

**The Gilbert and Sullivan Very Light Opera Company
Board Meeting**

June 12, 2016

In Attendance: Stephen Hage, Alex Gerchak, Jo Pasternak, Wally Benbenek, Shawn Holt, Mary Gregory, Barb Hovey, Eric Pasternak, Malka Key, Denise Brophy, John Orbison

The meeting was called to order by Stephen Hage at 7:06 pm.

Mikado discussion/decision – Stephen: A discussion was had regarding the conversation Stephen had with Rick Shiomi and changes being proposed to *The Mikado* for 2019.

The show would be set in Edwardian England with all references to Japan and the Japanese being removed. The men are playing cricket in the opening song. Character names have been changed as follows: Franky-Poo, Cole Coe, Pooh-Bah, Chris-Tush, Tum Tum, Patti-Sing, Bow-Peep, and Katy Shaw. The character of Katy Shaw was changed to emphasize her strong personality rather than her being grotesque. Song wording would also be changed

Mr. Shiomi would like G & S to have a more diverse cast with more Asians as principals Stephen explained the Grandparenting process to Mr. Shiomi.

What does G & S lose with this interpretation? Should the setting reflect a time in England when executions were commonplace?

There would be an allegory shift-from Japan to England, thus possibly losing the exotic effect.

A vote was taken regarding doing the Mikado in 2019: 7 for doing the show with Rick Shiomi's interpretation and 2 against with 2 abstaining.

G & S in Popular Culture: A reminder was given to be on the lookout for G & S references to popular culture. Please send them to Stephen Hage.

Summer Concert Update: All is fine. Chris Mikaela is able to do the role of the Mikado. The first rehearsal is Thursday, June 16, 2016.

Gondoliers Schedule review – Stephen:

Auditions will be November 6 and 7, 2016, rehearsals will begin Monday, January 16, 2017, with Mondays, Tuesday, and Thursdays from 7:00 to 10:00 pm and Saturdays from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.

Load-in at Howard Conn will be Saturday, February 25, 2017 and Sunday, February 26, 2017. Performance schedule will be from March 9 through April 2, 2017.

Future Show Schedules: Orpheus and the Underworld possibly November 4 - 20, 2017.

Stephen will need to speak with Jackie at Plymouth. As of yet, there is no one scheduled to be in the theater then. Talks with Lesley Hendrickson are in progress as to when the show should be as well.

Princess Ida: March 2 - 25, 2018

The Mikado: March 1 - 24 or March 8-31 or March 15-April 7, 2019

The Gondoliers production staff has been finalized and they are:

Leslie Hendrickson	Stage Director
Randy Buikema	Music Director
Denise Brophy	Stage Manager
Larry Rostad	Set Designer
Jon Brophy	Lighting Designer
Jay Scoggins	Set Builder
BarbPortinga	Costume Designer
Jo Pasternack	Wardrobe Mistress
Jean Van Heel	Assistant Music Director
Bob Johanneck	A/V Technician
Ann Marie MacIntire	Orchestra Manager
Malka Key	Assistant Stage Manager
Brianna Sullivan	Assistant Stage Manager
Jack Kravik	Assistant Stage Manager
Trina Morrison	House Manager
Charlotte Morrison	Tickets

Mary Olson	Poster Designer
Stephen Hage	Producer
Shawn Holt	Secretary
John Orbison	Treasurer
Malka Key	Labour Pool Coordinator
Waldyn Benbenek	Publicity
Mary Gregory	Women's Chorus Representative
Alexander Gerchak	Men's Chorus Representative
Barb Hovey	Orchestra Representative

The next production meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 20, 2016, at 7:00p.m.

Revenue Increase: discussion was had regarding the increase of ticket prices for The Gondoliers by \$2.00. The adding of an additional Thursday performance was also discussed. No decision was made, as more discussion is needed regarding these topics.

Randy's suggestions as to using understudies more: A decision of NO to a concert version and to guaranteeing the understudies a performance was made.

The board was open to the suggestion of a night off (perhaps Tuesday) during Tech Week.

Proposal for allowing credit cards at the door. Paypal - Are we paying too much for this service? Does anyone care? Automation of ticket sales

Other business - Malka Key: Gilbert & Sullivan Summit in Chicago, Illinois, October 14, 15 and 16. Singing, discussion of Thespis , etc.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Shawn Holt