

Welcome Yule

A midwinter celebration



December 11th, 12th and 13th, 2015

Shea Theater

Turners Falls, Massachusetts





PERFORMERS

CHORUS

Hattie Archbald	Fred Momaney
Montserrat Archbald	Loril Moondream
Alden Booth	David Nixon
Larkin Christie	Jed Proujansky
Margaret Christie	Rita Reinke
Joan Deely	Kate Richardson
Elijah Jackson	Andrea Rogers
Rose Jackson	Fiona Rogers
Calla Jones	Geoff Rogers
Clara Kohrman	Rachel Roy
Jim Leviton	Amelia Sawyer
Becca Lipton	Tom Shattuck
Saralinda Lobrose	Ed Smith
Morgan Lobrose	Granger Smith-Massa
Allan MacIntyre	Liz Smith
Alan McArdle	Andrea Tarr
Jinny Mason	Mary Tyner

CHILDREN'S CHORUS

Emile Marti	Ajika Sawyer
Amrita Rutter	Samara Sawyer
Sita Rutter	Hannah Tarr

MUSICIANS

Montserrat Archbald	Alan McArdle
Patty Devine	Allan MacIntyre
Jim Leviton	Dave Nixon
Becca Lipton	Michael Pattavina
Jolianna Lobrose	Geoff Rogers
Morgan Lobrose	Ed Smith

Granger Smith-Massa

DANCERS

Juggler Meadow Morris Men
And Sometime Y
Green River Tap and Die



STAFF



Producers: Alan McArdle, Jinny Mason, Tom Shattuck
Artistic Directors: Joan Deely, Jed Proujansky
Stage Director: Rachel Roy
Choral Director: Bill Venman
Assistant Choral Directors: Kate Richardson, Becca Lipton
Children's Choral Director: Hattie Love Archbald
Instrumental Music Director: Geoff Rogers
Stage Manager: Eaden Marti
Vocal Arrangements: Bill Venman, Thomas W. Hutcheson
Stories: Joan Deely
Puppets: Jinny Mason, Montserrat Archbald
Mummer's Play: Jinny Mason
Mummer's Play Director: Jed Proujansky
Dance Coordinators: Andrea Rogers, Saralinda Lobrose,
Andy Tarr, Ed Smith
Costumers: Marsha Smith, Karro Frost, Jinny Mason, Claudia Lewis
Lighting Design: Rachel Roy
Set Design: Joan Deely, Jed Proujansky
Props: Axel Boy, Cass Mason, Jed Proujansky, Jinny Mason,
Joan Deely, Montserrat Archbald, Sally Venman
Lighting, Set and Stage Crew: Jed Proujansky, Eaden Marti,
Rachel Roy, Tom Shattuck, Joan Deely, John Thompson,
Daniel Black, Benjamin Coan-Nixon
Light Board Operator: Phyllis Stone
Kid Wrangler: Claudia Lewis
Poster Illustration: Karen Gaudette
Program Layout: Joan Deely
Concessions: Marie Momaney, Kady Black
Publicity: Jinny Mason

*Produced by Welcome Yule, Inc.
& The Shea Theater*

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Act I



In the Harbor

Haul Away, Joe: Crew

Traditional sea shanty. These call and response songs accompanied the rigorous work performed on board packets, clipper ships & fishing vessels.

Land Beside the Sea: Chorus

Traditional Breton tune, words by Susan Cooper

Haul, Boys, Haul: Crew

When their work was done sailors swapped fo'c'sle songs which were often accompanied by concertinas or fiddles.

I Saw Three Ships Come Sailing In: Children's Chorus

A traditional and popular Christmas carol from England. The earliest printed version dates back to the 17th century.

In the Tavern

Furry Day: Chorus

A traditional English wassailing carol, and a long-time favorite of Welcome Yule. We invite you to join in the chorus—words included.

Dance: Company

An English country dance called Newcastle. The tune is from John Playford's 1653 "The English Dancing Master," reconstructed by Cecil Sharpe.

Story: Fred

The meaning of the name of our trusty fishing vessel explained with a retelling of the myth of Cyex and Halcyon.

Daunse Noo George (Saint George's Dance): Rose, Elijah, Larkin, Calla, Morgan

A jig traditionally performed at Christmastide on the Isle of Man. St. George brings good luck and prosperity to all who see him dance.

The Praise of Christmas: Chorus

An 18th-century carol. The tune appeared in John Playford's "The English Dancing Master" in 1653.

The Shortest Day: Andy and Ed

A poem written by Susan Cooper and used with permission of Revels, Inc. Please join us in calling "Welcome, Yule!" at the end.

Apple Tree Wassail: Ed, Jinny, Joan, Liz, Hattie, Amelia, Jim, Alan, Tom

Traditional English carol extolling the marvelous attributes of apple trees. Additional lyrics by Ed Smith

Can Dilly: Montserrat, Hattie, Becca, Clara, Calla, Larkin, Rose, Fiona and children
A Cornish counting song.



Cape Cod Girls: Chorus

A shanty derived from "South Australia," it's one of many poking gentle fun at sailors from various ports. It was usually sung while working the capstan or the anchor.

Mummer's Play: Larkin, Loril, Margaret, Alan, Elijah, Joan, Jinny, Granger, Ed, Rita

A venerable midwinter custom that reenacts the battle of St. George and the dragon, accompanied by stock characters and a measure of tomfoolery.

Gloucestershire Wassail: Chorus

Another annual favorite in which we toast cows, horses, maids and butlers. Join us for the refrain. Words included!



Intermission



Act II



Cauld Blows the Wind: Chorus

Words by Robert Burns, Music by Sheena Phillips

Story: Saralinda, Alden, Morgan

We learn about the legendary Blue Men of the Minch and the brave sailor who beat them at their own game.

Mingulay Boat Song: Chorus

Sir Hugh S. Robertson. Composed in the 1930's in the style of Hebridean work songs, the lyrics were set to a traditional Gaelic tune. The remote Scottish island of Mingulay, once home to fishermen and farmers, was abandoned in the early 1900's.

Abbots Bromley Horn Dance:

An ancient ritual dance first chronicled in Staffordshire, England over 600 years ago. It is performed for us every year by Juggler Meadow Morris Men.

Animal's Yule: Children

Hilda Marshal, 1988. choral arrangement by Ijod Schroeder.
Our animal friends guide us through the darkest nights of the year.

Molly Dance: Fred, Granger, Jinny, Morgan, Liz, Elijah, Saralinda

During the lean days of deep midwinter, farm laborers donned disguises and went door to door, dancing in hope of receiving food, drink and coin. A stingy host might find their dooryard marked by the furrows of the dancers' plow.

Dean Younk A Gernow: Patty

Traditional tune from Cornwall, England

Sword Dance: Andrea, Geoff, Rose, Ed, Dave, Saralinda,
The dance is called Sleights, and is performed to "Morpeth Lassies" and "Bobby Shaftoe"

St. Patrick's Breastplate: Liz, Rose, Becca, Andrea, Rita, Saralinda, Loril, Alden, Tom, Chorus

An Irish melody adapted by Charles Villiers Stanford. A popular hymn in many denominations, pre-Christian influences inform invocation of the protection of the *lorica* (shield or breastplate).

Copper Family Christmas: Chorus

A tune collected and sung by the legendary Copper family of Sussex, England. The lyrics are derived from a poem written in the 1700's by Thomas Brerewood of Horton, Cheshire.

Wexford: Geoff, Andrea, Kate, Becca, Rachel, Andy, Dave, Alden, Tom

One of the oldest Irish carols, this one dates back to the 12th century.

New Jerusalem: Chorus

Jeremiah Ingalls; additional lyrics by Montserrat Archbald.

A fuguing tune in the shape note tradition, written over 200 years ago.

The King: Chorus

We cannot go a year without singing this Welsh ode to the wren, the King of all the birds, in celebration of the ancient custom of wrenning..

Lord of the Dance: Reprise

Please join the cast as we sing the chorus of this song. Words are in the program.



Much of the music in the show was arranged by or adapted from arrangements by Bill Venman and Thomas W. Hutcheson

All songs traditional except as noted

www.welcomeyule.org



WORDS TO THE SONGS

Join us for the chorus!



FURRY DAY CAROL (Chorus)

With hal and toe, sing merry-o,

With hal and toe sing merry!

With hal and toe sing merry-o,

With hal and toe sing merry!

CAPE COD GIRLS (Chorus)

Heave away my bully, bully boys,

Heave away, haul away!

Heave a way and don't you make a noise,

And we're bound for Australia!



GLOUCESTERSHIRE WASSAIL (Chorus)

Drink to thee! Drink to thee!

With a wassailing bowl we'll drink to thee!

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

And I'll lead you all in the dance said he.





NOTES from the ARTISTIC DIRECTORS



We started thinking about a theme for this year's show last January. We have always been drawn to the stories of people who depend on the capricious ocean for their livelihood. Additional inspiration came after a trip to Mystic Seaport to attend a shanty sing. We were drawn to the music, the risk and the rich symbolism of the sea-faring life. Every voyage out to sea is full of both promise and peril, an opportunity to bring home a bounty of fish, the potential for sorrow and grief.

As the winter solstice draws near, our mythical Yuletide villagers await the return of the fishing ship *Halcyon*. Crew members are eager to reach the safety of their harbor, share the bounty of their labors, and celebrate mid-winter with family and friends. Village festivities are all the merrier now that all are safely home, swapping tales and sharing dances, singing and feasting secure in the warmth of their community.

We are grateful to have a community of musicians, dancers and singers to help bring our ideas to life. We hope you enjoy the results of our collaborations, and we wish you a warm and peaceful winter.

About the Stories

While searching for tales that combine themes of the ocean and the winter solstice, we came across the Greek myth of Halcyon. We worked the themes of death and rebirth into the show, and also learned about the origin of the term "halcyon days".

Tales about the Blue Men of the Minch are among the many Hebridean myths and legends from isolated small islands off the west coast of Scotland. For centuries these remote communities have drawn sustenance from the "...is a harsh and unforgiving mistress that can turn cruel without warning."

Wassail!

Joan and Jed