

1985  
in the fourth week of  
the month of march  
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## FARNBOROUGH & R.A.E. AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY (founded in 1920)

presents by arrangement with  
CHAPPELL MUSIC LTD.

# Camelot

Music by  
FREDERICK LOEWE

Book and Lyrics by  
ALAN JAY LERNER

PRINCES HALL, ALDERSHOT

March 25th-30th, 1985

Nightly 7.30 p.m. Saturday Matinee 2.30 p.m.

Producer—BETTY HILLIER  
Choreographer—HUW PRALL

Musical Director—DEREK CANFIELD  
Stage Manager—JOHN MITTEN

### SYNOPSIS

King Arthur inherits the throne of England by withdrawing the sword "Excalibur" from its cast of stone. He is ill-prepared for the task but strives to rule well, relying heavily on his mentor, the wizard Merlin, for guidance. By the standards of his day, he may be called a success; his marriage to Guenevere, although pre-arranged, has turned out well, he is successful in battle and his kingdom thrives.

Merlyn, however, is called away by the spirit Nimue and Arthur begins to have self-doubts. He seeks something more worthwhile than endless fighting, and gradually the idea dawns on him of calling together knights to sit at a Round Table and dedicate themselves to fighting for good instead of simply for the sake of it. The scheme attracts a knight from France, Lancelot, who proves to be the noblest of all. However, he and Guenevere fall hopelessly for one another, and Arthur's anguish is compounded for these are the two that he holds in the greatest affection. The situation is exploited wickedly by Arthur's illegitimate son, Mordred, who himself has aspirations to the throne, and conflict becomes inevitable. The old ways look set to return and everything Arthur has worked for seems destined to be destroyed. . . .

# Camelot

## CHARACTERS

### LADIES' CHORUS

Hilary Burroughs  
Michèle Cathie  
Elizabeth Francis  
Audrey Gage  
Carol Halliday  
Pam Hammick  
Betty Hills  
Charlotte Hills  
Jean Horsey  
Janet Jones  
Mary Kitson  
Sue Mildenhall  
Irene Mowat  
Anne Nelson  
Janine Netherton  
Eve Nye  
Doris Short  
Eileen Stevens  
Maureen Strike  
Hilary Tattershall  
Lynda Taylor  
June Thomas  
Lorna Walters  
Amanda Williams

Arthur  
Merlyn  
Guenevere  
Lancelot  
Pellinore  
Mordred  
Morgan le Fey  
Tom of Warwick  
Sir Dinadan  
Sir Lionel  
Sir Sagamore  
Sir Clarius  
Nimue  
Ballad Singer  
Scottish Knight  
Squire Dap  
Lady Anne  
Lady Sybil  
Pages  
Heralds

Haydn Thomas  
John Mack  
Gill Canfield  
Ron Walker  
David Main  
Desmond Wood  
June Thomas  
Toby Mace  
Roger Davies  
Adrian Bell  
Mike Lehman  
Jim Prescott  
Diane Stejskal  
Alan Hall  
Phil Alner  
Barrie Hills  
Anne Nelson  
Janet Jones

David Alner, Richard Garrood  
Mike Davall, Peter Viveash

### MEN'S CHORUS

Phil Alner  
Maurice Binning  
Richard Brown  
Bob Butt  
Tim Canfield  
Louis Cathie  
Tony Doherty  
Roy Duffett  
Stephen Garrood  
Alan Hall  
Handel Hall  
Francis Hancock  
David Hutchison  
Dennis Martin  
Guil Molyneux  
Arthur Nelson  
Dan Payen  
Gordon Peake  
Eric Smith  
Adrian Thomas  
Sam Valentine  
Desmond Wood

### DANCERS

Jane Dugan  
Debbie Higgins  
Kay Jones  
Charlotte Patton  
Justine Patton  
Siân Thomas  
Huw Prall

## ACT I

- Scene 1 A hilltop near Camelot, a long time ago  
Scene 2 The same, as night falls  
Scene 3 The Royal ante-chamber, five years later  
Scene 4 The countryside near Camelot, a few months later  
Scene 5 A garden near the castle, immediately following  
Scene 6 The ante-chamber, two weeks later  
Scene 7 The jousting field, first light the following Saturday  
Scene 8 The jousts, that day  
Scene 9 The ante-chamber, late afternoon the same day  
Scene 10 Outside the Chapel, that night  
Scene 11 The Great Hall, immediately following

## ACT II

- Scene 1 The castle terrace, a few years later  
Scene 2 The ante-chamber, a month later  
Scene 3 Near the Forest of Morgan le Fey, next day  
Scene 4 The Forest of Morgan le Fey, immediately following  
Scene 5 A castle corridor, that night  
Scene 6 The bedchamber, immediately following  
Scene 7 The battlements, several days later  
Scene 8 France, between the opposing armies, some weeks later

There will be an interval of 20 minutes between Acts I and II

## ORCHESTRA

Piccolo/Flute — Alan Browning  
Oboe/Cor Anglais — Pat Hopkins  
Clarinets/Saxophones — Cyril Meeres, John Young  
Horns — Ted Roberts, Lesley Darlington  
Trumpets — David Edwards, Roy Falshaw, Robert Cook  
Trombones — Gill Falshaw, Michael Glover  
Violins — Kenneth Lowes (Leader), Noreen Mason, Nicholas Payen,  
Gordon Arthur, Jenny Arthur  
Viola — Rosalie Judd  
Cello — Nicholas Warren  
Bass — Charles Cudmore  
Percussion — Russell Widdecombe  
Rehearsal Accompanists — Pearl Reed, Desmond Wood  
Dancing Rehearsals — Brenda Woolger

## MUSICAL PROGRAMME

### ACT I

Overture  
I wonder what the King is doing tonight ..... Arthur  
The simple joys of maidenhood ..... Guenevere  
Camelot ..... Arthur and Guenevere  
Follow me ..... Nimue  
C'est moi ..... Lancelot  
The lusty month of May ..... Guenevere and Ensemble  
Take me to the fair ..... Guenevere and Knights  
How to handle a woman ..... Arthur  
The jousts ..... Ensemble  
Before I gaze at you again ..... Guenevere  
Finale ..... Arthur and Ensemble

### ACT II

Entr'acte  
Fie on goodness ..... Knights  
If ever I would leave you ..... Lancelot  
The seven deadly virtues ..... Mordred  
What do the simple folk do? ..... Guenevere and Arthur  
The enchanted forest ..... Dancers  
The persuasion ..... Mordred and Morgan le Fey  
I loved you once in silence ..... Guenevere  
Guenevere ..... Ballad Singer and Ensemble  
Finale ..... Arthur and Ensemble

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Society gratefully acknowledges the valuable support received from Patrons, Programme Sellers, Stewards and all those who have contributed to the production. Particular thanks are due to the National Westminster Bank for sponsoring our Saturday night performance.

The Society takes this opportunity of thanking the Theatre Manager, and his staff, for their help and co-operation, and the members of the local St. John Ambulance Brigade who are on duty in the hall throughout the week.

The foyer photographs were taken by Philip Hanson.  
The programme cover design is by Trevor Andrews.  
The costumes are from The Haslemere Wardrobe.

## FROM THE CHAIRMAN

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you once again to the Farnborough & RAE Operatic Society. I hope you enjoy your evening with us at the Princes Hall.

Our production this time is "Camelot", the story of King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table. Lerner and Loewe's interpretation of the Arthurian legend captures the spirit of loyalty and valour of the age. The clear distinction between right and wrong appeals to us today, when our moral values are uncertain and under attack. Some may call it escapism, but our evening in Camelot with its high ideals and hope for the future should enable us to return to the real world with a lighter and surer tread.

Our success, like Arthur's, depends on the loyalty of our supporters. Thank you for coming tonight. We look forward to seeing you at our next production which, in complete contrast, is "Orpheus in the Underworld". Do join us for a romp with the Gods on Mount Olympus.

LLOYD JONES

## PRODUCTION TEAM

Producer — Miss E. Hillier  
Musical Director — Mr. D. Canfield  
Stage Manager — Mr. J. Mitten  
Choreographer — Mr. H. Prall, IDTA  
(ABt, AT, ASt), Gold Medal LAM  
Fight Choreographer — Mr. D. Main  
Costume Manager — Mr. H. Thomas  
Lighting and Sound — David Goodard,  
Bob Newman, Paul Dunn, Ian Chapman  
Property Mistresses — Eileen Cox,  
Florrie Newman  
Make-up — Moreen Brown, Lisa Childs,  
Jean Pharo, Anne Wilson, Jenny Wilson  
Librarian and Make-up Co-ordinator — Janet Jones

### Scenery constructed and painted by

Bill Bleasdale, Fred Hammick, Ted Hills, Ernie Leedale, John Mitten, Mike Williams,  
Tony Merryweather, Peter Viveash, Ted Freke

### Stage Crew

Fred Hammick, Ted Hills, Ernie Leedale, Tony Merryweather, Peter Viveash,  
Ted Freke, Barrie Hills, Doug Gilbey, Mike Davall

## THE CAST

**Haydn Thomas (Arthur)**. Following the part of the jester, Jack Point, in our last production, "The Yeomen of the Guard", the role of King Arthur represents something of a promotion for Haydn. Not that Haydn is unused to regal roles. He has already been branded our resident King, having played the King in "The King and I", King Ajax in "La Belle Hélène" and even King Arthur the last time the Society performed "Camelot". Behind the scenes, Haydn is responsible for the Society's costumes.

**Gill Canfield (Guenevere)**. Gill has appeared regularly with the Society for a number of years and played opposite Haydn in both "Kismet", as Lalume, and in "The Music Man", as Marion Paroo. Her most recent role with the Society was that of Queenie, the jolly, somewhat plump black mama in "Show Boat", a far cry from the elegant Guenevere. A versatile lady, while not on stage Gill will be donning her mantle as Assistant Musical Director when she conducts the back-stage chorus.

**Ron Walker (Lancelot)**. Ron always seems to get a good write-up in the programme, which of course has nothing to do with the fact that he is responsible for writing it. This handsome, charming, debonair fellow joined the Society for "Kismet" and has appeared regularly since. In recent shows, Ron has played the parts of Sky Masterson in "Guys and Dolls" and Ravenal in "Show Boat".

**David Main (Pellinore)**. After appearing in two previous productions, "Annie Get Your Gun" and "Show Boat", as song and dance man, David is required to restrict his movements somewhat as King Pellinore and not to sing at all. He feels that people are trying to tell him something (it's not true really). David has had the task of choreographing the fights for "Camelot".

**Des Wood (Mordred)**. This has been a busy show for Des, for aside from playing the part of Mordred, he is a member of the chorus and has shared with the accompanist's duties at rehearsals. Des's last role was as the equally villainous Pete in "Show Boat", but actually he's not that bad when you get to know him.

**John Mack (Merlyn)**. John, once labelled the Society "veteran" by the local paper, and that was ten years ago, says he takes heart with the part of Merlyn, for he "youthens" instead of ages. John has played many roles with the Society, his favourites being Mr. Bumble in "Oliver" and Guy Tabarie in "The Vagabond King". John currently is responsible for the Society's properties.

**June Thomas (Morgan le Fey)**. As one of our two regular producers, June rarely has the opportunity to "tread the boards". It is seven years since she played Kate in "Kiss Me Kate" and Mrs. Higgins in "My Fair Lady", and she has found Morgan le Fey a welcome change from directing shows.

## FROM "MORTE D'ARTHUR"

*There drew he forth the brand Excalibur,  
And o'er him, drawing it, the winter moon,  
Brightening the skirts of a long cloud, ran forth  
And sparkled keen with frost against the hilt:  
For all the haft twinkled with diamond sparks,  
Myriads of topaz-lights, and jacinth-work  
Of subtlest jewellery.*

*Then quickly rose Sir Bedivere, and ran  
And, leaping down the ridges lightly, plunged  
Among the bulrush-beds, and clutched the sword,  
And strongly wheeled and threw it. The great brand  
Made lightnings in the splendour of the moon,  
And flashing round and round, and whirled in an arch,  
Shot like a streamer of the northern morn,  
Seen where the moving isles of winter shock  
By night, with noises of the northern sea.  
So flashed and fell the brand Excalibur:  
But ere he dipt the surface, rose an arm  
Clothed in white samite, mystic, wonderful,  
And caught him by the hilt, and brandished him  
Three times, and drew him under in the mere.*

ALFRED TENNYSON

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OUR NEXT PRODUCTION:

# ORPHEUS IN THE UNDERWORLD

PRINCES HALL, ALDERSHOT

30th September-5th October, 1985

The Society welcomes new members, whether they wish to take part actively or join as patrons. Particulars of membership may be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, Mrs. H. P. Alner, 39 Woodlands, Fleet, Hants. Telephone: Fleet 28463.

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## PAST PRODUCTIONS

1921 The Golden Amulet	1945 Good Night, Vienna	1969 Orpheus in the Underworld
1922 The Pirates of Penzance	Iolanthe	1970 Chu Chin Chow
1923 Patience	1946 The Rebel Maid	1971 Camelot
1924 The Mikado	1947 The Yeomen of the Guard	1972 Die Fledermaus
The Yeomen of the Guard	1948 H.M.S. Pinafore	1973 Fiddler on the Roof
1925 Les Cloches de Corneville	1949 The Mikado	1974 Kismet
1926 The Gondoliers	1950 The Pirates of Penzance	1975 The Music Man
1927 The Pirates of Penzance	1951 The Arcadians	1976 The Merry Widow
1929 The Rebel Maid	1952 The Quaker Girl	Robert and Elizabeth
1930 The Geisha	1953 A Country Girl	1977 La Belle Hélène
1931 H.M.S. Pinafore	1954 Rose Marie	The King and I
The Yeomen of the Guard	1955 Waltz Time	1978 Kiss Me Kate
1932 Iolanthe	1956 The Desert Song	My Fair Lady
1933 Patience	1957 The Gondoliers	1979 Rose Marie
1935 The Mikado	1958 The Vagabond King	Half a Sixpence
1936 The Gondoliers	1959 The Gypsy Baron	1980 Carousel
1937 Ruddigore	1960 Iolanthe	Oliver
1938 Les Cloches de Corneville	1961 White Horse Inn	1981 Carmen
1939 The Yeomen of the Guard	1962 Brigadoon	Brigadoon
1940 The Pirates of Penzance	1963 Night in Venice	1982 Die Fledermaus
1941 The Mikado	1964 South Pacific	The Most Happy Fella
1942 A Waltz Dream	1965 Show Boat	1983 Guys and Dolls
1943 The Desert Song	1966 The Land of Smiles	Annie Get Your Gun
1944 The Vagabond King	1967 Oklahoma	1984 Show Boat
The Gondoliers	1968 Merrie England	The Yeomen of the Guard