

THE
DECOMPOSERS

or,

Rivets Has Risen from the Grave

BOOK

Mark M. Keller and Sue Anderson

LYRICS

Sue Anderson and Mark M. Keller

DIRECTOR

Mark M. Keller

MUSICAL DIRECTOR

Chip Hitchcock

A R.I.S.F.A. Players Production

THE CAST

Dick Washington	Caleb Hanson
Pat Washington	Carol Kane
Eloise Statten	Lori Meltzer
Roger Umm	David Broadbent
Helminth of Boskone	Tony Lewis
F. N. Barble	Bob Benson
Gorean Women	Faye Ringel, Honour Horne
Gorean Men	Chip Hitchcock, Tom Courtney
Michael Risfa	Mark M. Keller
Elaine DuPage	Suford Lewis
Coneheads	Sue Anderson, Jeff Del Papa, Elise Levenson
Dr. Alex Asenion	Tom Courtney
Truck Driver	Tony Lewis
Eddie Princeton, Ph.D., E.E., K.C.G.M.	Rick Katze
Freddie Todd	Andrew Adams Whyte
Dwight Turkeigh	Mike Saler
Hotel Manager	Gayle Kaplan
Quark fans	Mike Blake, Jean Berman
Lessa	Jean Berman
Rukbath	Silkenswift Sunflurry
Tarzan	Topher Cooper
Corwin	Chip Hitchcock
Poxie	David D'Ammassa
Muffin	Silkenswift Hilary Halfboot
Syme	Honour Horne
Amazon	Bettina Helms
Norman Johnson	Mike Blake
Weightless Soprano	Faye Ringel
Freaks' Leader	Lynne Brodsky
"Herovit"	Elliot Kay Shorter
"AgBob"	Chip Hitchcock
"Harlan"	Tony Lewis
Filksinger	Elliot Kay Shorter
Mad Madam Mimeo	Sheila G. D'Ammassa
Forrest J. Tucker	Mike Blake
Chorus of gofers, random fans, etc.	Sue Anderson, Jean Berman, Mike Blake, Topher Cooper, Tom Courtney, Sheila G. D'Ammassa, Bettina Helms, Chip Hitchcock, Honour Horne, Gayle Kaplan, Mark M. Keller, Elise Levenson, Suford Lewis, Tony Lewis, Faye Ringel, Mike Saler, Elliot Kay Shorter.

Musicians

Piano	James Chubet
Guitar	Faye Ringel, Elliot Kay Shorter
Viol	Lynne Brodsky
Rehearsal Accompanist	Faye Ringel

ABOUT THE DECOMPOSERS

Welcome to an alternate world. The Worldcon for 1979 is being held in Metropolis, a major midwestern port city on the Teays River, which in our world lies on the bottom of Lake Michigan. The con is named Muddycon II after the big Muddy River, a slow-moving sewage channel that oozes past the town and into the Teays; it occasionally enlivens the evenings by bursting into flame and lighting the towers of Metropolis with a technicolor glow. Residents line the banks and cheer; there's not much else to do for night life in Metropolis.

The con hotel is the Giltmore-Metropolis, a white elephant currently owned by ITTT & T. The decor is a bit unusual, since the Giltmore was built in 1928 as the Metropolis Asylum for the Criminally Insane and later converted to a residential hotel. This explains the unusual function rooms: the Napoleon Room, the Oedipus Complex, the Electra Complex, and (under the kitchen) the Inferiority Complex. Not many conventions have booked into the Giltmore—the bars on the windows and the cork-lined rooms tend to discourage happy partying. But the Muddycon II committee grabbed the hotel because it was very cheap. The hotel was glad to get a convention, **any** convention. They soon found out their mistake.

The con committee was rather surprised to get the convention against the competition they faced. But New Orleans was wiped out by a hurricane and Highmore, South Dakota was visited by 27 tornadoes the week of worldcon voting. The St. Louis fans put in a bid for Cairo, Illinois, but Cairo was submerged by floods on the Ohio River. Thus, suddenly, there was no other city bidding for 1979 but (gulp!) Metropolis. So Metropolis got the con.

The committee chairman, DICK WASHINGTON, has worked hard at dividing the jobs so he can loaf through the whole con while his wife, PAT, does the supervising. The programming is enthusiastically arranged by neo-fan F. N. BARBLE and his second-hand THX-1138 computer—the first convention with all programming completely planned by computer. Barble is deluged with requests from hundreds of fringe groups. Impartial, he invites them **all** in, and then tries to find room for them. Things get a bit crowded.

Friendly groups are given overlapping meetings: the Darkover fans, the Pern Dragons, and the Sime fans all find themselves in the same room. Groups hostile to each other are blocked in opposite wings of the hotel, so the John Norman fan club never meets the Joanna Russ fan club, the Markland Medieval Militia never meets the Amber Society, and the "Bring Back *Battlestar Galactica*" club never has to face the laughter of the Humor in SF panel. It is all immensely complex and organized and nobody believes it will really work.

Of course the convention needs a big Saturday night show. Two fannish plays compete for the honor of being the Worldcon musical: *Space Side Story*, produced by MIKE RISFA of New England, and *Wilbur Whately*

Superstar, led by ELAINE DUPAGE of Chicagoland. Which one did the committee invite? Both of them, at different times. Yes, but which one does the committee want? Mike and Elaine are still trying to find out the day before the con opens.

Join us now in the tarnished lobby of the Giltmore, as the con committee prepares last-minute details with calm and dignity ("like a chicken with its head cut off", actually)—as hundreds of Trek fans cluster in the basement following a totally false report that *Captain Kirk is coming!*—as the local animal hospital prepares for the expected onslaught of daggits, dragons, and lummoxes—as SFWA prepares to listen to yet another resignation by Harlan Ellison—as the 300-foot windwhale for the costume show gets stuck on the Antelope Freeway Underpass 28 miles from town—and as the convention starts to decompose into a rich broth of swarming fringe-fans that add spice and excitement to an already unbelievable situation. Welcome to Muddycon II!

Staff

Producer and Technical Director	Chip Hitchcock
Assistant Technical Director	Peter Neilson
Stage Manager	Beth Cohen
Wardrobe Mistress	Lois Gantschar
Costumes	Sue Anderson, Jean Berman, Sheila G. D'Amassa, Bettina Helms, Jodi Hitchcock, Faye Ringel, Michal Walke
Makeup	Nancy Hussar
Properties	Lori Meltzer
Master Electrician	Peter Neilson
Sound	Bob Spence
Assistant	Jim Landau
Videotaping	Bill Desmond

Additional Lyrics:

Wilbur Whately Superstar: Rita Berens, Mike Brandl, Becky Price, Ken Winters.

Space Side Story: Tracie Brown, Jean Berman.

Burroughs Bibliophile March: Sheila G. D'Amassa.

"In SF's Truly Golden Days": Mike Saler.

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Please note: flash photographs during the performance are strictly prohibited.

For rehearsal and crash space we would particularly like to thank Mary Westbrook, Hy Tran, Lewis Kimball, and the Buttery. We would also like to thank those who helped us at the con whose names have been omitted from the program.