



presents its 90th production

Ruddigore

or

The Witch's Curse

by W.S.Gilbert & Arthur Sullivan

Director
Fraser Grant

Musical Director
Paul Smith



9th-12th November 2011

PROGRAMME
£1.50

Previous Productions

1949	Iolanthe		1978	Orpheus in the Underworld
1950	The Gondoliers			The Yeomen of the Guard
	The Mikado		1979	The Sorcerer
1951	HMS Pinafore		1980	The Pirates of Penzance
	Iolanthe			HMS Pinafore
1952	Patience		1981	Lilac Time
	The Yeomen of the Guard		1982	The Mikado
1953	Trial by Jury	HMS Pinafore	1983	Princess Ida
	Ruddigore			Patience
1954	The Gondoliers		1984	The Gondoliers
1955	The Mikado	Trial by Jury	1985	Ruddigore
	The Pirates of Penzance		1986	The Merry Widow
1956	Patience	Iolanthe		Iolanthe
1957	HMS Pinafore	Cox and Box	1987	Trial by Jury
1958	The Sorcerer			The Pirates of Penzance
	The Yeomen of the Guard		1988	La Belle Helene
1959	The Mikado	Ruddigore		The Yeomen of the Guard
1960	The Gondoliers	Patience	1989	The Gypsy Baron
1961	Princess Ida		1990	The Mikado
1962	The Mikado	Trial by Jury		Die Fledermaus
	The Pirates of Penzance		1991	HMS Pinafore
1963	Iolanthe		1992	Princess Ida
	The Yeomen of the Guard		1993	The Gondoliers
1964	The Sorcerer	Ruddigore	1994	Ruddigore
1965	The Gondoliers		1995	Patience
1966	The Gypsy Baron		1996	Iolanthe
	HMS Pinafore	Trial by Jury	1997	The Grand Duke
1967	Princess Ida			La Vie Parisienne
1968	Blossom Time		1998	The Yeomen of the Guard
	The Yeomen of the Guard		1999	The Mikado
1969	The Mikado	The Gondoliers	2000	The Gondoliers
1970	Patience		2001	Ruddigore
1971	Trial by Jury	Iolanthe	2002	Iolanthe
	The Pirates of Penzance		2003	Patience
1972	Ruddigore		2004	The Pirates of Penzance
1973	La Belle Helene		2005	Orpheus in the Underworld
	The Yeomen of the Guard		2006	The Mikado
1974	The Gondoliers		2007	The Sorcerer
1975	HMS Pinafore		2008	HMS Pinafore
1976	The Mikado		2009	The Yeomen of the Guard
1977	Iolanthe		2010	Iolanthe



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Jill Talbot

A Note from the Chairman



Nemo repente fuit turpissimus*. Not true – the curse on the Baronets of Ruddigore was due to the evil act of persecuting witches enjoyed by the first baronet – according to W. S. Gilbert! That Gilbert was able to turn a somewhat macabre story into a show with fun and pathos is a mark of his genius as a writer. With Sullivan at times at his most inventive the show has a variety and flair that matches the best of the G & S operettas. Whilst poking fun at Victorian melodrama Gilbert was not averse to poking fun at his own work. Patter songs are a feature of the G & S operas – The Major General's song in *Pirates*, The Nightmare song from *Iolanthe*, the Executioner's Little List song from *Mikado* – the patter trio in Act Two of *Ruddigore* is a masterpiece:

*This particularly rapid unintelligible patter,
Isn't generally heard, and if it is it doesn't matter
Matter,matter,matter,matter,matter.*

Fraser Grant directs – his fourteenth show with us. Gilbert's skill as a librettist and stage directions of his manuscript give an enduring foundation to any director, but much has been added by Fraser to milk the melodrama and passion that clearly the piece deserves. The orchestra are young musicians where the experience gained in playing in a full orchestra in a theatrical setting is invaluable, with Paul Smith as musical director holding it all together.

As always the production credits in the programme are extensive and we are extremely appreciative of the work undertaken by everyone supporting those on stage and helping to put the show on – time and effort given freely. Again we are indebted to Martin Jarvis for his design and work on the set.

The Julian Light Operatic Society takes its name from Julian Avenue in Acton where the original Whiteaker family who formed the society in 1948 lived, and is truly Ealing based. Although the Society has done other operettas such as those by Strauss, Offenbach, Lehar etc., its speciality is the works of Gilbert & Sullivan. These are an essential part of English musical heritage. They are certainly good fun to perform in (for both principals and chorus) and I recommend joining an operatic society as a relaxing therapy from the stress and strains of the working day.

We appreciate the support of those who attend our shows regularly - if you are not on our mailing list, and wish to join this, give your name to a steward. We also appreciate the support of our Patrons - again if you wish to become one, please contact the Secretary. (Patrons get priority bookings for the main show). We are also pleased, due to our activities, to support a local charity - PESTS (helping the parents of special needs children).

I hope you enjoy the performance – if you did please tell others to come along!

**No one ever became thoroughly bad in one step (Juneval - Satires)*

Edwin Owen
Chairman

Page sponsored by Tim Perkins & Tony Grace





Plot



The story takes place in the village of Rederring, where none of the village girls stand a chance at marriage because all the young men love Rose Maybud, but do not measure up to her strict standards of etiquette. Robin Oakapple also loves Rose, but is too shy to court her, partly because he is the accursed Baronet of Ruddigore, disguised. His younger brother Despard bears the burden of the curse: he must commit a crime every day or die in agony.

Robin's foster brother, Richard, seeking Rose for himself, tells Despard about Robin's deception, and Despard transfers the curse back to Robin. The ghosts of his ancestors confront Robin for failing to conscientiously carry out his duty. Robin agrees to execute the curse faithfully, but finds a clever solution to the whole problem after all.

Infamous Trivia

Burke & Hare: Infamous murderers who in 1820's Edinburgh, sold their victims for dissection.

Dorian Gray: Handsome, narcissistic character in an Oscar Wilde novel, who becomes obsessed with hedonism and commits to every kind of debauchery and pleasure, including murder.

Dr Jekyll & Mr Hyde: Character(s) in a novel by Robert Louis Stevenson first published in 1886, who assumes a split personality, one being good, and the other evil.

Jacob Marley: Character in the 1843 novel *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens. He haunts Scrooge in many ways including appearing to him as a ghost.

Sweeney Todd: Fictional character who first appeared in Victorian times, and made a visit to the barber's, a gruesome filling for a meat pie. The demon barber of Fleet Street.

Come and Join Us

The Julian operates as a charity for the education of those interested in all aspects of stagecraft, music and singing. Most do it just for the fun and relaxation that participation brings, whilst some do it to gain singing and operatic experience. Some are old hands, and some are new for this production. In any event the Society also values a good social side and new members are always welcome. All voice ranges are required and previous experience is not necessary – good opportunities exist for rehearsal and learning. Experienced performers are also welcome where the opportunities are available for main parts, consistent with the Society's policy of casting from existing members wherever possible.

Rehearsals take place weekly throughout the year (except August) at Ealing Town Hall on Wednesday evenings. During the winter months, the Society rehearses for a spring concert/soiree. From March to October/November rehearsals are devoted to the main autumn production.

For more information contact the Secretary, Debbie Edwards, on 0844 880 1852 or view our web site at www.julianoperatic.org

Forthcoming Productions

Julian Light Operatic Society's future ventures include

A Musical Soiree

during Spring 2012 - An informal musical entertainment including
buffet supper in aid of Society funds

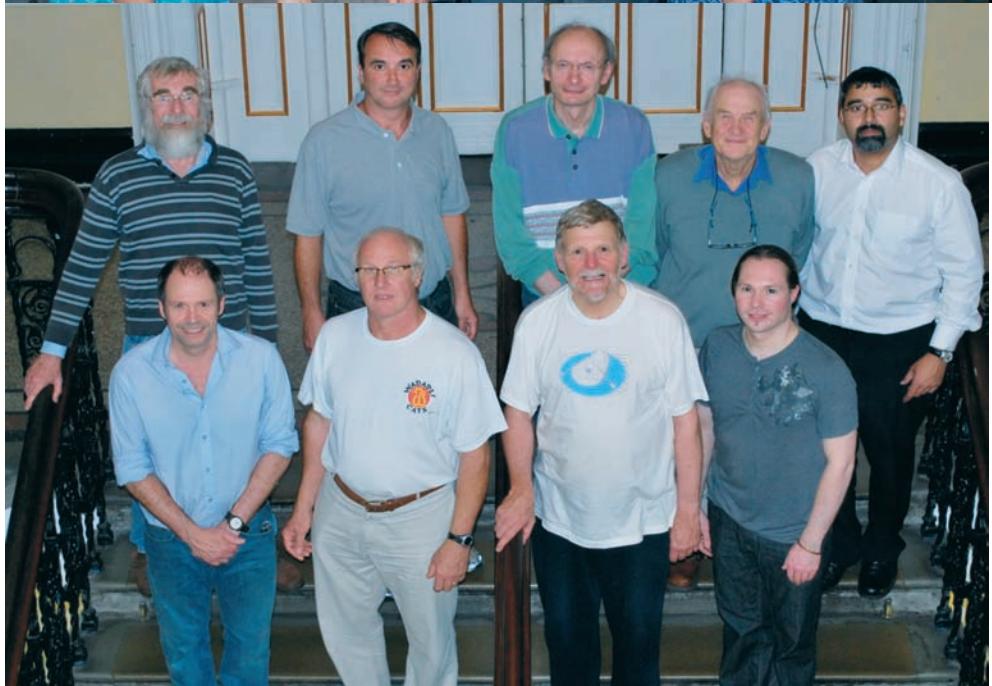
and

The Gondoliers

by Gilbert & Sullivan during Autumn 2012

If you would like to take part in this production, come along to an open rehearsal
on Wednesday 4th April 2012 (see website nearer the time for details)

The Chorus



Page sponsored by Cheryl Chisnall

Cast

Matthew Robinson - Sir Ruthven Murgatroyd



Born on October 4th, 1924, in Evanston, Illinois, he made his feature film debut in a 16mm production of *Peer Gynt* (1941). Shortly thereafter, he played Marc Antony in *Julius Caesar* (1950), and firmly established himself as a leading man with his performance as Brad Braden in the Cecil B DeMille spectacular *The Greatest Show on Earth* (1952). He was elected president of the National Rifle Association of America in June 1998, and died on 5th April, 2008. No, hang on. That was Charlton Heston.



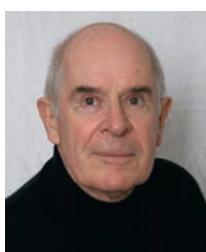
Julian Evans - Richard Dauntless

Julian trained at Mountview Theatre School and has toured Sweden and America as a singer. He has always kept, however, a keen interest in amateur dramatics and has played amongst others Lancelot in *Camelot*, Nanki Poo in *The Mikado*, Fred in *Kiss me Kate*, Judas in *Jesus Christ Superstar* and Curly in *Oklahoma*. In recent years he has directed various operas and shows. His day job is a corporate presenter.



Mike Smartt - Sir Despard Murgatroyd

A rapid promotion for Mike Smartt, who stood guard outside the Houses of Parliament as Private Willis in last year's *Iolanthe*, and is now inside the House of Lords as the bad baronet of Ruddigore. Moody and sad? He looks relatively comfortable out of the cold and safely ensconced on the red benches.



Geof Morgan - Old Adam Goodheart

It says it all I suppose - at least I'm not reprising Mountararat. Obsequious servant to a country farmer and Machiavelli to his Prince while being obsessed with Dame Hannah - it's not a dull life!



Peter Edwards - Sir Roderic Murgatroyd

Peter Edwards is a buck and blade in Act I, but a vengeful ghost in Act II. Years ago he thought the reference to High Noon in *Ruddigore* meant having to sing *Do Not Forsake Me O My Darling* and stride through a Western town to face the bad guys coming in on the midday train, with Grace Kelly waiting for him. Alas, the part of Sir Roderick is nothing like that, and the person playing his true love.... well enough said.

Cast

Zena Wigram - Rose Maybud



Zena Wigram trained at the South African College of Music and (on a scholarship) Hertfordshire Theatre School; she currently studies with Theresia Van Sertima. After singing full-time for some years, she did a marketing diploma, and now works in marketing and communications. She also teaches singing and piano, and sings, in both professional and amateur productions, in whatever time is left.

Sunita Dugal - Mad Margaret



This is Sunita's sixth show with the Julian. Previous roles include Pitty Sing in *The Mikado*, Constance in *The Sorcerer* and most recently Phoebe in *The Yeomen of the Guard*. She had a year off last year so is pleased to be back with the company and playing the role of "Mad Margaret". As one fellow member of the cast commented, "not much acting needed there then"!

Debbie Edwards - Dame Hannah



Debbie Edwards is looking forward to her second *Ruddigore* with JLOS having been Mad Margaret/Zorah in 2001. She finds herself playing the part of Rose Maybud's Aunt, and is trying to put her experience of several nieces (and nephews) to good use in advising Rose not to take her etiquette book quite so seriously. The role is only marginally less regal than her last role (Debbie was our Fairy Queen in *Iolanthe* last year), but very close, as her brief from our director is "Dame Maggie Smith in Downton Abbey".

Helen Dawson - Zorah



Helen specialised in vocal performance at Royal Holloway University of London and was an active member of their Savoy Opera Society. With them she played the eponymous roles in *Patience* and *The Merry Widow* (Lehar), and has participated in the chorus of *The Pirates of Penzance*, *The Mikado* and *Iolanthe*. This is Helen's first show with the Julian and she is thoroughly looking forward to performing at the Questors theatre.

Cecilia Jarvis - Ruth



Cecilia is not keen on writing about herself, but is pleased to have got another part and is very happy to sing with JLOS again. She only has a couple of lines, so you will have to concentrate to catch them. Previous parts have included Celia in last year's production of *Iolanthe*, and Minerva in Fraser's adaptation of *Orpheus in the Underworld* for JLOS in 2005.

Musical Numbers

OVERTURE

ACT ONE

Chorus of Bridesmaids - "Fair is Rose"	<i>Solo Soprano, Zorah</i>
Song - "Sir Rupert Murgatroyd his leisure"	<i>Hannah, & Chorus</i>
Song - "If somebody there chanced to be"	<i>Rose</i>
Duet - "I know a youth"	<i>Rose & Robin</i>
Chorus of Bridesmaids & Song - "From the briny sea"	<i>Richard</i>
Hornpipe	<i>Richard & Chorus</i>
Song - "My boy, you may take it from me"	<i>Robin</i>
Duet - "The battle's roar is over"	<i>Rose & Richard</i>
Entrance of Bridesmaids - "If well his suit has sped"	<i>Bridesmaids</i>
Trio - "In sailing o'er life's ocean wide"	<i>Rose, Richard & Robin</i>
Recit. & Aria - "Cherrily carols the lark"	<i>Margaret</i>
Chorus - "Welcome, gentry"	<i>Chorus</i>
Song & Chorus - "Oh, why am I moody & sad?"	<i>Sir Despard</i>
Duet - "You understand? I think I do"	<i>Richard & Sir Despard</i>
Finale - "Hail the bride"	<i>Ensemble</i>

ACT TWO

Duet - "I once was as meek"	<i>Sir Ruthven & Adam</i>
Duet & Chorus - "Happily coupled are we"	<i>Rose & Richard</i>
Song - "In bygone days"	<i>Rose & Chorus of Bridesmaids</i>
Chorus of Ancestors - "Painted emblems"	<i>with Sir Ruthven & Sir Roderic</i>
Song - "When the night wind howls"	<i>Sir Roderic & Chorus</i>
Chorus - "He yields"	<i>Chorus of Ancestors</i>
Recit. & Song - "Away remorse"	<i>Sir Ruthven</i>
Duet - "I once was a very"	<i>Margaret & Sir Despard</i>
Trio - "My eyes are fully open"	<i>Margaret, Sir Ruthven & Sir Despard</i>
Melodrame	<i>Sir Ruthven & Hannah</i>
Song - "There grew a little flower"	<i>Hannah, with Sir Roderic</i>
Finale - "When a man has been"	<i>Ensemble</i>

Directors

Fraser Grant - Director



Fraser Grant studied French at Edinburgh University, and then went on to train as a Director at Drama Studio, London. He has a very busy freelance directing career, working mainly in Opera. He is also Head of Drama at Harvington School in Ealing, as well as Head of Drama at the LCM Junior College. Opera Works include *La Traviata*, *Carmen*, *Tosca*, *The Pearl Fishers*, *Le Nozze di Figaro*, *La Cenerentola*, *Rigoletto*, *Don Giovanni*, *La Boheme*, *Die Fledermaus*, *The Merry Widow*, *Madame Butterfly*, *Fidelio* and *The Magic Flute* for First Act Opera, *Cosi fan Tutte*, *Le Nozze di Figaro*, *Eugene Onegin*, and *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* for Oyster Opera, *Eight Songs for a Mad King* for Solaris Music Theatre at the Purcell Room, *la Boheme*, *Lucia di Lammermoor*, *The Mikado*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, *The Magic Flute*, *Dido and Aeneas*, *Trial by Jury*, *La Cenerentola*, *The Marriage of Figaro*, *H.M.S Pinafore*, *Gianni Schicchi* and *Cavalleria Rusticana* for Opera South East and *The Magic Flute* for Music Theatre Kernow. As Head of Music Theatre at The London College of Music and Media he has directed students in productions of *Hansel and Gretel*, *Days of Hope*, *The Soldier's Tale*, *Weill Women* and *Shaken Not Stirred* (a new musical written in collaboration with composition students). More recently he directed his own updated translation of Offenbach's *Orpheus in the Underworld* and also Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas*. As a Theatre Director he has directed many productions including *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Tempest*, *Abigail's Party*, *The Wanderer*, *Broken Glass*, *The Importance of Being Earnest* and *The Threepenny Opera*. He directed the Scottish premiere of Sondheim's *Into The Woods* and has won several awards for Best Production on the Edinburgh Fringe.

He also works in Italy where he has directed touring productions of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Tempest*, *Twist and Shout*, *The Beatles' Story*, *Jekyll and Hyde*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *A Christmas Carol*, *The Blues Brothers*, *Comedy of Errors* and *Hamlet*.

His collaboration with playwright, Lynne Harvey, includes world premieres of *The Jingo Drill*, *C, Laugh Out Loud* and *Something For The Grown Ups*. *Something For The Grown Ups* marks the start of his collaboration with Lynne as a film director.

For Oyster Opera he has directed *Il Barbiere Di Siviglia*, *Le Nozze Di Figaro*, *La Traviata* and *L'elisir d'amore*.

Recent work includes a highly acclaimed production of *Cosi Fan Tutte* for Oyster Opera at Jackson's Lane Theatre and *HMS Pinafore* for Opera South East.

For the Julian he has been directing since before records began - or so it seems!



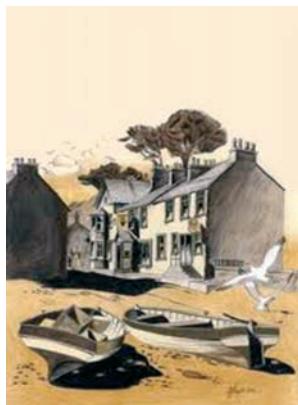
Photo David Usill

Paul Smith - Musical Director

Paul's London shows include *Godspell*, *Stop the World I Want to Get Off*, *Oklahoma*, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead* at the National Theatre, *Paint Your Wagon*, *The Tempest* and *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes* in Regents Park. Paul was musical director for Howard Goodall's new musical *Days of Hope* and for Danny La Rue, Ronnie Corbet and Anthony Newly on stage and on television. His cabaret and concert work have taken him all over the world, playing for Carolyn Allen, Pam Ayres, Sheila Steafel and Janie Dee. He has a wealth of experience in Victorian Music Hall and has played and arranged shows worldwide. He was resident M.D. at the Players Theatre for a number of years. He is a guest conductor for the British Festival Concert Orchestra for their classical and contemporary concerts. This is Paul's seventh show with JLOS.

Production Credits

DIRECTOR
Fraser Grant



MUSICAL DIRECTOR
Paul Smith

Production Concept
Production Co-ordinator
Costume Hire
Other Costumes
Scenery Design & Construction
Lighting
Stage Manager
Front of House
Box Office
Publicity
Programme
Publicity & Programme Artwork
Make-Up
Chorus Master & Repetiteur
Production Photography
Projections

Fraser Grant, Martin Jarvis
Debbie Edwards
Opera South East, Stage World, Admiral
Anahit Cahill & The Company
Martin Jarvis & Crew
Francois Langton
Kevin McCarthy
Friends of JLOS
Questors Theatre
Edwin Owen & James D'Souza
Alan Whitworth
Martin Jarvis
Greasepaint
Jan Cunningham
XMO4.com
Fraser Grant

THE JULIAN LIGHT OPERATIC ORCHESTRA

Leader	Yuko Matsumoto	Flute	Matt Smith
Violin 1	Yuko Matsumoto	Oboe	Francis Slack
	Henry Webster	Clarinet	Tara Martin
Violin 2	Alan Titherington	Bassoon	Iona Garvie
	Sam Spence/Julia Hart	Horn	Robert Fant
Viola	Nicky Pound	Trumpet	Jonathan Spencer
Cello	Cameron Smith	Trombones	Don Logie, David Horden
Double Bass	Josef Bisits	Percussion	Dave Neville

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