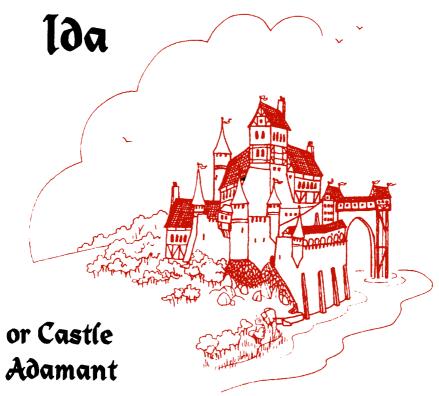
Imperial College Operatic Society

Princess



by W. S. Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan

Director Philip Hollman Musical Director Jonathan Heitler

Budleigh Salterton 28 July - 7 August 1993

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Imperial College Operatic Society

Welcome to our show. 1993 marks the 26th annual production by Imperial College Operatic Society Tour here in Budleigh Salterton, and the return of Princess Ida, last seen here in 1979. As has become traditional, the company may be seen in different roles on Sunday 1st August at St Peter's Church at 2:30 where a charity concert of mixed music will be performed.

I should like to take this opportunity to thank our invaluable local supporters, notably Sandra George, Budleigh Salterton Town Council, the staff at the Tourist Informatiuon Centre, the Board of Governors at St Peter's School and Jean Clements.

I hope you enjoy the show.

Alison Abery ICOS Tour Chairman 1993



The directors Jon and Phil during a break in rehearsals

Jonathan Heitler Musical Director

This is Jonathan's thirteenth show in Budleigh Salterton, his first being *Iolanthe* in 1978. He spent a happy eleven years playing the flute in the orchestra until his ambition overcame his modesty and he played Koko in *The Mikado*. Not content with stardom on the stage, he grabbed the limelight in last Christmas' production of *Viva Mexico!* as its musical director. His future plans include taking over the world and becoming a famous conductor.

Philip Holman Director

Phil's acting debut was in 1982 as a drunken Russian rugby-player. Since then he has progressed to a one-legged pirate, a vicar, a tree, a failed revolutionary and a skateboarding singing telegram delivery boy. His first tour was *The Yeomen of the Guard* (1988), he worked up by way of the Judge in *Trial By Jury* (1991) to appear as Pooh-Bah, the walking duvet, in last year's *The Mikado*. In London he has played American accents in *Kiss Me*, *Kate* and *Anything Goes. Princess Ida* marks his solo direction debut after co-directing *Grease* in 1992.







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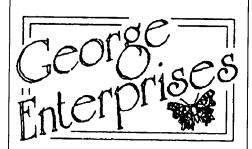
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Princess Ida

Princess Ida very nearly became the last G&S collaboration. After its production, a protracted argument was sparked by Sullivan, who wrote to Gilbert complaining that he had been forced to reduce the scope of the musical score because of the importance Gilbert attributed to the words. Eventually, tempers cooled and work began on The Mikado although many more quarrels were to follow before the partnership was finally dissolved.

Rehearsals for the production did not run smoothly. In contrast to the majority of authors of the time, Gilbert directed the production personally and he was a very demanding taskmaster. The dialogue, in blank verse, did nothing to assist those members of the cast who had difficulty with their lines. In addition, Sullivan's habit of re-orchestrating the score into the early hours of the morning, during the final days of rehearsing, can only have added to the tension.

Sullivan suffered from kidney problems and the strain of rehearsals became so great that he collapsed on the day of the first performance. Revived with black coffee and morphine, he took his place on the conductor's platform and managed to carry on with the show, only to pass out after his curtain call.

The show opened on 5th January 1884, to mixed reviews. Most critics thought that the music was a delight and the lyrics were witty and amusing. However there was a general feeling amongst many that the play itself was not one of Gilbert's better works which must have fuelled Sullivan's displeasure with the libretto.

Princess Ida was a re-working of an unsuccessful musical play by Gilbert entitled The Princess, first staged in 1870 and billed as "A Respectful Per-Version" of Tennyson's 1847 poem The Princess: A Medley. Tennyson's work anticipates women's quest for equality and Gilbert followed the poem closely in his play, even as far as copying its blank verse form. The original songs were dispensed with for Princess Ida although much of the dialogue was retained. At first the new production was billed as having two acts plus a prologue; this was soon to change to the three act format. A departure from the standards of the time, this was not a universally popular decision, since two long intervals for set changes tended to make the performance over long; a problem encountered to this day.

The larger than usual number of performers required for *Princess Ida* meant that the original Savoy group had to be expanded to stage the show. In the case of our production, the economic situation has meant that it has been very difficult to find enough people able to tour this year. The welcome side-effect is that there is plenty of room on stage for those of us who are here.

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Director's Notes

Princess Ida is not seen as often as many of the other Savoy Operas, and it would have been easy to wheel out a standard setting, relying on the audience's unfamiliarity with the piece. Instead we have turned to historical sources for a different approach.

The libretto for *Princess Ida* clearly specifies the scene for each act, but nowhere states explicitly the historical period. Reading just the first few pages soon resolves this omission - they imply a Medieval world of kings, castles and love-lorn princes. It is a scrubbed and sanitised version of historical fact, popularised in the writings of Sir Walter Scott and Arthur Conan-Doyle, owing more to *The Talisman*, *The White Company* and *Ivanhoe* than to period authenticity. This is a period where Good and Evil are clearly defined, the clothes are clean and colourful, and the apple-cheeked peasants have been imported from a Bruegel wedding-feast.

Such a romanticised view of medieval existence is not confined to the Victorians. Hollywood films of the 1930's and 40's such as *The Adventures of Robin Hood* and *The Court Jester* carry the same idea even further. They add an extra layer of glitz to create an entirely artificial historical era, far removed from the grim realities of feudilism and the Black Death. It is this Hollywood medieval genre, pervading the musicals *Camelot* and *Kiss Me, Kate*, that provides the setting for this production.

Gilbert's original satire has lost its potency over the years, but it is replaced by other, different elements. Parody is a prominent component throughout - the blank verse dialogue lends itself to Shakespearean over-delivery, the characterisation occupies the outer edges of stereotype, and the more lighthearted, candy-floss tunes are accompanied by dances moves just as lightweight and insubstantial, parodying the conventions of operetta and musical comedy. Good bad taste takes over some of the sillier and more sentimental moments, and there is a strong vein of visual humour running the length of the show.

The satire on Female Education is no longer effective in these days of Equal Opportunities and Political Correctness, but it can still be employed to throw light on gender stereotypes, and the way men and women perceive each other. However, the women in this production are not as passive as their Victorian originals, and the men have certainly met their match.

History lessons aside, this production is primarily intended to be fun, both for the performers and the audience, whether novice or G&S buff.

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Songs from The Princess

Come down, O maid, from yonder mountain height: What pleasure lives in height (the shepherd sang), In height and cold, the spleandour of the hills? But cease to move so near the Heavens, and cease To glide a sunbeam by the blasted Pine, To sit a star upon a sparkling spire; And come, for Love is of the valley, come, For Love is of the valley, come thou down And find him; by the happy threshold, he, Or hand in hand with Plenty in the maize, Or red with spirited purple of the vats, Or foxlike in the vine; nor cares to walk With Death and Morning on the silver horns, Nor wilt thou snare him in the white ravine, Nor find him dropt upon the firths of ice, That huddling slant in furrow-cloven falls To roll the torrent out of dusky doors: But follow; let the torrent dance thee down To find him in the valley; let the wild Lean-headed Eagles yelp alone, and leave The monstrous ledges there to slope, and spill Their thousand wreaths of dangling water-smoke, That like a broken purpose waste in air: So waste thou not; but come; for all the vales Await thee: azure pillars of the hearth Arise to thee; the children call, and I Thy shepherd pipe, and sweet is every sound, Sweeter thy voice, but every sound is sweet; Myriads of rivulets hurrying thro' the lawn, The moan of doves in immemorial elms, And murmuring of innumerable bees.

The splendour falls on castle walls And snowy summits old in storey: The long light shakes across the lakes, And the wild cataract leaps in glory. Blow, bugle, blow, set the wild echoes flying, Blow, bugle; answer, echoes, dying, dying, dying.

O hark, O hear! how thin and clear, And thinner, clearer, farther going! O sweet and far from cliff and scar The horns of Elfland faintly blowing! Blow, let us hear the purple glens replying: Blow, bugle; answer, echoes, dying, dying, dying.

O love, they die in yon rich sky, They faint on hill or field or river: Our echoes roll from soul to soul, And grow for ever and for ever. Blow, bugle, blow, set the wild echoes flying, And answer, echoes, answer, dying, dying, dying. Sweet and low, sweet and low, Wind of the western sea, Low, low, breathe and blow, Wind of the western sea! Over the rolling waters go, Come from the dying moon, and blow, Blow him again to me; While my little one, while my pretty one, sleeps.

Sleep and rest, sleep and rest, Father will come to thee soon: Rest, rest, on mother's breast, Father will come to thee soon: Father will come to his babe in the nest. Silver sails all out of the west, Under the silver moon: Sleep, my little one, sleep, my pretty one, sleep.

Ask me no more: the moon may draw the sea; The cloud may stoop from heaven and take the shape, With fold to fold, of mountain or of cape; But O too fond, when have I answer'd thee?

Ask me no more.

Ask me no more: what answer should I give? I love not hollow cheek or faded eye: Yet, O my friend, I would not have thee die! Ask me no more, lest I should bid thee live; Ask me no more.

Ask me no more: thy fate and mine are seal'd. I strove against the stream and all in vain: Let the great river take me to the main: No more, dear love, for at a touch I yield; Ask me no more.

Now sleeps the crimson petal, now the white; Nor waves the cypress in the palace walk; Nor winks the gold fin in the porphyry font: The fire-fly wakens: waken thou with me.

Now droops the milkwhite peacock like a ghost, And like a ghost she glimmers on to me. Now lies the earth all Danaë to the stars, And all thy heart lies open unto me. Now slides the silent meteor on, and leaves A shining furrow, as thy thoughts in me.

Now folds the lilly all her sweetness up, And slips into the bosom of the lake: So fold thyself, my dearest, thou, and slip Into my bosom and be lost in me.

Synopsis Act 1

King Hildebrand's court awaits the arrival of Princess Ida, betrothed in infancy to Hildebrand's son, Prince Hilarion. Their marriage will ensure peace between Hildebrand and Ida's father, King Gama. Instead, Gama and his three sons arrive, with the news that Ida has fled and rules a women's university where all men are forbidden. Hildebrand takes Gama and his sons hostage while Hilarion and his companions, Cyril and Florian, infiltrate Ida's castle to woo her.

Act 2

Castle Adamant is a hive of women's academic activity, supervised by the Ladies Psyche and Blanche. Ida arrives, and with a stirring speech inspires all but the ambitious Blanche.

Hilarion, Cyril and Florian climb over the wall and, finding some women's clothes, disguise themselves as prospective students. They meet the Princess and just manage to convince her of their assumed identities.

As Ida departs they encounter Lady Psyche, who turns out to be Florian's sister. He confides in her, but they are overheard by Melissa, Blanche's daughter, who has never seen a man. After the men leave, Melissa is confronted by Lady Blanche who suspects the new students' true gender. Melissa persuades her mother to keep the secret, for if Hilarion wins Ida's hand, Blanche will become Principal.

Melissa and Florian decide to elope, but they are interrupted by the luncheon bell. During lunch, Cyril's gets drunk and inadvertently reveals the men's disguise. In the confusion Ida falls into the stream below and is rescued by Hilarion.

Hildebrand's army arrives and Ida, defiantly, orders the three spies be imprisoned.

Act 3

The women are reluctant to defend Castle Adamant so King Gama, sent as a messenger from Hildebrand, entreats her to relent. Ida agrees, and her three brothers arrive to fight Hilarion, Cyril and Florian on her behalf.

da's brothers remove their armour to give their "female" opponents a chance. While Hilarion and his friends discard their feminine attire, they are knocked unconscious by Jama's sons. Blanche sees her chances of ruling the university disappearing, so takes natters into her own hands, followed by Psyche and Melissa who have realised the depth heir affections for Cyril and Florian.

Hilarion is revived and declared the victor. He proposes to Ida who, realising that the university will prosper under Blanche's leadership, finally accepts him.

Dramatis Personae

Members of Princess Ida's University

Princess Ida, Principal, daughter of King Gama	Susan Foister
Lady Psyche, Professor of Humanities	Katina Dawe
Lady Blanche, Professor of Abstract Philosophy	Amanda Pask
Melissa, her daughter, a student of Classics	Joanna Soane
Sacharissa, a student of Medicine	Kirsty Bennett
Chloe, a student of Mathematics	Genevieve Cogman
Ada, a student of Music	Alison Abery
Daphne, a student of Engineering	Jane Hickling
Calista, a student of Botany	Fiona Healy
Berengaria, a student of Chemistry	Valerie Proctor
Rosalynde, a student of Literature	Annette Carol

King Hildebrand's Court

King Hildebrand, a good king	Matthew Soane
Hilarion, his son and heir	Stephen Brown
Cyril, Hilarion's friend	Mark van Ments
Florian, Hilarion's other friend	Ed Mulligan
Nectabanus, the court jester	Lin Yi-Ming
Conrade, a high ranking servant	Alan Attwood
Roswal, a low ranking servant	Philip Hollman

King Gama's Court

King Gama, a bad king	John Franks
Arac, his son	Iain Barker
Guron, another son	Mark Rivers-Moore
Scynthius, yet another son	Derek Hirst

Plus chorus of assorted courtiers, retainers, guards, serfs and peasants.

Scenes

Act 1 A courtyard in Castle Hildebrand interval 20 minutes

Act 2 Castle Adamant, the following day interval 5 minutes

Act 3 Castle Adamant, the afternoon after that please remain seated during the second interval



the cast posing for a photograph

lain Barker Arac

Iain joined ICOS ten years ago and has performed variously in the chorus, in the stage crew and in the orchestra (as a clarinettist). His first appearance in Salterton was in *The Sorcerer* (1984) and his last starring role was as Mercury in an early evening performance of *Orpheus in the Underworld*. Iain suffers from an excess of enthusiasm for all his activities including singing, parachuting and entertaining. He ardently hopes for a game of croquet during the course of his visit.

Kirsty Bennett Sacharissa

Kirsty is studying singing at Trinity College of Music and has just completed her first year. She has sung with many choirs, including Lewisham Choral Society and the London Welsh Chorale. But as she is completely stage struck she is now concentrating on music theatre. She

is a member of several operatic societies and has appeared in *Show Boat*, *Kiss Me*, *Kate* and *Carousel*. She recently played Josephine in *H. M. S. Pinafore* at the Beckenham Theatre Centre.

Stephen Brown Hilarion

Stephen has just finished his first year studying singing at Trinity College. As a treble he performed with opera groups including English National Opera and recorded a Christmas record with Julie Andrews. He then gained an interest in conducting and at the age of 18 formed his own orchestra specialising in the early operas of Mozart. More recently he has taken parts in many of the Gilbert & Sullivan operas including Frederick (*The Pirates of Penzance*), Ralph (*H. M. S. Pinafore*), Box (*Cox and Box*) and Counsel (*Trial by Jury*). Earlier this summer he played Basilio (*Marriage of*)

Figaro) in Milton Keynes and future plans include Don Ottavio (Don Giovanni) and Gherardo (Gianni Schicchi).

Katina Dawe Lady Psyche

For the first time in four years, Katina has managed to avoid playing a bridesmaid. Previous roles include Sophronia (a bridesmaid in *Trial by Jury*), Morwenna (a professional bridesmaid in *Ruddygore*), Peep-Bo (a bridesmaid in *The Mikado*) and Cousin Hebe (*HMS Pinafore*). In London she is more renowned for her activities as a choral singer with groups including the BBC Symphony Chorus and the Tallis Chamber Choir; Budleigh Salterton remains her annual excursion onto the stage. In her spare time Katina plays clarinet and works for the world's biggest music festival.

Susan Foister Princess 1da

Susan, an ostensibly mild-mannered explant pathologist, so enjoyed menacing the cast of The Mikado as Katisha last year, another sword that she returns as brandishing female. Previous roles in included Budleigh Salterton have Buttercup (HMS Pinafore), Dame Hannah (Ruddygore), Mrs Smith (The Arcadians) and Dulcie (The Boyfriend). Susan spends her days sabotaging the computer systems of a well-known Scottish Bank.

John Franks King Gama

John is now on his fifth tour, having been initiated in 1989 in *Iolanthe*. This is his first major part, although he has played several minor roles both in Devon and London (including the Boatswain in *HMS*

Pinafore, a ferret in Trial by Jury and a Shinto Priest in The Mikado). When not on stage, he works as an optical designer and project manager for a small company in North London.

Mark van Ments Cyril

Mark was introduced to the Budleigh Salterton audience last year as Nanki Poo in *The Mikado* and now returns typecast in a role which draws on many of his talents.

Since last year, his time has been spent working and singing, with a bit of time for eating and sleeping. His main ambition is to find a job which involves all of the above, and to see more of the town than last year.

Ed Mulligan Florian

To his certain knowlege. Ed has retired from OPSOC at least twice. He was last tempted back to play a juvenile deliquent with bad dress sense in Grease. This time. he has been lured back by the opportunity to play a noble warrior with bad dress sense. Ed is well versed with all aspects of the theatre. He has sung more roles than he cares to remember, crewed both front of house and back stage, acted (Teechers and Twelfth Night), composed incidental music (Twelfth Night) and directed (Can't Pay, Won't Pay). When the Budleigh Salterton Tour is finished he is taking two children's plays to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. Ed Mulligan is a superstar and is available for signing autographs at the end of each performance.

Mark Rivers-Moore Guron

Though hardly the youngest member in the production, Mark brings considerable vocal experience including seven centuries of choral works from Machaut to McCartney. He has been involved in a number of G&S productions, including 2 *Mikadi*, *Utopia Limited*, and a live Radio 2 broadcast. Approaches from prospective agents should be made in person.

Derek Hirst Scynthius

Derek's first musical appearance was as a chorus member ten years ago in a local school production of *The Gondoliers* - after three rehearsals

After joining Imperial College in 1989 he appeared in *Utopia Limited*, *Kiss Me*, *Kate* and the *Trial by Jury/HMS Pinafore* Tour to Budleigh Salterton in 1991. He was chairman of Opsoc for 1991/2 and 1992/3 during which he was co-producer of the unfeasibly colossal *Grease*, which broke all Opsoc box-office (and budget) records in 1992.

He is now studying for a further three years at IC in order to obtain his doctorate. He plays piano - sometimes with both hands - and also plays drums in the loudest rock band in college.

Amanda Pask Lady Blanche

Amanda, although a familiar name in Budleigh Salterton is playing her first principal role here. In the past five years she has been confined to some notable hammy performances in the chorus of Iolanthe (a lame fairy), Ruddygore (an eight hundred year old witch) and HMS Pinafore (a very weepy widowed aunt), before being ejected from the stage altogether to direct Trial by Jury and last year's production of The Mikado. Blanche has provided Amanda with a golden opportunity to display her underlying egomania in the guise of "only acting in character".

Joanna Soane Melissa

Joanna's first appearance in Salterton was in the chorus for last summer's production of *The Mikado*. She went on to play Lucille in *Viva Mexico!*, last year's Christmas show. Joanna is currently studying singing and clarinet at Trinity College of Music, London. She is hoping for the opportunity to fulfil her secret ambition of playing in the band, but with serious competition from all the other clarinettists in the cast, she may have a long wait.

Matthew Soane King Hildebrand

Matthew is well accustomed to portraying members of the upper class, having previously played Pish-Tush (*The Mikado*) and Sir Evelyn Oakleigh (*Anything Goes*). He has kept touch with the commoners as Private Willis (*Iolanthe*), but missed the chance of playing a dead noble in *Ruddygore* by playing the clarinet in Australia instead. This is Matthew's fourth show in Devon and his eighth with ICOS. He also performs regularly wil Opsoc's sister society, Imperial Opera.











Orchestra

Violins	Barbara Steel, <i>leader</i> Barbara Large	Clarinets	Caroline Mosley Andrew Storey
	Chris Pravoline	Bassoon	Tanya Weekes
	Brian V. Woolie	Trumpets	Cliff Parker
	Olive Prainly	-	Tony Stevens
Viola	Jo Smith	Trombones	Colin Parker
'Cello	Jonathan Ayeling		Helen Vaughn
Flute	Rob Fullwete	Horn	Tim Jones
Oboe	Boris Ageott	Percussion	Brian Steel

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Katina Dawe Programme

Daniel Glum Adam Craske

Artwork Photographs Mark van Ments Poster Simon Austin **Publicity** Katina Dawe Chairman Alison Abery Treasurer Mylan Lester

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The ICOS Shows

- 1956 Victorian Melodrama
- 1957 Trial by Jury
- 1958 The Mikado
- 1959 Iolanthe
- 1960 HMS Pinafore
- 1961 The Yeomen of the Guard
- 1962 Trial by Jury, Bastien and Bastienne (Mozart)
- 1963 The Pirates of Penzance
- 1964 The Gondoliers
- 1965 Iolanthe, The Mikado
- 1966 HMS Pinafore, Trial by Jury, The Gondoliers
- 1967 Ruddigore, Carmen (Bizet), G&S Highlights
- 1968 The Pirates of Penzance, *Iolanthe
- 1969 The Yeomen of the Guard, The Mikado
- 1970 HMS Pinafore, *The Pirates of Penzance
- 1971 Patience. *The Gondoliers
- 1972 The Yeomen of the Guard, Trial by Jury, *The Sorcerer
- 1973 Iolanthe, The Zoo, *Ruddigore
- 1974 Princess Ida, *HMS Pinafore, *Trial by Jury
- 1975 The Mikado, G&S Highlights, *Patience
- 1976 Utopia Limited, *The Pirates of Penzance, *The Zoo
- 1977 Orpheus in the Underworld (Offenbach), Venus and Adonis (Blow), The Marathon, *The Yeomen of the Guard
- 1978 The Gondoliers, Tales of Hoffmann Act II (Offenbach), *Iolanthe
- 1979 The Grand Duchess (Offenbach), Trial by Jury, *Princess Ida
- 1980 The Sorcerer, The Zoo, *The Mikado
- 1981 Ruddigore, Fiddler on the Roof, The Zoo, *HMS Pinafore, *Trial by Jury
- 1982 Patience, The Marathon, Trial by Jury, *Utopia Limited
- 1983 The Yeomen of the Guard, The Martyr of Antioch (Sullivan), *The Gondoliers
- 1984 Iolanthe, Captain Noah and his Floating Zoo (Horovitz), *The Pirates of Penzance, *The Zoo
- 1985 The Grand Duke, Horrortorio (Horovitz), *The Sorcerer
- 1986 Princess Ida, Bessie's Dilemma (Foister), Widgets, PLC (Mulligan & Sturke), *The Mikado
- 1987 The Zoo, HMS Pinafore, The Marathon, *Patience
- 1988 The Gondoliers, Side by Side by Sondheim (Sondheim), *Saint George and the Dragon (Gledhill), *The Yeomen of the Guard
- 1989 The Pirates of Penzance, Bernstein on Broadway (Bernstein), *Iolanthe
- 1990 Utopia Limited, The Songs of Cole Porter (Porter), *Ruddygore
- 1991 Kiss Me, Kate (Porter), *HMS Pinafore, *Trial by Jury
- 1992 Grease (Jacobs & Casey), The Marathon, *The Mikado
- 1993 Anything Goes (Porter), *Princess Ida

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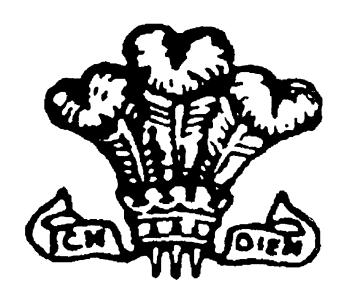
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