

## News University News & Information

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, California



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Ticket Sales: 805/756-2787

## Frothy Gilbert & Sullivan Operetta Comes to the PAC

SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA – The New York Gilbert & Sullivan Players have been called "exquisitely inventive" by the *New York Times*. On Tuesday, May 3, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center's Cohan Center, NYGSP performs their effervescent rendition of Gilbert & Sullivan's timeless *The Mikado*.

"...splendid production...sterling cast...carried off the humor of this light work to the hilt...had the audience rolling in the aisles."

— Gannett News

Cal Poly Arts presents the operetta that was first performed at the Savoy Theatre, London, England in 1885, where it ran longer than any other G&S opera. Since then, *The Mikado* has been filmed twice, and performed in every possible style – jazzed, swung, and even conceived as a ballet.

NYGASP's production is in the traditional mold, combining a modern playfulness with a respect for the creators' original intent. A full orchestra brings to life Sullivan's own evocative orchestration and the legit singing of the company's outstanding performers brings lushness to the vocal lines. Gilbert's wit and always-relevant barbs aimed at the foibles of human nature also receive full attention.

The location is a fictitious Japanese town full of colorful characters: three little maids from school, a wandering minstrel, a hilariously corrupt public official, and a Lord High Executioner who may have a list of potential victims but is too tenderhearted to actually perform his duties.

*The Mikado* features those favorite G&S characters – Yum-Yum, Nanki-Poo, and Ko-Ko, not to mention the fearsome Katisha, the hilariously ridiculous Pooh-Bah, and the politely sadistic Mikado himself.

Gilbert's lyrics and Sullivan's melodies have delighted over one hundred years of operetta lovers but they are still as fresh as when they were first sung over a century ago.

Patrons are invited to attend a free pre-concert lecture presented by Music Dept. faculty member Jacayln Kreitzer at 6:30 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center's Pavilion.

Student and adult tickets for the performance range from \$24 to \$54 and may be purchased at the Performing Arts Center Ticket Office, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays.

To order by phone, call 805/756-2787; to order by fax: 805/756-6088.

24-hour on-line ordering is available at www.calpolyarts.org.

Sponsored by the Foundation for the Performing Arts Center.

For more information on all Cal Poly Arts events, including audio and video samples, please visit www.calpolyarts.org.

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