



# THE SORCERER

the gilbert & sullivan very light opera company  
april 4-20 friday thru sunday  
at the howard conn fine arts center

# THE SORCERER

## THE CAST

Sir Marmaduke Pointdextre .....	Waldyn Benbenek
Alexis ( <i>his Son, betrothed to Aline</i> ) .....	Joseph Andrews
John Wellington Wells ( <i>of J. W. Wells &amp; Co., Family Sorcerers</i> ) .....	Matt Dolph
Dr. Daly ( <i>Vicar</i> ) .....	Jim Ahrens
Notary .....	LeRoy Altermatt
Lady Sangazure ( <i>a Lady of ancient lineage</i> ) .....	Jennifer Santoro
Aline ( <i>her Daughter, betrothed to Alexis</i> ) .....	Donna Carroll
Mrs. Partlet ( <i>a pew opener</i> ) .....	Cindy Sandberg
Constance ( <i>her daughter</i> ) .....	Amy Young
Hercules ( <i>page boy</i> ) .....	Ivar Hendrickson, Brianna Sullivan

## Chorus:

Tall Brother .....	Don Barbee
Milkmaid .....	Mary Mescher Benbenek
Blacksmith .....	Ernest Brody
Laundress .....	Stephanie Brody
Fellow Guardsman .....	James Brooks
Young Farmer .....	Ken Cheney
Baker .....	Felicia Dismer
Timid Man .....	Peter Erickson
Retired Scholar .....	Roger Evans
Tall Sister .....	Kärin Foy
Skivvy .....	Mary Gregory
Bobby .....	Stephen Hage
London Lady .....	Kathy Hering
Telegraph Messenger .....	Christopher Hibma
Knitting Lady .....	Marcia Hill
Lady's Maid .....	Sherri Kolhei
Stablehand .....	Michael J. Kraklio
Cat's-cradle Gent .....	Dean Laurance
County Magistrate .....	Warren Loud
Short Brother .....	Kristefor Lysne
Bossy Lady .....	Holly MacDonald
Chairwoman of the Guild .....	Charlotte Morrison
Butler .....	Richard Rames
Assistant Chairwoman of the Guild .....	Julie Seykora
Grocer's Assistant .....	Jason Smith
Grocer .....	Gordon Staff
Egg Lady .....	Rhea Sullivan
Short Sister .....	Micaela Vega
Schoolmistress .....	Susan Volkmer
Church Organist .....	Holly Windle

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**Understudies:** James Brooks, Ken Cheney, Felicia Dismer, Kärin Foy, Mary Gregory, Christopher Hibma, Sherri Kolhei, Michael J. Kraklio, Richard Rames  
**Chorus Understudies:** Carol Manning, Stephen Rawlins, Margaret Sullivan

**Act I:** Exterior of Sir Marmaduke's Mansion, Mid-day.

**Act II:** the same, Midnight.

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~ No eating or drinking is allowed in the theatre ~

~ No smoking is permitted in the building ~

~ The use of flash cameras is strictly forbidden ~

## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Welcome to St. Radegund's-on-the-Rake. It may look like a typical little English village, but it's actually a popular (if not swinging) singles community. Aline reminds us that "some of the villagers are married people," but none of them show up at the festivities. Must be the flu. That leaves us with the menfolk (who have "not been enterprising") and the maidens (who are "distinctly coy") to enjoy the interesting effects of John Wellington Wells's patent oxy-hydrogen love-at-first-sight philtre. We hope you'll enjoy it too.

– Lesley Hendrickson



## SYNOPSIS

The whole village prepares to celebrate the betrothal of Alexis Pointdextre (son of Sir Marmaduke) to Aline Sangazure (daughter of Lady Sangazure). Romance is not confined to the young and the well-born, however. Sir Marmaduke and Lady Sangazure, the vicar and his lowly born Constance; in short, everyone in the village is suitably wooing or wooed and ready to celebrate. Instead of blithely joining in the betrothal festivities, however, Alexis has a plan to ensure that Aline will love him forever – a plan which has the added benefit of putting his own theories about "pure love" into practice throughout the village. He hires sorcerer John Wellington Wells to administer a magical love potion (or "philtre") to the unsuspecting populace. The resulting comic havoc is not at all what Alexis had expected, and takes even John Wellington Wells aback (and some other places!).

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### THE GILBERT & SULLIVAN VERY LIGHT OPERA COMPANY

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), and *The Zoo and Trial By Jury* (Fall, 1996).

In March, 1998, we will present the ever-popular *Pirates of Penzance*.

Tax deductible contributions to help support our season are always welcome.

### THE GILBERT & SULLIVAN VERY LIGHT OPERA COMPANY

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Telephone:(612) 925-9159

Visit the GSVLOC home page at: <http://members.aol.com/gsvloc>

## PRODUCTION STAFF

Stage Director.....	Lesley Hendrickson
Music Director.....	Elizabeth Swanson
Artistic Director .....	Wendy Evans
Chorus Director.....	Sari Rönnholm
Stage Manager.....	Ann Pax
Assistant Stage Managers.....	Kim Arndt, Peggie Kennedy
Set Designer .....	Anthony Phelps
Scenic Artists .....	Kim Arndt, Julie Delton, Bob Hunter, Anthony Phelps Richard Schreiber, & cast members
Set Construction .....	Kim Arndt, Bob Breitner, Laurie Brooks, Terry Brooks Joe Bryan, Lisa Horton, Bob Hunter, Peggie Kennedy, Colin Mitchell David Morrison, Jennifer Samples, Anne Schluender, and cast members
Properties Manager.....	Cindy Edmon
Costume Design .....	Bil Ingram
Wardrobe Mistress.....	Lee Gartner, Barb Vojtech
Costume Construction .....	Kim Arndt, Wendy Evans, Anne Forgacs and cast members
Costume Rentals.....	<b>Minnesota Opera, Guthrie Theatre</b>
Lighting Designer.....	Stephen Pax
Lighting Crew .....	Bob Hunter, Colin Mitchell, David Morrison, Juren Raske
Special Effects Masters.....	Juren Raske, David Morrison
Special Effects Consultant .....	Mark Ellenberger
Audio-Visual Engineer .....	Bob Johanneck
Poster Design .....	Ultra Creative
Poster Printing.....	Weston Engraving
Lobby Display & Photography .....	Roger Evans, Stephen Hage
House Managers .....	L. Mary Kuehborn, Kathy Mitchell
House Staff Recruiter.....	Gordon Staff
Ticket Sales .....	Katie Lowry
Ticket Assistants .....	Barb Hovey, Carol Kollander Dean Laurance, Lauren Parnell, Chris Rusin

### The Board:

Producer.....	Stephen Hage
Vice Producer.....	Dean Laurance
Labour Pool Coordinator .....	Ernest Brody
Publicity .....	Charlotte Morrison
Treasurer.....	Richard Rames
Secretary .....	Holly Windle
Chorus Representatives.....	Gordon Staff, Susan Volkmer
Orchestra Representative .....	Barb Hovey

## ORCHESTRA

Violin.....	Milton Wright ( <i>Concertmaster</i> ), Dorothy Boen, Phil Bremmer Essie Commers, Jana Myers, Gary Rauk, Earl Ross Janet Schmitt, Rick Stockton, Irene Struck, Theodora Wynhoff
Viola .....	Ann Marie Bur, Cynthia Fogg Dianna Garvey, Tom Rognsvoog, Aija Ronis
Cello.....	Coral Bastien, John Litch, Wendy Lukaszewski
Bass.....	Ron Rasmussen
Flute.....	Julie Lindstrom, Katie Lowry, Ruth Erickson
Clarinet .....	Mary Albachten, Barb Hovey
Oboe.....	Sarah Morrisette, Cathy Rutter
Bassoon.....	Holly Leighton
Horn.....	Mike Engh, Ellen Sorenson, Bob Spector
Trumpet .....	Bob Hirte, Ken Rentz
Trombone.....	Greg Michnay, Larry Perry
Percussion .....	Julie Schmid, Jim Streich
Rehearsal Pianists.....	Paul Hjelmstad, Florian Keller Sally Reynolds, David Evan Thomas, Jean Van Heel

## GLOSSARY (*in order of occurrence*)

**Mrs. Partlet, a pew opener** – one who escorts wealthy parishioners to their pew, in exchange for tips; a poor but worthy person  
**Forget your knells** – funereal bell-ringing  
**Forget your notes of mournful lay** – song  
**The air is charged with amatory numbers** – romantic music  
**I was a fair young curate then** – assistant to a vicar or rector  
**she is rather comely** – good-looking  
**But tush! I am puling!** – tush is a mild expletive; puling is whining  
**most auspicious plighting** – fortunate engagement  
**Ere Sol has sunk into his western slumbers** – Roman name of the sun god  
**may their love never cloy** – become tiresome  
**I find some satisfaction in apostrophe like this** – in a speech or poem, an exclamatory address to a person or object  
**not a navvy dissented** – unskilled worker (e.g. a ditch digger)  
**Philtre** – a love potion  
**Necromancy** – magic; particularly, foretelling the future by communicating with the dead  
**Amulets** – objects worn on the person to bring good luck  
**cast you a nativity at a low figure** – determine planetary positions at the time of your birth, for an astrological reading  
**Abudah chests, each containing a patent Hag... with spring complete** – in the pseudo-Persian fairy tale by James Ridley, Abudah had a box containing an old woman prophet  
**melt a rich uncle in wax** – melt a wax image of someone, to kill them  
**the resident Diinn** – same as genie; supernatural spirit in Arabian mythology  
**Number 70, Simmery Axe** – St. Mary Axe, a street in the older part of London  
**for raising a posthumous shade** – ghost  
**Bogies spectacular** – goblins, or bogey men  
**Tetrapods tragical** – a form of verse used by ancient Greek tragedians  
**'Lectro-biology** – early term for hypnosis  
**Mystic nosology** – study of diseases  
**Spirit philology** – study of language and literature  
**we are not in the habit of puffing our goods** – exaggerating the worth  
**taking it in the wood .... in pipes and hogsheads for laying down** – terms from wine wholesaling; laying down = long-term storing; pipes & hogsheads = large barrels  
**noisome hags of night** – smelly and disgusting  
**Ye demons fell, with yelp and yell** – villainous  
**now for the gay Sally Lunn** – type of tea-cake or bun; usually served with butter and jam  
**I will go bail for the liquor** – I will vouch for it  
**brewing a jorum of tea** – a large drinking vessel  
**great garner of bliss** – storehouse

### Act II:

**I did not think it meet to see** – fitting or appropriate  
**a Baronet and K. C. B.** – Knight Commander of the Bath, an order of knighthood  
**that respectable Q. C.** – Queen's Counsel, a high-ranking lawyer; namely the Notary  
**all fast asleep al-fresco-ly** – outdoors; *al fresco* is Italian for "in the cool"  
**I've guineas not a few for you** – old coin worth one shilling more than a pound  
**the Blind Young Boy obeys the spell** – Cupid  
**why do you gaze on me with visage lowering** – threatening  
**I often roll down One Tree Hill** – hill in Greenwich Park which couples sometimes rolled down together (presumably not a high-class activity)  
**I sometimes go to Rosherville** – a lower class amusement park  
**o'er us has cast its magic fell** – sinister, malevolent  
**must yield up his life to Ahrimanes** – in Persian mythology, the personification of evil

For many of these notes, we are indebted to that most excellent book by Harry Benford,  
*The Gilbert and Sullivan Lexicon*, published by Sarah Jennings Press.

## CONTRIBUTORS *(since the last show)*

### Mikado's Court – \$100 and over:

Anonymous ❖ Patricia & Mark Bauer ❖ Donald F. Johnson ❖ Thor Lyford ❖ Garry & Mary Ann Peterson ❖ R. N. Quiche ❖ Marvin Rogers ❖

### Pooh-Bah's Protoplasmal Globules – \$50 - \$99

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