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SCOTT BEACH began his career in radio. During the 1960's he was a member of the San Francisco improvisational group known as THE COMMITTEE. Mr. Beach has since gone on to serve as THE VOICE in countless commercials, radio shows, and films, his latest being the popularly acclaimed STAND BY ME. He previously played the role of The Pasha Selim in Spring Opera's production of ABDUCTION FROM THE SERAGLIO. His radio show, MUSIC 'TILL DAWN on KKHI is very popular with his audiences.

JACQUELINE DICKEY, soprano, won Grand Prize in the Henry Holt Scholarship in 1985 and First Prize in the East Bay Opera League Auditions. Her most recent credits include Papagena in THE MAGIC FLUTE with Oakland Opera, FACE ON A BARROOM FLOOR and SLOWDUSK for Four Corners Opera, and THE MEDIUM with Eugene Opera.

WILLIAM NEIL, bass, is well known to Bay Area audiences through his work with the Lamplighters. Since 1965, he has sung most of the Gilbert & Sullivan bass-baritone roles; the Mikado, Pooh-Bah, the Pirate King, and both Grosvenor and the Colonel in PATIENCE. With West Bay Opera he has done TALES OF HOFFMAN and THE MAGIC FLUTE, THE THREEPENNY OPERA with Western Opera Theater, and DEATH IN VENICE and THE GRAND DUCHESS OF GEROLSTEIN with Spring Opera. Mr. Neil has often performed with Pocket Opera.

BAKER PEEPLES, tenor, has sung in numerous Pocket Opera productions, including MARTHA, LA PERICHOLE, LA BELLE HELENE, COSI FAN TUTTE, and ORPHEUS IN THE UNDERWORLD. His other credits include THE LOVE OF THREE ORANGES, ST. MATTHEW'S PASSION, DON GIOVANNI, Mozart's REQUEIM, soloist with the San Francisco, Vancouver, Oakland, Utah and Berkeley Symphonies, San Francisco and Oakland Ballets and the rougish Defendant in TRIAL BY JURY for KQED-TV. A graduate of Yale, he has been a finalist in the Metropolitan and San Francisco Opera auditions.

KEVIN SKILES, tenor, holds a Bachelors Degree in Vocal Performances from the University of the Pacific. His extensive credits include SUSANNAH, OF MICE AND MEN, CARMEN, TALES OF HOFFMAN, GIANNI SCHICCHI, MADAM BUTTERFLY, and LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR, and Pocket Opera's THE BANDITS, THE BRIDGE OF SIGHS, LA VIE PARISIENNE, and FRA DIAVOLO. He has performed with San Francisco Opera Center, California Coast, Eugene and Portland Operas, and Lamplighters. Upcoming engagements include ROMEO ET JULIETTE, TOSCA, ANDREA CHENIRE, and his Cleveland Opera debut as Pong in TURNCOAT.

LENORE TURNER, lyric-coloratura soprano, has performed such roles as Anna in THE MERRY WIDOW (Donald Pippin's English Version), Kate Pinkerton in MADAMA BUTTERFLY, Adele in DIE FLEIDERMAUS, and Despina in COSI FAN TUTTE. She was a San Francisco Finalist in the 1978 Metropolitan Opera Audition and has worked with Lamplighters, Marin Opera, Southwestern Opera Theatre, and the Haydn Festival.

Mozart/YANKED FROM THE HAREM (or, Abduction from the Sergalio)

Libretto by Gottlieb Stephanie/English Version by Donald Pippin
(First Performance--Vienna, July 16, 1782)
Production Stage Directed by William Saetre

THE POCKET CAST

Belmonte, fresh from Yale . . . . . Baker Peeples
Osmin, a Turkish cop . . . . . William Neil
Pedrillo, fresh from Berkeley . . . . . Kevin Skiles
Constanza, fresh from Smith . . . . . Lenore Turner
Blondie, straight from the Haight . . . . . Jacqueline Dickey
The Pasha Selim, a Turkish despot . . . . . Scott Beach

THE POCKET PHILHARMONIC

Piano . . . . . Donald Pippin
Violin I . . . . . Stephen Gehl
Violin II . . . . . Jeremy Cohen
Viola . . . . . Oscar Hasbun
Cello . . . . . Teressa Adams
Flute . . . . . Katheryn McElrath
Oboe . . . . . Miriam Rosenblum
Clarinet . . . . . Diana Dorman
Bassoon . . . . . Sue Black

There will be two twelve-minute intermissions between acts.

DONALD PIPPIN, Music Director & creator of Pocket Opera, was born in Zebulon, North Carolina. Folloiwng a stint at Harvard University, he moved to New York City where he was the pianist/accompanist for Balanchine's School for American Ballet, and finally to San Francisco where he has been performing music since 1952. Audiences have followed him from his start at the hungry i and Opus One in North Beach through his 19 years at the Old Spaghetti Factory and on to larger theaters throughout San Francisco. His first translation was the Mozart one act opera BASTIEN AND BASTIEN, performed as part of a longer chamber program in 1968. The program was such a success that the work continued. In 1975 Pippin translated his first full-length opera: Verdi's KING FOR A DAY. Today the repertory includes 38 translations. Donald Pippin has been recognized as the first recipient of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce Business-Arts Awards. His translations have been used by Washington Opera (of the Kennedy Center), San Diego Opera, Philadelphia College of Performing Arts, Julliard, Aspen Music Festival, and the University of Nevada at Las Vegas. In 1984 Western Opera Theater toured a fully staged version of Pippin's translation of LA CENERENTOLA. The Lamplighters commissioned and performed Pippin's Adaptation of Offenbach's LA BELLE HELENE in 1983, and Lehar's THE MERRY WIDOW to critical and popular acclaim in 1986.

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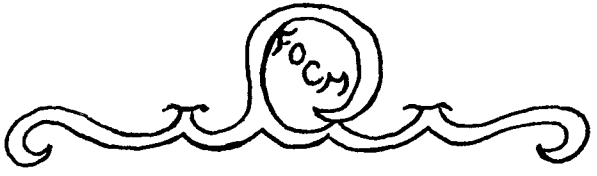
DINO DI DONATO, General Manager, started with the Pocket Opera in October of 1982. Dino moved into arts administration after a career in education as an English teacher and student personnel administrator. Before Pocket Opera, Dino had served as General Manager and Management Consultant to San Diego Ballet, One Act Theater of San Francisco, Theatre Flamenco of San Francisco, Snake Theatre, Berkeley Shakespeare Festival and San Francisco Band Foundation.

ANTHONY CLARVOE, Development Director, is a native San Franciscan who joined Pocket Opera in 1985. He graduated from Princeton University, has acted in New York and writes plays in Berkeley, where he lives with his wife, the poet Jennifer S. Clarvoe.

WILLIAM SAETRE, Production Administrator and tenor, is a native of Warren Minnesota. He holds a Master of Music from the San Francisco Conservatory and attended St. Olaf College where he was solist in the St. Olaf choir. His numerous roles include Dr. Blind in DIE FLEIDERMAUS, Goro in MADAMA BUTTERFLY, The Maestro in THE IMPRESSARIO, the Witch in HANSEL & GRETEL, and the title role in ALBERT HERRING. With Pocket Opera, Mr. Saetre has appeared as Compo Tasso in THE BANDITS, Beppo in FRA DIAVOLO, and Prince Casimir in THE PRINCESS OF TREBIZONDE and will debut in the role of Menelaus in LA BELLE HELENE with Pocket Opera.

JOHN J. RUSSO, Company Manager, began his career in theater at age five. Born and raised in New York City, he appeared in Off-Off-Broadway, community and civic theater productions there, and served as director, producer, publicist, and graphic artist for many groups in New York before joining Pocket Opera this fall.

DIANA DORMAN, Orchestra Contractor, is principal clarinetist for Pocket Opera, Lamplighters, Berkeley Symphony and Oakland Opera, and has performed with San Francisco Opera, Oakland Ballet, and the Cabrillo Festival. Together with Pocket Opera regulars Ellen Kerrigan (soprano) and Baker Peeples (Piano), Ms. Dorman has performed recitals for the Berkeley Symphony, Old First Concerts, Santa Rosa Junior College, and the American Victorian Museum in Nevada City.



ABOUT POCKET OPERA

"With a handful of excellent singers, the tiny but stalwart Pocket Philharmonic and Pippin's trenchant commentaries, Pocket Opera has become the hallmark for intimate, sparkling performances."
Kate Regan, S.F. Chronicle

Pocket Opera, San Francisco's alternative opera company, can be described as "audience friendly." Pocket Opera's talented singers and Pocket Philharmonic--5 to 10 players--are led through lively, informal, entertaining productions by the company's creator and Music Director, Donald Pippin. Performances are staged, concert ensembles narrated and performed in English versions by Donald Pippin, who also provides the reorchestrations for the Pocket Philharmonic. The audience experiences the full operatic work on an intimate, intelligible scale unique to Pocket Opera.

Prompted by the tremendous success of Donald Pippin's first opera performances in North Beach, members of the audience organized and incorporated Pocket Opera as a non-profit corporation in 1977. The crowds had grown so large that Pocket Opera was forced to move to larger quarters. The Company began its wanderings around San Francisco, sharing space with theatre productions. Since that time, Pocket Opera has performed resident seasons in every mid-sized theatre in San Francisco. Pocket Opera also performs on tour throughout California, and recently began travelling out of the state as well, to Washington and Michigan.

Donald Pippin's translations and reorchestrations have won the praises of critics, audiences and singers and have been performed by companies throughout the United States. Pocket Opera is broadcast over KQED/FM in the Bay Area. Pocket Opera singers appear as soloists with San Francisco Opera, New York City Opera, Chicago Lyric Boston Opera, Western Opera Theatre, Santa Fe Opera and symphonies throughout the United States and Europe. Members of the Pocket Philharmonic play with every major orchestra in the Bay Area.

Pocket Opera is a showcase for seasoned concert or opera performers, a company consisting of some of the most talented musical artists living in a region blessed with a depth of such talent. The enthusiasm of this company inevitably spills over the footlights to the audience, creating an infectious warmth which is long remembered by all participants.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON POCKET OPERA PLEASE CALL OR WRITE:

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