



*Farnborough  
& RAE  
Amateur Operatic  
Society*

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In accordance with the requirements of the Hampshire County Council:  
All gangways, corridors, staircases and external passageways intended for exit shall be kept entirely free  
from obstruction, whether permanent or temporary.

NO STANDING ALLOWED  
NO SMOKING IN THE AUDITORIUM

NO VISITORS ALLOWED BACKSTAGE  
NO PHOTOGRAPHY OR RECORDING



FARNBOROUGH & R.A.E. AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY  
(Founded in 1920)

presents by arrangement with  
SAMUEL FRENCH LTD.

# KISMET

Music and Lyrics by

ROBERT WRIGHT  
and GEORGE FORREST

from themes by  
ALEXANDER BORODIN

Book by

CHARLES LEDERER  
and LUTHER DAVIS

based on a play by  
EDWARD KNOBLOCK

PRINCES HALL, ALDERSHOT

March 21st-26th, 1988

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

Producer—ELIZABETH HILLIER Musical Director—DEREK CANFIELD  
Choreographer—HUW PRALL Stage Manager—JOHN MITTEN

### SYNOPSIS

A poet of unknown name assumes the identity of Hajj the beggar on the steps of a Baghdad mosque, and so sets in motion a chain of events that will ultimately determine his fate, or 'Kismet'. From poverty to riches, from the clutches of brigands to interrogation by the feared Wazir's secret police, fate tosses him remorselessly from one crisis to another. Only by his quick-wittedness does he avert disaster, by pretending to magical powers, but the promises he makes through the spells he weaves must surely sometime fail to be realised and a greater debt will then have to be paid.

The Wazir, faced with bankruptcy, is assured of wealth if he can persuade the Caliph to marry three princesses of Ababu. Hajj agrees to use his 'powers' to eliminate all other competitors for the Caliph's hand, but he little realises that the Caliph's heart rests with his own daughter, Marsinah . . .

# KISMET

1988

## LADIES' CHORUS

Wendy Allen  
Suzanne Astill  
Hilary Burroughs  
Rachel Burroughs  
Jean Collington  
Susan Dee  
Helen French  
Audrey Gage  
Pam Hammick  
Ruth Harding  
Betty Hills  
Janet Jones  
Mary Kitson  
Anne Nelson  
Eve Nye  
Giga Phillips  
Rosemary Philpott  
Doris Short  
Juliette Smedley  
Eileen Stevens  
June Thomas  
Lisa Thomas  
Peggy Twyman  
Lorna Walters  
Jane Watts

## CHARACTERS (in order of appearance)

Imam of the Mosque  
Beggars  
Omar  
A Public Poet, later called Hajj  
Marsinah, his daughter  
Hassan-Ben  
Jawan  
Wazir of Police  
Chief Policeman  
Lalume  
Princesses of Ababu  
Orange Merchant  
Bangle Man  
Silk Merchants  
Pearl Merchant  
The Caliph  
Widow Yussef  
Princess Zubbediya of Damascus  
Ayah to Zubbediya  
Princess Samaris of Bangalore

John Canfield, Handel Hall, Eric McLoughlin  
Roy Duffett  
Des Wood  
Haydn Thomas  
Elizabeth Francis  
Mike Williams  
David Main  
Graham Ryan  
David Hutchison  
Sue Dickins  
Irene Chantler, Julie Cronshaw, Siân Thomas  
Alan Hall  
Roy Duffett  
Phil Alner, Mike Lehman  
Steve Garrood  
Ron Walker  
Doris Short  
Charlotte Patton  
Giga Phillips  
Debbie Higgins

## MEN'S CHORUS

Phil Alner  
Richard Brown  
Bob Butt  
John Canfield  
Ron Cockell  
John Dickins  
Roy Duffett  
John Edwards  
Steve Garrood  
Alan Hall  
Handel Hall  
Lloyd Jones  
Mike Lehman  
John Mack  
David Main  
Eric McLoughlin  
Arthur Nelson  
Eric Smith  
Adrian Thomas  
Sam Valentine

## DANCERS

Joyce Atlee  
Kim Ball  
Julia Davison  
Jane Dugan  
Debbie Higgins  
Charlotte Patton  
Roger Davies  
John Stechman  
Adrian Thomas

The story takes place on one day in Baghdad . . .

## ACT I

From dawn to dusk

Scene 1 On the steps of the Mosque  
Scene 2 A tent just outside the city  
Scene 3 The Bazaar of the Caravans  
Scene 4 A side street  
Scene 5 A garden  
Scene 6 A street near the Bazaar  
Scene 7 The Wazir's throne room

## ACT II

From dusk to dawn

Scene 1 Along the route of the Caliph's procession  
Scene 2 The garden  
Scene 3 Anteroom to the Wazir's harem  
Scene 4 A rooftop pavilion in the Wazir's Palace  
Scene 5 A corridor in the Wazir's Palace  
Scene 6 Anteroom to the Wazir's harem  
Scene 7 The ceremonial hall of the Caliph's Palace

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

## ORCHESTRA

Flute — Alan Browning  
Oboe/Cor Anglais — Barry Collisson  
Clarinets — John Young, Cyril Meeres  
Bassoon — Dee Tomlin  
Horn — Ted Roberts  
Trumpets — David Edwards, Robert Cook  
Trombones — Michael Glover, Andrew Moray  
Violins — Peter Dawkins (Leader), David White, Sidney Fincham,  
Margaret Dines, James Cookson, Nicholas Payen  
Violas — Ann Lloyd, Connie Fincham  
Cello — Peter Torrent  
Bass — Charles Cudmore  
Harp — Caroline Densham  
Percussion — Russell Widdecombe, David Hoppe  
Rehearsal Accompanists — Pearl Reed, Desmond Wood  
Dancing Rehearsals — Brenda Woolger

## MUSICAL PROGRAMME

### ACT I

Overture	
Sands of Time	Imam of the Mosque
Rhymes have I	Hajj and Marsinah
Fate	Hajj
Bazaar of the Caravans	Chorus and Dancers
Ababu Dance	Princesses of Ababu
Not since Nineveh	Lalume, Wazir, Chorus and Dancers
Baubles, Bangles and Beads	Marsinah, Merchants and Chorus
Stranger in Paradise	Marsinah and Caliph
He's in Love	Chief Policeman and Chorus
Gesticulate	Hajj and Wazir's Council
Finale	Hajj, Wazir's Harem and Council

### ACT II

Entr'acte	
Night of my Nights	Caliph and Chorus
Was I Wazir?	Wazir and Guards
Rahadlakum	Lalume, Hajj and Wazir's Harem
And this is my Beloved	Hajj, Marsinah, Wazir and Caliph
The Olive Tree	Hajj
Zubbediya	Princess Zubbediya and Ayah
Samaris' Dance	Princess Samaris
Ababu Dance	Princesses of Ababu
Finale	Ensemble

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Society gratefully acknowledges the valuable support received from Patrons, Programme Sellers, Stewards and all those who have contributed to the production. Special thanks are due to the Theatre Manager and his staff for their help and co-operation, and to 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 Terry Hallett.  
The programme cover design is by Trevor Andrews.  
The costumes are from the Haslemere Wardrobe.

## FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Welcome to the pleasure of the Arabian Nights, where the lowly poet's daughter can become the beloved of the All Highest, all set to Borodin's haunting music. May Allah grant you enjoyment of this our humble offering!

Supporters of our Society may be interested to know that we were able to donate £1,750 to local charities last year. This reflects on the popularity of our shows, since there is only a slight margin between breaking even and making a profit which we are able to give to charity. We hope to continue to put on shows which you, our audience, will enjoy and support. As part of the Princes Hall celebrations to mark its 15th birthday, we shall be holding a 'Palace of Varieties' on the evening of Friday, 27th May. Although we are known as an Operatic Society, our talents are many and the evening will be exciting and varied. Do come along.

Last, but by no means least, our next major production is 'The Pajama Game' and I look forward to seeing you all again in September.

LLOYD JONES

## PRODUCTION TEAM

Assistant Producer — Anne Garrood	Assistant Musical Director
Assistant Stage Managers	— Gill Canfield
— Mike Williams, Mike Davall	Assistant Choreographer — Joyce Atlee
Costume Manager — Haydn Thomas	Assistant Costume Manager
Lighting and Sound — David Goddard,	— Mary Kitson
Bob Newman, Paul Dunn, Catherine Dunn	Properties — John Mack,
Property Mistresses — Florrie Newman,	Arthur Nelson, Ron Cockell
Barbara Leedale	Prompt — Anne Garrood
Front of House — Peter Adams	Wardrobe Mistress — Rosemary Doherty
Librarian — Eve Nye	Stage Door — Bert Evans
Call Boy — David Alner	

Make-up — Moreen Brown, Janet Jones, Jean Pharo, Anne Wilson

### Scenery constructed and painted by

Fred Hammick, Ted Hills, John Mitten, Mike Williams, Tony Merryweather,  
Derek Callister, Helen Callister, Freda Humberstone, Barbara Leedale,  
Ted Freke, Peter Viveash

### Stage Crew

Ted Hills, Tony Merryweather, Ted Freke, Jeremy Freke, Derek Callister,  
Helen Callister, Peter Viveash, Jim Prescott

## THE CAST

**Haydn Thomas (Hajj)**. A stalwart of the Society for over twenty years, Haydn has performed for us so many of the meaty and demanding roles of the musical stage – Hajj in "Kismet" in 1974, Harold Hill in "The Music Man", King Arthur in "Camelot" (twice), Jack Point in "The Yeomen of the Guard" to name but a few. As one of our costume managers, Haydn also brings to our shows a wealth of experience in ensuring that they are dressed correctly, for he is meticulous in his eye for detail.

**Sue Dickens (Lalume)**. Following the role of Bloody Mary in "South Pacific", Sue welcomes this opportunity to show us all that she is not quite as grotesque as that part made out! Sue first joined the Society in 1979 and has performed for us the roles of Nancy in "Oliver" and Annie in "Annie get your Gun" amongst several others. Sue teaches drama at Sandhurst Comprehensive School.

**Graham Ryan (Wazir)**. Graham joined the Society for "Oklahoma", when he played the part of Curly. He has appeared in all our shows since then, and again took the lead in "White Horse Inn" as Leopold, the eccentric head waiter. Graham now serves on both our main committee and our social committee.

**Elizabeth Francis (Marsinah)**. This will be the third time now that Elizabeth has played opposite Ron, having previously performed the roles of both Sarah Brown in "Guys and Dolls" and Ottoline in "White Horse Inn". In "Orpheus in the Underworld", Elizabeth played the part of Cupid, and we are pleased to announce that one of her arrows has recently returned to roost, for she is to be married this Spring.

**Ron Walker (Caliph)**. Ron joined the Society in 1974 for the Society's first production of "Kismet". From carpet bearer in that show to Caliph in this, he feels, must represent a rise in fortunes to rival that of Hajj himself. Ron has played many leading roles with the Society, including Sky Masterson in "Guys and Dolls" and the Red Shadow in "The Desert Song". In our last show, "South Pacific", he took the part of Lt. Joe Cable.

**Des Wood (Omar)**. One of our regular 'villains', on stage that is, it is a pleasant change for Des to assume the mantle of the benign Omar. Des is one of our accompanists and frequently finds himself at rehearsals playing his own introductory music (occasionally without realising it!) Des's previous appearances in our productions include Mordred in "Camelot" and Pete in "Show Boat".

**David Hutchison (Chief Policeman)**. David is a familiar figure with a number of local societies, his first show with this Society being "The Yeomen of the Guard" in which he played the part of Sergeant Meryll. This is now his fourth show with us, following his appearance as Styx in "Orpheus in the Underworld". David's other local 'productions' include the Civic Offices in Camberley, of which he is the architect.

**David Main (Jawan)**. David especially enjoys the 'character' roles and, following his particularly vicious portrayal of Jud Fry in "Oklahoma", was a natural choice for Jawan the brigand. In more light-hearted vein, he has taken such parts as Sir Pellinore in "Camelot", Ebenezer Grinkle in "White Horse Inn" and Stewpot in "South Pacific". Aside from acting, David's theatrical talents extend to his being an accomplished drummer.

## PAST PRODUCTIONS

1921 The Golden Amulet	1946 The Rebel Maid	1973 Fiddler on the Roof
1922 The Pirates of Penzance	1947 The Yeomen of the Guard	1974 Kismet
1923 Patience	1948 H.M.S. Pinafore	1975 The Music Man
1924 The Mikado	1949 The Mikado	1976 The Merry Widow Robert and Elizabeth
The Yeomen of the Guard	1950 The Pirates of Penzance	1977 La Belle Hélène The King and I
1925 Les Cloches de Corneville	1951 The Arcadians	1978 Kiss Me Kate My Fair Lady
1926 The Gondoliers	1952 The Quaker Girl	1979 Rose Marie Half a Sixpence
1927 The Pirates of Penzance	1953 The Country Girl	1980 Carousel Oliver!
1929 The Rebel Maid	1954 Rose Marie	1981 Carmen Brigadoon
1930 The Geisha	1955 Waltz Time	1982 Die Fledermaus The Most Happy Fella
1931 H.M.S. Pinafore	1956 The Desert Song	1983 Guys and Dolls Annie Get Your Gun
The Yeomen of the Guard	1957 The Gondoliers	1984 Show Boat The Yeomen of the Guard
1932 Iolanthe	1958 The Vagabond King	1985 Camelot Orpheus in the Underworld
1933 Patience	1959 The Gypsy Baron	1986 Oklahoma! The Desert Song
1935 The Mikado	1960 Iolanthe	1987 White Horse Inn South Pacific
1936 The Gondoliers	1961 White Horse Inn	
1937 Ruddigore	1962 Brigadoon	
1938 Les Cloches de Corneville	1963 Night in Venice	
1939 The Yeomen of the Guard	1964 South Pacific	
1940 The Pirates of Penzance	1965 Show Boat	
1941 The Mikado	1966 The Land of Smiles	
1942 A Waltz Dream	1967 Oklahoma!	
1943 The Desert Song	1968 Merrie England	
1944 The Vagabond King	1969 Orpheus in the Underworld	
The Gondoliers	1970 Chu Chin Chow	
1945 Good Night, Vienna	1971 Camelot	
Iolanthe	1972 Die Fledermaus	

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As part of the Princes Hall's fifteenth birthday celebrations:  
FARNBOROUGH & RAE OPERATIC SOCIETY  
warmly welcome you to their

# ***PALACE of VARIETIES***

on FRIDAY 27th MAY at 7.30 p.m.

Tickets now available in the foyer.

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OUR NEXT PRODUCTION:

# **THE PAJAMA GAME**

featuring

"Hey there, you with the stars in your eyes"

"Hernando's Hideaway"

"Steam Heat"

"Once-a-year-day"

**PRINCES HALL, ALDERSHOT**

**26th September-1st October, 1988**

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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 628463.

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