

# OPERA A LA CARTE

Richard Sheldon, Director  
in

GILBERT AND SULLIVAN'S

## *The Pirates of Penzance*

Director: Richard Sheldon  
Music Director: Alexander Ruggieri

### CAST in order of appearance

Samuel, the Pirate King's Lieutenant..... BENITO GALINDO  
Frederic, the Pirate Apprentice..... CRAIG GILMORE  
Ruth, a Pirate Maid of all work..... ADELAIDE SINCLAIR  
The Pirate King..... ROLLIN LOFDAHL  
Edith ) ..... ANN NORIEL  
Kate ) Daughters of ..... LAURA RECCHI  
Isabel ) Major-General Stanley ..... DIANE SAWYERS  
Mabel ) ..... CAROL WINSTON  
Major-General Stanley..... RICHARD SHELDON  
Sergeant of Police..... JIM BROWN

#### Pirates and Police:

TERRELL ANDERSON  
LEE CONGER  
MARC GOLDSTEIN  
RUSTON HARKER  
GREGORY IRIART  
CHRISTOPHER NOBLE  
STEVE O'DONNELL  
STEPHEN SMITH  
MICHAEL UPWARD  
GARY WHITE

#### General Stanley's Daughters

DEBORAH BROWN  
HEATHER HANSEN  
LEILANI HAYASHI  
KELSEY NAMARA  
CYNTHIA NITRINI

## ACT I

A rocky seashore on the coast of Cornwall

## INTERMISSION

## ACT II

A ruined chapel by moonlight

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## Musical Numbers

Overture

### ACT I

“Pour, O pour the pirate sherry” (Opening Chorus and Solo).....	<i>Pirates and Samuel</i>
“When Frederic was a little lad” (Solo).....	<i>Ruth</i>
“Oh, better far to live and die” (Solo and Chorus).....	<i>Pirate King and Pirates</i>
“Oh, false one, you have deceived me!” (Recitative and Duet).....	<i>Frederic and Ruth</i>
“Climbing over rocky mountain” (Chorus and Solos).....	<i>Girls, Edith and Kate</i>
“Stop, ladies, pray!” (Recitative and Chorus).....	<i>Frederic, Edith, Kate and Girls</i>
“Oh, is there not one maiden breast” (Solos and Chorus).....	<i>Frederic, Mabel and Girls</i>
“Poor wandering one!” (Solo and Chorus).....	<i>Mabel and Girls</i>
“What ought we to do” (Solos and Chorus).....	<i>Edith, Kate and Girls</i>
“How beautifully blue the sky” (Chattering Chorus and Duet).....	<i>Girls, Mabel and Frederic</i>
“Stay, we must not lose our senses” (Recitative and Chorus).....	<i>Frederic, Girls and Pirates</i>
“Hold, Monsters!” (Recitative and Chorus).....	<i>Mabel, Samuel, Major-General, Girls &amp; Pirates</i>
“I am the very model of a modern Major-General” (Solo/Chorus)...	<i>Major-General, Girls &amp; Pirates</i>
“Oh, men of dark and dismal fate” (Finale of Act I).....	<i>Ensemble</i>

### ACT II

“Oh, dry the glistening tear” (Opening Chorus and Solo).....	<i>Girls and Mabel</i>
“Then, Frederic, let your escort lion-hearted” (Recitative).....	<i>Major-General and Frederic</i>
“When the foeman bares his steel” (Solos and Chorus).....	<i>Sergeant, Mabel, Edith, Major-General, Police and Girls</i>
“Now for the pirates’ lair!” (Recitative).....	<i>Mabel and Frederic</i>
“When you had left our pirate fold” (Solos, Trio and Chant).....	<i>Ruth, Frederic and Pirate King</i>
“Away, away! My heart’s on fire” (Trio).....	<i>Ruth, Pirate King and Frederic</i>
“All is prepared” (Recitative).....	<i>Mabel and Frederic</i>
“Stay, Frederic, stay! (Duet).....	<i>Mabel and Frederic</i>
“No, I am brave!” (Recitative, solo and chorus).....	<i>Mabel, Sergeant and Police</i>
“When a felon’s not engaged in his employment” (Solo and Chorus).....	<i>Sergeant and Police</i>
“A rollicking band of pirates we” (Chorus and Solo).....	<i>Pirates, Sergeant and Police</i>
“With cat-like tread, upon our prey we steal” (Chorus and Solo).....	<i>Pirates, Police and Samuel</i>
“Hush, hush! Not a word” (Recitative, Chorus and Solo).....	<i>Frederic, Pirates Police and Major-General</i>
“Sighing softly to the river” (Ballad and Finale of Act II).....	<i>Major-General and Ensemble</i>

## **SYNOPSIS**

### **THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE (or The Slave of Duty)**

For this opera, Gilbert has set the scene in Cornwall, where the famous Pirates of Penzance are discovered in their rocky cove with their rather muddle-headed King. They have gathered to say farewell to Frederic, their apprentice who at mid-day will be out of his indentures and, because he is leaving, feels justified in telling them that the reason they fail so often in their raids is because word has got about that they never attack smaller vessels than theirs nor one manned by orphans; he also tells them that once he has left them, it will be his duty as an honest citizen to hunt them ruthlessly and exterminate them. Frederic imagines he must be in love with Ruth, who is the only woman he has ever seen and is, in fact, his nursery-maid who apprenticed him as a child to the pirates instead of to a pilot, but suddenly a crowd of beautiful girls (Major-General Stanley's daughters) arrive for a picnic with their father, and Frederic instantly loses interest in poor Ruth and gives his heart to Mabel, the most beautiful of the daughters.

In Act II we see Frederic set on his determined path of exterminating the pirates, assisted by his gallant band of policemen when, unfortunately for him, the Pirate King and Ruth appear with distressing news: apparently he was born in a Leap Year on February 29 and was apprenticed not, as he had thought, until his twenty-first year, but until his twenty-first birthday which of course will not be for many a long year -- in fact 1940! However, the Opera ends on a happy note as the pirates are really not as evil as they seem but are all noblemen who have gone wrong and consequently perfectly suitable as husbands for many of General Stanley's daughters. It seems as though Ruth will be left alone, but happily she and the Police Sergeant discover each other and all is well.

## **GLOSSARY**

**CARACTACUS** – A British chieftain who resisted the Romans from A.D. 43 to 47. Was captured and taken to Rome where, although a prisoner, was honoured.

**SIR CARADOC** – A knight of the Round Table, famous for his valour.

**GERARD DOW** – 1613-1675. Distinguished Dutch painter, pupil of Rembrandt.

**EMEUTES** – French word meaning a riot of turmoil.

**HELIOGABALUS** – A dissolute and profligate Roman emperor, born about A.D. 205 and reigning from 218 to 222, when he was slain.

**MAMELON** – A rounded hummock, especially applied to field works in fortifications.

**RAPHAEL** – 1483-1520, the great Italian painter.

**RAVELIN** – A small portion of the bastion of a fort.

**ZOFFANY** – 1733-1810. Noted portrait painter, born at Frankfurt-on-Main, but later settled in England, where he died and is buried at Kew, Surrey. Many of his paintings are owned by the Garrick Club in London

## ABOUT THE COMPANY.....

**OPERA A LA CARTE** was founded in 1970 by noted British Gilbert and Sullivan specialist Richard Sheldon. Starting out as a small concert ensemble, giving its first performance on March 28<sup>th</sup> of that year at the Idyllwild School Of Music And The Arts in Southern California, the company soon opened at a small dinner theatre in Santa Monica, where instant success justified a five month residency. Thereafter, the ensemble expanded its activities into schools and colleges with specially designed educational programs for all levels --- still a prominent company feature.

Five years later, in 1975, OPERA A LA CARTE mounted its first full-scale production – THE MIKADO – which received its initial performance at the Concord Pavilion in Northern California with the Oakland Symphony Orchestra in September of that year.

With several productions now in the repertoire as well as a wide variety of concert programs, the company is especially known for its authentic style. Through its nationwide tours, OPERA A LA CARTE is constantly winning new audiences and rapidly earning the recognition as the foremost Gilbert and Sullivan touring company in the country.

“The glory of Opera A La Carte has been its absolute adherence to the letter as well as the spirit of these works, not as museum fossils but in their authentic, joyous vitality.” --- Los Angeles Daily News

**Production accompanied by  
THE OPERA A LA CARTE ORCHESTRA**

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**OPERA A LA CARTE PRODUCTION STAFF**

Director..... **RICHARD SHELDON**  
Music Director..... **ALEXANDER RUGGIERI**  
Technical Director..... **KATHERINE SHIREK DOUGHTIE**  
Technical Assistant..... **TIRZAH RODGERS**  
Set Designer..... **DAVID BARBER**  
Lighting Designer..... **KATHERINE SHIREK DOUGHTIE**  
Costumer..... **MARY MOORE**  
Wig Master..... **CHRISTINE STEINKAMP**  
Rehearsal Accompanist..... **CAROL TAVIS**  
Prop Manager..... **ROLLIN LOFDAHL**  
Photographer..... **ROBERT MILLARD**  
Webmaster..... **MICHAEL UPWARD**

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Please visit the Opera A La Carte Website:

[www.operaalacarte.org](http://www.operaalacarte.org)

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**J. Brown, Violin Maker**

**HONDA of PASADENA**