## IMPERIAL COLLEGE OPERATIC SOCIETY

IOLANTHE



FEBRUARY 1965

### IMPERIAL COLLEGE OPERATIC SOCIETY

presents

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# IOLANTHE

or

# THE PEER AND THE PERI

Written by : W. S. Gilbert

Composed by : Arthur Sullivan

Musical Director : Bernard Jupp

Assistant Musical Director : Robin White

Producer : Michael Rawley

IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION CONCERT HALL FEBRUARY 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th and 26th, 1965 at 7.30 p.m.

#### FOREWORD

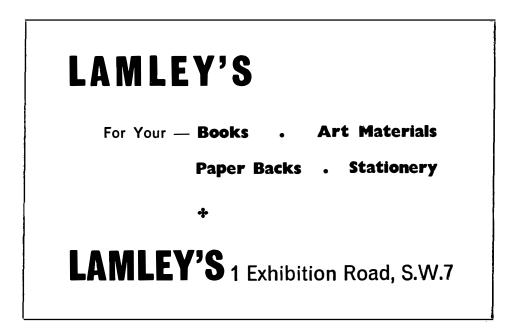
The greatest charm of the work of Gilbert and Sullivan is undeniably its agelessness—its eternal youth. It is always fresh, it is always new; perhaps that is why it is not easy to interpret.

In this, our thirteenth year, it is fitting, therefore, that we should choose to perform afresh one of the wittiest and most tuneful of the Savoy operas.

This Society is probably unique amongst amateur societies in that we are able to draw upon both the Royal College and Royal Academy of Music for our female leads. The chorus ladies are drawn from many local colleges and all the gentlemen from Imperial College.

From the diversity of backgrounds inevitable in such a society, I feel sure that we will again achieve the ultimate aim of the whole Society—your enjoyment.

> CHRIS HOCKING, Chairman.



In my notes I have always avoided giving a synopsis of the plot—this insults both, your intelligence and our production—and instead give the story of some outstanding incident connected with the original production. The rise and fall of the amazing partnership was full of such significant episodes.

Iolanthe coming, as it did, seventh out of the fourteen shows that spanned the years from 1871 to 1893, ushered in the middle period of comparatively uneventful success. It was preceded by HMS Pinafore in 1878, Pirates of Penzance 1880 and Patience 1881 and was followed by Princess Ida 1884, the Mikado 1885 and Ruddigore 1886.

One of the biggest problems of this period was the lack of sufficient copyright protection, particularly in the United States, where piracy of their operas was still depriving Gilbert, Sullivan and Carte of thousands of pounds a year. Partial protection was obtained by simultaneous British and American productions. Heading the American team were Miss Helen Lenoir, afterwards Mrs. D'Oyly Carte, and Alfred Cellier as conductor. As usual Sullivan finished the music in a rush at the last minute. So late, in fact, that he had to ask Cellier to write the overture for the American production.

As a further security precaution Iolanthe, up to the final rehearsal had been called "Perola" when it was changed back, much to the consternation of the cast who doubted their ability to remember the correct name. To overcome the difference in the number of syllables, the cast had had to sing "come Perola" at rehearsals.

On the opening night Gilbert was pacing up and down the Thames Embankment as had become his habit, while back at the Savoy theatre an expectant hush fell over the audience. The brilliant electric lights, which had been installed the previous year for the first time in any theatre, had dimmed and Sullivan came onto the rostrum. The audience cheered and another brilliant Savoy opera was launched.

Among the audience that night was the popular Captain Eyre Massey Shaw, who had turned the independent fire brigades of London. financed by the insurance companies, into London's first public fire brigade. No one was more astonished than he when the Fairy Queen, played by Alice Barnett, advanced downstage toward him and sang:

> "Oh Captain Shaw Type of true love kept under! Could thy Brigade With cold cascade Quench my great love, I wonder!"

> > M.J.R.

# IOLA

#### DRAMATIS PERSONAE

THE LORD CHANCELLOR	HARRY EPTON
EARL OF MOUNTARARAT	RICHARD AULT
EARL TOLLOLLER	TONY SMYTH
PTE. WILLIS (of the Grenadier Guards)	CHRIS HOCKING
STREPHON (an Arcadian Shepherd)	DENIS YELL
QUEEN OF THE FAIRIES	DIANA CROMPTON
IOLANTHE (a Fairy, Strephon's Mother).	ANN HAY
CELIA E	LIZABETH LOWRY
LEILA Fairies	DOROTHY GRAY
FLETA	PENNY TYSOE
PHYLLIS (an Arcadian Shepherdess and W	ard in Chancery)
•	SUSAN BROWNE

Chorus of Fairies: Bema Aidalberry, Janet Birkin, Elisabeth Carter, Ann Collas, Mary Ferguson, Caroline Herbert, Sally Powell, Elizabeth Riach, Ann Shinar, Jean Strevens, Barbara Turpin, Judy Watts, Mary B. Williams. Christine Parkyns.

Chorus of Dukes, Marquises, Earls, Viscounts and Barons: Derek Barr, John Bass, Ivan Burgess, Edwin Colgan, John Foster, Peter Harrison, Jack Hopkins, Mike Hutton, Martyn Johnson, Trevor Laird, David Penfold, Jeremy Sammes, Stuart Watson.

> Chorus Leader : Tony Mallia Prompter : Gillian Haley

# NTHE

### ACT I

### AN ARCADIAN LANDSCAPE

### ACT II

### NEW PALACE YARD, WESTMINSTER

(Coffee will be on sale during the interval)

Stage Manager	TONY MARSHALLSAY
Assistant Stage Manager	MIKE CLERK
Lighting Supervisor	PHILIP EDWARDS
Assistant Lighting Supervisor	VALERIE HUTCHINGS
Make-up SUSAN BROW	
Set designed and props found by	. CAROLINE HERBERT
Business Manager	
Social Secretaries JANET	
Sales Manager	
Publicity Manager	EDWIN COLGAN
Programme Manager	TREVOR LAIRD

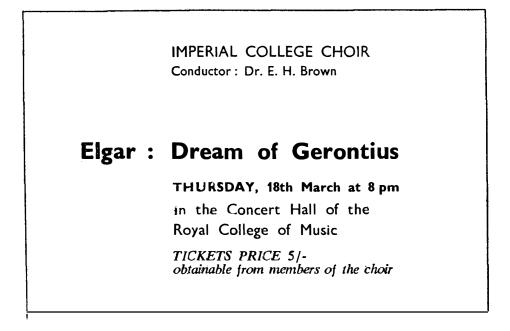
Stage Assistants: Nigel Nettleship, Herbert Strasse, Pete Cartwright, Dave Harris, Jon Shanahan, Paddy Godfrey, Walter Plinge, John Pierce, Ryhs Befan, Andy Cann, I C. Binns, Eric Thorniley.

The Society wishes to express its appreciation to the Dramatic Society for its kind co-operation.

### ORCHESTRA

#### Leader: MYRNA FLEET

First Violin Second Violin Viola 'Cello	<ul> <li>: John Middleton, Miriam Broome, Oliver Walter</li> <li>: Darshan Pandya, Chia Choon Wei, Jeffery Plenty</li> <li>: Lucy Mabey, Christopher Sharp</li> <li>: Patricia Welch, Margaret Snowball, Carol Thompson</li> </ul>
Double Bass Flute Oboe Clarinet Bassoon Horn Trumpet Trombone Percussion Hor	<ul> <li>Anne Bankofier, Robin White</li> <li>Donia Stead, Chris Icham,</li> <li>Jennifer Caws</li> <li>Josephine McHale, Peter Willan</li> <li>Stanley Chalmers</li> <li>Dorothy Brown, Fred Shaub</li> <li>Richard Kaufmann, R. V. R. Lister</li> <li>Danny Allmark, Michael Mitchell</li> <li>Anne Stangar, John Brightwell</li> <li>Accompanist : KAREN WILLIAMS</li> </ul>





HARRY EPTON (Lord Chancellor)



ANN HAY (Iolanthe)



MICHAEL RAWLEY (Producer)



CHRIS HOCKING (Pte. Willis, Chairman)



DIANA CROMPTON (Fairy Queen)



**BERNARD JUPP** (Musical Director)



DENIS YELL (Strephon)



SUSAN BROWNÆ (Phyllis)



**ROBIN WHITE** (Ass. Musical Director)



**RICHARD AULT** (Earl of Mountararat)



TONY SMYTH (Earl Tolloller)



TONY MALLIA (Chorus Leader)