

## Biographies

roles to sing and try her hand at a patter role! MADS has always been a part of Laura's life and she loves seeing her children following in their Papa Roy's footsteps.

### Roy Schatz—*King Gama*

Roy thoroughly enjoyed MADS' 50th celebration trip to England last summer for the Buxton International G&S Festival. Now that we have set out on the voyage to 55 years of G&S at St. Anne's, he is looking forward to continuing his record of participating in every production. He is especially thrilled that wife Diana continues her inspired administrative leadership and that daughter Laura and her family carry on the MADS tradition so brilliantly.

### Todd Sherman—*Arac*

This is Todd's 4th year with MADS. He was previously in *H.M.S. Pinafore* (2011), *The Yeomen of the Guard* (2012), and *The Gondoliers* (2013), in which he played Giorgio in both Toronto and Buxton, England. Before joining MADS, Todd sang for many years with a number of community choirs around the city. This year, he is delighted to have the opportunity to attempt the role of a soldier, Arac, since up till now the nearest he has come to any kind of military accomplishment was winning a sewing badge in Cub Scouts at age 10. Thanks to Sherri this year for all her help!

### Michael P. Taylor—*Hilarion*

Michael returns from Buxton, UK, to join the MADS family for a 5th straight year. His previous credits include Alexis (*Sorcerer '10*), Ralph (*Pinafore '11*), Fairfax (*Yeomen '12*), and Marco (*Gondoliers '13*). Musically, Michael enjoys singing early music (literally before 9am), stage managing opera (and all genres of theatre), and entertaining at retirement homes. Off stage, he takes pleasure in long walks on the beach with wife Tara, and children, Owen and Tessa, starting his own business in Milton (the water-taxi idea was a flop), and generally appreciating ladies' garments on real ladies. Enjoy!



### — SPECIAL THANKS —

Many thanks are also owed to members of St. Anne's Parish and friends of the cast, and members of the cast who volunteered to help with the countless jobs essential to the production of *Princess Ida*.

*We are especially indebted, as ever, to the extraordinary efforts of Diana and Roy Schatz.*

Our cast and crew come from all walks of life and musical backgrounds and we are very welcoming to new members! If you might like to appear in the show or help in its production, please contact Laura Schatz at 416.922.4415.

Add your name to our mailing list by calling 416.922.4415

Join us next year,

January 30, 31 and February 1, 5, 6, 7, 8, 2015

for our presentation of

***The Mikado***



Presents



*Princess Ida*

**January 31 & February 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 2014**

Artistic Director:

Laura Schatz

Music Director:

Daniel Norman

Choreographer:

Jennie Friesen Garde

## ACT I—Pavilion in King Hildebrand's Palace

Twenty years ago, Hilarion, son of King Hidebrand, was married in infancy to Ida, daughter of King Gama. Gama promised to bring Princess Ida to her husband in twenty years. Today, all of King Hildebrand's palace eagerly await the arrival of King Gama, amid much speculation about whether or not Princess Ida will actually appear. King Gama, known for his biting sarcasm, finally arrives, with his three warrior sons, Arac, Guron and Scynthus, but without the Princess. She has foresworn male-dominated society and refuses to leave Castle Adamant, a secluded country house where she has founded a women's university. Prince Hilarion, with his friends Cyril and Florian, set off to infiltrate Castle Adamant and claim Princess Ida as his bride, while Hildebrand arrests his royal visitors and threatens to hang them should Hilarion fail.

## ACT II—Gardens of Castle Adamant

Princess Ida teaches her students the merits of knowledge discovery, wisdom and misandrony. Her edict against the presence of men is so strict that even bringing chessmen into the university is worthy of expulsion. Hilarion and his friends break into the school, disguised as female students. The three new undergraduates escape detection by all the women except Lady Psyche (Florian's sister) and Melissa, who has fallen in love with Florian. When Lady Blanche, Melissa's mother, who longs to replace Ida as head of the university, hears that Hilarion is one of the new students, she sees an opportunity to realize her dream. Cyril gives himself away by getting drunk and singing a drinking song. Ida, shocked that men have infiltrated her fortress, backs away from them, only to fall into the river that runs through the gardens. Although Hilarion saves her, the enraged Ida arrests the three men and sentences them to death. As they are taken away, King Hildebrand and his soldiers break down the gates of Castle Adamant and issue the Princess an ultimatum: either release Hilarion and return with him as his wife, or the castle will be taken by force.

## ACT III—Courtyard of Castle Adamant

As the women arm themselves to resist Hildebrand and his men, it becomes clear that they have no stomach for battle and begin to desert the Princess and her cause. King Gama tells Ida that Hildebrand will allow the matter to be settled by having her three brothers battle Hilarion and his friends. Given no alternatives, she agrees. How will this battle end? Will she consent to be Hilarion's wife?

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### Heather Friesen—*Ada*

Heather caught the performance bug many years ago in Ottawa with the Orpheus Operatic Society. Prior to joining MADS, she performed in Montreal with the Lyric Theatre Singers and sang in the choir of the Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul. Heather played Giulia in the Buxton production of *The Gondoliers*. She is delighted that her children have joined the MADS chorus and production crew, and is grateful to her husband for indulging her hobby.

### Jennie Friesen Garde—*Assistant Director/Choreographer*

Lots of fun again! The MADS show is Jennie's "home away from home" and she has played so many fabulous G&S roles here including The Princess of Monte Carlo (*Grand Duke*), Mad Margaret (*Ruddigore*), and Phoebe (*Yeomen*). Other recent favourite roles have been as the Irish Katie in *Meet Me in St. Louis* and as Florinda and Jack's Mother in two separate productions of *Into the Woods*. She also loves to dance in musicals and has particularly enjoyed *Hello, Dolly!*, *A Chorus Line*, and *Joseph*. Choreographing this show has been both a challenge and a joy!

### David Garde—*Guron*

David has been in MADS' productions for more years than he cares to remember, both on stage and behind the scenery. This year he is pleased to be reprising the role of Guron which he performed in his very first show with MADS. David also sings in the St. Anne's Church Choir and the Toronto Beach Chorale, which will be performing Vivaldi's *Gloria* on April 18<sup>th</sup>.

### Jay Lambie—*Cyril*

Jay is thrilled to be making his MADS debut. Cyril is his 3rd G&S role, having previously sung Ralph Rackstraw (*Pinafore*) and Richard Dauntless (*Ruddigore*) in various Ottawa area productions. Other roles have included Danilo (*Merry Widow*), Eisenstein (*Fledermaus*), Almaviva and Figaro (*Barber of Seville*), Don Jose (*Carmen*), Hoffmann (*Tales of Hoffmann*), Pinkerton (*Madama Butterfly*), Rodolfo (*Bohème*), Turridu (*Cavalleria Rusticana*) and Canio (*Pagliacci*). He has appeared with the Toronto Consort and Opera Atelier and was a member of the Elmer Iseler Singers.

### Daniel Norman—*Music Director*

Originally from London, Ontario, Daniel has enjoyed a diverse musical career. He is an accomplished conductor, keyboardist and collaborative artist. With degrees in Music Composition and Performance, Daniel has directed an array of choirs and chamber ensembles in North America and Europe. He currently holds positions with a number of community institutions and churches in Toronto. In addition, he works as a freelance conductor, vocal coach and concert organist. This is Daniel's 5th season with MADS, 4th as Musical Director.

### Marc Potvin—*Florian*

This is Marc's 21st season with St. Anne's and his 3rd attempt at *Princess Ida* (hopefully he will get it right this time). As the intellect behind the trio of Hilarion, Cyril and Florian (Marc is a baritone, after all), he must temper the enthusiasm of his two brethren as the winds of love blow through the pants of the other. When not on stage with MADS, Marc is a chorister with the St. Anne's Church Choir and the Toronto Beach Chorale.

### Laura Schatz—*Lady Blanche and Artistic Director*

Despite Laura's successes as a director, she is first and foremost a performer. She is known as the soprano who can (and does) sing any role Gilbert and Sullivan wrote and she is doing her best to sing her way through the entire canon. Because she has been performing G&S since the age of 6, it is very rare for her to be able to find a female role that she can perform for the first time. Lady Blanche is one of these roles and Laura is having a wonderful time with it. Who knows, she may soon run out of female

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### **Adrian Alder**—*Scythius*

Adrian is happy to be back with MADS for another season. This marks his 8th year with the group. Adrian finds that the excitement of performing on stage helps to reduce the daily stresses of his Paramedic career. This year also marks his daughter, Tabatha's 3rd year on stage with him. Both father and daughter enjoy the characters they get to build up and portray for your entertainment. So, please sit back and enjoy the show.

### **Lorelle Angelo**—*Princess Ida*

Soprano Lorelle Angelo has enjoyed success in both classical concert and operatic realms. She has performed such operatic roles as Barbarina, *Le Nozze di Figaro*; Papagena, *The Magic Flute*, Loliya, *El Gato Montez*; Elsie, *The Yeomen of the Guard*; Aline, *The Sorcerer* and Josephine, *HMS Pinafore*. She has also performed in concert recitals in Europe, North America and South America spanning oratorio, art song and opera in concert, including her Roy Thompson Hall debut in 2004 at the Nicholas Goldschmidt Remembrance Concert after performing the role of Mrs. Sem under the late Maestro's direction. Lorelle currently resides in Toronto and holds a Graduate degree in Voice Performance from the University of Toronto.

### **Beth Armstrong**—*Lady Psyche*

Beth Armstrong is a recent graduate of the University of Toronto's Victoria College. During her four years at school, when she was not in the library pouring over Canadian history articles and Canadian literature, Beth was performing in various shows around campus and taking voice lessons at the Royal Conservatory. It was only in her second year, however, when she discovered *The Vic Chorus Gilbert and Sullivan Society* that Beth truly found her mecca. After graduating Beth was determined to continue to sing as much as possible and is extremely grateful to have found MADS so that she may continue to indulge her unconditional love for G&S.

### **Cassandra Bell**—*Chloe*

This is Cassandra's 14th season with MADS, 5th minor lead, and she still loves treading the boards with this second family. She thinks it's the best escape from her regular job as a Paramedic, for what better stress relief is there than dressing up and being someone else! A special thank you to Glen for holding down the home front while she goes out to play.

### **Loris Buzdon**—*King Hildebrand*

Loris has been singing with St. Anne's Music and Drama Society as a chorister and soloist on and off for the last 25 years. He's pleased to be back again playing the role of King Hildebrand, after being on hiatus for a few years. Loris performs throughout the GTA at various venues. He teaches music in Mississauga and loves working with his choirs both in school and at his parish.

### **Lisa Dell'Aera**—*Sacharissa*

Lisa Dell'Aera is thrilled to be making her MADS debut! Lisa studies voice at the Royal Conservatory of Music School and sings soprano at St. Thomas's Anglican Church. This past summer, she travelled to England with the St. Thomas's Choir where they were choir-in-residence at Canterbury Cathedral, St. George's Chapel – Windsor Castle, and Westminster Abbey. Past credits include: *Existere*, *The Rover* (Queen's University) and *Studio Coquette* (CBC).

### **Angela Forbes**—*Melissa*

Angela is thrilled to be playing Melissa in *Princess Ida* this year. This role allows her to express her latent maniacal tendencies. When these tendencies are repressed, she leads a "normal" life baking bread and singing with St. Anne's Choir.

## MADS at the International Gilbert & Sullivan Festival

For the past 22 years, the International Gilbert and Sullivan Festival has taken place in Buxton, a quaint spa town nestled in England's Peak District. This three week festival features a performance of a different G&S opera each night, performed by companies from all over the world.

Last August, to celebrate the 50th anniversary of St. Anne's MADS, 72 of us went to the Buxton International Gilbert & Sullivan Festival and staged one performance of *The Gondoliers*. The audience was so enthusiastic that the booth selling DVDs of each performance had to re-order ours twice, for the demand was so great. In addition to the thrill of performing abroad with a professional orchestra in a theatre of the vintage and beautiful decor of Toronto's Royal Alex, we had the comfort of excellent travel and accommodation and the excitement of a trip to a Victorian Industrial Revolution Village. Some of the cast stayed on an extra week to visit London and other places of interest in the U.K. The entire trip went smoothly thanks to the diligent planning and flexibility of Diana and Laura—a truly golden event!

## Historical Notes

Princess Ida, or Castle Adamant, was first produced at the Savoy Theatre on January 5, 1884. Their eighth collaboration, it was produced between *Iolanthe* and *The Mikado*. The story is based on an earlier play by Gilbert entitled *The Princess* which was Gilbert's twist on the poem by Tennyson of the same name. It is perhaps the least known of the operas now regularly performed, but not necessarily the least interesting. It is the only one of Gilbert and Sullivan's operas to be written in three acts and in blank verse (written in metrical but unrhymed lines, usually iambic pentameter). Some believe that it contains some of the funniest lines in comic opera. Sullivan's score comes the closest it ever does to high opera in Ida's aria, *Minerva*. The opera was a satire of feminism, women's education and Darwinian evolution, which were among the most provocative and absorbing topics of the day.

For more information about *Princess Ida*, please visit: [http://diamond.boisestate.edu/gas/princess\\_ida/html/index.html](http://diamond.boisestate.edu/gas/princess_ida/html/index.html)

— **REFRESHMENTS** —

AVAILABLE DOWNSTAIRS DURING BOTH INTERMISSIONS

**Artistic Director:**  
**Music Director:**  
**Choreographer:**

**Laura Schatz**  
**Daniel Norman**  
**Jennie Friesen Garde**

## DRAMATIS PERSONAE

|  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| <b>King Hildebrand</b>                                       | Loris Buzdon      |
| <b>Hilarion</b> ( <i>His Son</i> )                           | Michael P. Taylor |
| <i>His Friends</i>   |                   |
| <b>Cyril</b>   | Jay Lambie        |
| <b>Florian</b>   | Marc Potvin       |
| <b>King Gama</b>   | Roy Schatz        |
| <i>His Sons (The Three Knights)</i>                          |                   |
| <b>Arac</b>  | Todd Sherman      |
| <b>Guron</b>   | David Garde       |
| <b>Scynthius</b>   | Adrian Alder      |
| <b>Princess Ida</b> ( <i>Gama's Daughter</i> )               | Lorelle Angelo    |
| <b>Lady Blanche</b> ( <i>Professor of Abstract Science</i> ) | Laura Schatz      |
| <b>Lady Psyche</b> ( <i>Professor of Humanities</i> )        | Beth Armstrong    |
| <b>Melissa</b> ( <i>Lady Blanche's Daughter</i> )            | Angela Forbes     |
| <b>Sacharissa</b> ( <i>Girl Graduate</i> )                   | Lisa Dell'Aera    |
| <b>Chloe</b> ( <i>Girl Graduate</i> )                        | Cassandra Bell    |
| <b>Ada</b> ( <i>Girl Graduate</i> )                          | Heather Friesen   |

**Soldiers, Courtiers and Pages:** Michael Archer, Roland Binkley, Phil Cox, John Federchuk, Edward Follows, Joseph Follows, Robert Follows, Evan Garde, Philip Garde, David James, Stephen Jones, Cliff Lingwood, Mark McDermott, Merv Pickering, Frank Remiz, David Roeder, J. Bev Stainton, Jeremy Weeks

**Girl Graduates and Daughters of the Plough:** Tabatha Alder, Lise Beaupré, Michelle Binkley, Wendy Boyd, Marnie Bradshaw, Claire-Marie Fortin, Saffi Friesen, Louise Gagnon, Elizabeth Hannah, Cally Harper, Shirley Huntley, Ruth Lamberti, Marg Moffat, Rhonda Pelshea, Ann Rand, Nancy Robichaud, Laurie Rogers, Barbara Zulis

## ORCHESTRA/TECHNICAL CREW

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Violin                                   | 1st Violin: Gerry Burford (Concertmaster), Meghan Cheng, David Colpitts<br>2nd Violin: Gina Maenhaut, Terry Robbins,  |
| Viola                                    | Senan Whelan  |
| Cello                                    | Cheryl Ockrant, Iris Krizmanic  |
| String Bass                              | Kerry Johnston  |
| Flute                                    | Carolyn Ricketts, John Barrett, Cathy Whiteside   |
| Oboe                                     | Ian Gallimore, Gary Armstrong   |
| Clarinet                                 | Ken Fudurich, Jerry Atrix, Menno Mosso  |
| Bassoon                                  | Kenneth Hodge   |
| French Horn                              | Elizabeth Bowes   |
| Trumpet                                  | Margaret Wolf   |
| Trombone                                 | Robert Ketchen  |
| Percussion                               | Brian Farrow  |
| Orchestra Manager                        | Terry Robbins   |
| Producer                                 | Diana Schatz  |
| Communications                           | Jan Mahood  |
| Original Set Design/<br>Painting         | J. Warren Hughes  |
| Set Manager                              | David Garde   |
| Production Crew                          | Cameron Binkley, Angela Forbes, Roger Friesen, Philip Garde, Jamie Higgins,<br>Stephen Jones, Jan Mahood, Maggie Newell, Jacob Philips, Marc Potvin,<br>John Routh, Glen Stewart, Barbara Zulis |
| House and Refreshments                   | Carolyn Archer, Helen Cox, Karen Dunk-Green, Audrey Forbes, Roger<br>Friesen, Kathryn Lingwood, Yvonne Motley, Brenda Robbins, Arlene Roeder,<br>Vickie Stainton                                |
| Lighting Designer/<br>Technical Director | Chris Humphrey  |
| Lighting Technician                      | Sally Roberts   |
| Prompter                                 | Paula Boma-Fischer  |
| Répétitrice                              | Tanya Paradowski  |
| Stage Manager                            | Maggie Newell   |
| Photography                              | Martin Chai, John Routh   |
| Program                                  | Heather Friesen   |
| Original Art                             | Wendy Boyd  |
| Costume and Props<br>Coordinator         | Maggie Newell   |
| Costumes                                 | Theatrix Costume House  |
| Musical scores                           | Counterpoint Musical Services   |