

ORPHEUS IN THE UNDERWORLD

Music by Jacques Offenbach, French Libretto by Cremieux & Halevy
English adaptation by Snoo Wilson & David Pountney

THE CAST

Orpheus (*a musician*)..... Mikal J. Kraklio
Eurydice (*his wife*)..... Jen Christianson
Ann Michels (*April 1 & 9*)
Aristaeus / Pluto (*a shepherd / the god of the underworld*)James Hamilton
Public Opinion (*guardian of morals*)..... Lynne Hicks
Jupiter (*King of the gods*)..... Waldyn J. Benbenek
Juno (*his wife*)..... Judith McClain
VenusAnn Michels
Emily Coates (*April 1 & 9*)
Cupid..... Sara Gustafson
Diana..... Alyssa K. Lingor
MarsChristopher Michela
Mercury..... Todd Coulter
Dr. Morpheus (*demi-god of sleep*)..... Richard Rames
Rhadamanthys (*one of the Triple Judges of Hades*) Randy Lebsock
Aeacus (*one of the Triple Judges of Hades*) Kristefor Lysne
Minos (*one of the Triple Judges of Hades*)..... Richard Rames
Cerberus (*three-headed dog of Hades*)..... Ernest Brody, Stephanie Brody
Charlotte Morrison
Love Police (*Cupid's assistants*)..... Kathy Hering (1), Emily Coates (2)
Carol Nelson (3), Holly MacDonald, Julie Seykora
Imps Ivar Hendrickson, Sophie Benbenek, Alison Van Heel, Cary Van Heel
Bacchus (*god of wine*)..... Daniel E. Szymczak

Chorus of Nymphs & Shepherds, Violin Pupils, Gods, Goddesses, and denizens of Hades:

Jeremy Bierlein	Dean Laurance	Eric Pasternack
Ernest Brody	Randy Lebsock	Richard Rames
Stephanie Brody	Alyssa Lingor	Sandy Schoenecker
Emily Coates	Warren Loud	Julie Seykora
Melanie Cooperman	Kristefor Lysne	Rhea Sullivan
Todd Coulter	Holly MacDonald	Daniel E. Szymczak
Ethan Edwards	Mary Mescher Benbenek	Susan Volkmer
Peter Erickson	Charlotte Morrison	Holly Windle
Roger Evans	Carol Nelson	
Kathy Hering	Tim Nelson	

Understudies: Jeremy Bierlein, Emily Coates, Todd Coulter, Sara Gustafson, Kathy Hering, Dean Laurance, Alyssa Lingor, Kristefor Lysne, Ann Michels, Carol Nelson, Sandy Schoenecker, Daniel E. Szymczak, Rhea Sullivan

Act I: Hotel Lobby (Earth)

10-minute intermission

Act II: Penthouse Suite (Mount Olympus)

15-minute intermission

Acts III & IV: Café Enfers (Hades)

*Turn off all cell phones & pagers
No eating or drinking is allowed in the theatre
No smoking is permitted in the building
The use of flash cameras is strictly forbidden*

PRODUCTION STAFF

Stage Director and ChoreographerLesley Hendrickson
Music Director..... Steven Michael Utzig
Artistic DirectorWendy Evans
Stage Manager Lisa Horton
Assistant Stage Managers Peggie Kennedy, Jennifer Anne McDermott
Shawanna Werner

Set Designer**Michael Hoover**
Set & Prop Construction & Painting..... Terry Brooks, David Bush, Matt Dolph
Herb Holzschuh, Lisa Horton, Bob Hunter, Peggie Kennedy
Hellen Kriesel, Scott Lillehaug, Jennifer Anne McDermott
with Ernest Brody, Dean Laurance, and other cast members

Costume Designer **Kristin Hawbaker**
Wardrobe MistressJanine Juergens, Jo Pasternack
Costume Workers Adena Brumer, Wendy Evans, Martha Floerchinger
Kristin Hawbaker, Jacqui Heie, Ellen Holzschuh
Janine Juergens, Stacy Melehert, Jo Pasternack
Kate Schroeder, Diana Schwartz, Brianna Sullivan, & cast members

Lighting Designer **Thomas Mendenhali**
Lighting Crew John Cuff, Nicole Simoneau
Light Board Operator.....Bob Hunter
Spotlight Operators Liz Haworth, Hellen Kriesel, Brianna Sullivan
Special Effects Mark Ellenberger
Audio-Visual Engineer Bob Johanneck, Pat Johanneck, Carl Nelson
Poster Graphic DesignJason Ulrich & 7-30 Creative
Lobby Display & Photography Roger Evans, Stephen Hage, Rhea Sullivan
Group Photos by Daniels Studio
House Managers Carol Kollander, Kathy Mitchell, Mary Kay Murray
House Staff Recruiter.....Charlotte Morrison
Ticket Sales..... Katie Lowry
Ticket Assistants Ruth Erickson, Carol Kollander
Dean Laurance, Fred Morrison, Chris Rusin

The Board:

ProducerJulie Seykora
Labour Pool Coordinator Ernest Brody
Publicity Jeremy Bierlein
Treasurer Richard Rames
SecretarySusan Volkmer
Cast Representatives Kristefor Lysne, Ann Michels
Orchestra Representative Barb Hovey

ORCHESTRA

ConductorSteven Michael Utzig
ViolinJennifer Fleeger (*Concert Mistress*)
Greg Bastien, Michael Compton, Debbie Feinwachs, Brenden Fortune
Mahrit Johson, Sharon Munkwitz, Agnes Wolf, Milton Wright, Eva Zorn
Viola Dianna Garvey, Tom Rognsvoog, Aija Ronis
Cello..... Coral Bastien, Amy Carlson, John Litch, Wendy Lukaszewski
Bass.....Ron Rasmussen
Flute Ruth Erickson, Julie Lindstrom, Katie Lowry
Clarinet Barb Hovey, Julie Piper
Oboe..... Jean Beyer, John Hunt
Bassoon..... Holly Leighton, Rebecca Totzke
Horn Mike Engh, Judy Heimerman, Ellen Sorenson, Bob Spector
Trumpet..... Bob Hirte, Andrew Shellenbarger
Trombone..... Brian Carlson, Greg Michnay, Greg Onstad
Percussion Jane Hogan, Julie Schmid, Jim Streich
Rehearsal PianistsLawrence Henry, Sally Reynolds, Jean Rybold
Darin Tysdal, Jean Van Heel

GLOSSARY (in order of occurrence)

Public opinion “I started off small as Chorus in classical plays” — In Greek drama, the speaking chorus comments on the action

My sweet aeolian muse — Aeolus is god of the winds; musically, a tone produced as if by the wind; the muses are goddess patrons of the arts and sciences

I don’t want you swanning around with a shepherd — idling; dallying

Arcadian delights — pastoral; simple

I’ve Gone/ avec Pluton / To ‘ell/ Farewell — Eurydice’s farewell note is a mix of English and French (“Pluton” is French for Pluto)

she never could scan — be metrically consistent in poetry

abandoning your wife to Stygian gloom — refers to the River Styx in Hades, hence, dark

the blush that fills Aurora’s cheeks — goddess of dawn; i.e., it’s daybreak

my snaky wand which mortals call a caduceus — Mercury’s staff with two entwined snakes, topped by wings; symbol of a herald; physician’s emblem

silver-tongued venality — bribery or corruption

I nicked Apollo’s oxen — as a child, Mercury stole Apollo’s herd of oxen

steak & kidney pie, blood sausage, bangers & mash — traditional English foods

muse on a plinth — a base, as for a statue or column

the faces of all the three graces — goddesses, givers of charm and beauty

Mt. Olympus — the home of the gods and goddesses

Transformation song: Jupiter was known for assuming a disguise and seducing mortal women — he seduced Leda, a Spartan Queen, in the guise of a swan (Helen of Troy was one of their offspring), and appeared to Europa as a gentle bull but then galloped off into the sea and took her to Crete. He visited Danaë as a shower of golden coins.

On m’a ravi mon Eurydice — Offenbach has Orpheus start to sing an aria from the famous Gluck opera “Orpheus and Eurydice”

There we’ll spend the dirtiest weekend — British slang for an illicit get-away

he spoke of libidinous antics, and left me an Indian tome — he led her on with talk of sex, but then left her alone with a book, apparently the *Kama Sutra*

Triple judges of Hades — the judges who pass sentence on those entering Hades, sending the good to the Elysian Fields and the wicked to everlasting torment

Cerberus — the three-headed dog guarding the gate to Hades

We outclass that old pastmaster from Baker Street — Sherlock Holmes

If I do as a bluebottle does — a kind of fly

his hospitality... rivals Mrs Astor’s — N. Y. Society hostess of the late 1800s

Pluto is King. Vive Pluton! — A bi-lingual approach to praise

What puissant thighs — powerful

She will be a Bacchante — A female worshipper of Bacchus, a bacchante lived a life of freedom in the wilderness that might have included sweet singing, ecstatic dances and mad (sometimes deadly to others) frenzies.

It is Bacchus who reigns — God of Wine

The Orpheus and Eurydice Legend

Orpheus was so gifted a musician that wild beasts gathered around him entranced when he played his lyre. Shortly after marrying him, Eurydice was walking in a meadow when she was bitten by a viper and died. Grief-stricken, he resolved to rescue her from Hades (where all dead people go). His music charmed the three-headed dog Cerberus, and when he sang of his woes, even the god Pluto listened. Eurydice was restored to him on the condition that he would not look back at her as they climbed up out of the darkness to earth. Just as they neared the upper world, Orpheus turned back in a moment of forgetfulness. As she disappeared behind him, all he heard was her faint “Farewell.” He returned to the earth in utter desolation, where he played his lyre constantly until he was killed by a band of frenzied Bacchantes. Where his remains are buried, the nightingale sings more sweetly than anywhere else. Reunited with his beloved Eurydice in the Elysian Fields, Orpheus may gaze at her to his heart’s content.

CONTRIBUTORS

Olympians (\$100 and over)

Patricia & Mark Bauer ❖ Mark R. Ellenberger❖ Virgil T. Fallon ❖ Land O'Lakes
❖ John Litch ❖ Thor Lyford ❖ Shirley Moore ❖ John & Dianne Orbison ❖ R. N.
Quiche ❖ Marvin & Martha Rogers ❖ Tom & Beverly Rogers ❖ James Schwarz ❖
David Seykora / MediaOne ❖ Terrapin Technologies, Inc. ❖ Margaret Raymonde
Thomas ❖ Connie Waterous ❖

Graces and Muses (\$50 - \$99)

Arlene & Tom Alm ❖ Suzanne Ammerman ❖ Philip Asgian ❖ Benjamin & Aroti
Bayman ❖ Jeffrey R. Brown ❖ Dean & Amy Carlson ❖ Frank Dowding ❖ Mr. &
Mrs. James Dreher ❖ Michael Dunham ❖ Kevin Edgar ❖ Joan Forester ❖ Perry &
Barbara Gilfillan ❖ Bernard W. Lindgren ❖ Tim Nelson ❖ Carol Paulsen ❖ Nancy
& Bert Poritsky ❖ Leila D. J. Poullada ❖ Kent & Cynthia Powers ❖ Mr. & Mrs. A.
X. Robbins ❖ Leon Shaw ❖ William K. Sheffield ❖ Doris Skalstad ❖

Nymphs and Shepherds (up to \$50)

Dirk Ferlen & Jane Baird ❖ George Barany ❖ Patricia Baribeau ❖ Sandie &
Anthony Beltran ❖ Gerald Benson ❖ Phillip & Katherine Bergem ❖ Ronald
Bonnicksen ❖ Armine Boyadjian ❖ Beth, Laurie & Terry Brooks ❖ Rose Marie
Bryan ❖ Robert R. Burns ❖ Ruth Cardinal ❖ Hatim Carim ❖ Peter Coffey ❖ Mary
J. Cole ❖ Pearl Cole ❖ Bob & Betty Dasset ❖ Mary Theresa Downing ❖ Dawn M.
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Madeline Hamermesh ❖ Linda Dexter Hancher ❖ Kay Hawbaker ❖ Mary M.
Heiman ❖ David & Kris Henderson ❖ Bob & Marge Hennesy ❖ Del Holmes ❖
Tom & Margaret Holzinger ❖ C. Joseph & Katherine Howard ❖ Mary Ann
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H. Jackson ❖ George Francis Kane ❖ Marita Karlisch ❖ Kenneth Kauffman ❖
Roxie & Eric King-Smith ❖ Jake Koller ❖ Grey D. Krieger ❖ Joan Lorman ❖
Beverly Lutz ❖ Roderick & Joanne MacDonald ❖ Dr. Merle Mark ❖ C. Paul
Martin ❖ Jack & Vivian Mason ❖ Mr. & Mrs. Robert C. Maxton ❖ Jean
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Catherine M. Pitz ❖ John & Marge Pollack ❖ Betsy Raasch-Gilman ❖ Bobbie
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Shalaby ❖ Stacey & David Smith ❖ Jackie Soucek ❖ Peggy Spurgeon ❖ Arthur
Sternberg ❖ Mike Stone ❖ Mathew Streater ❖ Janet & Craig Swan ❖ Kitty Taylor
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Lorraine Zauft ❖

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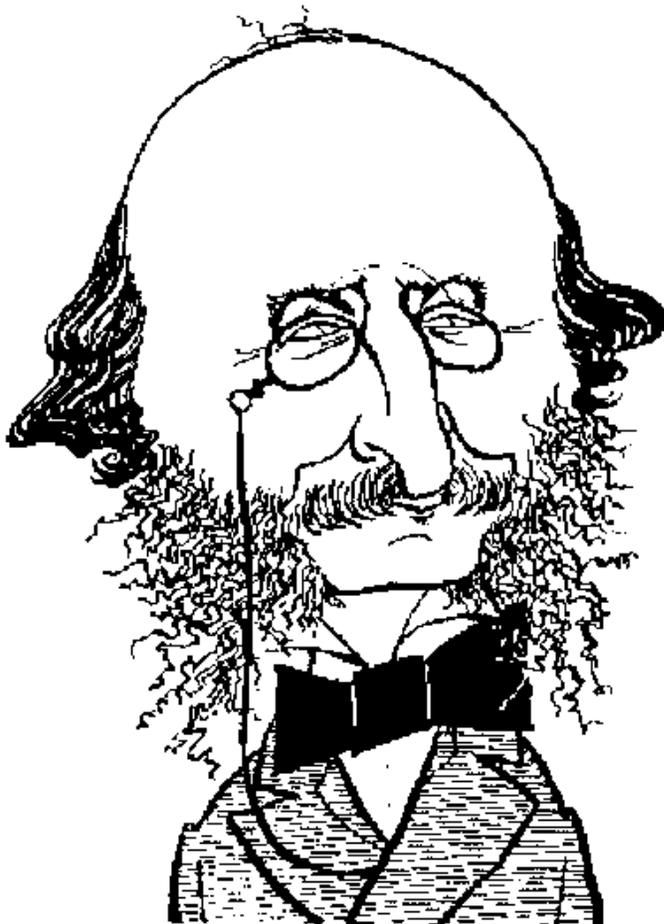
Hobart United Methodist Church, Plymouth Congregational Church, Child Garden
Montessori School, Minnetonka Symphony (orchestra lights), St. Anne's Episcopal
Church, Cadenza Music (for student violins), Liquor Depot (big champagne bottle),
Jason Ulrich & 7-30 Creative (poster design), Land O'Lakes (vocal score printing),
Terrapin Technologies (advertising), and our divine staff of ushers, ticket sellers,
and concessionaires.

The Gilbert & Sullivan Very Light Opera Company

presents

ORPHEUS
IN THE
UNDERWORLD

by Jacques Offenbach



at

The Howard Conn Fine Arts Center
1900 Nicollet Avenue, Minneapolis

March 24 - April 16, 2000