

### Colchester Operatic Society

The Society's first production was *The Gondoliers*, at the Hippodrome, in December 1925. Of the 14 productions which followed, up to the start of the Second World War, 9 were of G & S Operas though since then only 2 have been performed, each twice. After the War, productions resumed in 1946 at the Repertory Theatre and then moved to the Playhouse in 1947. 1973 saw a move to the Mercury Theatre and subsequently a long period of increasing audiences (and standards), plus the birth in 1984 of the youth group CO2. The 80's were boom times for the Society, with a wealth of talent, and regular donations to charities. Changes in the Mercury's availability, and a general economic downturn, led to significant financial problems in the mid 90's, from which the Society started to emerge with the success of its production of *Me & My Girl* in 1998. Other successful productions followed including some splendid shows from a revived CO2, one of which, *Fame*, won a NODA Regional Best Production Award. Our main production of *Carousel* last year has also won a similar award. Last year the decision was taken to move the annual slot for the main production to January, following discussions with the Mercury management. This proved to be a tremendous success with a widely acclaimed production of *The King and I* that achieved box office figures not experienced for many years. With these successes and the valued support of our sponsors and others, we look forward to the future with confidence.

### Sing Around the World

Our programme departs to a degree from the format of recent concerts where we drew exclusively on numbers from Musical shows. Tonight you will find that plenty of items from shows are again included, some perhaps less well known than others. However the mixture spreads beyond those boundaries, to include traditional songs, numbers from the Beatles, from ABBA, from opera etc. The journey starts from the British Isles, covers Europe quite extensively, moves through other continents from East to West, and arrives back in England. Some pieces that we have chosen are about the location; others originate from that place. One section in particular does both, where the music of Greig is both from and about Norway. We hope you enjoy a programme that sets out to cater for many tastes.

Net proceeds from this concert will be shared between ourselves and the Officers Club, who we thank most warmly for help in preparations for this event. The Officers Club share will be donated to the Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen & Families Association, which is particularly apposite in view of recent and ongoing events. Our own share will go to support the Multiple Sclerosis Resource Centre, a National Charity based here in Colchester and dedicated to the support of all those affected by Multiple Sclerosis, either directly or indirectly.

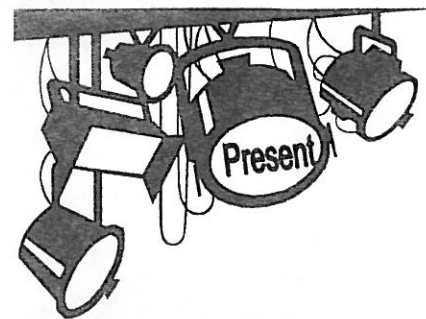
The concert will be repeated at the Mercury next week when the net of half the box office proceeds will be donated to the St Helena Hospice

Finally, many thanks to all who have helped to get this (these) show(s) on the road and also to you, our audience. We look forward to your support for our next two productions, in October this year and in January/February 2004.

John Warburton

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Beryl Balls, Chris Barrell, David Clarke, Tony Court, Alan Lerner,  
Terry Lyon, Barbara Scully, Michael Spurgeon  
The Arena Leisure Centre, Montgomery School



**COLCHESTER  
OPERATIC  
SOCIETY**

Sing Around The 



# Songs From and About Countries Around The World

**23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> May 2003  
Colchester Garrison Officers Club**

## ACT I

### British Isles

Mull of Kintyre )  
Molly Malone ) Chorus  
All Through the Night )  
London )  
Sherlock Holmes )

### France

One Day I'll Fly Away Moulin Rouge Sally Fisher  
I Love Paris Can-Can Nicholas Clough & Chorus

### Spain

Habanera ) Passion Flower (Carmen) Giselle Sawers & Chorus  
Passion Flower ) Peter Schofield

### Sweden

Waterloo ) (Caroline Fritz, Kimberley  
I Had a Dream ) Abba (Jones, James Mott &  
Mama Mia ) (Kevin Richards)

### Norway

The Legend ) Song of Norway Peter Schofield  
Concerto (excerpt) ) Peter Snell & Chorus

### Russia

Sunrise, Sunset Fiddler on the Roof Chorus

### Austria

The White Horse Inn ) Nicholas Clough & Barbara Ryan  
Good-Bye ) Whitehorse Inn Nicholas Clough & Mens Chorus  
Finale ) Full Chorus

### Bohemia

Bohemian Rhapsody Steve Williams & Chorus

### Italy

Non Piu Andrai The Marriage of Figaro Tony Court

### Africa

The Circle of Life The Lion King Peter Jones & Chorus

## Interval & Buffet

### Cast

Paula Baker, Sarah Beards, Valentine Cavanagh-White, Sharon Clarke, Sally Fisher, Caroline Fritz, Pamela Hayward, Kimberley Jones, Sally Leung, Barbara Ryan, Giselle Sawers, Teresa White.

Sarah Appleby, Pat Bruce, Lydia Clough, Diane Emberton, Claire Jones, Meg Lyon, Penny Mole, Mandy Robinson, Barbara Scully, Helen Sparkes.

James Mott, Kevin Richards, Peter Schofield, Colin Thorne, Steve Williams.

Nicholas Clough, Tony Court, John Enfield, Peter Jones, Brian Moore, John Warburton

Concert  
Co-ordinator

John  
Warburton

Musical  
Director

Peter  
Snell

Staging

Sally Fisher

Lighting

Chris Barrell

## ACT II

### Vietnam

Saigon Medley Miss Saigon Sally Leung, Peter Jones, Peter Schofield, Steve Williams & Chorus

### Japan

Mia-sama ) Chorus  
The Sun Whose Rays ) The Mikado Barbara Ryan  
Madrigal ) Semi-Chorus  
Finale ) Chorus

### Australia

Tie Me Kangaroo Down Brian Moore and Men

### Isles of the South Seas

Bali Hai ) South Pacific Barbara Scully & Ladies  
I'm Gonna Wash that Man ) Caroline Fritz & Ladies

### Argentina

Oh, What a Circus ) Evita Kevin Richards  
Don't Cry For Me, Argentina ) Barbara Ryan

### The U.S.A.

Boogy Bugle Boy Sarah Beards, Sharon Clarke & Sally Fisher  
Broadway Medley 42<sup>nd</sup> Street Chorus

### England

Gonna Build a Mountain Stop the World, I Want To Get Off Chorus

Yesterday Chorus  
Who Will Buy ) Semi-Chorus & Chorus

As Long as He Needs Me ) Oliver! Sally Leung  
Consider Yourself ) Chorus

### Everywhere

Rocking All Over the World Chorus

Concert staged by courtesy of  
The Colchester Garrison Officers Club

Funds Raised will be donated to  
The Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen & Families Association and  
The Multiple Sclerosis Resource Centre

*Dates for your Diary*

**42<sup>nd</sup> Street**

**Oliver!**

**21<sup>st</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> October 2003**  
Now booking for this CO2 Production

**28<sup>th</sup> Jan. to 7<sup>th</sup> Feb. 2004**

**Both at the Mercury Theatre (Box Office 01206 573948)**



Affiliated to the  
National Operatic and  
Dramatic Association