

IMPERIAL OPERA and IMPERIAL COLLEGE OPERATIC SOCIETY present ST. GEORGE AND THE DRAGON or the Baratarian Sacrifice

with words and music by W.S. Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan

additional material by Ian Gledhill

Producer: Ian Gledhill Musical Director: Michael Withers

SYPNOSIS

The kingdom of Barataria has, for nearly thirty years, been terrorised by a fearsome dragon, which every year must be appeased by the sacrifice of a beautiful maiden. The king is powerless to act because he is, in fact, merely the puppet of the unscrupulous three wise men, who had overthrown the previous king in an insurrection and exiled him and his family. The old king was reputed to have died, but the former queen and her son have totally disappeared.

All is not entirely hopeless, however, because the present king has a beautiful and wise daughter, the Princess Zara, who sees through the machinations of the wise men. She suggests that one of them is sent to fight the dragon. Instead, they choose a bumbling police sergeant as their champion. If he succeeds his reward will be the princesses' hand in marriage, and the three wise men can take control of her through him; if he fails, as so many have in the past, then the princess herself is to be offered as a once-and-for-all final sacrifice to the dragon, surpassing all others in her beauty and wisdom.

The princess is not at all impressed with the choice of a champion. She has had a dream about a strange and chivalrous knight who will save her, and the sergeant is manifestly not he. Nevertheless the sergeant is kitted out in armour and sent off to do battle. Meanwhile a strange knight appears, singing of the insignia of the cross of red he is sworn to serve. Zara immediately recognises St. George (for it is he) as the knight of her dreams and they swear undying love for each other.

The sergeant predictably fails to return, and Zara is prepared for sacrifice, while George promises to rescue her.

What will happen in the final scene outside the dragon's cave? Will George arrive in time to save the princess? And what really happened to the sergeant? And what has the mysterious fortune teller, Buttercup, to do with the story?

All will be revealed!

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DRAMATIS PERSONAE

The King of Barataria The Lord Mayor Scaphio Phantis Tarara George, a chivalrous knight Young Adam, his squire Sergeant Blue, of the Baritarian police Ist Policeman 2nd Policeman 3rd Policeman 2nd Citizen

Princess Zara, daughter of the king The Queen of Barataria, Zara's mother Casilda Patience, a parlourmaid Buttercup, a fortune teller Celia Leila Fleta Princess Zara, daughter of the king Barataria, Zara's mother Casilda Patience, a parlourmaid Buttercup, a fortune teller Celia Fleta Adam Craske Roger Nicholls William White Clive Paget Tim Sawers Tim Johnson Ed Mulligan Ellis C. Pike Brian O'Connell John Meehan John Tripp Tony Pearce Dave Tonnison

Sally Donegani Myriam Barling Virginia King Janc Johnson Jo Claydon Cecilia Nevill Sue Foister Barbara Tansey

Townsfolk:

Alan Attwood, John Franks, Josie Jacobs, Phil Hollman, Christina Hunter, Georgina King, Janina Kaminska, Andrew Larkins, Debbie O'Connell, Ailsa Scott

and, of course, the Dragon

ACT I : The Market Place

ACT II : Outside the Dragon's Cave



FOR THE COMPANY

Stage Manager Lighting Stage Crew

Front of House Manager Front of House Staff

Costumes

Make Up

Poster Design Programme Publicity

Rehearsal Accompanist Band Fixer Production Co-ordinator Transport Treasurer

Ian Cairns Ken Haley John Dickenson Mike Town Jane Mechan Rebecca Lack Keith McClurey Steve Bodle Pam Bodle Isabella Corble Mike Dobson Suc White Val Jollyc Cathy Kellcher **Georgia** Paget Mark Waters Val Procter Barbara Tansey Myriam Barling Sue Foister Josie Jacobs Myriam Barling Adam Craske Ed Mulligan Sally Donegani Jo Claydon Cccilia Nevill **Clive Paget** Andrew Hanley Barbara Steel **Roger Nicholls** Ceccilia Nevill Tony Pcarce ୖୢୖୄ

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Violins	Barbara Steel <i>leader</i> Hugh Bolton Rachel Boyfield Julian Boyfield Jo Last Lucinda Melluish MAC Newton Kirstic Robertson
Violas	Rachel Spence Anne Lovely
Cello	Chris Darc
Double Bass	James Tagg
Flutes	Michael Copperwhite Wendy Norman
Oboe	Annette Brooks
Clarinets	Gill Pcarmain Andy Power
Bassoon	James Howard
Horn	Tim Jones
Trumpet	Alan Wilkinson
Trombones	Colin Parker Brendan Piclow
Timpani and Percussion Brian Steel	

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to thank the following for their assistance with this production

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Brenda Williams, Argosy Gift Shop Audrey Maynard George Enterprises D'Oyly Carte Music Hire St. Andrew's Church, Fulham St. Gabriel's Church, Pimlico

Imperial Male Voice Choir

As a break from singing the Peers' Chorus during Imperial College's 1978 production of *Iolanthe* in Budleigh Salterton, nine men from the cast amused themselves by exploring the repetoire of Victorian male voice part songs. Renderings of In a **Monastery Garden**, and **Goodnight**, **Goodnight Beloved** during the traditional mid-tour concert in St. Peter's church proved so enjoyable that "The Imperial Male Voice Choir" was formed and kindred spirits recruited.

Since that time the choir has grown to a strength of about 30 members and under our conductor, Deborah Johnson, still remembered in Salterton for her contralto roles in Gilbert and Sullivan, we have gained first prizes at festivals in Croydon, Lewisham, Bromley, Richmond, Bath and Cheltenham. At the recent Elgar Festival in Worcester, a panel of distinguished adjudicators under Sir Charles Groves voted us "most promising choir of the festival".

To commemorate ten years of singing together we have recorded 16 of our favourite part songs. Cassettes, costing £5.00 are available from front of house staff, or by sending a cheque to R. Nicholls to 118, Oglander Road, London SE15 4DB.