

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Red Mask Players presents

Of Mice and Men

March 31, April 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 2000

Danville Light Opera



Auditions

March 5 & 6, 2000

Show

May 5, 6, 7, 2000

DACC - Theatre

Danville Symphony Orchestra

presents

Rome, Romance and Ravel

April 1, 2000



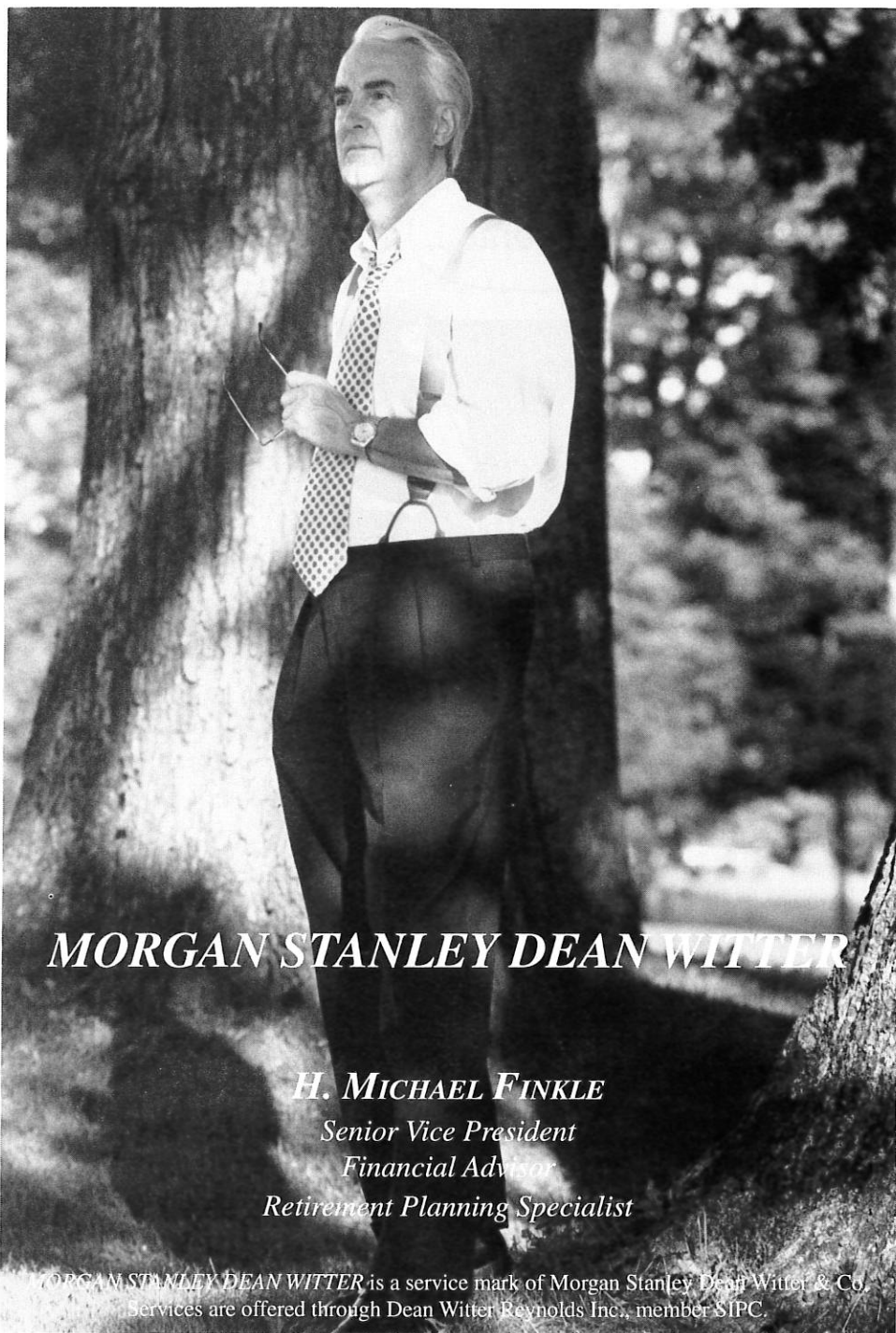
Written by
WALTON JONES

Based on an idea by Walton Jones and Carol Lees, as originally produced by The Ensemble Company and Yale Repertory Theatre and further developed by Arena Stage in Washington, D.C. Broadway production presented by Jujamcyn Productions, Joseph P. Harris, Ira Bernstein and Roger Berlind.

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February 18, 19, 20, 2000
Dinner Theatre - Ramada Inn

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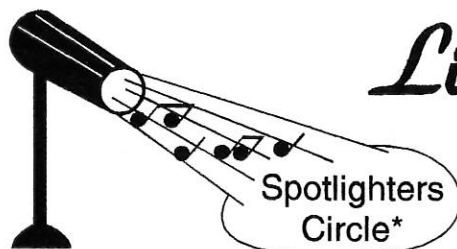
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1940's Radio Hour

CAST

Pops Bailey	Warren Frank
Ginger Brooks	Lori Zellers
Geneva Lee Browne	Carolyn Smith
Johnny Cantone	Mike Puhr
Lou Cohn	Dustin Wells
Ann Collier	Nicole Fink
Clifton A. Feddington	Bob McIntire
Wally Ferguson	Danny Waclaw
B.J. Gibson	Jesse Pierce
Connie Miller	Hayley Boothe
Stanley	Chad Myler
Biff Baker	Garrett Taylor

Danville Light Opera



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THE WOV CAVALCADE OF STARS

Clifton A. Feddington, with his partner, Saul Lebowitz has been producing *The Mutual Manhattan Variety Cavalcade* since its inception six years ago last week. He began at WHK in Cleveland in the much-acclaimed children's program, *Let's have lunch with Mr. Cliff*. Then, on to Philadelphia where local radio audiences tuned in nightly to a community radio theatre group, *The Feddington Players*. In 1935 Mr. Feddington landed a fifteen-minute musical variety show called *Stars in Heaven*. In 1936, Mutual expanded the show to a half-hour and re-named it *The Mutual Half-Hour of Singing Stars*. Just last January, through a deal with New York's WOV Radio, the show became the hour-long *Cavalcade* we love today. Mr. Feddington also is President of *Clifton Records*, which will be into production as soon the ASCAP strike is settled.

Johnny Cantone first excited listeners in his native Brooklyn where he opened the '39 Pro-Am Duckpin Tourney with his version of The Star Spangled Banner. Since then he has sung "The Anthem" at hundreds of sporting events (including his own unsuccessful attempt to unseat the defending welter-weight champ Eldon Dwight). "The Tone" hopes to begin his acting career with his upcoming engagement to read Odets with Harold on Don McNeill's *Breakfast Club* in March. He also hopes to be able to spend more time with his wife, Angel. Soon.

Ginger Brooks moved everything to New York in the fall of 1940. It was only a year until she landed the coveted position of microphone monitor at WACL. She soon left the technical position and became an overnight success as the only singing waitress and stacker at *Romeo's Spaghetti House*, where our stage manager and choreographer, Lou Cohn, discovered her.

Geneva Lee Brown began her show business career at the Cotton Club in *The Hot Chocolates Revue*, and later with Earl "Fatha" Hines. In 1939, she moved to Kansas City where she formed her own jazz quintet, The Kansas City Browne Boys. Since September, she has recorded for *Victor*, *Okey*, and *Vocalion* Records. She has been offered a film short with Louis Armstrong and Ethel Waters, which will feature a song she has written and performed as part of her set with her group nightly at the Onyx Club.

Ann Collier was singing with her sisters in Montclair, New Jersey when she was only seven. When she went away to school, she worked on WJSV's Dr. Pepper Parade. In '35, she returned to her native Montclair and sang with dance bands there where she was discovered by WOV's own Clifton Feddington and swept into New York and into the limelight of his *Cavalcade* where she was "featured vocalist" for three years. She has been with the show for six years now. Ann lives with her four year old son Matthew on the Upper East Side of Manhattan.

B.J. Gibson is the youngest of the singing Gibson brothers, who began their musical careers in New Orleans in 1932 in an act their father named *Three Boys and a Harmonica*. With his brothers "over there", B.J. packed Bobby's harmonica, Buddy's sweater, and his father's arrangements and went up to New Haven where he is a Senior English major at Yale's Branford College. He comes to New York every week though to do the show, keeping up the Gibson tradition. "Welcome aboard, B.J."

Connie Miller comes all the way from Ogden, Utah where she studied tap, ballet, and ballroom at Madame Stephen's Dance Academy. At age ten, she and her mother lived in Los Angeles, and while working as a script girl for Columbia Pictures she kept the crews entertained with her imitations of Shirley Temple and Margaret O'Brien. After not being cast as Robert Young's daughter in *Joe Smith, American*, Connie and her mom came to New York. Now the youngest member of the *Cavalcade*, Connie hopes one day to become a Rockette.

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Biographies



Hayley Boothe (Connie Miller)

Hayley has been hit hard with the show biz bug. She has performed in eleven shows, six of them being for DLO. Hayley is a freshman at Covington High School, where she takes part in the drama club. She would like to thank her drivers: Mom, John, Kathy, and the most humble Mr. Jackson! Hayley is happy to be in a show with such a great cast. She hopes you all enjoy the show.



Nicole Fink (Ann Collier)

Nicole is a senior at Oakwood High School, where she is active in choir. She has also sung in the Vermilion County Music Festival and at the Illinois Music Education Association performances. Nicole is also active in her church, where she is a member of the IMPACT team, which travels and sings in churches throughout the state. This is Nicole's first experience with DLO.



Warren Frank (Pops Bailey)

Warren recently trod the boards for DLO in *Sugar Babies*, but he can't believe it's been six years since he appeared in a singing role. Well, he does say he's getting older, and time flies for old folks. During the last six years he often has "not been seen" behind the scenes running lights, etc. for DLO. Warren would like to thank his wife Ann, and home protecting beagle, PJ, for their love and support.



Maria Hammer (Producer/Stage Manager)

Maria has performed in Danville Light Opera's past two dinner theater productions. This year she decided to be a part of the behind the scenes crew. She is a junior CBA student at the U of I, where last semester she studied theater and directed a play. She currently serves on DLO's Board of Directors and performs in the Murder Mystery productions. Maria sends her love to her family.



Amy Hegg (Drama Director)

1940's Radio Hour is Amy's first directing stint for DLO, but she has been involved with local theater for 23 years. She has directed and/or performed for Red Mask, Gregory's Academy, Oakwood H.S. and church and college productions. Most recently she was in DLO's *Leader of the Pack*. She thanks husband Cliff and also her mother for taking her to her first audition 23 years ago.



Bob McIntire (Clifton A. Feddington)

Bob says he is the only cast member who was alive in the 1940's (just barely!). He last appeared for Danville Light Opera in *Sugar Babies* as "Bob". He has also performed for the Beef House Dinner Theater, the Station Theater, and Red Mask Players. Bob is Vermilion County Public Defender and lives in Danville with his wife Cheryl and daughter Mindy.



Chad Myler (Stanley)

This is Chad's third show for Danville Light Opera. He is excited to be playing Stanley. Chad says he hopes the audience will understand the complexity of the character and he hopes to refine Stanley's subtext for a more three dimensional role. Chad is also currently performing with the area show band "Stood Up".



Jesse Pierce (B.J. Gibson)

Jesse is thrilled to return to the DLO stage. He has previously choreographed, directed and performed in over thirty productions throughout the Midwest. Jesse is currently advisor for the DHS Players, where he recently directed and choreographed *Grease*. He is also working on a degree in music education and choreographs several energetic and award winning show choirs.



Mike Puhr (Johnny Cantone)

This is Mike's fourth show with DLO. Mike is employed by Sunset Memorial Park and is very active in the community, currently serving as chairman of the board for the Danville Housing Authority. Other organizations include the Knights of Columbus, and Sunrise Rotary. He sends his love to his wife Joann and children Chris, Andrea and Andrew.



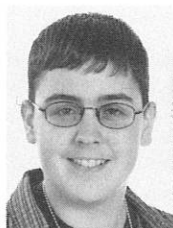
David Schroeder (Music Director)

David has been involved in music in the Danville area all his life. He is active with the Municipal Band and the Danville Symphony, and he directs the parish music program and teaches elementary music at Trinity Lutheran Church. David dedicates this performance to the memory of his mother Sally Schroeder, who was a tremendous influence in his musical career, and to his loving family.



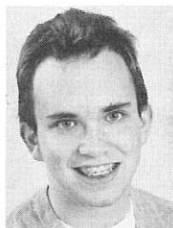
Carolyn Smith (Geneva Lee Browne)

Carolyn is reprising her role as Geneva Lee Browne from DLO's original 1989 hit production of *The 1940's Radio Hour*. She was also part of the original cast of *Juke Box Jamboree* at the Colonel Harmon Mansion. Carolyn also appeared this past summer with the Beef House Dinner Theater in *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*. She is married and the mother of two sons.



Danny Waclaw (Wally Ferguson)

Danny has appeared in several children's theater productions for DLO and Red Mask. He has also participated with the Beef House Dinner Theater. Danny is a student at Covington High School where he takes part in theater and band. He would like to thank all his past directors, his band and choir directors and his family and friends for all their help.



Dustin Wells (Lou Cohn)

Dustin is glad to be back on stage for DLO. He last appeared in the Beef House Dinner Theater production of *Arsenic and Old Lace*. You may also remember Dustin from DLO's *Damn Yankees* and *Leader of the Pack*. He is a sophomore at Catlin High School and an active member of the Catlin Church of Christ. Dustin would like to thank God and his family for their love and support.



Lori Zellers (Ginger Brooks)

Lori is happy to be back on the Danville Light Opera stage in one of her favorite shows, after helping with lights for *Sugar Babies*. Lori has appeared in several other DLO shows, most recently *Damn Yankees*. She is excited about her biggest upcoming role, as a mother, with her first baby due in July. Lori sends love to Barb, Craig, Tanya, Jami and Carol.



This program is funded in part by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency.

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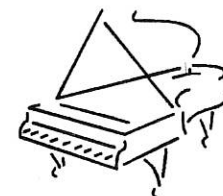
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