THE GONDOLIERS
or
The King of Barataria

THE CAST

The Duke of Plaza-Toro (a Grandee of Spain) .................................. Michael J. Kraklio
The Duchess of Plaza-Toro ............................................................. Deborah Haas
Casilda (their daughter) ............................................................... Christine Wagner
Luiz (their attendant) ................................................................. Thomas Barth
Don Alhambra del Bolero (the Grand Inquisitor) ............................ Robert Sherrane
Inez (the King's foster-mother) ..................................................... Kathryn Floraug

Venetian Gondoliers:
Marco Palmieri ............................................................................... Joe Andrews
Giuseppe Palmieri .......................................................................... Waldyn Benbenek
Antonio ............................................................................................ Stuart Holland
Francesco ....................................................................................... Michael Zieghahn
Giorgio ........................................................................................... LeRoy Altermatt
Annibale ......................................................................................... Richard Rames

Contadine:
Gianetta .......................................................................................... Mary Frankson
Tessa ................................................................................................ Mary Gregory
Fiametta ............................................................................................ Kathy Hering
Vittoria ............................................................................................ Susan Korblick
Giulia .............................................................................................. Lynne Hicks

English Tourists .............................................................................. Andy Forgacs
Margaret Sullivan / Mary Mescher Benbenek
Baker's Boy .................................................................................... Jamie Brooks / Molly O'Donnell
Laundress's Girl .............................................................................. Melissa Fribe / Maureen Hicks
Old Giacopo ................................................................................... Warren Loud

Chorus of Contadine and Townswomen:
Stephanie Brody ............................................................................... Marcia Hill
Kathryn Floraug ............................................................................. Susan Korblick
Diane Dinndorf Fribe ....................................................................... Jennifer LaSalle
Kathy Hering .................................................................................. Holly MacDonald
Lynne Hicks .................................................................................... Susan Nickel
Karen Remus .................................................................................. Cyndi Sturtz
Rhea Sullivan .................................................................................. Holly Windle

Chorus of Gondoliers, Townsmen, Attendants & Guards:
LeRoy Altermatt ............................................................................... Roger Evans
Tom Bauer ........................................................................................ Stephen Hage
Ernest Brody ................................................................................... Craig D. Holje
James Brooks ................................................................................... Stuart Holland
Peter Erickson .................................................................................. Warren Loud
Karen Remus .................................................................................. Cyndi Sturtz
Rhea Sullivan .................................................................................. Holly Windle
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Rhea Sullivan .................................................................................. Holly Windle

Understudies: LeRoy Altermatt, Thomas Barth, Mary Mescher Benbenek, James Brooks, Kathryn Floraug, Andy Forgacs, Stephen Hage, Kathy Hering, Stuart Holland, Lynne Hicks, Susan Korblick, Richard Rames, Gordon Staff, Margaret Sullivan, Rhea Sullivan, Holly Windle, Michael Zieghahn

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Act I: The Piazzetta, Venice
Act II: Pavillon in the Palace of Barataria, three months later

There will be one intermission
+++*

~ No eating or drinking is allowed in the theatre ~
~ No smoking is permitted in the building ~
~ The use of flash cameras is strictly forbidden ~
While W. S. Gilbert enjoyed poking fun at the institutions of his day, he loved even more to aim his darts at idealists who tried to improve them. If Utopianism is the idea that man can create a perfect social order if he tinkers long enough, then the Savoy operas reflect Gilbert's poor opinion of man as tinkerer. Royalty, the House of Lords, the Courts of Chancery (or dare I say Congress?) all have frailties worth mocking, but Gilbert saw man as the source of those frailties rather than the institutions themselves. Reform only replaces one kind of silliness with another.

In The Gondoliers, Marco and Giuseppe use their sudden advancement to make Barataria a republic where all departments are equal and everyone is the head of his department. The only way the two can justify their privileges as kings is to work harder than anyone else at court—which means setting the table and taking turn as palace guards along with more traditional royal duties. Gilbert contrasts their work ethic with that of the "shady" Duke and Duchess of Plaza-Toro who, though penniless, would rather cash in on their rank than do an honest day's labor.

However, the Grand Inquisitor is on hand to ensure that the rightful heir to the throne is found, no matter who he is or how he has been raised. The real king, when revealed, has no more obvious leadership ability than anyone else on stage, true love notwithstanding. But in Barataria, as in any other of the G & S worlds, it really doesn't matter.

—Lesley Hendrickson

SYNOPSIS

Act I—Among the merchants and idlers along the canals of Venice, a group of contadine (peasant women) are making bouquets of roses, in preparation for the great event—the selection of brides by the two most eligible bachelor gondoliers, Marco and Giuseppe Palmieri. When the brothers arrive, they at least make a show of indifference, making their selection blindfolded (of course, they wind up with their intended mates, Gianetta and Tessa, anyway). All dance off to prepare for the wedding.

An impoverished Spanish noble family, the Duke and Duchess of Plaza-Toro, now arrive with their daughter, Casilda, "and suite" (one servant, Luiz, who plays the drum). They have come to find the noble husband to whom Casilda was betrothed in infancy, the heir to the throne of Barataria (a mythical island kingdom). The prince is now to succeed to the throne, with Casilda as his queen. When the Duke and Duchess leave, it is revealed that Casilda is in love with Luiz. Her parents return with The Grand Inquisitor, who explains that as a result of the plot to conceal the infant prince (in order to raise him in the proper religion), there is now some slight difficulty in identifying him. The old gondolier who raised him had mixed him up with his own baby, so all that is now known is that the new king is either Marco or Giuseppe Palmieri. The only person who can identify the true heir is the prince's old nurse, Inez, who is now being sought. Until she names the true king, both gondoliers will be sent to Barataria to rule jointly.

The Grand Inquisitor gets a rude shock when he discovers that not only have the two gondoliers just married, but they are anti-royalist "republicans." When told they will rule Barataria, they imagine how to improve monarchy so all are equal. The Grand Inquisitor insists that the kings leave their wives behind; but they can take all the other gondoliers and give them positions in government. The act closes as the men take a tearful leave of the women and sail away.

Act II—Three months have passed, and the new order of government in Barataria seems to involve the two kings performing most of the work themselves. The women, tired of waiting in Venice, arrive suddenly, occasioning great rejoicing. The Grand Inquisitor now must explain to the kings that one of them is "an unintentional bigamist." Tessa and Gianetta overhear, and are understandably upset; additionally so, since it is now clear that neither of them will be queen.

The Duke and Duchess now appear, in resplendent attire, having parlayed their rank into a fortune through a stock offering (The Duke of Plaza-Toro, Limited). Alone with Marco and Giuseppe, Casilda confesses that she is in love with someone else, and the gondoliers admit that their condition, too. As they are flummoxing over their predicament, the old nurse, Inez, is announced. She reveals the identity of the true king, to the satisfaction of all.
PRODUCTION STAFF

Stage Director .................................................. Lesley Hendrickson
Music Director ................................................. Carolyn Davies
Artistic Director ............................................... Wendy Evans

Set Designer ...................................................... Mathew LeFebvre
Set Construction Leader ................................. Randy York
Lead Scenic Artist ........................................ Mathew LeFebvre
Set Construction and Painting ......................... William & Anne Arndt, Jane Baird
                                                  Scott Benson, Becky Birkholz, Julie Delton, Dirk Farlan
                                                  Deanna Franke, Lesley Hendrickson, Bob Hunter
                                                  Peggie Kennedy, Max Langert, Pat McGuire
Christine Spiritwolf, Randy York, John Zech, and cast members
Properties Manager ........................................ Cindy Edmon
Hand Prop Construction ..................................... cast members
Vegetables & Cheeses ........................................ Karen Remus

Costume Designer ............................................. Mathew LeFebvre
Costume Builder ............................................. Donna Cunningham
Costume Construction ................................. Wendy Evans, Anne Forgacs, Eva Hollox
                                                  Vinnie Houser, Pat McGuire, Charlene Schreiber
                                                  Barb Vojtech, Barb Webber, and cast members
Wardrobe Mistress ........................................... Anne Forgacs
Makeup Supervisor ............................................. Robert Sherrane
Lighting Designer ............................................. Bill Devins
Lighting Technicians ................................. Scott Benson, Michael Hicks, Bob Hunter
                                                  Peggie Kennedy, Janna Kysilko, Charlotte Morrison
Audio-Visual Technician .................................... Bob Johannce
Chorus Master .................................................. Elizabeth Swanson
Stage Manager .................................................. Jan Dickinson
Poster Design .................................................. Janet Skalicky
Poster Printing ................................................ Greg Burns, Weston Engraving
Lobby Display ............................................... Stephen Hage, Ernest Brody, Roger Evans
Photography ..................................................... Roger Evans, Stephen Hage
House Manager ................................................ Mary Kuebhorn
Assistant House Manager .................................. Judy Warren
House Staff Recruitment ................................. Kathryn Florhaug
Ticket Sales ...................................................... Katie Lowry

The Board:
Producer ....................................................... Stephen Hage
Vice Producer ................................................... Holly Windle
Labour Pool Coordinators ............................ Scott Benson, Holly MacDonald
Publicity ........................................................... Joe Andrews
Treasurer ............................................................. Richard Rames
Secretary ........................................................... Tom Barth
Chorus Representatives ................................. Warren Loud, Margaret Sullivan

ORCHESTRA

Violin .............................................................. Milton Wright (Concertmaster), Chris Bannon
                                                  Sister Pat Binko, Anne Duff, Elaine Evans, Sarah Hohenstein
                                                  Dawn Kuzma, Paula Larson, Eva Mengel, Gary Rauk
                                                  Kirstin Thompson, Rachel Ulvin, Agnes Wolf, Linda Werner
Viola ............................................................. Gary Hanson, Gretchen Hinkie
                                                  Scott Olsen, Don Olson, Tom Rognsvog
Cello ............................................................... Coral Bastien, John Litch
Bass ................................................................. Bob Salter
Flute ............................................................... Sari Fried, Katie Lowry
Clarinet ............................................................ Barb Hovey, Tom Legare
Oboe ................................................................. Linnea Schilling
Bassoon ............................................................. Debbie Johannce, Stewart Schroeder
Horn ................................................................. Martha Bentley, Ellen Sorenson, Jim Streich
Trumpet ............................................................. Bob Hirte, Bob Zobal
Trombone .......................................................... Greg Michnay, John Nielsen, Larry Perry, Brian Wistrom
Percussion ......................................................... Jim Streich

Rehearsal Pianists ......................................... Lisa Connolly, Ann Hammond, Kris Henderson
                                                  Sarah Hohenstein, Steven Norquist, Jean Van Heel


**Act I:**

Till then, enjoy your *dolce far niente* – delightful idleness
With pleasure, nobody *contradicente* – if nobody disagrees
*Ben venuti* – welcome
*Gondolieri carissimi! Siamo contadine!* – Dearest gondoliers! We are peasant girls!
*servitori umilissimi!* – most humble servants!
*Per chi questi fiori bellissimi?* – For whom are these most beautiful flowers?
*Per voi, bei signori, O eccellissimi!* – For you, dear gentlemen, oh most excellent ones!
*O ciel!* – Oh, heaven!
*Buon giorno, cavalieri* – Good morning, gentlemen
*Siamo gondolieri / poveri gondolieri.* – We are gondoliers / poor gondoliers.
*Signorina, io t’amo! / Contadine stiamo.* – Lady, I love you! / Peasant girls are we.
Since we were *short-coated* – wearing children’s clothes

**Castilian Hidalgo of 95 quarterings** – Spanish nobleman, with 95 families in his heraldic shield, representing a fabulous array of noble ancestry.

The *halberdiers* are mercenary people – Guardsmen armed with ax-like spears
Married *by proxy* – with someone acting on your behalf, in your absence
very knowing, overflowing, easygoing *Paladin* – heroic, chivalrous knight of old
To men of *grosier clay* – of less distinguished and noble blood (clay = body)
*Jing!* isn’t she? – Slender and elegant

Teach him the trade of a *Timonier* – from French *timonier*, helmsman or steersman
lying a corpse on his humble *bier* – the stand on which a corpse or coffin is placed
your objections are not *insuperable* – impossible to overcome
’tis a glorious thing, *I ween*, to be a regular Royal Queen! – I fancy, or believe
She’ll *bear away the bell* – take first prize, win the contest
the Chancellor in his *peruke* – powdered wig

Aristocrat who banks with *Coutts* – long-established London bank, used by royalty
the noble lord who cleans the *plate* – silver or gold tableware or ornaments

**Act II:**

Of happiness the very *pith* in Barataria you may see – essence

This form of government we find / *The beau ideal of its kind* – model of excellence
we may hold a Royal *Levee* – a court reception or gathering, in morning or early afternoon
spend an hour in *tritivating* all our Gentlemen-in-Waiting – sprucing up, smartening
the *Garter* or the *Thistle* or the *Bath* – high orders of knighthood
toddle off in *semi-state* – dressed for ordinary ceremonial occasions; but no crown, etc.
having *passed* the *Rubicon* – the point of no return; a river significantly crossed by Caesar
Take a pretty little *cot* – cottage

Dance a *cachucha, fandango, bolero* – lively Spanish dances

*Xeres* we’ll drink—*Manzanilla, Montero* – Xeres is sherry, the others are varieties of it

*Tuck in his tuppenny* – schoolboy slang used in leapfrog, meaning “duck his head,”
tuppenny meaning two-penny coin, referring to the head

at *junket* or at *jink* – words for merrymaking

must be content with *toddy* – drink of distilled spirits, sugar, and hot water. Rich people drank wine, while beer and distilled spirits were drunk by the less well-off.

Lord Chancellors were cheap as *sprats* – small fish, like anchovies or sardines
up goes the price of *shoddy* – cheap fabric made from reclaimed wool
I tried to tame your great *progenitor* – father

with *double-shotted guns and colours nailed unto the mast* – cannons loaded with twice the usual shot (a reckless tactic) and flag nailed so it cannot be lowered in surrender

*MPs baronetted, sham colonels gazetted* – Members of Parliament raised to the rank of baronet (above knight), The London Gazette listed government appointments

Quote me as their great *double-barrel* – one with a hyphenated name, signifying status
I sit ... upon the direction of several Companies *bubble* – a delusive scheme
merrily crying our “*premio*” “*stall!*” – calls used by gondoliers to avoid collisions
Contributors

Jack & Jane Allison  •  Stephen D. Anderson  •  Dirk Ferlen & Jane Baird  •  Phillip Bergem  •  Margaret Boehm  •  Douglas Brown  •  Dr. Charles J. Bultock  •  Armine Boyadjian  •  Laurie & Terry Brooks  •  Robert R. Burns  •  Katherine M. Campbell  •  Kurt C. Canada  •  Ruth Cardinal  •  Hatim Carim  •  Jerry Cassidy  •  Peter Coffey  •  Jim Cotter  •  James Cullen  •  Frank Dowding  •  Anita & H. G. Dreisbach  •  Jean Eastman  •  Jeanne Eddy  •  M. Donald Ellsworth  •  Delores Erickson  •  Elizabeth B. Erickson  •  Leonard P. Erickson  •  Donald Fabian  •  Linda Fernandez  •  Sharon Feuer  •  Richard Fishel  •  Anna Lou Ford  •  John Glasenapp  •  Robert H. Golder  •  Ed Grant  •  Carol & Walter Griffin  •  Burch Gustafson  •  Paul Hanke  •  David & Ryan Henderson  •  Bob & Marge Hennessy  •  Del Holmes  •  Tom & Margaret Holzinger  •  Dorothy E. Horst  •  C. Joseph & Katherine Howard  •  Mrs. C. J. Hoyt  •  Mary Ann Huelster  •  Alice Hughes  •  Nancy Hughes  •  John S. Huizinga  •  James Jacoby  •  Donald F. Johnson  •  Mary Jones  •  Marita Karlisch  •  Barbara & Douglas Kilbourn  •  Jack King  •  Jake Koller  •  Sid & Anita Konikoff & family  •  Arline Krave  •  Curtis Larson  •  Ralph Larson  •  John Lindgren  •  Lynn Lockhart  •  Thor Lyford  •  Roderick & Joanne MacDonald  •  Michael Mack  •  C. Paul Martin  •  John M. Mason  •  Paul Marx  •  Mrs. Jean B. McGough  •  Don Mittelstadt  •  Ralph B. North  •  Katharine Owens  •  Riley Owens  •  Beth Pawlcy  •  Garry F. Peterson  •  Catherine M. Pitz  •  William Plowman  •  John & Marge Pollack  •  Nancy & Bert Portisky  •  Kent & Cynthia Powers  •  Julie Rasmussen  •  Bob & Elie Reid  •  Mr. & Mrs. A. X. Robbins  •  Tom & Beverly Rogers  •  Ruth Rosendahl  •  Jack E. Ross  •  Sue Rufl  •  Gayle Schmick  •  James Schwarz  •  William Sell  •  Judith Shalaby  •  W.K. Sheffield  •  Harold Shimek  •  Gloria Simmons  •  Doris Skalstad  •  Mike Stone  •  Jack Stuckmayer  •  Patricia L. Thomas  •  Steve & Michele Thompson  •  Lilian Wallis  •  Constance Waterous  •  Seth N. Witts  •  Philip J. Worrell  •  John Zimmerschied

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Next year's show will be Ruddigore, or The Witch's Curse, Gilbert's send-up of melodrama, in which the inheritor of a title is terrorized by a portrait-gallery of ancestors who come to life at night and force him to be a "bad Baronet."

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The Gondoliers

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1900 Nicollet Avenue South
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