



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 24, 2017

Media Inquiries: David Little
512.970.5883
dlittle@gilbertsullivan.org
www.gilbertsullivan.org

Gilbert & Sullivan Austin Presents Its Summer 2017 Grand Production

The Pirates of Penzance

Hilarious shenanigans by a band of soft-hearted pirates, bumbling bobbies, sweet Victorian maidens, and the very model of a modern Major-General!
Opening in Austin June 15th.

WHO: Gilbert & Sullivan Austin
WHAT: *The Pirates of Penzance*
WHEN: June 15-25 / Thursdays-Sundays / 9 Performances
Evening performances Thursdays, Fridays, & Saturdays at 7:30pm.
Matinees at 2pm June 18, 24 & 25.
Special Children's Activities Sunday, June 18 at 1pm.
WHERE: Worley Barton Theater at Brentwood Christian School / 11908 N. Lamar
TICKETS: Tickets \$8-\$27
Purchase tickets at www.gilbertsullivan.org or call 512.474.5664
For group sales of 10 or more contact Michael Meigs at 512.420.0888 or michael@gilbertsullivan.org

AUSTIN, TX – Gilbert & Sullivan Austin presents its summer 2017 grand production of *The Pirates of Penzance; or, The Slave of Duty*. Nine performances of this classic will be presented at the Worley Barton Theater at Brentwood Christian School, June 15-25, 2017. GSA Artistic Director Ralph MacPhail, Jr. returns for his 16th season. Jeffrey Jones-Ragona, returning for his 20th season as Music Director, will conduct the 19-member Gillman Light Opera Orchestra.

The Pirates of Penzance will delight Austin theatergoers of all ages who relish tuneful music, dazzling staging, and hilarious shenanigans by a band of soft-hearted pirates, bumbling bobbies, and sweet Victorian maidens—not to forget that very model of a modern Major-General!

All performances will have supertitles for dialogue and lyrics. A special Children's Matinee is at 1pm on June 18th, immediately prior to a 2pm matinee performance. Children will be invited to come on stage and meet the cast, crew, and orchestra along with other activities. A complimentary buffet with the cast follows the Friday, June 16 Gala Performance.

The Pirates of Penzance premiered in New York City in December of 1879, where the show was well received by both audiences and critics. Its London debut was in April of 1880. It is without question one of the most popular shows in theater history and has been performed around the world continuously for over 138 years. *Pirates* was the fifth Gilbert & Sullivan collaboration, and it introduced the ever-popular and much-parodied *Major-General's Song*.

Gilbert & Sullivan Austin (formerly The Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Austin) was founded in 1976 with the purpose of education by preserving and presenting the works of Gilbert & Sullivan. Known for its highly acclaimed annual grand productions from the G&S repertoire, the organization is also dedicated to spreading and teaching the joys of G&S through school and community presentations.

This project is funded and supported in part by a grant from the Texas Commission on the Arts and in part by the Cultural Arts Division of the City of Austin Economic Development Department. Visit Austin at NowPlayingAustin.com

--- end ---