

A MIDWINTER CELEBRATION

# Welcome YULE

FEATURING:  
Music, Dance, Songs  
& Stories

TO DRIVE THE DARK AWAY AND  
WELCOME THE NEW LIGHT

December  
11th, 12th & 13th 1998

The Shea Theatre

71 AVENUE A TURNERS FALLS

## PERFORMERS

### — Chorus —

Charles Adams	Thomas W. Hutcheson	Naomi Oberski
Montserrat Archbald	Barbara Kasper	Carol Pike
Dominic Baird	Saralinda Lobrose	Renee Schatteman
Erin Berard	J.P. Mason	Lew Scott
James Brower	Cindy Mathews	Rose Sheehan
Louise Doud	Alan McArdle	Elizabeth Smith
Carol Flandreau	Alice McGowan	Andrea Stover
Paul Flandreau	Leah McGowan	Bill Venman
Jan Frazier	Fred Momaney	Martin Wobst
Margaret A. Green	Steve Morgan	Natalia Wobst

### — Children —

Hattie Love Archbald	Evlin de la Barre	Christopher Momaney
Adrienne Berard	Rose Regina Lawrence	Patrick Momaney
Grace Berard	Jolie Lobrose	Kelly Morgan
Susannah Berard	Laura McDonough	Nora Proujansky
Colin de la Barre	Emma McGowan	Cody Wallace
	Victoria Roberts-Wierzbowski	

### — Orchestra —

David de la Barre — *bodhran*  
 Patricia Devine — *flute, recorder*  
 Thomas W. Hutcheson — *violin*  
 Brittany Kaplan — *violin*  
 Paul Kaplan — *cuatro, guitar, recorder*  
 Leah McGowan — *violin*  
 Kelly Morgan — *flute*

### — Juggler Meadow Morris Men —

Craig Marden   David Nixon   Nat Case   Geoffrey Rogers   Jonathan Tauer

## PRODUCTION STAFF

<i>Artistic Director</i>	Rose Sheehan
<i>Music Director</i>	Bill Venman
<i>Stage Director</i>	Rose Sheehan
<i>Technical Director</i>	Steve Morgan
<i>Assistant Music Director</i>	Thomas W. Hutcheson
<i>Stage Manager</i>	Janet Mankowsky
<i>Business Managers</i>	J.P. Mason, Alan McArdle
<i>Stage Consultant</i>	Diana Venman
<i>Children's Assistants</i>	Wilma Lawrence and Saralinda Lobrose
<i>Set Design</i>	Linda Stark
<i>Set and Light Crew</i>	Steve Morgan, Dominic Baird, Janet Mankowsky, Linda Stark, Susan Urquhart
<i>Light Board Operator</i>	Skip Smith
<i>Costume Coordinator</i>	J.P. Mason
<i>Props</i>	Devon McArdle
<i>Costume and Prop Construction</i>	J.P. Mason
<i>Child Care</i>	Heather Truelove
<i>Program &amp; Poster Design</i>	Elizabeth Bonney

*Co-Produced by the Company and the Shea Theater*



### Special Thanks To

Valley Light Opera  
 Amherst Regional Middle School  
 Hampshire Shakespeare Company  
 The Hartsbrook School  
 Smith College Campus School  
 Bay State Perennial Farm  
 Marge Bruchac  
 Hugh Davis

## ≡ PART ONE ≡

**The Norse Creation Story\*:** Rose

**Masters in this Hall:** Chorus  
*Words, William Morris; Arrangement, Jerome Epstein*

**The Shortest Day:** Carol F.  
*Written by Susan Cooper; used with permission of Revels, Inc.*

**The Yule Log Processional\*\*:** Chorus  
(Words included. Turn the page!)

**Blessing Be on this House:** Barbara  
*Written by Arthur Guiterman*

**The Holly and the Ivy\*\*:** Jan, Chorus  
(Words included. Turn the page!)

**As I Sat on a Sunny Bank:** Children

**Malpas Wassail:** Steve, Rose, Thomas  
*From the singing of Lou Killen*

**The Making of Thor's Hammer\*:** Steve

**There Was a Pig:** Children

**The Boar's Head Carol\*\*:** Charles, Chorus

**Jolly Old Hawk\*\*:** Chorus

**Mummers' Play:** Wotan – Fred, Low Key – Renee, Thor – Alan,  
Cig-Freed – Dominic, Fafnir – J.P., Bruin Hilda – Elizabeth  
*Written by Jim Ellis*

**Gloucestershire Wassail:** Chorus  
Traditional English, new refrain\*\*

## INTERMISSION

## ≡ PART TWO ≡

**Oaken Leaves:** Women

**While Shepherds Watched\*\*:** Chorus

**With a Lantern in the Hand:** Children

**Death of Baldur\*:** Rose

**World Unknown:** Chorus  
*Words, Chas. Wesley; Music, H.S. Reese/S.M. Denson*

**Cutty Wren\*\*:** Elizabeth, Rose, Steve, Andrea, Dominic

**Abbot's Bromley Horn Dance:** Juggler Meadow Morris Men  
and Chorus

**Ragnarok, the Twilight of the Gods\*:** Odin – Steve, Haid – Rose

**New Jerusalem:** Chorus  
*Words, Isaac Watts; Music, Jeremiah Ingalls*

**The Lord of the Dance\*\*:** Fred, Chorus  
*Words, Sydney Carter; Music, Shaker melody*  
(Words included. Turn the page!)

**Gower Wassail\*\*:** Chorus

## ≡ THE END ≡

*All songs traditional, except as noted.*

*\* adapted from combined sources including: "Balder Dead" by Matthew Arnold;  
The Children of Odin by Padraic Colum; Myths of the Norsemen by Roger Lancelyn  
Green; Teutonic Myths and Legends by Donald A Mackenzie; Valhalla, the Myths of  
Norseland by Julia Clinton Jones*

*\*\*Arrangement by Thomas W. Hutcheson*



## The Yule Log Processional

God bless the master of this house  
and all that are there in-a,  
And to begin to Welcome, Yule!  
with mirth now let us sing-a!

Chorus: With hal-and-toe, sing merry-o,  
with hal-and-to sing merry!  
With hal-and-toe, sing merry-o,  
with hal-and-to sing merry!

Come bring with a noise my merry,  
merry boys the Christmas log to the firing,  
While my good dame bids you be free and  
drink to your hearts' desiring!

Chorus

So now is come our joyful feast,  
let everyone be jolly,  
Each room with ivy leaves is dressed  
and every post with holly!

Chorus

## The Holly and the Ivy (Chorus)

Oh the rising of the sun,  
the running of the deer,  
The playing of the merry organ,  
sweet singing all in the choir.

## The Lord of the Dance (Chorus)

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.

From the Artistic Director . . .

On behalf of the cast and crew of Welcome Yule!, I extend a warm welcome to our celebration. We've prepared an exciting program with several new pieces arranged by Assistant Music Director and Orchestra Leader Thomas W. Hutcheson. As always, there is a blend of jovial wassails, glorious carols, and of course, the Yule Log Procession, when each of you is invited to touch the Yule log with your holly and make a wish for the new year.

This year we draw from the ancient well of Norse Mythology. The stories of The Norse Creation, the Death of Baldur, and Ragnarok, the Twilight of the Gods vividly portray the universal cycle of creation, destruction and regeneration. The Making of Thor's Hammer brings out a light moment in the saga of the gods while the Mummers' Play, artfully penned by Jim Ellis, delightfully spoofs Wagner's Ring Cycle.

Two of the Norse stories have been paired with songs from the Sacred Harp tradition. The anguish experienced by the Death of Baldur is amplified by the apprehension of the World Unknown. Likewise, the promise of a new and better world to come as expressed in Ragnarok is joyously echoed in the fervent refrains of New Jerusalem.

Combining Norse story with British and American traditional music has been gratifying work. I hope you enjoy the blend. And whether you're a newcomer to our festivities, or a returning celebrant, our message remains:

"Here, now, this year and every year, Welcome, Yule!"



## 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.

*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 hand-hold with one another before entering the darkness with its' prospect of the light to follow. It is our wish that you will leave our celebration with your inner light burning brightly for another New Year

WASSAIL!