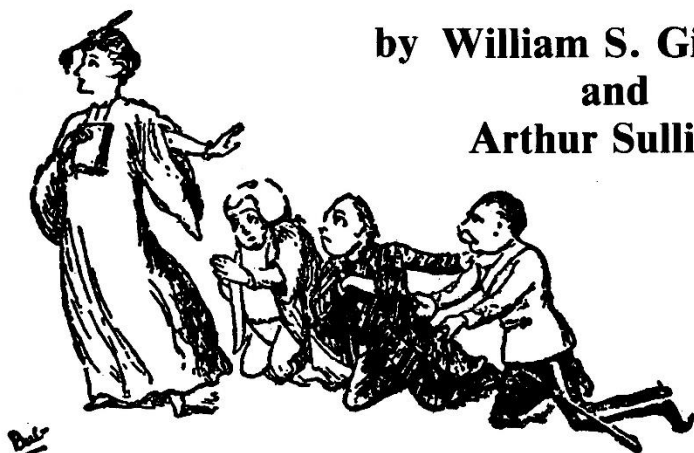

THE GILBERT & SULLIVAN VERY LIGHT OPERA COMPANY

presents

Princess Ida
or
Castle Adamant

by **William S. Gilbert**
and
Arthur Sullivan



Howard Conn Fine Arts Center

Fridays	March 5, 12, 19	8:00 PM
Saturdays	March 6, 13, 20	8:00 PM
Sundays	March 7, 14, 21	3:00 PM

*For ticket information and reservations,
have your friends call 533-1120.*

About This Production

Princess Ida was the eighth collaboration in the successful but stormy partnership between William S. Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan. *Princess Ida* followed *Patience* and *Iolanthe* (just the order in which our company has presented them), opening at the Savoy Theatre January 5, 1884.

Gilbert's inspiration for the plot came from a long poem by Tennyson, published in 1847. Education for women and women's rights were current concerns, and Gilbert could not resist doing what he called "A Respectful Operatic Perversion of Tennyson's 'Princess'." The dialogue is even written in iambic pentameter.

Princess Ida is the only three-act Gilbert and Sullivan piece. However, because of staging considerations, our company is presenting the show in two acts, putting the intermission in the middle of Gilbert's second act and not making any break between Gilbert's second and third acts.



*No smoking, drinking or eating is allowed
in the theatre.*

*The use of flash cameras is strictly forbidden,
as it is a hazard to the performers.*

PRODUCTION STAFF

Stage Director	William Metcalf
Musical Director	Timm Rolek
Costume Designer	Frederick Rogers
Scenery & Lighting Designer.....	Michael Hoover
Producer	Dick Lueben
Rehearsal Pianist	Joanne Thrash
Assistant Director	Melanie Johnson
Assistant Musical Director	Matthew B. Tepper
Stage Manager	Joyce Ukura
Assistant Rehearsal Pianist	Jean Orbison
Costume Mistresses	Pat Nelson
	Wendy Evans
Properties Masters	Richard Rames
	Michael Hoover
Light Board Operator	Dan Lane
Make-up	Suzanna Taylor
Lighting/Technical	C.U. Bibye, Dan Lane,
	Floyd Swanson, Jeff Furnell
House Staff	Barbara Webber, Sandra Irwin
	Nancy Swenson, Cindy Gordon
	Joyce Fuhrman, Wendy Evans
Publicity	Waldyn J. Benbenek,
	Gary Cooper, Holly Windle
Scenic Artists	Janet M. Ryger,
	Gregory A. Trochil,
	Kevin Pfeiffer
assisted by	Shirley M. Pann,
	Peter M. Knudson,
	Joseph Painter

ORCHESTRA

Flute - Julie Hinz	Clarinet - Kyle Sidlo
Oboe - Lorelei Giddings	Bassoon - Nancy Warren
Horn - Barb Hadfield	Trumpet - Bob Hirte
(Sub.- Tammy Evenson)	
Trombone - Mike Kay	Percussion - Bob Lincoln
Piano - Joanne Thrash	Bass - Bob Salter

PRINCESS IDA

THE CAST

KING HILDEBRAND	John Fuhrman
HILARION (<i>his son</i>)	James Westbrook
CYRIL	Larry Hill
FLORIAN } <i>Hilarion's friends</i>	Waldyn Benbenek
KING GAMA	Dick Fishel, Jr.
ARAC	Dave Elgethun
GURON	Douglas Munro
SCYNTHIUS } <i>Gama's sons</i>	Fred Griebie
PRINCESS IDA (<i>Gama's daughter</i>)	Dana Ann Jones
LADY BLANCHE	Roxie Schenzel
LADY PSYCHE	Jan Arford
MELISSA (<i>Blanche's daughter</i>)	Holly Windle
SACHARISSA	June Russell
CHLOE } <i>Girl Graduates</i>	Stephanie Brody
ADA	Diane Marie Dinndorf

Chorus of Courtiers, Soldiers, Girl Graduates, Etc.:

David Black, Andy Bowen, Ernest Brody, Gary Cooper,
Peter Erickson, Roger Evans, Ray Goines, Joan Guggemos,
Carl Halker, Nils Halker, Vern Harman, Rhea Lee Kaner,
Dean Laurance, Sue Ann Loomis, Holly MacDonald,
Helen Matthews, Mary Mescher, Charlotte Morrison,
Charlotte Overend, Sheila Palmer, Elisa Quart,
Richard Rames, Steve Rawlins, Diane Sorenson,
Cynthia Spencer, Camilla Stone, Rita Stough,
Stephen B. Sullivan, Barbara Webber, Fred Wuest

Understudies:

Hildebrand - Stephen B. Sullivan, Gama's Sons -
Ernest Brody, King Gama - Roger Evans, Lady Blanche -
Barbara Webber, Psyche - June Russell, Melissa -
Sue Ann Loomis

SYNOPSIS

Twenty years before the first act opens, Prince Hilarion and Princess Ida were betrothed in infancy. Ida is now twenty-one and, as the scene opens, courtiers and townspeople are gathering to welcome Princess Ida and her father, King Gama, to the court of Prince Hilarion's father, King Hildebrand.

However, when King Gama arrives, he brings only his own acerbic personality and his three warrior sons. Ida, having forsworn men and the world, is now living in Castle Adamant where she rules a college for women.

Prince Hilarion decides to take his two friends, Cyril and Florian, and sneak into Castle Adamant where they will win the Princess by charm. His father, King Hildebrand, puts his faith in more traditional methods of warfare and insists on holding Gama and his sons hostage. The captives are led off to the dungeon as the scene ends.

In Scene Two, the three young men infiltrate Castle Adamant disguised as women. Despite some setbacks, all goes well until Cyril becomes reckless and discloses their identities. In the panic that ensues, Princess Ida, fleeing to the bridge, falls into the stream. Though Hilarion rescues her, she insists that the men must die.

Just then, King Hildebrand and his soldiers arrive. Ida remains firm, and her women try bravely to be enthusiastic about fighting the men. But Ida sees that she cannot count on them. King Gama pleads with her to let her brothers serve as her champions against Hilarion, Cyril and Florian. The fight leads to the inevitable happy ending.



ACT I

- Scene i A pavilion near the Castle Hildebrand.
- Scene ii A courtyard of Princess Ida's Castle Adamant,
a day later.

ACT II

The same, an hour or so later.

*There will be a slight pause between scene i and scene ii,
and a fifteen-minute intermission between the Acts.*

GLOSSARY

in order of appearance

letter mails - coaches used to carry the mail

pops of Sillery - popping of Champagne corks, Sillery being a Champagne district in France.

Oh, dainty triolet! Oh, fragrant violet! Oh gentle heigho-let (or little sight) - A triolet is a French verse form, originated in the 13th century.

towards the empyrean heights - The Empyrean is the highest heavenly sphere in medieval cosmology.

Helicon - Greek mountain home of the Muses.

Anacreon - Greek poet who wrote in praise of love, wine, etc.

Ovid's Metamorphoses - book by this Roman poet about mythological stories, with battles and love scenes aplenty.

Aristophanes - Greek dramatist (he wrote *Lysistrata*).

Juvenal - Roman poet and satirist (women were one subject).

to bowdlerize - to expurgate, omitting parts considered indelicate (named for Thomas Bowdler).

Minerva - Roman goddess of wisdom.

Let Swan secede from Edgar--Gask from Gask; Sewell from Cross--Lewis from Allenby! - Swan and Edgar had a fashionable department store in London's West End; the Gasks were textile merchants; Sewell and Cross were London drapers; Lewis and Allenby were drapers and milliners.

spring-guns breathe defiance - spring-guns were booby-traps used to discourage (!) poachers, being rigged to discharge on contact with the gun or a wire lead.

You'll find no sizars here, or servitors - references to undergraduates who served as servants to other students in exchange for tuition reduction (sizars at Cambridge; servitors at Oxford).

He paid a guinea to a toilet club - a toilet club is, apparently, a barbershop for which an annual subscription is paid. A guinea was 21 shillings, one more than in a pound.

Do you dare to beard a maiden in her lair? - To beard a lion in his den is to challenge someone on his own turf.

to fit the wit of a bit of a chit - a chit is a contemptuous term indicating that the person is a mere child.

as an old Crusader struck his Paynim foe - Paynim is an archaic term for pagan or infidel.

It's an arrant molly-coddle fears a crack upon his noddle - A molly-coddle is a coward or sissy.

SPECIAL THANKS TO

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Sbarro - The Italian Eatery
Richard S. Sorensen
University of Minnesota Opera Theater
Kevin Pfeiffer



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THE COMPANY

The Gilbert and Sullivan Very Light Opera Company was founded in the fall of 1979 by two Gilbert and Sullivan enthusiasts. The Company's first production was *Trial by Jury*, a one-act still in the repertoire as portable entertainment for conventions, schools, and various other gatherings. Full productions of *Patience* and *Iolanthe* followed in the next two years.

The Gilbert and Sullivan Very Light Opera Company is a non-profit corporation, brimming with ideas but operating on a meager budget. We are appreciative of contributions to both the budget and the ideas.

If you are interested in being on our mailing list, please fill out the form and drop it in the box which you will find (we hope) in the lobby.

Your financial contribution to the Company is tax deductible and very welcome.

THE GILBERT & SULLIVAN VERY LIGHT OPERA COMPANY

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