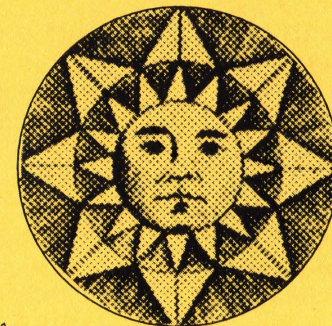
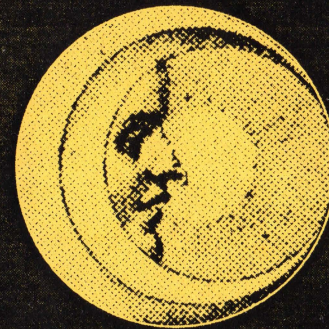


A Midwinter Celebration



Welcome
Yuletide

FEATURING:

➤ MUSIC, DANCE, SONGS & STORIES ➤

December 13th, 14th & 15th 1996

The Shea Theatre
71 AVENUE A TURNERS FALLS

☞☞ PERFORMERS ☞☞

Chorus

Montserrat Archbald
Dominic Baird
Big Bart Bales
Erin Berard
Rick Bingham
Joan Deeley
David de la Barre
Louise Doud
Carol Flandreau
Caitlin Flynn

Jan Frazier
Jean Johnson
Ryan Johnson
Jinny Mason
Cindy Mathews
Alan McArdle
Devon McArdle
Fred Momaney
Steve Morgan
Naomi Oberski
J. Lorelle Paul

Julian Proujansky
Renee Schatteman
Rose Sheehan
Liz Smith
Andrea Stover
Olivia Tamzarian
Andrea Tarr
Alicia Walter
H. Martin Wobst
Natalia Wobst

Children

Hattie Love Archbald
Owen Baines
Adrienne Berard
Grace Berard
Susannah Berard

Kendra Bingham
Elizabeth Carlton
Colin de la Barre
Evin de la Barre
Autumn Johnson
Ember Johnson

Rose Regina Lawrence
Laura McDonough
Kelly Morgan
Nora Proujansky
Cody Wallace

Musicians

David de la Barre — Scottish small pipe, whistles, bodhran
Naka Ishii — Fiddle
Brittany Kaplan — Fiddle
Paul Kaplan — Guitar
Rose Sheehan — Melodeon, drum

Juggler Meadow Morris Men

Sam Kelly
Craig Marden

George Naughton
Geoffrey Rogers

Mark Skinder
Jonathan Tauer

☞☞ PRODUCTION STAFF ☞☞

Artistic Director — *Rose Sheehan*

Producers — *Jinny Mason & Alan McArdle*

Music Director — *Bill Venman*

Staging Director — *Jim Ellis*

Stage Manager — *Diana Venman*

Technical Director — *Matt Kimmel*

Set Design — *Mary Decker*

Costumes — *Jeanne Closson*

Light Crew — *John McDowell – Board Operator*
Jacqueline McDowell, David Stokes

Set Construction — *Henry Decker Sr., Henry Decker Jr.,*
Mary Decker & Dotty Decker

Creation Choreography — *Diana Venman*

Puppet Construction — *Mary Decker*

Props — *Andrea Tarr*

Creation Props — *Sally Venman*

Children's Assistants — *Wilma Lawrence & John Berard*

Child Care — *Heather Truelove*

Program & Poster Design — *Elizabeth Bonney*



Special Thanks To

Valley Light Opera

Northfield Country Players

University of Massachusetts Fine Arts Center

Hugh Davis

Windsor Castle BORDER Ballet and Fire Brigade

Gerald Stockman

➡ ➡ PART ONE ➡ ➡

*The Song of Creation** – Rose, Lorelle, Dom and Chorus
Story by Rose Sheehan

*Gower Wassail** – Carol F., Lorelle, Liz, Andrea S., Louise,
Dom, David, Martin, Rick, Patricia, Fred
“Wassail” is a salutation to “be whole”

The Moon & The Sun – Children

The Shortest Day – Jim
by Susan Cooper Used with permission of Revels, Inc.

*Yule Log Procession** – Chorus and Musicians
Touch the Yule Log with a holly leaf and make
a wish for the New Year!

The Holly & The Ivy – Chorus

Christmas is Coming – Children

Porcupine and the Sky Mirrors – Steve & Children
Siberian Folk Tale

Come and I will Sing You – Rose, Steve, the Musicians
and Chorus (Words included. Turn the page!)

The Wren – Children
Wrenning, an Irish tradition, is a remnant of ritual involving
the sacrifice of a King, the wren being King of the birds.

The Wren Boys – Steve, Musicians and Chorus
(Words included. Turn the page!)

Mummer's Play – Jill-of-All-Trades: Joan, Father Time: Alan,
Happy Daze: Renee, D.S. Knight: Bart, Sonny Boy: Paul,
Clare de Loony: Erin
Written by Jim Ellis

Gloucestershire Wassail – Chorus
Traditional, new refrain*
In this wassail, we toast a succession of horses and cows

INTERMISSION

➡ ➡ PART TWO ➡ ➡

Boys & Girls Come Out to Play – Andrea T.

The Sun it Rises – The Children

Lullay My Liking – Jan & Chorus
15th Century Lullaby Carol Music by Gustav Holst

Scottish Smallpipe Tune Medley – David

Personent Hodie – Chorus

Es Ist Ein Ros – Chorus
15th Century German Carol
English Words by Ursula Vaughan Williams
Arranged by Michael Praetorius

Dark the Night – Chorus
Welsh Carol Translation by the Rev. W. Lloyd
Melody by Canon Owen Jones Harmonized by Dr. Caradog Roberts

The Abbots Bromley Horn Dance – Juggler Meadow
Morris Men and Naka

*The Cutty Wren** – Liz, Rose, Steve, Andrea S., Dom

Golden Apples of the Sun – Lorelle
Words by W.B. Yeats

The Sun's Daughter & The Garden of the Rose – Rose
Story by Rose Sheehan

Come, The Golden Sun is Shining – Chorus
Music by J.S. Bach

*Lord of the Dance** – Rick, Louise & Chorus
Words by Sydney Carter Music is Traditional Shaker
(Words included. Turn the page!)

*The King** – Chorus
From Wales, a final wrenning song

➡ ➡ THE END ➡ ➡

* Arrangement by Thomas W. Hutcheson

Come and I Will Sing You

Come and I will sing you.

What shall I sing you?

I will sing you one alone.

What shall be the one alone?

One is one and one alone.

Come to me dilly come dally come dilly alone
and ever more shall be so.

Two are the Chrissymas babes in green

Three are the three that's in Bethlea

Four the carollers at the door

Five are the oxen standing by

Six the six that never did mix

Seven the shiners up in the sky

Eight of them are the filly-shine white

Nine of them's Aunt Mary Ann

Ten are the ten command-i-ments

'Leven the eleven all gone to heaven

Twelve the followers all in a row

The Wren Boys

Hurrah, me boys, hurrah! Hurrah me boys, hurrah!

Knock at the knocker and ring at the bell.

What will you give us for singing so well?

Singing so well, singing so well.

Give us a copper for singing so well.

Lord Of The Dance

Dance, dance wherever you may be

For I am the Lord of the Dance said he

And I'll lead you all wherever you may be

I will lead you all in the dance said he.

What is “Welcome Yule, a Midwinter Celebration”?

The meaning of solstice is “sun stands still”. Midwinter is our standing still place, a place to breathe in before we cross the threshold from the faded light of our old year into the hope and promise of new light and new life. It is a transition point of darkness on the wheel of life and light.

The fast pace of our technological culture, the constant presence of artificial light and other “man-made miracles” hold us separate from the natural rhythms and cycles of creation. They deny us our moment of darkness, our moment to catch our breath. We are in danger of suffocation, of slipping off the wheel of life.

Welcome Yule! is a celebration by cast and audience together of the midwinter threshold. It is our opportunity to share in the increasingly infrequent live, human transmission of song, music, story and dance. It is our handhold with one another before entering the darkness with its’ prospect of the light to follow.

This year we present the images of our greatest natural luminaries, the sun and the moon as symbols of hope and guidance. We do not stand still between the sun and the moon but move back and forth, breathing in and out, from day to night to day again, from month to month, season to season, year to year.

In the words of D.H. Lawrence:

“The sun, I tell you, is alive, and more alive than I am, or a tree is. It may have blazing gas, as I have hair and a tree has leaves. But I tell you it is the Holy Ghost in full raiment, shaking and walking, and alive as a tiger is, only more so, in the sky.”

As always, this year and every year, Welcome, Yule!