



# Adelaide Theatre Guide

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## **MUTINY ON THE PINAFORE**

### **South Australian Light Opera Society**

Tower Arts Centre

Until 3 Sept 2011

Review by Fran Edwards

This Gilbert and Sullivan tribute show, written by Fraser Charlton for the G&S society at his University in Newcastle UK, is fun and irreverent enough to have been appreciated by the masters themselves. All the music is by Sullivan, although not all comes from the G&S stable, some is from his work with other lyricists. Where Charlton has rewritten the lyrics, they are in true Gilbert style and very amusing, making the show diverting and different.

The show picks up where "HMS Pinafore" ends. It queries the obligatory happy ending and wonders what actually happens. Dick Deadeye (Les Nutter) tells the tale of what follows the "Pinafore" finale.

The usual suspects direct and musically direct this SALOS production and Pam Tucker (direction) and Peter Potts (musical direction) have done a good job. No great innovations, nothing out of the ordinary, but the usual bright costumes, basic set and good chorus work. There is a lack of choreography - though what is there is well executed and the lights are either on or off. The cast principals are stronger than usual and this makes for a fun production.

Robert Kimber shines as Sir Joseph Porter K.C.B. and the lovely Danielle Ruggerio is delightful as Josephine, both in fine voice. As Edward Corcoran, Greg Paterson does well and it is a pity we don't hear more of his very nice voice, his duet with Christine Southerby (as Buttercup) is lovely.

Beau-Daniel Loumeau drags every ounce of comedy from his role as Ralph Rackstraw. Jacob Whitelock is well cast as Bill Bobstay and matches with Dione Palmer as Beth Becket, his girlfriend. Roslyn Fleming makes a good Hebe, now married to Sir Joseph.

The chorus is bright, characterises well (most of the time) and is in good voice. In all, despite a few flaws, this is a fun production which SALOS audiences will love!