

The Merry Widow

English Performing edition by Don Tull
Music by Franz Lehár

Louis B. Mayer Theater at
Santa Clara University-October 2002

- ↻ Produced by Chris Frye and Don Krajewski
- ↻ Stage Direction by Don Tull
- ↻ Conductor and Music Direction by Michael Taylor
- ↻ Choreography by Amy Lyn McDonald
- ↻ Set Design by Frank Zajac
- ↻ Costume Design by Barbara Murray
- ↻ Lighting Design by Ben Hemmen



Dramatis Personae (in order of appearance)

Njegus (Pontevedrian Embassy Clerk)	Barry Hayes
Raoul de St. Brioche (a Parisian Dandy)	Michael Carey
Baron Mirko Zeta (Pontevedrian Ambassador to Paris)	Ted Hatrak
Vicomte de Cascada (a Parisian Dandy)	Jonathan Schedler
Valencienne (Zeta's Wife)	Beverly Jane Peatross
Kromow (Pontevedrian Legal Attaché)	Mark Blattel
Olga Kromow (his Wife)	Laura Moore
Bogdanowitch (Consul of the Pontevedrian Embassy)	Bernard Haisch
Sylviane Bogdanowitch (his Wife)	Daina de Torok
Pritschitsch (retired Colonel of the Pontevedrian Army)	Adam Lang
Praskowia Pritschitsch (his Wife)	Beverly Hansberry
Camille de Rosillon (a Parisian Rake)	Percy Martinez
Hanna Glawari (the Merry Widow)	Susanna Uher
Count Danilo Danilowitch (Pontevedrian Military Attaché)	Christopher Fernandez
Maitre dí (at Maxim's)	Jim Martin
Manon (the Headliner at Maxim's)	Mrigendra Steiner

Embassy Staff, Pontevedrians, and Grizettes

Dan Barrick, Shannon Crouch, Michael Ewaska, Elinor Gates,
Meera Kumbhani, Jim Martin,
Fabienne Maurer, Valerie Maurer, Silas Parker III, Melanie Purdy,
Cornelia Rinderknecht, Reggie Reynolds, Taylor Rose, Marsha Sims,
Shideh Teimoori, Nancy Uy, Colin Wardman, Joan Young

Place: Paris, France

Time: Three days in a summer in the late 1880s

Act I - The salon outside the grand ballroom at the Pontevedrian Embassy

Act II - The Garden of Madame Glawari's home - the next evening

Act III - Maxim's establishment - the next night

Dancers

Valerie Faurer (Dance Captain), Dan Barrick, Shannon Crouch,
Meera Kumbhani, Fabienne Maurer, Silas Parker, Cornelia Rinderknecht,
Reggie Reynolds and Shideh Teimoori

Non-Dramatis Personae

Assistant Producer: Stacey Whitaker

Stage Manager: Sara Lamnin

Assistant Stage Managers: Ian Stockdale, Stacey Whitaker

Crew Coordinator: Deborah Gronke Bennett

Stage Crew: Charles Furnweger, Michael Cuddy, Ethan Solomita, Marc Lewert

Properties Manager: Don Krajewski

Assistants to the Costume Designer: Joanne Martin, Joan Young

Dresser: Ruth Leibig

Make-up Artist: Dave Kirby

Rehearsal Pianists: Larry Byler, Bruce Herman

Publicity Artist: Jim Martin

Marketing/Publicity Coordinators: Cheryl Blalock, Marsha Sims,
Stacey Whitaker

Volunteer Coordinator: Kimberly Matthies

Photographer: Bob March

Box Office: Joan Feldman

House Manager: Jeanine Stanek, Sara Thomas

Videographer: Larry Byler

Costume Construction: Florian Maurer, Ghislaine Maurer, Hannah Reyes,
Eileen Stein, Laura Zajac, Melissa Muntz, Justus Vierra,
Chantal Rodriquez, Coeli Polansky, and members of the cast

Set Construction: Carol Crouch, Tamara Darling, Tim Eller,
Joseph Maurer, Mary Elizabeth O'Connor, Julia Schedler, Sarah Schedler,
and members of the cast

Orchestra Members

Orchestra Managers: Ann Byler (Strings), Jan Turnage (Winds)

Violin: Barbara Rumsby (Concertmaster), Ann Byler, Tim Eller, Mary Jane Jennetti,
Cynthia Merriell, Jill Miller, Miho Nishi, Linda Reininger, Lilly Tao

Viola: Goetz Leonhardt (Principal), Judy Beck, Louise Detwiler

Cello: Brian Benjamin, Jan Osborne

Bass: Linda Jansen, Rick Silvestri

Flute: Jan Turnage, Marla Stein, Amy Stewart

Clarinet: Sue Biskeborn, Clarence Savage, Bob Yaeger

Oboe: Bill Gay, Joel Greene

Bassoon: Gail Selburn, Lynn Burstein

Trumpet: Mark Dungan, David Forshaw

French Horn: Leanna Goodwater, Howard Knoles

Trombone: Grant Hill

Percussion: Wanda Ochoa, Elizabeth Goodfellow

Harp: Marianne Wilson



Dan W.
Barrick



Mark
Blattel



Larry
Byler



Michael
Carey



Shannon
Crouch



Mike
Ewaska

The Company (the two digits indicate the debut year of the individual)

Dan William Barrick '02 (Dancer/Chorus) has a profound love for dancing of all types, whether it be hip hop, tap, or classical dances such as the waltz. He loves performing and this show has been the greatest experience ever! Thank you everybody, God bless.

Mark Blattel '94 (Kromow) was recently seen with Lyric as Grosvenor *Patience*, François *Mlle Modiste* and J.W. Wells *The Sorcerer* and has also appeared elsewhere as Robin Oakapple *Ruddigore*, Lord Chancellor *Iolanthe*, Albert *The Secret Garden* and Wazir *Kismet*. A computer game programmer by profession, he has acquired the occasional nickname "Wolfy" due to his somewhat lycanthropic nature.

Ann Byler '82 (Orchestra Manager, Violinist) has played in the orchestra of every production since the '82 Gondoliers. By day, she is an ambulatory care clinical pharmacist with the Veteran's Hospital in Palo Alto. She is married to Larry Byler, another G&S fanatic!

Larry Byler '84 (Rehearsal Pianist, Videographer) determined after appearing in the chorus of the '84 Pirates of Penzance that his acting talents should not be displayed in public. He thus turned to his current pursuits and has accompanied and taped practically every show since then.

Michael Carey Debut (St. Brioché) is currently on sabbatical from his studies as a Musical Theater major at CSU, Chico. Recently nominated for the Irene Ryan Acting Scholarship for his work as Davies in CSUC's production of *The Caretaker*, other favorite roles include Pseudolus *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, Max *Lend Me A Tenor*, and Judas *Jesus Christ Superstar*.

Shannon Crouch Debut (Dancer/Chorus) is a long time fan of musical theatre and is thrilled to make her stage debut with Lyric Theatre. Currently an International Relations major at De Anza College, she hopes to transfer to UC Davis where she will continue to take as many dance classes as her schedule permits.

Mike Ewaska '02 (Chorus) is a Catholic cantor in Saratoga and Sunnyvale. He also sings with Schola Cantorum and Oratorio Society although he spent 7 years with The Cleveland Orchestra Chorus before coming to the Bay Area. This is his second performance with Lyric after making his debut in *Patience*.

Joan Feldman '76 (Box Office Manager) has performed onstage in New York City and off-stage for Lyric Theatre for over 20 years. She sees that tickets get printed, sold, and distributed and has an encyclopedic mind in remembering who sits where.



Christopher
Fernandez



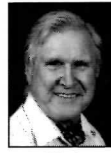
Elinor
Gates



Bernie
Haisch



Beverly
Hansberry



Ted
Hatrak



Barry
Hayes

Christopher Fernandez '95 (Danilo) returns to Lyric after having performed with Eugene Opera and Opera San Jose. Lyric audiences will remember him as Orpheus in *Orpheus in the Underworld* and Strephon in *Iolanthe*.

Chris Frye '88 (Producer) was last seen in *The Yeomen of the Guard* in 2001 and has crawled back stage for this one. He directs the choir at St. Luke Lutheran Church in Sunnyvale and is Office Manager at Hillbarn Theatre in Foster City.

Elinor Gates '99 (Chorus) has performed in numerous shows with Lyric Theatre over the past three years and has so much fun she keeps coming back to perform in more. When not at rehearsal or performances, she fills her time watching stars as an astronomer at Lick Observatory.

Bernie Haisch '02 (Bogdanowitch) made his musical debut as a gypsy and hussar with Lyric Theatre in the chorus of *The Gypsy Baron*. In real life he is an astronomer and invites one and all to visit his website at <www.calphysics.org>.

Beverly Hansberry '94 (Praskowia) returns for her fifth Lyric show. She can usually be found performing with Foothill Music Theater during the summer and Schola Cantorum throughout the year. She studies voice, tap and jazz dance. Her neighbors suspect that nobody's home. They're usually right.

Ted Hatrak '93 (Zeta) first performed with Lyric Theatre in *Little Mary Sunshine* but has also performed with other groups including DEO Ireland *Philadelphia Here I Come!*, *Amphibians*, Palo Alto Players *Dancing at Lughnasa*, and most recently, Theatre Works *Grapes of Wrath* as Pa Joad's understudy. He received a Dean Goodman Choice Award for Outstanding Achievement in the Theatre for his work in *Amphibians*.

Barry Hayes '96 (Njagus) has sung in choruses for Lyric Theater productions, appearing first with *Iolanthe* and he played Hiram Bent in Lyric's *Mlle Modiste*. In our recent production of *Patience*, he quite ably wore the cap of The Solicitor to appreciative audiences.

Ben Hemmen '86 (Lighting Designer) always felt shows would go faster but found he had to make allowances for performers! He has had over 20 years of experience backstage and prefers it that way; the reverse is just scary. He's delighted to be designing for Lyric Theatre and hopes to come back often.

Bruce Herman '90 (Rehearsal Pianist) is an accomplished pianist who plays for a number of groups in the Bay Area. He has performed with Lyric's productions of *HMS Pinafore*, *Gondoliers*, *Most Happy Fella*, *Pirates of Penzance*, and *Countess Maritza* in addition to serving on the Board of Lyric Theatre.



Meera
Kumbhani



Adam
Lang



Jim
Martin



Percy
Martinez



Fabienne
Maurer



Valerie
Maurer

David Kirby '97 (Makeup Designer) is working his 11th Lyric production as Makeup Designer. He performs regularly with (and does makeup for) all three Gilbert and Sullivan companies in the Bay Area: Lyric Theatre, the Lamplighters Music Theatre, and the Stanford Savoyards. When not onstage or backstage, he is employed as a speed bump.

Don Krajewski '84 (Producer, Properties Manager) is a multi-talented individual who has worked with Lyric Theatre through the years as a performer, producer, props master, President of GSSSJ, and set construction worker. He is a true jack-of-all-trades.

Meera Kumbhani Debut (Dancer/Chorus) is making her Lyric Theatre debut with *The Merry Widow* thanks to her dance instructor, Amy Lyn McDonald. She currently attends DeAnzaCollege.

Sara Lamnin '02 (Stage Manager) returns to Lyric after having been Stage Manager for *The Gypsy Baron*. When she's not tramping about Paris, she can be found inciting play throughout the Bay Area.

Adam Lang '00 (Pritschitsch) has appeared in many Lyric productions and is delighted to be playing his first named role. By day he supports himself by doing free-lance consulting and programming on the Macintosh. Hire him!

Jim Martin '98 (Maitre' di/Chorus) may be known to Lyric Theatre fans for his performances in such recent productions as *Orpheus in the Underworld* and *The Pirates of Penzance*, but to the world at large (or at least to his employers), he is known for his work in the computer graphics industry. Lyric has utilized his creative talent for publicity flyers and posters.

Percy Martinez Debut (Camille de Rosillon) joins Lyric after a rigorous year of training at the Accademia de Teatro Citta di Cagliari in Pesaro Italy. A participant with Holy Name College Opera Workshop and other area programs, he has sung Gounod's *Romeo and Juliet*, *Master Class*, and *Fresh Voices III* with Great Hall Productions.

Fabienne Maurer Debut (Dancer/Chorus) had trouble deciding whether to be on stage or underneath in the orchestra pit. She was born in Cannes, France, where she started her performing arts career as violinist, dancer, actress, and model. She was titled Miss Teen Talent of California '01-'02 and appeared in two independent films.

Valerie Maurer Debut (Dancer/Chorus) was born in Germany with pointe shoes at her feet; she was on stage for the first time on her 4th birthday. She pursued ballet training in Monaco, Cannes (France), the Bay Area, Boston, and Hartford but began dancing professionally with Eurocity Ballet (Belgium) and Pittsburgh (PA) Ballet Theatre.



Laura
Moore



Silas
Parker III



Beverly J.
Peatross



Melanie
Purdy



Reggie
Reynolds

Amy Lyn McDonald '00 (Choreographer) is thrilled to be on the production staff with Lyric after having worn another hat as Nanette in *Mlle Modiste*. After receiving her MFA in Dance from the University of Illinois, she performed in Chicago with Drury Lane, Marriott-Lincolnshire, and Theatre at the Center. Since moving to the Bay Area, she has sung, danced, and/or done choreography for Bay Area groups such as American Musical Theatre *Phantom*, *Singin' in the Rain*, *Victor/Victoria*, *Evita*, and *Joseph*, Marin Theatre Company, 42nd Street Moon, and Foothill Music Theatre. A dance instructor at De Anza College and Notre Dame de Namur University, she gives much thanks to Don, Chris, Michael, and to her wonderful dancers!

Laura Moore '99 (Olga Kromow) was last seen in Lyric's most recent *Die Fledermaus* and has appeared in a variety of musical theatre roles, including Fiona in *Brigadoon*, Luisa in *The Fantasticks*, and Meg in *Damn Yankees*. An avid choral singer, she has also been the soprano soloist in Mozart's Requiem, Mendelssohn's Elijah, and The Seven Last Words of Christ.

Barbara Murray '73 (Costume Designer) has designed almost the entire G&S Repertory for over 25 productions with Lyric and has designed for other groups (SRT, Cabrillo Stage, Opera San Jose, and Milwaukee Repertory Theatre). She is the resident costume designer (and currently Chair) for Santa Clara University's Department of Theatre and Dance. In her free time, she likes to bake and has made wedding cakes for several G&S weddings.

Silas Parker III Debut (Dancer/Chorus) is pleased to be making his first appearance with Lyric Theatre this year in 2002. Past favorite shows of his include *Winnie the Pooh*, *Tempest*, and *42nd Street*. He sends his love to all his family and friends.

Beverly Jane Peatross Debut (Valencienne) is a 2001 graduate of Southern Methodist University; she earned her degree in vocal performance and performed such roles as Anne *A Little Night Music* and Laurie *The Tender Land*. She would like to thank her husband, family, friends, and teachers for encouraging and supporting her dreams.

Melanie Purdy '93 (Chorus) enjoys a variety of music including choral, opera, musical theater, gospel, and G&S. She has soloed with the Houston Symphony Chorale, the San Jose State Chorale, Schola Cantorum, and the International Church Music Festival in addition to having roles in *The Merry Widow*, *Die Fledermaus*, and *HMS Pinafore*. By day, she is an information technologies director with Sun.

Reggie Reynolds Debut (Dancer/Chorus) is pleased to be performing in her first show with Lyric. Although she has performed in many musical theater productions in the Bay Area, her favorite roles include Patsy *Crazy For You*, Lorraine Fleming *42nd Street*, and Mrs. Potiphor *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*.



Cornelia
Rinderknecht



Taylor
Rose



Jonathan
Schedler



Marsha
Sims



Mrigendra
Steiner



Michael
Taylor



Shideh
Teimoori

Cornelia Rinderknecht Debut (Dancer/Chorus) is pleased to be working with the Lyric Theater for the first time. This is her first venture into the opera/operetta world, after years of singing jazz and dabbling in musical theater. LT is also pleased to welcome her husband, Tim Eller to the violin section.

Taylor Rose '00 (Chorus) makes her second appearance with Lyric Theatre after making her debut in *Countess Maritza*. She looks forward to many more theatrical outings with Lyric Theatre.

Jonathan Schedler Debut (Cascada) is enjoying his first show with Lyric Theatre. Earlier in the year he played the role of the Prince in Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Cinderella*.

Marsha Sims '99 (Chorus) was last seen as the Fairy Queen in *Iolanthe* but has also sung with Lyric in *Gypsy Baron*, *Mikado*, *Countess Maritza*, and *Mlle Modiste*. She has also performed with The Lamplighters and The Stanford Savoyards. An Executive Editor for ManyOne Networks (www.manyone.net <<http://www.manyone.net>>), her CD "Mediterranean Moods" can be found at www.una-aria.com or Amazon.com.

Jeanine Stanek '89 (House Manager) was recruited by her daughter, Eileen Stanek Stein, to help in the costume shop. She was promoted to House Manager and enjoys greeting the patrons and working with the volunteer ushers. Her other activities include: Leadership Sunnyvale Board, Homeless Care Force volunteer, and aide in the Sunnyvale Special Education Preschool.

Mrigendra Steiner '02 (Manon) was recently seen as Angela in our *Patience*. She has appeared locally with TheaterWorks and Palo Alto Players. She created a one woman show, *The Sound of Musicals*, which toured in Austria, an exciting return to the country where she lived and performed for 10 years.

Ian Stockdale '97 (Assistant Stage Manager) is glad to be helping with another Lyric Theatre production. After appearing in the 1997 *Ruddigore* chorus, he has worked backstage in a number of shows with the most recent being *Iolanthe*.

Michael Taylor '95 (Music Director/ Conductor) was stage director for our recent production of *Patience* and moves back into the pit to conduct. He has either stage directed or conducted for over 30 productions in the Bay Area. A sampling includes *Carmen*, *Tosca*, *Die Fledermaus*, *Brigadoon*, and *Don Giovanni*. A frequent performer with many Bay Area companies, he also maintains a private voice studio.

Shideh Teimoori Debut (Dancer/Chorus) is thrilled to make her theatrical debut with Lyric. She received her training in dance with local companies throughout the Bay Area. She attends De Anza College and will soon transfer to a university to major in the Arts.



Daina de
Török



Don
Tull



Susanna
Uher



Nancy
Uy



Colin
Wardman



Joan
Young

Daina de Török '95 (Sylviane) returns to Lyric after ensemble roles in *Gypsy Baron*, *Yeomen of the Guard*, *HMS Pinafore*, *Naughty Marietta*, *Iolanthe*, *Trial by Jury*, and *The Nightbell*. This marks her 35th Bay Area production. Thanks to everyone for their continuing support.

Don Tull '88 (Director) has worn many hats at Lyric Theatre, most recently as Conductor for *The Gypsy Baron*. Don is adding his personal touch to his adaptation/translation of *The Merry Widow*. He is also the driving force behind our new Discovery Series which will present *Merrie England* in April, 2003.

Jan Turnage '91 (Orchestra Manager, Reeds) plays flute and piccolo in the orchestras of about 10 theatre companies. She also serves on the Board of Lyric Theatre in addition to serving as the Business Manager for the San Jose Wind Symphony and is the Chair of our Outreach Committee.

Susanna Uher Debut (Hannah) is a consummate artist in both opera and concert and has performed on many stages across the country and in Europe. She was a young artist at the Music Academy of the West and received a Bachelor of Music from the University of the Pacific and a Masters of Music from the New England Conservatory.

Nancy Uy '02 (Ensemble) returns to her first love with Lyric Theatre after having appeared in *The Gypsy Baron*. She also teaches first graders at Abundant Life Christian Fellowship. By day, she works as a marketing analyst at Solectron Corporation.

Colin Wardman Debut (Ensemble) made his way to Lyric with the help of frequent chorister Gloria Baker. He saw *Patience*, thought it looked like fun, and found his way to the stage. Lyric Theatre encourages everyone to follow his lead!

Stacey Whitaker '00 (Asst. Producer) first worked with Lyric Theatre as the prop master for *Mlle Modiste*. The cast affectionately referred to her as the "Hat Lady;" she likes working behind the scenes. Producing has revealed the many fascinating aspects of the creative process.

Joan Young '89 (Chorus/Asst. Costumer) has performed and/or worked behind the scenes with Lyric Theatre in 18 shows. She is a multi-talented individual who puts her heart into her work. Her hobby, when not performing, is working as a Senior Group Operations Coordinator with IDC.

Frank Zajac '98 (Set Designer) has once again picked up his hammer, Makita, and a paint brush to co-design this production. Maybe one day he will also be in a show he designs and show off all his talents!