

Music Adapted & Arranged by Rob Bowman Book & Lyrics Adapted by David H. Bell

Based on "The MIKADO" by W.S Gilbert & Arthur Sullivan

Originally produced at Ford's Theatre, Washington, D.C. Frankie Hewitt, Producing Director.

23rd - 27th October 2007



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Hot Mikado

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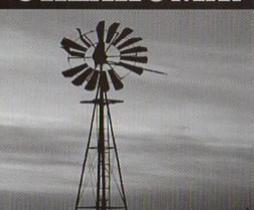
Travelling salesman Harold Hill doesn't know a trombone from a treble clef but, when he visits River City, his fast-talking style convinces the townspeople to buy musical instruments and expensive uniforms in order to form a Boys' Band. Chaos ensues as Hill's credentials are questioned. This joyous musical uncovers the good that's hiding in even the most shameful scoundrel – all played out in songs you'll be humming for weeks to come!

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If you would like to hear about forthcoming shows by being on our mailing lists, including our email list, please phone 07752 795726 or send an email with your details to us at the address below.

We would also love to hear from you if you would like to be involved in any way in future productions. We are always looking for more performers - if you like what you see on stage, come and join us! Help is always needed back stage and front-of-house too. Contact Leslie Gershman on 020 8807 7997 for more details.

If you are interested in advertising in future programmes please contact Julia Harris on 020 8360 5771.

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Message from the Chairman



Hello and welcome to our autumn production of 2007 and my last Chairman's message as I am to retire from my position this winter. This autumn's production is Hot Mikado, a jazzed-up version of Gilbert and Sullivan's classic The Mikado. Hot Mikado, includes such songs as Three Little Maids Are We, I Am So Proud and the classic Tit Willow. We welcome back Clive Bebee to direct this show in his usual original and excellent interpretation. We also have a fantastic cast and it is just great to see new members getting principal roles yet again. It is also nice to see that this production has all been cast within the group, so no thanks to guest artists this time.

By now you have realised that we always strive to bring you top quality entertainment and I know this is what we are achieving from the feedback you give us. Thanks for your continued support, without you it would be a quiet night! We are a dynamic company and one that welcomes new members, especially men! Whether you are interested in being on stage, off stage or involved in other activities that a drama company needs to keep going, then ELODS is for you. If you feel you would like to find out more then please visit our comprehensive website www.elods.org.uk or ask a cast member after the show for details. Remember, you don't have to be a West End theatre star to join us, but you may become one! Why not find out more?

As an organisation, we are always getting involved in supplying entertainment to other companies, societies and charities when not performing shows. If you feel you would like us to come along and entertain your company, society or organisation with music, singing, magic and drama, then please contact us via the website www.elods.org.uk.

May I, as retiring chairman, take this opportunity to thank all those who have helped to keep the society going during my terms in office. Also a big thanks to everyone who has helped to get this show ready. Those unsung heroes, as I like to call them. There are so many of you and to avoid the embarrassment of missing someone out I thank you all. However, I would like to thank Frank Bundle our stage manager for his vision and skills in designing and building yet another fantastic set. Remember the carousel in last year's autumn production? That was also designed and built by our Frank. Without Frank and others' continued efforts and commitment, this and other shows just would not happen. Thank you one and all. May I also say a big thank you to all our programme advertisers who support us every year. Your support means a lot to us. If you would like to advertise with us, then please contact Julia Harris 020 8360 5771.

I know for a fact you will enjoy this particular show, it's jazzy, it's fast and it's fun. Thanks Clive, another brilliant show. So nothing remains now but to say 'Doumo arigatou gozai-masuto' (thanks a lot for coming) and we hope you enjoy the show. The new chairperson and company look forward to seeing you again for our next production, *Annie* on 8th – 12th April 2008. Until then. Sayounara.



Kindest regards Mark Bilsby

What Is 'Hot Mikado'?

Hot Mikado takes the classic Gilbert and Sullivan tale and updates it to the 1940s. Young Nanki-Poo the Mikado's son masquerading as a second trumpet player, arrives in the town of Titipu looking for the beautiful Yum-Yum. After bribing various officials he learns that she is to be married to a former tailor turned Lord High Executioner, Ko-Ko. Meanwhile the Mikado demands that Ko-Ko execute one person within the next month. Nanki- Poo agrees to be executed as long as he can spend a month as Yum-Yum's husband. However, the plan goes awry when the Mikado makes a suprise visit to Titipu and brings with him Katisha, an older woman who is persuing Nanki-Poo. Luckily Nanki-Poo is not executed because he is the Mikado's long lost son. Ko-Ko and Katisha fall in love so Nanki-poo and Yum-Yum can stay married and all live happily ever after. Amen.

The Mikado, the 19th century operetta by Sir William Gilbert and Sir Arthur Sullivan, was the biggest musical comedy sensation of the Victorian era. Gilbert set his opera in imperial Japan supposedly because a Japanese sword that fell off his wall inspired him. More likely it was because London was undergoing a craze for everything Japanese, and a musical set there would sell. The Mikado, though set in Japan and filled with Japanese references, names and glorious costumes, was really about English morality and satirized the British love of propriety and legality. The success of the show was something many writers and producers tried to cash in on and in 1920s America there were productions such as 'Cool Mikado', 'Jazz Mikado' and 'Swing Mikado'. They showed very little regard for the original authors and were financially disastrous.

In the 1930s, producer Mike Todd created 'Hot Mikado' taking the G & S musical, retaining its plot but changing the lyrics to reflect the times, and jazzing up the music, adding swing rythms, blues numbers and an all black cast, headed by Bill Bojangles Robinson. The show was still set in Japan and featured Gilbert's British satire, plus plenty of jokes about the political situation in 1939 depression era New York. The music was still Sullivan's but with a very different beat, and it was immediately successful. In 1986, Alliance Theatre Company director David H Bell wanted to revive Hot Mikado but discovered that what little remained of the original was mostly Sullivan's music performed by an all black cast. So he and musical director Rob Bowman created their own adaptation which premiered at Ford's Theatre in Washington DC and then went on to become a huge hit in London's West End.



Researched by Bob Jones

Cast of Characters

The Mikado – David Dowse Nanki-Poo – Nick Corden Yum-Yum – Alison Bilsby

Pitti-Sing - Natalie Butler

Peep-Bo - Sunny Carter

Pish-Tush - Phil Crocker

Ko-Ko - Mark Bilsby

Pooh-Bah - Howard Wright

Katisha - Caroline Cody

Gentlemen of Japan

Richard Bodek Roger Eames Leslie Gershman Bob Jones Mark Shaw Nick White

Ladies of Japan

Sandra Ashworth
Laura Cody
Fiona Cuthbert
Naomi Delamore
Erica Griffith
Julia Harris
Greta Jenkins
Savella Kitanos
Leanne Lynch
Marjolein Out
Sally Pearson
Helen White



Cast



David Dowse The Mikado Due to type face settings we could not reproduce Dave's biography - it was in Japanese!



Nic Corden Nanki-Poo



Nic has been involved in musicals since his school days in Devon. He carried those experiences with him to university putting on several shows with his college. Previous roles have included, Riff in West Side Story and more recently Judd Fry in Oklahoma!. He is delighted to be in his first show with ELODS, especially having landed the lead role!



Alison Bilsby Yum-Yum

Alison is absolutely delighted to be playing the part of Yum-Yum in this production. Previous favourite roles with ELODS include Barbara in Billy and Lady Jacqueline in Me & My Girl. Alison dedicates her performance both to the wonderful team at Mount Vernon and to her late father. She sincerely hopes that you will all enjoy the show as much as she does!



Natalie Butler Pitti-Sing

This is Natalie's third production with ELODS but her first as a named character! Previously Natalie was an active member of SACOS where her leading roles have included Nelly Forbush in South Pacific and Ado Annie in Oklohomo!. Natalie has trained in both Acting and Musical Theatre at Chichester College and Mountview. She is delighted to be able to call ELODS 'home'.



Sunny Carter Peep-Bo

Sunny has played the lead role in a wide variety of musicals, sometimes even concurrently with all the minor roles too! Unfortunately, her audience of the inside of the shower or the traffic on the M25 has been rather reticent with applause, so she is very excited about the prospect of even one person feebly clapping her in Hot Mikado.

Sunny hasn't performed with ELODS for ages as she has been too busy chasing various sporting objects around fields. She was absolutely delighted to be playing Peep-Bo as she thought she could use these skills to chase her lost sheep, but alas she hasn't been able to find them yet.



Phil Crocker Pish-Tush

Phil has been in Hot Mikado before and is really looking forward to playing the character of Pish Tush. Phil has been a member of ELODS since 2003, and his previous roles have included Cliff in Cabaret (2004), Noah in Oliver! (2007) and the Pirate with the broken Leg in Pirates of Penzance (a late breaking role).



Mark Bilsby Ko-Ko

I am honoured to have been asked to play the part of Ko-Ko in this year's autumn production of Hot Mikado. I personally have enjoyed the challenges that this part has brought and having undertaken other parts in previous shows such as Mike Connors in High Society, Billis in South Pacific and Motel in Fiddler on the Roof. Should I ever be asked "was acting in this show the most rewarding?", I would have to reply in all honesty "I should KO KO"! Kochira koso.



Howard Wright Pooh-Bah

Howard is really enjoying playing Pooh-Bah in this updated version of his favourite G&S show. Favourite past roles for ELODS and other local groups include Billy Flynn in Chicago, Judge Turpin in Sondheim's Sweeney Todd, Judd Fry in Oklahoma!, The Pirate King in Pirates of Penzance and the Governor in The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas.

Howard would like to stress that Pooh-Bah is no relation to the ever popular Winnie The Pooh.



Caroline Cody Katisha

Caroline is delighted to be playing another 'old bag' having found her 'niche' in amateur dramatics! After playing Ruth in The Pirates of Penzance, Golde in Fiddler on the Roof and in ELODS' previous show, Oliver!, Widow Corney/Mrs Bumble word must have got around as Caroline was recently asked to play Red Riding Hood's Granny, Cinderello's mother and the Giant in Act4 Theatre's production of Into the Woods in July this year. Caroline is a teacher at a junior school in Enfield where she is also the Special Needs co-ordinator.

Musical Synopsis - Act One

Time: The 1940s

Place: The Town "Square" of Titipu

Opening - Instrumental

We Are Gentlemen Of Japan - Pish-Tush, Gentlemen

A Wand'Ring Minstrel I - Nanki-Poo, Gentlemen

Minstrel Tap Dance - Instrumental

Minstrel Tag - Nanki Poo, Gentlemen

And The Drums Will Crash - Pooh-Bah, Nanki-Poo, Gentlemen

Behold The Lord High Executioner - Ko-Ko, Gentlemen

I've Got A Little List - Ko-Ko, Gentlemen

List Play-Off - Gentlemen

Three Little Maids - Yum-Yum, Peep-Bo, Pitti-Sing

This is What I'll Never Do - Nanki-Poo, Yum-Yum

I Am So Proud - Pooh-Bah, Ko-Ko, Pish-Tush

Pre-Throng - Ko-Ko, Nanki-Poo, Yum-Yum, Pitti-Sing, Peep-Bo, Pish-Tush, Pooh-Bah, Ensemble

Let The Throng Our Joy Advance - Nanki-Poo, Yum-Yum, Pitti-Sing, Peep Bo, Pish-Tush, Pooh-Bah, Ko-Ko, Ensemble

Katisha's Entrance - Katisha, Yum-Yum, Nanki-Poo

For He's Gonna Marry Yum-Yum - Pitti-Sing, Ensemble

The Hour Of Gladness - Katisha

Finale - Katisha, Yum-Yum, Pitti-Sing, Nanki-Poo, Ensemble



Musical Synopsis – Act Two

The lights rise on Titipu decorated with lights for the upcoming wedding.

Braid The Raven Hair - Pish Tush, Ensemble

Pre-Sun - Instrumental

The Sun and I - Yum-Yum

Swing A Merry Madrigal - Yum-Yum, Pitti-Sing, Pish-Tush, Nanki-Poo, Ensemble

Here's A Howdy Do - Yum-Yum, Nanki-Poo, Ko-Ko

Entrance Of The Mikado - Intrumental

The Mikado Song - Mikado

Mikado Dance I - Instrumental

The Mikado Song Cont - Mikado, Ensemble

The Mikado Song Cont - Mikado, Ensemble

Alone and Yet Alive - Katisha

Tit-Willow - Ko-Ko

Beauty In The Bellow - Katisha, Ko-Ko

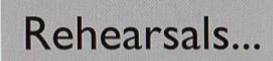
Finale - Nanki-Poo, Yum-Yum, Pish-Tush, Mikado, Ensemble

























Production Team - The Directors



Clive Bebee Director/Choreographer
This is Clive's sixth show for
ELODS having directed How to

ELODS having directed How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying, Sugar, Best Little Whorehouse in Texas, The Boardwalk Gondoliers

(which he also adapted the dialogue and lyrics for and played Marco in) and Cabaret. Clive spends his time either directing or performing. He is directing Kismet for Southgate Opera at this theatre in two weeks time and next May he assails Sondheims' Follies for PHEOS Musical Players in Rickmansworth. Clive sings Gilbert & Sullivan professionally with the Grimsdyke Opera at W. S. Gilbert's last home The Grimsdyke Hotel, Harrow Weald. He now lives in South East London.

Mark Newport - Musical Director

Mark is currently The Associate Musical Director of Les Miserables, for which he has conducted performances in



both London's West End and on the UK tour. Other West End credits include Woman In White, Sunset Boulevard, Phantom of the Opera, Starlight Express, Martin Guerre, Bombay Dreams, Chicago, and The Goodbye Girl. As Musical

Director he has performed at Sadler's Wells, The Mermaid (Royal Gala), Whitehall and Bloomsbury theatres. He was also Assistant Conductor for Opera East on six national tours. Mark is a member of the musical staff at the Guildford School of Acting and also Mountview. Hot Mikado will be Mark's 43rd show for ELODS!

Production Team

The Production Team

Stage Manager – Frank Bundle
Lighting – Steve Bates
Sound – Tom Course
Set – The Company
Wardrobe – Hilary Thorne
Properties – Eleanor Glazer
Photos – Mark Bilsby
Poster Design – Caroline Cody
Ticket Secretary – Michelle Shaw
Mailing List – Helen White,
Sally Pearson
Front of House – Andy and Stella
Kitanos
Advertising – Julia Harris
Programme – Stewart Leather,

For Wyllyotts Theatre

General Manager Ginny Williams

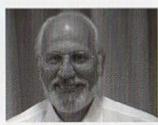
Operations Manager Christopher Edwards

Technical Manager Graham Cutting

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Quality Manager Wendy Ayre

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Frank Bundle, Stage Manager

Samantha Stringle



Eleanor Glazer, Properties and Hilary Thorne, Wardrobe

ELODS would like to thank the following people: the members of the orchestra, all the technical team and backstage crew, the chaperone, the first aiders at the Wyllyotts Theatre, Andy and Stella Kitanos, the front of house volunteers, all our advertisers, Data Connection for their generous sponsorship, and the 'Friends' of ELODS.





A funny thing happened one night in the pub...

'You two can dance, can't you?' asked Sal, the barmaid. My friend Joyce and I looked at each other and then back to Sal 'Er, yes?' we said together, quizzically. Sal then proceeded to explain that dancers were desperately needed (they must have been desperate!) in the next musical she was doing with her local amateur dramatic society, and would we be interested. After some deliberation, I said to my friend 'I will, if you will?'

That was 1978 and I've been part of ELODS ever since. Twenty nine years ago! I can't believe it!? My how time flies when you're enjoying yourself!

Seriously though, I have really enjoyed my years with ELODS. We have put on some really fabulous shows and it has been a pleasure and an honour to be part of it.

Rehearsals are always fun even though we often get shouted at by the Director and/or Musical Director, and afterwards some of us go on to the local pub to analyse the evening and to get to know each other better. Joe, my husband, still can't believe that we don't get time to 'chat' to each other during rehearsals. But I always tell him that we only have to talk 'shop' (honest Mr Director!!)

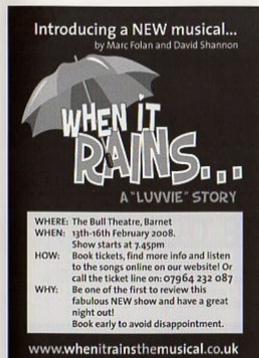
I have met some great people over the years, most of whom have become my lifelong friends.

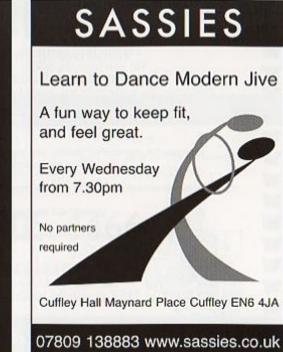
If you ever get the same chance as I did - don't hesitate - go for it!

Thanks Sal.

Julia Harris









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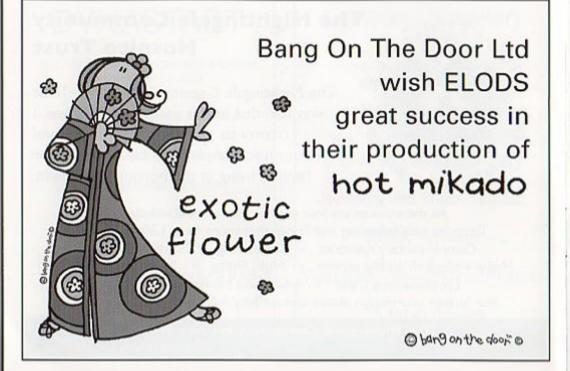
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ELODS past productions

1953	Trial by Jury	1985	The Sorcerer
1954	HMS Pinafore		Oklahoma!
1955	The Gondoliers	1986	The Mikado
1956	Iolanthe & Patience		Oh! What A Lovely War
1957	The Mikado	1987	Finians Rainbow & Cabaret
1958	Yeoman of the Guard	1988	Godspell & Goldilocks
1959	Trial by Jury		The Three Bears
1960	The Pirates of Penzance	1989	The Pirates of Penzance
1961	The Gondoliers		Chicago
	The Gypsy Baron	1990	The Pyjama Game
1962	Iolanthe		Little Mary Sunshine
1963	HMS Pinafore	1991	The Good Companions
1964	Brigadoon		Princess Ida
1965	The Mikado	1992	Half A Sixpence
1966	La Belle Helene		Guys and Dolls
	Trial by Jury	1993	Kiss Me Kate
1967	Ruddigore		The Wizard of Oz
1968	Lilac Time	1994	Fiddler On the Roof
	Music Hall		The Mikado
1969	Yeoman of the Guard	1995	42nd Street Anything Goes
1970	Merrie England	1996	Billy
	Me and My Girl		Annie
1971	Orpheus in the Underworld	1997	Sweet Charity
	G & S Concert & Music Hall		High Society
1972	Brigadoon & The Boyfriend	1998	My Fair Lady & Godspell
	G & S Concert	1999	Crazy For You
1973	Oklahoma & The Mikado		Me and My Girl
1974	The Pyjama Game & Salad	2000	How to Succeed in Business
	Days		Oklahoma!
1975	Fiddler on the Roof	2001	Hello, Dolly
	How to Succeed in Business	1000000	The Best Little Whorehouse
1976	Iolanthe & Music Hall		in Texas
1977	Flappers and Flannels	2002	Sugar
100000	Maid of the Mountain		Fiddler on the Roof
1978	Oh! What a Lovely War	2003	The Boardwalk Gondoliers
	Orpheus In The Underworld		South Pacific
1979	Free As Air & The Arcadians	2004	Cabaret
1980	Music Hall & Cabaret		Calamity Jane
1981	Carousel & Call Me Madam	2005	The Pirates of Penzance
1982	Sweet Charity & The Card	2006	High Society
1983	Memories & The Gondoliers		Carousel
1984	States Alive	2007	Oliver!
	Fiddler On The Roof		





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ANNIE

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