The University of Alaska Fairbanks
Theatre and Music Departments Proudly Present

The MIKADO
OR THE TOWN OF TITIPU

BY GILBERT & SULLIVAN
STAGE DIRECTOR: ANATOLY ANTOHIN
MUSICAL DIRECTOR: JOHN HOPKINS

SCENIC DESIGNER        COSTUME DESIGNER
GREG GUSTAFSON         TARA MAGINNIS
LIGHTING DESIGNER      STAGE MANAGER
KADE MENDELOWITZ       ROB WOLTASIEWICZ

APRIL 2-18, 1999
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FOR THE AUDIENCE

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GROUP SALES: 20% discount call 474-7751.

For our shows to begin on time, we request that ticket holders arrive 15 minutes before curtain, and encourage others to purchase tickets before the evening of the event.
Principal Cast

*The Mikado of Japan*

NANKI-POO (his son, disguised as a wandering minstrel, and in love with YUM-YUM)

Ko-Ko (Lord High Executioner of Titipu)

POOH-BAH (Lord High Everything Else)

PISH-TUSH (A Noble Cord)

YUM-YUM

Peep-Bo

Pitti-Sing

Katisha

**Gentlemen of Japan:**

Nick Dixon, Go-To

Gary Maynard, Yo-Yo

Robert Smith, Ping-Pong

Ben Thompson, Wang-Chung

**Chorus of Schoolgirls:**

Stephanie Dube, Honey-Dew

Kit Fielding, Yippi Yo

Lauren Kaynor, Tippi To

Michelle Risse, Dippi-Doo

Carolyn Shannon, Tutti-Froo-Ti

Amanda Williams, Kitchi-Coo

(Invisible Chorus)

Tammi Holland, Chorus

Erika Johnson, Chorus

Moe O'Connell, Chorus

Jamie Thierman, Chorus

Fairbanks Choral Arts Orchestra

Conductor

John Hopkins

Violin

Kathleen Butler-Hopkins, Concertmaster

Sunnifa Brady

Carrie Krause

Sam Quintal

Karen Toland

Justin Eichler

Beth O'Brien

Carrie Rosenberg

Julie Parshall

Viola

Glenn Johnson

Nancy Hallman

Cello

Peggy Swartz

Christopher Hopkins

Jo Swiss

Bass

Kevin Hanscom

Flute

Monica Bando

Jennifer Combellick

Oboe

Ingrid Harbaugh

Katie Orth

Kay DeCorso

Alison Wiefels

Stephanie Robinson

Trombone

Bill Holmes

Douglas Bedingfield

French Horn

Derrick Parker

Pitcairn MacDonald

Percussion

Alexandra Coghill

April 4 Performance

Ann Andersen, Piano
**Production Crew**

**Assistant Stage Manager**  
Kelley Stables

**Poster**  
Tara Maginnis & Kade Mendelowitz

**Department Coordinator**  
Jason Chapman

**Ticket Sales**  
Fletcher Hirom, Jeremy Johnson

**Technical Director**  
Kade Mendelowitz

**Assistant Technical Dir., Master Elec.**  
Dale F. Kohlmetz

**Crew Supervisors**  
Sarah Bushman, Kelley Stables

**Scene Shop Crew**  
Jessica Beck, Christopher Salmon, Diana Williams

**Light Board Operator**  
Chad Stadig

**Fly Crew**  
Jessica Beck, Craig

**Costume Shop Manager**  
Lorraine Pettit

**Wig Construction**  
Tara Maginnis, John Wallace, Diana Williams

**Dressers & Makeup Crew**  
Tiffany Ayers, Heather Mass, Diana Williams

**Costume Construction**  
Tiffany Ayers, Gwendolyn Brazier

Angela Brownfield, Sarah Bushman, Tracy Campbell, Jason Chapman, Stephanie Dube, Cathy Ellis, Sevak Fair, Kit Fielding, Goro Iri, Lauren Kaynor, Etsuko Kimura, Mike Kiser, Heather Maas, Gary Maynard, Cara Noss, Susan Risse, Jim Runner, Robert Smith, Fawn Solomon, Kelley Stables, Jo Swiss, Jamie Thierman, Susan Thierman, Ben Thompson, Carolyn Valley, Amanda Williams, Diana Williams

**Kimono/Obi Dressing Consultant**  
Etsuko Kimura

**Mikado Headdress Construction**  
Tracy Campbell, Stephanie Dube, Tara Maginnis

**Orchestra Manager**  
Nancy Hallinan

**Rehearsal Accompanist**  
Ann Andersen

**UAF Opera Workshop T.A. Accompanist**  
Paul Krejci

**Choreographer**  
Chad Goldback

* Denotes Member of the SDA (Student Drama Association)

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About the Cast and Crew

Gwendolyn P. Brazier, Katisha, A graduate of North Pole High School, this is not Gwen’s first show. She has performed in almost a dozen shows including Gilbert & Sullivan’s *Pirates of Penzance*. In her second semester at UAF, Gwen has immersed herself in the arts. Fairbanks Symphony, Camerata, and North Star Strings are a mere fraction of the things to which she devotes her time. Katisha is, she says, very much like her own character, “a little bloodthirsty.”

Sarah Bushman, Pitti-Sing, is a sophomore transfer student from Randolph-Macon Woman’s College. She is a music major at UAF. Sarah plans to pursue a career in either opera or theatre. She served as assistant stage manager for *Laughter in the 23rd Floor* and stage manager for *Mrs. Sorken*. She enjoys writing, reading, pretending to understand French, and hanging around the theatre. She also wonders why people willingly live in Fairbanks during the winter.

Nick Dixon, Go-To, is a freshman at UAF and is studying music. He has performed in numerous plays in highschool including the *Mikado, Pirates of Penzance*, *Chorus Line* and *Fame*.

Steven Dixon, Koko. If you’ve been going to UAF’s opening musicals the past few years, Steve may be a familiar face. He played Papageno in last year’s *The Magic Flute*, and was also in *Threepenny Opera* the year before. A music major, Steve has done much solo and choral work throughout Alaska, and has performed through the lower 48 and Europe. He plans to graduate before he dies.

Stephanie Dube, Honey-Dew, Having sung since she was a little girl, Stephanie has always loved singing in choirs and bands. She has already received a degree in biology, but decided to add musical education with a focus on vocal performance to her already long list of skills and talents. Stephanie intends to give her vocal recital next fall and move into her student teaching in the spring of 2000. She will be singing proudly in the *Mikado* and hopes you enjoy the show.

Kit Fielding, Yippi Yo, Kit is a fifteen year old sophomore at West Valley High School and has lived in Fairbanks for three years. She enjoys singing and acting. In addition to singing and acting, Kit also enjoys playing soccer and her violin. She doesn’t know what she wants to do in the future but she’s sure it will involve acting.

Brett Good, Pish-Tush, is a theatre major who plans to graduate ASAP. He has done many shows up here, and feels that it is time to try working in a more theatre oriented town.

Tammi Holland, Chorus, is a Junior music major studying voice here at UAF. Her past credits include Edith in *Pirates of Penzance*, Rose in *Meet in St. Louis*, Lucy in *Three-Penny Opera* and Pamina in *The Magic Flute*.

Heather Holzapfel, Yum-Yum, is a twenty year old sophomore at UAF. she is majoring in vocal performance. Last year you may have seen her as Papagena in *The Magic Flute*. Some other productions she has been in include *Oklahoma* as Gertie, *Fiddler on the Roof* as Hodel, *Nunsense* as Sister Mary Amnesia and *The King and I* as Anna. She also plays the violin and viola, and is currently studying piano. She is looking forward to a few more years of productions with UAF.

Erika Johnson, Chorus, a freshman at UAF, is proud to be part of *The Mikado*. She has been performing since age three and could not possibly list all the wonderful experiences she’s had. Currently, Erika is a full-time student majoring in vocal performance. She also keeps busy working two jobs, saving her money with hopes of moving to New York City and living in a nice refrigerator box. Erika would like to thank her family and many friends for their support.

Lauren Kaynor, Tippi-To, is a sophomore in highschool and has lived in Fairbanks for two years. Though early in her career, she has already appeared in such plays as *Bye-bye Birdie*, *Tripedef Thraat*, *Ragtime*, *The Saga of Cinderella* in Summer Fine Arts Camp and, her favorite role to date, as Ruth in *Pirates of Penzance*. Lauren has also participated in All-State choir and Solo / Ensemble competition.

Nathan Kessey, Mikado, Nathan has been performing locally since the age of three, in the Suzuki Violin School. He loves acting, and performed throughout school and Fine Arts Camp for four years. He enjoys martial arts, guitar, video work, and sports, but his real love is music. Nathan plans to go to either the university if Northern Colorado or the University of Nevada, Reno, next year.

Dan Kiser, Nanki-Poo, Dan Kiser, a sophomore at UAF, is a committed vocal performance major. His interest in musical theater seems to be heading him to the stage in New York, but who knows. Previously Harold Hill from the *Music Man* at SFAC, and ranked #1 Baritone in 97 Alaska All-State Choir. Dan is proud to be a part of *The Mikado*.

Mike Kiser, Pooch-Bah, is a junior in his fifth semester at UAF. He has been studying philosophy and music as a double major, but intends to change to interdisciplinary studies. His career ambitions consist of graduating someday so he can pursue an MFA in creative writing.

Gary Maynard, Chorus, Gary was born in Columbus, Ohio and came to Fairbanks in 1993 to study Political Science. He transferred to Bowling Green State in Ohio to finish his studies in 1995. He graduated with
Gary has a 3.96 G.P.A. and is in Phi Beta Kappa. He has lived in Norfolk, Virginia and Phoenix, Arizona. He came to Alaska to experience the untamed wilderness. He wants to be an actor and hopes to work in theatre, films and television at some point in his career. He enjoys reading, studying ancient history, and foreign cultures. He also enjoys soccer.

Moe O’Connell, Chorus, Moe O’Connell is a freshman and came to Alaska the first time ever in Jan 99. Moe jumped right into the theatre department upon arrival and made her debut appearance in the student directed Winter Short, Prelude and Liebestod. She loves acting, trying new things, and being a weirdo.

Michelle Risse, Chorus, a student at Ryan Middle School, has lived in Fairbanks all her life, but at the age of thirteen, she is no new-comer to the stage. She has been in four other productions previous to the Mikado. Among her favorite roles are Baby June from Gypsy and a Ward from another Gilbert and Sullivan play Pirates of Penzance. Currently, Michelle is taking dance lessons from Mo Holland and Choir with Francis Gloria.

Meredith Rude, Peep-Bo, is a senior at UAF and working towards a degree in K-12 Music Education. During her five years up here she has participated in a few major musical productions. Most recently she appeared in The Magic Flute as the First Spirit, and briefly as Queen of the Night. This will likely be her last production at Theatre UAF as she will be student teaching next fall in her hometown of Anchorage.

Carolyn Shannon, Chorus, a sophomore at West Valley, enjoys acting, dancing and singing. She has been in many F.L.O.T. plays, such as Gypsy, Music Man and Oliver. She was also an Indian in the Fairbanks Shakespeare Company’s Peter Pan. She takes voice lessons from Marvilla Davis and has attended Summer Fine Arts Camp three years.

Robert Smith, Ping-Pong, was raised in North Pole. He spent a considerable amount of time swimming, acting and singing. He is currently a Music Education Major here at UAF, and hopes to graduate by 2001. His hobbies include: practicing (acting and music), studying, reading and catching the latest new release at the theatre.

Jamie Thierman, Chorus, played Peg, the leader of the homeless children, in Castaways and was a narrator in Barrington Bunny with Sandy Wolf. In her spare time, she plays violin, flute, piano, and sings in choir. Jamie is in the sixth grade at Weller Elementary School.

Ben Thompson, Chorus, After five years as an electrician in the U.S. Navy he returned to Fairbanks to learn that none of his experience counts in the real world so he has turned all his attention to acting.

Amanda Williams, Cutchie-Koo, is a sophomore at UAF. She has been in many operas and plays including The Magic Flute, The Music Man, and Oliver. Though voice is her true passion theatre has also become one of her great passions. Next year she will be transferring to Grassland to pursue a career in theology.

Rob Wojtasiewicz, Stage Manager, got his start in theatre 33 years ago at the tender age of ten when, as The March Hare in Alice in Wonderland, he sang an entire solo verse of The Unbirthday Song (which he still remembers). Lately Rob is more involved in production than acting, and has helped in various local shows. His ultimate dream is to help produce Goethe’s Faust. He dedicates his efforts on The Mikado in respectful memory of Stanley Kubrick

Notes From the Director

This opera was written over a century ago when the China Towns in SF and NYC were in their infancies. The Orient was a cultural discovery; the West met East. Thanks to the British sense of humor, Gilbert and Sullivan wrote an opera not about the East, but about the English in London.

I like The Mikado, a very silly love story about the law in Titipu punishing flirting by death! I like that after Wagner, the grand opera decided not to take itself too seriously (Broadway musicals were born out of this comic attitude). You know, sometimes it’s easier to talk about your problems using fictitious character names (like “Pish-Tush” or “Yum-Yum”) .

They say that it all began when a Japanese sword fell from the wall of Gilbert’s house and inspired him to write Mikado. Sullivan, who had already decided to stop writing comic-opera music for the Savoy Theatre, changed his mind when he read Gilbert’s story. There was an enormous reservoir of theatrical “fun” in the work. The absurdity of power, position and bureaucracy (under made-up Japanese names) becomes visible and laughable.

The Mikado was a success in England and the States, and the first opera ever recorded on compact disc. The Mikado is considered a true theatre success story. Please join us this April as we present this piece of theatrical/musical history.

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THEATRE UAF FACULTY AND STAFF

Anatoly Antohin, Playwright and Director: Anatoly has directed many shows at UAF. He received his MFA from the Moscow Institute of Cinematography, and won several awards in drama. His plays have been produced in many European countries. In the USA, he has taught and directed at the University of Connecticut, New York University, and Hollins College in Virginia.

Jason Chapman, Theatre UAF’s Department Coordinator: is an alumnus of UAF, where he received his BA in Theatre with a Minor in film. He has directed extensively for Theatre UAF and KDQ & Co., a new non-profit theatre company. Next semester Jason will be guest lecturing a course on the true love of his life; stage management.

Greg Gustafson, Scenic Designer, Guest Artist. Greg has been involved in the Fairbanks theatre community for 19 years as an Actor and Scenic Artist, he lives in the cabin he built in the woods with his wife, Claudia, and their two children, Trenton and Cheyenne. Greg is currently teaching Drama at Lathrop High School.
**John Hopkins**, Musical Director: John received his Doctor of Musical Arts (D.M.A.) degree in Vocal Performance and Pedagogy from The University of Iowa. In addition to directing the UAF Opera Workshop at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, he directs the Choir of the North, the Alaska Camerata and teaches private voice.

**Dale F. Kohlmetz**, Assistant Technical Director: Dale is the most recent addition to the Theatre UAF staff and recently graduated from UAF with a degree in Wildlife Management. This job keeps the right side of Dale’s brain happy while the left side pursues research with the UA Museum.

**Judy Kreith**, Dance and Movement Guest Lecturer: Judy moved to Fairbanks in 1996 to work as an artist in the schools with the Fairbanks Arts Association. She received her M.A. from Stanford University in 1987. Her choreography credits include Stanford University production of "West Side Story" and “Jesus Christ Superstar.” Currently, she is teaching a variety of dance and movement classes for children and adults in the Fairbanks area, and is the Artistic Director of Dance Omnium.

**Tara Maginnis**, PhD., Costume Designer: Tara is slowly disappearing and reforming her molecules into html. She is now the largest costume web site on the planet at www.costumes.org, where she and her cat, Shoelace, live in virtual form on the World Wide Web.

**Kade Mendelowitz**, Lighting Designer and Technical Director. Originally from New York, this workaholic recently completed an Interactive CD-ROM/textbook on lighting design. Kade is the sole owner of Multimakers, and he invites you to visit his site at HTTP://WWW.LDI.NU

**Lorraine Pettit**, Costume Shop Manager, Tara’s twin joined at the mind at birth. Has recently driven up the Alcan with her feline familiar Mu. She lives in non virtual form in the costume shop at UAF.

**Thomas Riccio**, Playwright and Director, Has directed over a dozen plays with Tuma Theatre. Prior to UAF Riccio was Artistic Director of Chicago’s Organic Theatre Company and Dramaturg/Resident Director at the Cleveland Play House. He has directed at New York City’s famed La Mama Etc, and others. He was a visiting Professor at the Korean National University for the Arts in 1996 and has recently conducted workshops in Finland and England. Last Fall he developed and directed Pipedreams for FDA.
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