

The Gordon College Department of Music

presents

Charles Gounod's

The Doctor in  
Spite of Himself

*a comic opera based on  
a play by Molière*

*libretto by  
Jules Barbier and Michel Carré*

*translated and newly orchestrated by  
Michael Monroe*

Ron Luchsinger, director  
Michael Monroe, music director

Friday, January 13 at 8pm, Saturday, January 14 at 2pm, 7pm  
A. J. Gordon Memorial Chapel

## CAST

SGANARELLE, *a woodcutter*  
MARTINE, *his wife*  
GÉRONTE, *a wealthy father*  
LUCINDE, *his daughter*  
LÉANDRE, *her lover*  
JACQUELINE, *Géronte's nurse*  
LUCAS, *her husband*  
VALÈRE, *servant to Géronte*  
MR. ROBERT, *a neighbor*

## Fri 8pm, Sat 7pm

Dan Draper  
Lindsey Anderson  
Stephen Humeston  
Robin Sattler  
Wesley Lawrence  
Sarah Hoover  
Gregory Hanson  
Andrew Frey  
John Hendricks

## Sat 2pm

Jonathan Hornbeck  
Kayla Haiss  
John Hendricks  
Bethany Perkins  
Wesley Lawrence  
Krista Hays  
Dustin Juliano  
Kreigh Knerr  
Stephen Humeston

CHORUS OF WOODCUTTERS & MAIDENS: Sarah Berggren, David Draper, Brett Johnson, Mike Limberg, Sarah Petroroy, Jennica Serra, Marissa Sheltra, Nathan Walker.

## Act I

### Scene 1 - a forest, somewhere near the border of Vermont and Quebec

Sganarelle and Martine argue violently in a spirited duet. Their neighbor, Robert, tries to help. Though Sganarelle apologizes, Martine sings of her desire for vengeance. Lucas and Valère, servants of Géronte, arrive in search of a doctor to help heal Lucinde, who has lost her speech. Martine decides to use the men to her advantage and sends them looking for her husband, who is found singing lovingly to his bottle. Lucas and Valère meet Sganarelle and *persuade* him to help them. Before our story leaves the forest, we see some of Sganarelle's fellow woodcutters singing with some country maidens.

### Scene 2 – in and around Géronte's house

Léandre is heard singing a serenade to his beloved Lucinde, much to the consternation of Géronte who wants to marry his daughter to the wealthy Horace. Lucas and Valère excitedly announce that they've found a doctor, although Jacqueline sings that girls should be allowed to marry for love. Sganarelle is brought in and, after being somewhat distracted by the nurse, he delivers an impromptu diagnosis of Lucinde's problem. All are amazed.

## Act II

Sganarelle receives praise and payment for his efforts and sings enthusiastically about being a doctor. After learning of Léandre's interest in the girl, Sganarelle has the young man return in disguise with some musicians to sing for the patient; Lucinde hums along. Léandre, now disguised as a pharmacist, tries his hand at helping some country folk with a sick relative. Sganarelle, after a bit more flirting with the nurse, introduces Léandre as his pharmacist. The sudden return of Lucinde's speech ends up enraging Géronte. Sganarelle sends her off with the "pharmacist," only to have Lucas reveal that Sganarelle has helped the young lovers run away. Just when it looks as if things will end badly for our doctor, Léandre returns with good news.

**RON LUCHSINGER** has directed a number of musical productions for Gordon College since Gilbert and Sullivan's *Patience* in 1994. In addition to other Savoy operas (*Gondoliers*, *The Mikado*, *Pinafore* and *Pirates*) he has staged Offenbach's *Grand Duchess of Gerolstein* and several evenings of Opera Scenes. Ron is Director of Productions for Opera North in New Hampshire, where this summer he will direct *Il Trovatore* along with Britten's *Albert Herring*. He has recently been named Artistic Director of Commonwealth Opera in Northampton, MA. This season he directed that company's *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, with C. Thomas Brooks conducting.

It is the wide range and diversity of his repertory that most distinguish Ron's directing career. He recently directed Puccini's *La Fanciulla del West* for the Abilene Opera Association. Other recent productions include Britten's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Gounod's *Roméo et Juliette*, Handel's *Agrippina*, and Puccini's *Turandot*, as well as such standard works as *Carmen*, *La Bohème* and *Don Giovanni*. His directing credits include productions for Knoxville Opera, Connecticut Opera, Eugene Opera, Anchorage Opera, Abilene Opera, The Lyric Opera of Dallas, Shreveport Opera, OK Mozart Festival, The California Music Center, Jacksonville Lyric Opera and Amarillo Opera..

Well known as an educator, Ron has served on the faculties of The University of Connecticut and The Hartt School. He has also offered workshops and directed productions for numerous colleges and schools, including SUNY at Stony Brook, Baylor University and Abilene Christian College, The Oxbow School in Vermont and the Vermont Arts in Education Association. He also teaches acting and oversees a Young Director's institute at Opera North. Currently working on a book on directing opera, Ron and Gordon Professor C. Thomas Brooks have co-produced a highly respected instructional video, *Singing/Acting/Surviving*.

**MICHAEL MONROE** is an Assistant Professor of Music at Gordon College where he teaches piano, coaches singers and instrumentalists, and teaches courses in music history and theory. He has also served as music director for the college's Opera Scenes programs and productions of *The Secret Garden* and *Tarantara! Tarantara!* As a pianist, he has performed throughout the Boston area at such venues as Jordan Hall, the Gardner Museum, and the French Library, collaborating in recital with acclaimed violinists Stefan Jackiw, Arturo Delmoni, and Irina Muresanu and with countless students at the New England Conservatory and other area schools. He has accompanied more than fifty student degree recitals at Gordon alone.

Michael has been a guest opera coach at the North Carolina School of the Arts and was music director for a Boston Aria Guild production of *Hänsel und Gretel*. A native of Arkansas, he holds degrees in piano performance from the University of Arkansas and the University of Maryland. He is currently completing a DMA at the New England Conservatory where he has taught classes in music history and accompanying and coached for the NEC Opera Workshop.

The preparation of this new performing edition of Gounod's *Le médecin malgré lui* was suggested to Michael by music department chair C. Thomas Brooks, who while teaching at the Hartt School of Music collaborated with Ron Luchsinger on a touring production of an earlier edition entitled *The Frantic Physician*. There is some possibility that the completion of this project will lead to Michael's becoming a doctor in spite of himself!

## Orchestra

Violin I: Sarah Palmer, Melissa Bull  
Violin II: Cara Johnson, Ellen Sawyer  
Viola: Jim Wells  
Cello: Jing Li  
Bass: Nick Aparo  
Flute: Dawn Oulton  
Oboe: Rachel Wolcott  
Clarinet: Corey Seapy  
Bassoon: Adam Smith

## Stage Managers

Amy Fichera  
Heather Gregg

## Costumes

Susan Montmagny

## Technical Support

Jay Foss  
Chris Imming  
Ryan Babcock  
Dan Bell  
Angela Ng  
Joyce Wu  
Nathan Skinner

## *About Gordon College and the Music Department*

Gordon College is a nationally ranked institution and the only nondenominational Christian college in New England, offering a unique commitment to character and scholarship in a dynamic community that integrates faith, learning and living. Gordon's 1,700 students are from 46 states and 27 foreign countries. The College offers 36 majors, a world of off-campus study programs and real-world experience, and master's programs in education and music education.

The Music Department, a part of the Division of Fine Arts, offers degree programs (B.M., B.A.) in which students may specialize in performance, music education, theory, church music or liberal arts. The department has over 37 full-time and part-time instructors and 100 music majors, and is one of only 19 schools in New England fully accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music. The music education program is also certified by the interstate Certification Compact.

Performance groups include the College Choir, Symphony Orchestra, Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, Chamber Singers, Women's Choir, Jazz Ensemble and other small chamber organizations. Membership in these ensembles is open by audition to all students regardless of major. For further information contact the Music Department Office, Gordon College, 255 Grapevine Road, Wenham, Massachusetts 01984, or call 978.867.4364.

