LIGHT OPERA OF PORTLAND

LOOP!

Unveils

GILBERT AND SULLIVAN’S POLITICAL SATIRE

IOLANTHE

OR

THE PEER AND THE PERI

DENNIS BRITTEN, Artistic Director
LINDA SMITH, Musical Director

August 19, 20, 21, 26, 27, 28, 2016

www.lightoperaofportland.org/iolanthe/
ABOUT IOLANTHE

Iolanthe is a comic opera with music by Arthur Sullivan and libretto by W. S. Gilbert. It is one of the Savoy operas and is the seventh of fourteen operatic collaborations by Gilbert and Sullivan.

Iolanthe opened in London on 25 November 1882, at the Savoy Theatre to a warm reception, and ran for 398 performances, the fourth consecutive hit by Gilbert and Sullivan. It was the first work to premiere at the newly-built Savoy and was the first new theatre production in the world to be illuminated entirely with electric lights, permitting some special effects that had not been possible in the era of gas lighting. The opera opened simultaneously in New York, and touring companies were sent around the UK and US to play the piece. The first Australasian touring production followed in 1885, and the opera was revived in London beginning in 1901. The D'Oyly Carte Opera Company toured the opera nearly continuously in repertory from 1891 until 1982, and made several recordings of the opera over that period.

PLOT SYNOPSIS

The Queen of the Fairies has banished Iolanthe from fairyland because she married a mortal; this is forbidden by fairy law. Iolanthe’s son, Strephon, is an Arcadian shepherd who wants to marry Phyllis, a Ward of Chancery. All the members of the House of Peers also want to marry Phyllis. When Phyllis sees Strephon hugging a young woman (not knowing that it is his mother – immortal fairies all appear young), she assumes the worst and sets off a climactic confrontation between the Peers and the fairies. The opera satirizes many aspects of British government, law and society. The confrontation between the fairies and the Peers is a version of one of Gilbert’s favorite themes: a tranquil civilization of women is disrupted by a male-dominated world through the discovery of mortal love.
(from Wikipedia)

YOUR DONATION

Whether you made the suggested donation upon entering or choose to add to your donation upon exiting, be assured your contribution is helping this young theatre company bring you more of the fun of treasured theatre works in the future.

Please let us know particularly if you are able to help by donating space to store our sets, rehearsal space or performance space.

Thank you for your help.
IOLANTHE
OR
THE PEER AND THE PERI

with music by Arthur Sullivan and libretto by W.S. Gilbert

Dennis Britten, Director
Linda Smith, Musical Director
David Smith, Producer

AUGUST 19, 20, 26 & 27 AT 7:30 P.M.
AUGUST 21 & 28 AT 3:30 P.M.

Alpenrose Dairy Opera House
6149 SW Shattuck Road
Portland, OR 97221
CREW

Director ................................................................. Dennis Britten
Musical Director and Accompanist ............................. Dr. Linda Smith
Producer ........................................................................... David Smith
Assistant Director/Stage Manager ............................... Justin Campbell
Flute ............................................................................... Amanda Lyon
Trumpet .......................................................................... Bill Baucum
Costumes .......................................................... Sandra King (Costume design and team lead)
Dennis Britten, Marguerite Kendall
Pat Lach, Phyllis Fort, Sue Woodbury

Set Design and Construction ................................. Joe Rosenthal (team lead)
David Smith, Dennis Britten, Jerry “Woody” Woodbury (guard house),
Linda Smith, Lynda Person-Patrick, Mark Flannery,
Pat Lach, Phyllis Fort, Rob Patrick, Ron Swingen,
Samantha Hughes (rocks, bushes and trees), Sarah Ominski

Lighting ........................................................................ Justin Campbell

Furniture Finder ................................................................. Phyllis Fort

Program and Web Site ......................................................... Sheryl Wood

Posters and Logo ................................................................. Tony Smith

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Gallery Theater for lending costumes
Lamplighters Music Theatre of San Francisco for the peers robes and crowns, and the Grenadier uniform and bear skin
Home Depot for discounting set materials
Alpenrose Dairy for providing the Opera House
MKTX for marketing and promotion support
City of Beaverton for the Beaverton Activity Center for rehearsal space
Aaron Dunn Insurance of Tillamook for liability and costume insurance coverage
Erica Grogg for photography
CAST

The Lord Chancellor ......................................................... Rob Patrick
Earl of Mountararat ....................................................... Mark Flannery
Earl of Tolloller ............................................................. Dennis Kelly
Private Willis (of the Grenadier Guards) ......................... Tom Hamann
Private Willis (understudy) ............................................. John Kost
Strephon (an Arcadian Shepherd) ................................. Laurence Cox
Queen of the Fairies .................................................... Sheryl Wood
Iolanthe (a Fairy, Strephon’s Mother) ............................. Rebecca Stuhlburg
Celia (a Fairy) ............................................................... Samantha Hughes
Leila (a Fairy) ............................................................... Sarah Ominski
Fleta (a Fairy) ............................................................... Jan Rosenthal
Phyllis (an Arcadian Shepherdess & Ward of Chancery) .... Lindsey Lefler
Scribe ........................................................................... Robbie Estabrook

Chorus of Fairies

(Women’s Chorus) ........................................................ Janelle Reinhardt, Janelle (Jani) VanPelt
Karen Shurtluff, Lindsey Johnson, Lynda J. Person-Patrick
Phyllis Brinkerhoff, Sara Quinn Rivara

Chorus of Dukes, Marquises, Earls, Vicounts and Barons

(Men’s Chorus) ............................................................. Chris Cheek, Dominik Davis
Jerry “Woody” Woodbury, John Kost
Kevin Lay, Robbie Estabrook, Ron Swingen
FROM THE DIRECTOR

My all-time favorite in the Gilbert & Sullivan repertoire is Iolanthe. It is charming, it is funny, it is intelligent and it contains some of the most creative and inspired music Arthur Sullivan ever composed and yet many people have never even heard of it. All reasons for Light Opera of Portland to offer it this season. I was in the third of three casts in The Lamplighters Music Theatre of San Francisco’s first performance over fifty years ago playing Lord Tolloller and have been in love with it ever since. I am delighted to have had the chance to direct it. We are greatly indebted to that company for the loan they made to us of the Peers’ robes and crowns and the grenadier uniform and bearskin from their production of the show. In fact these are the very robes I performed in so long ago. Of course they have been refurbished many times, some even with the helping hand of Bette Midler who was on hand at one time to help with a fund raiser for that company.

I think one of the reasons that Iolanthe is so rarely performed is that many feel that the politics of 1880’s Britain are no longer relevant today. I beg to differ. I think our audience today, and in this particular year, will marvel at how little things have changed.

I am sorry that we don’t have a Captain Shaw to sit in our front row in this performance, but I think if you know some details of that individual, with a little imagination, you may feel his presence there as our Fairy Queen sings her second act love song to Private Willis and asks if Fire Chief Shaw’s cold cascade from his Fire Brigade could assuage the fire she feels for Willis.

Captain Eyre Massey Shaw was chief of the Metropolitan Fire Brigade for 30 years. He transformed London’s old independent firefighting teams into the country’s first public fire brigade. He was always at a Gilbert & Sullivan opening night, sitting front and center as he was on opening night of Iolanthe in 1882 when Alice Barnett, playing the Fairy Queen, addressed herself directly to him. Legend has it that he stood up and took a bow.

If this is your first Iolanthe, I hope you fall in love with it as I did so many years ago and if it is not your first, I hope it will be like the return of a dear old friend.

Dennis Britten
GLOSSARY

ACT I

Peer: A British nobleman, i.e. a duke, marquis, earl, viscount or baron.

Peri: A fairy (from Persian mythology).

Arcadian: Arcadia, a mountainous area of small valleys and villages in central Peloponnesus, was regarded by the ancient Greeks as the ideal region of rural contentment and pastoral simplicity.

On her head: A familiar Victorian catch-phrase meaning ‘with ease.’ We still use it in the form “You can do it standing on your head.”

Ward in Chancery: A minor under the guardianship of the Court of Chancery. The Court of Chancery is now one of the divisions of the High Court and has traditionally dealt with cases involving equity and, as here, the wardship of minors.

Lord Chancellor: The highest judicial functionary in England, ranking above all Peers but not above Royal Princes or the Archbishop of Canterbury. He formerly acted as the Speaker in the House of Lords.

Bar: A body of barristers. Barristers work at higher levels of court, acting as advocates in legal hearings. As opposed to solicitors, who mainly advise clients and draft legal documents in an office setting.

Bands: Strips of white cloth worn at the neck by clergymen and lawyers, but not, normally, by ushers.

Bombazine: The black material of which legal gowns are made.

I’ve a borough or two at my disposal: These boroughs are “pocket-boroughs” where wealthy and influential individuals would have no difficulty in getting their nominated candidate elected. Most of these were abolished in 1832.

Radicals: The more left-wing members of the Liberal Party who stressed the need for economic and social reform.

Wrong lobby: A vote is taken in the House of Commons by the Members of Parliament filing through either the ‘Aye’ or the ‘No’ lobby.

Contempt of Court: Disobedience of the rules, orders or process of a court, or gross disrespect to the judge or officials. The court has power to punish any such offences.

Arrest of Judgment: An unsuccessful defendant might move that the judgment for the plaintiff be arrested or withheld, in spite of a verdict having been given, on the ground that there had been some substantial miscarriage of justice.
Woolsack: The seat of the Lord Chancellor in the House of Lords, being a large square couch stuffed with wool, without back or arms, and covered with red cloth.

Bar of this House: A barrier to be found in both the House of Commons and the House of Lords, marking a space near the door where non members may be admitted for business purposes.

Tabors: Small drums.

Cot: Cottage.

Belgrave Square: One of the grandest squares in London – in 1882 and now.

Seven Dials: In the nineteenth century, a slum area notorious for squalor and crime, where seven streets met. Now very trendy.

Blue blood: Aristocratic descent.

“Not evidence” A reference to the rules of evidence of the English Law which do not allow certain evidence likely to be of an unsatisfactory character, e.g. hearsay evidence, to be given.

Affidavit: A statement in writing and sworn on oath sworn, which may be used as evidence in court.

Throw dust in a juryman’s eyes: Mislead the jury.

Exchequer, Queen’s Bench, Court of Pleas and Divorce: The first three of these courts were very old. The Queen’s (or King’s) Bench was so called because the monarch himself originally sat in this Court which heard cases in which the Crown was a party.

Perjure: Swear falsely.

When tempests wreck thy bark: A bark is a small ship or boat. The phrase therefore means ‘when you are in trouble.’

St. James’s Park: The oldest of the six Royal Parks in central London.

Dolce far niente: (Italian.) The luxury of complete idleness – literally “sweet doing nothing.”

Festina lente: Literally “Hasten slowly.” Do not jump to conclusions.

Moistened my clay: Here clay refers to the flesh, so to moisten one’s clay means to drink.

Pipe our eye: Weep, cry.

Swain: An archaic word for a shepherd or rustic fellow.
**Countess:** The wife of an earl. An earl is a count outside the UK and Ireland.

**Taradiddle, Tol-lol-lay:** A taradiddle is a lie or fib, Tol-lol is a slang word for “rather good.”

**Repente:** A Latin or Italian word meaning suddenly or unexpectedly.

**Contradicente:** From the Latin for contradicting.

**Badinage:** Light, trifling talk, banter.

**Vagary:** Whimsical or extravagant notion. Whimsy, in the fairy dances; a sudden, unexpected situation, when the Lord Chancellor realizes he’s talking to the Fairy Queen.

**Quandary:** A state of perplexity, difficult situation, dilemma.

**Andersen’s Library:** A reference to Hans Christian Andersen (1805-1875), the Danish writer of fairy tales.

**Whig, Tory:** Liberal and Conservative, respectively. Whigs dominated politics in the 18th C, focusing on political reform and religious tolerance. In the mid 19th C they gradually gave way to the more middle class Liberal Party. Tories were dominant in the late 17th C, and again in the late 18th and early 19th C. The term came to be a synonym for the Conservative Party. The Liberal Party was largely replaced by the Labour Party by the late 1920s, although they have made something of a comeback in recent years.

**Grouse and salmon season:** The periods of the year when grouse may be shot and salmon caught. These are regulated by Acts of Parliament. Grouse: 12 August thru 10 December; Salmon: 1 February thru 1 August.

**Friday nights:** Both Houses of Parliament sit and adjourn early on a Friday. They do not sit Saturdays. In 1882 this was Wednesday, but changed in 1902.

**Marriage with deceased wife’s sister:** A bill to this effect was brought in almost every year and passed by the House of Commons and thrown out by the House of Lords. It was the stock subject for difference of opinion. But the Act was finally passed in 1907.

**Competitive Examination:** Competitive Examinations were the main means of recruitment into the Civil Service.

**Canaille:** Rabble or riff-raff.

**Plebs:** Originally those Roman citizens who were not patricians, but has come to refer to those in the lower social orders.

**Oí πολλοί (hoi polloi):** Greek for plebs.
ACT II

**Sentry-go:** Sentry duty.

**Divide:** Vote by going into one of the two lobbies.

**Cerebellum:** The back part of the brain.

**Pretty kettle of fish:** An awkward state of affairs, mess or muddle.

**Parliamentary Pickford:** Pickford's was (and is) a haulage firm whose slogan was “we carry everything.”

**Queen Bess / King George:** Queen Elizabeth I vs. the Spanish Armada; King George III vs. Napoleon.

**Bays:** Laurel wreaths, given to victorious heroes.

**British Representative Peer:** Until 1922, when the Irish Free State was established, twenty-eight Irish Peers were elected for life to sit in the House of Lords as representatives of the entire Irish Peerage. Sixteen Scottish Peers were similarly elected by their fellow Peers until 1963.

**Grenadier Guards:** foot guard; known for their height, physique, and discipline – and their tall bearskin hats.

**Fay:** Fairy.

**Ovidius Naso:** The amatory Roman poet, Ovid, (43 B.C. - 17 A.D.). Naso refers to his large nose.

**Captain Shaw:** Eyre Massey Shaw (1830 - 1908) was Chief Officer of the London Fire Brigade until 1891. On the first night of Iolanthe, he was in the stalls, as Alice Barnett, as Queen of the Fairies, addressed her song to him.

**Ticking:** Closely woven cloth used to contain feathers, etc., in a mattress or pillow.

**Bathing machine:** Changing-room on wheels which could be towed into the sea so one could get into the water without being seen in one’s bathing costume.

**Harwich:** a ferry port in Essex, and actually NOT on the Channel, but rather the North Sea.

**Sloane Square and South Kensington Stations:** Adjacent stations on the District, Circle and Piccadilly lines of the London Underground.

**Four-wheeler:** A four wheeled hackney carriage (cab).
**Ties pay the dealer:** In card games such as pontoon or blackjack, a player loses if he has a lower or equal hand to (i.e. ties with) the dealer.

**Gold clocks:** Gold figured work on the side of the hosiery.

**Salisbury Plain:** a chalk plateau, mainly in Wiltshire – the site of Stonehenge.

**Tars:** Sailors.

**Banburys:** Banbury cakes which have a filling of currants and spice encased in pastry, named after the Oxfordshire town.

**Rothschild and Baring:** Two major banking houses in Victorian Britain.

**Ancient saw:** Old saying or maxim.

**Maravedi:** A small Spanish copper coin, worth about 1/13th of an English penny.

**Does your mother know:** “Does your Mother know you’re out?” A jeering remark, usually addressed in those days to a presumptuous youth or to a silly simpleton.

**Willahalah! Willaloo!:** A nod to Wagner’s Das Rheingold and its fairies’ chorus.

**Equity draughtsman:** A self-conferred title frequently assumed by Junior Counsel practising in the Chancery Division.

**Two strings go to every bow... grief ‘twill bring if you’ve two beaux to every string:** A pun on the phrase ‘to have two strings to your bow,’ meaning to be prepared for emergencies (when you resort to your second string), and the French word ‘beaux,’ meaning admirers, whom one may have ‘on a string’.

(from The Gilbert and Sullivan Archive, http://gilbertandsullivanarchive.org)
AMANDA LYON (Flute)
Amanda Lyon holds a Master of Arts degree in Flute Performance and Pedagogy from the University of Iowa where she studied extensively with renowned flutist, Nicole Esposito. Amanda is a Florida native and earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Flute Performance under the tutelage of Dr. Kim McCormick at the University of South Florida. Amanda has become known for her excellent collaborative skills with other musicians, performing in such ensembles as the ARTrio Woodwind Trio, “Armada” Flute and Bassoon Duo, and the Florida Flute Orchestra. While in Florida, Amanda maintained a healthy performing schedule that includes directing the Gulf Coast Flute Choir, and playing flute and piccolo in the Sarasota Concert Band, Florida Wind Band, South Shore Symphony Orchestra, wedding performances, and various solo and pit orchestra work in the Sarasota area. She was a substitute piccolo player for the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra. In previous years, Amanda has performed with the Cedar Rapids Municipal Band, the Jim McDonough Orchestra, and Distinguished Concerts International New York. Amanda has also worked as a recording artist with Pro-Series Elite Practice System and the Walt Disney Company, Celebrate You Program.

BILL BAUCUM (Trumpet)
Bill Baucum hails from Memphis, Tennessee. He studied trumpet at the University of Memphis. Eventually he went into veterinary medicine. He moved to Portland in 1999 and currently plays with the Portland Community Wind Band, the Second Wind Jazz Ensemble and The Beat Goes On Marching Band. He loves to play in musicals for theater any chance he gets and will be in Theater in the Grove’s upcoming Seussical.

CHRIS CHEEK (Men’s Chorus)
Chris Cheek is excited to be performing in his first production with LOoP. Mr. Cheek has performed in over forty opera and musical theater productions over the course of thirty-five years of performing. Chris has a Bachelors Degree in Music from Warner Pacific College. He has attended the Aspen Music School and Banff Centre For The Fine Arts. Recent performances include Candide with Marylhurst Opera and Andrew Carnes in Oklahoma with Broadway Rose Theater. Mr. Cheek is a District Winner of The Northwest Region of The Metropolitan Opera Auditions. He is also a district winner Northwest Region of The San Francisco Opera Center Auditions. Mr. Cheek thanks Dennis and Linda for this opportunity.

DAVID SMITH (Producer)
David Smith started playing piano and singing in church at a young age. While getting a degree in classical guitar he played lute in college collegium and was Tenorio in Man of La Mancha. This act of seduction was followed by being seduced into the bit mines (software development) from which he is just now emerging. David spends his time studying classical and baroque guitar, renaissance and baroque lute, theorbo and making classical guitars. David lives in Beaverton with Linda, the music director.
DENNIS BRITTEN (Director, Co-Founder)
Dennis was a member of the Lamplighters, the oldest Gilbert & Sullivan company in America now in its 64th year of production before relocating to NYC where he spent 26 years in professional theatre as a singer, actor and director and studying both there and in Europe. Among his favorite roles in NY are Prince Karl Franz in the Light Opera of Manhattan’s The Student Prince, Mr. T and 105 in the original cast of Promenade with Madeline Kahn and as soloist for three years at Radio City Music Hall as well as Carnegie Hall with his own one man show, Evening of American Song. He also toured with the NY tour of My Fair Lady as Freddy Einsford Hill. Some of his favored directing credits are a production of Leonard Melfi’s Niagara Falls and his own If Wishes Were Horses both in NYC, Camelot, with Beaverton Civic Theatre and many productions with his company, Phoenix Show Space Theatre (PSST!) in Arizona and a theatre arts professor at Arizona State University. This is Mr. Britten’s fifth season directing Light Opera of Portland.

DENNIS KELLY (Earl of Tolloller)
Dennis is a veteran of the theatre. His roles include: Cornelius Hackle (Hello Dolly), Nanki Poo (The Mikado), Melchior (Amahl and the Night Visitors), Marco (The Gondoliers), and Marcellus Washburn (The Music Man). Other shows include: Sweeney Todd, Evita, Kismet, A Chorus Line, Anything Goes, Carousel and Trial By Jury, many with Portland Civic Theatre, The Musical Company as well as a Funny Thing Happened on the Way To the Forum and The Crucible with Beaverton Civic Theatre. He has a BS in Vocal Music Performance and an Associates Degree in Accounting. Dennis works in accounting and lives with his wife, Marsha, and has raised four boys, who are all in the performing arts.

DOMINIK DAVIS (Men’s Chorus)
Dominik is from Southwest Portland, graduating Wilson High School in 2005. Recently Dominik has been taking voice lessons at Multnomah Arts Center from Jessica Israels. He is also a member in the Multnomah Arts Center Community Choir led by Mark Woodward. Besides singing Dominik also takes classes and participates in improv activities based out of Curious Comedy Theater. This is Dominik’s first performance with LOoP.

JAN ROSENTHAL (Fleta)
After 40 years performing in the classroom, Jan has continued to perform on stage throughout Portland and Vancouver. Memorable roles among the 80+ she has done include Madame Arcati in Blithe Spirit, Mrs. Savage in Curious Savage, Mother Superior in Nunsense, 10 children’s’ shows for Broadway Rose, Mother of the Bride in Tony and Tina’s Wedding, God in Coffee with God, and Tzeitel, Golda and Yenta in separate productions of Fiddler. Highlights include performing for Queen Elizabeth in Ottawa and a turn as NASCAR Granny in a Dick Hannah KIA commercial. She dedicates this show to her wonderful family.
JANELLE REINHARDT (Women’s Chorus)
Janelle has been singing since grade school and graduated from Century High School in Hillsboro in 1999. She has appeared in Gilbert & Sullivan’s Pirates of Penzance, Trial by Jury, Iolanthe, and Ruddigore, as well as Bernstein’s Candide. Janelle is also a student at Marylhurst University entering her third year in the Music Therapy program. When not in classes she spends time with her family.

JANELLE (JANI) VANPELT (Women’s Chorus)
Although an R.N.by profession, Jani has been singing and participating in theatre performances since junior high through college. During the past three years she has participated in productions with Mask & Mirror, Wilsonville Theatre Company, Canby Community Theater, Pentacle Theater, and Cascadia Concert Opera. Favorite roles include Reno Sweeney, Golde, Miss Prism and Frankie Futrelle. Jani is delighted to be included into LOoP and looks forward to this, and many other, productions with the company. Jani would like to acknowledge her gratitude for her wonderfully supportive husband, Juan Jenkins, who always has her back at the Woodburn Adult Foster Home that they own and operate together since 2001.

JERRY “WOODY” WOODBURY (Men’s Chorus)
Singing has always been a big part of Woody’s life. Woody started singing in grade school choir, sang throughout school and in church choirs. In his 20’s he performed with several groups in Salt Lake City including the Artist Repertory Theatre, Promised Valley Playhouse Theater, and the University of Utah where he played the Grand Inquisitor in Candide. After moving to Oregon Woody took a long break while raising two daughters and working in the tech industry. More recently he has joined the Multnomah Community Choir, Portland Jazz Singers Foundation, and sang with PCC Jazz classes. He also performed in Into the Woods with Beaverton Civic Theatre. When he is not performing on stage he is often behind the scenes building sets and specialty set pieces for local theater companies. One of his favorite pieces to construct was the Grauman’s Chinese Theater front façade for Masque and Mirror’s production of Singing in the Rain.

JOE ROSENTHAL (Set Design and Construction)
Joe has managed to combine two of his life-long interests of carpentry and singing. Joe built sets and sang for the “Gloriana Opera Company” of Mendocino, California in the 1970-80 seasons, doing such shows as HMS Pinafore, Pirates of Penzance, Iolanthe, The Music Man, Fiddler on the Roof, Peter Pan, and West side story. Joe has been a chorister since then, but has returned to stage and the tools in his dotage with LOoP.

JOHN KOST (Private Willis understudy, Men’s Chorus)
John Kost was born and raised in North Portland, attending Blessed Sacrament elementary school, North Catholic High School and graduated from La Salle High School. He received his BA from Portland State University where he sang in the university chorus, which performed such works as Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony, the Berlioz Requiem and Britten’s War Requiem. He has performed in community theater productions, including Lakewood’s productions of The Merry Widow and Bye, Bye, Birdie. From 1995 to 2010 he sang in the chorus of Portland Opera and has been active in church choirs. He currently sings with St. John Baptist Episcopal church.
JUSTIN CAMPBELL (Assistant Director/Stage Manager)

Ruddigore was Justin’s first performance with LOoP as well as his first Gilbert & Sullivan production. Justin’s most recent role was in Recovery, one of a series of one-act plays, Pieces of the HART, for which he was also stage manager and light designer. He’s also performed in Is He Dead? and A Midsummer Night’s Dream at HART Theatre. He has done a great deal of tech and backstage work, as he did for Once Upon a Mattress and Hot L Baltimore. Justin stage managed LOoP’s recent production of HMS Pinafore.

KAREN SHURTLUFF (Women’s Chorus)

Karen’s love for musical theater began about twenty-five years ago in Florida where she accidentally landed in the ensemble for the local community theatre. Some of her most memorable roles include Audrey in Little Shop of Horrors, Angelina in Trial by Jury, Mrs. McAfee in Bye-Bye Birdie and Lady Grace Manley-Prowde in Something’s Afoot. She was the voice for the group Bella Suono, which crooned primarily for Retirement Communities and Assisted Living Facilities in Florida. She sang with the Aurora Chorus, an all-female choir, and currently sings with Tapestry, both in Portland. To the Peers, fairies and all the magical characters, together we fly sky high!

KEVIN LAY (Men’s Chorus)

Kevin took formal vocal training in Chicago, singing in professional choruses and opera choruses, including Carmen, La Boheme, and Magic Flute, all directed by Peter Sellars. Having studied theory and composition at the University of Akron School of Music, Kevin composed various choral pieces, string quartets, art songs, jazz arrangements, and popular songs over the last 35 years. Among these are a full score for an original musical: “A Day in the Life” – a 90 minute farce, and a libretto for “Starboy”, a short opera written by his composer twin brother, Keith Lay. Kevin is also an accomplished guitarist and singer currently feeding his creative spirit in the fertile Portland music scene. He is currently studying voice under Rebecca Stuhlbarg.

LAURENCE COX (Strephon)

Laurence originally hails from Windsor in the United Kingdom. He has been involved with theater and music for almost fifteen years, including performances as King Arthur in Monty Python’s Spamalot, Oberon and Snug the Joiner in A Midsummer Night’s Dream, and Dutchy in Is He Dead? with HART, Ross in The Elephant Man, Sir Dinadan in Camelot, and Miles Gloriosus in A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum with Beaverton Civic Theater, Dick Deadeye in HMS Pinafore, and Pooh-Bah in The Mikado with LOoP. Other roles include Cleante in The Would-Be Gentleman, Motel in Fiddler on the Roof, Dewhurst in The Scarlet Pimpernel, Noah in Children of Eden, Samuel in The Pirates of Penzance, and Ariel in Return to the Forbidden Planet. Laurence played Robin Oakapple/Ruthven Murgatroyd in LOoP’s 2015 production of Ruddigore, then Old Adam in the Mock’s Crest Ruddigore production in 2016!
LINDA SMITH (Musical Director and Accompanist)
“Linda Smith’s varied and well-played . . . program . . . is straight stuff. What makes her [compact] disc special is the inclusion of Samuel Barber’s Piano Sonata. Smith handles it all comfortably . . . “ (Willamette Week) Ms. Smith is known for her colorful musical interpretation, sincere warmth, and solid technique. She earned a Doctor of Musical Arts from the University of Washington, a Master of Arts from the University of California in Riverside, and a Bachelor of Music from Central Michigan University.

Her activities have encompassed touring as a solo artist, touring with an actor in a two woman show she commissioned entitled Composers in Skirts, teaching, and collaborative performance. She has recently done collaborative keyboard work with several local groups, including the Oregon Chorale and Beaverton Civic Theatre, which has allowed her to exercise her vocal skills as well.

LINDSEY LEFLER (Phyllis)
Lindsey is thrilled to be performing in her fourth show with this company. A classically trained soprano, she holds a BME with a minor in Theatre Arts, and has been performing in university and regional productions for half of her life. She is the Director of Prelude Choirs for Hillsboro Community Youth Choir, as well as an adult church choir, and has a passion for using music as a therapy tool for adults with disabilities. She would like to give a shout out to Lilikins, Jojo, and Logey Bear- her biggest fans.

LINDSEY RAE JOHNSON (Women’s Chorus)
Soprano Lindsey Rae Johnson hails from Minneapolis. Her early encounters with Gilbert & Sullivan date back to middle and high school years, performing selections from The Gondoliers and in a full production of Trial by Jury. She has since performed in Ruddigore and as Isabel in The Pirates of Penzance with Lamplighters Music Theatre, a San Francisco-based company that specializes in Gilbert & Sullivan repertoire. Lindsey earned a bachelor’s degree in music from Luther College (Decorah, Iowa) and a master’s degree in vocal performance from the University of North Texas. She has performed with the San Francisco Symphony Chorus, Fort Worth Opera, Cedar Rapids Opera Theatre, Opera on Tap, Oberlin in Italy, and the Frost School of Music in Salzburg. She enjoys spending time with her husband Scott and cats, J. Charles and Ella.

LYNDA J. PERSON-PATRICK Women’s Chorus)
Ruddigore was Lynda’s first musical not to mention a play! She was born and raised in Eugene, Oregon, attended North Eugene High school and graduated in 1980! While in high school she was part of the regular A cappella choir and the vocal Jazz choir The Pipers! Married right out of high school, she moved to Beaverton where she has lived for 35 years and raised two girls who are now beautiful young women. She sang in her church choir for 12 years until her husband’s death three years ago. Now she is happily starting a new life, married to Rob Patrick, and exposed for the first time to operatic theatre! Having a blast and hope she can do more!
MARK FLANNERY (Earl of Mountararat)
Mark grew up in 8 states, but has spent 69% of his life in Oregon. He is a charter member of the Oregon Chorale, having sung bass-baritone with them for 31 years. Mark was also active in the Hillsboro Community Arts vocal jazz ensemble “The Young... & the Rest of Us”, and leads singing at Tualatin Valley Church. Mark most recently sang the role of Sir Roderick Murgatroyd in 2015’s LOoP production of Ruddigore, and in 2014 sang Usher in Trial by Jury. A big G&S fan, he created the role of Captain Frederick Montroy in Oregon Chorale’s It Sounds Like Music, and the role of King of Boratania in Paddle Your Own Canoe. Mark is a retired cartographer from the US Forest Service, and enjoys gardening, hiking, travel, and endless internet research on musical, religious, and geographical themes. He lives in Hillsboro with his wife Shelley, amid piles of maps and books and Shelley’s fabric.

PHYLLIS BRINKERHOFF (Women’s Chorus)
Phyllis sang as a chorus member in Gilbert & Sullivan productions for eight years with the Redlands Bowl Company in California. She sang in the chorus of several operas in Los Angeles and with Redlands. She has sung in church for nearly 60 years. Phyllis worked for Portland Opera for nearly 10 years as Assistant Stage Manager and with tech, costumes, makeup and wigs. She directed the 1980 production of Pirates of Penzance for Theatre in the Grove. She is a founding member of the Oregon Chorale. Phyllis has done period costuming, set and light design and run lights for many plays and musicals.

PHYLLIS FORT (Furniture Finder)
You may remember her as the cantankerous Katisha in The Mikado. Also recently she performed with Mask & Mirror’s production of Sylvia, playing Kate. In Arizona she also performed as Momma Rose in Gypsy, Berthe in Pippin, Stepmother in Into The Woods, and the equity production of Man of LaMancha at Phoenix Theatre, playing The Housekeeper.

REBECCA STUHLBARG (Iolanthe)
Rebecca Stuhlberg, soprano, loves to sing opera, art song, musical theater and choral music, and is honored to be part of LOoP! Iolanthe is her second show with LOoP after appearing in the chorus for HMS Pinafore. Before that, you may have seen Rebecca playing the role of Debbie Terry in Jubilee Theater’s musical theater production of Three Christmases this past Winter. She graduated with a M.A. in Vocal Performance from University of California at Santa Cruz, where she studied voice with Patrice Maginnis and conducting with Nicole Paiement. After receiving her masters degree, Rebecca showed her skills as a crossover singer in the starring role of Lisa in The Cannabis Cantata by Joel Ford. She then went on to sing in the chorus with Opera San Jose, and was featured in roles such as Ruth Putnam in The Crucible. Rebecca currently studies voice with Nancy Olson Chatalas. She is also a choral conductor and singer, and has sung with choral groups such as Ariose Singers and Choral Arts Ensemble of Portland. Rebecca conducts the Healing Voices Choir at Vox Academy and the choir at Congregation Neveh Shalom. She also had a passion for teaching voice and yoga – find out more about her voice studio at www.northwestvocalyoga.com. Rebecca also enjoys reading, hiking, biking, and spending time with her nine year-old daughter.
ROB PATRICK (The Lord Chancellor)
Rob has previous roles in LOoP as Nanki Poo in The Mikado, Mr. Cox in Cox and Box, Counsel for the Plaintiff in Trial by Jury, and Despard Murgatroyd in Ruddigore. A member of Oregon Chorale, Rob is a graduate of West Linn High School, class of 1988, where he won first place at three rivers league and state for experienced duo acting and improvisation. Earning a Theatre scholarship to the University of Portland, he sang in the University Singers with the late Roger O. Doyle, and was a vocal student of Dr. Scott Tuomi. He is an insurance agent and is happily married to Lynda Person-Patrick and lives in Aloha.

ROBBIE ESTABROOK (Scribe, Men's Chorus)
Robbie has been singing and acting in several shows in the past two years. He was in LOoP’s HMS Pinafore. Most of his prior roles were at HART Theatre where he has played Father Abbot in “Happy Hollendale”, Sir Bors and a french taunter in “Spamalot,” too many ghosts to name in “Spoon River Anthology”, and Mr. Snoring Man in “White Christmas.” He has also played ensemble roles in “Shrek: the Musical” and “Mary Poppins” at Journey Theatre Arts Group. When he’s not acting, Robbie enjoys writing poetry, speeches, and stories. He plans to one day be a director and playwright. Enjoy!

RON SWINGEN (Men’s Chorus)
Ron appreciates having been a member of the Light Opera of Portland company from the very beginning and is enjoying being a Peer in this year’s production of “Iolanthe.” He has performed in “HMS Pinafore” as Captain Corcoran (twice), in “Ruddigore” as Old Adam, in “Trial by Jury” as The Learned Judge and in “The Mikado” as Ko-Ko. His love of Gilbert & Sullivan started many years ago when he was teaching in Beaverton High School and took part in a student/faculty show as Ko-Ko. Ron has also appeared in all Oregon Chorale “G&S” productions. He is a charter member of the Oregon Chorale (Hillsboro community choir) and also sings with The Westside Singers (Beaverton community choir). He is very happy that his wife, Susan, sings with him in both of those organizations.

SAMANTHA HUGHES (Celia)
A Montana native, Samantha has always loved to sing. From a young age, Samantha sang solos at church, and was a regular national anthem singer at the local baseball field. It wasn’t until a chance trip to Portland to hear a Ravel one act at Performed by Portland Opera, that changed Samantha’s life forever. After falling in love with opera, Samantha applied to Portland State University where she received her bachelors degree in vocal performance with an emphasis in opera in 2015. Combining her background in theatre and her passion for singing, Samantha has had roles such as an evil step sister in Into the Woods, Miss Tinkham in Suds in your eye, and the Red Queen in Alice in Wonderland), Samantha is honored to be a part of LOoP. Samantha is a student of Pamela South.
SANDRA KING (Costumes)
Sandra King has been costuming since 1993 when she dared to co-design the costumes for Village Light Opera Group’s New Moon, a group she had been performing with since 1975. Since then she has designed for such shows as “Merry Widow” (twice), “The Cherry Orchard”, and many Gilbert & Sullivan shows. In 2007 she moved to Portland where she has discovered Science Fiction conventions and costumes, the Time Travelers Costume Guild, Beaverton Civic Theater and lots of friends just as crazy as she is. “Iolanthe” means more friends and a return to well loved G & S.

SARA QUINN RIVARA (Women’s Chorus)
Sara Quinn Rivara, mezzo-soprano, has been praised for her “strong, distinctive voice” and “exceptionally rich timbre.” She was the winner of the 1999 Young Vocalist competition from the Kalamazoo Bach Festival Society, and went on to join the Festival as a staff soloist from 2000-2005, performing as a soloist in Mozart’s Requiem, Bach’s Magnificat, Christmas Oratorio, Mendelssohn’s Elijah, Mozart’s Vesperae Solennes de Confessor, Handel’s Messiah, and Bach’s B-Minor Mass. In 2007, she was a founding member of the Aspire Ensemble, a professional classical quartet that regularly tours the Great Lakes region, and has appeared numerous times with the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra. Ms. Rivara has sung with Opera Grand Rapids, Camerata Singers, and currently is a member of Resonance Ensemble and the Portland Symphonic Choir. She holds a BA in English and Music from Kalamazoo College, and an MFA in Creative Writing from Warren Wilson College. She currently lives in Portland, Oregon with her husband and children.

SARAH OMINSKI (Leila)
Sarah’s love of theater began at a young age. She was constantly putting on shows for her peers and neighbors when she was growing up! When her family moved to Oregon during her sophomore year of High School, new friends invited her to audition for Fiddler on the Roof at DDHS. Rae Mona Reynolds taught more than theater. She passed on a legacy that Sarah hopes to pass on. That legacy? Where ere thou art, act well thy part! Therein lies the honor! Sarah has recently been seen all over Portland directing, acting and having the time of her life! Sarah thanks her family (especially her grandchildren) and her friends! Enjoy the show!

SHERYL WOOD (Queen of the Fairies, Programs and Web Site)
Sheryl grew up in the DC area and began singing in choirs at an early age. She has been a member of the Oregon Chorale for nine years, and has sung full-time with The Dickens Carolers for five years and Cantico Chamber Singers for three years. Sheryl is also the soprano section leader/soloist for First Congregational United Church of Christ in downtown Portland and sings for special services at the Parish of Saint Mark. She is a frequent national anthem singer at events in the Portland area. She was typecast as the crazy Mad Margaret in LooP’s 2015 production of Ruddigore and may be too much enjoying her Queenitude in Iolanthe. Other recent roles include the Second Bridesmaid in Trial by Jury and the Undertaker in Oregon Chorale’s It’s Music, Man. Sheryl does freelance design work and is an avid knitter and crocheter. She lives in Portland with her husband Ben, cats Simon and Linus and enough yarn to be-sweater a small village.
TOM HAMANN (Private Willis)
Tom has been involved in theater for most of his life, particularly musical theater. He was active with the Alameda Children’s Musical Theater (ACMT) in Alameda, CA while he was in the United States Coast Guard, where he was on stage for some shows and was the musical director for several other shows there. Tom has been a member of the Oregon Chorale since 2014, and played Bill Bobstay in LOoP’s recent production of HMS Pinafore.

TONY SMITH (Posters and Logo)
Tony is proud to be a member of LOoP since its first season. Tony provides artwork, props, lighting, sets, and sound for several area theatre companies. Recently he played Uncle Stanley in the Twilight Theatre production of George Washington Slept Here. He and his wife (a wonderful musician) have been married for 42 years and enjoy hiking together. He is looking forward to many more seasons with LOoP.

GOT SPACE?
Light Opera of Portland is growing by leaps and bounds and like any youngster, we’re growing out of everything. We hope you as a volunteer might be able to help us out. We are in dire need of space; space to store our sets, space for rehearsal, and we could even use performance space so that we could bring more performances to production. Might you have a space to volunteer? If so, please contact us through lightoperaofportland.org.
JOIN US IN 2017

Pirates of Penzance
February 24, 25, 26
& March 3, 4, 5

Patience
August 18, 19, 20
& 25, 26, 27
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