

A Wand'ring Minstrel, I Madison Savoyards in Concert

Saturday, May 27, 2023 at 12:00 PM Grace Episcopal Church - Madison, WI

PROGRAM

"Hark, the hour of ten is sounding" from *Trial by Jury*

W.S. Gilbert (1836-1911) Arthur Sullivan (1842-1900)

Cat Richmond, soprano Diana Eiler, contralto Noah Strube, tenor Mike Brady, bass Alissa Freeman, piano*

*Ms. Freeman performs on all of today's numbers.

"We're called gondolieri" from *The Gondoliers*

Noah Strube, tenor Mike Brady, bass

"Oh, Zara...A tenor, all singers above" from *Utopia*, *Limited*

Noah Strube, tenor

"Sir Rupert Murgatroyd" from *Ruddigore*

Diana Eiler, contralto

"The sun whose rays" from *The Mikado*

Cat Richmond, soprano

"Long years ago, fourteen maybe" from *Patience*

Cat Richmond, soprano Diana Eiler, contralto

"Refrain, audacious tar" from *H.M.S. Pinafore*

Cat Richmond, soprano Noah Strube, tenor

"My name is John Wellington Wells" from *The Sorcerer*

Mike Brady, bass

"Brightly dawns our wedding day" from *The Mikado*

Cat Richmond, soprano Diana Eiler, contralto Noah Strube, tenor Mike Brady, bass

"A man who would woo a fair maid" from *The Yeomen of the Guard*

Cat Richmond, soprano Diana Eiler, contralto Noah Strube, tenor

"Oh, rapture unrestrained" from *Utopia*, *Limited*

Diana Eiler, contralto Mike Brady, bass

"Oh, better far to live and die" from *The Pirates of Penzance*

Cat Richmond, soprano Diana Eiler, contralto Noah Strube, tenor Mike Brady, bass

It is the mission of the Madison Savoyards, Ltd. to preserve the works of Gilbert and Sullivan and other light opera by producing and promoting live performances; to develop the skills and talent of cast, crew, and musicians of all ages; and to inspire, entertain, and educate the community through performances and other initiatives.

Artist Bios

Cat Richmond, soprano

A versatile musician with a "clear and gorgeous soprano" (Broadway World), Cat Richmond is an accomplished regional performer. Ms. Richmond has been seen in a variety of productions across the U.S. and abroad ranging from opera to musical theatre to cabaret. Favorite opera roles include Lucia from Donizetti's *Lucia di Lammermoor*, Gretel from Humperdinck's *Hansel and Gretel*, and Susanna from Mozart's *Le nozze di Figaro*. Musical theatre roles include Martha in *Spring Awakening*, and Mary in *HAIR*: the *Tribal Rock Musical*. Last summer, she was seen as Zorah in the Madison Savoyards production of *Ruddigore*.

Diana Eiler, contralto

Diana Eiler, contralto, is a past winner of N.A.T.S. Great Lakes Regional auditions and the Jessye Norman Award, and she has been similarly recognized as a Friedrich Schorr Opera Star Search semi-finalist. Past engagements have included the Fort Wayne Philharmonic, Mennonite Choral Society, Fort Wayne Bach Collegium, Madison Symphony, Toledo Opera, Findlay Light Opera, Pulse Opera House, Opera for the Young, Fresco Opera Theatre, Madison Savoyards, Opera on Tap Milwaukee, Opera Quad Cities, Wisconsin Dickens Carolers, and the Christ Presbyterian Scholarship Quartet.

Noah Strube, tenor

Noah Strube (he/him/they/them) is a tenor vocalist based in the Madison area. A consummate performer, he sings in multiple choral groups, and roles include Toby in *Sweeney Todd*, Mayor Upfold in *Albert Herring*, and Gastone/Giuseppe in *La traviata*, all with UW-Madison Opera. He made his professional debut last year in Cedar Rapids Opera's production of *Pirates of Penzance*, where he sang in the Pirate and Policeman Choruses. He also occasionally plays the tuba.

Mike Brady, bass

Mike Brady, bass, is celebrating his fourth season with the Savoyards, having most recently performed as Sir Roderic Murgatroyd in *Ruddigore*. Mike is also an avid musical theater performer, recently playing The Monster (*Young Frankenstein*), Mushnik (*Little Shop of Horrors*), and Bill Austin (*Mamma Mia*) in local productions. He was described at a recent theater festival as possessing "a rich voice... absolutely perfect for radio," and he assumes that was not also commentary on his stage presence. In addition to his artistic pursuits, Mike is an accomplished computer science educator, and an eight-time state champion and international competitor in taekwondo.

Alissa Freeman, piano

Alissa Freeman has a background in classical piano performance, music teaching, and music administration, and she recently completed her Doctor of Musical Arts degree at the University of Michigan. Alissa recently started a piano teaching business in Madison called Panoramic Piano Studio, through which she offers both private and group lessons. She performs regularly as a soloist and with other musicians, and she also maintains an artist YouTube channel.

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