

# GILBERT & SULLIVAN

SOCIETY OF AUSTIN

OCTOBER 2003 NEWSLETTER

## Iolanthe

Or, The Peer and the Peri

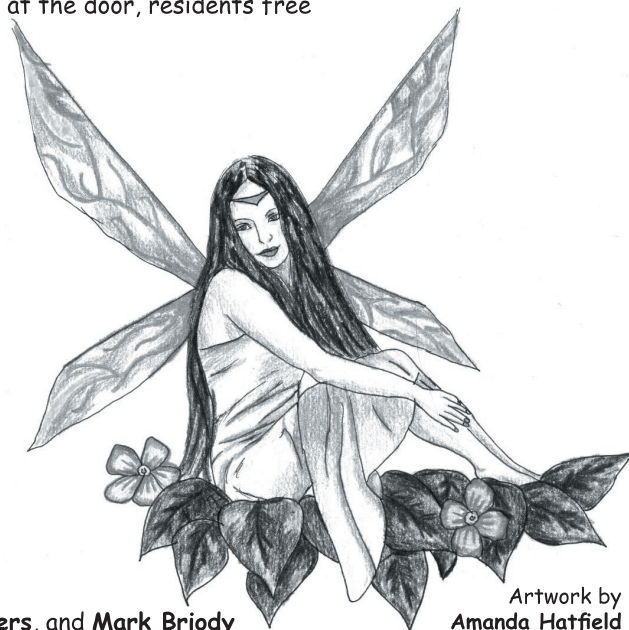
Concert Version by **Brad Merrell, Kristin Burritt, and Art DiBianca**

Gala dinner/fundraiser Sunday October 12 at 6:00 pm, \$35/plate, at La Madeleine 3418 N. Lamar.  
Call Kristin Burritt 528-8352 for tickets.

Other performances Monday October 13 and Friday October 17 at 7:30 pm,  
at Westminster Manor 4100 Jackson Ave., \$5 admission at the door, residents free

Director: **Brad Merrell**Music Director: **Andrew Hallock**Producers: **Kristin Burritt, Art DiBianca, and Brad Merrell**

Costuming by **Kristin Burritt, Amanda Hatfield,**  
and **Randall McIntyre**

Piano Accompanist: **Gloria Kim**Lord Chancellor: **Art DiBianca**Earl of Mountararat: **Randall McIntyre**Earl Tolloller: **Brad Merrell**Private Willis: **Harold Gilbert**Strephon: **Derek Smootz**Queen of the Fairies: **Mandy Summers**Iolanthe: **Kristin Burritt**Celia: **Meredith Groeschel**Leila: **Kristina Horacek**Fleta: **Amanda Hatfield**Phyllis: **June Julian**Chorus: **Meghan Hone, Enid Hallock, Mark Long, Richard Summers, and Mark Briody**

### A Highly Susceptible Chancellor...

• *Brad Merrell, President*

In the spring-time seed is sown:  
In the summer grass is mown:  
In the autumn you may reap:  
Winter is the time for sleep.

—from *Ruddigore*

Well, the season of change is upon us. Autumn is already here. It seems rather silly looking back on it now, but I actually believed I'd have some spare time when our production of *The Pirates of Penzance* had run its course. I know better now. The new season has brought about changes in our Society as well.

The seeds we had sown with the help of Rafe MacPhail in *Pirates* last spring have grown abundantly. This autumn, we are reaping the rewards with six nominations for the B. Iden Payne Awards! The awards ceremony is coming up next week

Monday, September 29 at 7:30 at Scottish Rite Theater. Plan to be there to support our wonderful nominees!

As you have no doubt heard, Larry Shepley resigned his position on the Board of Directors in July, after our highly successful run of *Pirates*. I was elected president in his place. I have big shoes to fill. Larry did much for the Society as president and every day I'm learning just how big this job is. I've always had respect for Larry, but that respect is growing daily.

Larry's resignation left a vacancy on the Board. We are very sorry to see him go (he has to do quite a bit of travel through the end of the year), but he is still maintaining an extremely active presence in the Society and his continuing work is greatly appreciated.

In addition to this, Bill Hatcher has decided to resign as Historian (though he's remaining as Executive Vice President).

(Continued on page 3)

## Musicale Program

### Act I

"Seguidilla" from *Carmen* by Georges Bizet Kristina Horacek  
 "Caro nome" from *Rigoletto* by Giuseppe Verdi Kristin Burritt  
 "O del mio amato ben" by Stephano Donaudy Holton Johnson  
 "Quel guardo il cavaliere" from *Don Pasquale* by Gaetano Donizetti

June Julian

"Flower duet" from *Lakmé* by Léo Delibes Kristin and Kristina

### Piano Interlude I

A medley of pieces: Classical and non, G&S and non Len Gillman

### Intermission

### Piano Intertude II

"Trois Pièces — Toccata" by Francis Poulenc Gloria Kim

### Act II

"The sun, whose rays" from *The Mikado* June Julian

"When a merry maiden marries" from *The Gondoliers* Kristina Horacek

"Here's a how-de-do!" from *The Mikado*

June, Holton, and Arthur DiBianca

"I cannot tell what this love may be" from *Patience* Kristin Burritt

"Is life a boon?" from *The Yeomen of the Guard* Holton Johnson

"Three little maids" from *The Mikado* Kristin, Kristina, and June

"Hail, Poetry!" from *The Pirates of Penzance*

All, led by Brad Merrell

"Now to the banquet we press" from *The Sorcerer* All

Many thanks to Lady High Pianist Gloria Kim  
 and to our D'Oyly Carte, Janette Jones

## September Musicale Opening the New Season

Reba Gillman

We started our year with a bang when an enthusiastic group gathered on Monday September 8, 2003, at the beautiful home of Bennie and Nancy Jay. Present were friends and members: Zelda Austen & Arthur Gubernick, Chris Buggé, Kristin Burritt, Arthur DiBianca, Mary Framkes, Dawn Fosburg, Len & Reba Gillman, Loel Graber, Bruce & Enid Hallock, Gary & Andrew Hallock, Bill & Nan Hatcher, Meghan Hone, Kristina Horacek, Holton Johnson, Janette Jones, June Julian, Craig Kuglen, Gloria Kim, Richard & Julie Lary, Allen & JoAnn Lawshae, Mark & Roberta Long, Randall McIntyre, Nancy McQueen, Brad & Laura Merrell and Nancy Jay, Kert Peterson, Bee Polomé & Milt Weiss, Ida Scott, Katharine Shields, Dan Smith, Leland L. Smith, Paula Tyler, Libby Weed, Theresa Wilson & Antonio Fuentes and Cindy Brandt, and Jon Paul Yerby. Our new president, Brad Merrell, welcomed us and made several announcements. One was that the Board has formally decided that our next show will be *The Gondoliers*. Libby Weed then took the floor and welcomed some of our new members. She told us that she would introduce the program, but that Janette Jones "in the bright tangerine dress" was the brains behind it.

The excellent program planned by Libby and Janette delighted the audience with fresh talent from the cast of our June production of *The Pirates of Penzance*. Lady High Pianist Gloria Kim presided at the piano, and Libby introduced the performers with her inimitable thumbnail sketches. "Act I" was given over to a favorite operatic aria from each performer and one duet. Piano interludes by Len Gillman and Gloria Kim, plus a short intermission, separated this part from the Gilbert and Sullivan music of "Act II." We were then treated to several charming G&S excerpts culminating in the delightful trio from *The Mikado*: the three little maids complete with kimonos and action, choreographed by Janette and costumed from Nancy Jay's wardrobe, demonstrating that much as we love Gilbert's words and Sullivan's music, it's the staging that completes the magic.

To finish up in traditional fashion, Brad sang the Pirate King's opening and we all rose to sing "Hail Poetry", followed by a vigorous "Now to the banquet we press". This introduced happy sociability and delicious comestibles, brought by our members, who as usual outdid themselves! Many thanks to the Jays, especially Nancy!

## Contributors to Pirates 2003

Underwriters: Chris Buggé, Larry Shepley

Individual: Reba & Len Gillman, David & Roslyn Gutman, Jean & Ed Smootz, Sue Ricket Caldwell, Chris Buggé, Virginia Ehmann, Dan Girardot, Allan & Barbara Longacre

Corporate, Government, and Foundation: Still Water Foundation of Austin, Priority Copy, Eyes of Texas Laser Center, Cedra Corporation, Westminster Manor, Cleve H. Tandy Foundation, Consolidated Insurance Agency, Genesis Presbyterian Church, HEB & HEB Central Market, Texas French Bread

Thanks to our many volunteers and to Enid Hallock, who coordinated them.



*The Pirates of Penzance* was funded in part by the City of Austin under the auspices of the Austin Arts Commission and supported by a grant from the Texas Commission on the Arts.



## The Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Shreveport

announces their Season

*Oliver* September 19–29, 2003

*Cox and Box* plus *Trial by Jury* March 4–7, 2004

Our member Stanton Taylor is an important part of this group. For information call Reba 327-2277.

## Volunteers Wanted

Many thanks to Enid Hallock, who has agreed to coordinate our volunteers. A big project will be to update our large and out-of-date mailing list. Many phone calls may be required. If you would like to work on this job or help us in other ways, please call Enid at 453-4431.

## News

**Frank Delvy** will appear in *Dracula, The Musical*, opening Friday October 17 at the Dougherty Arts Center, 1110 Barton Springs Road, and running three weekends through Sunday, November 2nd. Watch the paper for exact information on times and tickets. This is a production of the Violet Crown Players, run by our onetime member **Diana McAlpin** (now Huckaby). **Jeffrey Jones-Ragona** is the Music Director, **Karl Logue** is the pianist, and **Toni Bravo** is the Stage Director. Some familiar faces in the cast are **Sam Johnson** as Dracula, **Jeanette Franz** as Lucy, and **Chelsea Manasseri** in the chorus.

**Jeffrey Jones-Ragona** will perform his doctoral recital on Saturday November 1 at St. Mary's Cathedral at 10th & Brazos. He will conduct a performance of *The Requiem Mass in E-flat Major* by Niccolò Jommelli (1714-1774) using the edition he created from an original manuscript. Again, a number of familiar faces will be present, including **Claire Vangelisti** and several singers and orchestra players. There will be a pre-concert lecture at 7:30 pm followed immediately by the performance. This is a fund raiser for the church's music program, and free-will offerings will be accepted.

Born: **Jennifer Michelle Wieckowski** on July 20, 2003, to happy parents **Dave** and **Terry**. "She's getting cuter by the minute," says the proud father, our Treasurer.

### The Triumph of Gilbert & Sullivan Musical Theatre in Victorian England Sixth Annual Theatre Forum at Round Top November 7-9 2003

#### Lectures, Performances, and a Film

For information, call Reba Gillman at 327-2277.  
A number of fancy brochures are available.

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Some good has come about from this, however. One of our most enthusiastic new members, Kristin Burritt, has accepted the nomination to the Board of Directors. Her exuberance and creativity will be great assets for us in the coming months and years. You've seen her perform several times now, first in our gala fundraiser in March, then in the chorus of *The Pirates of Penzance*, and most recently in our September musicale. What you may not have seen is how much volunteer time she's given us in the background. Most notably, she is working with Art DiBianca and me as a producer on our concert production of *Iolanthe* which will be presented next month.

Which of course brings me to my next point. Our concert production of *Iolanthe* (Gilbert and Sullivan's only fairy opera) is coming very soon! We will be putting on three performances. The first will be a gala celebration with dinner and dessert at La Madeleine (3418 N Lamar). This will be an exclusive event on Sunday, October 12 at 6:00 pm. It's open to everyone, but we only have room for about 50 guests, so call Kristin Burritt at 528-8352 for reservations. It will be \$35 per plate, with proceeds going toward our production of *The Gondoliers* next year. Come out to enjoy an evening of dining and music to support our next grand production!

If you will be unable to come to the gala opening, there will also be opportunities to see *Iolanthe* at 7:30 pm on Monday, October 13 and Friday, October 17 at Westminster Manor. These shows will be \$5 at the door and are open to everyone, with seating for 150 at each performance.

This is an exciting year for us. We look forward to seeing you at *Iolanthe*!



## Membership Form

We encourage you to join our Society. If you are a member, please check your membership renewal date on the top of the mailing label. If expired or near expiration, your membership needs to be updated! To correct your address, renew your membership, or become a member, complete this form, and mail it to us at:

The Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Austin  
P.O. Box 684542  
Austin, Texas 78768-4542 Phone: 472-4772 (472-GSSA)

Name (as you want it to appear) \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone (Day) \_\_\_\_\_ (Night) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_  
What company do you work for? \_\_\_\_\_

Please check membership category:

- ☐ Individual: \$20  
☐ Family/Group: \$30  
☐ Youth (18 & under): \$10  
☐ Senior (65 & over): \$10  
 Membership benefits include our Newsletter & 10% discount on tickets.  
☐ My donation of \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed.  
 (For levels & privileges, see below.)  
☐ I'm interested in becoming a business sponsor. Please call me.  
☐ I'm interested in volunteering.

Please consider contributing to The Society at one of the following **Donor Levels**: **Patron** (\$50-\$99), **Grand Duke or Duchess** (\$100-\$249); **Major General** (\$250-\$499); **Pooh-Bah** (\$500-\$999); **Pirate King** (\$1000-\$2499); **Savoyard** (\$2500 & up). Donors receive various benefits, including membership, listing in programs, and other benefits. Please call our office for further information.

## The Gilbert & Sullivan

### Society of Austin

Since 1976 , we have been spreading the joys of  
Gilbert & Sullivan through

#### Annual Grand Productions

#### Pirates in School

#### Musicales

#### Musical Scholarships

#### Monthly Newsletters

#### Holiday Season Shows

#### G&S Office

4604 Burnet Road, Austin, TX 78756

P.O. Box 684542, Austin, TX 78768-4542

(512) 472-4772 [472-GSSA]

### Board of Directors

President	Brad Merrell	257-1742
Executive Vice-President	Bill Hatcher	892-3722
Secretary	Libby Weed	837-5441
Treasurer	Dave Wieckowski	477-5566
Historian	Kristin Burritt	528-8352
Directors	Chuck Antonie	733-1006
	Chris Buggé	834-7766
	Reba Gillman	327-2277
	Steve Schwartzman	453-2334
	Paula Tyler	459-4639

#### Newsletter Editor

Reba Gillman

#### Layout

Larry Shepley

Our web site: [www.gilbertsullivan.org](http://www.gilbertsullivan.org)

E-mail: [info@gilbertsullivan.org](mailto:info@gilbertsullivan.org)

The Society holds non-profit status under 501(c)(3) of the IRS code.

### B. IDEN PAYNE NOMINATIONS

Outstanding Production of a Musical

Outstanding Director of a Musical: **Rafe MacPhail**

Outstanding Musical Director: **Jeffrey Jones-Ragona**

Outstanding Actor in a Musical: **Russell Gregory**

**Holton Johnson**

Outstanding Actress in a Musical: **Claire Vangelisti**

The results will be announced at the Awards Ceremony  
on Monday September 29 at 7:30 pm in the Scottish  
Rite Theater at 18th & Lavaca.

#### Next Meeting of the Board of Directors

7:00 pm Thursday October 2 at Paula Tyler's

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