

Musical Numbers

Act One

CHORUS OF MAIDENS WITH SOLOS (Angela and Ella)

Twenty love-sick maidens we

RECITATIVE AND SONG (Patience, with Saphir, Angela and Chorus of maidens)

Still brooding on their mad infatuation

...I cannot tell what this love may be

SOLO (Colonel, and Chorus of dragoons)

The soldiers of our Queen

...If you want a receipt for that popular mystery

CHORUS WITH SOLOS (Angela, Saphir, Bunthorne, and Chorus of maidens and dragoons)

In a doleful train two and two we walk all day

SONG (Colonel, and Chorus of dragoons)

When I first put this uniform on

RECITATIVE AND SONG (Bunthorne)

Am I alone and unobserved? ...If you're anxious for to shine

DUET (Patience and Angela)

Long years ago, fourteen maybe

DUET (Patience and Grosvenor)

Prithee, pretty maiden

FINALE TO ACT ONE

Let the merry cymbals sound ...Now tell us, we pray you ...Your maiden hearts, ah, do not steel ...Come, walk up, and purchase with avidity

...Hold, stay your hand! ...True love must single-hearted be ...I hear the

soft note of the echoing voice ...But who is this, whose godlike grace ...Oh

list while we a love confess

Act Two

CHORUS OF MAIDENS

On such eyes as maidens cherish

RECITATIVE AND SONG (Jane)

Sad is that woman's lot ...Silvered is the raven hair

CHORUS OF MAIDENS

Turn, oh turn in this direction

SONG (Grosvenor, and Chorus of maidens)

A magnet hung in a hardware shop

SONG (Patience)

Love is a plaintive song

DUET (Jane and Bunthorne)

So go to him and say to him

TRIO (Duke, Major and Colonel)

It's clear that medieval art

QUINTET (Angela, Saphir, Duke, Major and Colonel)

If Saphir I choose to marry

DUET (Bunthorne and Grosvenor)

When I go out of door

SONG (Grosvenor and Chorus of maidens)

I'm a Waterloo House young man

FINALE TO ACT TWO

After much debate internal

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With thanks to Calderdale Council for Grant Support

YOUR 1997 PRODUCTION WILL BE
THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE
OR
THE SLAVE OF DUTY
NOVEMBER 10TH -15TH 1997

HALIFAX THESPIANS

KING CROSS STREET, HALIFAX

TELEPHONE: 01422 365998

December 7th - 14th at 7.30pm

"LADY WINDERMERE'S FAN"

by Oscar Wilde

Director: Anne Brook

Sponsored by: Frank Ford, Restaurant Engineers

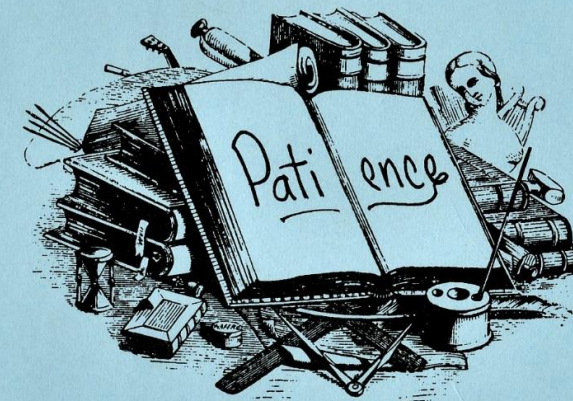
BOX OFFICE: Open from Wednesday
in the week before each production.

HOURS: 12 noon to 4pm daily.

HALIFAX

GILBERT & SULLIVAN
SOCIETY

- PRESENTS -



OR

Bunthorne's Bride

By W.S. Gilbert & Arthur Sullivan

Playhouse Theatre
Halifax

7.30pm

4th - 9th November
1996



*Halifax Gilbert & Sullivan Society Founded 1968
Affiliated to the National Operatic & Dramatic Association*

Background to the Story

Patience...

was written at a time when the stuffiness of the first part of Victoria's reign was beginning to evaporate, and a more relaxed period was being ushered in. In the visual arts, an admiration of simplicity, natural forms and country crafts came to the fore, along with a love of beauty for its own sake. In addition, there was a nostalgic regard for a bygone golden age. Heavy, garish, modern machine-made objects were reviled, as were the nouveaux riches who owned them. The simple life was de rigueur, as long as one could afford it, and keep up the intellectual pretence!

R.F.

The story of the opera...

concerns two poets, one of whom concentrates on the beauties of nature and a classical golden age, while the other relies on a stark simplicity for his effect. But where Reginald Bunthorne's florid verses are only an imposture designed to gain public attention (as he confesses to the audience in his song), the simplicity of Archibald Grosvenor is quite natural, and its effects on his audience are (if we and Patience are to believe him) most unwelcome.

Wherever there are artistic movements, they have their camp followers, those who take up the latest trend with unsurpassed enthusiasm, only to discard it the instant the next trend comes along. The pop singers and groups from the nineteen-sixties onwards can be compared with the literary figures of the nineteenth century. The rapturous maidens of our opera are the poetic 'groupies', who have been seduced by Bunthorne's self-generated publicity, much to the annoyance of their admirers, the down-to-earth dragoons who cannot see why they do not swoon over their handsome uniforms.

Two ladies remain constant in their attitudes throughout the opera. Lady Jane has embraced the aesthetic movement whole-heartedly, and remains faithful to Bunthorne's art. Patience, on the other hand, is a simpler, earthier character who, once she has been convinced of a principle, will stick to it through thick and thin. So when Lady Angela assures her that true love can only exist when it is completely unselfish in motive, she takes this as her guiding light for the rest of the opera.

This principle of unselfish love, the wavering affections of the rapturous maidens between the two poets, and the attempts of the dragoons to understand and compete with their aesthetic rivals, lead to a succession of unlikely liaisons and changes of attitude before the final resolution.

Cast

Colonel Calverley
Major Murgatroyd
Lieut. The Duke of Dunstable
(Officers of Dragoon Guards)

Reginald Bunthorne
(a Fleshly Poet)

Archibald Grosvenor
(an Idyllic Poet)

Mr. Bunthorne's Solicitor
Tony Johnson

The Lady Angela
The Lady Saphir
The Lady Ella
The Lady Jane
(Rapturous maidens)

Patience
(a Dairy Maid)

RAPTUROUS MAIDENS

Carol Fleming
Jean Greenwood
Helen Saul
Clare Williams
Marie Sugden
Stephanie Bolton
Jane Fellows
Christine Roberts
Janice Roberts

OFFICERS OF DRAGOON GUARDS

Frank Hogan
Richard Fellows
Simon Roberts
Trevor Roberts
Stuart Summerscales
Harold Galley
John Priestley
Andrew Stopford
Peter Sugden

Acts 1 and 2 take place in parkland neighbouring the entrance to Reginald Bunthorne's estate.

Production Team

PRODUCERS ✓ IAN & LESLEY HENDERSON
MUSICAL DIRECTOR ✓ JAMES NEWBY
ASSISTANT MUSICAL DIRECTORS ✓ BARBARA THOMPSON,
RICHARD BUXTON
MEMBERS OF THE WEST YORKSHIRE ORCHESTRA ✓
STAGE MANAGERS ✓ ANDREW STOPFORD,
DAWN SUTCLIFFE
SET DESIGNED BY RICHARD FELLOWS
AND BUILT BY ✓ RICHARD FELLOWS, RICHARD
BUXTON, IAN HENDERSON,
TREVOR ROBERTS &
SIMON ROBERTS
LIGHTING ✓ CHRIS DYSON
PROPERTIES ✓ CHRISTINE JOHNSON,
JULIA HAIGH
COSTUMES ✓ AIREBOROUGH GILBERT &
SULLIVAN SOCIETY,
W.A. HOMBURG, LEEDS
PUBLICITY ✓ HELEN SAUL, PETER SUGDEN
MAKE-UP ✓ JUDITH TRICKEY, LORRAINE
NEEDHAM, GILLIAN WILKINSON
PHOTOGRAPHY ✓ JAMES PHOTOGRAPHERS
PROMPTERS ↓ BARBARA JOHNSON,
BRENDA PRIESTLEY
ACCOMPANISTS ✓ COLIN AKERS, NOREEN GALLEY
ORCHESTRAL PARTS ✓ JAMES NEWBY MUSIC
TICKET SALES &
FRONT OF HOUSE TONY JOHNSON

THANKS TO

SLAITHWAITE METHODIST
AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY
FOR LOAN OF TREE FLATS

AND TO

ANDY THORNTON'S ARCHITECTURAL ANTIQUES
FOR PHOTOGRAPH LOCATIONS AND LOAN OF STATUE