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Jill Baxter



Yum-Yum Keith Upson

Nanki-Poo

The Story

Surprisingly so, there are those among us, to whom Gilbert and Sullivan is an unknown entity. Made in Japan is a phrase which enters our lives more and more, so perhaps, it is appropriate that we now present 'The Mikado' - first performed at the Savoy Theatre in 1885.

Titipu, in Japan, is the scene of the action. Nanki-Poo, son of the Mikado, has disguised himself as a wandering minstrel in order to find Yum Yum, one of Ko-Ko's wards, with whom he is in love. He has heard that Ko-Ko has been condemned to death for flirting, and has come to investigate; but Ko-Ko has been reprieved and is now Lord High Executioner and is going to marry Yum-Yum.

Ko-Ko appears, with his 'little list' of people for execution and, soon afterwards, Yum-Yum arrives with her two sisters, Pitti-Sing and Peep-Bo. Nanki-Poo is dismissed.

Later Yum-Yum and Nanki-Poo are left alone. He reveals to her that he is really the son of the Mikado and that he fled his Father's court to escape from Katisha, an elderly lady. Ko-Ko has been ordered to execute someone within a month, and as Nanki-Poo wants to end his own life because he cannot marry Yum-Yum they come to an agreement - Nanki-Poo and Yum-Yum will marry for a month and, at the end of that time, Ko-Ko will behead Nanki-Poo and marry Yum-Yum himself. But Katisha comes to claim her perjured lover, Nanki-Poo. She tries to reveal his true identity, but the crowd will not listen; she goes off to see the Mikado. Yum-Yum prepares to marry Nanki-Poo (for a month). Ko-Ko now discovers that if a man is beheaded, his wife must be buried alive. Nanki-Poo is in a dilemma; if he marries Yum-Yum she must die with him, and if he doesn't marry her, Ko-Ko will. But Ko-Ko must still behead someone., so he persuades Pooh-Bah (Lord High Everything Else) to make a false affidavit that Nanki-Poo has been executed.

When the Mikado arrives with Katisha; Ko-Ko, Pooh-Bar and Pitti-Sing describe in elaborate detail, Nanki-Poo's imaginary execution. When katisha reads the affidavit, it is discovered that the Heir to the throne has apparently been beheaded

Meanwhile Nanki-Poo has married Yum-Yum and Ko-Ko offers his hand to Katisha who accepts him. When the Mikado discovers that his son is in fact alive and well, all is forgiven.

The Mikado, is without doubt, the most popular of the Savoy operas. Gilbert's humour is matched by Sullivan's musical wit, and the sheer wealth of melody is unsurpassed.

Cast (in order of appearance)

Nanki-Poo	Keith Upson
Pish-Tush	Dudley Gore
Pooh-Bah	Bill Bennett
Ko-Ko	Norman Holness
Yum-Yum	Jill Baxter
Pitti-Sing	Heather Sawney
Peep-Bo	Sally Bowden
Katisha	June Redford
The Mikado	John Baker

Chorus of Ladies..

Sylvia Blogg, Margaret Bowden, Delia Butterworth, Betty Dale, Eve Frampton, Aldwyth Humphries, Anne Jones, Mary Patten, Beverly Smith, Margaret Wisdom, Margaret Woods, Rita Sturge, Betty Reid, Pat Warren.

Chorus of Men

Mike Corden, John Dixon, Ron James, Denis Howdle, Harry Winsdale, Jim Robinson, Mark Blewitt, Bill Bowden, Bob Aird, Richard Bowden. Edward Mockett, Rick Beugg.

Dancers

Temime Bowling, Alex Beugg, Victoria Beugg, Mandy Simmons, Clare James, Jenny Dexter, Clare Jones.

Orchestra

Lead Violin	Louise Leask		
1st Violin	C.Herbert	Oboe	I.Crowther
2nd Violin	A.Upton	Trumpet	K.Davies
Cello	Kathryn Morris	Trombone	G.Harvey
Double Bass	N.Boxall	Percussion	R.Spoore
Flute	E.Ward	Piano	Ann Presley
1st Clarinet	Mary McLeod		
2nd Clarinet	A.Cunningham		

Synopsis of Music

Act I

The Court-Yard of Ko-Ko's Official Residence

Chorus of Men	"If you want to know who we are"
Nanki-Poo and Chorus	"A wand'ring minstrel I"
Pish-Tush and Chorus	"Our great Mikado, virtuous man"
Pooh-Bah with Nanki-Poo and Pish-Tush	"Young man, despair, likewise go to"
Nanki-Poo and Pooh-Bah	"And have I journey'd for a month"
Ko-Ko and Chorus	"Behold the Lord High Executioner"
Ko-Ko with Chorus of Men	"As some day it may happen"
Ladies Chorus	"Comes a train of little ladies"
Yum-Yum, Peep-Bo, Pitti-Sing with Ladies Chorus	"Three little maids from school"
Yum-Yum, Peep-Bo, Pitti-Sing and Pooh-Bah, Ladies Chorus	"So please you, sir, we much regret"
Yum-Yum and Nanki-Poo	"Were you not to Ko-Ko plighted"
Ko-Ko, Pooh-Bah and Pish-Tush	"I am so proud"
FINALE	"With aspect stern and gloomy stride"

There will be an interval between Acts

Act II

Ko-Ko's Garden

Pitti-Sing and Ladies Chorus	"Braid the raven hair"
Yum-Yum	"The sun, who's rays are all ablaze"
Yum-Yum, Pitti-Sing, Nanki-Poo and Pish-Tush	"Brightly dawns our wedding day"
Yum-Yum, Nanki-Poo and Ko-Ko	"Here's a how-de-do! If I marry you"
ENTRANCE OF MIKADO AND KATISHA	"Mi-ya-sa-ma, Mi-ya-sa-ma"
Mikado and Chorus	"A more humane Mikado never did in Japan exist"
Pitti-Sing, Ko-Ko, Pooh-Bah and Chorus	"The criminal cried as he dropped him down"
Pitt-Sing, Katisha, Ko-Ko, Pooh-Bah and Mikado	"See how the Fates their gifts allot"
Nanki-Poo and Ko-Ko with Yum-Yum, Pitti-Sing and Pooh-Bah	"The flowers that bloom in the spring"
Katisha	"Alone and yet alive"
Ko-Ko	"On a tree by a river, a little Tom-tit sang, Willow, tit-willow"
Katisha and Ko-Ko	"There is beauty in the bellow of the blast"
FINALE, ACT II	"For he's gone and married Yum-Yum"



Sally Bowden

Peep-Bo

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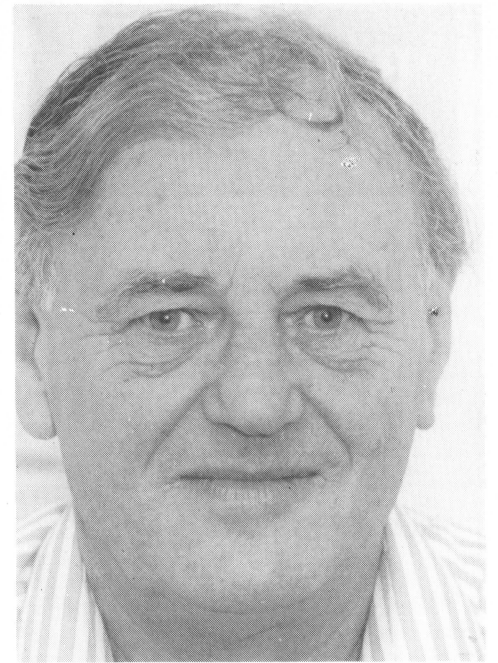
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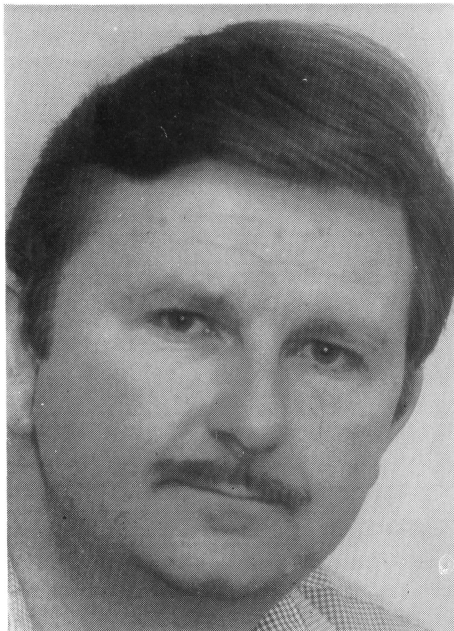
Heather Sawney

Pitti-Sing



Bill Bennett

Pooh-Bah



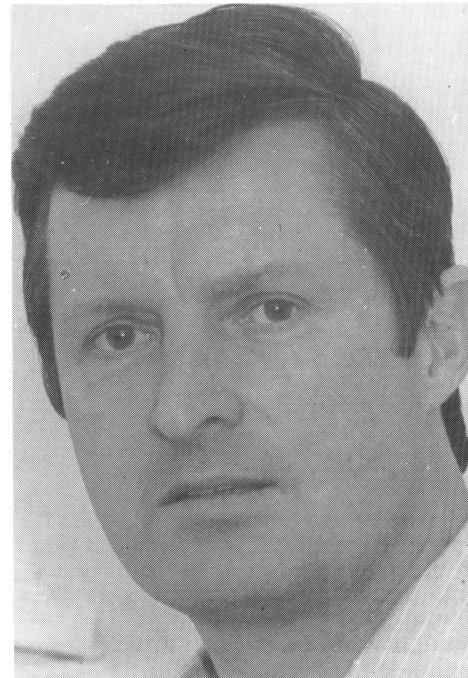
Norman Holness

Ko-Ko



June Redford

Katisha



Dudley Gore

Pish-Tush



John Baker

The Mikado

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