

Footlight Players, Inc.
Presents

La Traviata

by
Giuseppe Verdi



Gina Haver
Stephanie Horowitz
Linda Tagliaferro

Roman Sladkopevets
Georgios Argeratos
Bernie Genzer
Nathaniel Green

Alexis Pesanti
Diana Rodriguez
Lydia Paulsen

Directed by Nathaniel Green *Musical preparation by Tamara Cashour*

Ticket Donation: \$15.00 at Door * Advanced Tickets \$12.00

For more details, see www.ascensionrvc.org

ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT CHURCH

Fri. April 1 at 7:30PM

Sat. April 2 at 7:30PM

Fri. April 8 at 7:30 PM

Sat. April 9 at 7:30PM

THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

71 North Village Avenue

Rockville Centre, NY 11570

2011

Footlight Players, Inc.

The most popular opera of all time

Footlight Players, Inc.

118 West Blvd.
East Rockaway, NY 11518

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

"The Footlight Players have taken a
beachhead with enthusiasm, strong
direction and determination and a
core of talented actors."

Prospect Press

"... they performed with consummate
professionalism."

The Phoenix

Footlight Players, Inc.

Presents

La Traviata

by
Giuseppe Verdi



Musical Preparation by **Tamara Cashour**
Directed by **Nathaniel Green**

PERFORMANCES

Fri. April 1 at 7:30PM Sat. April 2 at 7:30PM
Fri. April 8 at 7:30 PM Sat. April 9 at 7:30PM

The Church of The Ascension, Rockville Centre
-2011-

La Traviata

by Giuseppe Verdi

CAST

(in order of appearance)

Gina Haver.....Violetta de Valery
Alexis Pesanti.....Flora Bervoix
Linda Tagliaferro.....Marquis D'Obigny
Bernie Genzer.....Doctor Grenvil
Georgios Argeratos.....Gastone, Viscount of Letorieres
Roman Sladkopevets.....Alfredo Germont
Natalio Verdi.....Barone Douphol
Stephanie Horowitz.....Annina
Nathaniel Green.....Germont
Lydia Paulsen.....ensemble

The play takes place in two Parisian drawing rooms and in Violetta's country house.

Intermission after Second Act.

* * * * *

Artistic director, Set design and Stage director.....Nathaniel Green
Lighting, sound track.....Joe Carly
Typesetting and Graphics.....Christina Bruno
Help with Set and publicity.....William Cooper

Mr. Green wishes to thank the Vestry, Father Herrick and all others who helped in mounting this production.

Act I. Violetta Valery a courtesan meets the young Alfredo who declares himself in love with her. She responds to him – the first time for her – then laughs it off with the brilliant “Sempre Libera”.

Act II. Violetta and Alfredo are living deliriously happy in her new home. Alfredo rhapsodizes about his love for Violetta. Alfredo's father Germont, pays an unexpected visit and pleads for Violetta to leave his son because his daughter's marriage is in danger because of her relationship with Alfredo. She finally gives in. Germont consoles his son for his loss.

Act III. Violetta arrives on the arm of her protector Baron Douphol at a party given by Flora, her friend – only to find her former lover, Alfredo. He denounces her and throws his winnings in the game of cards at her feet. Germont arrives to console Violetta and order his son out.

Act IV. Violetta, dying of consumption in her run-down flat reads once again the letter from Germont saying that all has been explained to Alfredo and that both Alfredo and his father will be there soon. They are united a final time, but she falls on the floor in a consumptive fit saying that all will be well. Totally repentant, Alfredo falls on her dead body.

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

GEORGIOS ARGERATOS is a Greek tenor. After acquiring his BA in opera performance, he moved to NY to continue his operatic career. Georgios has performed in the NY area as a member of S.E. Program of Opera Manhattan and he also participates in various productions of the Regina Opera and Auore Opera. He also held many leading roles throughout his career: *Cavaradossi* in *Tosca*, *Nemorino* in *L'elisir d'Amore*, *Faust* in *Faust*, *Rodolfo* in *La Boheme*, *Macbeath* in *The Beggors Opera*.

TAMARA CASHOUR is a collaborative pianist – music director – Soprano – award-winning composer and organist. She is currently Adjunct Professor of Instrumental Accompanying at William Paterson University for the Brass, Woodwinds & Strings Depts. In addition, she is a staff vocal accompanist at the Mannes College of Music. Ms. Cashour was a staff accompanist for the Manhattan School of Music from 1999-2007. Ms. Cashour made her Carnegie-Wild debut as a collaborative pianist in 2002. She has worked as a coach and/or musical director for U.S. Regional Opera & Music Theatre Companies including: Indianapolis Opera, Natchez Opera, Lake George Opera, the George St. Playhouse & South Orange Performing Arts Center. Ms. Cashour is also Director of Music Ministries at the Presbyterian Church of New Rochelle. www.tamaracashour.com

BERNIE GENZER is a retired NYC. High School of Speech Drama teacher after 30 years. He has a Bachelor's degree from Brooklyn College in Speech, and a Master of Fine Arts in Theatre from Boston University. Presently his other activities are designing the lighting for Lantern Theatre productions and teaching fencing for the Great Neck Arts Center. He also is involved in singing Barbershop Harmony as a Bass with the Long Island Harmonizers Chorus and his quartet All in A Chord. I would like to thank Bob Heim for steering him to this production, and my love, Beverly for encouragement and support. He has directed musical productions such as *The Pajama Game* and *Annie*, and acted in *Lovers & Other Strangers*, *A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum*, and *Fools*.

NATHANIEL GREEN is the Footlight Players' founder (1984) and artistic director. This ensemble has brought a large variety of fully staged theatrical productions to the community, including: *The Marriage of Figaro*, *Rigoletto*, *Tosca*, *She Loves Me*, *The Glass Menagerie*, *The Price*, *Henry IV*, and *Othello* just to name a few. He has also staged original works of his own, such as *This Train of Life*, *The Enchanted Spring*, *Is the Glass Half Empty or Half Full?*, *Grampa Says Goodbye*, and *The Dancing Monk*, and most recently, the successful Off-Off Broadway productions of *Searching for Hamlet* and *Faust Meets Macbeth*. He has also performed in opera, musical theatre and caberet. *La Traviata* is the 7th production by Nate that the Church of The Ascension has hosted; other performances have been: *Hamlet*, *Our Town*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Arsenic & Old Lace*, *Blithe Spirit*, and *The Tempest*. Nate counts among his favorite Shakespearean roles: *Iago*, *Falstaff*, *Hamlet*, and *Prospero*. He considers himself fortunate to have sufficient interests (art, literature, foreign languages, and travel) to ward off "the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune".

GINA HAVER has a background in theatre, oratorio, sacred music and opera. She's performed as a soloist at Avery Fisher Hall, Merkin Concert Hall, CAMI Hall, 92nd St. Y, Hecksher-State Park, Northport Theatre, Symphony Space St. Ann-Trinity Church, Brooklyn and Dicapo Opera Young Artist Program. She's performed as a soloist with NY Selan Ensemble, New York Chamber Players, the National Chorale Northport Opera, and NY Choral Society Summersings. Solo work includes: "*Carmina Burana*", "*Israel in Egypt*", *Brahm's "Requiem"*, *Mozarts's "Exsultate Jubilate"* and opera roles such as: *Queen of the Night* in *Magic Flute*, *Mimi* and *Musetta* in *La Boheme*, *Lola* in *Cavalleria Rusticana* as well as *Masterclass*, *Amadeus*, *Ladies in Retirement*, *Last of the Red Hot Lovers* and *What Remains*. Gina is also a founding member of OperAlive, the newly formed opera ensemble performing throughout Long Island. She also sings regularly in Northport's Opera Night concert series. Gina is the Soprano soloist at the Church of The Ascension and cantor/pianist at St. Luke's RC Church.

STEPHANIE HOROWITZ is a Soprano whose recent NYC area operatic appearances include the title *Rosalinde* in *Die Fledermaus* (cover). Ms. Horowitz currently studies with Sherry Overholt in Manhattan, NY. In May of 2005 Ms. Horowitz received first place in the Five Towns Music and Arts Foundation's Young Artist Competition in the Musical Theatre Division. Favorite musical theatre roles include *Frenchie* in *Cabaret*, *Emma Goldman/Housewife* in *Assassins*, and *Anita* in *West Side Story*. She is also an avid lover of vocal jazz, singing for the Boop Troupe in Manhattan and the South Shore Syncopators on Long Island. A 2005 recipient of the Wayne Newton Music Scholarship, Ms. Horowitz is a graduate of the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston, MA where she received a Masters Degree in Vocal Performance. As a member of N.E.C.'s Opera Studio, Ms. Horowitz sang the role of *Noemie* in *Massenet's Cendrillon*.

LYDIA PAULSEN was born in Queens, NY. She has been a Rockville Centre resident and member of the church of the ascension since 1986. An art teacher for 35 years, she continues her craft by piecing together elaborate quilts, making delicious jams and building small houses out of gingerbread. In her spare time she enjoys traveling and has been to every continent except Antarctica.

ALEXIS PESANTI has received vocal performance degrees from Hartt School of Music and SUNY Purchase. She has performed in numerous operas including *Dialogue of the Carmelites*, *The Marriage of Figaro* and *Dido and Aeneas*. Recent performances include scenes at *Maones Extension division* and *Soprano Soks in Schobert's Mass in G*. Alexis currently lives and teaches voice on Long Island.

ROMAN SLADKOPEVETS is a tenor who graduated from the Yekaterinburg State Drama Institute in 1998 (Master of Music and Drama) During his studies at the institute, he worked as a solo vocalist at the Sverdlovsk Musical Comedy Theater. In 2003 he graduated from the Moscow State University of Culture and Arts (DMA in Vocal Pedagogy). Since 2003, he has been working as a teacher at the Solo Singing Chair. As an opera and chamber singer, Roman is engaged in intense concert activities performing on various concert stages of Moscow (Palace of Youth, Kremlin Palace, House of Architects, House of Writers, House of Composers, etc), and takes part in numerous concerts with such directors as N.N. Kalinin, B.S. Voron, V.V. Afanasyev, M. Kazhlayev, M.G. Bank, Ye.E. Graseyev. His repertoire features about many opera parts, including those of *Lensky* (*Eugene Onegin* by P. Tchaikovsky), *Turiddu* (*Cavalleria Rusticana* by P. Mascagni), *Alfredo* (*La Traviata* by G. Verdi), *Rodolfo* (*La Boheme* by G. Puccini), as well as many romances by Russian and international composers, Neapolitan and Russian folk songs. In 2003 Roman became a laureate of the Festos festival in the classical vocal nomination. As a teacher, he upgrades his skills participating in master classes held at the L.A. Gergieva Academy (Finland) and the Italo-American Academy (2004-2005). In 2007 he was awarded with the *Charoite Star* order (for young talented artists of Russia), and in 2008 received the *Professional of Russia* order. Roman is a partner of the *Sozvezdiye* charity foundation.

LINDA TAGLIAFERRO is a coloratura Soprano who has studied at the Juilliard Evening Division with Joyce McLean, and taken numerous opera workshops with Emily and Marian Thompson at Mannes College. She is a freelance writer and artist.

Footlight Players, Inc.
118 West Blvd., East Rockaway, NY 11518
NATHANIEL GREEN, *Artistic Director*
516-599-8342