

The Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Austin

35<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY

*Gala*  
*Celebration and Musicales*

**Austin and Gilbert & Sullivan -  
"Maid" for Each Other**  
*Celebrating the "maids" of Gilbert & Sullivan*

Master of Ceremonies  
Ralph MacPhail, Jr.

Featuring  
Tamsen Cohagan - Patricia Combs - Arthur DiBianca  
Holton Johnson - Janette Jones - Jeffrey Jones-Ragona  
Eva Laskaris - Robert L. Schneider

Accompanist - Martha (Marti) Mortensen Dudgeon  
Producer - Eva Laskaris

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

Chez Zee - 5406 Balcones Drive, Austin, Texas  
Thursday, March 3, 2011, 7:00 PM

## GSSA - An Austin Tradition

The Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Austin proudly celebrates spreading the delights of Gilbert & Sullivan throughout Central Texas for 35 years. We are the second oldest continually performing musical theatre group in Austin.

When *H.M.S. Pinafore* was produced in 1976 by the Austin Civic Theater and Zachary Scott Center of Austin, this production inspired a group of devoted Savoyards to meet that September at the Creek Theater to organize The Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Austin. Articles of Incorporation were formulated on April 14, 1977, and non-profit tax-exempt status was obtained the following year.

Organizers and original members of the Society were Linalice Carey, Sue Ricket Caldwell, Enid Hallock, Robin-Elena Hinderer, D. Allen Lawshae, and Rosemary Russell-Vines. In February 1977, Linalice Carey staged a GSSA production of *Ruddigore or The Witch's Curse*, at her tiny Creek Theater on the banks of Waller Creek.

Since its inception, GSSA has produced annual productions of Gilbert & Sullivan operas, both as an independent organization and as co-producer with other Austin companies. Following the 1977 *Ruddigore*, the Society presented *The Sorcerer* in November 1977 (exactly one century after its premier). Then GSSA joined with the Zachary Scott Theater Center for productions of *The Pirates of Penzance* (1977), *The Mikado* (1978), *Patience* (1980), *Trial by Jury* (1982), *The Gondoliers* (1983) and *Ruddigore* (1985). In 1978, the Society collaborated with St. Edward's University to produce *Iolanthe*. The last co-production by the Society was *The Pirates of Penzance* with Live Oak Theater in April, 1991. Since that time, the Society has presented its own productions independently.

In addition to its annual productions, the Society produces Musicales several times a year which are free and open to all. These are informal events in which G&S songs mix with other musical genres, and audience participation is encouraged. Our most recent Musicale was a *Sing-Along Mikado*, in anticipation of our upcoming annual production. Our Wand'ring Minstrels program presents G&S productions in schools, retirement centers, civic clubs, and other venues. We also offer musical scholarships, and internship opportunities for high school students to work back stage at our annual productions.

Operations are funded by membership dues, corporate and individual donations, ticket sales, and grants by the City of Austin Cultural Arts Division, the Texas Commission on the Arts, and the Still Water Foundation. The Society is governed by an annually elected, all-volunteer board of directors.

## Program

### Act 1

**God Save The Queen**  
led by Chris Buggé

**America (My Country, 'Tis of Thee)**  
led by Mark E. Long

**Welcome and Introductions**  
Dave Wieckowski

### Honors Presentations

#### Honorees:

**Arthur DiBianca** - presented by Byron Arnason

**Bill Hatcher** - presented by Dave Wieckowski

**Jeffrey Jones-Ragona** - presented by Ralph MacPhail, Jr.

**Ralph MacPhail, Jr.** - presented by Russell Gregory

**Libby Weed** - presented by Reba Gillman

### *The Mikado; or, The Town of Titipu*

**Miya Sama** ..... **Chorus**

**Three Little Maids** ..... **Tamsen, Janette, & Patricia**

Intermission  
enjoy coffee & dessert

Act 2

**Maid in the GSSA**

Master of Ceremonies - Ralph MacPhail, Jr.

*Thespis*

Little Maid of Arcadee -  
the first MAID of G&S partnership ..... Jeffrey

*The Yeomen of the Guard*

When Maiden Loves ..... Patricia  
Is Life a Boon? ..... Holton  
I Have a Song to Sing, O ..... Arthur & Janette  
How Say You, Maiden? ..... Arthur, Eva, & Robert

*The Gondoliers*

When a Merry Maiden Marries ..... Janette

*H.M.S. Pinafore*

A Maiden Fair to See ..... Holton  
Refrain, Audacious Tar! ..... Holton & Eva  
Sorry Her Lot ..... Eva  
Sing Hey, the Merry Maiden and the Tar ... Arthur & Robert

*Patience*

I Cannot Tell what this Love May Be ..... Tamsen  
Prithee, Pretty Maiden ..... Robert & Tamsen  
On Such Eyes as Maidens Cherish ..... Female Chorus  
Sad is that Woman's Lot ..... Patricia

*The Pirates of Penzance*

O, Is There Not One Maiden Breast . . Jeffrey & Female Chorus  
Oh, Here is Love ..... Eva & Jeffrey  
Hail, Poetry ..... Robert, Chorus, & Audience

GSSA Hall of Fame

In 2006, at its 30th anniversary celebration, The Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Austin initiated a Hall of Fame to honor members who have made significant contributions to the Society. At that time, 10 members were initiated into the Hall of Fame. They were Sue Ricket Caldwell, Frank Delyv, Reba Gillman, Len Gillman, Russell Gregory, Enid Hallock, Janette Jones, Robert Mellin, Rosemary Russell-Vines, and Katherine Shields.

It is our great pleasure to tonight initiate the following exceptional members into the GSSA Hall of Fame:

- Arthur DiBianca
- Bill Hatcher
- Jeffrey Jones-Ragona
- Ralph MacPhail, Jr.
- Libby Weed

We wish to thank the 35th Anniversary Gala Committee:  
Roberta Long, Chair  
Eva Laskaris - David Little - Libby Weed - Dave Wieckowski

Photography by Nanci & Benny Jay



Spreading the joys of Gilbert & Sullivan since 1976

## Board of Directors

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The Society holds non-profit status under 501(c)(3) of the IRS code.

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