



MADogram Editor: Cathy Barth, cathy.barth@comcast.net, 301-446-6300

MADogram

December 2017

Auditions for *Weird Romance*

MAD would like to invite you to its auditions for the musical *Weird Romance* on January 29 and 30 at 7:00 in the building 3 auditorium. Callbacks, if needed, will be Saturday, February 3 at 10:00. Be prepared to sing 32 bars (one verse) a Broadway-style song, preferably not from the show. We'd also prefer you to scan and email the accompaniment in advance to music director Bob Hanisch at rjhanisch@verizon.net so he can be better prepared to accompany you. We'll also have a couple of books of show tunes in case you don't have anything of your own. Auditions will include excerpts from the script. The full script, score, and character descriptions are online at <https://madtheater.org/mem>. Contact director Randy Barth at randy.barth@comcast.net for the password if you don't know it. You can hear the songs by searching on YouTube. While not a dance-heavy show, we will do a short movement audition, so dress accordingly.

The original production of *Weird Romance* utilized a cast of nine actors, many of whom played multiple roles between both acts. In this production, casting is flexible and the original tracks utilized for doubling of roles may not be preserved. Some actors may be cast in multiple roles and in both acts, while some may be cast in only one act of the production. If you have a preference to be considered for a larger or smaller role based on your rehearsal availability, please feel free to state this in your audition. Parts vary considerably in movement, singing, and acting demands and can accommodate a wide range of ages, so we encourage everyone to audition.

Rehearsals will begin late February, three to four nights a week, Monday–Thursdays. Show dates are Fridays and Saturdays evenings and Sunday matinees from May 4 through 19, eight performances. Please be prepared at auditions to note rehearsal or performance conflicts. If you want to audition and cannot make the above dates (or have any other questions), contact Randy to arrange an early audition.

For those of you unfamiliar with the show, *Weird Romance* is two one-act musicals containing a curious mix of a science fiction framework around traditional themes—the generation gap, a love triangle and the archetypal conflict between those who have power and those who have none. The first, "The Girl Who Was Plugged In," is about a homeless bag-lady whose soul is transplanted into the body of a gorgeous female android by a company which manufactures celebrities. The second, "Her Pilgrim Soul," is about a scientist who researches holographic imaging. One day a mysterious "living" holograph, apparently a woman long dead, appears

and changes his life forever. Read more at:

<http://stageagent.com/shows/musical/2036/weird-romance#ixzz52U4yiCoq>

ATTENTION DRUMMERS: We are currently seeking a percussionist to be a part of the combo. Contact Randy.Barth@comcast.net if you are interested.

MAD Board News – Election Results

Below are the results of MAD's annual election, which was held on December 13. Welcome to our newest Board members for 2018, Tiffany Hoerbelt and Michael Silber, and a big thank you for your dedication and hard work to outgoing Board members Kevin Buter and Marie Nearing. Your service has been greatly appreciated. If anyone has thoughts, suggestions, questions or concerns that you want to bring to our attention, please feel free to contact any member of the MAD Board.

2018 Executive Council:

President:	Kim Weaver
Vice President:	Eliot Malumuth
Treasurer:	David Buckingham
Secretary:	Christine Smit
Property Manager:	Linda Pattison

2018 Advisory Coordinators and Functional Managers:

Dance Coordinator:	Trisha Randazzo
Drama Coordinator:	Tiffany Hoerbelt
Music Coordinator:	Christine Nolan Essig
Technical Coordinator:	Michael Silber
Immediate Past President:	Kathy Fontaine
Historian:	Rachel Pino-Elliott
Publicity Coordinator:	Katrina Jackson
Social Media Coordinator:	Katrina Jackson
Offsite Coordinator:	Bill Struthers
MADirectory Coordinator:	Randy Barth
MADogram Editor:	Cathy Barth
MAD Web Curator:	Randy Barth

MAD Holiday Chorus Report

The MAD Holiday Chorus, under the direction of Christine Wells, accompanied by Susan Breon and produced by Kathy Nieman, performed a concert in the newly renovated Building 3 auditorium on Monday, December 18. Special accompaniment was provided by John McCloskey and Rob Gersten. The GSFC Child Development Center classes also performed at the start of the concert. \$486 was collected and a request submitted to the MAD Board for a donation to Children's Hospital. The twenty-member chorus also sang at the Maryland Space

Business Roundtable luncheon, Morningside House in Laurel and Arbor Terrace in Greenbelt to very appreciative audiences!

MAD Board Meeting

The next MAD Board meeting will be held on Thursday, January 18th, at 5:30 PM in Building 3, Room 137. All club members are welcome to attend. We plan to hold our board meetings in 2018 regularly on the third Thursday of the month.

MAD About Town

Transatlantic Crossing will perform at the New Deal Cafe, 113 Centerway in Greenbelt from 7:30pm to 9:30pm on Wednesday, January 3. Transatlantic Crossing is made up of MAD members from the **Gardner** family: **Anne** (fiddle), **Jon** (guitar), **David** (home from college and playing piano, flute & accordion), **Elizabeth** (fiddle and clarinet) and **Rebecca** (electric bass). They play high-energy fiddle tunes from both sides of the Atlantic, from Irish and Scottish jigs and reels to New England and French Canadian contra-dance music. The New Deal Cafe has a new chef and menu, and features food, beer and wine and live music. Transatlantic Crossing will also be the band for the Greenbelt Contra Dance on Saturday, January 6 in the Greenbelt Community Center Gym. The contra dance costs \$10 and will have instruction for beginners starting at 6:30, and then the dance runs from 7:00 to 9:45pm.

Catherine Asaro will be appearing as the Science Guest of Honor at the Boskone science fiction convention, February 16–18, 2018, at the Westin Waterfront Hotel in Boston, MA. She will be doing panels as a featured speaker, giving a science interview, and singing in concert with Greg Adams on keys.

MAD Update

Greetings fellow MAD community. Some of you may recall that I was cowboy in “Oklahoma” just a little over year ago. Well, I’m sorry to say that since I’m no longer in the DC metro area – I can’t participate in any MAD productions. However, I’m glad to say that my training with MAD has served me well. I’m now living in Southern Oregon and have been involved in 2 productions since arriving here in April. I had a small role in the community theater production of “Dial M for Murder,” which was very quickly followed by a lead role in the play “Sylvia.” We’re halfway through rehearsals for “Sylvia” and open the third week in January. It’s very exciting times and I’m getting acclimated to my new western surroundings. I miss all of my fellow cast members from “Oklahoma” and hope this finds everyone in good health and enjoying the holiday season. Would love to hear from any of you! If you’d like to be in touch, please feel free to drop me an email to tmlowenberg@yahoo.com. **Todd Lowenberg**