



1912 Massachusetts Ave
Lexington MA 02421
P: 978-887-2045
info@newenglandlightopera.org
www.newenglandlightopera.org

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Suzanne Delle, PR Director, 603-661-3879

Mark Morgan, Artistic Director, mark@newenglandlightopera.org

New England Light Opera Brings Victor Herbert Favorites to Life

(Lexington, MA) New England Light Opera (NELO), the Boston area's professional operetta and musical theater company opens its eighth season with a musical revue featuring the work of American composer and conductor Victor Herbert. This show, created by NELO Artistic Director Mark Morgan, features the cast from last season's wildly successful world premiere musical *Yes, Yes, Jeanette!* Tickets range from \$25-\$5 and are currently available through newenglandlightopera.com for the **Saturday, October 24th 8pm concert** at Hancock Church, 1912 Massachusetts Ave in Lexington, **Sunday, October 25th 3pm concert** at Hamilton Wenham Community House in Hamilton and **Friday, October 30th 8pm concert** at Pickman Concert Hall located at the Longy School of Music in Cambridge

Victor August Herbert (1859-1924) is best known for the 43 operettas he composed including *Babes in Toyland*, *The Red Mill* and *Naughty Marietta*. However he also founded the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) and led the Pittsburgh Symphony from 1898-1904. **Herbert's most lasting contribution to modern music may be the years he toured under the Victor Herbert Orchestra and played the popular standards of the day.** Those pops concerts traveled throughout the U.S. until his death in 1924 and brought live music to many who didn't have access to big city orchestras. "Following in Herbert's tradition of making operetta available to all," Morgan stated, "NELO is bringing our evening of Herbert compositions to multiple venues".

Jean Danton, Sara Ann Mitchell, and NELO Artistic Director Mark Morgan will perform in the Herbert concert. Both ladies played versions of Jeanette MacDonald with Mr. Morgan playing Nelson Eddy in last season's world premiere musical *Yes, Yes, Jeanette!* created by Morgan. Soprano Jean Danton has been a soloist with Keith Lockhart and the Boston Pops, Handel and Haydn Society, and the Oregon Bach Festival, among other prestigious organizations. She has sung at Carnegie Hall and at Lincoln Center's Avery Fisher Hall. Soprano Sara Ann Mitchell has performed with the Ohio Light Opera, Boston Opera Collaborative, and the New England Conservatory's Opera Theatre. She has also been a featured soloist at Opera Providence's *Waterfire*.

Tickets for the Herbert concerts range from \$25-\$5 and are currently available at www.newenglandlightopera.org or by calling 866-811-4111. Performances are **Saturday, October 24th 8 pm** at Hancock Church, 1912 Massachusetts Ave in Lexington, **Sunday, October 25th at 3 pm** at the Hamilton Wenham Community House, 284 Bay Road in Hamilton, and **Friday, October 30th at 8 pm** at the Pickman Concert Hall located at the Longy School of Music, 27 Garden Street in Cambridge.

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Founded in 2001, the New England Light Opera (NELO) has a three-fold mission to fill a major gap in Greater Boston's cultural life by staging productions and concerts of operetta and early musical theatre, in English; to support Boston's artistic community by offering professional performance opportunities to local singers, actors, instrumentalists, directors, technicians and others; and to increase the accessibility to, and protect the historical legacy of, significant works of light opera and musical theatre through research, reconstruction, translation and performance. For more information, visit us on the web at www.newenglandlightopera.org.

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Publicity photos and sample audio files available upon request.

For more information, contact Mark Morgan at (978)887-2045 or mark@newenglandlightopera.org