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IOLANTHE



OR THE PEER AND THE PERI

By W. S. Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan

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MARCH / APRIL 1960

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present

IOLANTHE

OR

THE PEER AND THE PERI

By W. S. GILBERT AND ARTHUR SULLIVAN



Producer—Laurie Hall

Assistant Producer—Elizabeth Hillier

Musical Director—Margaret E. Jones, L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M.

Deputy Musical Director—Godfrey H. Fletcher

Choreography by Lorna Timms, M.I.S.T.D.(S.B).

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 Make Up—MRS. MADELEINE LACEY, MR. E. H. STRANGE, MR. W. J. NICHOLSON.
 Stage Assistants—MESSRS. E. HAMP, S. ROBERTS, N. SEARLE, J. BOULTON, C. R. HUNT.

Orchestra

Conductor—MARGARET E. JONES, L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M.

Violins—

MR. J. S. THOMAS, MR. EDWIN DODD, MR. P. WHITE, MRS. E. W. REDMILL, MISS H. M. STILL,
 MR. L. BEECHAM, MR. F. D. NEWMAN.

Cello—Miss A. JESSETT. Bass—MR. E. FAWCETT.

Flute—MR. P. J. PEARSALL. Clarinets—MR. D. WHITE, MR. R. G. SWIFT

Oboe—MR. T. M. HIGGINS. Bassoon—MR. S. JAMES.

Horn—MR. M. LANE. Trumpet—MR. J. ROYAN. Trombone—MR. G. B. SEDGWICK.

Percussion—MR. J. WILDEMAN. Piano—Mrs. L. ASHTON.

COMMITTEE

Chairman—MR. L. E. HALL.

Hon. Secretary—Mrs. B. A. CANDY. Accompanist—Mrs. L. ASHTON.
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 MESSRS. D. HALL (Secretary), J. MACK, N. MOWAT.

Our thanks are due to the many friends who have given assistance in connection with this production.

IOLANTHE

or

THE PEER AND THE PERI

Written by W. S. Gilbert and composed by Arthur Sullivan

CAST

| | |
|---|------------------------------|
| THE LORD CHANCELLOR | FREDERICK PRESTON |
| | Understudy LAURIE HALL |
| EARL OF MOUNTARARAT | NICOL MOWAT |
| | Understudy KEN SMITH |
| EARL OF TOLLOLLER | CHRISTOPHER SUTCLIFFE |
| | Understudy WILLIAM HENDERSON |
| PRIVATE WILLIS (of the Grenadier Guards) | ARTHUR WINN |
| | Understudy JOHN MACK |
| STREPHON (an Arcadian Shepherd) | IAN WOOD |
| | Understudy WILLIAM HENDERSON |
| QUEEN OF THE FAIRIES | ROSEMARY HUNT |
| | Understudy CORNELIA ATKIN |
| IOLANTHE (a Fairy, Strephon's Mother) | IRENE MOWAT |
| | Understudy RAY FETHNEY |
| CELIA } | LORNA WALTERS |
| LEILA } Fairies | Understudy DORIS SHORT |
| | JOYCE WALKER |
| FLETA } | Understudy PAM TOOTILL |
| | JOAN CLARE |
| | Understudy JESS FARLEY |
| PHYLLIS (an Arcadian Shepherdess and Ward in Chancery) | MARGARET DYMOTT |
| | Understudy MAVIS INKER |
| TRAIN BEARER | CHRISTOPHER SHARP |

Chorus of Dukes, Marquises, Earls, Viscounts, Barons and Fairies—

| | | | | |
|------------|------------|-------------|---------------|------------|
| M. ADAMS | J. FARLEY | M. INKER | A. NEVETT | D. SHORT |
| J. ARTHUR | R. FETHNEY | V. KEEN | B. OLIVER | M. SPEIRS |
| C. ATKIN | L. GORTON | J. LEARY | J. PHILLIPS | P. TOOTILL |
| R. BOLTON | J. GREEN | M. MACK | M. POLE-BAKER | M. TURNER |
| I. BOWEN | P. HAINES | E. MANN | B. REEDS | M. TYSON |
| M. BROWN | V. HESS | C. MAXTED | B. SAUNDERS | A. YATES |
| W. CHIVERS | E. HODGE | D. MCALPINE | M. SHAW | |

| | | | | |
|--------------|--------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| P. ADAMS | G. HANNA | J. MACK | L. PILBEAM | K. SMITH |
| W. BLEASDALE | P. HAINES | T. MANN | A. RAMSAY | W. WALDREN |
| A. BOLTON | W. HENDERSON | G. MOLYNEUX | R. REEDS | N. WILLIAMS |
| R. BROWN | H. HUMPHRIES | L. PAGE | J. SEWELL | A. WINN |
| D. HALL | | | | |

The Story of the Opera

IOLANTHE or The Peer and the Peri, as its title implies, is an opera with a fairy theme.

Iolanthe, a fairy, had five-and-twenty years ago, married a mortal, a rising young barrister, thereby involving the penalty of death. But the Fairy Queen commuted the sentence to penal servitude for life, a sentence she is working out at the bottom of a stream, so as to be near her son Strephon. Strephon, who is half-fairy and half-mortal, subsequently falls in love with Phyllis, a ward in Chancery (and therefore under the direct control of the Lord Chancellor).

Fairies, of course, never grow up, and so when Phyllis catches Strephon caressing Iolanthe, who looks so young, she cannot believe it is his mother. Moreover, all the Peers, together with the Lord Chancellor, who is none other than the rising young barrister who married Iolanthe, are in love with Phyllis. They all conspire to encourage Phyllis in her disbelief until at length she denounces her lover, Strephon, who in despair invokes the aid of the fairies. Phyllis now offers herself to her two most persistent lovers, Mountararat and Tolloller; she does not care which. But the Fairy Queen prepares a deadly retribution, she decrees that Strephon shall enter Parliament. He is returned by a huge majority as a Liberal Conservative and is made leader of both parties, in which position he carries every conceivable measure, much to the discomforture of the noble Peers.

Meanwhile all the faires fall in love with the Peers. The Fairy Queen herself falls a victim to the charms of Private Willis who is on sentry-go at Palace Yard but all sorrowfully overcome their passion. Iolanthe now discloses her identity as the wife of the somewhat myopic Lord Chancellor thereby incurring the death penalty.

But the Lord Chancellor with that subtle instinct common to the legal profession, finds a loophole by the insertion of a single word. Thus the Fairy Code of "Death to those who marry mortals" becomes "Death to those who *don't* marry mortals."

All are thus happily united, fairy wings sprout from the shoulder of the Peers, and we are left with the beautiful conception of a Parliament composed of Peers and Fairies.

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

ACT I—An Arcadian Landscape

ACT II—Palace Yard Westminster

Date—Between 1700 and 1882

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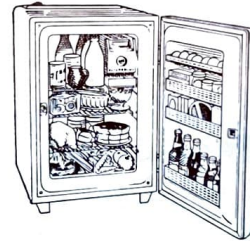
Musical Numbers

ACT I

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|---------------------------------------|
| Overture | ... | ... | ... | "Tripping hither, tripping thither" |
| Opening Chorus of Fairies, Soli (Celia and Leila) | ... | ... | ... | "Iolanthe from thy dark exile" |
| Invocation (Queen, Iolanthe, Celia, Leila and Chorus of Fairies) | ... | ... | ... | "Good-morrow, good mother" |
| Solo (Strephon and Chorus of Fairies) | ... | ... | ... | "Fare thee well, attractive stranger" |
| Solo (Queen and Chorus of Fairies) | ... | ... | ... | "Good-morrow, good lover" |
| Soli (Phyllis and Strephon) | ... | ... | ... | "None shall part us" |
| Duet (Phyllis and Strephon) | ... | ... | ... | "Loudly let the trumpet bray" |
| Entrance and March of Peers (Tenors and Basses) | ... | ... | ... | |
| Entrance of Lord Chancellor | ... | ... | ... | |
| Song (Lord Chancellor and Chorus of Peers) | ... | ... | ... | "The Law is the true embodiment" |
| Trio and Chorus of Peers (Phyllis, Lord Tolloller and Lord Mountarat) | ... | ... | ... | "My well-loved Lord" |
| Recit. (Phyllis) | ... | ... | ... | "Nay, tempt me not" |
| Chorus of Peers and Song (Lord Tolloller) | ... | ... | ... | "Spurn not the nobly born" |
| Ensemble (Phyllis, Lord Tolloller, Lord Mountarat, Strephon, Lord Chancellor and Chorus of Peers) | ... | ... | ... | "My Lords, it may not be" |
| Song (Lord Chancellor) | ... | ... | ... | "When I went to the Bar" |
| Finale, Act I (Phyllis, Iolanthe, Queen, Leila, Celia, Strephon, Lord Tolloller, Lord Mountarat, Lord Chancellor and Chorus of Fairies and Peers) | ... | ... | ... | "When darkly looms the day" |

ACT II

| | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|---------------------------------------|
| Song (Sentry) | ... | ... | ... | "When all night long a chap remains" |
| Chorus of Fairies and Peers | ... | ... | ... | "Strephon's a Member of Parliament" |
| Song (Lord Mountarat and Chorus) | ... | ... | ... | "When Britain really ruled the waves" |
| Duet (Leila, Celia, with Chorus of Fairies, Lord Mountarat and Lord Tolloller) | ... | ... | ... | "In vain to us you plead" |
| Song (Queen, with Chorus of Fairies) | ... | ... | ... | "Oh, foolish fay" |
| Quartet (Phyllis, Lord Tolloller, Lord Mountarat and Sentry) | ... | ... | ... | "Tho' p'r'aps I may incur your blame" |
| Recit. and Song (Lord Chancellor) | ... | ... | ... | "Love unrequited robs me of my rest" |
| Trio (Lord Tolloller, Lord Mountarat and Lord Chancellor) | ... | ... | ... | "He who shies at such a prize" |
| Duet (Phyllis and Strephon) | ... | ... | ... | "If we're weak enough to tarry" |
| Recit. and Ballad (Iolanthe) | ... | ... | ... | "My Lord, a suppliant at your feet" |
| Recit. (Iolanthe, Queen, Lord Chancellor and Fairies) | ... | ... | ... | "It may not be" |
| Finale (Phyllis, Iolanthe, Queen, Leila, Celia, Lord Tolloller, Lord Mountarat, Strephon, Lord Chancellor and Chorus of Fairies and Peers) | ... | ... | ... | "Soon as we may, off and away" |

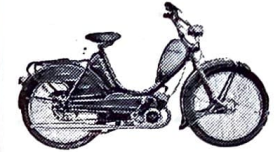


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