

# MASS MoCA

For Immediate Release  
Contact: Katherine Myers  
(413) 664-4481 x8113  
katherine@massmoca.org



## World Premiere of Dungeons & Dragons Opera at MASS MoCA January 30

(North Adams, Massachusetts) Tripod versus the Dragon, the world's first opera based on the popular role-playing game, Dungeons & Dragons, will have its world premiere at MASS MoCA in North Adams on Saturday, January 30, at 8 PM. The opera, from the wildly popular Australian trio Tripod, is their epic journey to bring together gorgeous harmonies, clever comedy, and a love of the game that shaped them as children of the '80s. After their performance at the world-famous Edinburgh Fringe Festival, The Scotsman said, "...there's hardly time to catch your breath in between bouts of uncontrollable laughter....these guys are unbelievable musicians too. Sometimes five stars just aren't enough."

In Tripod versus the Dragon, Scod as a wizard, Yon as a priest and Gatesy as a fighter who dreams of being a bard journey into the mists of fantasy legend. Tripod versus the Dragon, which also features Elana Stone as the dragon, combines classic old-school character comedy, brand new songs, and liberal references to the great operas, the Bible (all three testaments: old, new and Superstar) and the other bible: the Dungeons & Dragons Player's Handbook. The piece will lead viewers through a hilarious telling of a

grand tale of love, ambition, greed, and tragedy . It's as if Larry, Moe, and Curly were starring in the next part of the Ring Cycle.

The award-winning trio of Scott Edgar (Scod), Simon Hall (Yon) and Steven Gates (Gatesy) has been entertaining audiences down under for over a decade and a half. Regulars on Australian radio and television, and asked to open last year's Microsoft keynote conference in Vegas, these three talented men were just nominated for their sixth ARIA (Australian Recording Industry Association award) for Best Comedy Album of the year, an award that they won in 2005.

They'll be in residence for two weeks at MASS MoCA, during which time the trio will work towards the world premiere of the show that will take them into the busy fringe festival season. After their MASS MoCA residency, Tripod will spend a bit more time in the states performing for the fans that keep them incredibly popular in the social media circuit. (The Tripod YouTube channel often breaks into the top 100 of the most viewed channels each week.)

Tripod versus The Dragon is directed by Neil Gladwin. Support for the presentation is provided by the Massachusetts Cultural Council and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Tickets for Tripod versus the Dragon are \$15 adults/\$10 students & kids. MASS MoCA members receive a 10% discount. The galleries will stay open until 7:30 PM before the show. Full bar and dinner and snacks from Lickety Split are available before and during the show.

Tickets are available through the MASS MoCA box office located off Marshall Street in North Adams, open from 11 A.M. until 5 P.M., closed Tuesdays. Tickets can also be charged by phone by calling 413.662.2111 during Box Office hours or purchased on line at [www.massmoca.org](http://www.massmoca.org).

MASS MoCA, the largest center for contemporary visual and performing arts in the United States, is located off Marshall Street in North Adams on a 13-acre campus of renovated 19<sup>th</sup>-century factory buildings. MASS MoCA is an independent 501c(3) whose operations and programming are funded through admissions and commercial lease revenue, corporate and foundation grants, and individual philanthropy. Except for

Tripod versus The Dragon  
Saturday, January 30, 8 PM  
Tickets: \$15/\$10 students & kids  
Box Office: 413.662.2111 or  
[www.massmoca.org](http://www.massmoca.org)

an initial construction grant from the Commonwealth, and competitive program and operations grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Massachusetts Cultural Council, MASS MoCA is privately funded: 90% of annual operating revenues are from earned revenues, membership support, and private gifts and grants.