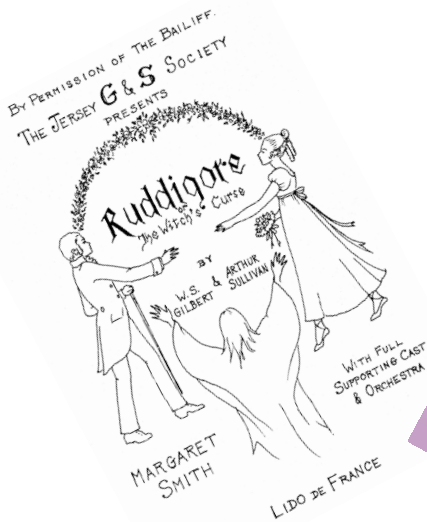


# GILBERT AND SULLIVAN

## SCENE AND HEARD

AN ENTERTAINMENT PERFORMED BY  
THE JERSEY GILBERT AND SULLIVAN SOCIETY  
IN CELEBRATION OF THEIR  
THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY



Producer and Musical Director: Michael Blackie

Assistant Conductor: Annette Blanchet

Pianist: Julie Millow

Continuity: Colette Chardine

## “GILBERT AND SULLIVAN SCENE AND HEARD”

The plots of the Savoy Operas of W. S. Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan are intricate, but it is possible to extract scenes which will stand on their own. This evening in celebration of our Thirtieth Anniversary, we present scenes from six of the operas, some well known, some less so, but with an equal claim to public awareness.

The earliest of them is ***The Sorcerer*** which dates from 1877 and was the first full length opera produced under the aegis of Richard D'Oyly Carte. It is a reworking of the plot of “L'Elisir d'Amore” of which Gilbert was inordinately fond; however, his efforts to return to it later in the collaboration were always thwarted by Sullivan. He did allow, however, the supernatural elements in ***Ruddigore*** (1887), the original title of which was changed after a few days from “Ruddygore” to satisfy Victorian proprieties. “Ruddigore” was the first full length production of the Society and two of its original cast perform in tonight's extract. ***The Pirates of Penzance*** (1879) was the only opera to receive its première in the United States (a strange version had been given the night before in Paignton, Devon for copyright reasons) to which the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company had gone to give authentic performances of ***H.M. S. Pinafore*** (1878), the phenomenal success of which had put Gilbert and Sullivan on the theatrical map. ***Princess Ida*** (1884) was based on Gilbert's earlier play of the same name which itself had been based on Tennyson's long poem “The Princess”. It is the only opera that was written in three acts and in blank verse. Although two further operas were to succeed it, the success of the partnership really ends with ***The Gondoliers*** (1889) which sparkles throughout with Mediterranean sunshine.

## PART ONE

### Hail, Poetry! (The Pirates of Penzance)

#### H. M. S. PINAFORE

Excitement abounds on H. M. S. Pinafore at the imminent arrival of the First Lord of the Admiralty, accompanied, as ever, by his legion sisters, cousins and aunts. But on board, all is not as it seems. Josephine, the Captain's daughter, is wooed by and secretly enamoured of Ralph, the youngest and lowest member of the crew.

Sir Joseph Porter

Captain Corcoran

Ralph Rackstraw

Dick Deadeye

Boatswain

Boatswain's Mate

Josephine

Cousin Hebe

David Frank

William Millow

Simon Billot

Michael Blackie

Ian Dove

Simon Appleby

Gitte-Maj Donoghue

Andrea Rosenfeld

#### RUDDIGORE

Robin Oakapple, who combines the manners of a Marquis with the morals of a Methodist, is in reality the rightful Baronet of Ruddigore, but has disguised himself as a simple farmer to avoid succeeding to the baronetcy which has been cursed since the reign of James I. He loves Rose Maybud and she loves him, but they are overcome with shyness.

Robin Oakapple

Rose Maybud

John Shield

Doreen Queree

**PRINCESS IDA**

In their infancy, Hilarion, the eldest son of King Hildebrand, was betrothed to Ida, only daughter of the wizened, misshapen King Gama, but Ida, now grown to womanhood, has become an ardent feminist and founded a university exclusively for women. Much to Hildebrand’s annoyance, Ida has set aside all thoughts of marriage and he thus despatches Hilarion to persuade her that her own best interests would be served if she would change her mind. Meanwhile, her father and her three brothers will remain as Hildebrand’s hostages.

King Hildebrand	William Millow
Hilarion	Michael Halsey
Cyril	Gordon Brown
Florian	Simon Appleby
King Gama	John Shield
Arac	Michael Blackie
Guron	Terry Neale
Scynthius	Ian Dove

**INTERVAL**

**PART TWO**

**THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE**

The famous pirates of Penzance were on the point of marrying, by force, the daughters of Major-General Stanley when he reveals to them that he is an orphan. It is well known that these pirates, who are all orphans, make a point of never molesting an orphan and so they let the girls go. However, Frederic, apprenticed to the pirates, and Mabel, eldest of the Major-General’s daughters are not affected by the pirates reprieve for they are in love. We now discover that the Major-General has been somewhat economical with the truth and is filled with remorse. Fearful of the consequences if the pirates find out the truth, he has enlisted Frederic’s help in ridding Cornwall of its scourge and the County’s finest make their operatic debut. Meanwhile, the Pirate King and Ruth, the Maid of All Work, have set out to reveal to Frederic an anomaly which they are sure will amuse him.

Major General Stanley	David Frank
Pirate King	Michael Blackie
Frederic	Michael Halsey
Sergeant of Police	Terry Neale
Mabel	Gitte-Maj Donoghue
Edith	Kate McCaffrey
Ruth	Liz Morin

## THE SORCERER

In the Dorset village of Ploverleigh, Alexis Pointdextre, son of the local squire Sir Marmaduke, is betrothed to Aline, daughter of Lady Sangazure. Alexis is so overjoyed by his own happiness that he wishes all men as happy as he. So much so that he lectures on the subject of all men and women being coupled in matrimony without distinction of rank. Amongst the uneducated classes he has found universal support. Higher up the social scale, success has been slower in coming. In a desperate attempt to support his noble principles, Alexis has employed John Wellington Wells, of J. W. Wells and Co., old established Family Sorcerers of St. Mary Axe, London. Mr. Wells' firm has invented a philtre which unlocks the secret of pure and lasting happiness to all who take it. After drinking the love potion, one falls in love with the first person one meets. It produces surprising results.

Aline	Nicki Austin
Alexis	Simon Billot
Dr. Daly	William Millow
Mrs. Partlet	Andrea Rosenfeld
Sir Marmaduke Pointdextre	Terry Neale
John Wellington Wells	Michael Blackie
Lady Sangazure	Liz Morin

## THE GONDOLIERS

Finally this evening we are in the distant isle of Barataria to which Marco and Giuseppe, gondoliers by trade, have come whilst it is decided which of them is the rightful king of that country. Their republican leanings have resulted in their doing work of a different nature than might be expected. They and the other gondoliers, all of whom accompanied them in the journey from Venice, find that the lack of female company is beginning to pall, but that is about to change!

Marco	Gordon Brown
Giuseppe	William Millow
Giorgio	Terry Neale
Annibale	Simon Appleby
Fiametta	Kate McCaffrey
Vittoria	Anne-Marie Neale
Gianetta	Liz Morin
Tessa	Nicki Austin

## The Company

### Sopranos

Amy Audoire  
Gitte-Maj Donoghue  
Jennifer Ellenger  
Kate McCaffrey  
Liz Morin  
Fiona Wilson

### Contraltos

Annette Blanchet  
Vicki Croxford  
Kathy Gillen  
Anne-Marie Neale  
Anne Ogley  
Andrea Rosenfeld  
Emily Snell  
Karene Taylor  
Regina Thomsen

### Tenors

Simon Billot  
Gordon Brown  
Michael Halsey  
Stephen Higginson  
Andrew Jelley  
Peter Routier  
Dominic Wilson

### Basses

Simon Appleby  
Michael Blackie  
David Croxford  
David Frank  
Alan Higginbotham  
William Millow  
Terry Neale  
John Routier  
David Taylor

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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## **OUR NEXT PRODUCTION**

THE GONDOLIERS

or The King of Barataria

THE OPERA HOUSE JERSEY

24<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> May 2011

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