

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Joanne Kay
Email: press@lamplighters.org
Phone: 415-227-4797
Updated: October 20, 2017



Photos: http://lamplighters.org/about/pr_images.html

**The Lamplighters bring the warmth and sun of Venice to the Bay Area
with Gilbert & Sullivan's sparkling *The Gondoliers***

SAN FRANCISCO, California (October 20, 2017) – The Bay Area's acclaimed Lamplighters Music Theatre will present Gilbert & Sullivan's delightfully effervescent musical comedy, *The Gondoliers*, this February in San Francisco (Feb 2-4), Walnut Creek (Feb 9-11), and Mountain View (Feb 17-18).

Due to a mix-up during infancy, a pair of handsome Venetian gondoliers have suddenly become kings. Their brand new wives aren't quite so pleased though, once they find out that the rightful king is also married by proxy to Casilda, the daughter of the Duke and Duchess of Plaza Toro! Only one pair can be the rightful rulers but, until the identity of the true monarch can be established, the boys must share the royal duties. Being idealists, they really don't mind! Set by the sun-dappled, lazy waters of the Grand Canal, the singing Gondolieri and Contadine, and the "Cachucha" danced at the Royal Court at Barataria, make *The Gondoliers* an exuberant, happy valentine, wrapped in some of Sullivan's most tuneful music and tied with one of Gilbert's most fanciful libretti. Within this joyful opera Gilbert ingeniously skewers issues of social equality and the class system with his usual brilliant wit and groundbreaking lyrics alongside Sullivan's lovely, lilting score.

Full details are posted at <http://lamplighters.org/season/season.html>. For further information call 415-227-4797 or email info@lamplighters.org.

Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco

Friday February 2 at 8pm
Saturday February 3 at 2pm and 8pm
Sunday February 4 at 2pm

Leshner Center for the Arts, Walnut Creek

Friday February 9 at 8pm
Saturday February 10 at 2pm
Sunday February 11 at 2pm

Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts

Saturday February 17 at 8pm

Sunday February 18 at 2pm

Stage Director: Phil Lowery

Music Director/Conductor: Baker Peeples

Lamplighters Music Theatre was founded in 1952 to produce the comic operas of librettist W.S. Gilbert and composer Arthur Sullivan, and is now recognized as one of the world's pre-eminent Gilbert & Sullivan companies. The Lamplighters' repertoire includes all the surviving works of these creative geniuses, as well as a select group of comic operas and classic musicals by other composers that exemplify their artistic vision. Critically acclaimed artistic successes for the Lamplighters include honors for Best Production and Best Director at the International Gilbert & Sullivan Festival in Buxton, England and local awards in nearly every performance, direction, and design category, including Outstanding Production of a Musical at the 2015 Theatre Bay Area Awards for *H.M.S. Pinafore*. The hallmarks of a Lamplighters production are lavish costumes and sets, live orchestra, excellent comic acting, and gorgeous unamplified singing that showcases the beauty and purity of the human voice.

In addition to an active performance schedule, the Lamplighters provide performance and training opportunities in this unique style of classic music theatre to local artists, and seek to promote appreciation for the works of Gilbert & Sullivan through youth programs, school performances and other types of community outreach.