



Spring 4-9-1982

## Immediate Release : One-act Opera "Trouble in Tahiti" Performed in Wesbrook Auditorium

Ed Alsene  
*Illinois Wesleyan University*

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/news>

---

### Recommended Citation

Alsene, Ed, "Immediate Release : One-act Opera "Trouble in Tahiti" Performed in Wesbrook Auditorium" (1982). *News and Events*. 7359.  
<https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/news/7359>

This Article is protected by copyright and/or related rights. It has been brought to you by Digital Commons @ IWU with permission from the rights-holder(s). You are free to use this material in any way that is permitted by the copyright and related rights legislation that applies to your use. For other uses you need to obtain permission from the rights-holder(s) directly, unless additional rights are indicated by a Creative Commons license in the record and/ or on the work itself. This material has been accepted for inclusion by faculty at Illinois Wesleyan University. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons@iwu.edu](mailto:digitalcommons@iwu.edu).

©Copyright is owned by the author of this document.



**ILLINOIS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY / BLOOMINGTON, ILL. 61701**

Jerry Bidle, Director of  
Public Relations

Phone (309) 556-3181

Ed Alsene, Director of  
Publicity and Sports Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Apr. 9, 1982 ea

Leonard Bernstein's one-act opera, "Trouble in Tahiti," and selections from four Bernstein musicals will be performed by Illinois Wesleyan University's Opera Theatre Friday and Saturday (Apr. 16-17) at 8 p.m. in Westbrook Auditorium of Presser Hall.

The program, which will be open free to the public, is produced by Linda J. Snyder, assistant professor of voice, and students in her opera theatre class.

"Trouble in Tahiti" is a seven-scene satire of life in the suburbs as exemplified by a day in the lives of a married couple in their early thirties, Dinah (played by Janet Wurst) and Sam (David Pinta).

The moral is that the "good life" of the search for status and possessions is simply not good enough and it ranks with the stuff of silver screen dreams.

"Bernstein reinforces the satire of the opera by using a variety of contrasting musical styles ranging from jazz to serious opera," Miss Snyder said.

The only characters other than Dinah and Sam are the members of The Trio, a Greek chorus born of a radio commercial. Those roles are taken by William Drew, Betsy Gaines and James Parsons.

Following the opera, selections from the musicals "Wonderful Town," "On the Town" "Candide" and "West Side Story" will be performed.

Baritone Thomas Machen, a part-time member of the School of Music faculty, will sing a medley of "A Quiet Girl" and "It's Love" from "Wonderful Town" and "Lonely Town" from "On the Town." He will be accompanied by Miss Snyder.

A quartet made up of Doris Spencer of Clinton, Marilyn Berdick, James Parsons and William Drew will sing "Some Other Time" from "On the Town."

Christine Wolter and William Damaschke will sing "You Were Dead, You Know" from

Page 2, IWU

"Candide" and Miss Snyder will sing "Glitter and Be Gay," an aria from "Candide."

The final number will be the quintet "Tonight" from the first act of "West Side Story," with James Parsons as Riff, Pinta as Bernardo, Miss Spencer as Anita, Mark Vitale as Tony and Miss Gaines as Maria.

Ms. Snyder will be the stage director and musical coach. Student David Wilson will be the scene and lighting designer and Joni Williams will be the costume coordinator.

Student instrumentalists will be pianists Nancy Frese, Lisa Gilpin and Jo Ellen Althof, clarinetist Melodie Bray, cellist Gary Lee and Parsons, percussion.