



The Gondoliers

HASTINGS MUNICIPAL THEATRE

Wednesday, May 17th — Saturday, May 20th

Presented by
THE HASTINGS OPERATIC SOC. (INC.)

Synopsis

ACT I

Before the Opera opens, certain events have taken place. There was an insurrection in the mythical country of Barataria, where "bigoted and persecuting Methodists" take control and the Grand Inquisitor spirits away the heir to the throne and hides him in Venice with a worthy but alcoholic Gondolier who promptly muddles the boy with his own son and then dies without resolving the puzzle.

The Opera opens in Venice, about twenty years later when the two "sons" of this Gondolier are carrying on the trade of their father and have reached the point in their lives where they are looking for a wife. They settle on two attractive flower girls (with more than a little help from the girls themselves) and having married them, are about to embark on their new life, when the Grand Inquisitor confronts them with the astonishing news that one of them (but he doesn't know which) is the heir to the Throne of Barataria! (Unknown to the four young people at this stage is the alarming fact that this one, whichever it is, was married in babyhood to Casilda, beautiful daughter of the Duke and Duchess of Plaza-Toro, highly born, but penniless aristocrats, who have arrived in Venice at the Grand Inquisitor's invitation.

The only person who knows the true identity of the King is Inez, an old nurse, who can be found only with a great deal of trouble and delay. Therefore until she arrives, Marco and Giusoppe (the Gondoliers) are to be separated from their newly-acquired wives Gianetta and Tessa and they sail away to Barataria to rule jointly until it is discovered which one is the King (and therefore already married) and which is Gondolier (and therefore able to have the lady of his choice).

ACT II

The Gondoliers do not find Kingship completely to their liking and are duly elated when their wives suddenly and illegally invade the Palace. The Duke and Duchess of Plaza-Toro, this time flourishing in the unexpected luxury of money, fraudulently obtained, also arrive to present their daughter as the new Queen of Barataria and the three girls try to work out how they can share two husbands between them. It is left to Inez, the old nurse, to provide the solution to the problem.



Principals

Duke of Plaza Toro	—	Brian Overend
Duchess	—	Greta Hawtin
Casilda	—	Christine Gale
Gianetta	—	Carolyn Leese
Tessa	—	Vicky Joplin
Marco	—	Jim Sweatman
Giuseppe	—	Carl Jamieson
Luiz	—	Peter Pangari
Don Alhambra	—	John Doig
Fiametta	—	Alison Closs
Vittoria	—	Marcia Clark
Givlia	—	Anne Tunnicliffe
Antonio	—	Henk van Hooijdonk
Giogio	—	Bob Loster
Inez	—	Jean Campbell
Annibale	—	Ross Pullen

Musical Numbers

CHORUS OF CONTADINE (with Solos) (Gondoliers, Antonio, Marco and Giuseppe, "List and Learn"	...	...
ENTRANCE OF Duke, Duchess, Casilda and Luiz, "From the sunny Spanish shore"	...	...
SONG (Duke of Plaza-Toro), "In enterprise of martial kind"	...	...
RECIT. AND DUET (Casilda and Luiz), "O rapture, when alone together"	...	...
DUET (Casilda and Luiz), "There was a time"	...	...
SONG (Don Alhambra, with Duke, Duchess, Casilda and Luiz), "I stole the Prince"	...	...
RECIT. (Casilda and Don Alhambra), "But, bless my heart"	...	...
QUINTET (Duke, Duchess, Casilda, Luiz and Graud Inquisitor), "Try we life-long"	...	...
CHORUS, "Bridegroom and Bride"	...	...
with Solo (Tessa), "When a merry maiden marries"	...	...
FINALE—SONG (Gianetta), "Kind sir, you cannot have the heart"	...	...
QUARTET (Marco, Giuseppe, Gianetta, and Tessa), "Then one of us"	...	...

Orchestra

Piano	—	Eric Thorpe
1st Violin	—	Charlie Jukes
1st Violin	—	Enid Dunn
2nd Violin	—	Deborah Fan
Cello	—	Kate Contos
Bass	—	Leon Speakman
Percussions	—	Tony Prebensen

CHORUS OF MEN (with Marco and Giuseppe), "Of happiness the very pith"	...	...
SONG (Giuseppe) (with Chorus), "Rising early in the morning"	...	...
SONG (Marco), "Take a pair of sparkling eyes"	...	...
SCENA (Chorus of Girls, Quartet, Duet, and Chorus), "Here we are at the risk"	...	...
CHORUS AN DANCE, "Dance a Cachucha"	...	...
SONG (Don Alhambra, with Marco and Giuseppe), "There lived a king"	...	...
QUARTET (Marco, Giuseppe, Gianetta and Tessa), "In a contemplative fashion"	...	...
CHORUS OF MEN (with Duke and Duchess), "With ducal pomp"	...	...
SONG (Duchess), "On the day when I was wedded"	...	...
RECIT. AND DUET (Duke and Duchess), "To help unhappy commoners"	...	...
GAVOTTE (Duke, Duchess, Casilda, Marco, and Giuseppe), "I am a courtier grave and serious"	...	...
QUINTET AND FINALE (Marco, Giuseppe, Casilda, Gianetta, Tessa, and Chorus), "Here is a case unprecedented"	...	...

Ladies of the Chorus

Jean Campbell
Diana Brooker
Marcia Clark
Alison Closs
Helen Date
Jeannette Foddy
Helen Gilverton
Vicky Joplin
Máise Kyle
Geneve Ingram
Carolyn Leese
Christine Shirra's
Angela Totty
Anne Tunnicliffe
Olwyn Walker
Rish Loader
Val Shaw

PAGES

Michele Lott
Janice Arthur
Brenda Singer
Angela Roberts

Gentlemen of the Chorus

Bruce Gibbs
George French
Henk van Hooijdonk
Bob Lister
Ross Pullen
Bernard Riley
Len Taylor
Andy Ledingham
Bob Gowing
Laurie O'Donoghue

Production Personnel

Producer	—	Elizabeth Palmer
Musical Director	—	Bob Gowing
Assistant Musical Director	—	Digby Edgecombe
Pianist	—	Eric Thorpe
Stage Manager	—	Lindsay Craig
Assistant Stage Manager	—	Oliver Christoffersen
Stage Crew	—	Gordon Williams, Murray Bridges, Malcom Rickard, Stuart Doig, Keith Ormerod, Dean Roberts, Pearce Williams, Graham Coumbe
Wardrobe Mistress	—	Sybil Reay Assisted by Barbara Dean, Jean Campbell, Agnes Van Hooijdonk, Margaret Falconer, & members of the company.
Publicity	—	Oliver Christoffersen Sybil Reay
Make-up Supervisor	—	Minnie Wright
Make-up Team	—	Karen Wright, Marie Millman, Glenys Russell, Staveley Tankersley, Teresa Wright, Julie Williams, Ngairé Rohrs, Julie Loader
Lighting Supervisor	—	Cedric Wright
Fly Floor Supervisor	—	Murray Bridges
Prompt	—	Faye Nugent
Call Steward	—	Leah Hawtin
Suppers	—	Members of the Company
Set Construction	—	Lindsay Craig, Ross Pullen, Stuart Doig.
House Manager	—	Eric Reay
Front of House	—	Aub Merral, Len Wilcox, Maureen Brady, Kathryn Doig, Wendy Palleson, Carol Smith, Barbara Morris.
Scenery	—	Mike & Elizabeth Palmer
Acknowledgements	—	Greater Hastings Promotions Cedric Wright Napier Frivolity Minstrels