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MUSICAL PLAYS

ACE OF CLUBS

By Noel Coward

In a version arranged and directed by Jenny Lee for the ATTIC Theatre Company (London). Music arranged by Paul Todd

The Story

Set around the 'Ace of Clubs', a Soho night – club, this is a story of show girls, romance, gangster dealings and deceptions, humoresque confusion and of London life in the 1950's.

The musical numbers are typically Coward and offer most of the principal characters the chance to shine. Staging can be as simple or elaborate as is desired with most of the 'action' taking place within the confines of the club or just outside in Soho Square.

'Ace of Clubs' was first presented by Tom Arnold at the Palace Theatre, Manchester on 16th May 1950 and, after a short stay in Liverpool, transferred to the Cambridge Theatre, London on 7th July 1950 where it played for 211 performances.

Principal Characters

Felix Felton

Pinkie Leroy

Rita Marbury

Benny Lucas

Eva

Sammy Blake

The Ace Girls (4-8)

Harry Hornby

Joseph Snyder

Gus

Det. Inspector Warrilove

Officer

Principal Musical Numbers

18 plus Finale

Instrumentation

Piano only

BELLE OR THE BALLAD OF DOCTOR CRIPPEN

Music and Lyrics by Monty Norman
Book Adapted by Wolf Mankowitz
From a play by Beverley Cross

The Story

A Music Hall Musical compounded of the basic traditional English ingredients – love, comedy, violence and corn. Set in the music hall of 1910, the love is sweet, the comedy broad, the violence unmentionable and the corn freshly popped!

Principal Characters

Hawley Harvey Crippen
Cora – “Belle Elmore”
Madame Petrazzini
Ethel Le Neve
George Lasher
Inspector Dew
Captain
Jenny
‘Mighty Mick’
Sergeant Mitchell

Principal Musical Numbers

Information available on request

Instrumentation

Piano only

BEST FRIENDS & BUTTERFLIES

By Elliot Davies and Sam Brookes

The Story

Best Friends and Butterflies is an award winning family musical about a class of caterpillars and the trials and adventures they face on their journey to becoming butterflies.

Principal Characters

Vernon Wesley Beetle – Headmaster of Caterpillar High

Lady Byrd – Patron of Caterpillar High

Mille Pede – Teacher & Organiser of Caterpillar High

Benjy – Graduates from Caterpillar High

Lloyd

Sam

Carlton

Camilla

Vlad the Inhaler – Asthmatic Vampire Bat (Assassin)

Mrs Wanda Willamina Wilkinson – Giant Black Widow Spider

Chorus of Caterpillars and Termites

Principal Musical Numbers

Information available on request

Instrumentation

Piano only

BRIGADOON

Music by Frederick Loewe

Libretto and Lyrics by Alan Jay Lerner

The Story (The Scottish Highlands, 200 years ago)

Two Americans, Tommy Albright and his pal Jeff Douglas, chance upon a small Scottish village in a Highland mist. They discover, mainly from the village schoolmaster Mr Murdoch, that Brigadoon is an enchanted place that only comes to life one day every hundred years. Tommy and Jeff meet Fiona MacKeith and Meg Brockie, and Tommy and Fiona soon find in each other a deep understanding. We follow the villagers through a day that includes a wedding and learn that if one of the inhabitants should leave Brigadoon the spell will be broken for ever. There is a near-disaster when a young embittered Scot tries to take his revenge. He dashes towards the forest but is killed making his escape. Happiness is changed to mourning. Tommy has by now fallen deeply in love with Fiona but he is told he cannot stay. He goes back with Jeff to New York and quarrels with his fiancée. Suddenly in a New York bar he sees a vision for Fiona and comes to a decision. He knows he must return to Scotland. There by the power of love he reawakens the slumbering Brigadoon just long enough for him to be reunited with Fiona.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

Tommy Albright

Jeff Douglas

Fiona

Jean

Meg Brockie

Charlie Cameron

Mr Murdoch

Harry Ritchie

Principal Musical Numbers

Waitin' For My Dearie (Fiona, girls)

I'll Go Home With Bonnie Jean (Charlie, Chorus)

The Heather On The Hill (Tommy, Fiona)

Come to Me, Bend to Me, (Charlie)

Almost Like Being In Love (Tommy, Fiona)

There But For You Go I (Tommy)

My Mother's Weddin' Day (Meg, Chorus)

From This Day On (Fiona, Tommy)

Instrumentation (Total number of books = 16)

2 Violins I

1 Violin II

1 Viola

1 Cello

1 Double Bass

1 Flute / Picc

1 Oboe

1 Clarinet I

1 Clarinet II

1 Bassoon

1 Horn

3 Trumpets

1 Trombone

1 Percussion (plus bells and glock)

1 Conductor score

- annotated vocal score

1 Piano

BUGSY MALONE

Words and Music by Paul Williams

Libretto by Alan Parker

The Story (1929, Gangster warfare in New York)

Dandy Dan's hoodlums terrorise the district, exterminating undesirables with their new weapon – splurge guns. His rival Fat Sam Stacetto, who runs the Grand Slam Speakeasy, but Fat Sam's gang still use old-fashioned pies. Fat Sam engages the help of Bugsy Malone, a smooth city slicker who hitherto has been more occupied in sweet-talking Blousey Brown, a would-be girl singer. With Bugsy's help, Fat Sam escapes from a frame-up but he learns later that Dandy Dan's mob have splurged nearly all of his gang. They've also destroyed his sarsaparilla and grocery rackets – the whole empire's gone! There's only one hope left. Fat Sam pays Bugsy 400 dollars in exchange for more help. Bugsy, who has promised to take Blousey to Hollywood, has to break his date with her. Is he mad! Meanwhile, Bugsy and Leroy Smith, a guy with an awesome punch, witness a secret delivery of splurge guns at Dock 17. With a bunch of down-and-outs, they help themselves from the crates. Then the police arrive, led by Captain Smolsky and Lieutenant O'Dreary. Bugsy and the gang escape through a trapdoor. Finally, Dandy Dan prepares for a show down at Fat Sam's speakeasy. When his mob burst in, Bugsy and the guys let 'em have it – the works. Splurge, custard pies, flour bombs... Out of his gooey pandemonium it emerges that Bugsy and Blousey have made it up. Peace has broken out at last.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

Bugsy Malone (who acts as occasional narrator)

Blousey Brown (his girl and would-be Hollywood singer)

Fat Sam (gangland boss and speakeasy owner)

Dandy Dan (Fat Sam's rival)

Knuckles (Fat Sam's right-hand man)

Fizzy (general factotum and singer)

Tallulah (speakeasy girl singer and Blousey's rival)

Leroy Smith (heavyweight boxing hopeful)

Principal Musical Numbers

Bugsy Malone (three girl singers)

Tomorrow (Fizzy)

I'm Feeling Fine (Blousey)

My Name is Tallulah (Tallulah)

Ordinary Fool (Blousey)

Fat Sam's Grand Slam (Girls)

You Give a Little Love (Chorus)

Instrumentation (Total number of books = 10)

1 Clarinet I or Flute

1 Clarinet II or Alto Sax

1 Bassoon

1 Trumpet

1 Trombone

1 Guitar

1 Bass Guitar

1 Drums

1 Piano

1 Full Score

1) The clarinet I part is for one player doubling Flute. If no such player is available, the Flute part can be played on Clarinet. The band part is written with either alternative in mind, and a separate Flute can be obtained if so desired.

2) The clarinet II part is for one player doubling Alto Sax. If no such player is available, the Alto Sax part can be played on Clarinet. The band part is written with either alternative in mind, and a separate Alto part can be obtained if so desired.

CAMELOT

Music by Frederic Loewe

Libretto and Lyrics by Alan Jay Lerner

(based on "The Once and Future King" by T.H White)

The Story (5th Century Britain)

Guinevere journeys to Camelot to become Arthur's Queen. The entire court, apart from Arthur whom she has never met, comes to greet her. Nervous and shy, he is hiding in nearby woods. Presently, he is joined by Guinevere who has slipped away from the ceremony of welcome. They are soon charmed by each other and go forth happily to the wedding. Arthur's tutor, the magician Merlyn, is lured away but not before he has inspired Arthur to favour the establishment of peace and brotherhood. The fame of Arthur's Order of the Round Table brings the cream of Europe's knighthood to Camelot. No knight is more renowned than Lancelot du Lac, although the Queen and courtiers think the young Frenchman's reputation must be inflated. She encourages three knights to challenge him in the lists. Lancelot quickly defeats all three knights in the jousting match and the Queen becomes attracted to him and he finds himself in love with her. Torn between this love and his devotion to Arthur, he asks permission to leave Camelot for foreign conquests. Two years later, he returns to be made Knight of The Round Table and realises that he still loves Guinevere. Mordred, Arthur's illegitimate son, arrives at Camelot to dishonour the King in order to gain the throne. With the help of his sorceress-aunt, Morgan le Fey, he traps Arthur in the forest. Then Mordred finds Lancelot in the Queen's Chambers, accuses him of treachery and imprisons him. Lancelot escapes but Guinevere is sentenced to burn. She is rescued by Lancelot at the last moment and he takes her off to France. Arthur must now wage war on France, even though he forgives Lancelot and Guinevere before the battle. As a final gesture of hope for the future, Arthur sends a young boy, Thomas Mallory, back to England with orders to tell another generation of Camelot's ideals.

Principal characters (plus Chorus)

Arthur	King Pellinore
Guinevere	Mordred
Lancelot	Merlyn

Principal Musical Numbers

I Wonder What The King Is Doing Tonight (Arthur)
Camelot (Arthur, Guinevere)
How To Handle A Woman (Arthur)
If Ever I Would Leave You (Lancelot)
What Do The Simple Folk Do (Arthur, Guinevere)
I Loved You Once in Silence (Guinevere)

Instrumentation

2 Violins I/II
1 Violin III
1 Viola
1 Cello
1 Double Bass
1st Reed – Flute / Picc
2nd Reed – Oboe / Cor Anglais
3rd Reed – Clarinet I / Alto Sax
4th Reed – Clarinet II / Bass Clarinet / Alto Sax / Tenor Sax
1 Trumpet I
1 Trumpet II
1 Horn
1 Trombone I
1 Trombone II
1 Percussion
1 Conductor Score - annotated vocal score

CAROLINE

A Musical play based on the life and times of Caroline Chisholm
By Peter N. Pinne and Don Battye (from an idea by Leila Blake)

The Story

Caroline has been prepared especially for the Secondary School production. Teachers and educationalists alike have praised this musical for its entertaining qualities and ability to involve students of all interests and skills. This story of the “Lady on the five dollar note” is set in Sydney between the years 1840 and 1854 and provides ample chorus work for citizens, government officials, miners, camp followers, immigrant wives and settlers. Apart from Caroline, Archibald, Flora and Tom, all the other characters may be doubled by cast members according to the size of the company. The musical should have a continuing look about it – wherever possible each scene should almost overlap the previous one. It is easier to create this effect by not attempting to have solid sets and furniture.

Act 1

- 1 Outside and Inside Petty’s Hotel
- 2 Caroline’s Vow and Archibald
- 3 The Party
- 4 Interview With Governor Gipps (1)
- 5 The Priest Calls
- 6 Interview with Governor Gipps (2)
- 7 Outside and Inside Petty’s Hotel
- 8 Interview with Governor Gipps (3)
- 9 On the Road
- 10 The Chisholm Home
- 11 Select Committee

Act 2

- 12 Packing – The Chisholm Home
- 13 New Found Freedom - London
- 14 Visit to Earl Grey (1)
- 15 Search for Ann
- 16 Visit to Earl Grey (2)
- 17 Caroline’s London Home
- 18 Caroline Confronts Lang
- 19 Come Emigrate
- 20 Call of the Gold
- 21 Finale - Montage

Principal Characters

Caroline Chisholm
Captain Archibald Chisholm
Flora
Tom Shepherd
Ann Shepherd
Governor Gipps
Lady Gipps
Dr John Lang
Earl Lang
Earl Grey’s Aide
A Priest

Instrumentation (Total number of books = 5)

- 1 Keyboard
- 1 Bass
- 1 Flute
- 1 Percussion
- 1 Piano conductor’s score

DOROTHY

Music by Alfred Cellier

Written by B.C Stephenson

The Story (Rural Kent in 1740)

The plot surrounds the Squire's daughter, Dorothy and her cousin Lydia, who, tired of the social rounds, decide to pose as villagers during the festival of the Hop Pole, (An annual celebration occurring in the vicinity of the Hop Pole Inn), at the end of the Hop picking season. It so happens that Geoffrey a "young English gentleman", and his friend Harry, under assumed names, are using the Hop Pole Inn as a hideout to escape Lurcher, a Sheriff's officer who has been chasing them with a bundle of writs. The men and girls are mutually attracted but neither pair knows the other's true identity. Lurcher arrives on the scene and is tricked into posing as a servant to the two men when they visit the house of the Squire. There is a faked burglary, Lurcher dines too well, identities are exposed but the end is obvious and happy.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

Dorothy

Lydia

Geoffrey

Sir John

Harry

Phyllis

Mrs Privett

Principal Musical Numbers

Be Wise In Time (Dorothy, Lydia, Phyllis)

Hark For'ard (Dorothy, Chorus)

With A Welcome To All (Sir John, Chorus)

Queen Of My Heart (Harry)

The Time Has Come (Phyllis)

Instrumentation (Total number of books = 77)

2 Violins I

1 Violin II

1 Viola

1 Cello / Double Bass

1 Flute I

1 Flute II

1 Oboe

1 Clarinet I

1 Clarinet II

1 Bassoon

1 Horn I

1 Cornet

1 Trombone

1 Drums

1 Timpani

1 Conductor Score – annotated vocal score.

FAMILY RONDO

Music and Lyrics by Vera Heade

Book and additional Lyrics by Dennis Atkinson

The Story

When two young children discover some old photographs hidden in the drawer of an old desk, a wonderful yet sad tale of past lives is brought to life. Set over a time span of many years we see the tale unfold of Master Frederick and his father, once Lord and master of the manor. When Master Frederick falls in love with a beautiful village girl by the name of Alicia, he is faced with heartbreaking ultimatum; either leave Alicia or leave his family. Torn by love, Master Frederick and Alicia leave for Australia. Several years later, a young stranger arrives on the scene enquiring about the Old Manor and is eventually revealed as being the son of Master Frederick. John, (the son), vows to buy back the Manor and return it to its rightful owner, Master Frederick.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

Anne

Ben

Sir Edward Foxley

Lady Beatrice

Frederick

Alicia

John

Emily

Principal Musical Numbers

A Hunting, A Hunting (Chorus)

We've Been Through It Together (Dan, Tom, Chorus)

The Seasons In Their Turn (Emily, John)

The Camera Goes Click! (Anne, Ben, Chorus)

Instrumentation

Piano only

FLAX INTO GOLD

The Story of Rumpelstiltskin
A Junior School Opera
Libretto by Catherine Storr
Music by Hugo Cole

The Story

The story of Rumpelstiltskin, based on the Brothers Grimm children's fairytale. This musical is designed for performance by children between nine and thirteen years of age.

Principal Characters

The Miller
The Miller's Daughter (later Queen)
The King
The Little Man

Principal Musical Numbers

We Are Fathers, Stout Men All
I Sit And Spin
I Am The King Of This Fair Land
Child, I Perceive Your Face Is Fair
Trouble Is Brewing
A Year Ago, Beside The Mill
Here Come I, The Land To Spy
Listen! Listen! Your Ear To The Ground
I'll Guess Your Name
Must He Die?
As I Rode Out The Other Day
Rumpelstiltskin
My Son Is Safe
Ride, King To Ride The Forest Again

Instrumentation

Piano Only

FOLLOW THE STAR

Music by Jim Parker

Libretto and Lyrics by Wally K. Daly

The Story (Early New Testament)

“Follow The Star” is a delightfully fresh retelling of how Christmas began. There are plenty of opportunities for audience participation; children especially will find it difficult not to become involved in the events enacted on the stage. Olly, in charge of the angels, gives Gabby (the Angel Gabriel) the task of going below to Nazareth where he must find a lady called Mary and tell her some news. Gabby is thrilled to have something to do because Angels only grow taller if they do good work. At the moment Gabby is rather small. After finding Mary and telling her that she is going to have a baby, he does something he has been instructed not to do – he lets Joseph see him. When Gabby reports back to Heaven, Olly is annoyed with him for disobeying orders. However, he gives him another chance. Gabby is assigned the job of being the star that the Three Wise Men follow all the way from their lands to Bethlehem. Angy, Jelly and Lofty, three other angels, are told to make the Three Wise Men decide to follow the star. The vain and cruel Herod meets the Wise Men who innocently tell him that a Saviour is soon to be born who will be King. Herod secretly determines that the baby must not be allowed to live. Mary and Joseph arrive in Bethlehem and because they are turned away by the Inn Keepers the baby is born in a stable. When Herod comes trying to find the baby, the crib is hidden by Oxy, Assy and Angel Chicago. Gabby has been so good at being a star that he finds himself grown noticeably taller. After Herod has gone Gabby comes to earth and goes to the crib to view the baby. Gabby is closely followed by the Three Wise Men who bring gifts. Suddenly, Herod returns. The angels hurriedly erect a small wall of cloud to hide Mary, Joseph and the crib. Herod and his soldiers are beaten back by Oxy, Assy and the weather (with some assistance from the audience). Finally, Mary, Joseph and the baby are helped on their way with a happy song.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

Olly

Gabby

Mary

Joseph

Herod

Angel Chicago

Principal Musical Numbers

I'm Going To Be A Star (Gabby)

Follow The Star (Three Wise Men, Gabby, Chorus)

Home (Mary, Joseph, Chorus)

Careful, Carefree or Careless (Angel Chicago)

A Baby's Been Born (Angy, Jelly, Lofty Chorus)

Clap Your Hands And Be Cheery (Olly and Company)

Instrumentation (Total number of books = 14)

2 Violins I

1 Violin II

1 Viola

1 Cello

1 Double Bass

1 Flute

1 Clarinet

1 Trumpet

1 Trombone

1 Percussion

1 Guitar

1 Piano

1 Conductor Score – annotated vocal score

THE GOOD COMPANIONS

Music by Andre Previn

Lyric by Johnny Mercer

Libretto by Ronald Harwood

Adapted from J.B Priestley's novel

The Story (the late 1920s)

It looks as if 'The Dinky Doos', a touring concert party, have given their last performance. They are stranded in Rawsley because their manager has absconded with both the takings and the lady pianist Mr Jess Oakroyd from Bruddersford endears himself with his snippets of homespun advice and is appointed odd-job man. However, Miss Elizabeth Trant, who wishes to escape from an uneventful rustic life in the Cotswolds, is the real salvation of the concert party. She has come into some money and solves the immediate difficulties of the troupe, now called 'The Good Companions'. An ex-school master from East Anglia, Mr Inigo Jollifant, becomes the new pianist and songwriter. Other important members are Susie Dean, the comedienne and 'baby' of the show, Morton Mitcham, a hitherto itinerant banjo-player, Jerry Jerningham, Jimmy Nunn, Mr and Mrs Joe Brundit and Elsie Longstaff. On tour, 'The Good Companions' meet setbacks by the seaside. Inigo, who loves Susie, secretly goes to London where he signs a songwriting contract and persuades an impresario to see 'The Good Companions'. Despite 'toughs' in the audience spoiling the end of the show, the impresario knows talent when he sees it and books Susie and Jerry for his new revue. The remaining 'Good Companions' secure Number One dates, Miss Trant marries her solicitor, Inigo goes on to make his fortune with music and Mr Jess Oakroyd sets off to visit his beloved daughter in Canada.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

Jess Oakroyd	Morton Mitcham
Miss Trant	Jerry Jerningham
Inigo Jollifant	Susie Dean

Principal Musical Numbers

The Pleasure of Your Company (Mitcham, Inigo)

Stage Struck (Susie)

The Dance of Life (Miss Trant)

Good Companions (Inigo, Mitcham, Company)

Slippin' Around The Corner (Jerry)

Darkest Before The Dawn (Miss Trant)

Ta, Luv (Jess)

Instrumentation (Total number of books = 18)

2 Violins I

1 Violin II

1 Viola

1 Cello

1 Double Bass

1 Flute / Picc

1 Oboe

1 Clarinets I/II

1 Bassoon

1 Horn I/II

1 Trumpets I/II

1 Trombone I

1 Trombone II

1 Percussion

1 Harp

1 Piano

1 Conductor Score – annotated vocal score

HALF IN EARNEST

Music, Lyrics and Adaptation by Vivian Ellis

Based on “The Importance of Being Earnest” and other works of Oscar Wilde

The Story (Late Victorian England)

John Worthing, who calls himself Jack in the country but Earnest in town, wants to marry Gwendolen Fairfax, daughter of the formidable Lady Bracknell. Worthing’s background is so obscure – as a baby he was found in a handbag at London’s Victoria Station – that Lady Bracknell strongly objects to the marriage. His friend in London, Algernon Moncrieff, discovers the whereabouts of Worthing’s country estate on which lives his pretty young ward, Cecily Cardew. She is under the tutelage of the governess, Miss Prism. The important question is whether Worthing is, or not, called Earnest, because Gwendolen would never marry anyone whose name was not Earnest. Eventually comes the revelation that Worthing is actually the son of Lady Bracknell’s sister. He was left in the handbag through the absentmindedness of the governess. His name is Earnest John Moncrieff and he is therefore the brother of his friend Algernon. Marriages are planned between Cecily and Algernon and Miss Prism and Dr Chasuable. Gwendolen feels able to marry Worthing because his name really is Earnest and he knows for the first time in his life the vital importance of being Earnest. (In addition to the familiar character of the well-known comedy, a small chorus is required to augment the singing, occupying what appears to the audience as two theatre boxes on each side of the stage.)

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

John Worthing J.P

Algernon Moncrieff

Lady Bracknell

Cecily Cardew

Principal Musical Numbers

Don’t Touch The Cucumber Sandwiches (Algernon)

A Bunburying I Must Go (Algernon)

How Do You Propose To Propose (Jack, Gwendolen)

Foolish Love (Cecily)

There’s No Friend Like a New Friend (Cecily, Algernon)

Christening Quartette (Algernon, Jack, Cecily, Gwendolen)

The Social Scale (Lady Bracknell)

Instrumentation (Total number of books = 2)

1 Piano I

1 Piano II

HIGH SOCIETY

Music and Lyrics by Cole Porter

Book by Richard Eyre

Based on the play “The Philadelphia Story” by Philip Barry
and the MGM Motion Picture “High Society

The Story

High Society is a musical adaptation of “The Philadelphia Story” by Philip Barry. The story is set in 1948 when Tracy Samantha Lord is about to marry her second husband, George Ketteridge. Her mother, Mrs Margaret Lord, and her younger sister, Dinah, are at the family mansion in Philadelphia supervising last minute preparations. Her father, Seth Lord, is absent, ostensibly on business. Sydney Kidd, editor of “Spy” Magazine is determined to get the inside story on the wedding and blackmails Dexter Haven (Tracy’s first husband who is still coming to terms with the failure of their marriage) to arrange for two journalists, Liz Imbrie and Mike Connor, to pose as guests and obtain an exclusive story. Tracy shows a great interest in Mike’s ambition to become a successful author, causing jealousy from both Liz and George; her erratic behaviour on the eve of the wedding leads to its demise just as the guests arrive for the ceremony. The show’s finale is a spectacular double wedding; Tracy and Dexter and Liz and George!

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

Tracy Lord

Dexter Haven

Liz Imbrie

Margaret Lord

George Ketteridge

Dinah Lord

Mike Connor

Seth Lord

Uncle Willie

Principal Musical Numbers

High Society (*Mike, Liz, Chorus*)

Who Wants To Be A Millionaire (*Liz, Mike*)

Hey, Good Lookin’ (*Uncle Willie*)

Well Did You Evah? (*Tracy, Dexter, Mike, Liz*)

Now You Has Jazz (*Mike, Tracy, Chorus*)

In The Still Of The Night (*Liz*)

Instrumentation

Reed 1 - Alto Sax/Clarinet (lead)/ 2nd Flute

Reed 2 – Alto Sax/Flute (lead)/Piccolo

Reed 3 – Tenor Sax/Clarinet/Alto Flute

Reed 4 – Baritone Sax/Clarinet/Bass Clarinet

French Horn

Guitar/Banjo

Trumpet 3/Flugelhorn

2 Violin 1

Keyboards

Trumpet 2

Percussion

Tenor Trombone 2

Trumpet 1/Flugelhorn

Drums

Tenor Trombone 1

1 Violin II

Bass Trombone

Bass

2 Cello

Harp

LISBON STORY

Music by Harry Parr Davies

Libretto and Lyrics by Harold Purcell

The Story (Lisbon and Paris 1939 – 43)

In this exciting story of Second World War espionage, Parisian singing star Gabrielle Girard is parted from the man she loves. He is David Warren of the British Foreign Office who has been posted to Washington. By chance they meet again in Lisbon, a neutral centre of wartime intrigue. Here David and co-agent Mike O'Rourke are caring for Lisette Sargon, whose scientist father is expected to be smuggled from France with important secrets for the allies. Unfortunately, he is captured and imprisoned by the Nazis in France. Von Schriner is a Nazi Cultural representative whose job it is to persuade exiled and distinguished artists to return home and resume their careers. Gabrielle declines his professional and romantic overtures until he agrees to let her choose the people she wants to appear with and to run her theatre in Paris. She is then able to get Sargon released from a concentration camp and to reunite him with Lisette. When Von Schriner discovers the scientist's identity he threatens to disclose all he knows unless Gabrielle becomes his mistress. There follows an attempt by David and Mike to smuggle Gabrielle, Sargon and Lisette to London after opening of the musical "La Comtesse" in which Gabrielle and Lisette are appearing. In order to create a diversion Gabrielle impersonates Lisette and rouses the audience with a patriotic speech. To the sounds of The Marseillaise, revolver shots, and British bombs, the curtain comes down. Gabrielle has enabled Lisette and her father to escape but only at the cost of her own life.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

Gabrielle	Ramon
David	Lisette
Gonzales	Von Schriner
	Carmelita

Principal Musical Numbers

Some Day We Shall Meet Again (Gabrielle)
Never Say Goodbye (Gonzales, Gabrielle)
Pedro The Fisherman (Fishermen, Girls)
Serenade For Sale (Ramon)
April In The Spring Love (Lisette)

Instrumentation (Total number of books = 19)

2 Violins I
1 Violin II
1 Viola
1 Cello
1 Double Bass
1 Flute
1 Oboe
1 Clarinet I
1 Clarinet II
1 Bassoon
1 Horn I
1 Horn II
1 Trumpet I
1 Trumpet II
1 Trombone
1 Percussion
1 Harp
1 Conductor Score – annotated vocal score

LISTEN TO THE WIND

A musical play for children and grown-ups

By Angela Ainley Jeans

With Lyrics and Music by Vivian Ellis

The Story

First presented in London's West End in the 1950's. this musical play for children includes delights such as a magical music box, mermaids and Christmas.

Principal Characters

Emma

Miss Lush

Jeremy

Harriet

Grandmother

Pearson, the butler

Gypsy Woman

Gypsy Man

Bannister, the maid

The Gale Bird

King North Wind

Queen South Wind

Prince East Wind

Princess West Wind

Moonbeam

Sunshine

Miranda, the sea witch

Black Thunder Cloud

1st Lightning

2nd Lightning

2 Maids, 2 Footmen, Breezes and Tides

Principal Musical Numbers

Listen To The Wind

Introductions

Timothy's Under The Table

When I Grow Up

Who'd Be Governed By A Governess

The Bread And Butter Song

Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star

Naughty Gale Bird

Miaow! Miaow!

Ten Little Mermaids

Whistle Down The Chimney

When They Grow Up

Thunder Song

GoodyGale Bird

Instrumentation

Piano Only

MAKE ME A WORLD

Music by Jim Parker

Book and Lyrics by Wally K. Daly

The Story (Biblical and rock affiliations)

This popular show, from the writers of Follow The Star, is based on episodes from the Old Testament beginning with the story of The Creation and finishing with the story of Moses. Olly, the head angel, oversees the creation and all goes to well until Lucifer rebels and Olly is forced to send him to Hell. Thereupon Lucifer portrays the devil and tries to undo all the good the angels have done. Olly decides the only way to rid the world of all of the bad people is to cause a flood – hence the story of Noah is incorporated – but Lucifer survives this and Olly nearly gives up hope. A little later Moses arrives and tells the angels that Pharaoh has captured his men and won't let them go. Olly suspects that Lucifer is behind this, which indeed he is. However at the end of the day Moses defeats Pharaoh (as well all know!), and good prevails over bad.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

Olly

Lucifer

Chicago

Angy

Seraphino

Cherubim

Principal Musical Numbers

Creation Song (Olly)

I Hate Gardening (Chicago)

Male Me A World (Adam, Eve)

Out Of Tune With Your Heart (Eve)

Where Can I Park My Ark? (Noah)

Smile, Smile, Smile (Company)

Yesterday's Dreams (Olly)

Instrumentation (Total number of books = 4)

1 Guitar / Banjo

1 Bass

1 Drums / Vibes

1 Keyboard / Conductor

MR CINDERS

Music by Vivian Ellis and Richard Myers
Libretto and Lyrics by Clifford Grey and Greatrex Newman
Additional Lyrics by Leo Robin and Vivian Ellis

The Story (The late 1920s)

In this very amusing inversion of the fairy story, Jim is the down-trodden Cinderella figure. Living at Merton Chase, he is the adopted son of Sir George Lancaster and Lady Lancaster. She has two sons, Lumley and Guy, from her previous marriage when she lived at the neighbouring stately home, The Towers. The present owner of The Towers is Henry Kemp, an American millionaire who has a pretty daughter called Jill. To escape from the law in the shape of P.C Merks after a traffic offence, Jill pretends to be the new maid at Merton Chase. Lumley gets friendly with Jill's cousin and companion, Minerva, and Guy is similarly smitten with Phyllis Paterson. An invitation comes from Jill's father for all at Merton Chase to attend a costume ball at The Towers. Jim is not allowed to attend the ball but Jill, still pretending to be the maid Sarah, persuades him to disguise himself as the celebrated South American explorer, the Earl of Ditcham. The day of the ball coincides with Jill's 21st birthday and on that day she inherits the priceless Verity necklace. Lumley reveals, with the help of a newspaper report, that the real Earl of Ditcham sailed for South America that morning, so the disguised Jim is shown to be an imposter. After Jill has announced that her necklace has been stolen and it is discovered in Jim's pocket, things couldn't look blacker for him. However, with Jill's help he escapes through a secret panel and captures Smith the butler, the real thief of the necklace. P.C. Merks comes later to Merton Chase looking for the owner of the hat worn by the so-called Earl of Ditcham, who valiantly captured and trussed up the thief. It is obviously nowhere near the right size for the heads of Lumley or Guy or even Sir George, but it fits Jim perfectly. He wins £1000 reward and when asked to return the necklace to Mr Kemp's daughter, Jim is astonished to learn that the maid "Sarah" is really Jill. With engagements announced between Lumley and Minerva, between Guy and Phyllis and of course between Jim and Jill, all ends happily.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

Jim
Jill
Lumley
Guy
Minerva
Phyllis
Henry Kemp

Principal Musical Numbers

True to Two (Lumley)
I'm A One Man Girl (Jill, Jim)
On With The Dance (Minerva)
Spread a Little Happiness (Jim)
She's My Lovely (Kemp)
Every Little Moment (Minerva, Lumley)
I've Got You, You've Got Me (Jill, Jim)
The Swan (instrumental)

Instrumentation (Total number of books = 5)

1 Cello
1 Clarinet / Flute / Picc / Sax
1 Piano I
1 Piano II
1 Conductor Score – annotated vocal score

MUSIC IN THE AIR

Music by Jerome Kern
Libretto and Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein 2nd

The Story (Undated, traditional or present day Bavarian costume)

In the little Bavarian town of Edendorf, Karl and Sieglinde are in love. Karl, who is a young school master, writes the lyrics for Sieglinde's father's latest song, then he and Sieglinde go to see a music publisher. There they meet Frieda, an opera star, and her lover Bruno, who is a librettist. Bruno tries to make Sieglinde the star of his new operetta and Frieda develops an interest in Karl. However, Sieglinde fails to become a diva and she and Karl return home philosophically yet very happy.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

Sieglinde
Karl
Frieda
Bruno
Cornelius
Marthe

Principal Musical Numbers

I've Told Every Little Star (Karl)
Prayer (Karl, Sieglinde, Ensemble)
There's A Hill Beyond A Hill (Chorus)
I'm Alone (Frieda)
One More Dance (Bruno)
Night Flies By (Frieda)
The Song is You (Bruno)
We Belong Together (Chorus)

Instrumentation (Total Number of books = 16)

2 Violins I
1 Viola
1 Cello
1 Double Bass
1 Flutes I/II
1 Oboe
1 Clarinet I/II
1 Bassoon I/II
1 Horn
1 Trumpet I/II
1 Trombone
1 Percussion
1 Harp
1 Conductor Score – annotated vocal score

THE NEW MOON

Music by Sigmund Romberg

Libretto and Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein 2nd, Frank Mandel & Lawrence Schwab

The Story (1792-3 in New Orleans and the Caribbean)

Robert is a young French aristocrat whose revolutionary inclinations force him to flee his country. He sells himself as a bond-servant to planter and ship owner Monsieur Beaunoir and his family in New Orleans. As the police of Paris are looking everywhere for him, Robert cannot tell Beaunoir or his beautiful daughter Marianne, whom he has fallen in love with, that he is of noble blood. Eventually, he is tracked down by Vicomte Ribaud, the detective villain, and put aboard The New Moon so that he can be deported back to France. Robert thinks he has been betrayed by Marianne, who has gained her father's consent to travel on the same ship, pretending she is in love with Captain Duval. There is a mutiny but Robert takes charge and the bond servants come back into power. Everyone goes ashore on the Isle of Pines and a new republic is founded which flourishes under Robert's guidance. But Marianne, her pride hurt, at first refuses to marry Robert. Then Vicomte Ribaud makes a final attempt to conquer the island for the King of France. He is surprised to hear from the French Commander that there has been a revolution in France, and that all aristocrats like himself must die unless they renounce their titles. While he, ever the Royalist, goes to his inevitable doom, there follows a happy reunion for Citizen Robert and Citizeness Marianne.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

Robert

Marianne

Philippe

Alexander

Julie

Clotilde

Besac

Principal Musical Numbers

Marianne (Robert)

The Girl On The Prow (Marianne, Besac)

Softly, As In A Morning Sunrise (Philippe, chorus)

Stout – Hearted Men (Robert, Philippe)

One Kiss (Marianne, girls)

Wanting You (Marianne, Robert)

Lover, Come Back To Me (Marianne)

Love Is Quite A Simple Thing (Julie, Alexander, Clotilde, Besac)

Try Her Out At Dances (Julie, Alexander)

Instrumentation (Total number of books = 16)

2 Violins I

1 Violin II

1 Viola

1 Cello

1 Double Bass

1 Flute

1 Oboe

1 Clarinet I/II

1 Bassoon

1 Horn I/II

1 Trumpets I/II

1 Trombones I/II

1 Percussion

1 Harp

1 Conductor Score – annotated vocal score

THE NIGHT MAXIE TORTELLINI HIT BIG LOLA LATROBE'S

Music by Peter Brittain

Book and Lyrics by Colin Swift

The Story (Chicago in the 20s)

“Oh, Chicago, this terrible city we love”, sing the whole company as the Prologue to this pastiche about life in the ‘windy city’. Set in the seedy night club of the redoubtable Miss Lola Latrobe, we follow the goings-on during one evening there. The Casino Club used to be the hottest night-spot in town, but like its owners and performers, it has seen better days. “The Night Maxie Tortellini Hit Big Lola Latrobe’s” is the story of Fingers Rafferty, the piano player who used to be the best, of Lola, whose world is crumbling all around her, who still can’t ‘find her man’, of Maxie Tortellini, the biggest hoodlum in the town who was Lola’s lover ten years before, of Tony di Martino, who still claims to be the greatest Vaudeville singer in America today, and of the loves and lives of the chorus girls, some coming up from the scrapheap, some starting out with their eyes full of stars. There’s romance, there’s danger, there’s music, there’s dance in the fast-moving stylish cliché of Chicago life – gangsters, molls, chorus girls, musicians, jazz, booze, pills, laughs, disasters. The tale builds up to the climax of the “hit” – but there’s a twist and just when everything appears to be resolving itself happily, there’s another twist – and all is set to the strident, exciting heartbeat that is Chicago in the days of prohibition, in the days of jazz.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

Lola Latrobe

Maxie Tortellini

Fingers Rafferty

Tony di Martino

Marianne

Brains

Roxy

Principal Musical Numbers

In Chicago (Full Company)

At The Casino (Tony, Girls)

Wish I Could See Him Tonight (Marianne)

Shadow Of A Dream (Tony, Girls)

There’s A Lady (Tony)

When I Find My Man (Lola)

I’d Like To Take You Home For My Baby (Roxy, Brains)

From now On (Maxie, Lola, Full Company)

Instrumentation (Total number of books = 5)

1 Piano

1 Clarinet

1 Guitar / Banjo

1 Bass

1 Drums

O MARRY ME!

Music by Robert Kessler

Libretto and Lyrics by Lola Pergament, based on Oliver Goldsmith's
"She Stoops to Conquer"

The Story (Late 18th century England)

Marlow is a bashful young man who only feels easy with serving girls and barmaids. He therefore sets out with reluctance to win the hand of Miss Kate Hardcastle, a young lady of quality. He is tricked by the mischievous Tony Lumpkin into believing that the home of Kate's father is a village inn and goes there accompanied by his friend Hastings. Marlow treats the enraged Mr Hardcastle as if he were an impudent landlord. Kate takes advantage of the situation by posing first as a barmaid and then as a poor relative, thus 'conquering' young Marlow. Constance Neville, who is Kate's friend and cousin, falls in love with Hastings. This does not please Mrs Hardcastle who dotes on her oafish Tony, her son by a previous marriage. She had intended a match for him with Constance. The mistakes of the evening unravel with the arrival of Marlow's father. Mr Hardcastle forgives young Marlow and all ends happily.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

Miss Kate Hardcastle

Young Marlow

Miss Constance Neville

Hastings

Mrs Hardcastle

Squire Hardcastle

Tony Lumpkin

Principal Musical Numbers

The Kind of Man (Kate)

Be A Lover (Hastings, Marlow)

Fashions (Mrs Hardcastle, Hastings)

Perish The Baubles (Hastings)

The Braggart (Marlow, Kate)

My Proper Due (Tony)

Betrayed (Ensemble)

O Marry Me (Kate)

I Love Everything That's Old (Mr Hardcastle)

Instrumentation (Total number of books = 3)

1 Cello

1 Flute/ Clarinet

1 Piano

PAINT YOUR WAGON

Music by Frederick Loewe

Libretto and Lyrics by Alan Jay Lerner

The Story (1853 during the Californian Goldrush)

The story begins with Jennifer, Ben Rumson's uneducated sixteen year old daughter, discovering gold whilst running her hands through the dirt. News travels fast and prospectors from all around rush to Rumson Creek to make their fortunes. Being the only female, Jennifer has to deal with many 'frustrated' gold miners, but eventually strikes a close friendship with a Mexican called Julio. Ben realises that Jennifer is not such a "little girl" any more and decides that it is time for her to leave on the next eastbound coach to be educated. Jacob, a middle aged Mormon, arrives at Rumson and is only allowed to stay on the condition that he auctions one of two wives. After some deliberation he agrees and Elizabeth is sold to Ben, much to the disgust of Jennifer, who packs her bags and runs to Julio's cabin in the mountains. After some discussion, she decides to go east to school, and return when Julio has made his fortune. Jake, a miner in his thirties, makes his money, builds a Music Hall and consequently sends for his wife, Cherry. With her she brings a wagon load of fandangos – much to the men's delight! As with all good things, the gold begins to run out and slowly the men pack up and leave. Jennifer returns unexpectedly, intending to marry Julio, who she later learns has left for the mountains in search of gold. (She is now very noticeable a "young lady"!)

News that gold has been struck forty miles away heralds a new gold rush, although Ben decides he cannot leave Rumson, his home town. The story ends when Julio returns, by chance, and Jennifer runs into his arms.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

Ben	Jennifer	Elizabeth
Steve	Julio	

Principal Musical Numbers

I'm On My Way (Steve, men)

I Talk To The Trees (Julio)

They Call The Wind Maria (Steve)

Whoop-Ti-Ay (Ben, chorus)

Carino Mio (Julio)

How Can I Wait (Jennifer)

Wanderin' Star (Ben)

Instrumentation (Total number of books = 20)

2 Violins I

1 Violin II

1 Viola / Mandoline

1 Cello

1 Double Bass

1st Reed – Flute / Piccolo / Clarinet / Alto Sax

2nd Reed – Oboe / Clarinet / Tenor Sax

3rd Reed – Clarinet / Tenor Sax

4th Reed – Clarinet / Bass Clarinet / Tenor Sax

5th Reed – Bassoon / Clarinet / Baritone Sax

1 Horn I

1 Horn II

1 Trumpet I

1 Trumpet II

1 Trombone I

1 Trombone II

1 Percussion

1 Guitar

1 Conductor Score – annotated vocal score

PERSEVERANCE
Or HALF A CORONET

Words by A.P.Herbert

Music by Vivian Ellis

An operetta first performed in Charles B. Cochran's 21st Revue "Streamline".

Characters:

Perseverance

Lily

Rudolph

Robert

The Official Receiver

The Lady Chancellor

Fisher-Girls and Bailiffs

Instrumentation

Piano only

PIGS

Music, Lyrics and Book by Frank Kirwan

The Story

Farmer Giles is a rough, vindictive bully who takes easy money in return for letting the said scientists experiment with his pigs' hormones. The pigs gradually come to realise that their brains, in some cases, are becoming more developed than those of the humans who have controlled them for so long. Unfortunately, in other cases, the effects of the experiment have been more unpredictable, with pigs who think they're cows and pigs who think they're sheep, giving much opportunity for humour! However, the fun comes with the message that man must take more care with his environment and that in modern society we have collectively lost an objective view of what should be the purpose of life. Musically, Pigs is a compendium of styles with rock'n'roll nestling alongside music that owes much to Sousa and Gilbert and Sullivan. Amongst others, there is a hoedown, a Frankie Laine style Western song, a choir number with a Caribbean beat, a climactic battle hymn towards the end of the show, the showstopper, Pigs and thoughtful ballads to quieten things down!

Principal Characters

Information available on request

Principal Musical Numbers

16

Instrumentation

Piano Only

PIAZZ

Music by Bill Gleeson

Lyrics by Kris Kilburn

Book by Bill Gleeson and Kris Kilburn

The Story

The trials and tribulations of a musical company just before opening night of their production. The backstage life and loves threaten the success of almost everything but they have a lot of fun along the way.

Act 1

- 1 On stage
- 2 Backstage
- 3 At Home
- 4 Backstage
- 5 On stage

Act 2

- 1 On stage
- 2 Janine's Dressing Room
- 3 Backstage
- 4 On Stage
- 5 Scott's Dressing Room
- 6 On Stage
- 7 Backstage

Principal Characters

Mike, 35, Director of "Opening Nights"
Sally, 33, Musical Director of "Opening Nights"
Janine, 30, Leading Artiste of "Opening Nights"
Ken, 30, Leading Artist in "Opening Nights"
Elaine, 25, Ken's wife and a member of "Opening Nights"
Bobby, 30, Character performer in "Opening Nights"
Babs, 18, Juvenile lead in "Opening Nights"
Thelma, 60, ex-Vaudeville and Tivoli star, great friend of Mike
Lep, 60, Irish Stage Manager, lifelong friend of Thelma
Cast 5 males and 5 females

Principal Musical Numbers

One More Chance
Professionality
Part of a Team
The Best Years Of Our Lives
Alone
Pizazz

Instrumentation (Total number of books = 12)

2 Violins I
2 Violins II
1 Cello
1 Bass
1 Oboe
1 Tenor Sax / Flute / Clarinet
1 Trumpet
1 Trombone
1 Percussion
1 Conductor Score (piano vocal score)

RIFF-RAFF

Music by Greg Sneddon

Lyrics by Greg Sneddon and Phil Sumner

Books by Phil Sumner and Jan McDonald

The Story

“Riff-Raff” is a rock musical which speaks to the young people of today about problems which face them. No facile answers are offered and no easy way out is shown. The view, presented throughout the script, is the right of young people to challenge the world around them, to question the direction in which they are moving and to demand explanations from the figures of authority and influences in their lives. Razie, shy and lacking in confidence, feels the restrictions of her migrant background when she wants to be part of the gang. Her friend Julie, brash, street-wise and angry, is suspicious and critical of her situation, her peers and the world in which she finds herself. Mick, bright, breezy, a likeable Mr Nice Guy, still finds himself in difficulties when his deep ambition to succeed is thwarted while his school friend Doogs, tough and aggressive, is openly hostile to the world but underneath is a vulnerable innocent. These four school friends find escape, excitement and danger in the glitzy world of Spinner, a smooth treacherous D.J.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

Spinner (KAOS / FM Breakfast D.J)

Razie (The Dork)

Julie (The Go-getter)

Mick (Mr Nice Guy)

Doogs (The Tough Guy)

Principal Musical Numbers

Oh! To Be Eighteen

All They Want Is A Good Time

Lois Lane

Cheat Street

Instrumentation

Piano only

SAIL AWAY – A MUSICAL COMEDY

Book, Music and Lyrics by Noel Coward; Restored by Stewart Nicholls
Orchestrations and Vocal Arrangements by Rowland Lee
Dance Music Arrangements by Stewart Nicholls

The Story

Set in 1961, SAIL AWAY revolves around a group of American tourists, and takes place on board the SS Coronica cruising from New York to various European countries. With memorable show – stopping numbers and witty Coward dialogue!!

Principal Characters

Mimi Paragon
Johnny Van Mier
Mrs Van Mier
Barnaby Slade
Nancy Foyle
Elinor Spencer – Bollard
Joe / Ali
Mr Sweeney
Mrs Sweeney
Alvin Lush
Mrs Lush
Sir Gerard Nutfield
Elmer Candijack
Glen Candijack
Shirley Candijack
Mr Rawlings

Plus other characters

Principal Musical Numbers

Information available on request

Instrumentation

1st Violins
2nd Violins
Viola
Cello
Double Bass
Woodwind 1: Flute / Piccolo
Woodwind 2: Flute / Oboe / Clarinet
Woodwind 3: Clarinet / Alto, Tenor and Baritone Saxophone
Woodwind 4: Clarinet & Bass Clarinet / Tenor Saxophone
French Horn
2 Trumpets / Flugel Horns
Tenor Trombone
Bass Trombone
Drums
Percussion
Harp
Piano / Celesta
Guitar / Mandolin
Full Score

SMUGGLE ME A SECRET

Music by Dennis Atkinson; Words by Vera Heade

The Story (Kent in the early 1800s)

The Excise men are on the look-out for smugglers. A last campaign is being planned by the smugglers themselves, who are all thought of as respected and leading citizens of the parish at the Inn of the Three Black Swans. They have heard of the shipment of a casket of gold plate from France, which is due to be off-loaded two nights from now at Tavern's Bay. The innkeeper, James Ratchett, and his son Edward, realise what the meeting is about. When the Smugglers leave, the inn is visited by the Lord of the Manor, Sir Ralph Murdoch, and his daughter Melanie. Edward and Melanie are in love. If only he had more than love to offer Melanie, Edward would dare to ask Sir Ralph for his daughter's hand in marriage. The Excise men ask Edward to help them catch the smugglers for which there will be a reward. Encourage by Melanie, he agrees. Two nights later, a boat is wrecked, lured by the smugglers. When they land, Edward confronts them with a pistol. They all scatter except one, who is taken prisoner and put in a cellar. The next morning his identity is revealed. To everyone's shocked surprise, it turns out to be Sir Ralph, who is arrested and taken away. Melanie then tells Edward that he can't possibly marry a smuggler's daughter. Later she regrets sending Edward away. Bleak the butler reveals to Melanie a secret between himself and her Father. Meanwhile, the smugglers are full of remorse for their misdeeds but wonder what happened to the casket of gold plate – it just disappeared. Edward has by now moved twenty miles away up the coast, trying to make a living by fishing. He looks are Captain Dogoodie, washed up on a beach badly injured after the wreck caused by the smugglers. When he recovers, the Captain, who is really the Chief Customs Officer, returns with Edward to the Inn. The Captain explains Edward's part in the action and orders that the casket, which Edward hid in an old well at the Inn, should be dug up. There are gasps of surprise when the Captain opens the lock and reveals nothing but useless junk. He explains that it has all been a trick. Sir Ralph has never been a smuggler. He used the opportunity to help catch the smugglers once and for all and his arrest was a ruse planned by himself and the Captain. Edward gets a large reward from the Customs authorities for his actions. Finally, Sir Ralph gives him permission to marry Melanie and she, of course, is all the reward Edwards really wants.

Principal Characters (plus chorus)

James Ratchett

Edward

Sir Ralph Murdoch

Melanie

Bleak

Excise Men: Simkins and Tomkins

Smugglers: Farmer, Vicar, Blacksmith, Butcher, Baker, Fisherman

Captain Dogoodie

(Note: The MEN'S singing parts have been written throughout in the treble clef in such a way that they may be sung equally convincingly by adult or children's voices)

Principal Musical Numbers

Drink! Drink! Here's A new Day (Company)

Smugglers' Song (Various)

Come With Me, O My Love (Edward, Melanie)

We Are The Excisemen (Simkins, Tomkins)

Gone Are The Days (Melanie)

Many, Many Moons Ago (Bleak)

The Music Men (Simkins, Tomkins)

Instrumentation

Piano only

SOLUTION TO POLLUTION

Book by Gary Young

Lyrics by Gary Young and Tony Rees

Music by Tony Rees

The Story

A children's musical that aims to raise the consciousness and awareness, reinforce learning, educate and allow children to reach out through the arts, with the message..."replant, reduce, recycle, repair – we can show Mother Nature we care!"

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

Mother Nature

Miss Dumpster

Toxic Tycoon

Prince of Muck

Princess of Muck

The Mucky Kids

Eric The Elm Tree

Colin The Crow

Beatrice The Badger

8 Boys & Girls (Children A – H)

Creatures Of The Countryside – Puppeteers

Greta And The Garbo's

The Bottle Brothers – M.T Bottle / Single Fills / Refills

Professor Care

The Research Team

Principal Musical Numbers

Information available on request

Instrumentation

Piano Only

SPREAD A LITTLE HAPPINESS

A tribute to Vivian Ellis
Devised by Sheridan Morley

The Story

Spread A Little Happiness is a witty and charming musical revue which celebrates the work of the distinguished composer, Vivian Ellis. The revue is rampant with nostalgia and shows, in approximately 32 songs, the outstanding quality of his work. Vivian has written and composed songs for over 40 musicals during 70 highly successful years.

Principal Characters

Narrator
3 Male Lead
3 Female Lead

Principal Musical Numbers

Spread A Little Happiness (Company)
I've Got You, You've Got Me (Male & Female duet)
She's My Lovely (Male and Female duet)
On The Amazon (Male & 2 Female trio)
You're My Happy Ending (Male and Female duet)
I'm On A Seesaw (Male and Female duet)

Instrumentation

2 pianos

SUNNY

Music by Jerome Kern

Book and Lyrics by Otto Harbach and Oscar Hammerstein 2nd

The Story (USA and England in the early 1900s)

This romantic “twenties” musical embodies all the light heartedness and gaiety associated with the period. It is essentially a love story, centering around three couples, and, as with all the best romances, ends happily. In love with Tom, and seeking escape from a forced marriage to Mr Wendell-Wendell, Sunny stows away on a liner leaving for New York, on which Tom is travelling with his fiancée Marcia. On realising that she will be refused entry to America, Sunny arranges to marry Tom’s friend, Jim with understanding that they will divorce as soon as she has her entry permit. Jim agrees, but is worried about the effect on his English girl friend, Weenie. After many problems, Sunny and Jim realise that they love each other, and in the final scene at the Hunt Ball, Weenie and Mr Wendell-Wendell agree to marry, and Tom and Marcia announce their engagement.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

Tom

Sunny

Wendell

Weenie

Jim

Principal Musical Numbers

Sunny (Tom, Chorus)

Who? (Tom)

D’ye Love Me (Sunny)

Two Little Bluebirds (Weenie, Wendell)

Divorce (Sunny, Jim)

The Fox Has Left His Lair (Jim)

Instrumentation (Total number of books = 19)

2 Violins I

1 Violin II

1 Viola

1 Cello

2 Double Bass

1 Flute

1 Oboe

1 Clarinet I

1 Clarinet II

1 Bassoon

1 Horn I

1 Horn II

1 Trumpet I

1 Trumpet II

1 Trombone

1 Percussion

1 Celeste

1 Conductor Score – annotated vocal score

A SWELL PARTY

Music and Lyrics by Cole Porter
Written by John Kane
Conceived by David Kernan

The Story

“A Swell Party” is a celebration of the life of Cole Porter through words and music. The show attempts to re-create the spirit of Cole, his life and works. He is portrayed, not as the old man crippled by the terrible riding accident, but as the young, vibrant image of sophistication and glamour which he and his music represented for so long to so many people. During the first act we travel back to time to his childhood years and the early struggles to perfect his art, climaxing with an unbroken string of great songs composed during his most successful early period. The terrible accident which was to cripple him for the rest of his life is only hinted at and the first Act ends with Cole riding on the wave of his success. Act two momentarily recounts the events surrounding his accident and his struggle to maintain his lifestyle in its aftermath. Inevitably his work suffers due to a loss of energy and the constant pain he has to endure. But this show is not about his pain, but about the genius and indomitable spirit. With a new generation of composers and lyricists snatching the laurel wreath from him, Cole fights back and his reward is his great stage and film successes names “Kiss Me Kate” and “High Society”. The final song presented in the evening’s entertainment is “Wouldn’t It Be Fun Not To Be Famous”, however, the audience will have no doubt that despite the painful latter years, Cole enjoyed his life to the full.

Principal Characters

2 Male lead
2 female lead
1 male singing pianist
1 non-singing pianist

Principal Musical Numbers

I Get A Kick Out Of You (male solo)
Anything Goes (male solo)
Red, Hot and Blue (female solo)
I’ve Got You Under My Skin (male solo)
Night and Day (Female solo)
Ev’ry Time We Say Goodbye (male and female duet)
Let’s Do It, Let’s Fall in Love (Company)
Well Did You Evah! (Company)
You’re The Top (Company)

Instrumentation

2 pianos

THE THREE MUSKETEERS

Music by Rudolf Friml; Lyrics by Clifford grey and P.G Wodehouse
Libretto by William Anthony McGuire, based on the novel by Alexandre Dumas

The Story (Early 17th century France)

Athos, Porthos and Aramis, that redoubtable trio of King Louis XIII's bodyguard, are enjoying their regular carousal at the Jolly Miller Inn. They are joined by the penniless but virile Gascon D'Artagnan. His natural resourcefulness is soon called upon, although not before he has fallen love with Constance Bonacieux. The trouble-making Cardinal Richelieu has heard that the Queen has given England's Duke of Buckingham a token of love, a diamond heart, which was a present from the King to her. Richelieu persuades the King to insist on the Queen wearing the jewel at a forthcoming gala. Comte de Rochefort and Lady de Winter are sent to London to recover the jewel and return it to Richelieu, who plans to produce it at the gala, thus revealing to King Louis his wife's treachery. Meanwhile, the Queen has sent Constance, her lady-in-waiting, to entreat the Musketeers to recover the jewel in time for her to wear it and confound her enemies. Upon arriving in London, the Musketeers find that Lady de Winter has already gained possession of the jewel. While pretending to be her lover, D'Artagnan snatches the jewel from her bosom. There is a hectic sword fight over and around Milady's bed. When Comte de Rocheford enters he is slain and the Musketeers hurry back to France. They are just in time to produce the jewel at King Louis' demand so that he may fasten it at the Queen's shoulder as he had done originally.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

D'Artagnan	Porthos
Constance	Aramis
Athos	The Queen
	Buckingham

Principal Musical Numbers

We're All For One (Athos, Porthos, Aramis)
My Dreams (The Queen)
Love Is For Thy Sun (The Queen, Buckingham, Constance)
Ma Belle (Aramis, Chorus)
Queen of My Heart (Buckingham)
Ev'ry Little While (Constance)

Instrumentation (Total number of books = 25)

3 Violins I
2 Violins II
2 Violas
2 Cellos
1 Double Bass
1 Flute
1 Oboe
1 Clarinet I
1 Clarinet II
1 Bassoon
1 Horn I
1 Horn II
1 Trumpet I
1 Trumpet II
1 Trumpet III
1 Trombone
1 Bass Trombone
1 Percussion
1 Harp

1 Conductor Score – annotated vocal score

TILLY

Music by Tony Rees

Lyrics by Gary Young and Tony Rees

Book by Maureen Ann Moran

The Story

The musical traces the rise to fame of Tilly Devine from London prostitute at the end of World War I to reigning “Bordello Queen” of Sydney’s underground, during the Depression and World War II. Tilly at her fiftieth birthday party, once again the centre of scandalous headlines, looks back to her “rise to infamy”, the two great loves of her life, Digger Devine and Mike, her outrageous history and her remarkable ability to survive. This energetic, colourful, gutsy, risqué romp is also the poignant and human story of this woman’s battle to “keep her head above water” and to hold on to some semblance of love and life. She turns every opportunity to her advantage. Her methods are unorthodox. Her manner is brash. She is the “rough diamond” the newspapers call “THE QUEEN OF CRIME” – She is Tilly Devine.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

Tilly

Young Tilly

Digger Devine

Mike

Tools

Bandages

Duicle

Gloria

Melba

Flo

Charlie

Emit

Principal Musical Numbers

Front Page News

Something’ll Turn Up

This Time It’s Gonna Be Different

Blue Sky

Sharing The Load

The First Time In My Life

Instrumentation (Total number of books = 12)

1 Piano

1 Bass

1 Trumpet I

1 Trumpet II

1 Trombone I

1 Trombone II

1 Alto Saxophone

1 Tenor Saxophone

1 Drums

1 Percussion

1 Timpani

1 Piano Conductor’s Score

WILD VIOLETS

Music by Robert Stolz; English Lyrics by Desmond Carter

English Libretto by Hassard Short, Desmond Carter and Reginald Purdell, from the original musical play by Bruno Hardt-Warden

The Story (The Present)

Mr Paul Hoffman and his two friends arrive at The Stone Jug, a mountain inn, on their way to an annual school reunion. We are then taken back to the early part of the century when Paul, Otto and Erik, friends and students at a college, are waiting outside a neighbouring school. They are hoping to see three girls – Liesel, Mitzi and Lena. Otto and Liesel are fond of each other. Paul, however, bets that within twenty-four hours he can win Liesel's affection. The boys go along to see Madame Hoffman, the Headmistress of the girls' school, to ask for her help during a forthcoming students' celebration. Madame Hoffman, who is Paul's aunt, is extremely uncooperative. Whilst she is welcoming a new pupil – Mary Rutherford – Paul intercepts a telegram which is meant to inform Madame Hoffman that the new music master, Dr Franck, will not be able to arrive until the following day. In order to ingratiate himself with the girls, Paul makes an 'arrival' at the school disguised as Dr Franck. There is a great uproar when the real Dr Franck arrives. Realising that as a result of this episode he will not be allowed near the school again, Paul and Mary arrange a rendezvous outside the school and depart to get married. We come back to the present day, certain that Paul's son Carl will learn a lesson from his Father's past.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

Paul Hoffman

Otto Berg

Erik Schmidt

Liesel

Mitzi

Lena

Mary Rutherford

Augusta

Principal Musical Numbers

A Girl Has Got My Heart (Paul, Otto, Erik, Boys)

Don't Say Goodbye (Mary, Boys)

Charming Weather (Liesel, Otto, Mitzi, Erik)

You, Just You (Mary, Paul)

Instrumentation (Total number of books = 15)

2 Violins I

1 Violin II

1 Viola

1 Cello

1 Double Bass

1 Flute

1 Oboe

1 Clarinet I/II

1 Bassoon

1 Horns I/II

1 Trumpets I/II

1 Trombone

1 Percussion

1 Conductor Score – annotated vocal score

WILD WILD WOMEN

Music by Nola York

Book and Lyrics by Michael Richmond

The Story

Wild, Wild, Women is a tuneful foot-stompin', thigh-slappin, outrageously funny musical romp that takes a light-hearted look at the traditional Western. Set in Aggroville, where the Clantons and the McLairds are constantly killing each other, and where hangin' Judge West and the Earps try to keep control, things come to head when the lovely singing nun, Sister Priscilla, is killed by a stray bullet. Alice Tibbs, of the Peaceable Heaven Saloon, convinces all the womenfolk to take part in a love strike in order to bring the men to their senses. There is much twitching amongst the men, aggravated by the temptations of the Doves and the Red Candle Saloon, and amongst the women as they sing and dance themselves out of their dilemma.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

Alice Tibbs

Bill Tibbs

Sister Priscilla

Judge West

Jane Clanton

Robert McLaird

Principal Musical Numbers

Peaceable Haven (Alice, Chorus)

Aggroville (Wyatt, Chorus)

Wild Wild Women (Alice, Chorus)

Ooh La La (Lola)

The Stars Already Know (Alice)

Instrumentation

Alto Sax

Tenor Sax

Trumpet

Bass

Drums

Piano

String Synthesiser

CHILDREN'S MUSICALS

BEST FRIENDS & BUTTERFLIES

By Elliot Davies and Sam Brookes

The Story

Best Friends and Butterflies is an award winning family musical about a class of caterpillars and the trials and adventures they face on their journey to becoming butterflies.

Principal Characters

Vernon Wesley Beetle – Headmaster of Caterpillar High

Lady Byrd – Patron of Caterpillar High

Mille Pede – Teacher & Organiser of Caterpillar High

Benjy – Graduates from Caterpillar High

Lloyd

Sam

Carlton

Camilla

Vlad the Inhaler – Asthmatic Vampire Bat (Assassin)

Mrs Wanda Willamina Wilkinson – Giant Black Widow Spider

Chorus of Caterpillars and Termites

Principal Musical Numbers

Information available on request

Instrumentation

Piano only

BUGSY MALONE

Words and Music by Paul Williams

Libretto by Alan Parker

The Story (1929, Gangster warfare in New York)

Dandy Dan's hoodlums terrorise the district, exterminating undesirables with their new weapon – splurge guns. His rival Fat Sam Stacetto, who runs the Grand Slam Speakeasy, but Fat Sam's gang still use old-fashioned pies. Fat Sam engages the help of Bugsy Malone, a smooth city slicker who hitherto has been more occupied in sweet-talking Blousey Brown, a would-be girl singer. With Bugsy's help, Fat Sam escapes from a frame-up but he learns later that Dandy Dan's mob have splurged nearly all of his gang. They've also destroyed his sarsaparilla and grocery rackets – the whole empire's gone! There's only one hope left. Fat Sam pays Bugsy 400 dollars in exchange for more help. Bugsy, who has promised to take Blousey to Hollywood, has to break his date with her. Is he mad! Meanwhile, Bugsy and Leroy Smith, a guy with an awesome punch, witness a secret delivery of splurge guns at Dock 17. With a bunch of down-and-outs, they help themselves from the crates. Then the police arrive, led by Captain Smolsky and Lieutenant O'Dreary. Bugsy and the gang escape through a trapdoor. Finally, Dandy Dan prepares for a show down at Fat Sam's speakeasy. When his mob burst in, Bugsy and the guys let 'em have it – the works. Splurge, custard pies, flour bombs... Out of his gooey pandemonium it emerges that Bugsy and Blousey have made it up. Peace has broken out at last.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

Bugsy Malone (who acts as occasional narrator)

Blousey Brown (his girl and would-be Hollywood singer)

Fat Sam (gangland boss and speakeasy owner)

Dandy Dan (Fat Sam's rival)

Knuckles (Fat Sam's right-hand man)

Fizzy (general factotum and singer)

Tallulah (speakeasy girl singer and Blousey's rival)

Leroy Smith (heavyweight boxing hopeful)

Principal Musical Numbers

Bugsy Malone (three girl singers)

Tomorrow (Fizzy)

I'm Feeling Fine (Blousey)

My Name is Tallulah (Tallulah)

Ordinary Fool (Blousey)

Fat Sam's Grand Slam (Girls)

You Give a Little Love (Chorus)

Instrumentation (Total number of books = 10)

1 Clarinet I or Flute

1 Clarinet II or Alto Sax

1 Bassoon

1 Trumpet

1 Trombone

1 Guitar

1 Bass Guitar

1 Drums

1 Piano

1 Full Score

1 The clarinet I part is for one player doubling Flute. If no such player is available, the Flute part can be played on Clarinet. The band part is written with either alternative in mind, and a separate Flute can be obtained if so desired.

2 The clarinet II part is for one player doubling Alto Sax. If no such player is available, the Alto Sax part can be played on Clarinet. The band part is written with either alternative in mind, and a separate Alto part can be obtained if so desired.

CAROLINE

A Musical play based on the life and times of Caroline Chisholm
By Peter N. Pinne and Don Battye (from an idea by Leila Blake)

The Story

Caroline has been prepared especially for the Secondary School production. Teachers and educationalists alike have praised this musical for its entertaining qualities and ability to involve students of all interests and skills. This story of the “Lady on the five dollar note” is set in Sydney between the years 1840 and 1854 and provides ample chorus work for citizens, government officials, miners, camp followers, immigrant wives and settlers. Apart from Caroline, Archibald, Flora and Tom, all the other characters may be doubled by cast members according to the size of the company. The musical should have a continuing look about it – wherever possible each scene should almost overlap the previous one. It is easier to create this effect by not attempting to have solid sets and furniture.

Act 1

- 1 Outside and Inside Petty’s Hotel
- 2 Caroline’s Vow and Archibald
- 3 The Party
- 4 Interview With Governor Gipps (1)
- 5 The Priest Calls
- 6 Interview with Governor Gipps (2)
- 7 Outside and Inside Petty’s Hotel
- 8 Interview with Governor Gipps (3)
- 9 On the Road
- 10 The Chisholm Home
- 11 Select Committee

Act 2

- 12 Packing – The Chisholm Home
- 13 New Found Freedom - London
- 14 Visit to Earl Grey (1)
- 15 Search for Ann
- 16 Visit to Earl Grey (2)
- 17 Caroline’s London Home
- 18 Caroline Confronts Lang
- 19 Come Emigrate
- 20 Call of the Gold
- 21 Finale - Montage

Principal Characters

Caroline Chisholm
Captain Archibald Chisholm
Flora
Tom Shepherd
Ann Shepherd
Governor Gipps
Lady Gipps
Dr John Lang
Earl Lang
Earl Grey’s Aide
A Priest

Instrumentation (Total number of books = 5)

- 1 Keyboard
- 1 Bass
- 1 Flute
- 1 Percussion
- 1 Piano conductor’s score

FAMILY RONDO

Music and Lyrics by Vera Heade

Book and additional Lyrics by Dennis Atkinson

The Story

When two young children discover some old photographs hidden in the drawer of an old desk, a wonderful yet sad tale of past lives is brought to life. Set over a time span of many years we see the tale unfold of Master Frederick and his father, once Lord and master of the manor. When Master Frederick falls in love with a beautiful village girl by the name of Alicia, he is faced with heartbreaking ultimatum; either leave Alicia or leave his family. Torn by love, Master Frederick and Alicia leave for Australia. Several years later, a young stranger arrives on the scene enquiring about the Old Manor and is eventually revealed as being the son of Master Frederick. John, (the son), vows to buy back the Manor and return it to its rightful owner, Master Frederick.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

Anne

Ben

Sir Edward Foxley

Lady Beatrice

Frederick

Alicia

John

Emily

Principal Musical Numbers

A Hunting, A Hunting (Chorus)

We've Been Through It Together (Dan, Tom, Chorus)

The Seasons In Their Turn (Emily, John)

The Camera Goes Click! (Anne, Ben, Chorus)

Instrumentation

Piano only

FLAX INTO GOLD

The Story of Rumpelstiltskin
A Junior School Opera
Libretto by Catherine Storr
Music by Hugo Cole

The Story

The story of Rumpelstiltskin, based on the Brothers Grimm children's fairytale. This musical is designed for performance by children between nine and thirteen years of age.

Principal Characters

The Miller
The Miller's Daughter (later Queen)
The King
The Little Man

Principal Musical Numbers

We Are Fathers, Stout Men All
I Sit And Spin
I Am The King Of This Fair Land
Child, I Perceive Your Face Is Fair
Trouble Is Brewing
A Year Ago, Beside The Mill
Here Come I, The Land To Spy
Listen! Listen! Your Ear To The Ground
I'll Guess Your Name
Must He Die?
As I Rode Out The Other Day
Rumpelstiltskin
My Son Is Safe
Ride, King To Ride The Forest Again

Instrumentation

Piano Only

FOLLOW THE STAR

Music by Jim Parker

Libretto and Lyrics by Wally K. Daly

The Story (Early New Testament)

“Follow The Star” is a delightfully fresh retelling of how Christmas began. There are plenty of opportunities for audience participation; children especially will find it difficult not to become involved in the events enacted on the stage. Olly, in charge of the angels, gives Gabby (the Angel Gabriel) the task of going below to Nazareth where he must find a lady called Mary and tell her some news. Gabby is thrilled to have something to do because Angels only grow taller if they do good work. At the moment Gabby is rather small. After finding Mary and telling her that she is going to have a baby, he does something he has been instructed not to do – he lets Joseph see him. When Gabby reports back to Heaven, Olly is annoyed with him for disobeying orders. However, he gives him another chance. Gabby is assigned the job of being the star that the Three Wise Men follow all the way from their lands to Bethlehem. Angy, Jelly and Lofty, three other angels, are told to make the Three Wise Men decide to follow the star. The vain and cruel Herod meets the Wise Men who innocently tell him that a Saviour is soon to be born who will be King. Herod secretly determines that the baby must not be allowed to live. Mary and Joseph arrive in Bethlehem and because they are turned away by the Inn Keepers the baby is born in a stable. When Herod comes trying to find the baby, the crib is hidden by Oxy, Assy and Angel Chicago. Gabby has been so good at being a star that he finds himself grown noticeably taller. After Herod has gone Gabby comes to earth and goes to the crib to view the baby. Gabby is closely followed by the Three Wise Men who bring gifts. Suddenly, Herod returns. The angels hurriedly erect a small wall of cloud to hide Mary, Joseph and the crib. Herod and his soldiers are beaten back by Oxy, Assy and the weather (with some assistance from the audience). Finally, Mary, Joseph and the baby are helped on their way with a happy song.

Principal Characters

Olly

Gabby

Mary

Joseph

Herod

Angel Chicago

Principal Musical Numbers

I'm Going To Be A Star (Gabby)

Follow The Star (Three Wise Men, Gabby, Chorus)

Home (Mary, Joseph, Chorus)

Careful, Carefree or Careless (Angel Chicago)

A Baby's Been Born (Angy, Jelly, Lofty Chorus)

Clap Your Hands And Be Cheery (Olly and Company)

Instrumentation (Total number of books = 15)

2 Violins I

1 Violin II

1 Viola

1 Cello

1 Double Bass

1 Flute

1 Clarinet

1 Trumpet

1 Trombone

1 Percussion

1 Guitar

1 Piano

1 Conductor Score – annotated vocal score

MAKE ME A WORLD

Music by Jim Parker

Book and Lyrics by Wally K. Daly

The Story (Biblical and rock affiliations)

This popular show, from the writers of Follow The Star, is based on episodes from the Old Testament beginning with the story of The Creation and finishing with the story of Moses. Olly, the head angel, oversees the creation and all goes to well until Lucifer rebels and Olly is forced to send him to Hell. Thereupon Lucifer portrays the devil and tries to undo all the good the angels have done. Olly decides the only way to rid the world of all of the bad people is to cause a flood – hence the story of Noah is incorporated – but Lucifer survives this and Olly nearly gives up hope. A little later Moses arrives and tells the angels that Pharaoh has captured his men and won't let them go. Olly suspects that Lucifer is behind this, which indeed he is. However at the end of the day Moses defeats Pharaoh (as well all know!), and good prevails over bad.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

Olly

Lucifer

Chicago

Angy

Seraphino

Cherubim

Principal Musical Numbers

Creation Song (Olly)

I Hate Gardening (Chicago)

Male Me A World (Adam, Eve)

Out Of Tune With Your Heart (Eve)

Where Can I Park My Ark? (Noah)

Smile, Smile, Smile (Company)

Yesterday's Dreams (Olly)

Instrumentation (Total number of books = 4)

1 Guitar / Banjo

1 Bass

1 Drums / Vibes

1 Keyboard / Conductor

SMUGGLE ME A SECRET

Music by Dennis Atkinson; Words by Vera Heade

The Story (Kent in the early 1800s)

The Excise men are on the look-out for smugglers. A last campaign is being planned by the smugglers themselves, who are all thought of as respected and leading citizens of the parish at the Inn of the Three Black Swans. They have heard of the shipment of a casket of gold plate from France, which is due to be off-loaded two nights from now at Tavern's Bay. The innkeeper, James Ratchett, and his son Edward, realise what the meeting is about. When the Smugglers leave, the inn is visited by the Lord of the Manor, Sir Ralph Murdoch, and his daughter Melanie. Edward and Melanie are in love. If only he had more than love to offer Melanie, Edward would dare to ask Sir Ralph for his daughter's hand in marriage. The Excise men ask Edward to help them catch the smugglers for which there will be a reward. Encourage by Melanie, he agrees. Two nights later, a boat is wrecked, lured by the smugglers. When they land, Edward confronts them with a pistol. They all scatter except one, who is taken prisoner and put in a cellar. The next morning his identity is revealed. To everyone's shocked surprise, it turns out to be Sir Ralph, who is arrested and taken away. Melanie then tells Edward that he can't possibly marry a smuggler's daughter. Later she regrets sending Edward away. Bleak the butler reveals to Melanie a secret between himself and her Father. Meanwhile, the smugglers are full of remorse for their misdeeds but wonder what happened to the casket of gold plate – it just disappeared. Edward has by now moved twenty miles away up the coast, trying to make a living by fishing. He looks are Captain Dogoodie, washed up on a beach badly injured after the wreck caused by the smugglers. When he recovers, the Captain, who is really the Chief Customs Officer, returns with Edward to the Inn. The Captain explains Edward's part in the action and orders that the casket, which Edward hid in an old well at the Inn, should be dug up. There are gasps of surprise when the Captain opens the lock and reveals nothing but useless junk. He explains that it has all been a trick. Sir Ralph has never been a smuggler. He used the opportunity to help catch the smugglers once and for all and his arrest was a ruse planned by himself and the Captain. Edward gets a large reward from the Customs authorities for his actions. Finally, Sir Ralph gives him permission to marry Melanie and she, of course, is all the reward Edwards really wants.

Principal Characters (plus chorus)

James Ratchett

Edward

Sir Ralph Murdoch

Melanie

Bleak

Excise Men: Simkins and Tomkins

Smugglers: Farmer, Vicar, Blacksmith, Butcher, Baker, Fisherman

Captain Dogoodie

(Note: The MEN'S singing parts have been written throughout in the treble clef in such a way that they may be sung equally convincingly by adult or children's voices)

Principal Musical Numbers

Drink! Drink! Here's A new Day (Company)

Smugglers' Song (Various)

Come With Me, O My Love (Edward, Melanie)

We Are The Excisemen (Simkins, Tomkins)

Gone Are The Days (Melanie)

Many, Many Moons Ago (Bleak)

The Music Men (Simkins, Tomkins)

Instrumentation

Piano only

PIGS

Music, Lyrics and Book by Frank Kirwan

The Story

Farmer Giles is a rough, vindictive bully who takes easy money in return for letting the said scientists experiment with his pigs' hormones. The pigs gradually come to realise that their brains, in some cases, are becoming more developed than those of the humans who have controlled them for so long. Unfortunately, in other cases, the effects of the experiment have been more unpredictable, with pigs who think they're cows and pigs who think they're sheep, giving much opportunity for humour! However, the fun comes with the message that man must take more care with his environment and that in modern society we have collectively lost an objective view of what should be the purpose of life. Musically, Pigs is a compendium of styles with rock'n'roll nestling alongside music that owes much to Sousa and Gilbert and Sullivan. Amongst others, there is a hoedown, a Frankie Laine style Western song, a choir number with a Caribbean beat, a climactic battle hymn towards the end of the show, the showstopper, Pigs and thoughtful ballads to quieten things down!

Principal Characters

Information available on request

Principal Musical Numbers

Information available on request

Instrumentation

Piano Only

SOLUTION TO POLLUTION

Book by Gary Young

Lyrics by Gary Young and Tony Rees

Music by Tony Rees

The Story

A children's musical that aims to raise the consciousness and awareness, reinforce learning, educate and allow children to reach out through the arts, with the message... "replant, reduce, recycle, repair – we can show Mother Nature we care!"

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

Mother Nature

Miss Dumpster

Toxic Tycoon

Prince of Muck

Princess of Muck

The Mucky Kids

Eric The Elm Tree

Colin The Crow

Beatrice The Badger

8 Boys & Girls (Children A – H)

Creatures Of The Countryside – Puppeteers

Greta And The Garbo's

The Bottle Brothers – M.T Bottle / Single Fills / Refills

Professor Care

The Research Team

Principal Musical Numbers

Information available on request

Instrumentation

Piano Only

TWELVE MUSICAL PLAYS FOR CHILDREN (BASED ON FAMOUS FAIRY TALES)

By Henry Tobias and David Ormont

General

Each Musical comedy is about 15 minutes in length and contains between 5 and 7 original songs. They are written for ages group from 4-12. Every musical has a little lesson or moral.

1. Hansel and Gretel – 9 Characters, 5 songs
2. The Emperor's New Clothes – 7 Characters, 5 songs
3. Rip Van Winkle – 8 Characters, 6 songs (5 + 1 Reprise)
4. Sleeping Beauty – 9 Characters, 5 songs
5. The Pied Piper – 4 Characters, 5 songs
6. Tom Thumb – 11 characters, 6 songs (5 + 1 Reprise)
7. Rapunzel – 6 Characters, 7 songs (6 + 1 Reprise)
8. Beauty And The Beast – 4 Characters, 6 Songs (5 + 1 Reprise)
9. Rumpelstiltskin – 5 Characters, 5 songs
10. The Ugly Duckling – 12 Characters, 6 songs (5 + 1 Reprise)
11. Robin Hood – 6 Characters, 5 Songs
12. William Tell – 6 Characters, 5 Songs

Instrumentation

Piano Only

OPERAS & OPERETTAS

L'AMICO FRITZ

Music by Pietro Mascagni

Libretto by P.Suardon after the novel by M.M Erckmann-Chatrian

The Story (Alsace; the present)

While celebrating his fortieth birthday with friends, Fritz complains to David that he has been asked to provide the dowry for two neighbours who want to get married. When Fritz goes on to confess that he cannot understand why people fall in love, David wagers that within a year he too will be married. Fritz scorns the suggestion but accepts the bet, and they agree to make Fritz's vineyard the prize. However, contrary to expectation, Fritz finds himself gradually captivated by Suzel whose father is the steward at his farm. On a visit to Fritz at the farm, David discovers that Suzel has become very fond of her master. He decides to test Fritz's true feelings for her, and he tells him that he has found Suzel a suitable husband whom her father approves of. Fritz is horrified at this news and has to admit to himself that he is in love with Suzel. Worried about the consequences of his feelings, he takes his leave of her immediately without even saying goodbye. However, he is unable to forget her and when David asked Fritz for his consent on order for her wedding to take place, he refuses to give it. He asks Suzel if she really intends to marry and when she pleads with him to rescue her from the unwanted match, he finally reveals his love for her. The two look forward to a blissful future together; David has won his bet.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

Fritz Kobus (A Rich Bachelor Landowner)

Suzel (A Farmer's Daughter)

Beppe (A Gypsy)

David (A Rabbi)

Hanezo (Fritz's friend)

Federico (Fritz's friend)

Caterina (Fritz's Housekeeper)

Principal Musical Numbers

Son Pochi Fiori (Suzel)

Suzel, Buon Di (Fritz)

Intermezzo (Orchestra)

O Amore, O Bella Luce Del Core (Fritz)

Instrumentation

2 Flutes (1 Piccolo)

2 Oboes

2 Clarinets

2 Bassoons

4 Horns

2 Trumpets

3 Trombones

1 Tuba

1 Timpani

2 Percussion

1 Harp

Strings

On stage violin and oboe

1 Full Score

BEATRICE AND BENEDICT

Music by Hector Berlioz

Libretto by Hector Berlioz after Shakespeare's "Much Ado About Nothing"

English version translated and adapted by Ronald Eyre

The Story (Messina, Sicily during the 16th Century)

Preparations are under way to welcome back the victorious General and his troops who have saved the town from the besieging army of Moors. Hero is anxiously awaiting their arrival for she is longing to see Claudio, her beloved. Beatrice, however, cannot understand what all the fuss is about and expresses concern when she hears that Claudio's companion is Benedict. She declares that he is a bad influence, and upon his arrival she shows him nothing but contempt; in return, Benedict is equally insulting. He is a confirmed bachelor who does not believe in love or marriage. He has seen the effect love can have on his fellow officer, Claudio, who once only used to think of military matters but whose mind is now constantly occupied with Hero, his bride-to-be. Don Pedro, however, is of the opinion that Beatrice and Benedict would make an excellent couple in spite of their apparent dislike of each other. To overcome this problem, he formulates a plan whereby Benedict is led to believe that Beatrice is madly in love with him, while Beatrice is told that Benedict is infatuated with her. This news causes them to re-assess their opinion of each other and they come to the conclusion that perhaps they are in love after all. At first they conceal their mutual feelings but the power of love eventually proves too strong, and calling a truce, they join Claudio and Hero in the signing of a marriage contract.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

Don Pedro (a General)

Leonato (the Governor of Messina)

Hero (his daughter)

Beatrice (Leonato's Niece)

Claudio (an Officer)

Benedict (an Officer)

Ursula (Hero's Companion)

Principal Musical Numbers

I Should Say Disdain (Beatrice, Benedict)

Marry A Wife? (Benedict, Claudio, Don Pedro)

Yes, I'll Fall In Love (Benedict)

Is That A Sigh of Sorrow? (Hero, Ursula)

No, They Would Not Deceive Me! (Beatrice)

Instrumentation

2 Flutes (1 Piccolo)

2 Oboes

2 Clarinets

2 Bassoons

4 Horns

2 Trumpets

3 Trombones

1 Timpani

3 Percussion

2 Harps

1 Guitar

Strings

1 Full Score

THE BEGGAR'S OPERA

Libretto and Lyrics by John Gay

Music selected by J.C Pepusch; arranged by Benjamin Pearce Higgins

Adaptation by David Turner

The Story (London, early 18th Century)

Peachum is a receiver of stolen goods. He transacts most of his business with Captain Macheath, a highwayman who is loved by Peachum's daughter, Polly. Macheath and Polly marry secretly and Peachum is no longer able to use Polly in his business. He gets his revenge, helped by Jenny Diver, Suky Tawdry, and other Ladies of the Town, by informing on Macheath and collecting the reward money. Macheath is imprisoned in Newgate, which is run by the corrupt Lockit, who is in league with Peachum. Lockit's daughter Lucy becomes infatuated with Macheath and enables him to escape by stealing her father's keys. Through the inebriated Mrs Diana Trapes, he is recaptured and is only saved from being hanged by the mock intervention of a beggar and a player. After all, it would never do to let such a fine hero die.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

Macheath

Polly Peachum

Lucy Lockit

Mrs Diana Trapes

Jenny Diver

Principal Musical Numbers

Can Love Be Controlled By Advice? (Polly)

Let Us Take To The Road (Chorus of Highwaymen)

When Gold Is At Hand (Jenny Diver)

At The Tree I Shall Suffer (Macheath)

How Cruel Are The Traitors (Lucy)

How Happy Could I Be With Either (Macheath)

In The Days Of My Youth (Mrs Diana Trapes)

The Charge Is Prepared (Macheath)

Instrumentation (Total number of books = 7)

1 Double Bass

1 Flute

1 Clarinet

1 Horn

1 Percussion

1 Piano / Celeste

1 Full Score

THE BELLS OF CORNEVILLE

Music by Robert Planquette, adapted and arranged by Max Morris

New Libretto and Lyrics by Geoffrey Wilson (from the French of Gabet and Clairville)

The Story (Late 17th century France)

In rural Normandy, during the reign of Louis XIV, lives a miserly farmer called Gaspard. Two girls, about the same age, belong to his household – Germaine, his supposed niece and likely to inherit his money, and Serpolette, a waif he has adopted, details of whose birth remain a mystery. Gaspard wants Germaine to marry the Bailie, the chief local official. She, however, has vowed to wed no one but the man who has recently rescued her from drowning. Grenicheux, a feckless young fisherman, takes credit for the deed and Serpolette becomes vexed when he starts paying more attention to Germaine. A colourful stranger arrives in Corneville. His sea captain's uniform conceals the fact that Henri is the son of the Marquis of Corneville, exiled twenty years previously. Germaine tells him of the legend of the long closed-up chateau, reputedly haunted. Its bells will only peal forth again when the rightful master returns. At the hiring fair, Henri takes into his service Germaine, Serpolette and Grenicheux, all eager to get away from Gaspard. Along with them, some of his crew and the coerced Bailie, Henri enters the chateau by night. Then he reveals he is the lawful owner of Corneville. A portfolio of papers seems to prove that Serpolette is really a Viscountess, heiress to the Lucenay fortune. Henri becomes convinced that Germaine is the girl he rescued from drowning. Shortly afterwards Gaspard arrives in what he thinks is a still, empty chateau to gloat over the gold he has hidden there. It is he who has made the villagers believe that the chateau is haunted. Suddenly Henri and his companions, clad in armour, frighten Gaspard out of his wits. A month later Henri is established in the remodelled chateau. He orders Grenicheux to own up to Germaine that he did not save her but not to reveal the name of the true rescuer. Germaine overhears. When Henri asks her to marry him, she replies that she feels a marquis should not marry his servant. Fortunately Gaspard recovers his reason and produces a paper he has stolen which proves Germaine is the Lucenay heiress and Serpolette only a Gypsy foundling. Henri is delighted no barrier of rank remains and that he is free to marry Germaine. He forgives the now abject Gaspard as Serpolette accepts her fate and agrees to make do with Grenicheux, on her terms. The Bells of Corneville can therefore ring out once more.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

Germaine

Henri

Serpolette

Grenicheux

Gaspard

The Bailie

Principal Musical Numbers

Legend Of The Bells (Germaine)

I've Ploughed The Seas (Henri)

Light Breezes Blowing (Grenicheux)

My Head, My Wig, And Likewise My Intended (The Bailie)

Titled Girl, Not Surprising (Serpolette)

Beggars' Song (Gaspard)

Cider Song (Serpolette)

The Raging Sea (Grenicheux)

Instrumentation (Total number of books = 17)

2 Violins I

1 Violin II

1 Viola

1 Cello

1 Double Bass

1 Flutes I/II (I doubles Piccolo)

1 Oboe

1 Clarinets I/II

1 Bassoon

1 Horns I/II

1 Trumpet I/II

1 Trombones I/II

1 Bass Trombone

1 Timpani

1 Percussion

1 Conductor Score – annotated vocal score

BLUE MONDAY (135TH STREET BLUES)

Music by George Gershwin
Libretto and Lyrics D.G De Sylva
Vocal score and adaptation by George Bassman

The Story (A basement café near 135th Street and Lennox Avenue)

Vi is due to meet Joe, with whom she is madly in love, at the café and has arrived a little early. While she is waiting, Tom declares his love for her and tries to persuade her to forget Joe. When she refuses, he tries to kiss her, they struggle and Vi threatens him with a gun. When Joe arrives he is in good humour having had a recent win in a dice game. He tells Mike what he is going to use the money to visit his mother whom he has not seen for a long time; he is just waiting for a reply to the telegram he has sent. However, he does not want Vi to know about his trip as she is a very jealous woman and would not let him go for any reason. Unfortunately, Tom has overheard their conversation, and at the first opportunity he tells Vi that Joe is expecting a telegram from a woman. When it arrives she demands to see it but Joe refuses saying that it has nothing to do with her. In her anger, she pulls out her gun and shoots him. As Joe sinks to the floor, dropping the telegram, Vi picks it up and is horrified to see that it is from her sister informing Joe that there is no point in him coming to visit as his mother has been dead for three years. Realising that she has made a terrible mistake she begs Joe to forgive her which he does knowing that he will soon be seeing his mother after all.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

Joe (a gambler)
Vi (his sweetheart)
Tom (Café Entertainer)
Mike (Café Proprietor)
Sam (Boy-of-all-Work)
Sweetpea (Café Pianist)

This one-act opera, lasting approximately 30 minutes, first appeared in George White's Scandals of 1922. It was retitled 135th Street and revived in 1970.

Instrumentation

1st Reed – (Flute, B Flat Clarinet, Bass Clarinet, Alto Sax)
2nd Reed – (Flute, B Flat Clarinet, Bass Clarinet, Alto Sax, Piccolo)
3rd Reed – (Tenor Sax, B Flat Clarinet, Bass Clarinet, Flute, Oboe)
4th Reed – (Tenor Sax, Bass Clarinet, Flute, Cor Anglais)
5th Reed – (Baritone Sax, B Flat Clarinet, Flute, Bassoon)
2 Horns
3 Trumpets
2 Tenor Trombones
1 Bass Trombone
1 Timpani
1 Percussion
1 Banjo
2 Pianos
Strings
1 Full Score

BLUEBEARD

Music by Jacques Offenbach, adapted and arranged by Graham Ripley
New Libretto and Lyrics by Brian Anderson

The Story (Fairy-tale gothic)

Blue beard is a powerful nobleman, lives in a mighty castle and has already done away with five wives. He orders his right hand man, Popolani, to dispose of Boulotte, his latest wife, because he wants to marry Princess Marie. It has only recently been made known to Marie that she is of royal blood. As a shepherdess, she met and fell in love with a shepherd named Bruno. When Bruno reveals that he is really a Prince, Marie's parents, King Bobeche and Queen Hortense, give him permission to marry their daughter. Baron Bluebeard hears of this and surrounds the King's palace with troops. The Prince, after challenging Bluebeard to a duel, is apparently killed. Marie is about to agree to become Bluebeard's wife when Boulotte, a regular country wench unafraid of any man, returns; Popolani has only pretended to do away with her. She confronts Bluebeard with his previous wives in front of the whole court. Filled with remorse, Bluebeard is reconciled to Boulotte. The King, who thinks Count Oscar has executed on his orders the Queen's ex-lovers is astonished when they make their appearance. They too have been in hiding and soon find partners among the ex-wives of Bluebeard. Then Princess Marie discovers happiness at last for she finds that Prince Bruno has not been killed but merely stunned.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

Bluebeard
Popolani
Boulotte
Princess Marie
Prince Bruno
King Bobeche
Queen Hortense
Count Oscar
Five wives

Principal Musical Numbers

Information available on request

Instrumentation (Total number of books = 16)

2 Violins I
1 Violin II
1 Viola
1 Cello
1 Double Bass
1 Flutes I/II (I double Picc)
1 Oboe
1 Clarinet I/II
1 Bassoon
1 Horns I/II
1 Trumpets I/II
1 Timpani
1 Percussion
1 Conductor Score – annotated vocal score

CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA

Music by Pietro Mascagni

Libretto by G.Targioni and G.Menasci after a story by G.Verga

English translations by either Frederic Weatherly or Tom Hammond

The Story (Sicily; late 19th Century)

It is Easter Day in a Sicilian village and the townsfolk are gathering at the Church for Mass. Santuzza is trying to discover from Lucia the whereabouts of Turiddu, her former lover, who has now deserted her for Lola. Lucia tells Santuzza that Turiddu is away buying wine but Santuzza knows differently and tells Lucia about her son's secret liaisons with Lola. Before he left to serve in the army, Turiddu was in love with Lola but, unable to wait for his return, she married Alfio. With Lola unavailable, Turiddu turned his attentions to Santuzza until the jealous Lola lured him back to her. When Santuzza accuses Turiddu of infidelity, he denies it. They quarrel violently and Santuzza is hurled to the ground as Turiddu angrily rushes past her into the Church. In her fury, Santuzza tells Alfio of Lola's deception, realising too late the consequences of her words. Without delay Alfio challenges Turiddu to a duel which he accepts. Bidding farewell to his mother, he asks her to take good care of Santuzza. Shortly afterwards shouts are heard that Turiddu has been killed.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

Santuzza (a Village Girl)

Turiddu (her Former Lover)

Lucia (his mother)

Alfio (a Carrier)

Lola (his Wife)

Principal Musical Numbers

Easter Hymn (Santuzza, Lucia, Chorus)

Voi Lo Sapete (Santuzza)

Ah! Lo Vedi (Santuzza, Turiddu)

Intermezzo (Orchestra)

Instrumentation

2 Piccolos

2 Flutes

2 Oboes

2 Clarinets

2 Bassoons

4 Horns

2 Trumpets

3 Trombones

1 Tuba

1 Timpani

3 Percussion

3 Harps

1 Bells

1 Organ

Strings

1 Full Score

THE CONSPIRATORS

Music by Franz Schubert

Words and Text by J.F. Castelli

Adapted by George Baker and Humphrey Trevelyan

The Story (Late medieval times)

The plot of this one-act opera resembles 'Lysistrata' by Aristophanes and deals with an effective women's peace organisation. The Crusader husbands, commanded by Count Heribert von Ludenstein, are dissuaded from continually waging war by their wives, led by the Countess. They simply deny their husbands all 'matrimonial rights'. The Conspirators, although composed in 1823, was not performed until 1861, thirty three years after Schubert's death. The present version, in English, was first performed at Cambridge in 1954. The work lasts an hour and twenty minutes.

Principal Characters

Total principals required are four sopranos, two contraltos, three tenors, two basses, some of these having smaller roles. The chorus writing is nearly all covered by the principal voices.

Principal Musical Numbers

Information available on request

Instrumentation (Total number of books = 20)

2 Violins I

1 Violin II

1 Viola

1 Cello

1 Double Bass

1 Flute I/II

1 Oboe I

1 Oboe II

1 Clarinets I/II

1 Bassoon I

1 Bassoon II

1 Horn I/ II

1 Trumpet I

1 Trumpet II

1 Trombones I/II

1 Bass Trombone

1 Timpani

1 Annotated Vocal Score

1 Full Score

THE DELUDED BRIDEGROOM

Music by W.A Mozart

Adapted, with English words by John Coombs

The Story (Late 18th Century)

The scene is a drawing-room where we find a young lady, Bettina, betrothed against her will to the foolish but rich Pulcherio, newly succeeded to a dukedom. By pretending to faint, Bettina manages to postpone the wedding long enough for her impecunious lover, Almiro, to obtain proof that he is the true heir to the dukedom. Thus Almiro turns the tables on Pulcherio and the scheming lawyer, Bocconio. Though originally planned as a full length entertainment with chorus, this work was left largely incomplete at the composer's death. The adaptation utilises Mozart's fragments to make a chamber piece for four characters lasting half an hour.

Principal Characters

Bettina

Pulcherio

Almiro

Bocconio

Principal Musical Numbers

Information available on request

Instrumentation (Total number books = 14)

2 Violins I

1 Violin II

1 Viola

1 Cello

1 Double Bass

1 Flute I/II

1 Oboes I/II

1 Clarinets I/II

1 Bassoons I/II

1 Horns I/II

1 Trumpets I/II

1 Timpani

1 Conductor Score – annotated vocal score

ENGAGED!

Written by W.S Gilbert, Composed by Arthur Sullivan
Adapted by George Rowell and Kenneth Mobbs

The Story (Edwardian England)

The high spirited and fast moving romp, with its many unexpected twists and turns, is enhanced by the music and lyrics of Gilbert and Sullivan. Belinda, travelling to Scotland to escape marrying Major Mugeridge, is accompanied by Belvawney. On the same train travel Cheviot Hill and his uncle Symperson. Unfortunately for them the train is wrecked by Angus MacAlister, who makes a habit of this, in order that Mrs MacFarlane and her beautiful daughter, Maggie, may cash extra money by putting the passengers up in their cottage. Because of the delay caused by the crash, Major Mugeridge catches up with Belinda, and in order to save her, Cheviot announces he is her husband, and she says she is his wife. Neither realise, that in Scottish law, just the statement of this constitutes a true marriage. Months later Belinda, still looking for the man she 'married' in Scotland, arrives at the house of Symperson's daughter, Minnie on the day of the wedding to Cheviot. Matters are further complicated by the arrival of Maggie to whom, the incorrigible Cheviot has also proposed. The problems appear insurmountable, and yet all ends happily with Angus MacAlister marrying Maggie, and a double wedding for Cheviot and Belinda, and Minnie and Belvawney.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

Minnie Symperson
Maggie MacFarlane
Belinda Treherne
Cheviot Hill
Angus MacAlister
Belvawney

Principal Musical Numbers

Some Look For Love (Cheviot)
If Maggie Were Married To Me (Cheviot, Angus, Maggie, Mrs MacFarlane)
It's My Opinion (Minnie, Belinda)
As O'er Our Penny-Roll We Sing (Minnie, Cheviot)
Little Maid Of Arcadee (Belvawney, Chorus)
Our Life On Earth Is Full Of Care (Symperson, Cheviot)

Instrumentation (Total number of books = 13)

2 Violins I
1 Violin II
1 Viola
1 Cello
1 Double Bass
1 Flute I/II (Flute II doubling Picc)
1 Oboe
1 Clarinets I/II
1 Bassoon
1 Horn I/II
1 Percussion
1 Conductor Score – annotated vocal score

FULL CIRCLE – OPERA IN ONE ACT

Music by Robin Orr, Libretto by Sydney Goodsir Smith

The Story

The scenes are set around the shipyards of Glasgow in the industrial depression of 1930. Davie, a penniless young dock labourer, plans an armed hold-up. His wife Jean persuades him to empty the bullets from the gun. Davie stops a stranger with his empty gun and takes all his money which he promptly spends in the nearest bar, from which he is thrown out when he becomes drunk and quarrelsome. A passing policeman tries to direct him home, but this unnecessarily angers Davie, who draws the gun. A struggle breaks out during which the gun goes off killing the policeman. One bullet had not been removed.

Principal Characters

Davie

Jean

Andra

Stranger

Barman

Principal Musical Numbers

Information available on request

Instrumentation

1 Violin

1 Viola

1 Double Bass

1 Clarinet

1 Bassoon

1 Cornet

1 Trombone

1 Timpani / Percussion

THE GONDOLIERS

Music by Arthur Sullivan (orchestrated by Peter Murray)
Lyrics and Libretto by W.S Gilbert

The Story (Venice / Barataria; 1750)

At birth, Casilda, the 21 year old daughter of the Duke and Duchess of Plaza-Toro, was married by the proxy to the then infant son and heir of the exceedingly wealthy King of Barataria. Unfortunately, the King became a rather bigoted Wesleyan Methodist, and the Grand Inquisitor, determined that such a trend should not continue, arranged for the heir to be kidnapped and taken to Venice. There he was placed in the care of a respectable Gondolier who raised him alongside his own son. Now Gondoliers themselves, his 'sons', Marco and Giuseppe, have recently selected a bride each – Gianetta and Tessa – from their large female following and are, therefore, upset to learn that, as heir apparent to the throne, one of them may have to sacrifice his bride in order to marry Casilda. She is not happy with the situation either as she is in love with Luiz. As Marco and Giuseppe's 'father' has since died, the only person who can identify the Prince is Inez who was his childhood nurse. When called upon to make her judgement she reveals that neither is in fact the King's son because when the baby was kidnapped she substituted her own child in his place. Therefore, the true heir to the throne of Barataria is Luiz. This proves very satisfactory to all parties as the Gondoliers can keep their brides and Casilda can both fulfil the proxy and marry the one she loves.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

The Duke of Plaza-Toro (a Grandee of Spain)
Luiz (his Attendant)
Don Alhambra del Bolero (the Grand Inquisitor)
Marco Palmieri (Venetian Gondolier)
Giuseppe Palmieri (Venetian Gondolier)
The Duchess of Plaza-Toro
Casilda (her Daughter)
Gianetta (Contadine)
Tess (Contadine)
Inez (the King's Foster-mother)

Principal Musical Numbers

In Enterprise of Martial Kind (Duke of Plaza-Toro)
I Stole The Prince (Don Alhambra with Duke, Duchess, Casilda, Luiz)
When A Merry Maiden Marries (Tessa)
Then One Of Us (Marco, Giuseppe, Gianetta, Tessa)
Take A Pair Of Sparkling Eyes (Marco)

Instrumentation (Total number of books = 21)

3 Violins I
3 Violins II
2 Violas
2 Cellos
1 Double Bass
1 Flute
1 Oboe
1 Clarinet
1 Horn
1 Trumpet
1 Trombone
1 Timpani
1 Percussion
1 Piano (optional – annotated vocal score)
1 Full Score

HMS PINAFORE

Music by Arthur Sullivan (orchestrated by Peter Murray)

Lyrics and Libretto by W.S Gilbert

The Story (Quarter-Deck of HMS Pinafore off Portsmouth)

High spirits prevail aboard HMS Pinafore as Little Buttercup distributes sweets and tobacco to the crew. Ralph Rackstraw's mind, however, is on Josephine. He is in love with her even though she is socially unattainable. Unaware of his affection for her, Josephine is in love with Ralph but pride prevents her from revealing this because of his low station. Josephine, meanwhile, is sought in marriage by Sir Joseph Porter whose advances she refuses to acknowledge. Sir Joseph holds strong views about the treatment of sailors. He maintains that a British sailor is any man's equal (excepting his own), and should always be treated with politeness without recourse to bad language or abuse. This inspires Ralph to declare his love to Josephine who soon forgets her price and confesses her true feelings to him. Plans are quickly made to smuggle the couple ashore that night to be married. The only crew member who is not happy at the news is Dick Deadeye. He betrays their intentions to the Captain and they are caught before they can leave the ship. Furious at Ralph's actions, the Captain swears an oath at him which is, unfortunately, overheard by Sir Joseph. He is appalled at such an outburst and turns to Ralph for an explanation. Unfortunately, Ralph only makes matters worse by revealing that he is in love with Josephine. The situation is saved by Little Buttercup who intervenes to confess how, in her youth, she had fostered two babies from opposite ends of the social ladder. In the course of caring for them, she had mixed them up. The baby from the poor background was Captain Corcoran and the other was Ralph. Upon hearing this, Sir Joseph immediately loses all interest in Josephine and gladly resigns her to Ralph, now Captain Rackstraw.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

The Rt Hon Sir Joseph Porter, KCB (First Lord of the Admiralty)

Captain Corcoran (Commanding HMS Pinafore)

Ralph Rackstraw (Able Seaman)

Dick Deadeye (Able Seaman)

Josephine (The Captain's Daughter)

Hebe (Sir Joseph's First Cousin)

Little Buttercup (A Portsmouth Bumboat Woman)

Principal Musical Numbers

We Sail The Ocean Blue (Chorus)

I'm Called Little Buttercup (Little Buttercup)

I Am The Captain Of The Pinafore (Captain Corcoran, Chorus)

I Am The Monarch Of The Sea (Sir Joseph Porter, Cousin Hebe, Chorus)

When I Was A Lad (Sir Joseph Porter, Chorus)

Never Mind The Why and Wherefore (Josephine, Captain Corcoran, Sir Joseph Porter)

Instrumentation (Total number of books = 21)

3 Violins I

3 Violins II

2 Violas

2 Cellos

1 Double Bass

1 Flute

1 Oboe

1 Clarinet

1 Horn

1 Trumpet

1 Trombone

1 Timpani

1 Percussion

1 Piano (optional – annotated vocal score)

1 Full Score

IOLANTHE

Music by Arthur Sullivan (orchestrated by Peter Murray)

Lyric and Libretto by W.S Gilbert)

The Story (An Arcadian Landscape / Palace Yard, Westminster; between 1700 and 1882)

Twenty-five years after her banishment from Fairyland for marrying a mortal, a crime usually punishable by death, Iolanthe has been pardoned. She had a son by this illicit marriage, Strephon, who is, therefore, half mortal and half fairy. He is in love with Phyllis whom he is determined to marry. However, in order to do so he needs the consent of her guardian, the Lord Chancellor, who shows little enthusiasm for the idea of his ward marrying a mere shepherd. When Strephon turns to his mother for comfort, Phyllis misinterprets their intimacy (as a fairy Iolanthe has not physically aged beyond a certain point) and, believing him to be unfaithful, she renounces her love for him. Although he protests that Iolanthe is his mother, his claims are met with derision by Phyllis and the peers (who are unaware of his parentage) and even the intervention of the Queen of the Fairies cannot persuade them otherwise. Furious at their attitude, she declares that Strephon will enter Parliament and will work to overthrow all the privileges enjoyed by the nobility, a job at which Strephon is successful. However, he finds it no substitute for Phyllis and, with no further reason to conceal it, he reveals his fairy origins to her. This explains Iolanthe's apparent youth and the couple become re-engaged. At Strephon's request, Iolanthe puts their case to the Lord Chancellor, but has to disguise herself before doing so as, unbeknown to him, he is her mortal husband and she is forbidden to enlighten him under pain of death. Unfortunately, when he declares that he has decided to marry Phyllis himself, she is forced to reveal her true identity although this will mean forfeiting her life. However, when it emerges that the other fairies have committed the ultimate offence and married the peers (ie mortals), the Lord Chancellor suggests that the law be amended so that it is a crime for any fairy not to marry a mortal. The Queen happily selects a mortal for herself and invites the whole company to join her in Fairyland.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

The Lord Chancellor

Earl of Mountararat

Earl Tolloller

Strephon (an Arcadian Shepherd)

Phyllis (An Arcadian Shepherdness and Ward in Chancery)

Queen of the Fairies

Iolanthe (A Fairy, Strephon's Mother)

Principal Musical Numbers

None Shall Part Us (Phyllis, Strephon)

Loudly Let The Trumpet Bray (Chorus)

The Law Is The True Embodiment (Lord Chancellor, Chorus of Peers)

When All Night Long A Chap Remains (Sentry)

When Britain Really Ruled The Waves (Lord Mountararat, Chorus)

Love Unrequited Robs Me Of My Rest (Lord Chancellor)

Instrumentation (Total number of books = 21)

3 Violins I

3 Violins II

2 Violas

2 Cellos

1 Double Bass

1 Flute

1 Oboe

1 Clarinet

1 Horn

1 Trumpet

1 Timpani

1 Percussion

1 Trombone

1 Piano (optional – annotated vocal score)

1 Full Score

I PAGLIACCI

Music by Ruggero Leoncavallo

Libretto by Ruggero Leoncavallo

English translations by either Frederic Weatherly or Tom Hammond

The Story (Montalto in Calabria, Sicily: The Feast of Assumption circa 1870)

A troupe of strolling players arrives in the Sicilian village of Calabria to perform a comic play. Having drummed up support for the production amongst the townsfolk, Canio retires to the tavern for a drink while Tonio takes advantage of Canio's absence to declare his love for Nedda. She firmly rejects his advances and is forced to defend herself with a whip when he tries to kiss her. Nedda is in love with Silvio who has persuaded her to elope with him after the play that night. However, Tonio overhears their declarations of love and, seeking revenge on Nedda, informs Canio. Canio returns too late to catch her lover, but threatening her with a knife, demands to know his name. She refuses and is only prevented by carrying out his threats by Peppe who disarms him and persuades them all to get ready for the performance. At first the play exactly mirrors events to date – Taddeo's professions of love for Columbine are rejected in favour of Harlequin's and when Pagliaccio discovers she has a lover he demands that she confess his name. It soon becomes clear, however, that Canio is referring to Nedda's lover in reality and is no longer acting the part of the Pagliaccio. When she declares that she will never divulge his name, Canio, in a jealous rage, lunges at her with a knife and strikes her down. As she collapses, she calls for Silvio thereby identifying her lover. As he rushes to her side, he too is fatally wounded by Canio, and the "comedy" comes abruptly to a close amid much confusion.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

Nedda (Actress Wife of Canio / Columbine)

Canio (Leader of a Troupe of Strolling Players / Pagliaccio)

Tonio (a half-witted Hunchback and knockabout Comedian / Taddeo)

Peppe (an Actor / Harlequin)

Silvio (a Peasant)

Principal Musical Numbers

Intermezzo (Orchestra)

Stridono Lassu (Nedda)

Vesti La Giubba (Canio)

Un Tal Gioco (Canio)

No, Pagliaccio Non Son! (Canio)

Instrumentation

2 Flutes (1 Piccolo)

2 Oboes (1 Cor Anglais)

2 Clarinets (1 Bass Clarinet)

3 Bassoons

4 Horns

3 Trumpets

3 Trombones

1 Tuba

1 Timpani

3 Percussion

2 Harps

1 Bells

Strings

On Stage violin, oboe, trumpet, bass drum

1 Full Score

LOVE AT THE INN

Music by Roger Quilter

Lyrics by Rodney Bennett

Libretto by Jeffrey Lambourne

The Story (The Blue Boar Inn / Longton Hall; 1785)

George Morland is an artist, specialising in portrait painting, who has an intense dislike of the aristocracy. However, this does not prevent him from accepting their commissions and it was one of these occasions that he met and fell in love with Jenny. Although the affair ended when George's love for her dwindled, Jenny has now come searching for her former lover at the Inn where Roberts falls in love with her at first sight. George's attentions have been captured by Anne Ward, on a visit to the Inn with her friend Sophie Longton. Anne knows of George's work through her brother who is his engraver, and is anxious to make his acquaintance. However, hearing of his dislike of the gentry, she pretends to be a farmer's daughter. Her ploy works but when a message arrives from Sir William Longton commissioning George to paint the portraits of his family and household in fancy dress, she is forced to continue with the deception. At first she dresses up as a dairy maid to further the impression of a farmer's daughter but once the sketches of the household are over, the time comes for the main portrait of the evening, and she and Sophie appear clad in gorgeous array. Unfortunately, instead of being captivated by Anne's beauty, George is furious at her deceit and refuses to continue with the painting. Turning his back on Anne, George returns to Jenny. They are preparing to return to London when James Ward, George's engraver, unexpectedly arrives. He has been summoned in desperation by Anne and does not realise that the root of her troubles is his friend. Similarly, George is unaware that James is Anne's brother. James intercedes with George on her behalf and succeeds in reconciling the two of them. Jenny, meanwhile, realising that George does not love her, decides to marry Robert, and events are brought to a happy conclusion.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

George Morland (the Artist)

Anne Ward (Sister of James Ward, the Engraver)

Emma (Hostess of the Inn)

Jenny (a Parlourmaid)

Robert (Head Footman at Longton Hall)

Sir William Longton (his Daughter)

James Ward (the Engraver, Brother of Anne)

Principal Musical Numbers

When Love Is Ended (Jenny, Morland)

Love Calls Through The Summer Night (Anne, Morland)

Emma, Oh Emma! (Emma)

Laugh At Love (Morland)

What's A Kiss? (Jenny Robert)

Instrumentation

2 Flutes

1 Oboe

2 Clarinets

1 Bassoon

2 Horns

2 Trumpets

1 Trombone

1 Timpani

1 Percussion

1 Harp

Strings

1 Full Score

MERRIE ENGLAND

Music by Edward German
Book and Lyrics by Basil Hood
Adapted by Dennis Arundell

The Story (Elizabethan England)

This well known comic opera is set in the reign of Queen Elizabeth I. The famous courtier, Sir Walter Raleigh, loves Bessie Throckmorton, one of the Queen's Ladies in Waiting. Bessie is frightened that a misplaced letter from Raleigh will fall into the hands of the Queen, who would be displeased at the association. Raleigh's rival, the Earl of Essex, is given the letter by Jill-All-Along, who is persecuted by the local people who think she is a witch. A forester begs the Queen to protect Jill. However, when Essex hands Elizabeth the letter, the Queen is so incensed that she orders Bessie's imprisonment, Raleigh's banishment and Jill's death by burning. Elizabeth retracts each sentence when Essex halts a threat to her life through his exposure of Dr Lopez, the Queen's Portuguese physician, who is planning to poison her. This adaptation was first seen at Sadlers Wells in 1960 and has the effect of increasing the dramatic realism and allowing the music to give greater unity. The original version is available if required.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

Sir Walter Raleigh
Earl of Essex
Queen Elizabeth I
Bessie Throckmorton
Walter Wilkins
Dr Lopez

Principal Musical Numbers

The Yeomen of England (Essex, Chorus)
She Had A Letter From Her Love (Bessie)
Love Is Meant To Make Us Glad (Quintet)
O Peaceful England (Elizabeth, Chorus)
The English Rose (Raleigh)
It Is The Merry Month of May (Jill, Raleigh)

Instrumentation (Total number of books = 16)

2 Violins I
1 Violin II
1 Viola
1 Cello
1 Double Bass
1 Flute / Piccolo I/II
1 Oboe
1 Clarinet I/II
1 Bassoons I/II
1 Horns I/II
1 Trumpets I/II
1 Trombones I/II
1 Percussion
1 Harp
1 Conductor Score – annotated vocal score

THE MIKADO

Music by Arthur Sullivan (orchestrated by Peter Murray)

Lyrics and Libretto by W.S Gilbert

The Story (The Town of Titipu, Japan)

The Mikado has decreed that the act of flirting when ‘not conubially linked’ is punishable by death. Horrified by this prospect, the townsfolk of Titipu appoint Ko-Ko as the Lord High Executioner – he has been imprisoned for flirting and would be obliged to execute himself before beheading anyone else. Arriving in Titipu, Nanki-Poo is distressed to hear of this new appointment. He has been forced to leave his father’s Court to avoid execution due to the unwarranted attentions of Katisha and has come to Titipu to claim Yum-Yum, Ko-Ko’s bride-to-be, believing that she would now be freed of her engagement to Ko-Ko in the light of his imprisonment. Yum-Yum has no desire to marry Ko-Ko but knows that he will not release her to anybody else, especially not to an itinerant musician. Heartbroken, Nanki-Poo prepares to commit suicide but is prevented from doing so by Ko-Ko, who has received orders from the Mikado to execute someone within the month, and suggests that Nanki-Poo be the required victim. Nanki-Poo agrees on the condition that in the meantime he can marry Yum-Yum, a plan which receives a temporary set-back as the discovery that the wife of a beheaded man must be buried alive. However, when they hear that the Mikado, accompanied by Katisha, is approaching the town, Ko-Ko, anxious to avoid the Mikado’s wrath, decides to pretend that Nanki-Poo’s execution has already taken place. Unfortunately, the Mikado is furious to learn that it is his son who has supposedly been beheaded and Ko-Ko has no choice but to persuade Nanki-Poo to “come back to life”, a plan Nanki-Poo will only agree to if Ko-Ko proposes to the unwed Katisha. Reluctantly he agrees with Katisha, believing Nanki-Poo to be dead, accepts the proposal. With Katisha out of the way, Nanki-Poo appears before the Mikado. He is delighted to see his son alive, and all is forgiven.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

The Mikado of Japan

Nanki-Poo (his Son disguised as a wandering minstrel, in love with Yum Yum)

Ko-Ko (Lord High Executioner of Titipu)

Pooh-Bah (Lord High everything else)

Yum-Yum, Pitti-Sing and Peep-Bo (Three sisters – Wards of Ko-Ko)

Katisha (an elderly Lady, in love with Nanki-Poo)

Principal Musical Numbers

A ‘Wand’ring’ Minstrel (Nanki-Poo)

Behold The Lord High Executioner (Ko-Ko)

As Some Day It May Happen (Ko-Ko and Chorus)

Three Little Maids From School (Yum-Yum, Peep –Bo, Pitti-Sing and Chorus)

The Flowers That Bloom In The Spring (Nanki-Poo, Ko-Ko, Yum-Yum, Pitti-Sing and Pooh-Bah)

On A Tree By A River, A Little Tom-Tit (Ko-Ko)

Instrumentation (Total number of books = 21)

3 Violins I

3 Violins II

2 Violas

2 Cellos

1 Double Bass

1 Flute

1 Oboe

1 Clarinet

1 Horn

1 Trumpet

1 Trombone

1 Timpani

1 Percussion

1 Piano (optional – annotated vocal score)

1 Full Score

MONSIEUR BEUCAIRE

Music by Andre Messenger

Libretto by Frederick Lonsdale after the story by Booth Tarkington

Lyrics by Adrian Ross

The Story (Bath; early 18th Century at the time of Beau Nash)

Having escaped to England from prison in Vincennes, the Duke of Orleans has assumed the name of Monsieur Beaucaire, posing as the barber to the Duke of Mirepoix who masterminded his escape. Now living in Bath, he has fallen in love with Lady Mary Carlisle, the object of many men's attentions, in particular those of Duke of Winterset. Beaucaire procures an introduction to Mary through Winterset himself by threatening to reveal that he caught him cheating at cards. The meeting is to take place at Lady Rellerton's ball but in order to attend Beaucaire is obliged to assume another false identity, that of the Duke de Chateaurien, to prevent being recognised as the barber recently expelled from the Pump Room. His plan works and he succeeds in winning Mary's affection. However, at a garden party three weeks later, Winterset, out to thwart his rival in love, declares that he has been making enquiries regarding the so-called Duke and denounces him as the disgraced barber. When Beaucaire is unable to deny the accusation, Mary rejects him for his dishonourable behaviour. One week later at the Pump Room, everyone is eagerly awaiting the arrival of the French Ambassador. Beaucaire, has sworn to attend despite warnings not to show his face in Bath again. Attempts to prevent him fail, and he gains entry to the Pump Room where he sees Mary. As they declare their love for each other, their liason is interrupted by Winterset. An attempt to arrest Beaucaire is foiled by the timely arrival of the Duke of Mirepoix. He wastes no time in revealing Beaucaire's true identity as the Duke of Orleans, and Beaucaire declares Mary as his Duchess-to-be.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

Monsieur Beaucaire

Philip Molyneux

Duke of Winterset

Lady Mary Carlisle

Lucy

Principal Musical Numbers

Going To The Ball (Molyneux, Beaucaire, Winterset)

A Little More (Lucy, Molyneux)

English Maids (Beaucaire)

Philomel (Lady Mary)

What Are Names? (Lady Mary)

A Son Of France (Mirepoix)

Instrumentation

2 Flutes

1 Oboe

2 Clarinets

2 Bassoons

2 Horns

2 Trumpets

2 Trombones

1 Timpani

1 Percussion

1 Harp

Strings

1 Full Score

NOT IN FRONT OF THE WAITER (OR UNDER THE ASPIDISTRA)

Music by Jacques Offenbach; Orchestration by Vilem Tausky
Libretto and adaptation by Colin Graham; Lyrics by Viola Tunnard

The Story (A private room in a Paris restaurant, 1890)

A waiter is preparing to receive his guests in the private room of a Paris restaurant. Solange and Prosper enter and take a table next to an enormous aspidistra. From their (sung) conversation we gather they are both married, not to one another. A few minutes later, Hortense and Aristide come in and sit at an adjoining table. They are bent on a similar amorous escapade and are indeed the wife and husband of the first couple. It is not long before all is discovered, the ladies rather exaggerating their astonishment and becoming bitterly distressed. During this time the waiter has remained suitable silent, but when the remonstrations are at their peak he intervenes to say he has some information to impart of a kind that should put an end to the quarrelling. He then proceeds to reveal that from a strawberry mark on both ladies' shoulders, he has recognised them as the daughters he shamelessly abandoned in their childhood. He pleads their forgiveness and recounts the sad story of how he was tempted from the straight and narrow path of dutiful paternity. At first, the four of them listen to this revelation with incredulity, but the ladies soon begin to rejoice in having found not only a father, but each of them a sister and also a brother-in-law. Reconciliation abounds. All join in a song of praise of family trees to which the aspidistra raises its head in acknowledgement.

Principal Characters

Solange
Prosper
Hortense
Aristide
Block

Principal Musical Numbers

Scene One (Block)
Scene Two (Solange, Prosper, Block)
Scene Three (Hortense, Aristide, Block)
Scene Four (Solange, Prosper)
Scene Five (Ensemble)
Scene Six (Solange, Ensemble)
Scene Seven (Block, Ensemble)
Finale (Ensemble)

Instrumentation (Total number of books = 19)

2 Violins I
1 Violin II
1 Viola
1 Cello
1 Double Bass
1 Flute I
1 Flute II / Picc
1 Oboe
1 Clarinet I
1 Clarinet II
1 Bassoon
1 Horn I
1 Horn II
1 Trumpet I
1 Trumpet II
1 Trombone
1 Percussion
1 Conductor Score – annotated vocal score

PATIENCE

Music by Arthur Sullivan (orchestrated by Peter Murray)

Lyrics and Libretto by W.S Gilbert

Arranged by Peter Murray

The Story (Exterior of Castle Bunthorne / A Glade)

Reginald Bunthorne is idolised by the young maidens of the village for his aesthetic life-style. Much to their disappointment, though, he only has eyes for Patience. She is aware of his feelings but is unable to return his affection as she believes herself incapable of loving anyone. When she is persuaded, however, that love is an unselfish emotion she sets about falling in love immediately out of a sense of duty. Although true love is revealed to her in the shape of Archibald Grosvenor whom she knew in her childhood, she is unable to accept his proposal. He is adored by women wherever he goes for his good looks and aesthetic tendencies and, for this reason, Patience realises that there is nothing unselfish in loving so perfect a being. Instead she dutifully accepts Bunthorne's offer on the grounds that it would be an unselfish act to love him against her will. With Bunthorne unavailable, the village maidens quickly turn their attention to Grosvenor, much to Bunthorne's annoyance. He resents the presence of a rival depriving him of the adulation he is used to and, in an attempt to regain his past popularity, he forces Grosvenor to change his manner and appearance to one of a commonplace young man. Sick of the constant adoration he attracts, Grosvenor agrees. Consequently Patience is free to return to him as there is nothing unselfish in loving an ordinary man; the village maidens follow Grosvenor's example in abandoning aestheticism and pair up with members of the 35th Dragoon Guards who have been vying for their attention all along; and only Bunthorne is left without a bride.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

Patience (a Dairy Maid)

Reginald Bunthorne (a Fleshy Poet)

Archibald Grosvenor (an Idyllic Poet)

Colonel Calverley, Major Murgatroyd, Lieut. The Duke of Dunstable (Officer of Dragoon Guards)

The Lady Jane (a Rapturous Maiden)

Principal Musical Numbers

The Soldiers Of Our Queen (Colonel, Chorus of Dragoons)

When I First Put This Uniform On (Colonel)

If You're Anxious For To Shine (Bunthorne)

A Magnet Hung In A Hardware Shop (Grosvenor, Chorus of Maidens)

Love Is A Plaintive Song (Patience)

When I Go Out Of The Door (Bunthorne, Grosvenor)

Instrumentation (Total number of books = 21)

3 Violins I

3 Violins II

2 Violas

2 Cellos

1 Double Bass

1 Flute

1 Oboe

1 Clarinet

1 Horn

1 Trumpet

1 Trombone

1 Timpani

1 Percussion

1 Piano (optional – annotated vocal score)

1 Full Score

PERSEVERANCE
Or HALF A CORONET

Words by A.P.Herbert

Music by Vivian Ellis

An operetta first performed in Charles B. Cochran's 21st Revue "Streamline".

Characters:

Perseverance

Lily

Rudolph

Robert

The Official Receiver

The Lady Chancellor

Fisher-Girls and Bailiffs

Instrumentation

Piano only

THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE

Music by Arthur Sullivan (orchestrated by Peter Murray)

Lyrics and Libretto by W.S Gilbert

The Story (The coast of Cornwall)

The pirates of Penzance (a rather tender-hearted band, made up exclusively of orphans and unable to harm anyone of similar background) are celebrating Frederic's coming of age and subsequent release from his apprenticeship to them. He joined the pirates as a child owing to a mistake by Ruth, his nursemaid, who misheard his father's instructions to apprentice him to a pilot. She has remained with Frederic ever since and now harbours a desire to marry him. However, Frederic has met and fallen in love with Mabel whose sisters the pirates have claimed as their future brides. Their father, the General, is horrified at this prospect and declares himself to be an orphan, knowing that this will affect their immediate release. As an ex-pirate, Frederic now feels that his duty is to society and he wastes no time in assembling a police force to capture the pirates. He is, therefore, dismayed when he learns from Ruth and the Pirate King that, due to the fact that his Birthday is on the 29th February and only occurs once every four years, he has in effect only had five birthdays; the terms of his apprenticeship state that he is bound to the pirates until his 21st Birthday. Consequently, feeling that his loyalty is now to the pirates again, he reveals that the General is not really an orphan. The Pirate King is furious that he has been tricked and he plots to capture the General, his daughters and the policemen to take his revenge. This task proves no problem to his band of men until the Sergeant demands that they surrender in the name of Queen Victoria. This is too much for them and they yield to the request. However, as they are about to be taken into custody Ruth reveals that they are not really pirates at all, but noblemen who have gone astray. On hearing this, the General orders their release, restores them to their rightful ranks and offers them his daughters in marriage.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

Major-General Stanley

The Pirate King

Samuel (his Lieutenant)

Frederic (the Pirate Apprentice)

Sergeant of Police

Mabel, Kate, Isabel and Edith (General Stanley's Daughters)

Ruth (a Pirate Maid of all Work)

Principal Musical Numbers

Oh, Better Far To Live and Die (Pirate King, Chorus)

Poor Wand'ring One (Mabel, Chorus)

I Am The Very Model of a Modern Major-General (Major General, Chorus)

When The Foeman Bares His Steel (Mabel, Edith, Sergeant, Chorus)

When You Had Left Our Pirate Fold (Ruth, Frederic, King)

When A Felon's Not Engaged In His Employment (Sergeant, Chorus)

With Cat-Like Tread (Samuel, Chorus of Pirates)

Instrumentation (Total number of books = 21)

3 Violins I

3 Violins II

2 Violas

2 Cellos

1 Double Bass

1 Flute

1 Oboe

1 Clarinet

1 Horn

1 Trumpet

1 Trombone

1 Timpani 1 Percussion 1 Piano (optional – annotated vocal score) 1 Full Score

PORGY AND BESS (CONCERT VERSION)

Music by George Gershwin

Lyrics by DuBose Heyward and Ira Gershwin.

Arranged for concert performance by Robert Russell Bennett

Robert Russell Bennett has incorporated the principal musical numbers from the opera into one continuous work for concert performance lasting about 40 minutes. The original parts are taken here by mezzo and baritone soloists with SATB chorus.

The Story (Charleston in South Carolina, USA; the recent past)

The story tells of Porgy's love for Bess. She is considered to be Crown's woman but when he is forced to go into hiding for killing a neighbour, she seeks sanctuary with Porgy. When Crown eventually returns to claim her, Bess does not want to leave Porgy and the rivalry between the two men culminates with Porgy murdering Crown. When Porgy is taken away to identify the body, Bess, persuaded into thinking that he will be charged with Crown's murder and imprisoned for a long time, is enticed by Sporting Life, a pedlar of "happy dust", to come away with him to New York. When Porgy returns home a week later and discovers where Bess has gone, he sets out immediately for New York to find her.

Principal Musical Numbers

Summertime

A Woman Is A Sometime Thing

Gone, Gone, Gone

Overflow

My Man's Gone Now

The Promised Land

I Got Plenty O Nuttin

Bess, You Is My Woman Now

Oh, I Can't Sit Down

I Ain't Got No Shame

It Ain't Necessarily So

There's A Boat Dat's Leavin' Soon For New York

Oh Lawd, I'm On My Way

Instrumentation

2 Flutes

2 Oboes

3 Clarinets (1 bass clarinet)

2 Bassoons

4 Horns

3 Trumpets

3 Trombones

1 Tuba

1 Timpani

3 Percussion

1 Piano

1 Banjo

Strings

1 Full Score

PORGY AND BESS (CONCERT VERSION)

Music by George Gershwin

Lyrics by DuBose Heyward and Ira Gershwin.

Arranged for concert performance by Andrew Litton

This is a cut version of the original opera which lasts about 60 minutes. When Andrew Litton performs it, he uses 4 soloists – 2 sopranos, baritone, tenor – who sing all the leading roles according to voice but occasionally he will have individuals from the chorus sing some of the minor roles.

The Story (Charleston in South Carolina, USA; the recent past)

The story tells of Porgy's love for Bess. She is considered to be Crown's woman but when he is forced to go into hiding for killing a neighbour, she seeks sanctuary with Porgy. When Crown eventually returns to claim her, Bess does not want to leave Porgy and the rivalry between the two men culminates with Porgy murdering Crown. When Porgy is taken away to identify the body, Bess, persuaded into thinking that he will be charged with Crown's murder and imprisoned for a long time, is enticed by Sporting Life, a pedlar of "happy dust", to come away with him to New York. When Porgy returns home a week later and discovers where Bess has gone, he sets out immediately for New York to find her.

Musical Numbers

Introduction/Jazzbo Brown/Summertime (soprano and chorus)

A Woman Is A Sometime Thing (baritone, tenor, chorus)

Gone, Gone, Gone (2 sopranos, baritone, chorus)

My Man's Gone Now (soprano, chorus)

Leavin' For The Promise' Lan' (soprano, chorus)

I Got Plenty O' Nuttin' (baritone, 2 sopranos, chorus)

Bess, You Is My Woman Now (baritone, soprano)

Oh, I Can't Sit Down (chorus)

I Ain't Got No Shame/It Ain't Necessarily So/Shame On All You Sinners (soprano, tenor, chorus)

Porgy, Porgy, Dat You There Ain't It/I Loves You Porgy (soprano, baritone)

Hurricane (orchestra only)

There's A Boat Dat's Leavin' (soprano, tenor)

Good Mornin' Sistuh (chorus)

Oh Lord I'm On My Way (baritone, chorus)

Instrumentation

2 Flutes (2nd doubling piccolo)

2 Oboes (2nd doubling cor anglais)

4 Clarinets (2nd and 3rd doubling alto saxophone, 4th doubling bass clarinet and tenor saxophone)

1 Bassoon

3 Horns

3 Trumpets

2 Trombones

1 Tuba

1 Timpani

3 Percussion

1 Piano

1 Banjo

Strings

Full Score

RUDDIGORE

Music by Arthur Sullivan (orchestrated by Peter Murray)

Lyrics and Libretto by W.S Gilbert

The Story (The Village of Rederring in Cornwall; early in the 19th century)

To avoid inheriting the family curse, whereby the baronet of Ruddigore has to commit a daily crime or else die an agonising death, Sir Ruthven Murgatroyd has fled the ancestral home and, disguised as Robin Oakapple, settled Rederring. Here he has fallen in love with Rose Maybud but, being too shy to develop the relationship himself, he calls upon Richard Dauntless to court Rose for him. Overcome by Rose's beauty, Richard sets about capturing her for himself and nearly succeeds in doing so until Robin finally declares his love for her and wins her back. However, when it is revealed that Robin is none other than the true baronet of Ruddigore, and as such the rightful inheritor of the curse, Robin finds that wickedness does not come naturally to him. Sir Roderic, Robin's immediate predecessor who died for refusing to commit the daily crime, suggests that he mend his ways by carrying off a lady from the village. Robin's initial reluctance is quickly overcome when the ghosts give him a taste of the torments to come if he refuses, and Dame Hannah is duly abducted. She is furious at her treatment and becomes so violent towards Robin that he has to call upon Sir Roderic for protection. Answering his call for help, Sir Roderic is amazed to come face to face with the woman to whom he had once been engaged. In a flash of inspiration, an idea occurs to Robin; a baronet of Ruddigore who refuses to commit the daily must die and, therefore, to make such a refusal is tantamount to suicide; this is a crime in itself. Consequently, Sir Roderic should never have died and the curse should not have been handed on. Sir Roderic is now free to marry Dame Hannah and Robin can reclaim Rose.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

Sir Ruthven Murgatroyd (disguised as Robin Oakapple, A Young Farmer)

Richard Dauntless (his Foster-Brother – a Man O'Wars- Man)

Sir Roderic Murgatroyd (the twenty first Baronet)

Sir Despard Murgatroyd (of Ruddigore – a Wicked Baronet)

Old Adam Goodheart (Robin's Faithful Servant)

Rose Maybud (a village Maiden)

Dame Hannah (Rose's Aunt)

Mad Margaret

Principal Musical Numbers

I Know A Youth (Rose, Robin)

From The Briny Sea (Richard)

When The Night Wind Howls (Sir Roderic, Chorus)

My Eyes Are Fully Open (Margaret, Sir Ruthven, Despard)

There Grew A Little Flower (Hannah, Sir Roderic)

Instrumentation (Total number of books = 21)

3 Violins I

3 Violins II

2 Violas

2 Cellos

1 Double Bass

1 Flute

1 Oboe

1 Clarinet

1 Horn

1 Trumpet

1 Trombone

1 Timpani

1 Percussion

1 Piano (optional – annotated vocal score)

1 Full Score

TOM JONES

Music by Edward German; Lyrics by Chas. H. Taylor
Libretto by Alex M. Thompson and Robert Courtneidge,
Based on the novel by Henry Fielding

The Story (Early 18th century England)

While Tom Jones, an orphan of unknown birth, is convalescing at the home of the Squire Western, he falls in love with Sophia. The Squire, however, insists that his daughter must marry the odious Blifil, the rich nephew of Mr Allworthy, in whose family Tom has been brought up. Sophia detests Blifil and is in tears. When Blifil discovers Tom comforting her, he insults Tom, who knocks him down. Tom and Sophia run away, separately. Sophia and her maid, Honor, are pursued by Squire Western and Blifil. By chance, they all put up at the same inn at which Tom Jones is spending the night, unaware they are under the same roof. Sophia's worldly friend, Lady Bellaston, is also staying at the inn; after being attacked by a highwayman she has been rescued by Tom. She is greatly attracted to Tom and lets the inn servants think that he is her husband. When the village barber, Benjamin Partridge, is called to the inn to alleviate Squire Western's gout, he hears the name 'Tom Jones'. Apparently, he knows the true story of Tom's birth. Before he can reveal all, however, Western bursts in upon Tom and Lady Bellaston. Sophia jumping to the conclusion that Tom is fickle, wants nothing more to do with him, and leaves for London. Tom accepts Lady Bellaston's offer of a lift to London in her coach. The Squire also rushes off to London to consent to the marriage between Sophia and Tom; by now, he has heard that Tom is not a penniless orphan but Blifil's elder brother. Sophia has great social success in London under Lady Bellaston's patronage. One day, Tom catches sight of her and summons up courage to explain everything to Sophia's satisfaction and the young lovers are reunited.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

Tom Jones
Sophia
Squire Western
Lady Bellaston
Honor
Mr Allworthy

Principal Musical Numbers

On A January Morning (Squire Western, Chorus)
West Country Lad (Tom, Chorus)
Here's A Paradox For Lovers (Sophia, Honor, Tom, Allworthy)
Dream O'Day Jill (Sophia)
A Soldier's Scarlet Coat (Tom, Chorus)
Morris Dance And Gavotte: 'Glass of Fashion' (Ensemble)
If Love's Content
Waltz Song: 'For Tonight, For Tonight' (Sophia)

Instrumentation (Total number of books = 16)

2 Violins I
1 Violin II
1 Viola
1 Cello
1 Double Bass
1 Flutes I/II (Picc)
1 Oboe
1 Clarinet
1 Bassoon
1 Horns I/II
1 Cornets I/II
1 Trombone I/II 1 Drums 1 Harp 1 Conductor Score – annotated vocal score

TRIAL BY JURY

Music by Arthur Sullivan (orchestrated by Peter Murray)

Lyrics and Libretto by W.S Gilbert

The Story (A Court of Justice)

Angelina is suing Edwin for breach of promise, claiming that he has broken his word to marry her. In his own defence, Edwin argues that it is unfair to punish him for loving one girl one day and, bored with her, loving another the next. However, the sight of this beautiful girl overcome by emotion and greatly distressed quickly captures the hearts of the 'impartial' jury. In an attempt to resolve the matter, Edwin offers to marry both girls but his suggestion is rejected on the grounds of bigamy. Faced with potentially substantial damages, Edwin then claims to be a drunkard and a bully, liable to beat Angelina when intoxicated, and worth very little in financial terms. This leads the Judge to suggest that they make him drunk and observe his behaviour towards Angelina! When all except Edwin object to this, the Judge becomes very impatient with the whole affair and, in a final effort to bring the trial to a conclusion, he declares that he will marry Angelina himself. This suits everybody, and the case is closed.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

The Learned Judge

Angelina (the Plaintiff)

Edwin (the Defendant)

Counsel for the Plaintiff

Foreman of the Jury

First Bridesmaid

Principal Musical Numbers

When First My Old, Old Love I Knew (Edwin, Chorus)

When I, Good Friends, Was Call'd To The Bar (Judge, Chorus)

Comes The Broken Flower (Angelina, Chorus)

Oh, Gentlemen, Listen, I Pray (Edwin, Chorus)

I Love Him, I Love Him (Edwin, Angelina, Chorus)

Instrumentation

3 Violins I

3 Violins II

2 Violas

2 Cellos

1 Double Bass

1 Flute

1 Oboe

1 Clarinet

1 Horn

1 Trumpet

1 Trombone

1 Timpani

1 Percussion

1 Piano (optional – annotated vocal score)

1 Full Score

THE YEOMEN OF THE GUARD

Music by Arthur Sullivan (orchestrated by Peter Murray)

Lyrics and Libretto by W.S Gilbert

The Story (Tower Green; 16th Century)

Colonel Fairfax is awaiting execution at the Tower for sorcery. When his hoped-for reprieve fails to arrive, Sergeant Meryll and his daughter Phoebe, who is secretly fond of the Colonel, plots his escape. They plan to disguise him as Leonard Meryll who is shortly to join the Yeomen but whom no-one has yet seen. Unaware of their plan, Fairfax's last request is to die a married man, for without a wife his estate will fall into the hands of the kinsman who brought the charge of sorcery against him. A willing candidate is found in Elsie Maynard. Although her companion, Jack Point, is initially worried at the proposal, his doubts are soon dispelled by the promised dowry of 100 crowns and the assurance that she will be a widow within the hour. They are, therefore horrified when they hear that Fairfax has escaped. Jack and Wilfred subsequently conspire to pretend that Wilfred has shot Fairfax and seen him drown thereby releasing Elsie from the marriage contract. Fairfax, meanwhile, has discovered that Elsie is his wife (neither knew of the other's identity at the ceremony) and is about to reveal this to her when the shot is heard and Jack and Wilfred spin their tale. Elsie is distraught at the news of her husband's apparent death but is comforted by "Leonard", Alias Fairfax, who subsequently proposes to her. This enrages Phoebe who, in a jealous temper, confesses her feelings for "Leonard" to Wilfred, realising too late that she is thereby claiming to be in love with her brother! Wilfred quickly deduces the true identity of "Leonard" and in order to silence him, Phoebe consents to marriage. When her real brother brings news of Fairfax's reprieve, Elsie is initially distressed at the thought of leaving "Leonard" but overjoyed at the revelation that "Leonard" and Fairfax are one and the same. In vain, Jack appeals to Elsie to consider his feelings for her before falling broken hearted at her feet.

Principal Characters (plus Chorus)

Sir Richard Cholmondeley (Lieutenant of the Tower)

Colonel Fairfax (under sentence of death)

Sergeant Meryll (of the Yeomen of the Guard)

Leonard (his Son)

Jack Point (a strolling Jester)

Wilfred Shadbolt (Head Jailor and Assistant Tormentor)

Elsie Maynard (a Strolling Singer)

Phoebe Meryll (Sergeant Meryll's daughter)

Dame Carruthers (Housekeeper to the Tower)

Principal Musical Numbers

When Maiden Loves She Sits And Sighs (Phoebe)

Is Life A Boon?

I Have A Song To Sing, O (Elsie, Point)

Oh! A Private Buffoon Is A Light-hearted Loon (Point)

A Man Who Would Woo A Fair Maid (Elsie, Phoebe, Fairfax)

Instrumentation (Total number of books = 21)

3 Violins I

3 Violins II

2 Violas

2 Cellos

1 Double Bass

1 Flute

1 Oboe

1 Clarinet

1 Horn

1 Trumpet

1 Trombone

1 Timpani

1 Percussion

1 Piano (optional – annotated vocal score)

1 Full Score