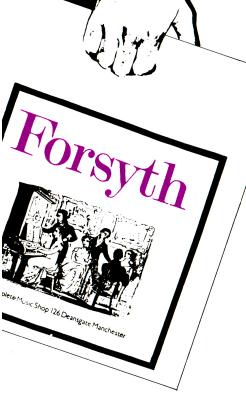


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AESTHETIC: to do with the appreciation of beauty

The target of Gilbert's humour in 'Patience' is the excesses of the aesthetic movement which flourished in England between 1870 and the mid 1880's. Originally the movement, led by William Morris, was a totally welcome and healthy reaction to Victorian ugliness. But soon, as with other more recent artistic movements it acquired its cult figures, mindless apostles, devotees and poseurs and what had been a creative force became a cultural fad.

Richard D'Oyly Carte described it:

'their pure and healthy teaching has given place to the outpouring of a clique of professors of ultra-refinement who preach the gospel of morbid languour and sickly sensuousness, which is half affected by its high priests for the purpose of gaining social notriety.

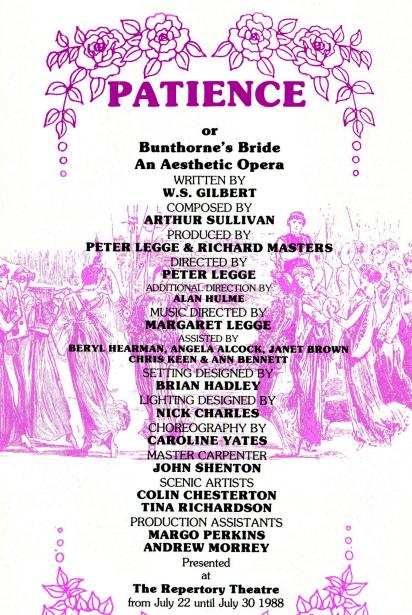
People actually did walk about gazing at lilies and affecting 'lank limbs and haggard cheeks', 'greenery gallery' fashions predominated accompanied by absurd medieval posturing and a bizarre taste for collecting Japanese knick-knacks.

Of the nineteenth century celebrities who championed the Aesthetic Movement only Oscar Wilde is still generally remembered. The poems of Algemon Swinburne, the paintings of James Whistler and the writings of Walter Pater have a limited modern following. Why then is the opera which satirized them still so popular?

Patience' is about a particular movement in art but it is also about affectation and snobbery and 'the morbid love of admiration' which still accompanies some of today's artistic, musical and literary movements. Picturesque garments, cult language and ritualized movement still play a major part in the affectations of modern men of culture.

Not only this the opera itself contains some of Gilbert's wittiest language and Sullivan's most accomplished music. The delightful theatrical situations of the earthy dragoons confronted by the ethereal maidens, of the military life set against the artistic life and of competing poets mixed up with a simple milkmaid is both comic and colourful and also an ideal vehicle for satire.

In the end love and common-sense triumph over pretensions and egotism and most of the characters are set fair to live happily ever after.



PATIENCE

Archibald Grosvenor, anddy	llic poet.	Alan Hulme Greg Walker Eric Ball
Mr Bunthome's Solicitor Colnel Calverley	Officers	Richard Masters
Major Murgatroyd?	Dragoon	Geoffrey Legan
Lieut. the Duke of Dunstable	e Guards	ໄູັTony O'Rourke
The Lady Angela	У	Z Debbie Mouat
The Lady Saphir	Rapturous	Dereth Bailey
The Lady Ella	Maidens	Jenny Birtles
The Lady Jane.		Shelly Burke Julie Mellor
Patience, a Dairymaid		Guile Mellor

CHORUS OF RAPTUROUS MAIDENS

Lee Jane Bennion, Joanne Bromley, Julia Brownsword, Pam Cotton, Carole Hopwood, Jane Hunt, Katherine Legge, Julee Mountford, Liz Owen, Alison Townsend.

CHORUS OF DRAGOON GUARDS

David Bailey, Richard Chilvers, Alan Cotton, Guy Farmer, David Finn, Bill Hancock, Tony Hearman, Chris Keen, Andrew Morrey, Bernard Moss.

GARDENERS AND SERVANTS

Tony Crompton, Garden Toon, John Cooper, Ben Crompton

SCENE

The exterior of castle Bunthorne There will be an interval of fifteen minutes between Act I and II.





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RALPH CHADWICK(LEADER)
MELANIE HOUSON
JENNIFER HARDING
LESLEY JONES
CAROL DREW
KAREN HEELAND
MICHAEL HEARMAN
ALBERT HANCOCK

FLUTES

BERYL HEARMAN ANN MARKS

TIMPANI & PERCUSSION GEOFF MILLWARD

CLARINETS

MARIE BATEMAN VICKI HOOD

TROMBONES

DON TILL GLYN ADAMS RICHARD HARDIN

DOUBLE BASS
MADELEINE MILLER

OBOES

CAROLINE SIMPSON IAN PEMBERTON

BASSOON SARAH STREET

HORNS

LYNN BOTTOMLEY

DANIEL CROMPTON

TRUMPETS

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