

Winchester
Amateur Operatic Society

May 1957



The
Gondoliers

The Story of the Opera

THE lively and entertaining story of "The Gondoliers" centres round the strange and romantic fortunes of two sturdy and exceedingly handsome brothers in Venice, Marco and Giuseppe Palmieri, who follow the humble calling of Venetian gondoliers. Both are Republicans of strong socialist convictions, holding that "all men are equal," who to their amazement are suddenly called upon to assume the trials and responsibilities of a dual monarchy—a strange freak of fortune for which they are quite unprepared. Carrying their convictions into practice amongst their subjects, it is perhaps not surprising to find that with their rise to such a high degree of social importance the quaint Court of Baratavia is soon filled with functionaries basking in the splendour of such titles as the Lord High Vagabond and the Lord High Cook.

Owing to their good looks, there is keen competition amongst the lovely girls of Venice to secure the two brothers as husbands, which is finally amicably settled by a game of blind man's buff. The girls they catch they agree to marry, and happily enough the two lucky ones, Tessa and Gianetta, prove to be "*just the very girls we wanted,*" and duly celebrate in hilarious song and dance.

The unexpected arrival of a Spanish grandee, the Duke of Plaza-Toro, with his family and suite, turns out to be a visit of more than ordinary State importance, a veritable "spanner thrown into the works," to use a modern colloquialism. Being extremely impoverished, the wily old Duke announces with unctuous pride that his beautiful daughter, Casilda, was married by proxy when *six months old* to the infant heir to the Baratavian Throne, whose whereabouts is unknown for he had alas! been stolen by the Inquisition. The pompous and pugnacious Grand Inquisitor, Don Alhambra, schemes in more or less masterly fashion to clarify the situation, claiming that the lost heir must be one of the two handsome gondoliers engaging the attention of so many fair Venetian ladies. His ruling is that until the mystery is solved both must jointly rule as King. This they reluctantly agree to do, the dual role providing much of the fun and frolic of the Opera. Unhappily for the Grand Inquisitor's well-laid plans, he learns that both have hastened to marry their respective brides, while Casilda is highly indignant at being wedded in childhood without being consulted at the time. During all this excitement the Duke and his stately Duchess have been busily engaged in inventing schemes to replenish the family exchequer by fair means or foul, the most arresting being the formation of a new Company, "The Duke of Plaza-Toro Limited," a flotation which, owing to his prestige, brings in the cash with surprising ease. Things look very rosy for a time and all goes well for the coming wedding. Luckily the tangled plot is swiftly and happily solved by Inez, the aged foster-mother of the missing Prince, for she is the only one who is able to reveal his identity.

All ends merrily and we leave the audience to make their own surmises in regard to the surprising solution of this extremely complicated affair.

A. C.

Winchester Amateur Operatic Society

President :

SIR GEORGE DYSON, K.C.V.O.

Vice-Presidents :

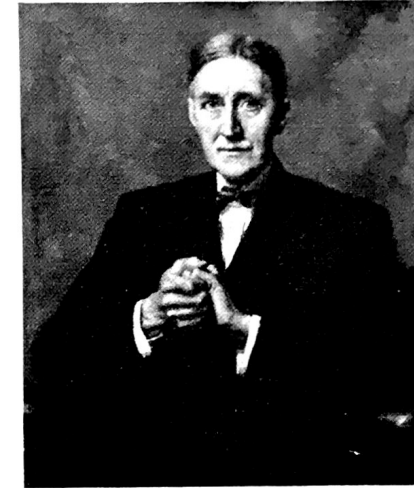
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		{ JOHN DESBOROUGH
		{ FREDERICK SIMPKINS
<i>Lighting by</i>	- - - - -	JAMES OFFORD
<i>Call Boys</i>	- - - - -	{ ROY MITCHELL
		{ STEPHEN SIMMONS
<i>Prompter</i>	- - - - -	DOROTHY FURMIDGE
		{ NORRIS ELTON
<i>Make-up Assistants</i>	- - - - -	{ BARBARA MOORE
		{ ANN ST. JOHN
		{ LAWRENCE WARD
		{ MURIEL WILSON
<i>Wardrobe Mistresses</i>	- - - - -	{ KITTY BISHOP
<i>Accompanist</i>	- - - - -	{ VERA PORTSMOUTH
<i>Treasurer</i>	- - - - -	DORIS PEARCE
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<i>Assistant Treasurer</i>	- - - - -	ROY MITCHELL
<i>Auditor</i>	- - - - -	ALFRED MAW
<i>Joint Secretaries</i>	- - - - -	{ ROY PORTSMOUTH
		{ VERA PORTSMOUTH
Costumes	- - B. J. SIMMONS & Co. LTD.	
Scenery	- - STAGE SCENERY LTD.	
Make-up	- - JULES MARTEN	

£2,813

has been donated to various charities since the formation of the Society.



SIR GEORGE DYSON., K.C.V.O.
President



JOHN SEALEY, B.MUS., F.R.C.O., A.R.C.M.
Musical Director



GLADWYS STARLING
Producer and Stage Director

Gilbert and Sullivan's Opera
"The Gondoliers"

OR THE KING OF BARATARIA
 (By permission of Bridget D'Oyly Carte)

Dramatis personæ :

The Duke of Plaza-Toro (<i>a grandee of Spain</i>)	-	-	-	PAUL BROWN	
Luiiz (<i>his Attendant</i>)	-	-	-	BRYON CAVILL	
Don Alhambra Del Bolero (<i>the Grand Inquisitor</i>)	-	-	-	HORACE TAYLOR	
Marco Palmieri	}	<i>(Venetian Gondoliers)</i>	-	-	BERTRAM DOBSON
Giuseppe Palmieri					EDWARD WILLIS
Antonio					RAYMOND ALLEN
Francesco					WYNDHAM RADCLIFFE
Giorgio					LEONARD KNOWLES
Annibale	-	-	-	-	JOHN WRIGHT
The Duchess of Plaza-Toro	-	-	-	-	DOROTHY CROSBY
Casilda (<i>her Daughter</i>)	-	-	-	-	MARY SPALDING
Gianetta	}	<i>(Contadine)</i>	-	-	JANE BINSTED
Tessa					JACQUELINE DUFFY
Fiametta					RUBY KNIGHT
Vittoria					MARGARET MORGAN
Giulia					MURIEL FISHER
Inez (<i>the King's Foster-Mother</i>)	-	-	-	-	RITA OWTON

Chorus of Contadine :

HEATHER BAKER	MADLINE FURMIDGE	IRIS O'GRADY
MARGARET BONE	IRENE HAYNE	BARBARA PAYNE
CYNTHIA BURTON	CHRISTINE HEMMING	CLARICE PORTSMOUTH
IRENE CLARKE-JONES	CONSTANCE HOOKER	ANN SHAWYER
JANE EDMONDS	EILEEN JARRETT	MARJORIE WILLIAMS
MARGARET ELTON	ELIZABETH JARVIS	RITA OWTON
	ANNA LAYTON	

Chorus of Gondoliers, Men-at-Arms and Heralds :

RONALD BAVERSTOCK	PAUL HEWES	HAROLD SHAWYER
ROLAND BELCHER	AUSTEN HOOKER	GORDON SHARRARD
JOHN BENTLEY	BRIAN HURST	WILLIAM SKINNER
JOHN BLAKE	RAYMOND HUTCHINS	PAUL TIDDLE
CONRAD DAVIES	ALFRED LAMBERT	DAVID TIZZARD
GERALD HARDING	JOHN O'GRADY	ROBERT WILTON
COLIN HARRIS	TREVOR SACREE	IAN YATES

Pages :
 MARGARET FADDY
 BEATRICE FLETCHER

Drummer Boy :
 BARRY DOBSON

Producer and Stage Director :
 GLADWYS STARLING

Musical Director :
 JOHN SEALEY, B.MUS., F.R.C.O., A.R.C.M.

ACT I—THE PIAZZETTA, VENICE

ACT II—PAVILION IN THE PALACE OF BARATARIA

(An interval of three months is supposed to elapse between Acts I and II)

Date—1750

MUSICAL NUMBERS

OVERTURE

ACT I

1. CHORUS OF CONTADINE (with Solos) (*Gondoliers, Antonio, Marco and Giuseppe*) - - "List and Learn"
2. ENTRANCE OF *Duke, Duchess, Casilda and Luiiz* "From the sunny Spanish shore"
3. SONG (*Duke of Plaza-Toro*) - - "In enterprise of martial kind"
4. RECIT. AND DUET (*Casilda and Luiiz*) - - "O rapture, when alone together"
5. DUET (*Casilda and Luiiz*) - - - "There was a time"
6. SONG (*Don Alhambra, with Duke, Duchess Casilda and Luiiz*) - - - "I stole the Prince"
7. RECIT. (*Casilda and Don Alhambra*) - - - "But, bless my heart"
8. QUINTET (*Duke, Duchess, Casilda, Luiiz and Grand Inquisitor*) - - - "Try we life-long"
9. CHORUS, - - - - "Bridegroom and Bride"
 with Solo (*Tessa*) - - - - "When a merry maiden marries"
10. FINALE—SONG (*Gianetta*) - - - - "Kind sir, you cannot have the heart"
 QUARTET (*Marco, Giuseppe, Gianetta and Tessa*) - - - - "Then one of us"

ACT II

1. CHORUS OF MEN (*with Marco and Giuseppe*) "Of happiness the very pith"
2. SONG (*Giuseppe*) (with Chorus) - - - "Rising early in the morning"
3. SONG (*Marco*) - - - - "Take a pair of sparkling eyes"
4. SCENA (Chorus of Girls, Quartet, Duet, and Chorus) - - - - "Here we are at the risk"
5. CHORUS AND DANCE - - - - "Dance a Cachucha"
6. SONG (*Don Alhambra, with Marco and Giuseppe*) "There lived a king"
7. QUARTET (*Marco, Giuseppe, Gianetta and Tessa*) "In a contemplative fashion"
8. CHORUS OF MEN (*with Duke and Duchess*) - - - "With ducal pomp"
9. SONG (*Duchess*) - - - - "On the day when I was wedded"
10. RECIT. AND DUET (*Duke and Duchess*) - - - "To help unhappy commoners"
11. GAVOTTE (*Duke, Duchess, Casilda, Marco and Giuseppe*) - - - - "I am a courtier grave and serious"
12. QUINTET AND FINALE (*Marco, Giuseppe, Casilda, Gianetta, Tessa and Chorus*) - - - "Here is a case unprecedented"

ORCHESTRA

1st Violins :

EDWARD TRIGG
GLADYS HARTNELL
KATHLEEN COLECLOUGH
AUDREY DOBSON
ARTHUR PUNTER
MARGARET PAYNE

2nd Violins :

NELLIE FULCHER
GRACE FIELDER
HELEN TAYLOR
DAVID DANCY

Violas :

ANN HARRIS
OLIVE HAYWARD
JOAN NICHOLAS

'Cellos :

LYNDON MARGUERIE
LEONARD STARLING

Double Bass :

ERNEST COTTLE

Flutes :

JOAN KING
JOHN CLARKE

Oboe :

ALEC ORTON

Clarinets :

HIRAM LEAR
TOM GREGSON

Bassoon :

JOHN PARSONS
NIGEL ST. G. ROWE

Horns :

PETER MORRIS
CHARLES JACKSON

Trumpets :

STANLEY PAYNE
CHARLES RHODES

Trombones :

DOUGLAS WHEELER
THOMAS COXON
PATRICK HAYNES

Timpani :

WILLIAM DUNN

Chief Steward: AUBREY J. HARDING

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J. W. CAVE
L. J. L. CHEW
W. F. COOPER
R. G. CROFT
A. R. EDMONDS
G. J. EMMENCE
H. R. EVANS
P. H. C. EVANS
A. G. N. FINCH

D. FRIEND
R. S. FURMIDGE
D. H. HUTCHINGS
R. M. KING
C. J. H. MANN
J. C. MORETON
P. C. MORETON
R. N. PARSONS
H. W. PEARCE

A. B. RENTON
A. V. SMALL
A. C. SMITH
F. T. SMITH
G. G. SMITH
J. O. SPALDING
C. SPIKINS
W. D. R. WELLER
H. J. WHITEHEAD
G. L. WILSON

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MISS P. F. BINSTAD
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MISS D. A. BOGHURST
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PAST PRODUCTIONS

"The Pirates of Penzance"	-	1913	"Ruddigore"	-	-	-	1934
"The Mikado"	-	-	-	-	-	-	1935
"Iolanthe"	-	-	-	-	-	-	1936
"The Yeomen of the Guard"	-	1921	"Iolanthe"	-	-	-	1937
"The Gondoliers"	-	-	-	-	-	-	1938
"Patience"	-	-	-	-	-	-	1939
"Ruddigore"	-	-	-	-	-	-	1947
"Trial by Jury" and "H.M.S. Pinafore"	-	-	-	-	-	-	1948
"Princess Ida"	-	-	-	-	-	-	1949
"The Mikado"	-	-	-	-	-	-	1950
"Iolanthe"	-	-	-	-	-	-	1951
"Merrie England"	-	-	-	-	-	-	1929
"The Gondoliers"	-	-	-	-	-	-	1930
"Utopia"	-	-	-	-	-	-	1931
"The Yeomen of the Guard"	-	1932	"The Pirates of Penzance"	-	-	-	1951
"Cox and Box" and "The Pirates of Penzance"	-	1933	"Princess Ida"	-	-	-	1952
			"The Mikado"	-	-	-	1953
			"Ruddigore"	-	-	-	1954
			"The Yeomen of the Guard"	-	-	-	1955
			"Trial by Jury" and "H.M.S. Pinafore"	-	-	-	1956

A LICENSED BAR AND BUFFET

IS AVAILABLE IN

THE BANQUETING HALL

Tea will be served at the Matinee.

ANNUAL DINNER AND DANCE

The Society is holding its Dinner and Dance at the Guildhall on Thursday, the 23rd May, and a cordial invitation is extended to you all.

Tickets (price 16/-) may be obtained from any member of the Committee or from the Chief Steward.

IN MEMORIAM

MR. ARCHIE CLEMENTS

Founder Member and Vice-President, 1948-1956

DR. P. T. FREEMAN, M.B.E., J.P.

Vice-President, 1949-1956