

The Rice Light Opera Society Presents

THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE

Or, The Slave of Duty

An Entirely New and Original Comic Opera in Two Acts

Written by W.S. Gilbert

Composed by Arthur Sullivan

Directed by Joe Carl White



Will Rice College, Rice University • March 18-27, 2004 • www.hailpoetry.com

First produced at the Fifth Avenue Theatre, New York, on Wednesday, December 31, 1879, under the management of Mr. Richard D'Oyly Carte.

DRAMATIS PERSONAE

MAJOR-GENERAL STANLEY	John Gremillion
THE PIRATE KING	Evan Tessier
SAMUEL , <i>his Lieutenant</i>	Alex Hemsath
FREDERIC , <i>a Pirate Apprentice</i>	Alejandro Mendoza
SERGEANT OF POLICE	Daniel Trahan
MABEL , <i>General Stanley's youngest daughter</i>	Elizabeth Good
<i>Daughters of General Stanley</i> {	EDITH Kira Austin-Young
	KATE Nicola Lugosch
	ISABEL Eileen O'Brien
RUTH , <i>a Pirate Maid of Work</i>	Jen Frazer

Chorus of Pirates, Policemen and General Stanley's Daughters:

Shelton Alsup, Elliot Cole, Geoffrey Copper, Elizabeth Gregory, Jerome Haseltine, Shari Laster, Michael McCown, Patricia Nason, Amy Price, Andrew Reich, Carrie Reichenbach and Tonia Venters

ACT I — A Rocky Sea Shore on the Coast of Cornwall

Pour, O Pour The Pirate Sherry	<i>Samuel, Pirates</i>
When Frederic Was A Little Lad	<i>Ruth</i>
Oh, Better Far To Live And Die	<i>Pirate King, Pirates</i>
Oh, False One, You Have Deceived Me!	<i>Frederic, Ruth</i>
Climbing Over Rocky Mountain	<i>Edith, Kate, Daughters</i>
Oh, Is There Not One Maiden Breast	<i>Frederic, Mabel, Daughters</i>
Poor Wandering One	<i>Mabel, Daughters</i>
How Beautifully Blue The Sky	<i>Mabel, Frederic, Daughters</i>
Stay, We Must Not Lose Our Senses	<i>Frederic, Daughters, Pirates</i>
I Am The Very Model Of A Modern Major-General	<i>Major-General, Daughters, Pirates</i>
Oh, Men Of Dark And Dismal Fate	<i>Ensemble</i>

ACT II — A Ruined Chapel on General Stanley's Estate

Oh, Dry The Glistening Tear	<i>Mabel, Daughters</i>
When The Foeman Bares His Steel	<i>Sergeant, Mabel, Edith, Major-General, Police, Daughters</i>
When You Had Left Our Pirate Fold	<i>Ruth, Frederic, Pirate King</i>
Away, Away! My Heart's On Fire	<i>Ruth, Pirate King, Frederic</i>
Stay, Frederic, Stay!	<i>Mabel, Frederic</i>
When A Felon's Not Engaged In His Employment	<i>Sergeant, Police</i>
With Cat-Like Tread, Upon Our Prey We Steal	<i>Samuel, Pirates, Police</i>
Sighing Softly To The River	<i>Major-General, Ensemble</i>

There will be a 15 minute intermission.

THE ORCHESTRA

Musical Director James V. Jirtle

Violin 1	Lisa Qian Emily Senturia	Flute 1	Sixto Montesinos	Horn 2	Yvonne Yeh
Violin 2	Tara Tachovsky DerZen Fan	Flute 2/Piccolo	Athena Stacy	Trumpet 1	Tera Pruitt
Viola	Meredith Shidler Juliana Tutt	Clarinet 1	Ryan Aipperspach	Trumpet 2	Patrick Kruse
Cello	Kate Christensen	Clarinet 2	Alana Abernathy	Trombone 1	Tim Cragin
		Oboe	Dean Baxtresser	Trombone 2	Michael Cordray
		Bassoon	Jacob Barton	Percussion	Mindy Duplan
		Horn 1	Eric Rechlin		

PRODUCTION STAFF

Tech Director	Zachary McLemore	Stage Manager	Michael Friedman
Artistic Director/ House Manager	Stephanie Zimmerman	Props	Michael Loughry
Choreographer	Eileen O'Brien	Sound	Michael Cordray
Costumes	Lauren Belt	Publicity	Lauren Holmes
Lights	Matt Gen	Producer	Elsie Aton
Program Design	Jen Frazer	Accompanist	Emily Senturia

Set Construction: Shelton Alsup, Kira Austin-Young, Lauren Belt, Bob Billingsley, Elliot Cole, Geoff Copper, Michael Cordray, Tim Cragin, Jen Frazer, Michael Friedman, Elizabeth Gregory, John Gremillion, Jerome Haseltine, Alex Hemsath, Shari Laster, Michael Loughry, Nicola Lugosch, Michael McCown, Dan McNickle, Zachary McLemore, Amy Price, Andrew Reich, Emily Senturia, Evan Tessier, Daniel Trahan, Rey Valdez, Joe White, Stephanie Zimmerman

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

I started writing these notes numerous times, each with a different tack: historical, humorous, informational ... I never got very far with any of them. So I decided to go for sappy.

I wanted you to know how very much I have enjoyed working with this group. This is my fourth show with RLOS (starting before it was even called RLOS), and the second one that I've directed.

Each of the shows has been special, but this one in particular will stand out for me because of the loving toil that the cast, crew, and orchestra have put into it. Their hard work will become evident as soon as the overture

starts, and will continue to manifest itself throughout the evening: the singing, the playing, the choreography, the set, the Überprop ... countless hours have been expended (and probably a few GPAs have suffered) to bring you a couple of hours of joy this evening.

I think that after you have seen the fruits of their labors, you will agree with me that it was well worth it. And I am right, and you are right, and all is right, as right as right can be.

Joe Carl White
March 17, 2004

BIOGRAPHIES

Alana Abernathy (*Hanszen '07*)

Alana's dream was to live life to the fullest. After finding a cure for cancer, winning 6 Nobel Peace Prizes, and discovering the 10th planet, she realized such trivial accomplishments did not bring her joy. Playing pit orchestra has.

Ryan Aipperspach (*Jones '04*)

Ryan has been in four G&S shows at Rice. With six performances of each show, at an hour-and-a-half each, that's 36 hours of show — Even longer than a Jerry Lewis telethon! (There's still time to make your donation!)

Shelton Alsup (*Community Member*)

Shelton heals very quickly...he had an emergency appendectomy over New Year's, and still managed to help land the pirate ship. In his surreal life, he drills oil wells for fun and profit.

Elsie Aton (*Sid Rich '04*) was eaten.

Kira Austin-Young (*Hanszen '07*)

Kira would like to attribute her sanity during this show to the following: post-it notes, her Nalgene bottle, Diet Coke, Mai's, Gregorian chant, Dan McNickle, shoe-shopping, and being able to sunbathe in February. Hanszen, Hanszen, Yeah!

Jacob Barton (*Brown '07*)

Jacob is a musician. He aspires to release western music from the nefarious grips of twelve tone equal temperament. Join him.

Dean Baxtresser (*Lovett '07*)

Dean fights daily for the defense of twelve tone equal temperament in western music. He daily foils the atonal plots of the evil Jacob Barton, and also plays oboe on the side. It's a good cover for a superhero.

Lauren Belt (*Community Member*)

Lauren is excited to be a part of her second show at Rice. The talent that surrounds her brings out the creative inspirations that she adores. She thanks all that believe in her. Here they be Pirates! Arrgh!!

Bob Billingsley (*Hanszen '06*)

Bob doesn't know how he got roped into Pirates, since he hasn't done any other theatre at Rice. He did a little acting in high school, though, so he's not completely lost, and one time he saw an elephant.

Kate Christensen (*Brown '06*)

Kate is originally from Boise, Idaho. She is a piano performance major, but she is currently enjoying playing the cello in the Pirates' pit orchestra, under Mr. Jirtle's excellent direction.

Elliot Cole (*Baker '07*)

Elliot was Scrooge in "A Christmas Carol" in 6th grade. He did all the shows in high school, too. He baked bread in "Into the Woods" and narrated "Joseph" (Scrooge was the best, though). He is learning to play guitar and is "down for bingo at any moment."

Geoffrey Copper (*Sid Rich '07*)

Geoff wishes to apologize to his family for the role he plays in the first act of this show, and hopes that they do not disown him. He wishes to thank everyone involved in this show for making it such a great experience.

Michael Cordray (*Baker '06*)

Mike knew that he was destined to play in Gilbert and Sullivan musicals ever since he took up playing the second trombone. Aside from playing in the pit he is serving this show as its orchestra manager and sound designer.

Tim Cragin (*Hanszen '06*)

Tim is a Mechanical Engineering and Economics major. I've played trombone for "My Fair Lady," "City of Angels," "Iolanthe," and "Kiss Me, Kate." I'm also in the MOB and Rice Symphonic Band. Will play Frog's Theme with Mike upon request.

Mindy Duplan (*Martel '06*)

Mindy is in charge of hitting and crashing stuff backstage (aka playing percussion). She is also a pyromaniacal CENG major and can be very dangerous ... but only to evil archvillains.

DerZen Fan (*Baker '06*)

Juliana Tutt likes cheese and squirrels. And her roommate, DerZen Fan.

Jennifer Frazer (*Hanszen '01*)

Jen thought Iolanthe was a fluke, but here she is in her second RLOS show (and this time rightly as a contralto). She thinks it a high honor to perform with such a wonderful and merry group of brigands.

Michael Friedman (*Baker '06*)

You'll recall Michael from last year's Iolanthe, in which he appeared on stage for 26 seconds to move a bench. When he's not working for RLOS, you might find Michael doing something with the MOB or the quizbowl team.

Matt Gen (*Jones '05*) was eaten.

Elizabeth Good (*Brown '04*)

This is Elizabeth's second appearance with RLOS. In her spare time she likes to ... oh, wait, this show has taken up all her spare time. But it's been FABULOUS!

Elizabeth Gregory (*Wiess '05*)

Sweet springtime flower,
Like a kitten — hear her purr,
But kitty has claws!

John Gremillion (*Community Member*)

John performs each year with the Gilbert and Sullivan Society of Houston and can be heard on radio, television and many a Japanese anime series as a voice actor. John has had his haughtiness surgically elevated for this role.

Jerome Haseltine (*Will Rice '06*)

Jerome is proud to appear as both a lawless fiend with scurvy and a hunchback, and as a fierce baton-totin' Constable.

Alex Hemsath (*Will Rice '02*)

Alex would like to thank his castmates, his friends, and most especially his parents for being his "life preservers" in recent times. For what, indeed, is life without a touch of poetry in it?

Lauren Holmes (*Will Rice '06*)

Lauren believes that all important information about her is conveyed in this parody by Sunil Patel: "Cute little Lauren Holmes is she, she studies musicology, now she's a fan who loves Buffy, cute little Lauren Holmes."

James V. Jirtle (*Brown '06*)

Ever since giving his third-grade teacher conducting lessons, James has been waiting for a chance to music direct Pirates of Penzance. When walking around campus, this voice major enjoys freaking people out by whistling two independent parts simultaneously.

Patrick Kruse (*Will Rice '07*)

Will Rice Trumpet Player. Non Sequitur at heart.

Shari Laster (*Jones '04*)

Shari likes marshes, cheesecake, and empty boxes. She dislikes dirty socks, onions, and seasickness.

Michael Loughry (*Brown '06*)

Michael (aka Tall Mike) has only worked one other play, last year's Iolanthe. A "poor, starving" college student, he's sometimes had to resort to piracy himself ...

Nicola Lugosch (*Hanszen '07*)

Nicola tried to write a funny bio and it didn't work. She has therefore included a mad lib for your enjoyment: The [noun] [transitive verb] [direct object noun]. See? Just not funny.

Michael McCown (*Community Member*)

Dr. Michael McCown made his operettic debut as the Mikado in 1991 with the Houston Gilbert & Sullivan Society. In real life, he's a chemist, lawyer, translator and mediator, and is a baritone/counter-tenor principal for St. Martin's Episcopal Church.

Zachary McLemore (*Martel '06*)

Zachary has been a professional film, television, and theatre actor since 1989, and served as lighting technician for the 2003 production of Iolanthe. This is his first foray into the realm of technical direction.

Dan McNickle (*Brown '07*)

Daniel is President of McNickle & Self, Stage Managerial Consultants. McN&S provides cutting-edge, synergistically-paradigmized consulting for stage managing in today's whirlwind world of college theater. See McN&S' project at Brown, Don't Dress for Dinner.

Alejandro Mendoza (*Brown '04*)

Alex is a senior this year and is eagerly awaiting graduation in May. He is making his debut with RLOS. BSWB!

Sixto Montesinos (*Community Member*)

Sixto is a senior at HSPVA where he is principal flute of the Symphony Orchestra and wind ensemble. During the summers he has studied at the American Festival for the Arts and at the Brevard Music Center in North Carolina.

Patricia Nason (*Brown '04*)

Pirates is Tricia's third performance with RLOS. She wanted to be a pirate but Joe made her be a young lady. She thinks he must be conspiring with her mother.

Eileen O'Brien (*Lovett '03*)

Eileen is MILITANTLY DAINTY. She would like to thank the Rice Light Opera Society for roping her into a 10th show at Rice.

Amy Price (*Community Member*)

Amy is currently studying alternative medicine and Spanish. She has been singing and dancing for the past 16 years and hopes to use the talents she's been given performing with TUTS wherever else the opportunity arises.

Tera Pruitt (*Will Rice '06*)

Yeah Will Rice! I play the trumpet in several bands, but musicals are my favorite. I'm studying archaeology, art, and English. My favorite quote is: "Support archaeology, bury your past."

Lisa Qian (*Baker '07*) was eaten.

Eric Rechlin (*Will Rice '04*)

This is Eric's fourth year playing horn in the Will Rice Gilbert and Sullivan (-inspired) musicals. He is an electrical engineer and can frequently be found working with calculators, cars or computers.

Andrew Reich (*Hanszen '07*)

Andrew enjoys building models of the Titanic and Jackhammering. He's an accomplished thespian, but don't tell his parents! Turn offs include killer bees, people who chew with their mouths open, and the stench of failure.

Carrie Reichenbach (*Community Member*)

Carrie has been acting for about one year in independent films and theatre. She recently began taking voice lessons to learn more about musical productions and has thoroughly enjoyed her first musical role in The Pirates of Penzance.

Emily Senturia (*Jones '04*)

"Pirates" is Emily's fourth spring Will Rice show, and last of seven Rice shows. It's been fantastic, thanks to JI, JJ, LH, HHH, SL, A(R)R, GC, TC, and everyone in New Zealand. Next: Emily music directs Broadway's upcoming revival of "Les Miserables."

Meredith Shidler (*Brown '07*)

Meredith is a freshman biology major. She has been playing the viola for 8 years in various orchestras. This is her first performance at Rice.

Athena Stacy (*Hanszen '05*)

Athena is an astrophysics major. This is the third musical she has participated in at Rice. Previously, she played Jamie in the Hanszen production of My Fair Lady, and she played the flute in the Hanszen production of Kiss Me Kate.

Tara Tachovsky (*Hanszen '05*)

Tara Tachovsky is a Hanszen junior from Bethlehem, PA. Thanks to all those who came out to support the show, and a big hello-out-there to all of the gang from home who can't be here.

Evan Tessier (*Community Member*)

Evan is your Pirate King. And by "your" Pirate King, we mean "our" Pirate King. And by "our" Pirate King, we mean "arr" Pirate King. The Pirate King is metaphysical. We arr when he arr. PIRATE KING + YOU = PIRATE KING.

Daniel Trahan (*Martel '04*)

Daniel has participated in College Theatre before, as the bumbling and clueless Freddy in My Fair Lady. His cluelessness is further evidenced by his choice of Chemical Engineering as a major, despite nightly three to four hour rehearsals for this show.

Juliana Tutt (*Baker '06*)

DerZen Fan is ticklish and likes chocolate. And her roommate, Juliana Tutt.

Rey Valdez (*Hanszen '06*)

Rey, a captain of Industry, a mountain among men, look upon his works all yea mighty, and despair ...

Tonia Venters (*Brown '04*)

Tonia is an astrophysics major. This is her first musical since elementary school. She enjoys swimming, reading, and walking around at night. By the way, Brown will win all of the Beer Bike races. BSWB!

Joe Carl White (*Sid Rich '89*)

A bio of just forty words
might very well seem daunting;
but most of those involved this year
were not to be found wanting.
A few, however, truth be told,
have failed in these directions ...
and so I ate them.

Yvonne Yeh (*Martel '06*)

Yvonne narrowly escaped the clutches of a non-musically oriented engineering school in smoggy Southern California, and now has time to partake in the festivities at Rice. She thanks all the engineers who make it possible for academics to slack off.

Stephanie Zimmerman (*Jones '06*)

Stephanie collects fortunes from fortune cookies, draws comics for fun and posterity, and can make severely high-pitched noises. Wave to her when you see her rollerblading!

GLOSSARY

(Unless otherwise noted, from The Gilbert and Sullivan Lexicon by Henry Benford. Used by permission.)

Scuttling: Cuttin or opening a hole or holes in a ship's hull. (*American Heritage*)

Cunarder: A vessel of the Cunard shipping line.

Cutting out: Isolating and capturing or destroying one ship of a fleet.

P&O: A vessel of the Peninsular and Oriental passenger fleet.

Handspike: A wooden pole used as a lever, usually in a capstan. To ship a handspike means to insert it into the capstan. (A capstan is a reel on a vertical axis, used to pull in lines.)

Breakers: Waves distorted by shallow water, as over a reef or close to shore.

Caravansera: A strongly protected Arabian hostelry with a large courtyard for caravan beasts of burden. Perhaps the best interpretation is to call it a poetically embroidered form of caravan — which we can interpret broadly as a gathering of wayfarers, in this case piratical rovers.

Wards in Chancery: Wards of the Court of Chancery, i.e. persons under that court's protection. This perhaps explains why Major-General Stanley could be the father of so many lovely girls all between the ages of 18 and 22. How he managed to have this charming collection farmed out to him has never been explained.

Sir Caradoc: A member of King Arthur's round table.

Heliogabalus: Marcus Aurelius Antoninus, better known as Heliogabalus, was a Roman emperor of the Severan dynasty who reigned from 218-222. He is best known for acts of debauchery and sexual perversity. Heliogabalus became something of a hero to the Decadent movement in the late nineteenth century. He appears in many paintings and poems as the epitome of an amoral aesthete. (*Wikipedia*)

Raphaels: Paintings by the Italian master.

Gerard Dows: Paintings by the student of Rembrandt.

Zoffanies: Paintings by the Bavarian-born British painter.

Frogs: A witty comedy produced in 405 B.C. in Athens. The framework for the story involves the god Dionysius' descent into hell to find a competent poet, there being none left on earth. The whole is enlivened by the grotesque costumes and the brek-ke-ke-ke-coax refrain from the chorus of frogs. (*Encyclopedia Ameircana*)

Caractacus: Early British king who fought a series of delaying battles against the Roman invaders in the first century A.D. His usual battle dress was likely simply body paint.

Mamelon: A rounded hillock. (*Webster's*)

Ravelin: An outwork composed of two faces, forming a salient angle

whose gorge resembles a half-moon. (*Webster's*)

Commisariat: A department of an army in charge of providing food and other supplies for the troops. (*Webster's*)

Gee: Short for 'gee-gee', a slang term for a horse. (*Webster's*)

Emollient: An agent that assuages or mollifies. (*American Heritage*)

Dimity: A cotton fabric employed for hangings and furniture coverings, and formerly used for women's under-garments. (*Webster's*)

Emeutes: Uprisings (*Merriam-Webster*)

Roundelay: A poem or song with a regularly recurring refrain. (*American Heritage*)

Sooth: Sweet (*Webster's*)

Coster: short for costermonger, one who hawks about fruit, green vegetables, fish, etc., with a reputation for brutishness. (*Webster's*)

Unshriven: Without having gone to confession. (*American Heritage*)

Unannealed: Not having received extreme unction. (*Webster's*)

Mien: Bearing or manner, especially as it reveals an inner state of mind. (*American Heritage*)

Bar: The railing in a courtroom enclosing where the judges and lawyers sit, witnesses are heard, and prisoners are tried. (*American Heritage*)



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SPECIAL THANKS

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