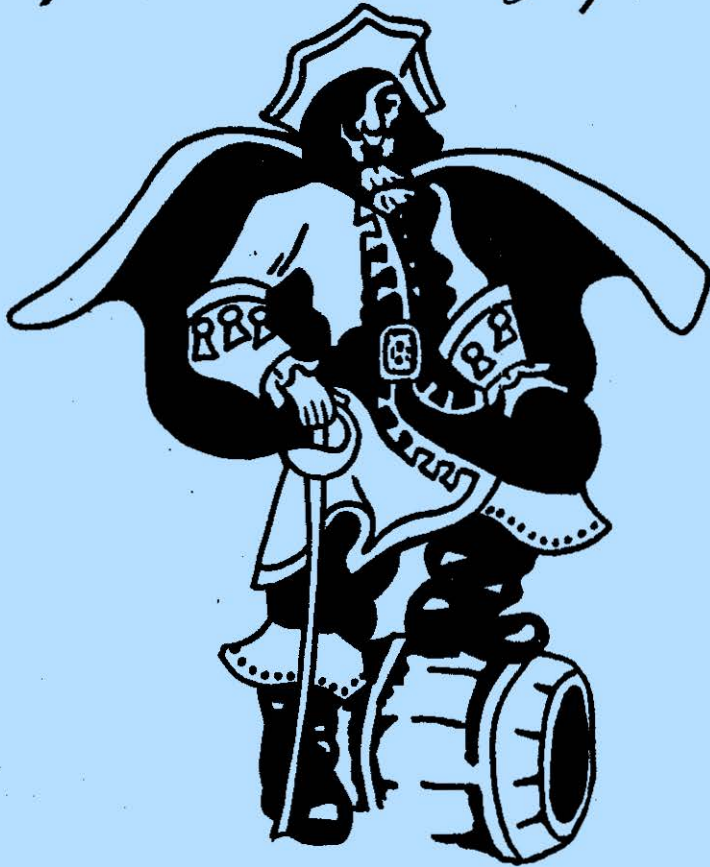


*Imperial College
Operatic Society presents*



*The Pirates of Penzance
or 'The Slave of Duty'
by W.S. Gilbert and A. Sullivan*

Imperial College Operatic Society

presents

The Pirates of Penzance

(or The Slave of Duty)

Union concert hall, Imperial College
13th to 17th February 1989.

Musical Director
Production Director
Stage Manager

Colin Rozario
Clive Paget
Ed Mulligan

Production Notes.

The *Pirates Of Penzance* received its first performance on December 30th 1879, at the Royal Bijou Theatre, Paignton. On this occasion, tickets ranged downwards from three shillings (15p)! The performance, by members of the D'Oyly Carte touring company who were appearing in *HMS Pinafore* in Torquay, was designed to establish the British copyright one day before the official American premiere. Indeed, the production was so hastily prepared that the cast were wearing *Pinafore* costumes and some musical numbers had to be spoken in verse since the music had not arrived from America.

The American premiere was no less fraught. On arrival in New York, Sullivan discovered that he had left all his Act 1 music in Britain. Over the next two months he had to complete and rehearse the new show as well as conducting *HMS Pinafore*. The overture was finished at 5 a.m. On the day of the first performance and the orchestra threatened to strike unless they were paid "opera" rates instead of "operetta".

In spite of all these problems the *Pirates Of Penzance* was an enormous success with the British and American audiences. The London run began in April 1880 and continued for 363 performances.

The *Pirates of Penzance* is undoubtedly one of the more operatic in style of the Savoy Operas. It contains less dialogue than any of the later shows, and relies more on its hero and heroine in terms of the proportion of the music given to Frederick and Mabel. One of the delights of the score is the way in which it is sometimes hard to tell when a moment is being sent up. It is this which allows such scope for interpretation, both musical and dramatic. The range of mood between the touchingly sentimental "Ah leave me not to pine", the obvious operatic parody of "Away, away, my heart's on fire" and the gently farcical "A Policeman's lot" provides a production team full range.

The inspirations for this production are threefold. Firstly, a desire to interest and entertain an audience, many of whom would not be familiar with Gilbert and Sullivan (some of whom may even believe they will not enjoy the experience). The celebrated "Joseph Papp" version of 1980 attempted this, but to many, used to Sullivan's orchestrations, the use of synthesizers in every musical number proves irritating (if not outright anathema). Secondly, a respect for the genius of W.S. Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan whose ideas can often seem swamped by anachronistic word changes to extract extra laughs from local audiences. It is useful to note that Gilbert himself approved of updates at least in so far as he changed "Queen Victoria" to "Good King Edward" for the 1908 revival. Finally, a desire to provide a lively and energetic company with a setting which could exploit their natural talents and enthusiasm. With this in mind the decision to set the show in the 1920's was simple. What other period, since the show was written, was infused with such frivolity and sheer "joie de vivre". In fact, the idea of peers dressing up as pirates becomes dangerously credible, given the atmosphere of the decade.

In drawing this production note to a close, it only remains to say that we hope you enjoy the show and suggest that any would-be members speak to someone afterwards in the bar.

Clive Paget

Synopsis

The start of act one sees the Pirates celebrating the release of Frederic, their apprentice, from his indentures. Unexpectedly, he explains that his apprenticeship had all been a mistake and that he has only stayed because of his Sense of Duty.

On leaving the Pirates, Frederic discovers the daughters of Major General Stanley, who are on a picnic. He falls in love with one of the daughters, Mabel. Unfortunately the girls are caught, by the untimely return of the Pirates, who then announce their intention to wed the girls. The timely appearance and subterfuge of Major General Stanley prevents this.

In act two we find Major General Stanley beset by remorse at his trickery of the Pirates, but nevertheless summoning the local constabulary to capture them.

Frederic discovers that he is not released from his indentures as he thought, and therefore aligns himself once more with the Pirates. His Sense of Duty requires that he tell them of Major General Stanley's trickery. The Pirates immediately set out to seek revenge.....



Scene

Act one : A rocky seashore on the Cornwall coast

Act two : A ruined chapel by moonlight

There will be an interval of twenty minutes between acts one and two.
Refreshments will be served in the interval.

The Pirates of Penzance

Dramatis Personae.



<i>Major General Stanley</i>	Ian Ellery
<i>The Pirate King</i>	John Tripp
<i>Samuel (His Lieutenant)</i>	Tom Monk
<i>Frederic (The Pirate Apprentice)</i>	Dave Tonnison
<i>The Sergeant Of Police</i>	Adam Craske

<i>Ruth (A Piratical Maid Of All Work)</i>	Barbara O'Neill
<i>General Stanley's Daughters :</i>	

<i>Mabel</i>	Lorraine Ely
<i>Edith</i>	Georgia Paget
<i>Kate</i>	Sue Foister
<i>Isabel</i>	Barbara Tansey

Pirates and Police

Mark Lucking
 Mike Dobson
 Emmanuel Saridakis
 Fred Larkins
 Robert Cole
 Matthew Soane
 David Rose
 Phil Hollman
 Sean Doran
 John Franks
 Michael Beecroft

General Stanley's Daughters

Rachel Spence
 Sarah Langton Hewer
 Katherine Mottley
 Biddy Walcot
 Liz Leake
 Janina Kaminska
 Sally Donegani
 Fiona Cooper
 Penelope Woods
 Susan White
 Nina v.Guilleaune
 Caroline Bell

The Orchestra

Violins

**Barbara Steel
Hugh Bolton
Lix Connolly
Jo Last
Lucy Melliush
Victoria Newing
Mac Newton
Mike Withers**

Oboe

Annette Brooks

Clarinets

**Jon Wood
Andrew Power
Peter Toogood**

Violas

**Susan Gowland
Anne Lovely**

Bassoon

Dave Thorpe

'Cellos

**Polly Hewitt
Kathy Durham
Shaun Turpin**

Horns

**Tim Jones
Liz Coe**

Bass

James Tagg

**Cliff Parker
Chris Talbot**

Flutes

**Jon Heitler
Mike Copperwhite
Paul Raybould**

Trumpets

Trombones



**Howard McKenzie
Phil Cambridge
Dave Sharp**

Percussion

Brian Steel


**Band Fixers..... Andrew Power
Rachel Spence
Rehearsal Accompanists..... Jo Last
Andrew Hanley**


For the Company

<i>Stage Manager</i>	Ed Mulligan
<i>Assistant Stage Manager</i>	Andrew Larkins
<i>Set design</i>	Adam Craske
<i>Properties</i>	Andrew Larkins
<i>Lighting</i>	
<i>Scenic Painting</i>	Rachel Mulligan
<i>Paint Supervisor</i>	Daniel Glum
<i>Technical Advice</i>	Ian Cairns
	Dave Shorwood
<i>Stage crew (constructors)</i>	Jo Claydon
	Ian White
	Phil Bailey
<i>Stage crew (shifters)</i>	Andy Woodger
	Andrew Hanley
	Phil Bailey
	
	Ian Cairns
	Chorus of Pirates

Set built and produced by most of the cast and the Producer.

<i>Front of House managers</i>	Gillian Sturcke
	Peter Murphy
<i>Costumes</i>	Irianwen Rees
<i>Makeup</i>	Georgia Paget
<i>Additional Choreography</i>	Janina Kaminska
<i>Programme editors</i>	John Franks
	Simon Gornall

: This extremely important function is carried out with great aplomb by person or persons unknown at the time of going to press.

: Rachel, whose last name is unfortunately not known, will be helping in this capacity.

You've seen the set, now visit the resort!

**Why not spend two weeks (in the sun*)
this Summer performing**

Iolanthe

**in Budleigh Salterton, Devon
(not very near Penzance)**

July 22nd to August 6th

Accommodation and breakfast for £40

**Visit the Public hall (where we perform)
the Public library (unlikely)
the Public house (quite likely)**

**Discover cream teas, pebble beaches,
scrumpy and Devon fudge**

**Collect your tourist information pack at
the first rehearsal...**

**Tuesday 25th April 7.30 p.m.
Union Concert Hall**

*** Delete as applicable after August 6th**

Committee

<i>President</i>	Sue Foister
<i>Vice President</i>	Matthew Soane
<i>Treasurer</i>	Sean Doran
<i>Secretary</i>	Mark Lucking
<i>Social Secretary</i>	Tom Monk
<i>Publicity Officer</i>	John Franks

Many thanks to

Imperial College Fencing Club
Simon Gornall
Moet et Chandon (Champagne supplier)
The Felix staff
DramSoc
Sir Walter Plinge

FORTHCOMING ATTRACTION

**Side to side with
Leonard Bernstein
21st March**

