

Iolanthe

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Presented by
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BATLEY

— on —

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|-----------|---|---|------|-------------|
| SATURDAY | • | • | 25th | MARCH, 1950 |
| TUESDAY | • | • | 28th | " " |
| WEDNESDAY | • | • | 29th | " " |
| THURSDAY | • | • | 30th | " " |
| FRIDAY | • | • | 31st | " " |
| SATURDAY | • | • | 1st | APRIL, " " |

— at —

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OR

THE PEER AND THE PERI.

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PROGRAMME arranged and compiled by STANLEY W. LOCKYER
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| EARL TOLLOLLER | ALFRED SMITHSON |
| PRIVATE WILLIS (of the Grenadier Guards) | WILLIAM WALKER |
| STREPHON (An Arcadian Shepherd) | HAROLD V. JOHNSON |
| QUEEN OF THE FAIRIES | RICHMOND NEWSOME |
| IOLANTHE (Strephon's Mother) | MARGARET GILBEY |
| CELIA) | BETTY TAYLOR |
| LEILA) Fairies | OLGA STEAD |
| FLETA) | MERLE MICKLETHWAITE |
| PHYLLIS (An Arcadian Shepherdess and Ward in Chancery) | ELLA BURTON |

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J. WHITEHEAD.

TRAIN BEARER - R. TIPLADY.

ACT 1—AN ARCADIAN LANDSCAPE.

ACT 2—PALACE YARD, WESTMINSTER.

Date: Between 1700 and 1882.

SCENERY by W. STUBBS, BATLEY.

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' IOLANTHE '

SYNOPSIS OF THE OPERA

ACT I.—The curtain rises on an Arcadian landscape. Celia, Leila and Fleta are lamenting the banishment of Iolanthe. Unfortunately Iolanthe had married a mortal for which the punishment was death, but the Queen had commuted the sentence to one of penal servitude for life. Iolanthe chose to spend this sentence at the bottom of a stream.

The fairies plead with the Queen so successfully that she relents and Iolanthe returns. She tells the Queen and her subjects of her son Strephon, who now comes merrily in and tells his mother that he is to be married to Phyllis, a young ward of Chancery.

Although his application to the Lord Chancellor has been refused he insists on going forward with the marriage. He complains to the Queen and her subjects of the disadvantage of being a fairy down to the waist, but the Queen suggests that having a fairy brain he should do well in Parliament.

Phyllis meets Strephon and they discuss the situation. Strephon is more determined than ever when he hears that certain Peers are competing for her hand. They agree upon their course and make their exit just before the arrival of the members of the House of Lords, followed by the Lord Chancellor.

The Lord Chancellor himself is in love with his ward and although his position prevents his marrying her he must choose a husband for her from the ranks of the Peers. Phyllis is summoned and the Lords make their intentions clear, but their offers are declined. On an outburst of wrath from the Lord Chancellor, Strephon comes forward and once again appeals to the Lord Chancellor who in turn again refuses.

As the Lord Chancellor retires, Iolanthe and her son Strephon talk the matter over. Lords Mountarat and Tolloller stealthily approach, leading Phyllis between them. Seeing Strephon on affectionate terms with a pretty girl she accuses him of faithlessness and offers herself to one of the Lords. Strephon appeals to the fairy folk and the Queen relieves Chancellor and Peers for their treatment of the two lovers. Her explanations about Iolanthe are met with renewed incredulity, and to the dismay of the Peers announces that backed by fairy power, Strephon will enter Parliament and will wreak vengeance upon them for their affront upon her.

ACT II.—All attention is now concentrated upon Westminster. The moon illuminates the sentry-box of Private Willis, who is whiling away the time with a soliloquy upon M.P's.

The fairies appear and from them we learn that Strephon, M.P. is proving an unqualified success. With dictator like drive he is passing through the House, bills dealing with every problem, to the consternation of Peers and Commons alike.

Phyllis appears followed by her faithful swains Mountarat and Tolloller, who are greatly concerned as to which is to give way to the other. They come to the conclusion that the whole thing is hardly worth while.

Phyllis, having no one to advise her, cannot make up her mind which title to acquire. Strephon suggests that she seeks the advice of his fairy mother, but it is quickly evident that it will take more than a fairy mother to come between the pair, and once more they decide to get married at once.

Iolanthe appears to welcome them and they beg her to plead for them with the Chancellor. At first she refuses and confesses that the Chancellor is her husband and Strephon's father. Phyllis and Strephon slip off together as Iolanthe veils herself against the Chancellor's approach.

His Lordship is in an exceedingly cheerful frame of mind. He has at last succeeded in persuading himself to consent to his own wedding with his own ward and announces that the girl is to be his promised bride. Desperate, Iolanthe reveals herself to him as the wife he has long thought dead.

The Queen is at once on the scene to punish Iolanthe for her second fall from grace. Again the fairies plead for her. "If Iolanthe must die" they say, "So must we." Their admiration for the Peers has been too much.

The Queen is in a quandary from which she is helped by the legal wit of the Chancellor. She proposes to Private Willis, who accepts her, whereupon he and the Peers are made fairies on the spot.

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The Choir desire to tender sincere thanks to all supporters and friends for assistance rendered in connection with "IOLANTHE" and to the advertisers who have made it possible to produce this Programme. We ask you, where possible, to help those who have helped us.

THANK YOU !

PROGRAMME OF MUSIC

ACT I.

Overture.

1. Chorus of Fairies "Tripping Hither, Tripping Thither"
2. Invocation (Queen, Iolanthe, Celia, Leila,
and Chorus of Fairies) "Iolanthe from thy dark exile"
3. Solo (Strephon and Chorus of Fairies) "Good-morrow, Good Mother"
4. Solo (Queen and Chorus of Fairies) "Fare thee well, attractive stranger"
- 4a. Solo (Phyllis and Strephon) "Good-morrow, Good Lover"
5. Duet (Phyllis and Strephon) "None shall part us"
6. Entrance and March of Peers "Loudly let the Trumpet Bray"
- 6a. Entrance of Lord Chancellor
7. Song (Lord Chancellor and Chorus of Peers) "The law is a true embodiment"
8. Trio and Chorus of Peers (Phyllis, Lord Tolloller,
and Lord Mountarat) "My well-loved Lord"
9. Recit. (Phyllis) "Nay, tempt me not"
10. Chorus of Peers and Song (Lord Tolloller) "Spurn not the nobly born"
11. Ensemble (Phyllis, Lord Tolloller, Lord Mountarat, Strephon,
Lord Chancellor and Chorus of Peers) "My Lords, it may not be"
12. Song (Lord Chancellor) "When I went to the bar"
13. Finale, Act I. (Phyllis, Iolanthe, Queen, Leila, Celia, Strephon,
Lord Tolloller, Lord Mountarat, Lord Chancellor,
and Chorus of Fairies and Peers) "When darkly looms the day"

ACT II.

1. Song (Sentry) "When all night long a chap remains"
2. Chorus of Fairies and Peers "Strephon's a Member of Parliament"
3. Song (Lord Mountarat and Chorus) "When Britain really ruled the waves"
4. Duet (Leila, Celia, with Chorus of Fairies, Lord Mountarat
and Lord Tolloller) "In vain to us you plead"
5. Song (Queen, with Chorus of Fairies) "Oh, foolish fay"
6. Quartet (Phyllis, Lord Tolloller,
Lord Mountarat and Sentry) "Tho' p'r'aps I may incur your blame"
7. Recit. and Song (Lord Chancellor) "Love unrequited robs me of my rest"
8. Trio (Lord Tolloller, Lord Mountarat,
and Lord Chancellor) "He who shies at such a prize"
9. Duet (Phyllis and Strephon) "If we're weak enough to tarry"
10. Recit. and Duet (Iolanthe) "My Lord, a suppliant at your feet"
11. Recit. (Iolanthe, Queen, Lord Chancellor and Fairies) "It may not be"
12. Finale (Phyllis, Iolanthe, Queen, Leila, Celia, Lord Tolloller,
Lord Mountarat, Strephon, Lord Chancellor,
and Chorus of Fairies and Peers) "Soon as we may, off and away"

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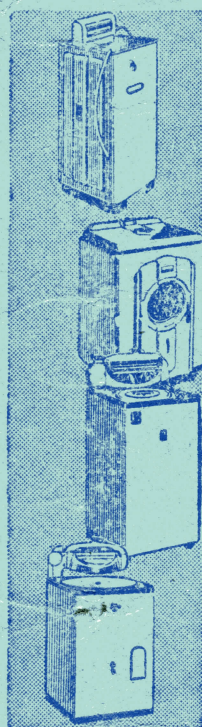
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