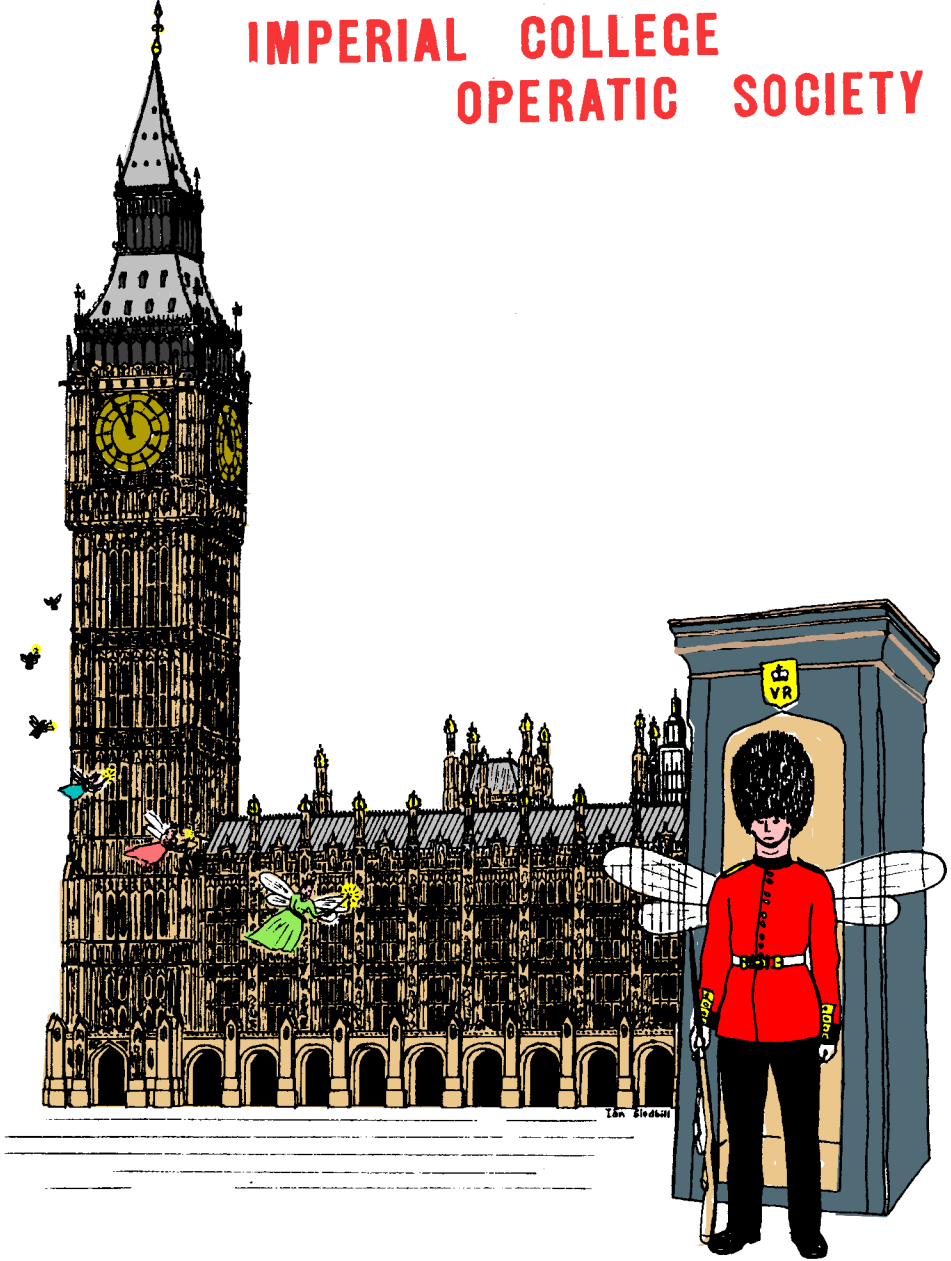


IMPERIAL COLLEGE
OPERATIC SOCIETY



IOLANTHE

February 1973

"Iolanthe" was the seventh Gilbert and Sullivan opera, first produced at the Savoy Theatre on 25th November, 1882. It was an immediate success, and remains one of the most popular to this day.

As in all his libretto, Gilbert pokes fun at the institutions of the day, in this case the House of Lords and the Court of Chancery. Indeed, his proposals for reforming the Upper House as enunciated by the Fairy Queen at the end of Act I, go far beyond anything dreamed up by Harold Wilson.

Gilbert's often hilarious libretto is here combined with some of Sullivan's loveliest music. As we listen to this joyful score, it is hard to imagine the difficulty with which it was composed. Sullivan began work on Iolanthe within three days of his mother's funeral, and the work was often interrupted by bouts of pain from the kidney disease which afflicted him. Yet not a hint of his suffering shows in the music. The overture is a gem, and one of the few that Sullivan composed himself — this was usually a task left to a musical assistant.

One further point of interest — in order to prevent other companies pirating the original production, an attempt was made to keep details of the show secret until the opening night. Even the title was kept secret, the name "Periola" being used right up to the dress rehearsal. Then it was re-christened "Iolanthe". The company protested that they would make mistakes, but Sullivan said to them "Never mind, so long as you sing the music. Use any name that happens to come first to you — Nobody in the audience will be any the wiser, except Mr. Gilbert and he won't be there!"

IOLANTHE

or the Peer and Peri

by W. S. Gilbert & Arthur Sullivan

from Monday 12th February
to Friday 16th February 1973

Producer
Musical Director

Ian Gledhill
David Pollard

The Committee

Chairman
Vice-Chairman
Secretary
Treasurer

Richard Wilson
Neil Hickin
Roger Nicholls
Tim Johnson

Dramatis Personae

The Lord Chancellor	PETER MILLS
Earl of Mountararat	BARNEY BURNHAM
Earl Tolloller	BRIAN PARSONS
Private Willis (of the Grenadier Guards)	NEIL HICKING
Strephon (an Arcadian Shepherd)	MAX TAYLOR
Queen of the Fairies	DEBBY KEMP
Iolanthe (a Fairy, Strephon's mother) (a Fairy, Strephon's mother)	ROBINA BADGER
Celia)	TERESA QUINN
Leila) (Fairies)	CHRISTINE SMITH
Flete)	JANICE COOK
Phylis (an Arcadian Shepherdess and Ward in Chancery)	PAT ELLIOTT

ACT I — An Arcadian Landscape

ACT II — Palace Yard, Westminster

DATE — between 1700 and 1882

There will be an interval of 20 minutes between Acts I and II during which coffee will be on sale

CHORUS OF FAIRIES:

Gill Hook	Pat Nuttall
Ann Hunt	Lucille McAllister
Jane Gregory	Pam Hobbs
Patricia Downes	Jill Clarke
Thelma Hill	Joanna Duxbury

Anne Lomax

CHORUS OF DUKES, MARQUISES, EARLS, VISCOUNTS AND BARON

Philip Taylor	Andy Baxter
David Gadd	Richard Wilson
Nick Feldman	Conrad Donaldson
Stephen Thurlow	Graham Healey
Roger Woodward	Tim Johnson
Mike Buckley	Roger Nicholls
Ian Johnson	Neil Hicking

FOR THE COMPANY:

Stage Manager	ANDY STEVENS
Set Design	NIGEL STEVENS
Lighting Design	TIM WRATTEN
Lighting Operator	ALEC McANDREW
	ROBERT PICKUP
Stage Crew	IAN HAMON-WATT
	DEREK PAUL
	MIKE BAUME
	WALTER PLINGE
Accompanist	JEAN WAGNER
Costume Design	PATRICIA DOWNES
Prompter	TIM GRIGGS
House Manager	STEVEN (FRED) CANN
Front of House Staff	RUSSELL STEPHENS
	CATHERINE RAYNOR
	PETE CONOLLY
Close-circuit TV	RON LEWIS

Violins

Celia Mayes (leader)
Heather Bowler
Kenneth Clarke
Mary Short
Richard Shorter
Ron Trevellian
Jean Wagner
Jill White

Violas

Sally Thyer
Cynthia Wilkinson

'Cellos

Lionel Clarke
Gillian Skinner

Bass

Elaine Cory

Horns

Gary Koop
Trevor Harrison

Flutes

Daphne Mayes
Mary Taylor

Oboe

Stuart Littlewood

Clarinets

Don Monro
Stephen Osborn

Bassoon

Janet Bruce

Trombones

Dave Smith
Susan Dodd
Chris Harding

Tympani

Elaine Seddon

Trumpets

Peter Clowes
Dave Burgess

Orchestral Managers: Lionel Clarke
Don Monro

THE ZOO

If you have enjoyed our production of "Iolanthe" you may be interested to know that we intend to arrange a single performance of the Zoo by Sullivan and German. The date will be Thursday, March 22nd at 1.30 pm in the Great Hall. Admission will be free.

Photograph (over) Terry Carman.
Programme by Lord Garden Design Consultants.
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