

MARY MISON

INVERNESS OPERA COMPANY

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John C. Shaw

Dorothy Macarish
Lily Males
Evan H. Cartwright

Michael
Sheila B. Hall
Marian Walker
James J. Gordon



Original Book and Lyrics by Victor Leon and Leo Stein
New Book and Lyrics by Phil Park

Music adopted and arranged by Ronald Hammer

Reda Morrison

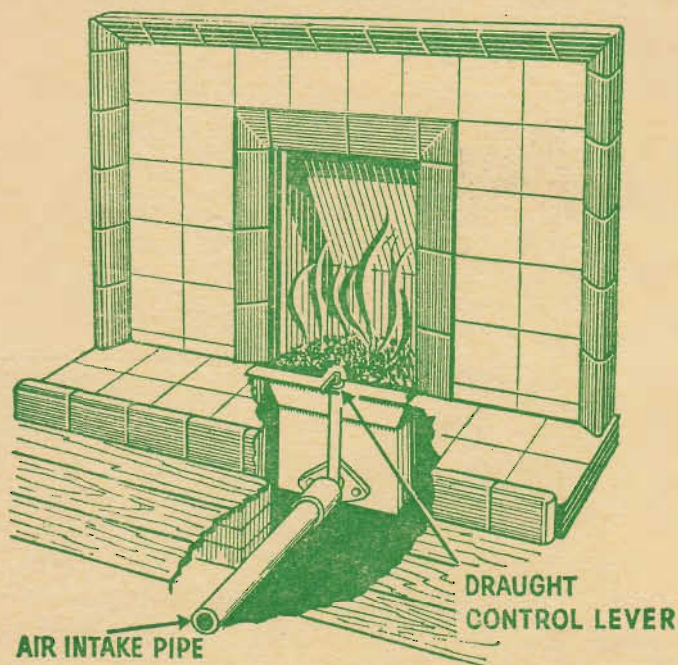
Jack Pithblado

THE MERRY WIDOW
Music by FRANZ LEHAR

EMPIRE THEATRE, Inverness

TUESDAY to SATURDAY, 15th to 19th March, 1960

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Inverness Opera Company



(An Amateur Company, affiliated to the National Operatic
and Dramatic Association)

Honorary President: Mrs J. M. GRIGOR

Chairman: ANDREW NEWLANDS

Treasurer: HAROLD MISON

Secretary: RACHEL ELLIOTT, Eileanach, 2 Island Bank Road, Inverness

Committee—

W. Law, M. McIlwraith, H. McVinish, Mary Mison, Lizbeth Davis,
Johanna Riach. *Ex-officio*—James McAdam, Maureen McIlwraith

The Producer:
MAUREEN McILWRAITH

The Musical Director:
JAMES McADAM, B.Mus., F.R.C.O.

Dancing:
Mrs J. F. GRANT

Assistant Musical Director:
MARGARET McKENZIE, L.T.C.L.

Accompanist: RENA THOMSON

Stage Manager—Marshall Taylor

Costume Designer and Wardrobe Supervision—Mary Mison

Assistants to Wardrobe—Mrs B. Currie, Mrs A. Davis, Mrs B.
McLennan, Mrs A. Macdonald, Mrs M. E. Mackenzie

Electrician—Clifford Ward

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Hon. President's Remarks

The Inverness Opera Company in staging Franz Lehar's "Merry Widow" present their most ambitious production since the Company was reconstituted three years ago. You enjoyed "The Maid of the Mountains" and then last year "The Gipsy Baron" and we are certain you won't be disappointed this year.

This enterprising Company have spared neither time nor effort in presenting this production. It has meant months of hard team work both from Committee and Members, scenery and costumes all being their own work. Surely such a very enterprising Company deserve the support of the public. We cannot all sing, but we can give our support by becoming Associate Members. Please do. Your support can be of real importance to the future prosperity and expansion of the Company. Particulars of Membership can be found elsewhere in this programme.

It is our hope that everyone will enjoy a pleasant evening's entertainment.

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Characters

Anna (Madame Glavari), The Merry Widow	DOROTHY MACTAVISH
Danilo (Count Danilovitsch), Attaché at the Pontevedrian Embassy in Paris	MICHAEL McILWRAITH
Baron Zeta, Pontevedrian Ambassador in Paris	WILLIAM LAW
Valencienne, the Ambassador's wife	SHEILA McNAB
Camille (Count de Rosillon)	IAN McNAB
Njegus, Baron Zeta's Factotum	DAVID PROUDFOOT
St Brioche } Cascada } Diplomatic Guests at the Embassy	{ HECTOR McVINISH SCOTT DON
Kromov, an Attaché	ARCHIBALD SOLOMON
Olga, wife of Kromov	JANET McINNES
Bogdanovitsch } Pritsch } Attachés	{ TONY BIERNAT ANDREW NEWLANDS
Sylvia } Praskovia } Lady Guests at the Embassy	{ RITA YATES MARY MISON
Lolo } Dodo } Jou-Jou } Frou-Frou } Clo-Clo } Margot } Grisettes at Maxim's	{ CATHERINE FRASER JESSIE SMITH NANCY HENDERSON JEAN SUTHERLAND JUNE SCRIMGEOUR MAY ROBERTSON

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Ladies—Patricia Coyle, Lizbeth Davis, Rachel Elliott, Pearl Fraser, Judy Hawkins, Fiona Macdonald, Irene MacLean, Helen McPhee, Mary Macrae, Eleanor McVinish, Joan Marshall, Marjorie Marshall, Florence Matheson, Louise Munro, Marjorie Ness, Pat Pringle, Johanna Riach, Flora Ross, Nita Simpson, Anel Walton

Gentlemen—Evan Cattanach, Duncan Chisholm, Dennis Curran, Alistair Ferguson, James Gordon, Charles Lewis, Harold Mison, William Moonie, Roderick Morrison, Jack Pitblado, Archibald Russell, John Shaw, Alistair Walker

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Scenes

Act I—A Salon in the Pontevedrian Embassy in Paris

Act II—The Gardens of Madame Glavari's Residence—
Early the following evening

Act III—Another part of the Gardens—à la Maxim's—
Later that night

Period—The turn of the century

“ THE MERRY WIDOW ”

The scene is Paris at the turn of the century and the guests at a ball in the Pontevedrian Embassy are eagerly awaiting the arrival of Anna Glavari who, after a married life of only five days, has inherited twenty millions from her late husband, the Court Banker.

The Ambassador, Baron Zeta, has instructions to ensure that, should Anna remarry, it must be to a Pontevedrian, as otherwise the country will go bankrupt. He reckons Count Danilo Danilovitsch the most likely candidate, not knowing that Danilo has already had a love affair with Anna terminated by his aristocratic family because of her poverty and peasant birth.

Meanwhile, Zeta's wife, Valencienne, decides to end her affair with Camille de Rossillon when she finds he has written “ I love you ” on her fan. She protests that she is “ a highly respectable wife ” and, when Anna appears, persuades Camille to become one of the Widow's many suitors.

Danilo arrives from Maxim's, his favourite night club, meets Anna, and their old love revives. However, Danilo will not court her because of her money, although he willingly agrees to prevent her marriage to a non-Pontevedrian. Zeta fears that Camille is the most dangerous foreign suitor and, having found Valencienne's fan with the inscription in Camille's handwriting, tells Danilo to trace the owner.

At Anna's garden party the following evening Danilo uncovers several intrigues without discovering the identity of Camille's lady-love. This discovery is made by Zeta when, having learned that the lovers are closeted in a garden pavilion, he peers through the keyhole and recognises his own wife.

His horror is changed to suspicion and stupefaction when Anna, who has changed places with Valencienne through a back door, appears from the pavilion with Camille and announces their engagement. This infuriates Danilo who leaves to seek consolation at Maxim's.

Of course, Anna and Danilo come together in the end and Zeta is assured of Valencienne's faithfulness . . . but just how this is achieved Anna and Valencienne can best tell you.

Orchestra

1st Violin: Mr F. Grant (Leader), Mr J. Stuart, Mr A. Gillies,
Mr L. Hamilton

2nd Violin: Mrs E. Findlay, Mr H. Goldsmith, Miss B. Busby

Viola: Mr G. Strachan, Mr C. Allan

'Cello: Mr C. Turner, Mr I. Macdougall

Double Bass: Mr G. Salvadori

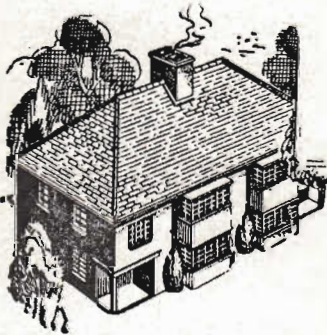
Oboe: Mr J. Currie

Clarinet: Miss D. Brass

Trumpet: Mr A. L. Shaw

Drums: Mr A. Davis

Pianists: Miss R. Thomson and Miss M. McKenzie, L.T.C.L.



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Musical Numbers

Act I

"Pontevedro in Paree"	(Cascada, Zeta and Ensemble)
Melos	(Ballroom Music)
"A Highly Respectable Wife"	(Valencienne and Camille)
"So Many Men Admire Me"	(Anna and Male Ensemble)
Melos	(Ballroom Waltz)
"You'll Find Me At Maxim's"	(Danilo and Ladies)
"It Goes To Show"	(Anna and Danilo)
Finale, Act I	(Principals and Chorus)

Act II

Opening Chorus	
"Vilia"	(Anna and Ensemble)
Reprise	(Chorus)
"Driving In The Park With You"	(Anna and Danilo)
"Women! Women! Women!"	(Danilo, Cascada, St Brioche, Zeta, Kromov, Bogdanovitsch and Pritsch)
Introduction To The Waltz Scene	(Anna and Danilo)
The Waltz Scene	(Anna and Danilo and Ensemble)
Melos	
"Flowers Are Awakened In Maytime"	(Valencienne and Camille)
Finale, Act II	(Principals and Chorus)

Act III

Entr'acte	
Opening Dance	
Melos	
The Grisettes Song	(Valencienne, Grisettes and Ensemble)
Reprise—"You'll Find Me At Maxim's"	(Grisettes and Danilo)
The Merry Widow Waltz	(Anna and Danilo)
Finale, Act III	(Ensemble)
First Curtain Call	
Second Curtain Call	
Play-Out	

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Mr R. M. Forrest	Mr and Mrs A. Mactavish	

Associate Membership—Application should be made to the Secretary. A member will receive two tickets which can be used for any one performance of the Company's next production, priority booking being made. Apart from the early booking facility members are assisting the Company in the presentation of the annual production.

Members also have the right to be present at, and vote at, Annual General Meetings of the Company, which are generally held each year in April. At these meetings the production policy for the ensuing year is usually shaped. The annual subscription for Associate Membership is £1 1s.

Acknowledgments

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The Committee wish to express their appreciation to the Advertisers and all those who have helped in so many ways with the production.

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