

## ORCHESTRA

1st Violins: Alois Sigl (leader) Enid Gibson Ivor Barnsdale Leslie Shearn	Double Basses: Eric Brown John Fenning	Horns: David Hayes Richard Bates Ruth Jerrome Fred Schlesinger
2nd Violins Edwin Brown Josef Szoltysek Gwen Morgan Charles Morgan	Flutes: Jonathan Swayne Carol Jones Alison Rossiter	Trumpets: Leon Found Charles Smith
Violas: Bryan Draper John Olive Victor Woodward	Oboes: Michael May Jill Powell	Trombones: Harold Sylvester Leslie Randall
'Cellos: Ann Staples Peter Darbyshire	Clarinets: David Bird Kate Beswick	Harp: Meinir Heulyn
	Bassoons: Jim Gowers Mary Randall	Timpani: John Giddings
		Percussion: John Smith
	Piano: Edith Tongue	

Musical Director and Conductor: HERRICK HAYES

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(This List is complete at the time of printing).

## THE BATH OPERA GROUP

Twentieth Season - 1971-72

# SADKO

*An Opera in Two Acts by*

*Rimsky-Korsakov*

(first produced in Moscow in 1898)

*Thursday, Friday and Saturday*

13th, 14th & 15th April, 1972

PUMP ROOM - BATH

*Programme Five New Pence*

These performances are given with financial assistance from The South Western Arts Association from funds provided by the Arts Council of Great Britain.

# SADKO

Production and Costumes by MURIEL HAYES

## Characters

The King of the Ocean	Frances Tongue
Volkhava, his daughter	Jill Fowles
Sadko, a singer of Novgorod	David Edwards
Lubava, his wife	Enid Corcoran
Nejata, a singer from Kiev	Kaye Yeomans
Viking Merchant	Ronald Gray
Hindu Merchant	(Thursday and Friday) Anthony Tootal (Saturday) John Sherbourne
Venetian Merchant	Barry Lingard
Douda, a clown	Richard Edwards
Sopiel, another clown	David Powell
Buffoons, their followers	Yvonne Dorsey Jennifer Stephens
Merchant Elders of Novgorod	Arthur Ashton Kenneth Hayes
Pilgrims	John Douglas Keith Pass
Soothsayer, later the Apparition	Fred O'Flaherty
Queen of the Ocean	Audrey Larne
Chorus of Townsfolk, Water-Nymphs, Sailors, Sea-People, etc.:	
Joan Boswell, Marguerite Coggan, Mary Coles, Mary Coster, Yvonne Dorsey, Betty Dulling, Nora Gee, Pamela Hacker, Evelyn Hookway, Audrey Larne, Iris Marshall, Dorothy O'Flaherty, Jill Powell, Rosemary Sherbourne, June Smith, Jennifer Stephens, Doreen Williams.	
Robert Attwell, John Douglas, Christopher Fenton, Fred O'Flaherty, Keith Pass, Ernest Williams.	

Dancers.—Pamela Cruickshank, Sheila Lester-Card.

Attendants.—Jane Comyns-Carr, Pippa Larne, Sarah Norton.

Choreography and Ballet Costumes by DOROTHY WOODS

Setting designed and made by HERRICK HAYES

Stage Lighting by PETER and MATTHEW HOOKWAY

Stage Manager KEITH DRAPER

Front of House DAVID NORTON and helpers

Between the Acts there will be an interval of twenty minutes during which refreshments will be available on the Terrace.

## THE STORY OF THE OPERA

### ACT ONE

SCENE ONE. The merchants of Novgorod are feasting and drinking while they boast of their prosperity. When the singer Sadko enters he gives them food for thought in the fact that their riches would be much greater if Lake Ilmen, on which their city stands, had an outlet to the open sea. They laugh him to scorn and he departs unhappily, while clowns entertain the company.

SCENE TWO. On the shores of Lake Ilmen Sadko sings of his distress and loneliness. He is amazed to see figures appearing and takes them at first to be swans, but closer observation reveals them as water-nymphs led by Volkhava, daughter of the great Sea-King. At her request he sings for their pleasure, and while the nymphs dance the Princess confesses that his music has won her heart. When the coming of dawn causes them to return to the depths of the lake, the Princess rewards Sadko with the promise of three golden fishes which he will catch in the lake and which will bring him fame and riches. Vowing eternal fidelity to each other they part.

SCENE THREE. At home Lubava, Sadko's wife laments his absence. Recalling that only yesterday he had assured her of his undying love she is overjoyed at his return, but is broken-hearted when he leaves almost at once for a long voyage to foreign parts.

SCENE FOUR. When Sadko returns to Novgorod with his tale of the golden fishes he is received with derisive laughter. He bets his head against the wealth of the great merchants that his story is true, and when nets are let down his optimism is vindicated. At once ships are to be prepared and before nightfall the great adventure is to be begun. Meanwhile Sadko calls on three visiting merchants from the North, from India and from Venice to sing in praise of their respective lands, so that the travellers shall know which one to visit first. All present decide that Venice offers the greatest attractions, and thither they will sail in their fleet of thirty fine vessels. Sadko releases the merchants of Novgorod from their debt to him on condition that they care for Lubava in his absence, and the great voyage begins.

### ACT TWO

SCENE FIVE. Twelve years have elapsed and Sadko has prospered, but the return of his ship to Novgorod is delayed by unfavourable winds. He decides that this must be because he has never offered a tribute to the great King of the Ocean, and to this end he casts overboard gold, silver and pearls, but to no avail. Finally he realises that he alone must visit the ocean depths to make reparation and to satisfy the Princess. He leaves his comrades to complete their voyage while he risks his life to continue his great adventure.

SCENE SIX. When he reaches the bottom of the ocean Sadko finds himself in the court of the Sea-King who, enthroned with his Queen, expresses his displeasure at the non-payment of tribute. However, as soon as Sadko sings, all is forgiven and he is promised the hand of the Princess in marriage. He sings again in celebration and so great is the excitement of the assembled company that all engage in a dance of increasing frenzy, the waves rise in tumult and the whole earth is threatened. At the climax of this revelry the dancers are frozen into immobility by the appearance of a spectral figure who warns the King that his power is ended, commands Sadko to return to his wife in Novgorod, and decrees that Volkhova shall become the great river for which that city has so special a need.

SCENE SEVEN. Sadko is discovered asleep by the shore of Lake Ilmen, watched over by Volkhova. She sings a tender lullaby, takes a last farewell of him, and disappears to become the great River Volkhova, flowing from Novgorod to the open sea. Lubava is still distractedly looking for her husband, and she is overjoyed to find him, although at first he fails to recognise her. He thinks he has been dreaming all his adventures and it is only the amazing sight of the broad new river that convinces him that they have really happened. The rejoicing of his fellow citizens as they sing the praises of their great voyager and of his sweet singing brings the opera to a fitting end.