

NEW YORK
GILBERT &
SULLIVAN
PLAYERS

Albert Bergeret, Artistic Director

Wand'ring Minstrels
in

I HAVE A SONG
TO SING, O!

Director: James Mills

Music Director & Conductor: Albert Bergeret

Executive Producer: David Wannan

Editor: Danny Bristoll

Sarah Caldwell Smith, Soprano

Rebecca Hargrove, Soprano

Angela Christine Smith, Contralto

Alex Corson, Tenor

James Mills, Comic Baritone

Matthew Wages, Bass-Baritone

David Wannan, Bass

Accompanist: Elizabeth Rogers

Musical Numbers

With Cat-like Tread, Upon Our Prey We Steal

(The Pirates of Penzance)..... Ensemble

I Have a Song to Sing, O!

(The Yeomen of the Guard) James Mills
and Sarah Caldwell Smith

Am I Alone and Unobserved?

(Patience)..... James Mills

A British Tar

(H.M.S. Pinafore)..... Alex Corson,
Matthew Wages, David Wannan

I'm Called Little Buttercup

(H.M.S. Pinafore)..... Angela Christine Smith

We're Called Gondolieri

(The Gondoliers) Alex Corson
and Matthew Wages

Take a Pair of Sparkling Eyes

(The Gondoliers) Alex Corson

Oh, Better Far to Live and Die

(The Pirates of Penzance)..... Matthew Wages
and Men

When All Night Long a Chap Remains

(Iolanthe)..... David Wannan

Three Little Maids From School are We

(The Mikado)..... Rebecca Hargrove,
Angela Christine Smith,
Sarah Caldwell Smith

The Sun, Whose Rays are All Ablaze

(The Mikado)..... Rebecca Hargrove

Here's a How-de-do!

(The Mikado) Alex Corson,
James Mills, Rebecca Hargrove

Alone, and Yet Alive!

(The Mikado) Angela Christine Smith

If Somebody There Chanced to Be

(Ruddigore) Sarah Caldwell Smith

My Eyes are Fully Open

(Ruddigore) Angela Christine Smith

Try We Lifelong

(The Gondoliers) Ensemble

Who's Who in the Cast

ALEX CORSON performed the role of Frederic in New York City and on tour with NYGASP last season. Alex has been a member of the company since 2012 and has also appeared in productions with Light Opera of New Jersey, New Jersey State Opera, New Jersey Youth Theatre, and others. Credits include Ernesto (*Don Pasquale*), Frederic (*Pirates of Penzance*), Ralph (*H.M.S. Pinafore*), Marco (*The Gondoliers*), Monostatos (*The Magic Flute*), Mercury/Orpheus (*Orpheus in the Underworld*), and Tony (*West Side Story*).

REBECCA L. HARGROVE Recently performed the roles of Yum-Yum and Peep-Bo in *The Mikado* with NYGASP. She was in the chorus of Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess* at the Metropolitan Opera, and was recently featured in New York City Center's Gala presentation of *Evita*. Previous credits include the titular role of *Acquanetta* at Bard Summerscape 2019, *Two Wings: The Music of Black America in Migration at Carnegie Hall*, and Joseph C. Phillips's one-woman opera *The Grey Land*. Follow her updates at www.RebeccaLHargrove.com and IG: @rhargrov.

JAMES MILLS 2019/2020 recipient of the Isaac Asimov Award for Artistic Achievement. Entire G&S canon onstage with NYGASP for over a decade, as well as stage managing, tech directing, and associate directing. Recently: Lord Chancellor (*Iolanthe*), Jack Point (*Yeomen*), John Wellington Wells (*Sorcerer*), Major-General Stanley (*Pirates*), Bunthorne (*Patience*), Sir Joseph Porter (*HMS Pinafore*). James is co-star and co-creator of the all-new drag musical, *The Hell's Kitchenettes*. A stage director for the College Light Opera Company (Falmouth, MA) and serves as a member of the National Honorary Committee of Alumni. Proud member of AEA.

SARAH CALDWELL SMITH Debut with NYGASP: Mabel (*Pirates*) at New York City Center. Ms. Smith's principal roles include the title role in *Patience*, Yum-Yum (*Mikado*), Rose Maybud (*Ruddigore*), Gianetta (*Gondoliers*), and Constance (*Sorcerer*), among others. Sarah also tours with NYGASP's award-winning cabaret, *I've Got a Little Twist*. NYC: City Center Encores! (*Music in the Air*), VHRP LIVE! (title roles in *Naughty Marietta* and *The Fortune Teller*, Grace Holbrook in *The Princess Pat*, Gretchen in *The Red Mill*), Avery Fisher solo debut as Infant Casmira (*Candide*) with



National Chorale, Blondchen (*Die Entführung aus dem Seraglio*).

ANGELA CHRISTINE Angela has completed the G&S canon and roles include: Dame Hannah, Katisha, Queen of the Fairies, Little Buttercup, Ruth, Lady Blanche, Lady Jane, Duchess of Plaza-Toro, Baroness von Krakenfeldt and Mrs. Partlet. Ms. Smith is a proud member of NYGASP's award-winning cabaret show *I've Got a Little Twist*, and a recipient of the Isaac Asimov Award for Artistic Achievement. Additional credits include performances with Belleayre Festival Opera, Opera Saratoga, Opera Delaware, and South Carolina Opera. www.spotlightartistsmanagement.com

MATTHEW WAGES began his professional endeavors in Opéra Comique with NYGASP, and recently completed the entire G&S canon. 'Dramatis Personae': The Pirate King, Sergeant of Police, & Samuel (*Pirates of Penzance*), Wilfred (*Yeomen of the Guard*), Sir Despard (*Ruddigore*), Lord Mountararat (*Iolanthe*), Sir Marmaduke (*The Sorcerer*), Florian (*Princess Ida*), Bouncer (*Cox & Box*), Giuseppe Palmieri (*Gondoliers*), Major Murgatroyd (*Patience*), Dick Deadeye & Bill Bobstay (*H.M.S. Pinafore*), Tare/Poppytop/de Vere (*Ages Ago/Mr. Jericho*), Sir Roderic (*Ruddigore: Revisited*) at the International G&S Festival in Harrogate, U.K. Much love to Kenji, Jo and Kento.

DAVID WANNEN NYGASP since 2004: favorites include Pirate King (*Pirates*), Wilfred Shadbolt (*Yeomen*), Colonel Calverley (*Patience*), Paramount (*Utopia*), Pvt. Willis (*Iolanthe*), Sultan (*Rose of Persia*), Arac (*Princess Ida*), Bill Bobstay (*H.M.S. Pinafore*) and title role in *The Mikado*. Tours: *Beauty and the Beast* (Beast u/s), *Camelot* with the late Robert Goulet (Lancelot u/s); Regional: Nominated Best Featured Actor by *Philadelphia Inquirer* for *Camelot* (Media Theater). Producer, 2017 *The Mikado*; Co-Producer & Original Cast, *I've Got a Little Twist!*; Executive Director, NYGASP. David sends his love to his family: Cole, Sam, Olivia, Jamé!

Who's Who in the Company

ALBERT BERGERET (*Founder/Artistic Director/General Manager*) Mr. Bergeret is a career-long professional specialist in the works of Gilbert & Sullivan, having performed, staged, conducted and designed every opera in the repertoire over a 40 year period. He has directed G&S productions for university students and residency programs for elementary schools. He has been hailed as "The leading custodian of the G&S classics" by *New*

York Magazine (Peter Davis) and his work as both stage and musical director has been widely acclaimed in the press both in New York and on tour throughout the United States, Canada, and the UK. Mr. Bergeret founded NYGASP in 1974 and has served as Artistic Director/ General Manager since its inception. He has conducted and staged all 13 of the works in the G&S canon as well as the company's smash hit production of George Gershwin's *Of Thee I Sing*. He has conducted programs with the Buffalo Philharmonic, Orchestra London in Ontario Canada, Northwest Indiana Symphony and the Erie Philharmonic in a program featuring Metropolitan Opera baritone Robert Goodloe. With NYGASP he has also conducted and directed such diverse personalities as Hal Linden, Steve Allen, John Astin, Pat Carroll, Noel Harrison, John Rubenstein, Louis Quilico, Lando Bartolini, and John Reed, O.B.E.

DANNY BRISTOLL (*Editor*) is an art director, photographer, videographer, actor, and composer based in New York City. He has run his own photography and video company, Danny Bristoll Photo for over twelve years, specializing in actor headshots, commercial editorial and theatrical promotional material for clients across the nation. He is also a photographer and designer with Dirty Sugar Photography based in New York City. Past clients include Disney Theatrical, *Advocate* Magazine, Pantene, Broadway Cares, Ars Nova and many more. Check out his work at dannybristollphoto.com.

ELIZABETH RODGERS (*Accompanist*) holds degrees from Manhattan School of Music. She is in demand as a recitalist with singers and instrumentalists, including the distinguished soprano Judith Raskin, and in chamber music, orchestral, choral and operatic repertoire. She performs regularly with Downtown Music, Music Under Construction, American Chamber Opera, American Landmark Festivals, and Libero Canto. Teaching experience includes Manhattan School of Music, Bard and William Paterson. A strong advocate of performing the works of living composers, she has premiered music by Miriam Gideo, March-Antonio Consoli, Wendy Griffiths, Tom Addison, and Carolyn Lord.

DAVID WANNEN (*Executive Director/ Producer*) is a graduate of the Eastman School of Music in vocal performance and holds a post-baccalaureate in business from Columbia University. Mr. Wannan is a veteran of the NYGASP stage and a member of the NYGASP board of directors. Mr. Wannan is producer

of the all-new critically-acclaimed production of *The Mikado*, and co-producer of *I've Got a Little Twist*, NYGASP's original cabaret. His other responsibilities for NYGASP include fundraising, marketing, board development, and strategic planning. Mr. Wannan is a past president of North American Performing Arts Managers and Agents, recently completing six years of service as an officer of the board. He is the recipient of the 2018 Western Arts Alliance Award for Mentorship and an Association of Performing Arts Professionals Leadership Fellow.

About the New York Gilbert & Sullivan Players

Now in its forty-sixth year of operation, New York Gilbert & Sullivan Players (NYGASP) is America's preeminent professional Gilbert & Sullivan repertory ensemble. Under the dynamic leadership of Artistic Director Albert Bergeret, who has been hailed as "the leading custodian of the G&S classics" by *New York Magazine*, NYGASP has created its own special niche in the cultural mosaic of New York City and the nation. Since its founding in 1974, the company has presented over 2000 performances of the G&S masterpieces throughout the United States, Canada, and the U.K. captivating audiences of all ages.

Mr. Bergeret's vision for his company's mission is clear: to build and maintain an ensemble of professional repertory singers, actors, dancers, and musicians dedicated to bringing quality performances of the Gilbert & Sullivan masterpieces to as wide an audience as possible. To do so he has developed a unique blend of creative spontaneity and classical precision which is neither revisionist in nature nor mired in the rigidity of the more typical view of "tradition". NYGASP's productions are charged with contemporary energy while retaining that traditional respect for the shows themselves which is so important to Gilbert & Sullivan enthusiasts. The use of elaborate, but relevant, choreography and movement is a particularly important element. Where possible, topical references from the nineteenth century are updated when the original intent would be lost on a modern musical theatre audience, but without disturbing the shape or scope of the material as written. Gilbert's satire of human foibles and sophisticated wit remain

intact, while Sullivan's evocative scores, which need no revision at all, are given the full range of vocal and orchestral color for which they call.

The company has in its repertory thirteen different complete G&S operettas (cast, orchestra and crew of 50-80 people), special versions of the most popular operettas designed for children's audiences, and a variety of charming concert programs created especially for NYGASP's "Wand'ring Minstrels" ensemble.

The company's recognition and stature continue to grow. In January of 2002 the company mounted its first triumphant season at New York's venerable City Center, playing 3 of its most popular productions to over 20,000 G&S enthusiasts in 3 weeks.

NYGASP's annual New York season has included performances at the Peter Norton Symphony Space on Manhattan's Upper West Side since 1978. NYGASP performed at the Kaye Playhouse at Hunter College for its 2019-20 45th Anniversary Season. Productions included *Iolanthe* and *The Mikado*.

The company's celebrated ensemble of G&S experts, developed by introducing new singers each year from New York's immense pool of vocal and theatrical talent, has collaborated with such guest artists as world-renowned G&S exponent the late John Reed, O.B.E. in numerous comic baritone roles, Tony winner John Rubenstein and Frank Gorshin both as King Gama in *Princess Ida*, John Astin as Sir Joseph in *H.M.S. Pinafore*, Hal Linden and Noel Harrison as the Major-General in *The Pirates of Penzance*, Pat Carroll as Little Buttercup in *H.M.S. Pinafore*, and Steve Allen as *The Mikado*.

The company has also produced a unique cabaret act. *I've Got a Little Twist*, created and directed by NYGASP principal David Auxier-Loyola, won a 2010 Bistro Award, tours throughout the country, and once appeared on Lincoln Center's Atrium series. "Take Gilbert & Sullivan, add a TWIST of Broadway, and stir!" is *Twist's* recipe. Highlighting Musical Theatre's roots in Gilbert & Sullivan, the show is entertaining for all ages.

Touring activities continue throughout the year, frequently featuring productions from the New York season. In June 2010 NYGASP was part of the International Gilbert & Sullivan Festival in Gettysburg, PA. The company returned in August 2014 to the International Gilbert & Sullivan Festival in Harrogate, England. NYGASP's 2019-20 tours brought the company to venues throughout the West and South. For more information on NYGASP visit www.nygasp.org