

RECORDINGS OF STAGE SHOWS

THE COMIC OPERA GUILD COLLECTION

of ENGLISH and EUROPEAN OPERETTAS

The Comic Opera Guild recorded every production over its history of over 39 years. Until 2004, all the recordings were analog, but the quality of sound is quite high. Microphones were placed at stage level as well as in the orchestra pit to give presence and balance to the performers. You get all the energy of a live performance and the audience reaction. All of the shows were performed in English, and, in the case of European shows, with original Guild translations. These English versions are rented worldwide, and are among the best, if not only ones available. You can enjoy all the shows as if they had been written for Broadway.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS



Produced as a collaboration between COG and the Ann Arbor Chamber Orchestra, this 2-disc set includes musical jokes by Mozart and Haydn, as well as some hilarious vocal selections, such as musical parodies by Rossini and Offenbach

CCC83 2 CD SET..... \$25



The Guild has been fortunate over the years to have had the talents of some remarkable leading ladies. This collection features selections by those who stand out, both in service and ability. Highlights include music by Strauss, Lehar, Offenbach, Herbert and more.

CLL07 2 CD SET.....\$25



Excerpts from our versions of his operettas. Jaques Offenbach is called the "Father of the Operetta" and yet, in America, his works are not nearly as well-known as those of Gilbert and Sullivan. This disc presents Offenbach's works in a new way—in English!

COIA09 1 CD \$20



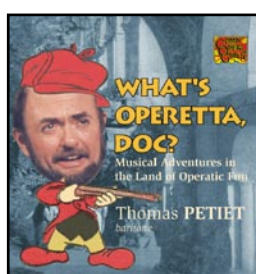
Excerpts from our performing versions of Viennese operettas. Vienna has been the source of inspiration for so much art and music that it's hard to make a small sampling. The Guild presents here its own English translations of the outstanding works it has performed.

CVIA09 1 CD\$20



The works of Gilbert and Sullivan have been kept alive by amateur and small professional groups for many years. Many outstanding performers have come through their ranks, and a fabulous comedian, Gershom Morningstar, is right at the top of the list. It's a must for Savoy Opera fans.

CGM11 1CD.....\$20



When Tom Petiet founded the Comic Opera Guild in 1973, his overriding interest was to see the great operettas of the world get a decent performance. In the course of that pursuit, the shows' recordings captured him in many of those performances. We present a few of them here.

CTP11 1 CD.....\$20

NEW RELEASES!



Derived from the early Offenbach one-act operetta *L'Isle de Tulipatan*, this original show is a hilarious sendup of gender conventions. The Prince and the daughter of the Grand Duke fall in love, then discover that each is, in reality, the opposite sex, then fall in love again! The music from eight Offenbach shows is combined with music from the original to create a 2-Act operetta.

CHHTP14P-2C 2CD.....\$25



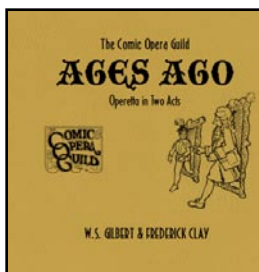
ERMINIE opened in London in 1885, and after a successful run came to the United States and Australia in 1886. It continued to be produced professionally for over 30 years. Then, as the new style of shows by Kern and others came about, it vanished from the boards. This production has produced the first complete recording of the show.

CER15P-2C 2CD.....\$20 (COMPLETE)

CER15P-1M 1CD.....\$15 (MUSIC ONLY)

FEATURED RECORDINGS

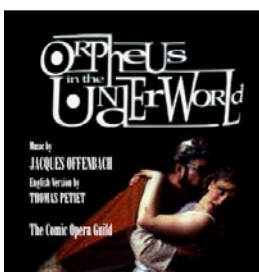
These are recordings of our most-requested shows... many from works that you won't find elsewhere. We recommend these recordings especially to those who are unfamiliar with operetta in general. Our versions attempt to make every show sound as though it were written in English, not just translated.



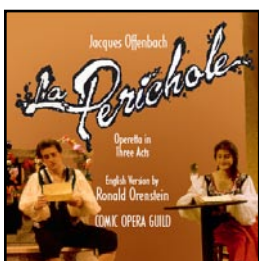
This little gem comes from the pen of W.S. Gilbert before he met Sullivan. For those familiar with *Ruddigore*, this is a must-have recording, with its expanded treatment of the ghostly picture gallery scene. Performed on piano and organ, exactly as originally written.
CAA74P-2C



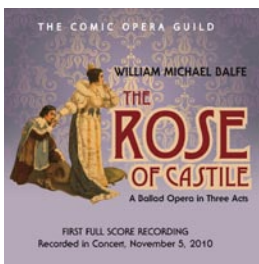
Here's the entire show in its original form, with 69 separate numbers. Shocking to English audiences in 1723, it essentially changed the course of opera and pushed Handel off the operatic stage. Available in two orchestral versions, by Goberman (1978) and Dobin (2003).
CBO780-2C CBO703-2C



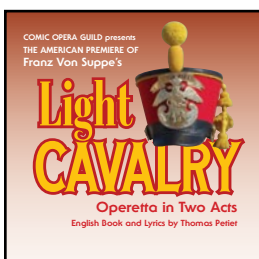
Little did Offenbach know that when he wrote this mythological parody he would create a furor and jumpstart his career in operetta. This is the original two-act version in a snappy translation by Thomas Petiet that makes the most of this great show.
COU980-2C



Many versions of the operetta have emphasized the romance of the show, toning down or eliminating the political satire and wit of the original. Ronald Orenstein has provided the defining English version of this great show by restoring its social criticism while retaining all its flair.
CLP800-2C



Aside from the Bohemian Girl, none of the operas of the Irish composer William Balfe have been recorded, until now. Ballad operas were the rage in England in the middle of the 19th century, combining tuneful exuberance, comedy and bel canto singing. This set features the complete score and dialog.
CROC10P-2C



Although its overture is world-renowned, the operetta from which it comes is virtually unknown. The poor libretto has been replaced by a completely new English version, acclaimed in its American premiere production. It is the only commercial recording of the show. available.
CLC130-2C 2CD



The best of Offenbach's one-acters, Ba-Ta-Clan is a parody of the *chinoiserie*, popular *divertissements* of exotic China. Except, here, all the Chinese are Frenchmen in disguise! It features an opening number entirely in gibberish.
CBC770-1C



Originally written for the Opera Comique as a three act romantic opera, *Robinson* was cut by a third and remodeled plotwise along the lines of an operetta by Thomas Petiet. The result is a new Offenbach gem, which takes its place among his best works.
CRC940-2C



With music like this, why isn't this show more popular? The reason is the original libretto, which is sadly second-rate. Thomas Petiet has revised the story, using the full original score, and the result is a show that can stand alongside *Die Fledermaus*.
CNV890-2C



The best of his one-act operas features an outstanding score in the best Rossini tradition. Perhaps the only opera about a Canadian, this musical treat features a top cast with two-piano accompaniment.
CMC04P-1C



The Merry Widow is Lehár's most enduring work, and a favorite production of the Comic Opera Guild. Although English rewrites of this work are common, the Guild opted to retain most of the original lyrics by Adrian Ross. New dialog makes this version a crowd favorite. The 1984 production recording.
CMW840-2C



One of funniest operettas ever written, *The Grand Duchess*, a parody of military pomposity, is also terrific music. The Guild assembled a stellar cast in this production, an original English version which reduces the show from three acts to two, and improves the plot.
CGD110-2C

RECORDINGS FROM THE ARCHIVES

The recordings listed were recorded live on stage, and the sound quality is, with a few exceptions, excellent. Most were recorded using a five microphone setup and an uncompressed open reel format. Also included in the list are recordings made by the G & S Small Company, the immediate predecessor of the Comic Opera Guild. Many are available in both MUSIC ONLY and COMPLETE editions. ALL PERFORMANCES ARE IN ENGLISH. When the production is an original translation or performing version, credit for the English Lyrics and Dialogue is given following the composer. The reference numbers tell the following:

COU7802-M C= Comic Opera Guild or S= Small Company / OU= Orpheus in the Underworld
78= Year of recording / O= With orchestra or P= Piano / 2= Number of CDs
M= Music only or C= Complete

NOTE: When there are both a "complete" and a "music only" version" both catalog numbers will be listed.

The standard cost of single CDs is \$20. The standard cost of 2CD sets is \$25.

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EUROPEAN

- CBS16P-2C **BARBER OF SEVILLE**- Rossini/Petiet
Opera Buffo in 2 Acts
A charming pastoral comedy and COG's first production
- CBB74P-1C **BASTIEN AND BASTIENNE**- Mozart/Petiet
Singspiel in One Act.
A charming pastoral comedy and COG's first production
- CBC770-1C **BA-TA-CLAN** - Offenbach/Orenstein
Operetta in One Act
Includes a Sam Roelofs soprano obbligato.
- CBC900-1C **BA-TA-CLAN**- Offenbach/Orenstein
Operetta in 1 Act
Another foray into the lunatic fringe.
- CLB850-2C **THE BRIGANDS**- Offenbach/Gilbert
Operetta in 3 Acts
Complete performance of the Gilbert version.
- CCA00-2C **CARMEN**- Bizet Opera Comique in 3 Acts
English lyrics by Michael Irwin, dialogue by Thomas Petiet
- CEL890-2C **ELIXIR OF LOVE**- Donizetti/Martin
Comic Opera in 2 Acts
Strong cast highlights a traditional version
- CFD81P-1C **THE FESTIVAL OF DOVES**- Breton/Petiet
Zarzuela in One Act
A fine example of the Spanish operetta
- CDF750-2C **DIE FLEDERMAUS**- Strauss/Morningstar/Swain
Operetta in 3 Acts
A top-flight cast includes Eva Likova; Cond. by Art Stephan
- CDF900-2C **DIE FLEDERMAUS**- Strauss/Morningstar/Swain
Operetta in 3 Acts
Well sung at a brisk pace. Conducted by Jon Krueger
- CDF900-1M Music only
- CDF950-2C **DIE FLEDERMAUS**- Strauss/Morningstar/Swain
Operetta in 3 Acts
1995 production conducted by Bundit Ungrangsee
- CDF040-2C **DIE FLEDERMAUS**- Strauss/Morningstar/Swain
Operetta in 3 Acts
2004 production conducted by Adam Aceto
- CGD100-2C **THE GRAND DUCHESS**- Offenbach
Operetta in 2 Acts NEW performing version by Tom Petiet.
CGD100-2M Music only
- CGB790-2C **GYPSY BARON**- Strauss/Morningstar
Operetta in 3 Acts
Features the largest COG chorus ever! Cond. by Carl Daehler
- CHHTP14P-2C **HER HIGHNESS THE PRINCE** Offenbach/Petiet
Original operetta in 2 Acts, employing Offenbach music
Hilarious sendup of gender convention Cond. by N. Radakovich
- CLB760-2C **LA BELLE HELENE**- Offenbach/ Morningstar/Swain
Operetta in 3 Acts
Cast includes Judy Gray, Sam Roelofs. Cond. by Art Stephan
- CLB760-2M MUSIC ONLY
- CLP800-2C **LA PERICHOLE**- Offenbach/Orenstein
Operetta in 3 Acts
Real social satire, unlike the Met version. Cond. by C. Daehler
- CLP800-1M MUSIC ONLY
- CSP770-1C **LA SERVA PADRONA**- Pergolesi/Swain
Opera Buffa in One act
Cond. by Kerry Thompson

- ❑ CLV820-2C **LA VIE PARISIENNE-** Offenbach/Orenstein
Operetta in 3 Acts
A restoration of the 5 act version. Transcribed from the videotape
- ❑ CLC130-2C **LIGHT CAVALRY-** Von Suppe/Petiet
Operetta in 2 Acts, in English.
Only recording in existence of complete show
- ❑ CLC130-1M Music only
- ❑ CMF920-2C **THE MAGIC FLUTE-** Mozart/Petiet
Singspiel in 2 Acts, in English.
New realization for young audiences.
- ❑ CMF020-2C **THE MAGIC FLUTE-** Mozart/Petiet
Singspiel in 2 Acts, in English.
Touring production 2002 Cond. by John Goodell
- ❑ CMC04P-1C **THE MARRIAGE CONTRACT-** Rossini/Petiet
Opera Buffa in One Act, in English.
The first opera of the master, and a hilarious one. 2 pianos.
- ❑ CMW770-2C **THE MERRY WIDOW-** Lehar/Ross/Morningstar
Operetta in 3 Acts, in English.
Earned excellent reviews in all papers. Cond. by Art Sephan
- ❑ CMW840-2C **MERRY WIDOW-** Strauss/Ross/Morningstar
Operetta in 3 Acts, in English.
An equally fine performance of this great show. Cond. by Jun MarkeL
- ❑ CMU80P-1C **THE MUSIC MASTER-** Pergolesi/Petiet
Opera Buffa in One Act, in English.
Recorded on tour- Sound quality fair.
- ❑ CNV890-2C **A NIGHT IN VENICE-** Strauss/Petiet
Operetta in 3 Acts, in English.
Reworking of the plot, utilizing the original orchestration.
- ❑ CNV890-1M MUSIC ONLY
- ❑ COU780-2C **ORPHEUS IN THE UNDERWORLD-** Offenbach
Operetta in 2 Acts, in English.
The original 1858 score. Cond. by Liviu Blumenthal
- ❑ COU780-1M MUSIC ONLY
- ❑ COU980-2C **ORPHEUS IN THE UNDERWORLD-** Offenbach
Operetta in 2 Acts, in English.
The original 1858 score. Cond. by Edward Szabo
- ❑ CRC940-2C **ROBINSON CRUSOE-** Offenbach
Operetta in 2 Acts
Completely revised English performing version by Tom Petiet.

ENGLISH

- ❑ CAA74P-2C **AGES AGO-** Clay/Gilbert
Illustration in 2 Acts (A short Operetta)
A performance with harmonium, as in the original
- ❑ CAA80P-2C **AGES AGO-** Clay/Gilbert
Illustration in 2 Acts (A short Operetta)
Performed at the 1980 G&S Festival, piano only
- ❑ CB0780-2C **BEGGARS OPERA-** Gay Comic Opera in 2 Acts
All the original music, orchestrated by Max Goberman
CB0780-1C Music Only
- ❑ CB003-2C **BEGGARS OPERA-** Gay Comic Opera in 2 Acts
All the original music, orchestrated by Joh Dobin
- ❑ SC073P-1M **THE CONTRABANDISTA-** Sullivan/Burnand
Operetta in 2 Acts
Studio recording, featuring Gersh Morningstar
- ❑ CCB73P-1C **COX & BOX-** Sullivan/Burnand
Operetta in 1 Act
The whole show in dinner theater, including the Gambling
Duet ("Sixes")
- ❑ CCB80P-1C **COX & BOX-** Sullivan/Burnand
Operetta in 1 Act
The whole show at the 1980 G&S Festival, including the
Gambling Duet ("Sixes")
- ❑ CER15P-2C **ERMINIE-** Jakobowski
- ❑ CER15P-1C **MUSIC ONLY VERSION**
Comic Opera in 3 Acts
Only complete recording of the operetta Cond. by N. Radakovich
- ❑ SHW72P-2C **HASTE TO THE WEDDING-** Grossmith/Gilbert
Operetta in 2 Acts
An irreverent performance of Gilbert's early work
- ❑ CROC10P-2C **THE ROSE OF CASTILE-** Balfe
Comic Opera in 3 Acts
First complete recording of this bel canto opera, with dialog
- ❑ STH71P-1C **THESPIS-** Sullivan/Gilbert
Grotesque Operetta in 2 Acts
Music reconstructed from Sullivan music by Roger
Wertenberger and Ron Orenstein.
Complete recording made in a sound studio.
- ❑ CTZ75P-1C **THE ZOO-** Sullivan/Stephenson
Operetta in One Act
One of the first performances of this work in the U.S.