

The Grand Duke

or, The Statutory Duel

THE CAST

Theatrical Troupe:

Ernest Dummkopf (*A Theatrical Manager*)..... Eric Mellum
Ludwig (*His Leading Comedian*)..... Waldyn Benbenek
Dr. Tannhauser (*A Notary*)..... Ethan Edwards
Julia Jellicoe (*an English Comedienne*) Amanda Broge
Lisa (*A Soubrette*) Betsie Feldkamp
Olga..... Angie Solomon
Gretchen..... Amy Rebecca Carlson
Bertha..... Rhea Sullivan
Elsa Jill Tieskoetter
Martha..... Holly Windle

Grand Ducal Court:

Rudolph (*Grand Duke of Pfennig Halbpennig*)..... Hazen B. Markoe
Baroness von Krakenfeldt (*betrothed to Rudolph*)..... Kathryn Larsen

Chorus of Chamberlains:

Stephen Hage	Jonathan Proctor
Dean Laurance	Richard Rames
Matthieu Peterson	Charles Segal

Monte Carlo Entourage:

The Prince of Monte Carlo Randy Lebsock
The Princess of Monte Carlo Sara Gustafson
Herald Christopher O. Kidder
Ben Hashbaz (*a Costumier*) Jim Brooks

Chorus of "Nobles":

Stephen Hage	Jonathan Proctor
Dean Laurance	Richard Rames
Matthieu Peterson	Charles Segal

Chorus of Actors and Actresses:

Shaun Nathan Baer	Stephen Hage	Charlotte Morrison
Amy Bonhag	Kristen L. Husby	Eric Pasternack
Ernest Brody	Christopher O. Kidder	Matthieu Peterson
Stephanie Brody	Dean Laurance	Jonathan Proctor
Jim Brooks	Randy Lebsock	Richard Rames
Doug Dally	Warren Loud	Charles Segal
Peter Erickson	Holly MacDonald	Julie Seykora
Sara Gustafson	Mary Mescher Benbenek	



Understudies: Shaun Nathan Baer, Jim Brooks, Doug Dally, Sara Gustafson,
Stephen Hage, Kristen L. Husby, Christopher O. Kidder, Richard Rames,
Angie Solomon, Rhea Sullivan, Jill Tieskoetter

Time: Mid-eighteenth century

Act I: Market Place of Pfennig Halbpennig

Act II: The Entrance Hall in the Grand Ducal Palace, the next morning

There will be one fifteen-minute intermission



~ *Turn off all cell phones & pagers* ~

~ *No eating or drinking is allowed in the theatre* ~

~ *No smoking is permitted in the building* ~

~ *The use of flash cameras is strictly forbidden* ~

About *The Grand Duke*

The Grand Duke was the final collaboration of Gilbert and Sullivan, and met with less than favorable reviews when it opened on March 7, 1896. Gilbert and Sullivan usually “fine-tuned” their operas after their first performance, dropping numbers, tightening dialogue, sometimes rewriting sections. This did not happen with *The Grand Duke*. The D’Oyly Carte company never revived the show, and it was seldom performed. When our company produced it in 1991, we decided to make some revisions, as the creators might have done, had they been on speaking terms. This time, we have also incorporated an extra song in Act II, borrowed from *Utopia, Limited* (another late Gilbert and Sullivan opera) showing the Notary, Ernest, and Rudolph planning a counter-revolution.

Synopsis

Act I: A theatrical company in the Grand Duchy of Pfennig Halbpennig is celebrating the upcoming wedding of Ludwig and Lisa, two of their members. The company is also plotting to overthrow the Grand Duke (Rudolph) and place their manager, Ernest, on the throne. (The conspirators’ secret sign is the eating of a sausage roll.) As the court positions are to be filled according to standing in the company, leading lady Julia Jellicoe would be the Grand Duchess.

After Ludwig carelessly discloses their plot to the Grand Duke’s detective, the Notary proposes a “Statutory Duel” in order to avert disaster. Ludwig and Ernest are to “duel” with cards, the loser becoming legally dead (only until the law expires the next day). The winner will denounce the loser as the plot’s instigator and receive a pardon. Ernest loses, and Ludwig goes to find the Grand Duke.

Grand Duke Rudolph, meanwhile, busy planning his wedding to the Baroness von Krakenfeldt, has just learned about the plot against him. Ludwig decides on a new strategy to take advantage of Rudolph’s panic. He offers to relieve Rudolph of the danger by winning a rigged “statutory duel” and taking his place during the coup. They summon the people to see their duel, and Rudolph leaves thinking to return when the law expires the next day. Ludwig, however, revives the law for another century!

Julia points out that she is now forced to wed Ludwig in order to take on her leading role as Grand Duchess. Lisa, Ludwig’s fiancée, leaves in tears as the new Grand Duke’s entourage prepare to don their *Troilus and Cressida* costumes as suitable court attire.

Act II: The Greek motif is evident in Ludwig’s court when the Baroness arrives for her wedding with Grand Duke Rudolph. Somewhat dismayed to learn of Rudolph’s “death,” she explains that Ludwig has to take on all of the Grand Duke’s obligations and marry her.

The complex plot takes yet another turn when the Princess of Monte Carlo shows up with her father and a band of hired “nobles.” It seems she was betrothed in infancy to the Grand Duke Rudolph, and her father has finally obtained money enough to pay off his debts and bring her here just before the betrothal arrangement expires at 3:00. (His money came from roulette, as he explains with a song partly in French.) The claim of the Princess supersedes that of the Baroness, and she is about to marry the bewildered Ludwig when the real Grand Duke appears (with Ernest and the Notary) with some news which quickly resolves the tangled relationships.

This production of *The Grand Duke*
is dedicated to the memory of
long-time company members
Roger Evans and Jim Streich

PRODUCTION STAFF

Stage Director Randy Winkler
Music Director James Straka
Artistic Director Wendy Evans
Costume Designer Lynn Farrington
Lighting Designer Michael Hoover
Stage Manager Phyllis A. Lam
Set Designer & Scenic Painter Kate Sutton-Johnson
Assistant Stage Director Rob Sutherland
Assistant Music Director Steve Kriesel
Associate Costume Designer Susan Fick
Assistant Stage Managers Peggie Kennedy, Jennifer Anne McDermott
Set Construction and Painting Dean Laurance, with
Samantha Bostwick, Dan Hollinger, Phyllis Lam
Bob Hunter, Bob Johanneck, Scott Sandberg
David Seykora, Fredrick Walsh, and cast members
Props Jennifer Anne McDermott
Props Graphic Design Hellen Ferguson
Wardrobe Mistress Jo Pasternack
Costume Workers Amber Brown, Wendy Evans, Lesley Hendrickson
Vicky Hinrichs, Carol Sandberg, Evelyne Weinberg,
Claire Zawa, & cast members
Light Board Operator Bob Hunter
Spotlight Operators Samantha Bostwick, Lisa Horton, Anne Marie Peterson
Audio-Visual Engineer Bob Johanneck, Pat Johanneck
Poster Graphic Design Robert Anderson, Michael Henty
Lobby Display & Photography Wendy Evans, Sara Gustafson, Stephen Hage
Group Photos Daniels Studio
House Managers Pat Johanneck, Mary Kuehborn, Carol Paulson
House Staff Recruiter Kathryn Larsen, Mary Mescher Benbenek
Ticket Sales Charlotte Morrison, Fred Morrison
Grand Duke Revision Committee Wendy Evans, Stephen Hage, Deedy Jensen
Stephen B. Sullivan, Holly Windle

The Board:

Producer Kristefor Lysne
Labour Pool Coordinator Dean Laurance
Publicity Waldyn Benbenek
Treasurer Richard Rames
Secretary Charles Segal
Chorus Representatives Stephen Hage, Rhea Sullivan
Orchestra Representative Barb Hovey

ORCHESTRA

Conductor James Straka
Assistant Conductor Steve Kriesel
Violin J Michael Compton, Concertmaster
Amy Atzel, Will Bartruff, Greg Bastien, Nancy Birth
Jane Broeckert, Joe Burling, Jacqui Danner, Joe Dolson
Debbie Feinwachs, Mary Heimerman, Dana Killam
Pat McCarthy, Linda Ruetz, Dan Sadoff, John Weingart
Viola Dianna Garvey, Tom Rognsvoog, Aija Ronis, Brian Vo
Cello Coral Bastien, Paul Clark, John Dunham, Karen Rognsvoog
Bass Ann Baumann Johnson, John Kaplan
Flute Kristen Kinneer-Ohlmann, Julie Lindstrom, Katie Lowry
Clarinet Barb Hovey, Kent Barth
Oboe John Hunt, Brian Morris, Andrew Rahn
Bassoon Debbie Clapp, Heather Clark, Neva LaVeer, Holly Leighton
Maggie Rotach, Rebecca Totzke, Tim Wells
Horn Michael Engh, Judy Heimerman, Jeffrey Ohlmann, Bob Spector
Trumpet Bob Hirte, Tim Killam, Bob Zobal
Trombone Nathanael Engh, Greg Michnay, Greg Onstad, Lawrence Perry
Percussion John Litch
Rehearsal Pianists Lawrence Henry, Steven Norquist, Jan Scovill, Jean Van Heel

GLOSSARY (in order of occurrence)

Act I:

Pfennig Halbpennig - Literally, penny half-penny. Tuppenny ha'penny is British slang for anything inferior and trivial.

Comedian/Comédienne - terms used to refer to actors (not necessarily comic ones)

Soubrette - an actress who plays the young and saucy roles.

quite a dashing sposo - Italian for male spouse

But it's bilious on the whole - upsetting to the liver

D will attempt to "square the press" - Bribe a reviewer

F claims all hoydens - roles of spirited, tomboyish girls

like turtle her first love confessing - turtle-dove

what folly fell - what dreadful folly

castle gibbet - gallows

may not fight with falchions bright - sword, esp. a broad curved one

orthography foregoes her spells - a pun about bending the rules of spelling

ipso facto - Latin for "by the very act" (that is automatically)

King's evidence - evidence provided by an accused person about his alleged partners in crime (like State's evidence)

compromising bonhomie - French word for geniality

as o'er our penny roll we sing - a cheap type of bread

rich mock turtle, thick and clear - namely a soup (also cheap)

two-shilling gloves - even these are expensive by the Duke and Baroness's standards

Waterbury watches - cheap watches made in Waterbury, Connecticut

give this man his gruel - make him take his punishment

this plebian man of shoddy - "plebian" means "of the masses" and "shoddy" is a kind of inferior woolen cloth

when two doughty heroes thunder - valiant

verbum sat. - more legal language from the Notary; this is an abbreviation for a Latin phrase meaning a word to the wise is sufficient (*verbum sat sapienti*)

I'm not an ascetic - one who denies himself the creature comforts

the jolly jinks - merry-making (as in "high jinks")

as merry as a grig - A phrase that may mean "as merry as a cricket" (and just how merry is that?) or "grig" may be a corruption of "Greek," making this a reference to *Troilus and*

Cressida where a character is called "a merry Greek indeed."

Act II:

Eloia! and Opoponax! - Fake Greek-sounding exclamations. Opoponax from the Greek for "all-healing", was medicinal plant, and in Gilbert's day, trade name of a line of perfumes

I'll pay 'em (if they'll back me) all in oboloi and drachmae - Greek coins

with a dithyrambic lecture - in the style of a boisterous Greek hymn to Dionysus

in the period Socratic, every dining room was Attic - that is, from Attica, a region in eastern Greece (where Athens is)

periphrastic methods spurning - rejecting long-winded methods

steady "cram" - the way students often prepare for an exam

Mrs. Grundy - a character mentioned in an 18th century play, now used as a symbol of prudish British propriety

dress of Coan silk - silk from the Greek isle of Cos

hoity-toity vixenish viragoes - snooty, ill-tempered, overbearing women

ingenue - the role of sweet, naive young thing

hard as the millstone nether - the nether millstone is the lower of the two millstones used to grind flour (it's quite hard)

lily-white laughing leman - paramour

as sulky as a super - (actor lingo) short for "supernumerary" an actor with a non-speaking part who, if not in something as jolly as G&S, might get surly

"tol the riddle lol" - nonsense words

technical bogie - a frightening apparition, although in this case only legally, not literally

magnum of merry champagne - a double-sized bottle

Pommery '74 - the 1874 vintage of the fine French champagnery

Come, bumpers, aye ever so many - glasses filled to the brim

a pretty job-lot of second-hand nobles - a group of diverse articles bought as a unit, often of inferior quality

rook the pigeon and the gull - a bird pun about taking advantage of suckers

Allons, encore, garçons, fillettes, vos louis d'or, etc. - Come now, again, boys and girls, your 20-frank gold coins, etc.

the law forbids the banns - announcement of a proposed marriage

CONTRIBUTORS

Princes and Princesses (\$100 and over)

Anonymous ❖ Philip Asgian ❖ Michael Dunham ❖ Gretchen & Jim Fogo ❖ Ed Grayden
❖ Mary & Steven Kennedy ❖ Jack & Geraldine King ❖ John Litch ❖ In loving memory of
Elsie MillerJohn & Dianne Orbison ❖ Garry & Mary Ann Peterson ❖ R. N. Quiche ❖ Jim
Quinn ❖ Marvin & Martha Rogers ❖ Tom & Beverly Rogers ❖ Paul & Patricia Sackett ❖
The family of Steven and Mary SchierJames Schwarz ❖ Doris Skalstad ❖ Richard Evan
Stone ❖ In Memory of Jim Streich, from his family ❖ Connie Waterous

Grand Dukes and Duchesses (\$50 - \$99)

Suzanne Ammerman ❖ Nancy Baird ❖ George & Barbara Barany ❖ Marv Bookin ❖ Dean
& Amy Carlson ❖ James Cullen ❖ Mary Ann Doyle ❖ Mark R. Ellenberger ❖ Robert
Erikson ❖ George & Gloria Fairbanks ❖ Eric Newman & Janice GepnerCarol & Greg
Gross ❖ Elizabeth Hawn ❖ David & Kris Henderson ❖ Jean Cameron & Robert
LindeMichael Mack ❖ Dr. Merle Mark ❖ Paul Marx ❖ Riley Owens ❖ Dan & Pat Panshin
❖ Nancy & Bert Poritsky ❖ Jo Ann Rice ❖ Louise & William Rondano ❖ Joe Shaffer,
M.D. ❖ Bill & Diane Sowden ❖ Brett D. Wagner ❖ Evelyne T. Weinberg

Actors and Actresses (Conspirators) (up to \$50)

Anonymous ❖ Laurann and James Anderson ❖ Mr. & Mrs. William Arndt ❖ Roger & Jane
Arndt ❖ Cynthia Unowsky & Thomas Badow ❖ Benjamin & Aroti Bayman ❖ Phillip &
Karen Bergem ❖ Helen Bergren ❖ Ruth Berman ❖ Mary & Robert Boehlke ❖ Dr. Charles
J. Boltuck ❖ Christine D. Bremer ❖ Beth, Laurie & Terry Brooks ❖ Jeffrey R. Brown ❖
Rose Marie Bryan ❖ Robert R. Burns ❖ Ruth Cardinal ❖ Hatim Carim ❖ Ervin and Carole
Christensen ❖ John & Carol Deters ❖ Frank Dowding ❖ Jean Eastman ❖ Sally J.
Economon ❖ Eric Edwardson ❖ David Eggen ❖ Gary & Patricia Engstrand ❖ Elizabeth B.
Erickson ❖ Leonard & Karen Erickson ❖ Rich & Judith Fine ❖ Terence Fruth ❖ Bruce
Gottsche ❖ Arthur Gropen ❖ Joan Guggemos ❖ Barbara Hall ❖ Madeline & Morton
Hamermesh ❖ Linda Dexter Hancher ❖ Phebe Saunders Haugen ❖ Bob & Marge Hennesy
❖ Richard E. Hinkie ❖ Del Holmes ❖ Dorothy E. Horst ❖ C. Joseph & Katherine Howard
❖ Mary Ann Huelster ❖ John & Nancy Hughes ❖ A. Joy Huss ❖ Warren Ibele ❖ Marjorie
and James Jacobsen ❖ George Francis Kane ❖ Kenneth Kauffman ❖ Roxie & Eric King-
Smith ❖ Jake Koller ❖ Tom & Shirley Kysilko ❖ Thomas Lanzatella ❖ Ralph Larson ❖
Rachel Levitt ❖ Lynn Lockhart ❖ Roderick & Joanne MacDonald ❖ C. Paul Martin ❖
Jean McCampbell ❖ Valinda McCarter ❖ Demi and John Miller ❖ Don Mittelstadt ❖
Ronald & Betty Lou Nelson ❖ Colleen Stucker Netzell ❖ Ralph B. North ❖ Barbara
Nussbaum ❖ Pat Pennington ❖ Elsa Peterson ❖ Catherine M. Pitz ❖ Ann Pollack ❖ John
& Marge Pollack ❖ Kent & Cynthia Powers ❖ Miriam Reibold ❖ Charles Frisch &
Marilyn Reichman ❖ Sydney Rice ❖ Edis & Larry Risser ❖ Ruth Rosendahl ❖ Jack Ross
❖ Marian Rubenfeld ❖ Elaine Savick ❖ Charles Segal ❖ Judith Shalaby ❖ Leon Shaw ❖
William K. Sheffield ❖ Vincent Shields ❖ Pat Rosaves & Dan Sholl ❖ Doug Siems ❖ Jon
Skaalen ❖ Glenn Skoy ❖ Jacquelyn & Lawrence Smith ❖ Stacey & David Smith ❖ Mike
Stone ❖ Monika Stumpf ❖ Thomas E. Trisko ❖ Marcia Van Hulle ❖ Betty Wallien ❖
Lillian Wallis ❖ Richard Woellner ❖ Lorraine Zauft



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Hobart United Methodist Church, Plymouth Congregational Church, Child Garden
Montessori School, Guthrie Theatre, St. Anne's Episcopal Church, St. Christopher's
Episcopal Church, and for our cavorting troupe of ushers, ticket sellers, and concessionaires.
Opoanax!

Since its founding in 1979 by Dick Fishel and Jim Hart, the company has produced all the
Gilbert and Sullivan shows: *Trial By Jury* (1979), *Patience* (1980), *Iolanthe* (1981),
Princess Ida (1982), *Ruddigore* (1983), *The Gondoliers* (1984), *The Mikado* (Spring 1985),
The Sorcerer (Fall 1985), *The Pirates of Penzance* (1986), *The Yeomen of the Guard* (1987),
Utopia, Ltd. (1988), *H.M.S. Pinafore* (1989), *Patience* (1990), *The Grand Duke* (1991),
Iolanthe (1992), *Princess Ida* (1993), *The Gondoliers* (1994), *Ruddigore* (1995),
The Mikado (Spring 1996), *The Zoo and Trial By Jury* (Fall 1996), *The Sorcerer* (1997), *The
Pirates of Penzance* (1998), *The Yeomen of the Guard* (1999), *Offenbach's Orpheus in the
Underworld* (2000), *H.M.S. Pinafore* (2001), and *Patience* (2002)

We will again be joining the Minneapolis Pops Orchestra at the Lake Harriet
Band Shell this summer – for *HMS Pinafore*, on July 12 & 13

In the Spring of 2004, we will present *Iolanthe*.

The Gilbert & Sullivan
Very Light Opera Company

Presents

The Grand Duke

Or

The Statutory Duel



Howard Conn Fine Arts Center

March 7-30, 2003

THE GILBERT & SULLIVAN VERY LIGHT OPERA COMPANY

P.O. Box 580172, Minneapolis MN 55458

Telephone: (651) 255-6947

Visit the GSVLOC home page at: <http://www.gsvloc.org>