IOLANTHE
- OR -
The Peer and the Peri
Fridays, March 6th and 13th, 8pm.
Saturdays, March 7th and 14th, 8pm.
Sundays, March 8th and 15th, 3pm.
Howard Conn Fine Arts Center
1900 Nicollet Avenue
Minneapolis, MN

- the Cast -

The Lord Chancellor ........................................ Richard Fishel
The Lord Chancellor's Trainbearer ........................ John Mullin
Lord Mountararat ................................................ Waldyn Benbenek
Lord Tolloller .................................................... Robert Reade
Private Willis (of the Grenadier Guards) .................. Dave Elgethun
Strephon (an Arcadian shepherd) ............................ James Westbrock
Queen of the Fairies ........................................... Gretchen Collins
Iolanthe (a fairy, Strephon's mother) ...................... Sue Ellen O'Connell
Celia ......................................................................... Faith Long
Leila (fairies) .......................................................... Holly Windle
Fleta ........................................................................ Jan Arford
Phyllis (an arcadian shepherdess, and Ward
in Chancery) ......................................................... Annette Mulholland

Chorus of Dukes, Marquises, Earls, Vicounts, Barons, and Fairies:
Herb Beatty, Dave Black, Andy Bowen, Ernest Brody, Stephanie Brody,
Gary Cooper, Dave Elgethun, Peter Erickson, Ray Goins, Joan Guggemos,
Andrea Harlow, Vern Harman, Gratia R. Hart, Natasha Hays, Dean Laurence,
Warren Loud, Helen Matthews, Doug Munro, Gordon Nilsen, Erin Oberdorfer,
Charlotte Overend, Elisa Quart, Richard Rames, Bob Salter, Claudia
Schnitker, Ann Schnitzen, David Tanqueray, Tamsin Tanqueray, Barb Webber

Act I - An Arcadian Landscape
Act II - Palace Yard, Westminster
Date - between 1700 and 1882
Iolanthe was the 6th happy collaboration -- 7th, if you count the lost Thespis -- between William Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan. And, like its predecessors, it was an instant and resounding success. Gilbert's delightful mixture of fantasy, absurdity and politics (one could perhaps argue they are one and the same) when joined with Sullivan's equally adroit amalgam of Mendelssohnian gossamer (Midsummer Night's Dream) and his own rollicking musical idiom has kept the operetta forever green.

THE GILBERT & SULLIVAN

VERY LIGHT OPERA COMPANY

Our company was established in 1979 for the sole purpose of performing the works of those two eminent Victorians. Our first production, Trial by Jury, is still stageworthy and available to any group or organization who might like to use it for entertainment or as a vehicle for fund-raising.

Like any amateur troupe, we're always in need of sopranos, altos, tenors and basses, instrumentalists, designers, costumers, publicity persons, stage managers, -- just about anything. If you'd like to come aboard, leave your name and number with the ticket-taker. We'll be in touch.

Instrumentalists

Clarinet Bob Salter
Flute Jenet Hohn, David Juncker
Oboe Doug Hunro
Trumpet Steve Lea
Production Staff

Music Director
James Hart

Stage Director
Jean Mickelson Black

Designers
Julie A. Mayes
Robert Retig

Choreographer
Sharon Hinck

Piano Accompanist
Joan Thrash

Producer
Waldyn Benbenek
Stage Manager
Dick Lueben
Props
Rita Stough
Master Carpenter
Herb Beatty
Make-up
Holly Windle
Lighting Technicians
Tim Foreman
Eric Swenson

The people who made it all happen:

Technical crews: Holly Windle, Bruce Stough, Ann Schnitzen, Richard Names, Sue Ellen O'Connell, Charlotte Morrison, Dean Laurence, Vern Harman, Joan Guggemos, Peter Erickson, Stephanie and Ernest Brody, Wally Benbenek, Jan Arford

Publicity and House: Barb Webber, Nancy Swenson, Joe and Mary Resmoke, Betty Jane Reed, Gordon Nilsen, Nancy Newcomer, Dick Lueben, Sandra Irwin, John and Joyce Fuhrman, Dick FischeI, Gary Cooper, Mary Jo Bogie

SPECIAL THANKS

Attic Theatre of Concordia College
The Madison Savoyards, Ltd.
Stoughton Town Dump
Minnesota Singers Theatre Company
Park Square Theatre

Prior Lake Players
Skeffington's Formal Wear
79 South Tenth Street
Univ. of Wisconsin, River Falls