SLOC production of *Merry Widow* . . . own radio show while overseas.

JOSEPH S. HINES (the Leader) . . . Appeared for SLOC in *Naughty Marietta*, *Fanny* and *La Perichole* . . . Civic Players *Mad Women of Chaillot* and *MUTS*, *Guys and Dolls* and *Kiss Me, Kate* . . . Senior at Siena College.



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Martha Lowe, Jack Byrne	
Show Selection	Beverley Fasake, <i>Chairman</i> ; Martha Lowe, Sylvia Horwitz, Jack Byrne, Leo Wilkoszynski, Gloria Ericson, Richard Lange.
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Scholarships

Each year the Light Opera Company awards two scholarships of \$200 and \$100 for furthering vocal study. The awarding of these scholarships is based on a public audition in the Spring of each year. The judges are musically qualified residents of this area. This spring will mark the thirteenth year these scholarships have been awarded. Watch for announcements in spring 1960.

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