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## BOOKS BY LOCAL AUTHOR CAROL DE GIERE

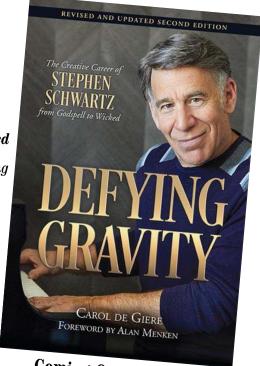
THE REVISED AND UPDATED SECOND EDITION OF

# **DEFYING GRAVITY:**

The Creative Career of Stephen Schwartz, from *Godspell* to *Wicked* 

With a Foreword by award-winning composer Alan Menken

Go behind the scenes for the making of *Wicked*, *Godspell*, *Pippin* and other shows with Stephen Schwartz scores. Enjoy "Creativity Notes" that offer insights about writing, collaboration, inspiration, and the artistic life.



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www.caroldegiere.com

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## Fresh Baked Musicals

A Concert Sampling

## UI FN F!J;!N VTJD!PS!QFSGPSN BODF

Musical writers often write about what they know best—musical theatre!

## 1. "Actor, Singer, Dancer"

#### from The Double-Threat Trio

adamoverett.com

book, music & lyrics by Adam Overett

Three performers struggle through their auditions, hoping to land the job.

Tyler Carey, Morgana Kate Watson, Scarlett Mazur

## 2. "Magic of a Song"

## from Ten Long Years

nicholas-connors.com

music & lyrics by Nicholas Connors, book by Kyle Wilson

Ten years after leaving to pursue her dream of songwriting in Nashville, a songwriter sits down at her old piano, recalling a time when writing songs was "magical—her 17-year-old self joins her in a duet.

Kennedy Morris, Kelsey Morris

## 3. "Talk to Tony"

#### from What Do Critics Know?

whatdocriticsknow.com

music & lyrics by James Campodonico, book, music & lyrics by Matthew Gurren Three powerful theater critics who have taken countless shows off the stage with their words must now put on their own show.

Matt Gurren with Dan Satter, Melanie Votaw, Morgana Kate Watson

#### 4. "Without Music"

#### from Fable

brentmonahan.com

book, music & lyrics by Brent Monahan

A young woman recognizes the power of music to bring meaning to her words.

## Megan O'Callaghan

## UI FN F!JJ;!I JIUPS JD!DI BS BDUFS !BOE!TJUVBUJP OT

Musical writers like to take us into worlds we otherwise wouldn't visit. Here travel back to 10th century Germany and step into composer's worlds in 18th century Austria and 19th Germany, then forward to small-town America of this century

## 5. "Lower the Drawbridge"

## from Roswitha

roswithamusical.com

book, music & lyrics by Kevin Bleau and David Schrag

A 10th-century noblewoman must escape from her murderous husband—she will go on to become the first female playwright.

#### Megan O'Callaghan

#### 6. "This is Love"

## from Schikaneder

#### stephenschwartz.com

music & lyrics by Stephen Schwartz, book by Christian Struppeck

SCHIKANEDER presents the turbulent love story behind Mozart's THE MAGIC FLUTE

Raissa Katona Bennett, Greg Roderick

## 7. "Wishing You Were Near"

## from Fanny's Forgotten Music

kristinabengtsson.org

book, music & lyrics by Kristina Bengtsson

The musical tells the story of composer Fanny Mendelssohn's complicated relationship with her brother Felix.

Scarlett Mazur, Tyler Carey

#### 8. "Window on the World"

## from Buried in Prosperity

multerandmulter.com

music by Karen Multer, book & lyrics by Steve Multer

A schoolteacher discovers the reason she stayed too long, putting her own dreams on hold.

Pam DeHuff

#### UI FNF!!!!!!!GPPE

In a show called "Fresh Baked Musicals," we thought our audience might like to hear a few songs about food!

## 9. "Recipe for Heartbreak"

## from Vows

clayzambo.com

book, music & lyrics by Clay Zambo

Customers in a gourmet market comment as a nervous single dad tries to ask the cashier for a date.

Kennedy Morris, Morgana Kate Watson,

with Kelsey Morris, Dan Satter

#### 10. "A Little Pinch of This and That"

## from La Giara—The Water Jug

lagiaramusic.com

book, music & lyrics by Patricia Haddad

A family is reminiscing about their grandmother's magical cooking and her unique method.

Kelsey Morris, Kennedy Morris, Dan Satter

#### INTERMISSION

Refeshments are available in the lobby gallery.

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## **TBTA Scholarship Fund**

We are proud to award a college scholarship each year to graduating high schoolers pursuing theater arts. **APPLICATIONS are due May 15** and are available at area high school guidance offices or by email from BrookfieldTheatreCT@gmail.com.

#### PAST RECIPIENTS INCLUDE:

Danielle Calabrese 2018 • Purvi Dudhedia 2018 • Vermilion Novak 2018

Julia Bogdanoff 2017 • Jenny Dear / Zach Jackson 2012

Sammy Panzarino 2010 • Billy Shields 2007 • Travis Moore 2006

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www.BrookfieldTheatre.org

## **EMERGENCY FIRE NOTICE**

Please observe the **EXIT** sign nearest to the seat which you occupy. It is the shortest route to the exterior of the building. In the unlikely event of an emergency, theatre personnel will be available to assist your orderly departure.

#### UI FN F!JW!DP OUFN QPSBSZ!JTTVFT!BOE!N PEFSO!MGF

Writers of plays and musicals help us grapple with or sometimes laugh at the issues of our lives.

## 11. "Magda (Red)"

## from Beautiful Jolie Gabor, Her Fabulous Three Daughters, and Always the Happiness is Life

book, music & lyrics by Michael John LaChiusa

"Magda (Red)" is sung by the character of Magda Gabor.

#### Raissa Katona Bennett

#### 12. "The Lift"

## song cut from Heartbeats

amcbroom.com

lyrics by Amanda McBroom, music by Michele Brourman, created by Amanda McBroom and Bill Castellino

additional music by Gerald Sternbach, Michele Brourman, Tom Snow and Craig Safan

#### Raissa Katona Bennett

## 13. "Human Experience"

## from The Fourth Messenger

thefourthmessenger.com

music & lyrics by Vienna Teng, book & lyrics by Tanya Shaffer

Mama Sid, a modern day "awakened one" gives guidance to a woman facing the fear of a medical diagnosis.

#### Megan O'Callaghan, Pam DeHuff

## UI FNF!W!MPWF!' !S PNBODF

#### 14. "Isn't It Love?"

## from La Giara—The Water Jug

lagiaramusic.com

book, music & lyrics by Patricia King Haddad

Sung to Norma, hesitant to follow her heart, convincing her that what matters most about life is love.

#### Scarlett Mazur

## 15. "Musings from Beyond"

## from Love on Ice: A cryogenic love story

lodinandsquier.com

music by Jeffrey Lodin , book & lyrics by Bill Nabel and William Squier  $\,$ 

What would you do if you had the chance to love someone forever? Can love still burn at negative two-hundred-seventy degrees...centigrade?

## Jeff Lodin, Bill Nabel, Wiliam Squier

## 16. "Rocky Mountain Rescue"

## from Love on Ice: A cryogenic love story

lodinandsquier.com

music by Jeffrey Lodin , book & lyrics by Bill Nabel and William Squier

Jerold Goldstein, Jeff Lodin, Bill Nabel, William Squier

## 17. "Sweet Understanding"

#### from Gold Rush Girls

goldrushmusical.com

book, music & lyricsby Jerry Sanders and Karmo Sanders *The fatally injured Captain describes his love for Eudora.* 

Scarlett Mazur, Matt Gurren

#### 18. "Talk to Me"

## from Buried in Prosperity

multerandmulter.com

music by Karen Multer, book & lyrics by Steve Multer

Marooned in a dying farm town, a lonely barkeep longs for word of love from his estranged wife.

Dan Satter

## 19. FINALE: "As Long as I Am Living"

## from The Fourth Messenger

thefourthmessenger.com

music & lyrics by Vienna Teng, book & lyrics by Tanya Shaffer

The Fourth Messgner investigates what it means to be both enlightened and human.

Pam DeHuff with Melanie Votaw, Morgana Kate Watson, Kelsey Morris, Kennedy Morris, Scarlett Mazur, Megan O'Callaghan

#### RECEPTION

Please join us in the lobby gallery for fresh baked treats!

## BIOGRAPHIES

#### FEATURED COMPOSER:



STEPHEN SCHWARTZ wrote the music and lyrics for the current Broadway hit WICKED, and has also contributed music and/or lyrics to GODSPELL, PIPPIN, THE MAGIC SHOW, THE BAKER'S WIFE, WORKING (which he also adapted and directed), RAGS, and CHILDREN OF EDEN. He collaborated with Leonard Bernstein on the English texts for Bernstein's MASS and wrote the title song for the play and movie BUTTERFLIES ARE FREE. For children, he has written songs for two musicals, CAPTAIN LOUIE and MY SON PINOCCHIO. He has also worked in film, collaborating with Alan Menken on the songs for Disney's ENCHANTED as well as the animated features POCAHONTAS and THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME, and writing the songs for the DreamWorks animated feature THE PRINCE OF EGYPT. His first opera, SEANCE ON A WET AFTERNOON, was produced at Opera Santa Barbara and New

photo: Joan Lauren

York City Opera. His musical SCHIKANEDER premiered in Austria in 2016 (German language version). He and Alan Menken collaborated on the stage adaptation for THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME, and he is currently working on a stage adaptation of THE PRINCE OF EGYPT. A book about his career, "Defying Gravity," has been released by Applause Books. Mr. Schwartz has been inducted into the Theatre Hall of Fame and the Songwriters Hall of Fame, and has been given a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. Awards include three Academy Awards, four Grammy Awards, and a tiny handful of tennis trophies. www.stephenschwartz.com

score for Benedict Arnold, in collaboration with Pulitzer-nominated playwright Richard Vetere. Their songs have appeared on television: P.B.&J. Otter; film: DOUG'S FIRST MOVIE; and at the International Children's Festival. Both Jeff and Bill are members of the Dramatists Guild and BMI.

BILL NABEL is a recipient of a 2009 State of Connecticut Playwright Fellowship Grant and a finalist for the American Academy of Arts and Letters Richard Rodgers Prize for TAKE ME AMERICA. Other credits include the books and lyrics for LOVE ON ICE, the world's first cryogenic musical; WHO KILLED MARIO LANZA?; GOLLYWOBBLE, a musical based on "The Andy Griffith Show" for Paramount Pictures; HABEAS CORPUS, the nom-de-plume musical and GO ASK YOUR FATHER, the musical that asks: "What would you do if you could confront your father about things that happened to you when you were a kid?" LOVE ON ICE was a finalist in the "Stages" New Works Festival (2008) at Theatre Building of Chicago.

More information about all of the composers and musicals featured in this concert can be found through their respective web site links listed in this program.

#### **MASTER OF CEREMONIES:**



**DON BOVINGLOH**'s multifaceted 40 year professional career in show business includes: writer, theatre director, acting coach, television producer, as well as an experienced performer in more than 300 appearances in film, television, and theatre in Los Angeles, New York. For 12 years, Bovingloh was one of the original performing members at the influential Groundling Improv Theatre in Hollywood. Don has appeared on shows as disparate as THE LOVE BOAT, MURDER SHE WROTE, COLUMBO, THE JEFFERSONS, LAW AND ORDER, GENERAL HOSPITAL, NEWHART, BENSON,

and ALICE. A few of his stage acting roles were in OUR TOWN, THE VISIT, HOW TO SUCCEED, PHANTOM OF THE OPERA, MUSIC MAN, 42ND STREET, JEKYLL & HYDE, LOVE LETTERS, A FUNNY THING...FORUM, MYSTERY OF EDWIN DROOD, DIARY OF ANNE FRANK, CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF, FANTASTICKS, and COMPANY. Some of Don's directing projects include: HELLO, DOLLY!, OTHER PEOPLE'S MONEY, MAME, SYLVIA, MORNINGS AT SEVEN, FUNNY GIRL, BERLIN TO BROADWAY, ONCE UPON A MATTRESS, FIDDLER, CABARET, BABY at the Pasadena Playhouse, INTO THE WOODS, THE ODD COUPLE, FORUM, INHERIT THE WIND, JACQUES BREL, and a record breaking production of LA CAGE AUX FOLLES in Mendocino CA while also serving as the artistic director. He directed DAMN YANKEES and OTHER PEOPLE'S MONEY, here at Brookfield.



The concert was initiated and produced by Brookfield Theatres curator of new musicals, **CAROL DE GIERE**. She is author of "The Godspell Experience" and "Defying Gravity: The Creative Career of Stephen Schwartz." She is the founder of the site **MusicalWriters.com**. **www.caroldegiere.com** 

THE TENDER LAND (Mr. Jenks). He is looking forward to the role of Max in Brookfield Theatre's upcoming production of Andrew Lippa's WILD PARTY opening Sept. 14.



MELANIE VOTAW began performing as a dancer at the age of four, including local television appearances as early as age six. She joined a semi-pro theater company when she was 13 and minored in music in college. She moved to New York at age 23, where she has done several solo cabaret acts and performed in a number of showcases, including charity shows that she produced. In musicals, she has played roles like Polly Browne in THE BOYFRIEND, Hope Harcourt in ANYTHING GOES, and Eileen in WONDERFUL TOWN. She has also been in the ensemble of several shows and served as choreographer for a few. Melanie currently studies voice with Candace Goetz, formerly of New York City Opera.



MORGANA KATE WATSON is a Singer/Actor/Writer and she holds a BA in Drama Studies from SUNY Purchase. She has also studied acting a voice at Boston University and Circle in the Square. In New York, she is a proud member of the Complete Theatre Company and has performed at The Producer's Club, the Richmond Shepard Theatre, and Manhattan Rep. Locally, she has performed at the Warner, Musicals at Richter, Sherman Playhouse, and here at Brookfield Theatre. She has been a voice student of Maggi Heilweil and Michele McBride. Her new play, ARE YOU MY SISTER, will recieve a staged reading here in October, in which she will also be performing. Many thanks to Lou, Carol, Mom, Dad, Auntie Em, Keegan, Willow, and Marta. For JoAnn.

Several of the concert's writers are also performing:



MATTHEW GURREN is a writer, performer and videographer. Past written and performed shows include MRS., WIDOW, THE APPRAISER'S DESK, THE ELDERS and two one-act musicals, NO LOVER'S FOOL and LAST DANCE. He currently works at The York Theatre Company where he recently had a staged reading of WHAT DO CRITICS KNOW? He is a graduate of Tufts University and a member of the Dramatist Guild.

JEFFREY LODIN and WILLIAM SQUIER have collaborated on the musicals Disney's DOUG LIVE! (Walt Disney World), 100 YEARS INTO THE HEART (Village Theater Festival of New Musicals, Spirit of Broadway, NYMF), TOP OF THE HEAP (Gallery Players, SBT, NMTN "Director's Choice", Global Search for New Musicals, Curtain Call, New Voices in the Heartland), REBELS 1775 (Starlight Theatre, SBT), A MERRY MULBERRY STREET MUSICAL (Curtain Call), BABY BUMPS (Curtain Call, B.T. McNicholl, dir., Finger Lakes Musical Theater Festival's The PiTCH) and their latest collaboration, LOVE ON ICE (Book & Co-Lyrics: Bill Nabel). In 2013, the team was commissioned to write a musical stage adaptation of the successful children's book MERRILEE MANNERLY, in collaboration with authors Mary Cashman and Cynthia Whipple. They were also commissioned by the Spirit of Broadway Theater to write the

#### **FEATURED PERFORMERS:**



Special guest performer RAISSA KATONA BENNETT will be the featured artist. On Broadway, she appeared as Christine Daae in PHANTOM OF THE OPERA, CHESS in concert, and the First National Tours of CATS and PARADE. A multiple award-winning concert & cabaret artist, shes headlined with Symphony Orchestras throughout the north east, at Feinsteins, the Beechman Theatre, Metropolitan Room & Iridium, and at Lincoln Center and Town Hall in the Mabel Mercer Cabaret Convention. Recently, she appeared Off-Broadway in 2 new shows DEVIL AND THE DEEP and WATER FROM THE MOON, and in the first regional Equity production of FUN HOME at the Music Theatre of Connecticut.

She has 2 critically acclaimed CDs on iTunes and Amazon and has been celebrating the release of her newest CD on the LML Music Label, "Can't Help Singing—The Music of Jerome Kern," with cabaret shows at the Laurie Beechman Theatre in NYC.

#### www.raissakatonabennett.com



Also appearing as a special guest is **GREG RODERICK** who was most recently seen as the father in FUN HOME at Music Theater of Connecticut. On Broadway he was seen in Lincoln Center's SOUTH PACIFIC, and has appeared off-Broadway, in concerts, and on the national tours of THE SOUND OF MUSIC, SOUTH PACIFIC and PARADE (directed by Harold Prince). Greg worked with Steve Martin and Edie Brickell in their world premiere of BRIGHT STAR at the Old Globe, as

well as in numerous other regional theaters around the country, including Goodspeed, Paper Mill, and the Berkshire Theater Festival. **www.gregroderick.com** 



The musical director is **JEROLD GOLDSTEIN**. Goldstein has been directing, musical directing, and teaching in schools and privately throughout Connecticut for the past 30 years. As an actor, he has performed in numerous musical productions in New York City including on Broadway in HOW TO SUCCEED IN BUSINESS WITHOUT REALLY TRYING and AINT BROADWAY GRAND. He was in the

national tour of LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS and A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM. He won the Barrymore Award for GUN METAL BLUES, was in the Kennedy Center's SHEAR MADNESS, & toured Europe in 42ND STREET. As a composer, several of Goldstein's shows (written with William Squier) have been performed around the country, including BABALU, MUSIC IS MY FIST (their send up of the Rat Pack), and THE THREE SCROOGES. As co-bookwriter, his musical ROUTE 66 has received a number of regional productions. www.JeroldGoldstein.com

For the safety of performers, the courtesy of patrons, and in compliance with copyright laws, the taking photos or recordings of any kind is strictly prohibited. **PLEASE TURN OFF ALL** non-essential electronic devices as they can interfere with our technical systems. **Patrons are welcome to text, tweet, or candy crush in the lobby.** 



**TYLER CAREY** is a sophomore BFA Musical Theatre major and is 19 years old. He has played roles including Jack (INTO THE WOODS), Pippin (PIPPIN), and Buddy (ELF! THE MUSICAL). He performed here in Brookfield in our 2016 production of BARE. Tyler is so excited to be performing such amazing new works!



PAM DEHUFF is happy to return to the BTFA stage, after performing in SWEENEY TODD this summer. Favorite roles include the Mother Abbess (SOUND OF MUSIC) and Josephine "Ma" Strong (URINETOWN) with the Brewster Theater Company. She was the "Somewhere" soloist in WEST SIDE STORY, produced by Musicals at Richter. This fall, she will be codirecting Brewster 's HISTORY OF ROCK CABARET. Pam received an MA in vocal performance from The City College of New York. An elementary music teacher, she also maintains a private voice studio. She has been soloist, Leader of Song and choral director at several churches in Westchester, Putnam and Dutchess Counties. A shout out to Becky Baxter for her creative input and support. Enjoy the concert!



SCARLETT MAZUR is a 2016 graduate of AMDA NY (American Musical & Dramatic Academy) where she majored in Musical Theatre. She resides in New York City, where she is currently auditioning and honing her craft and is studying voice with Deric Rosenblatt. Some of her favorite roles include Gertrude in SEUSSICAL (nominated for Best Supporting Actress at the National Youth Theatre Awards), Indian/Featured Dancer in PETER PAN at the Westchester Broadway Theatre, and Chava in FIDDLER ON THE ROOF at Ridgefield Playhouse. Scarlett has also been a Featured Soloist at 54 Below and The West End Lounge. She is in the midst of writing and recording her first RnB/Pop EP, under the name "Skarlit." Her vocal abilities range from Pop, Rock, and Jazz, to legit Musical Theatre. Scarlett would love to thank her ever supportive family (love you Mom and Dad!) and friends, who have pushed her further and further on this winding path of artistry.



KELSEY MORRIS will be a sophomore at Ringling College of Art & Design where she is majoring in Motion Design. Credits include TCC: INTO THE WOODS (Baker's Wife); Warner Theatre: FOLLIES (Weismann Showgirl), SEUSSICAL THE MUSICAL (Jungle, Featured Dancer), BEST LITTLE WHOREHOUSE (Dawn, Angelette), NICE WORK IF YOU CAN GET IT, THE ADDAMS FAMILY, HELLO, DOLLY!, RAGTIME (Chorine, Ensemble), PETER PAN; Goshen Players: TWO BY TWO (Rachel); Landmark: SPAMALOT, DREAMGIRLS. She has been nominated 2 times for Broadway World CT Actress Awards. Kelsey is a freelance graphic designer. She graduated from the Nutmeg Conservatory with 15 years of training in classical ballet and other styles. In addition, she has

worked on lighting and served as choreographer for The Naugatuck Teen Theatre and has taught theater class at Landmark.



**KENNEDY MORRIS** is 15 years old and has been involved in over 70 theatrical productions. Favorites include off-Broadway: ADD INFINITUM (Ani); BSS: THE KING & I (Anna), BEAUTY & THE BEAST (Belle), ANNIE (Annie), SEUSSICAL (Gertrude), PETER PAN (Smee); CCK: SHREK (Donkey), SEUSSICAL JR. (JoJo), LION KING (Simba), LITTLE MERMAID JR. (Flounder), MULAN JR. (Mushu), PETER PAN JR. (Tinker Bell), JOSEPH (Reuben), ALICE IN WONDERLAND (Mad Hatter); Warner: SEUSSICAL (Bird Girl), RAGTIME (Little Girl), SHREK (Young Fiona, Elf), FIDDLER ON THE ROOF (Bielke), PETER PAN (Twin 2), ADDAMS FAMILY (Cousin It), MAGIC TREE HOUSE: A GHOST TALE FOR MR. DICKENS (Emma), THE SEQUENCE (Charlie), JOANIE & FREDDIE ON VALENTINE'S DAY (Joanie); TCC: INTO THE WOODS (Red Ridinghood), WIZARD OF OZ (Dorothy), WILLY WONKA (Violet), IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE (Violet); Landmark: SOUTH PACIFIC (Ngana); NTT: GODSPELL, WORKING (soloist, instrumentalist & Amanda McKinney); CAFTA: ONE BY ONE (Anne Frank); Chase Colligiate: GYPSY (Baby & Dante June). Kennedy sings and performs with various bands and has choreographed several shows. She has won numerous vocal competitions including Voices For Hope, Your Time To Shine, Star On The Web, CT Got Talent and NW Kid Rock Idol. She has been nominated 10 times for Broadway World CT Best Young Actress (winner for SHREK) and won an Onstage Award for Outstanding Young Performer (RAGTIME).



MEGAN O'CALLAHAN was most recently seen as Medium Alison in Music Theatre of Connecticut's production of *FUNHOME*, for which she received the Connecticut Critics Circle Award for Outstanding Debut. She graduated in 2017 from Western Connecticut State University with a BA in Musical Theatre. Regional theatre: THE BRIDGES OF MADISON COUNTY (Carolyn, Music Theatre of Connecticut), The MUSIC MAN (Sharon Playhouse), and ELEPHANT AND PIGGIE'S WE ARE IN A PLAY! (Piggie, Playhouse on Park). Other credits include The DROWSY CHAPERONE (Kitty), and PARADE (Monteen, Lucille u/s) at WCSU, and PETER PAN (Peter Pan).



**DAN SATTER** is a vocal performance major at WCSU where he is the music director and arranger for two a cappella groups. His vocal arrangements have been performed all over the world. Musical credits include: RAGTIME (Father), THE LITTLE MERMAID (King Triton), INTO THE WOODS (Jack), CRAZY FOR YOU (Zangler), CHILDREN OF EDEN (Seth/Shem) and RENT (Benjamin Coffin III). Opera credits include: HANSEL & GRETEL (Father), AMAHL AND THE NIGHT VISITORS (King Balthazar), THE GONDOLIERS (Don Alhambra), GAME OF CHANCE (The Representative), THE MERRY WIDOW (General Kromov), PETER GRIMES (Townsperson) and