

## MUSICAL NUMBERS

### Act One

#### CHORUS OF MEN

*If you want to know who we are.*

#### SONG AND CHORUS (Nanki-Poo)

*A wand'ring minstrel I.*

#### SONG (Pish-Tush and Chorus)

*Our great Mikado, virtuous man.*

#### SONG (Pooh-Bah with Nanki-Poo and Pish-Tush)

*Young man, despair; likewise go to*

#### RECIT (Nanki-Poo and Pooh-Bah)

*And have I journey'd for a month.*

#### CHORUS WITH SOLO (Ko-Ko)

*Behold the Lord High Executioner!*

#### SONG (Ko-Ko with Chorus of Men)

*As some day it may happen.*

#### CHORUS OF GIRLS

*Comes a train of little ladies.*

#### TRIO (Yum-Yum, Peep-Bo and Pitti-Sing, with Chorus of Girls)

*Three little maids from school are we.*

#### QUARTET (Yum-Yum, Peep-Bo, Pitti-Sing and Pooh-Bah with Chorus of Girls)

*So please you, sir, we much regret.*

#### DUET (Yum-Yum and Nanki-Poo)

*Were you not to Ko-Ko plighted.*

#### TRIO (Ko-Ko, Pooh-Bah and Pish-Tush)

*I am so proud*

#### FINALE ACT ONE

*With aspect stern and gloomy stride.*

### Act Two

#### SOLO (Pitt i -Sing and Chorus of Girls)

*Braid the raven hair.*

#### SONG (Yum-Yum)

*The sun, whose rays are all ablaze.*

#### MADRIGAL (Yum-Yum, Pitti-Sing, Nanki-Poo and Pish-Tush)

*Brightly dawns our wedding day.*

#### TRIO (Yum-Yum, Nanki-Poo and Ko-Ko)

*Here's a how-de-do! If I marry you.*

#### ENTRANCE OF MIKADO AND KATISHA

*Mi-ya-sa-ma, mi-ya-sa-ma.*

#### SONG (Mikado and Chorus)

*A more humane Mikado never did in Japan exist.*

#### TRIO AND CHORUS (Pitti-Sing, Ko-Ko, Poo-Bah and Mikado)

*The criminal cried as he dropped him down.*

#### GLEE (Pitt i -Sing! Katisha, Ko-Ko with Yum-Yum, Pooh-Bah and Mikado)

*See how the Fates their gifts allot.*

#### DUET (Nanki-Poo and Ko-Ko, with Yum-Yum, Pitti-Sing and Pooh-Bah)

*The flowers that bloom in the spring.*

#### RECIT AND SONG (Katisha)

*Alone, and yet alive.*

#### SONG (Ko-Ko)

*On a tree by a river, a little Tom-tit sang, willow, tit-willow.*

#### DUET (Katisha and Ko-Ko)

#### FINALE ACT TWO

*For he's gone and married Yum-Yum.*

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## SEASONS GREETINGS

by ALAN AYCKBOURN

DECEMBER 2nd-9th 1995

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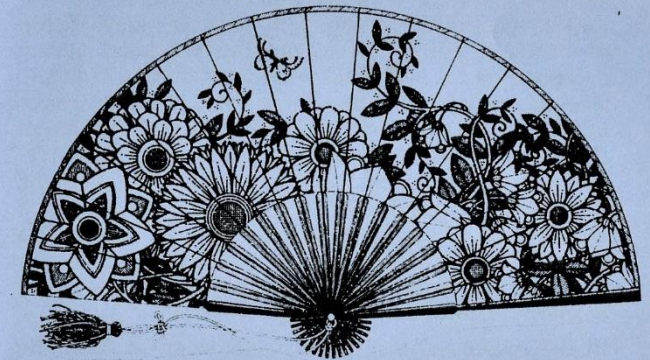
# GILBERT & SULLIVAN

SOCIETY

PRESENTS

# THE MIKADO

OR THE TOWN OF TITIPU



by

W. S. GILBERT & ARTHUR SULLIVAN

Playhouse Theatre

7.30 pm

30 October - 4 November 1995

## THE BACKGROUND TO THE STORY

The town of Titipu lies on the seashore in a rural area of Japan. It is some distance from the capital, from where the benevolently despotic Mikado rules the country with a singular mixture of humour and sadism.

The local government hierarchy in those days apparently required all towns to possess a town band and to carry out a regular programme of executions. To make the latter condition easier to meet the Mikado has decreed that all men discovered flirting should be immediately beheaded, but the Titipu Justices have attempted to make this Draconian sentence impossible to carry out. The first person convicted of this offence (Ko-Ko, a cheap tailor) has been given the post of Lord High Executioner, so that before he executes anybody else he will have to execute himself. This subterfuge has not endeared itself to the haughty officers of state, who have resigned rather than serve under this upstart - all but Pooh-Bah, whose decision to accept all their posts (and salaries) is based on an individual notion of self-abasement.

It is graduation day at the local Ladies' Academy, and for one girl, Yum-Yum, it brings the prospect of marriage with Ko-Ko whose duties evidently include the guardianship of wards of court. She is not overwhelmed at the prospect, and is overjoyed when a stranger whom she remembers from a fleeting encounter a year ago arrives in Titipu. This is Nanki-Poo, who has been on the run from the Imperial court to escape an unwanted matrimonial contract with a certain Katisha, an elderly lady among the Mikado's attendants. He appears in the guise of a wandering minstrel, but Yum-Yum discovers his considerably more exalted true identity. It seems, however, that there is little chance of Ko-Ko releasing her to marry Nanki-Poo.

In the meantime notice has been received from the Imperial court that the Mikado is disturbed at the absence of reported executions from Titipu, and that he threatens to reduce the town to the rank of village, with consequent financial ruin for all. Ko-Ko and his companions have to find a compliant head to be chopped off, and to find it quickly.

The story concerns the search for a willing victim, Yum-Yum's inner conflicts between love and survival, Katisha's arrival in search of her escaped fiancé, and latterly the Mikado's arrival to check whether his wishes have been carried out. Only after a number of unexpected changes of plan does the story reach its resolution.

ACT 1  
ACT 2     Courtyard of Ko-Ko's Official Residence

## CAST

The Mikado of Japan	David Ward
Nanki-Poo <i>(his son, disguised as a wandering minstrel, and in love with Yum-Yum)</i>	Steven Greenwood
Ko-Ko <i>(Lord High Executioner of Titipu)</i>	Mitchell Wolfe
Pooh-Bah <i>(Lord High Everything Else)</i>	Adrian Thompson
Pish-Tush <i>(a Noble Lord)</i>	Graham Boyle
Yum-Yum <i>Three sisters, wards of Ko-Ko</i>	Elizabeth Dinsdale
Pitti-Sing	Clare Williams
Peep-Bo	Christine Roberts
Katisha <i>(an elderly lady, in love with Nanki-Poo)</i>	Susan Baines
Ko-Ko's Assistant	Rosi Fellows

## SCHOOL GIRLS

Kathryn Buxton	Janet Thompson
Patricia Castle	Stephanie Bolton
Carol Fleming	Jane Fellows
Jean Greenwood	Christine Priestley
Christine Johnson	Janice Roberts
Helen Saul	Marie Sugden
Sheila Simpson	

## NOBLES

Richard Buxton	Leyland Smith
Richard Fellows	Harold Galley
Frank Hogan	John Priestley
Simon Roberts	Paul Sheddon
Trevor Roberts	Peter Sugden
Steven Sheddon	Stuart Summerscales

## PRODUCTION TEAM

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ASSISTANT MUSICAL DIRECTORS	BARBARA THOMPSON RICHARD BUXTON
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ORCHESTRAL PARTS	JAMES NEWBY MUSIC
TICKET SALES & FRONT OF HOUSE	TONY JOHNSON
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