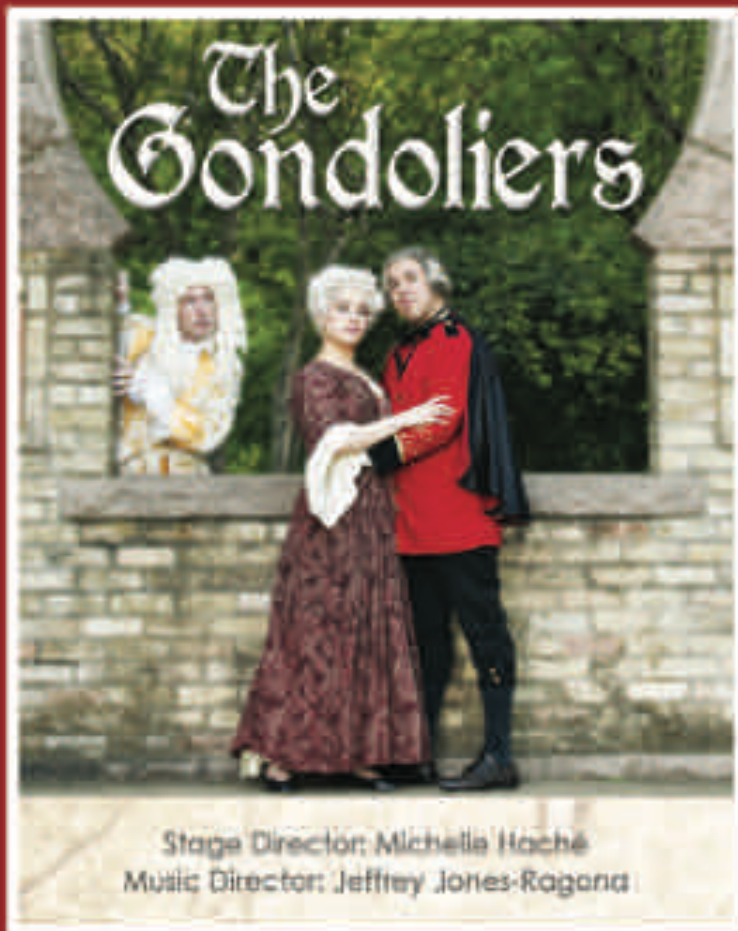


The
**& Gilbert
SULLIVAN** *Society*
OF AUSTIN

2016 Grand Production



Stage Director: Michelle Hache
Music Director: Jeffrey Jones-Rogana

June 16-26, 2016

Worley Barton Theater at Brentwood Christian School
Austin, Texas

Thank You!

We are particularly grateful to the following for their valued assistance with this production of *The Gondoliers*:

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Blackerby Violin Shop Recital Hall for providing rehearsal space for our orchestra

Brentwood Christian School Music Department for lending music stands and chairs for the orchestra

Chris Buggé for providing tables for Act II

Dianne Donovan and **KMFA 89.5 FM**

Lonnie Evans for help with the Gondolier's pole

Pam Fowler for making flags and pennants

Larry Greenhaw, **David Gutman**, **Terri Hallenbeck**, **Bill Hatcher**, and **Ruth Sunil** for supporting the group sales program

Andy Heilveil for help with sets and props

Kendra Hiller and **Genesis Presbyterian Church** for all their help in making the rehearsals run smoothly

Barb Jernigan for designing T-shirts for *The Gondoliers*

Kids Acting Studio for help during set construction

Monica Kurtz for making props

David Little, **Allan Longacre**, and **Michael Meigs** for their outstanding leadership and support in our publicity efforts

Talena Martinez for props

Travis Pollard, **Tere Hager**, **Whitney Wick**, and **Michelle Alexander** for serving as hosts in the Worley Barton Theater

Saundra Ragona for merchandise item selection and for overseeing the sales table

Lisa Rogge for backstage help

Mr. R. B. Rudy for lending a car to our Artistic Director

Mary Ruiz, **Luke Fowler**, and **Whit Allee** for help during load-in

Pat Turpin for supplying the wonderful cakes and brownies for the June 17 gala with the cast

Libby and Michael Weed for providing lodging to our Artistic Director

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The Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Austin

presents

The Gondoliers

or, The King of Barataria

Worley Barton Theater at Brentwood Christian School

June 16-26, 2016

Written by

W. S. Gilbert

Artistic Director

Michelle Haché

Choreographer

Christine Jean-Jacques

Producer

Production Manager

Stage Manager

First Assistant Stage Manager

Second Assistant Stage Manager

Lighting Designer

Light Board Operator

Master Electrician

Lighting Crew

Set Designer

Set Construction

Costume Coordinator

Wig Master

Make-Up Designer

Sound Designer

Videography and Sound Recording

Cover Design

Playbill Editor

Rehearsal Photographer

Still Photography

Sales Manager

Supertitles Preparation

Supertitles Projection

Composed by

Arthur Sullivan

Music Director and Conductor

Jeffrey Jones-Ragona

Chorus Master

Andy Fleming

Libby Weed

Bill Hatcher

Monica Kurtz

Adam Gunderson

Tim Ervin

Jennifer Rogers

Pixie Avent

Sadie Langenkamp

Monica Kurtz, Pixie Avent,

Adam Gunderson,

Ann Marie Gordon

Ann Marie Gordon, Andy Heilveil,

Gary Hernandez, Elaine Jacobs

Pam Fowler

Allison Lowery

Pam Fowler

Matt Marks

Jimmie Parker

David Little

Sue Ricket Caldwell

Paul Halstead

Cecily Johnson

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Ralph MacPhail, Jr.

Chandler Alberda

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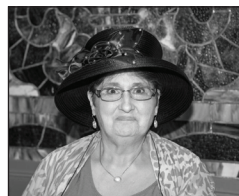
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A Memory Blesses This Production

Roberta Long, a G&S board member since 2010, our Executive Vice President for several years, and a valued member of our Society for more than two decades, was looking forward to this production of *The Gondoliers* with happy anticipation. She and I discussed more than once the many aspects of this particular opera that we loved.



In late February Roberta suffered a heart attack that took her life on March 1. Her husband Mark and their sons Howard and Steven stayed close to her bed for the few days before her passing; friends and associates were stricken to hear the sad news. Roberta was a friend, supporter, volunteer, and board member *par excellence*.

If you have attended any of our summer productions or musicales throughout the years, you have seen Roberta, often sporting a classy chapeau, at the merchandise table. She was ready to assist guests with CDs, DVDs, books, T-shirts, or any memorabilia needed.

Roberta and her husband Mark have been Savoyards for decades. Mark has performed in the cast of almost every summer production for more than twenty years, while Roberta has supported our efforts through assisting with the budgeting process, writing grant applications, planning events, preparing refreshments, and attending virtually every performance. Roberta and Mark's son Steven has also appeared in G&S productions here and in Israel.

A legendary teacher and leader of Torah studies for Congregation Agudas Achim, Roberta was generous with her knowledge of Hebrew law and held many of us spellbound with her ability to expound eloquently on related subjects.

We lost a dear friend this spring, as last spring we lost our beloved Reba Gillman. But, like Reba, Roberta will be long remembered and her influence will continue to be felt throughout the coming years. Her memory blesses this production of *The Gondoliers*, which is dedicated in her honor.



Libby Weed



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The Gillman Light Opera Orchestra (GLOO)

The orchestra is sponsored in part by a generous contribution from Miki Gillman in honor of her late parents, Leonard and Reba Gillman.

Orchestra Members

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Flute.....Barbara Mahler | Violin II..... Joseph Shuffield** |
| Oboe.....Allison Welch (6/16-20) | Violin II..... Joseph Alcocer |
| Lisa Edwards (6/23-27) | Violin II..... Laura Tiffany |
| Clarinet I.....Martha MacDonald | Viola Iona Olive |
| Clarinet II.....Valerie Bugh | Viola..... Linda Johnson |
| French Horn.....Joel Bright | Cello Tom Lawshae |
| Trumpet.....Brian Carr | Cello..... Hector Moreno |
| Trombone.....Steven Hendrickson | Bass..... Anna Macias |
| Violin I..... Laurel Lawshae* | Timpani & |
| Violin I..... Annette Franzen | Percussion Tina Lake |
| Violin I..... Paul Robertson | |
| *Concert Master | **Principal |

Rehearsal Accompanist:

Jeanne Dayton Sasaki



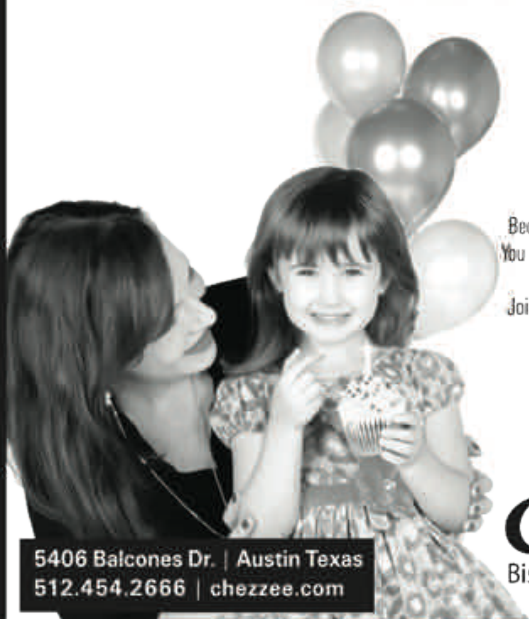
Jeanne Dayton Sasaki, Collaborative Pianist and Vocal Coach, currently maintains her own private studio in Austin, Texas, performing, coaching and teaching solo singers and pianists. Ms. Sasaki has had a thirty-year career in music, performing/coaching/teaching collaborative piano at the University of Texas (Austin, TX), Le Chateau de la Voix (Champaign, IL), Taos Opera Institute (Taos, NM), and One Ounce Opera (Austin, TX), as well as working with the GSSA. She has recorded with her husband Ray Sasaki, trumpet, Adrian Griffin, trumpet, and Amy Gilreath, trumpet, and performed at the International Trumpet Guild Conference, the National Trumpet Competition, and Music Teachers National Association Competition. Ms. Sasaki earned her music degrees from Eastman School of Music and University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Her collaborative piano mentors have included John Wustman, Robert Spillman, and Anne Epperson.

Rehearsal Covers:

| | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Marco.....Danny Castillo | Giuseppe.....Bruno Barbosa |
| Gianetta.....Jamieson Taylor | |



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GSSA 2016-17 Season

Sunday, September 11, 3 pm – Season-Opening Musicale. Janette Jones and June Julian are planning a smashing beginning to our season. The event will be a benefit for first-responders. Location: Worley Barton Theater at Brentwood Christian School. Watch our website and newsletter for details.

Thursday, October 20 – Gala Celebration of the 40th anniversary of The Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Austin. We will be inducting new members into our Hall of Fame and will enjoy beautiful music and delicious food and drinks. Location: Chez Zee American Bistro.

Sunday, January 8, 3 pm – Annual Meeting with Sing-Along. We can join in or just listen and enjoy. We'll also elect our board for 2017. Location: Genesis Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall, 1507 Wilshire Blvd.

Saturday and Sunday, February 25-26 – Auditions for *The Pirates of Penzance*. Time: Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.; Sunday 2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Location: Brentwood Christian School, 11908 N. Lamar Blvd.

Sunday, March 5 – Burnand and Sullivan's *Cox and Box*, directed by Ralph MacPhail, Jr., and Jeffrey Jones-Ragona. Location: Worley Barton Theater at Brentwood Christian School.

Sunday, May 21, 3 pm – Preview Musicale for *The Pirates of Penzance*. Get a taste of the joys to come in June as members of the cast present some solos, ensembles, choruses, and scenes from our summer grand production. Location: Worley Barton Theater at Brentwood Christian School.

Thursday, June 15, through Sunday, June 25 – Summer Grand Production: *The Pirates of Penzance*, Worley Barton Theater at Brentwood Christian School.





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Director's Notes

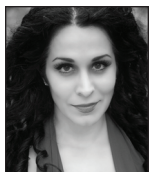
As the guest director for GSSA's exciting 40th season, it is my pleasure to present our Summer Grand Production of *The Gondoliers; or, The King of Barataria*. This is a significant year for the Society, and I can't possibly imagine a better way to celebrate than by presenting one of W. S. Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan's most jubilant pieces. The twelfth comic opera collaboration of fourteen between Gilbert and Sullivan, this delightful libretto has been described as having a "bubbling, champagne quality" by the critics of its time. Set in Venice, *The Gondoliers* possesses perhaps the most sparkling and tuneful music of any composed by Sullivan. And because he borrowed from France the stately gavotte, from Spain the cachucha, from Italy the saltarello and tarantella, and from Venice the barcarolle, this Savoy jewel provides the most intricate and fast-paced choreography of the canon.

Gilbert & Sullivan's last great success, *The Gondoliers* was preceded by the most serious of their collaborations, *The Yeomen of the Guard* (a personal favorite of mine). At the time, Sullivan wished to compose something grander and more serious, while Gilbert was more than happy pursuing whimsical tales laced with social satire. Alas, the partnership was not destined to last much longer because of these deep-rooted artistic differences. Despite this fact, *The Gondoliers* was an immense success, and ran for an impressive 554 performances (at that time the fifth longest-running piece of musical theatre in history) after premiering at the Savoy Theatre on December 7, 1889. Earning more money than any other Savoy opera in its original run, *The Gondoliers* placed fourth longest of the series (after *The Mikado*, *H.M.S. Pinafore*, and *Patience*). Queen Victoria was so entranced by the show's infectious melodies that she requested a command performance for the royal family at Windsor Castle on March 6, 1891. This was quite an honor, because not only was this the first performance of a Gilbert & Sullivan opera ever requested by the English monarch, but it was also the first theatrical entertainment to take place at Windsor since the tragic death of Prince Albert thirty years earlier.

The Gondoliers takes us to the heart of Gilbert & Sullivan in their peak form; Gilbert bubbles with nonsensical ideas, and Sullivan produces some of his most charming, touching, intoxicating music. Complete with a chorus of fawning Contadine and dashing Gondolieri, and filled with fast-paced, tuneful dances, *The Gondoliers* takes us to the fictional kingdom of Barataria and tells the story of Casilda, a young Lady who suddenly learns that she is the true bride of the heir to the throne. Unfortunately, the heir cannot be identified because he was apparently kidnapped by a scheming Grand Inquisitor who entrusted the boy to the care of a drunken Venetian gondolier who, in turn, promptly dies after mixing up the identities of the prince with his own son. Which man is King and which man is the son of the drunken gondolier? Join us in post-Baroque era Venice as the story unfolds, and welcome to the 40th Season with The Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Austin!

Michelle Haché

The Production Team



Michelle Haché
(Artistic Director)

Michelle Haché is excited to be returning to GSSA for her directorial debut of *The Gondoliers*, after appearing as Elsie in *The Yeomen of the Guard* and as Ida in *Princess Ida*. Michelle moved to Austin after completing her graduate degree at the Juilliard School. Since arriving in Austin, she has been nominated for the B. Iden Payne Award four times, winning in 2010 and 2013 for her two roles with GSSA. Michelle is a reviewer for Broadway World, a national adjudicator for NATS, has been an award-winning instructor in voice for over 12 years and has directed opera and music theatre productions in Texas, Florida, Oklahoma and Oregon. She is an active member of The Juilliard Teacher Directory, The National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS), and The Educational Theatre Association.



Christine Jean-Jacques
(Choreographer)

Christine (O'Connor) Jean-Jacques studied musical theatre at Otterbein College and has since performed throughout China, Russia, the East and West Caribbean, and all over the U.S. with Disney Live, Disney Cruise Lines, Universal Studios Orlando, and American Family Theatre. Since relocating to Austin, Christie has performed with Zach Theatre, the Georgetown Palace, and Trinity Street Players. She has taught dance, music, and theatre for many organizations including Hawaii Children's Theatre and Austin Children's Theatre. Favorite roles include Nellie Forbush (*South Pacific*), Bombalurina (*Cats*), Betty Blake (*Will Rogers Follies*), and Peter Pan (years ago!). Best new role this year is motherhood! Christie is very excited to work with *The Gondoliers'* cast and production team.



Jeffrey Jones-Ragona
(Music Director and Conductor)

Dr. Jeffrey Jones-Ragona began working with GSSA in 1994 as Music Director for *H.M.S. Pinafore*, and received the first of several B. Iden Payne nominations. In 2003, he received the B. Iden Payne Award for Outstanding Musical Direction for *The Pirates of Penzance*, and was named to GSSA's Hall of Fame in 2011. He has been nominated for a B. Iden Payne Award for the last three years in a row: for *Princess Ida* in 2013, *H.M.S. Pinafore* in 2014, and *The Sorcerer* in 2015. Jeffrey serves as Director for other notable ensembles, including The Capital City Men's Chorus, and regularly performs with La Folliá Baroque Orchestra and the Texas Early Music Project. This is Jeffrey's 23rd production with the Society.



Bill Hatcher
(Production Manager)

Bill has been a member of the GSSA since 1985 and has held several offices on the Board of Directors, including Treasurer, Vice-President, and President, and was named to the Society's Hall of Fame. He has been in the orchestra and on stage, appearing in *H.M.S. Pinafore*, *The Gondoliers*, and *The Pirates of Penzance*. Some years prior he played Charley in *Charley's Aunt* and was in *The Apple Tree*, both with the Temple Civic Theater, and was also in the TCT orchestra. A graduate of The University of Texas and member of the Longhorn Band, Bill had a 37-year career in data processing with the U.S. Veterans Administration. Now a self-employed bookkeeper, Bill has been GSSA's Production Manager since 2009.

The Production Team



Monica Kurtz
(Stage Manager)

Monica is pleased to return to the Gilbert & Sullivan family. *The Gondoliers* marks her fourteenth production with the Society. In addition to G&S, Monica also works with The Vortex and the Capital City Men's Chorus. In 27 years of stage managing, her favorite productions include: *The North Project* (Refraction Arts, Austin); *Dangerous Liaisons* (Augsburg Community Theater, Augsburg, Germany); *Quilt* (Upstart Performing Ensemble, Colorado Springs, Colorado); and *Holy Well and Sacred Flame, Dark Goddess 2004*, and *Trickster* (The Vortex, Austin). Love and thanks to Pixie for her love, support, and laughter.



Jennifer Rogers
(Lighting Designer)

Jen studied stage management at the University of Kansas with a design focus in lighting. She is a partner in the design firm Light Bastard Amber (LBA) and has worked all over Austin with companies including Teatro Vivo, The Vortex, The Rude Mechanicals, Fusebox Festival, Austin Summer Stock, and many others. She has been nominated for awards for her design work by the B. Iden Payne Committee and the Austin Critic's Table. Some of her favorite designs include: *Sweeney Todd* with Summer Stock Austin; *The North Project* with Refraction Arts; *Io: A Myth About You* with Shrewd Productions; *The Mariachi Girl* with Teatro Vivo; *The Suicide* with Paper Chairs; *The Tree Play* with Robi Polgar; and *Patience* and *The Sorcerer* with GSSA.

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The Production Team



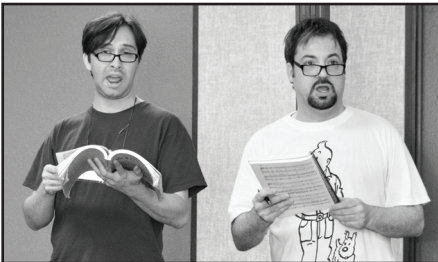
Ann Marie Gordon
(Set Designer)

Ann Marie Gordon is always pleased to be working with GSSA. Some of her previous credits with GSSA include *The Yeomen of the Guard*, *The Mikado*, *Patience*, and *The Sorcerer*. Also, she received a B. Iden Payne award for her set design for the Vortex Repertory's production of *Sleeping Beauty* and has a Critics' Table nomination for *Sarah Silverhands*, also an original production presented by the Vortex.



Pam Fowler
(Costume Coordinator
and Make-Up Designer)

Pam is the office manager at Brentwood Oaks Church of Christ, just across the street from the theater. She has been sewing and designing since the seventh grade, and continues to do alterations as her "side job." This is her fifth year to serve as Costume Coordinator and she is delighted to be part of this very talented company.



The Production Team



Matt Marks
(Sound Designer)

Matt returns for his eighth year as Sound Designer for GSSA summer productions. His past sound credits include *Iolanthe*, *The Mikado*, *Princess Ida*, and *H.M.S. Pinafore*, among others. Matt holds a Bachelor of Science from The Art Institute of Austin, has worked with Grammy Award-winning vocalists, and became a loving father one week after last year's closing of *The Sorcerer* (oh, how stressful that was!). By day, Matt works as a Product Manager for Apple, by night he acts as a total Jedi, juggling web design, sound design, caring for his 1-year-old daughter Aria, or loving his amazing (and super supportive!) wife, Celeste. May the force be with all of you.



Adam Gunderson
(First Assistant Stage Manager)

Adam is excited to be working with GSSA for the fourth year. He has been working at the Vortex Repertory Company for the last eleven years doing anything technical that he can get his hands on. Some favorite shows include *Ghost from a Perfect Place*, both runs of *Sleeping Beauty*, and *R.U.R.* He is glad to be working again with Monica, his mentor.



Congratulations to the cast, crew and supporters of THE GONDOLIERS from

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Dramatis Personæ

| | |
|---|-----------------------|
| The Duke of Plaza-Toro (<i>a Grandee of Spain</i>) | Bob Beare |
| Luiz (<i>his Attendant</i>)..... | Jerry Cordova |
| Don Alhambra del Bolero (<i>The Grand Inquisitor</i>) | Arthur DiBianca |
| Marco Palmieri } | { Holton Johnson |
| Giuseppe Palmieri } | { Derek Smootz |
| Antonio } | { Jake Jacobsen |
| Francesco } | { Danny Castillo |
| Georgio } | { Jay Young |
| Annibale } | { Clint Cox |
| The Duchess of Plaza-Toro | Patricia Combs |
| Casilda (<i>her Daughter</i>) | Corinna Browning |
| Gianetta } | { Priscilla Salisbury |
| Tessa } | { Angela Irving |
| Fiametta } | { Jennifer Garza |
| Vittoria } | { D. Reimer |
| Giulia } | { Sarah Manna |
| Inez (<i>the King's Foster-mother</i>)..... | Janette Jones |

Chorus of Gondoliers and Contadine

Bruno Barbosa, Elizabeth Etter, Andy Fleming,
Paul Halstead, Ezra Hankin, Jayda Maret, Erica Salinas,
Sarah Steele, Jamieson Taylor, Tristan Tierney

The Story of The Gondoliers

Act I is set in The Piazzetta, Venice, where *The Gondoliers* opens with the chorus of Contadine awaiting Marco and Giuseppe Palmieri, their favourite gondoliers, to come and choose brides.

Enter the chorus of gondoliers, led by Antonio; they are selflessly content to wait for the remaining girls. Marco and Giuseppe enter and they and the girls greet each other. They announce their intention of choosing two brides, but tactfully ask to be blindfolded so that fate can decide their choice. After a game of blind man's buff, in which there

continued on page 18

Musical Numbers

Overture The Orchestra

ACT I

The Piazzetta, Venice, in 1750

“List and learn”Contadine and Gondoliers
“From the sunny Spanish shore” Duke, Duchess, Casilda, and Luiz
“In enterprise of martial kind” Duke, Duchess, Casilda, and Luiz
“O rapture, when alone together” Casilda and Luiz
“There was a time” Luiz and Casilda
“I stole the Prince”Don Alhambra, Casilda, Duchess, Luiz, and Duke
“But, bless my heart” Casilda and Don Alhambra
“Try we life-long”Casilda, Duchess, Luiz, Duke, and Don Alhambra
“Bridegroom and bride” Contadine, Gondoliers, and Tessa
“Kind sir, you cannot have the heart” (*Finale of Act I*).....The Ensemble

INTERMISSION

ACT II

Pavilion in the Palace of Barataria

(An interval of three months is supposed to elapse between Acts I and II.)

“Of happiness the very pith” Men, Marco, and Giuseppe
“Rising early in the morning” Giuseppe and Men
“Take a pair of sparkling eyes” Marco
“Here we are, at the risk” Contadine and Gondoliers
“Dance a cachucha”Contadine and Gondoliers
“There lived a king” Don Alhambra, Marco, and Giuseppe
“In a contemplative fashion” Gianetta, Tessa, Marco, and Giuseppe
“With ducal pomp” Men, Contadine, Duke, and Duchess
“On the day when I was wedded” Duchess
“To help unhappy commoners” Duke and Duchess
“Here is a case unprecedented” (*Finale of Act II*).....The Ensemble