

Guide to the **Ithaca Opera Association Collection**

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COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

This large collection is a detailed record of both the creative and business sides of a nonprofit performing arts organization during the 54 years of its existence.

Originally named the Ithaca Civic Opera Group, this organization was founded in 1949 by Ken Baumann, who had been a stage director and general manager for opera companies in Germany before escaping from the Nazis. In 1966 the Group incorporated under its new name, the Ithaca Opera Association (IOA). The IOA produced three mainstage operas a year, including a winter holiday show. By the mid-1980s, its outreach was formalized and included the opera workshop; a paid ensemble troupe that performed in schools and in the community; and summer touring productions. During 1986 – 1991, under project CoOPERAtion, the IOA taught Ithaca’s middle school students about opera and guided them in writing and producing them.

In order to oversee so much activity, in the mid-1980s the IOA hired a full-time, paid music director/administrator and started renting a production office. At this time, the board’s duties changed from administrating the IOA to planning and fund-raising. Unfortunately, it was not able to sustain the necessary funding, and in 2003 the Ithaca Opera Association went bankrupt and closed its doors.

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Glimmerglass and La Gran, Scena Opera Company	Folder 315
The Finger Lakes Orchestra	Folder 316
Tompkins County Arts Council and United Arts Fund of Tompkins County	Folder 317
Community Arts Partnership of Tompkins County	Folder 318
Performing Arts Association of New York State	Folder 319
Loose in box: Plaque presented by National Teachers Association for Project CoOPERAtion 1989	

Box 20 (Folders 320 – 321)

Unidentified Photos	Folder 320
Unidentified Slides	Folder 321

Box 21 (Audio and Video Tapes)

Audio Tapes

Gianni Schicchi; label undated; was performed 5/86	10-in. tape
Sour (Sister) Angelica; label undated; was performed 5/86	10-in. tape
Candide "sounds"; label undated; was performed 10/85 and 10/94	7-in. tape
Don Pasquale excerpts; label undated; was performed 10/70 and 3/83	two 7-in.-tapes

The Lantern Marriage; Outreach, March 8, 1973	7- in. tape
La Serva Padrona, Outreach, March 8, 1973	7-in. tape
Secret of Suzanne excerpts, October 19, 1969	7-in. tape
Unlabeled tape	7-in. tape
Excerpt Program, tape II, May 12, 1971	5-in. tape
Abduction from the Seraglio, May 1984	four cassettes
Barber of Seville, Acts I – III, May 1985,	three
	cassettes
Candide; label undated; performed 10/85 and Outreach 10/94	four cassettes
Wind in the Willows demo.; label undated; performed Dec. 1991	one cassette
Interview of Mrs. Baumann, widow of IOA founder Kenneth Bauman, 1999.	
Tape is from a video and includes co-founders Nannette Hanslowe and Jack Burns. Interviewer is Sigrid Peterson.	one cassette

Video Tapes

Candide Oct. 19, 1985	one tape
Gianni Schicchi & Sister Angelica; tape undated; performed together 1986	one tape
Hansel and Gretel, Dec. 1986	one tape
Hansel and Gretel, dress rehearsal, Act I, cast 2, June 25, 1987	one tape
Hansel and Gretel, alternate casting for Gretel, evening Dec. 12, 1987	two tapes
Hansel and Gretel, label undated	one tape
Jacques Brel Is Alive and Well and Living in ..., label undated; performed 9/90, Outreach 7/87, Gala 3/88	one tape
Marriage of Figaro, Acts I & II and Acts III & IV, April 2, 2000	four tapes
Music Shop (at Boynton), 1989	one tape
Die Walkure, with Cornell Symphony Orchestra Act I; undated label; was performed May 1998	one tape
Ithaca Centennial; label undated; IOA involved in 1988 – 1989	one tape
IOA Workshop, Feb. 27, 1988	one tape
Project Co-OPERATION Ithaca City School District; WSKG airing, CBS Charles Kuralt, “School’s In.” Undated tape; the Project was throughout 1986 – 1991.	one tape
Scenes Performed by Ithaca Opera Ensemble at Trumansburg Conservatory of Fine Arts, Nov. 20, 1986	one tape
Trumansburg Arts in Education, March 1988	one tape

Coaster: One coaster celebrating IOA’s 40th year

***OV+++*, Room B, Box 3**

Posters: 1963 – 2002	Posters
Undated poster for “A Night on Broadway,” collaboration with Ithaca Concert Band	
1985 Proclamation of Opera Week by City of Ithaca	

