

F.J.O.D.A. Presents:

THE MIKADO

(Or the Town of Titipu)

By Mr. W.S. Gilbert and Sir Arthur Sullivan

In Stanley Town Hall

On

Thursday, 23 November

Friday, 24 November

And

Saturday, 25 November



About the Operetta

After a very successful start to the shows , audiences were falling off . Sullivan was unhappy about Gilbert's idea for a new production . Gilbert still fancied a " magic lozenge " - an idea he had pressed before - but Sullivan thought it was too much like the plot of " The Sorcerer" and was not keen to pursue the project.

The pair almost fell out and Sullivan even went to the extent of meeting with others to ask them to write a libretto! Fortunately , he changed his mind before the damage was too severe.

Gilbert was both hurt and offended by Sullivan's actions but an incident at his home in London changed everything.

A large Japanese sword , which was hung on the wall , suddenly fell to the ground with a clatter. Gilbert was instantly alert and aware of the widespread interest , at that time , in everything Japanese , he began to plan in his mind the plot of the Mikado.

Sullivan was enchanted by the idea and the pair once again combined to create " The Mikado " - probably the most popular Savoy Operetta of all!

It was first performed on 14th March 1885 and the Libretto is full of much-quoted lines such as " merely corroborative detail intended to give verisimilitude to an otherwise bald and unconvincing narrative".

The score is full of well-known tunes of which " Three Little Maids " and " Tit Willow " are perhaps the most popular.

Act One begins with the gentlemen introducing themselves and the arrival of NANKI POO , a wandering minstrel. He is searching for the girl he loves (YUM-YUM), whom he first met when playing with the Titipu Town Band , as a second trombone. PISH TUSH , a noble lord , fills him in on the gossip but it transpires that YUM-YUM is about to marry her guardian , KO-KO , a cheap tailor who has had a stroke of good fortune and come up in the world.

As preparations for the wedding progress , a letter arrives from the Mikado (the Emperor of Japan) , via POOH-BAH -a most noble Lord- announcing that the MIKADO is coming to visit.

NANKI-POO is presented with an opportunity and persuades KO-KO to allow him to marry YUM-YUM , albeit temporarily in exchange for his solving a problem for KO-KO.

POOH-BAH , the haughty Lord , puts a spoke in the wheel and discloses a drawback with the plan. KO-KO has to come up with a scheme in order to satisfy the MIKADO'S visit and purpose and to win back YUM-YUM.

During all this activity , KATISHA a lady from the Court of the MIKADO who desires marriage with NANKI-POO , keeps interfering.

It takes the combined efforts of YUM-YUM , her sisters (PEEP-BO and PITTI-SING) , NANKI-POO , KO-KO , PISH-TUSH and POOH-BAH to try and resolve , satisfactorily , the MIKADO'S quest and to pacify KATISHA.

Will it all work out ? In the words of the MIKADO " virtue is triumphant only in theatrical performances". Maybe someone should have added " things don't always go according to plan".

The Cast

THE MIKADO.....DAVID LANG

KATISHA (A lady from Court).....FIONA DIDLICK

PUSH-TUSH (A noble lord).....MIKE ROWLES

NAHKI-POO (A wandering minstrel).....NORMAN BLACK

YUM-YUM (Ward of KO-KO).....KAP1 FISHER

PITTI-SING (Sister to YUM-YUM).....MELANIE CROSS

PEEP-RO (Sister to YUM-YUM)ALISON BLACKBURN

KO-KO (Lord High Executioner).....JOCK ELLIOT

POOH-BAH (Lord High Everything Else)..CRISPIN FISHER

Chorus of schoolgirls , nobles and coolies.

Act One A street in the town of Titipu near the
residence of KO-KO.

Act Two The garden of KO-KO's official residence.



Kari Fisher
as
Yum Yum



Stage credits with FIODA include RUTH in PIRATES and the WICKED STEPMOTHER in CINDERELLA Has branched out into Folk Music and is a closet THESPIAN! She must have a sense of humour as she claims to have been bullied into taking part in the show. Bully Katisha - Who would dare!

A musician of note (after note) , KARI is perhaps better known for playing the violin. You will have the chance to hear her in the overture.

She has sung as a soprano with Trinity College Cambridge Chapel Choir and loves to sing. As far as we can ascertain this is her first G. & S. - hopefully there will be many more.



Fiona Didlick
as
Katisha





Alison Blackburn
as
Peep-Bo



MELANIE is one of two WPA principals. She has appeared in a previous version of the MIKADO (in 1985) in Oakham, Rutland. She is also an instrumentalist and plays oboe and piano. Watch out for her keeping the other little maids on track. The opportunity to meet new friends and participate in the community attracted her into taking part. We are delighted she is!

A versatile member of FIODA Alison has starred (TALIDA in SINBAD), directed (MURDER IN THE VICARAGE), prompted (NO SEX PLEASE WE'RE BRITISH) and looked after props (PIRATES). Made the fatal mistake of offering to look up after a rehearsal. With that sort of keen attitude she was a cert to be in the show!



Melanie Cross
as
Pitti-Sing





**David Lang
as
The Mikado**



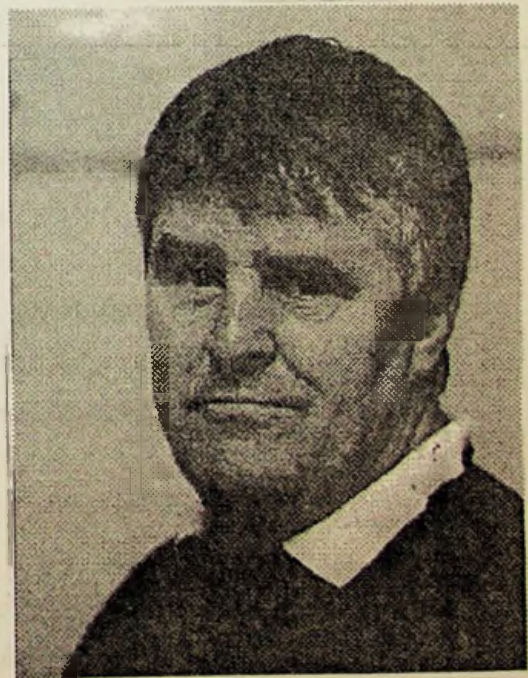
Perhaps better known for his leading role at the Folk Club Jock's stage credits continue to grow. Has previously starred in PIRATES (as the PIRATE KING) known for his humour and timing , he brings a fine voice range and interpretation to his role. His pet hate (excluding the director and producer) must be lines , lines lines -he has many in the show. When asked why he is taking part , he said " pushed ". Whether he wants to be or feels he was press-ganged he didn't say.

DAVID has a strong background in theatre with performances in A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS , HAPPIEST DAYS OF YOUR LIFE , ROMANOFF AND JULLIET and THE GHOST TRAIN. He has previously been in G.& S. in PIRATES where he played the MAJOR-GENERAL.

He may be a glutton for punishment but who better to advocate " let the punishment fit the crime "



**Jock Elliott
as
Ko-Ko**





Mike Bowles
as
Pish-Tush

Mike claims limited experience in amateur dramatics. Musical credits include prior G. & S. (GONDOLIERS and YEOMAN OF THE GUARD). He is the second of our MPA principals and continues the fine source of talent which has helped fill parts in our productions. He has mixed easily into the community with enthusiasm. Claims to be a dedicated G. & S. fan.



Norman Black
as
Ranki-Poo

Following a chorus part in PIRATES, NORMAN now steps up to a major part. He has been in the MIKADO twice before and has appeared in H.M.S. PINAFORE, IOLANTHE, PATIENCE and PIRATES. In the U.K. he has sung with choruses in "Gilbert & Sullivan for all" and was a soloist with the Caledonia Choir.

Has produced and directed a number of FIODA's shows and is the producer for this one.

Claims he can't read a note (true!) but has a good "ear".





**Crispin Fisher
as
Pooh-Bah**

With a musical background including " choirboy of the year " finalist , he was a prime choice for Musical Director. At school he took part in his first G.& S.(as 1st bridesmaid in TRIAL BY JURY!). He was a choral scholar at Trinity College , Cambridge. Also an instrumentalist (and is playing in the overture) he enjoys singing. He is looking forward to the live production.



During our early music rehearsals, we had the assistance of both Elizabeth Villalon and Kari Fisher. Elizabeth has subsequently departed from the Islands and will not be returning before the show and, as you can see from the programme , Kari is in the show.

We were unable to find someone locally able to play for the performances however we discovered , by chance that KEVIN HOLLAND was available and willing to come from the U.K. to play for us. KEVIN will be known to many of you from his time as music teacher in the FICS (from January 1993 until December 1994).

In addition to piano, he plays the flute , guitar , recorder and (or so rumour has it), something called " a can of Boddy's " all with equal virtuosity!

He hails from BOLTON in LANCASHIRE (is the only known season-ticket holder for BOLTON WANDERERS).

He trained at the London College of Music and Roehampton Institute.

In addition to school productions locally , he has been in many shows , cabarets as well as appearing at the Folk Club.

With the combined efforts of Kevin and Crispin , we know you will enjoy a show of the highest musical standard.



The Ladies Of The Chorus

Sarah Allen

This is SARAH'S first FIODA production. She has sung in school and college choirs though. Claims she was talked into it by Jennifer Jones - well done J!

Helen Andrews

Previous experience with FIODA in CINDERELLA. Has been in G.& S. productions before (YEOMAN OF THE GUARD and MIKADO). Sings in cabaret locally and has sung at the Folk Club. Is attracted to the performance by the "silky kimonos"!

Helen Brown

A new recruit! No previous show experience noted. Heard of the production from Crispin Fisher - beats a handfull of pills or whatever else he usually offers.

Liz Burnett

Has been in PIRATES (1974) -must have been a child production? With such a large family involvement in the production she felt "if you can't beat 'em...."

Roxanne Crowie

Roxanne has graduated through school shows and thought it was time she took part in this one. We are very glad she did and hope she takes part in many more.

Eileen Davies

Musical credits range from "the Messiah" to various choral events. Has some G.& S. background (YEOMAN OF THE GUARD and PIRATES). She enjoys G. & S. and the chance to mix with a variety of people.

Jean Diggle

With a background of school and church choirs , experience on stage (MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING) and PIRATES , we didn't really give her a choice to opt out!

Emma Dilnutt

No major credits to date. Has no excuse to offer for being rash enough to "sign up". A very welcome addition to our ladies chorus.

Stephanie Edwards

Has starred in previous FIODA productions including NO SEX PLEASE WE'RE BRITISH and CINDERELLA. No prior G.& S. experience as far as we can gauge. The challenge of new horizons was obviously too much to resist.

Liz Elliot

Well known through the Folk Club , Liz is a natural for the chorus and could talk a part. Like Stephanie , was attracted by the challenge. Has previously sung in PIRATES.

Marilyn Grimmer

A natural follow-up to her appearance in PIRATES. She enjoys carol singing and was foolish enough to believe the Producer when he implied singing in the show would be very similar!

With a background in ballet and having been in DICK WHITTINGTON , Abigail was not going to be left out of this! Look for her cameo appearances at the beginning and end of Act One. An undoubted star of now and the future!

Ella Herron

In addition to G. & S. credits (PIRATES , TRIAL BY JURY), Ella has stage experience in LA BELLE HELENE and GYPSY BARON. We think she is hooked on the smell of the crowd and the roar of the greasepaint. Another of the hardy souls who has made frequent trips from HPA.

Barbara Howells

Barbara has appeared in school and previous FIODA productions. This is a new dimension for her. She reckons her big sister LORNA " persuaded " her to take part.

Lorna Howells

Starred in PIRATES as NABE. Apart from school productions is well known locally for her cabaret work. She has no recollection of "persuading" Barbara to do anything and thinks the Producer is to blame (Don't they all!).

Catriona Johns

School productions to her credit - like many of the cast. Thinks she is mad to take part . We agree with the first bit but are really pleased she is taking part anyway!

Jennifer Jones

After wandering into PIRATES (by mistake) and ending up taking part , she was pressured by her husband to repeat the error. We are very pleased she did .

Clare Ovey

No credits since school or college where she has prior choir experience. Was interested in starting to sing again. We are very glad she chose this production.

Ann Reid

A seasoned performer including PIRATES .Ann has contributed much to FIODA otherwise through costumes and choreography. Originally looking for a Monday night interest , we have managed to extend her nights somewhat!

Sarah Whatmough

Has appeared in THE DUCHESS OF MALFI in a bit part. Sarah is a further member of our MPA contingent. She has taken to G.& S. like the proverbial duck! Has been instrumental in our being able to take the show to MPA - the first time we have managed to do so.



Gentlemen Of The Chorus

Nicholas Baker

When you have a sister who runs a theatre , stage experience in pantomime , plays school and choral productions , a show like this must appear tame! Nick is a frustrated tenor lead. (He can have my part-Producer!!!) .He is a very welcome addition to the ranks.

Matthew Burnett

Experience of school productions and an interest in music (not to mention a father directing) make it a virtual cert that Matthew will be here somewhere. We are glad he is!

Roger Diggle

From playing the clarinet , we have managed to get Roger on stage not only for PIRATES but also for this show. We really do have a knack of persuasion , maybe its our bedside manner!

Paul Freer

Lists no priors and joined us to try something different. We know about his particular talent however even if he doesn't blow his own trumpet , we can always ask him to try!

Andrew Gurr

This is his first FIODA venture and hopefully not his last. His stage experience should go back to his schooldays when he was cast as Lady MacBeth! Immediately promoted to MacBeth (someone spotted his potential that early!) he was looking forward to the part but the show never happened. Let's hope this one does!

Alan Jones

A versatile performer of plays , music hall , pantomime , rock and folk , Alan joined us in a fit of madness.(so he says!). Takes one to recognise one (or two , or three). PIRATES was his first G.& S.

Simon Jones

From school productions , Simon has graduated to PIRATES and CINDERELLA . A rapidly-developing talent he likes being on stage. We certainly like having him!

Alex Smith

Has prior experience of G.& S. and took part in PIRATES where he played SAMUEL. Has also been in pantomime with FIODA . It is debatable whether the Wizard of Oz or the Producer led him to take part in this Production.

David Smith

With a very musical background including oratorio , a liking for and experience in G. & S. (IOLANTHE and PATIENCE) and having been a theatre manager , David brings a wealth of talent to our show. He could even have conducted - but we needed his voice! He is another of our MPA friends who have joined us for this show.

Production Team

PRODUCER.....NORMAN BLACK

ASSISTANT PRODUCER.....RICHARD FOGERTY

PRODUCER'S AIDE.....RACHAEL FREEMAN

DIRECTOR.....TONY BURNETT

STAGE MANAGER.....ANDREW JONES

MUSICAL DIRECTOR.....CRISPIN FISHER

MUSICAL ACCOMPANYTST/ COORDINATOR.....KEVIN HOLLAND
ASSISTED BYALEX LANG , PIPPA LANG
.....CRISPIN & KARI FISHER (OVERTURE)
.....ELISABETH VILLALON (REHERSALS)
.....CHRIS PLUMB (EQUIPMENT)

CHOREOGRAPHY.....JUDITH CAMPBELL

SOUND/LIGHTING:.....TIM COTTER

PROMPTS.....DANUTA VALLER/ ROBBIE BURNETT

SET CONSTRUCTION.....GRAHAM DIDLICK
ASSISTANTS.....TIM STENNING/CRAIG PAICE

SET PAINTING.....JAMIE PECK

TICKETS - DESIGN.....MIKE HANLON/CREATIVE IMAGE

PROGRAMME.....(PRINTING) JUANITA BROCK/TEABERRY EXPRESS

DOOR - TICKETS.....DIANNE FREEMAN

FRONT OF HOUSE.....RENE ROWLANDS
GRAHAM FRANCE

CURTAIN.....CRAIG PAICE

PROPS.....KATE TINGEY

BAR.....FRASER WALLACE

COSTUME COORDINATOR.....NIKKI BUXTON
ASSISTED BY ...HAY DEMPSTER , SANDRA PICONE ,
ANN REID , FJONA DIDLICK , JENNIFER
JONES , MARILYN GRIMMER , LIZ BURNETT
HELEN ANDREWS.

MAKE-UP.....JAI ME CORREA

Special Thanks To:

The Falkland Islands Company (Advert in Words Book)

Cable and Wireless Plc. (Advert in Words Book)

Producer's Wife for an "elastic" pink ticket

Crispin and Kari for the use of their home and piano

Judith Crowe and F.I.C.S. for rehearsal facilities

Jean Smith and the Junior School for rehearsal facilities

Alison Blackburn for the loan of equipment

Theresa Lang for the use of her music Machine

Brian Hill and the P.W.D. for the use of the town hall

and all their other support

Bryan Clayton for the refreshments for the cast and crew

All the cast and crew for their hard work and commitment

Mike Bowles and the MPA Team for making the difficult

journey for rehearsals

All those who kindly lent props

Patrick Watts and the F.J.B.S. Team for their support

S.S.V.C. TV for advertising the show

Jock Sutherland for the MPA trip

A very special Thanks to Kevin for jetting in to play for us



F.I.O.D.A.

Presents

at

**STANLEY
TOWN HALL**

THURSDAY 23rd NOVEMBER

Doors Open 6.30pm

Overture Begins .. 7.15pm

ADULTS £3.00

UNDER 18 £1.50

By
**W.S. GILBERT
&
A. SULLIVAN**

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