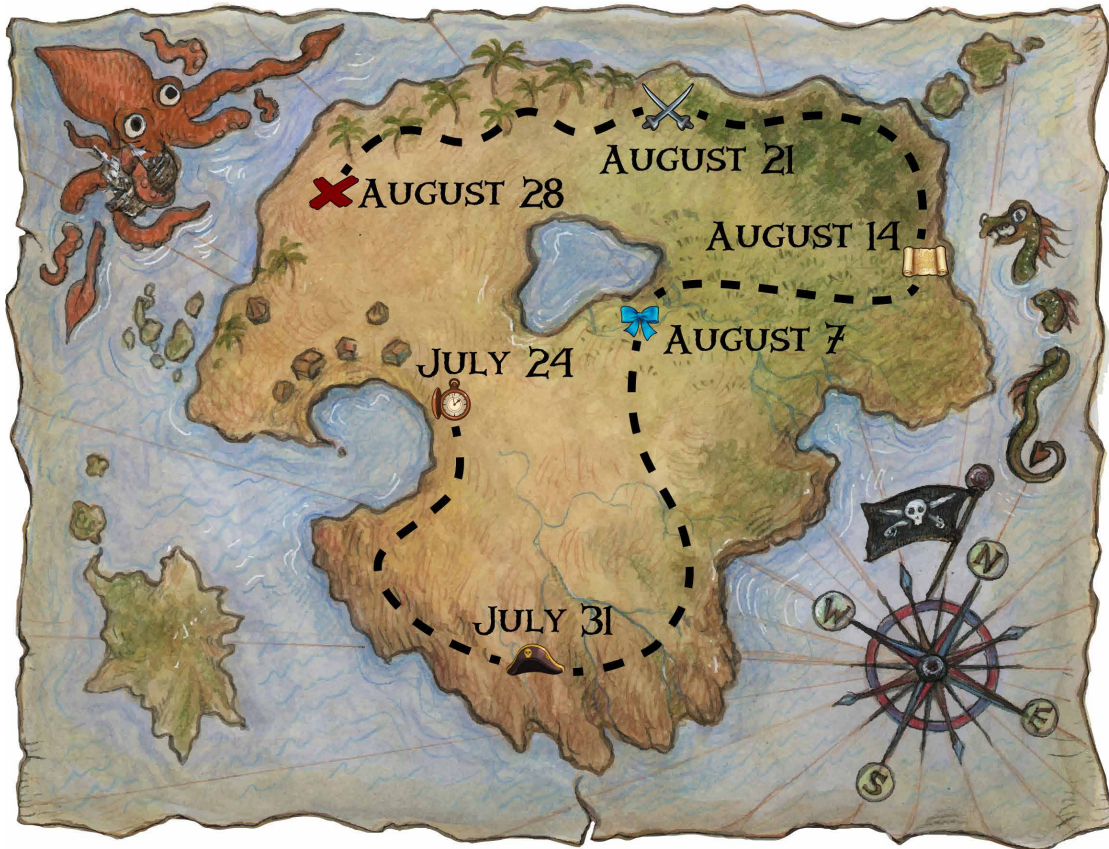


Savoyardage

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE MADISON SAVOYARDS, LTD.



Join us on Pirate Island!

This summer our *Pirates* cast sing their arias online! We invite you to follow along as we traipse around **Pirate Island** and hear their take on love, social order, and how to live your truth.

Where: find links to the performances on our website: **madisonsavoyards.org**

When: **Fridays, from July 24 through August 28**

What: One solo from *Pirates of Penzance*, with introductions by director J. Adam Shelton.

Cost: FREE! Please consider making a donation to Madison Savoyards in lieu of a ticket purchase.

Artwork by Ingrid Kallick

The Pirates of Penzance Postponed to Summer 2021

*For duty, duty must be done;
The rule applies to everyone,
And painful though that duty be,
To shirk the task were fiddle-de-dee!*

This line from *Ruddigore* sums up the mental state many of us have been in over these last three months. I was truly heartbroken over cancelling our *Pirates of Penzance* sing-along in early April, as there are few things I like better than making music with other enthusiasts.

As for our summer main-stage production, for the safety of our singers, orchestra, stage personnel and audience, we've decided to delay the full production of *The Pirates of Penzance* until summer 2021.

In place of a fully staged production, our artistic team has come up with a wonderful series of performances that will be released throughout the summer. These performances feature this year's cast performing arias from *Pirates*.

This spring, the Savoyards' board has been meeting with South-Central Wisconsin's many other theater groups to discuss current concerns. We've shared ideas, commiserated on challenges, and discussed many topics, including the Black Lives Matter movement. We are in agreement with the other Madison theater companies that our theater community has not done enough to incorporate minority voices, and that we need to address this situation immediately.

As a company, the legacy of Gilbert and Sullivan is important to us. The issues that the Savoy operas lampoon are still with us today in one form or another. While we understand that W.S. Gilbert was writing as a man of his time, art and society move on. Today's audiences come from a much more diverse community than that of the Savoy Theatre in London. The Madison Savoyards want to ensure that our productions remain timely, topical, and entertaining: we will strive to embody our diverse community in order to better reflect it.

As always, we welcome your thoughts. We hope you stay healthy, and that you enjoy our summer offering!

~ Catherine Killam, MSL President

2020 *Pirates of Penzance* Artists



Tim Rebers (Frederic) has performed in operas, operettas and musicals with Skylight Music Theatre, Milwaukee Opera Theatre, Florentine Opera, Music Theatre Works and others. Tim is the artistic director of Brew City Opera, where he played Don Jose in their debut chamber version of *Carmen*. Tim performs frequently in concerts and recitals with his wife (and pianist), Maggie.



Kelsey Wang (Mabel) is a recent graduate of UW-Madison with a Master of Music in vocal performance. Past roles include Despina (*Così fan tutte*), Tytania (*A Midsummer Night's Dream*), Drusilla (*L'incoronazione di Poppea*) and Rapunzel (*Into the Woods*). She holds a Bachelor of Music in vocal performance and a Bachelor of Arts in theatre from Lawrence University.



Amanda Reichhold (Ruth) is a music teacher at Netherwood Knoll Elementary school in Oregon and has performed with Verona Area Community Theater, Four Seasons Theatre, Oregon Straw Hat Players and the Madison Opera Chorus. Previous roles include *42nd Street* (Dorothy Brock), *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown* (Lucy) and *Pirates of Penzance* (Ruth). Her favorite and most demanding role is playing "Mom" to her three scallywags, L (9), F (7) and K (3).



Rebecca Buechel (Major-General Stanley) is thrilled to be back with the Madison Savoyards to realize one of their dream roles! They received degrees in Vocal Performance from Illinois Wesleyan University and The University of Wisconsin-Madison. Favorite roles include Lancelot in *Camelot*, Joan in *Fun Home*, and Ruth in *Pirates of Penzance*. They also perform musical theater burlesque under the stage name Bernadette Peepers.



Mike Brady (Pirate King) is thrilled to be making his debut with the Savoyards! Recent roles include The Monster from *Young Frankenstein* and Bill from *Mamma Mia*, with VACT. When not raiding the seas, Mike trains software developers and does voice-over work at Epic. Mike is excited to tap into a more operatic role and thanks his wife and children for dealing with his penchant for belting big songs in small spaces.



Keith Christianson (Police Sergeant) is a regular Savoyards player who is pleased to return, if not to the stage, then to your screen! Keith has recently performed with Four Seasons (*All is Calm* 2019) and VACT (*Young Frankenstein* 2019). Most of his performances, however, are for an audience of one, at bedtime, when no other act will do (except Grandma).



J. Adam Shelton (Director) is a lyric tenor hailed for his comedic timing and ringing tone. He completed his doctorate at the University of Wisconsin and is an associate lecturer of voice at UW-Whitewater, where he co-directs the opera workshop program.



Mark Wurzelbacher (Accompanist) is a Madison, Wisconsin based musician, specializing in music direction, accompanying, orchestrating, and arranging for musical theatre. He's worked individually with children, teens, amateurs, and professionals as a piano/voice teacher, vocal coach, and répétiteur.

Directors Notes:

A digital *Pirates* this season- who would have guessed it a year ago!? We are excited to share with you a hint of what we had in store for you live and in person this summer. Truly, our 6 episodes this summer can't replace the excitement and appeal of our full orchestra and cast, but we hope they can serve as an amuse-bouche to tide you over until 2021 hopefully allows us to gather together again. Keep your eyes open for more information and 6 of our stellar performers!



Pirates 2012: J. Adam Shelton as Frederic, photo by Brent Nicastro

Save the Date: Madison Savoyards Annual Meeting

Monday, September 14, 6:30pm

Online Zoom meeting: please email madison.savoyards@gmail.com for the meeting number and password.

Hear about how we're doing and our thoughts for the future! We'd love for you to be part of the discussion—join us!

Contact Us

madison.savoyards@gmail.com
voicemail: (608) 616-5706
website: madisonsavoyards.org

2020 Board of Directors

Catherine S. Killam, President
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Donate

Consider a legacy gift to our Endowment Fund through Madison Community Foundation. Interest from this fund supports Madison Savoyards productions *in perpetuity!*

Gifts to our General Fund are used in their entirety to support administrative and production needs, and are vital in bringing the joy and musicality of G&S to our community.

Thank you to our Granting Organizations!

Madison Savoyards is a proud and grateful recipient of grant awards from the **Wisconsin Arts Board, Dane County Cultural Affairs Commission, and Madison Arts Commission!** These boards are publically funded entities supporting and promoting arts and culture here in the State of Wisconsin, Dane County, and the City of Madison. Their support allows us to continue our legacy of presenting full lyric productions of Gilbert and Sullivan, engaging local artists, and educating our participants and patrons on English-language musical theater.



Pirates 2012: Matt Marsland as Major-General Stanley and Catherine Killam (née Schweitzer) as Mabel, photo by Brent Nicastro



The Madison Savoyards, Ltd.
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Please make your check payable to **Madison Savoyards, Ltd.**

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Madison Savoyards is a 501(c)3 organization. Contributions are tax deductible to extent allowed by law.

Contributors will be acknowledged in the program and online, unless otherwise requested.

You may also donate online by going to **madisonsavoyards.org/donate**.

Thank you for your contribution!

Order a copy of our 2017 H.M.S. Pinafore:

I would like to purchase _____ DVDs (\$25, tax and shipping included) of *H.M.S. Pinafore*. Price reduced by \$5 if pick-up can be arranged in Madison. Email **madison.savoyards@gmail.com** for more information.