



## PRESS RELEASE

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Gilbert & Sullivan Austin Presents Its Summer 2019 Grand Production

### *Iolanthe*

A Whimsical and Uproarious Topsy-Turvy Musical Delight!  
Opening in Austin June 13 – 9 Performances

**WHO:** Gilbert & Sullivan Austin  
**WHAT:** "Iolanthe; or, the Peer and the Peri"  
**WHEN:** June 13-23 / Thursdays-Sundays / 9 Performances  
Evening performances Thursdays, Fridays, & Saturdays at 7:30pm.  
Matinees at 2pm June 16, 22 & 23.  
Special Children's Activities Sunday, June 16 at 1pm.  
**WHERE:** Worley Barton Theater at Brentwood Christian School / 11908 N. Lamar  
**TICKETS:** Tickets \$8-\$27  
Purchase tickets at [www.gilbertsullivan.org](http://www.gilbertsullivan.org) or call 512.474.5664  
For group sales of 10 or more contact Michael Meigs at 512.420.0888 or  
[michael@gilbertsullivan.org](mailto:michael@gilbertsullivan.org)

AUSTIN, TX – Gilbert & Sullivan Austin presents as its 2019 Summer Grand Production "Iolanthe; or, The Peer and the Peri." Nine performances will be performed at the Worley Barton Theater at Brentwood Christian School, June 13-23. "Iolanthe" is a fanciful comedy that presents a topsy-turvy love story involving fairies and members of the House of Lords – a political fairy tale that only Gilbert & Sullivan could conceive, and which will delight Austin audiences of all ages.

GSA Artistic Director Ralph MacPhail, Jr. returns for his 18th season. Jeffrey Jones-Ragona, returns for his 22nd season as Music Director, and will conduct the Gillman Light Opera Orchestra.

First performed in 1882, "Iolanthe" is the seventh of fourteen operatic collaborations by Gilbert and Sullivan. It is universally regarded as one of Sir Arthur Sullivan's most beautiful scores – a high water mark in terms of music, wit, cleverness, and color – with incredible choruses, wonderful solos and orchestration beyond compare. Peers, British noblemen and honorable members of Parliament, encounter Peris, lovelorn fairies from a golden glen – a collision of powerful mortals with feet of clay and immortal beings wielding magic wands. The result - havoc is wreaked in the House of Lords!

All performances will have supertitles for dialogue and lyrics. A special Children's Matinee is at 1pm on June 16, immediately prior to a 2pm matinee performance. Children will be invited to come on stage and meet the cast, crew, and orchestra along with other activities.

A complimentary buffet with the cast follows the Friday, June 14 Gala Performance.

Artistic Director Ralph MacPhail, Jr. will give pre-performance talks before two performances. The audience will learn about the history, story, characters, and music of "Iolanthe." Pre-performance talks from 6:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 15 and Friday, June 21.

Gilbert & Sullivan Austin was founded in 1976 with the purpose of education by preserving and presenting the works of Gilbert & Sullivan. Known for its highly acclaimed annual grand productions from the G&S repertoire, the organization is also dedicated to spreading and teaching the joys of G&S through school and community presentations.

This project is funded and supported in part by a grant from the Texas Commission on the Arts and in part by the Cultural Arts Division of the City of Austin Economic Development Department. Visit Austin at [NowPlayingAustin.com](http://NowPlayingAustin.com)

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