

**THE GILBERT & SULLIVAN  
VERY LIGHT  
OPERA COMPANY**

**"TRIAL BY JURY"**



Gilbert and Sullivan

TRIAL BY JURY

The Setting: A Terribly British Courtroom  
at the very pinnacle of the Victorian Era

The Characters:

Angelina (the plaintiff, - she has been  
"jilted" and is sufficiently  
distraught to sue in court)  
her Bridesmaids  
her Counsel  
the Usher of the Court  
several Gentlemen of the Jury, -  
and their Foreman  
a Judge  
a crowd of townfolk: the uprighteous,  
the idle, the curious, perhaps a  
voyeur or two, - the entire gamit  
of sturdy British citizenry  
(and finally)  
Edwin (the defendent)

Performers for each of the various roles at each  
performance are drawn as needed (and as they are  
available) from our Trial by Jury troopers for  
the 1981-82 season:

Jan Arford, Waldyn Benbenek, Andy Bowen, Ernest Brody,  
Stephanie Brody, Gary Cooper, Diane Dinndorf, Dave  
Elgethun, Peter Erickson, Roger Evans, John Fuhrman,  
Joan Guggemos, Judy Halgren, Carl Halker, Nils Halker,  
Vern Harman, Curt Hubbard, Marcia Jones, Dana Jones,  
Rhea Kaner, Sue Ann Loomis, Dick Lueben, Holly  
MacDonald, Carol Manning, Helen Matthews, Mary Mescher  
Jean Messer, Andrea Michaelson, Charlotte Morrison,  
Douglas Munro, Charlotte Overend, Sheila Palmer,  
Gwen Parsons, Jane Pofahl, Elisa Quart, Richard Rames  
Steve Rawlins, June Russell, Roxie Schenzel, Camilla  
Stone, Rita Stough, Steve Sullivan, David Tanqueray,  
Matthew Tepper, Barb Webber, Holly Windle

Our Company was formed in 1979 for the sole purpose of performing the works of those eminent Victorians: Gilbert and Sullivan. We are a jovial crew of non-professionals whose first production, Trial by Jury, has been kept stageworthy. This portable production has been presented a dozen or more times, and it is available to any group who finds it desirable as entertainment, or as a vehicle for fund-raising.

The troupe has produced Patience (June 1980) and Iolanthe (March 1981), each for a run of six performances. Our next major effort, Princess Ida, is now in rehearsal. It will be on stage for nine performances in March 1982.

Like all amateur companies, we're always in need of tenors, altos, basses, sopranos and tenors. Instrumentalists, designers, costumers, publicity-persons, -- all willing hands are needed. If you'd like to come aboard, just let us know.

We are legally recognized as a non-profit cultural organization, so that we may receive tax-deductible contributions. If you are inclined to assist our efforts in this manner, we will be most grateful.

You are invited to get in touch with us to: - join up, offer services, ask about tickets for Ida, engage us to present Trial, contribute money, or just to meet people who thoroughly enjoy the wit and the melodies of Gilbert and Sullivan.

We can always be contacted thru the mail:

P.O. Box 172, Minneapolis, MN 55440

or you can phone:

Chairperson: Claudia Schnitker 944-6949

Producer: Dick Lueben 646-0084

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bridesmaids' flowers by:  
Riverside Florist  
332-7441

## TRIAL by JURY

Trial by Jury was the first successful collaboration between W. S. Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan. It was created in 1875 to fill one-half of a double-bill for a London commercial theatre. This one-act operetta was written, rehearsed, and put on stage in just a few days time, to replace a short play which was being vigorously rejected by the public. The show is a fine example of light-hearted Victorian entertainment. It lampoons the British judicial system and, in particular, a case of "breach of promise of marriage". The cast consists of an outrageous courtroom menagerie: - a womanizing judge, a slippery lawyer, a tearful plaintiff, a roguish defendant, a prejudiced jury, a simplistic usher, a bevy of singing bridesmaids, and a crowd of enthusiastic spectators. The most irregular proceedings result in a verdict of mirth and merriment.

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Music Director: Timm Rolek  
Stage Director: Jean Mickelson Black  
Pianist: Joanne Thrash