

OSCANCE

St James's Church
Sussex Gardens



1884. Marriage solemnized at the Parish Church in the Parish of Paddington in the County of Middlesex

No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
414	May 29 th 1884	<u>Miss Angela O'Flaherty Minto</u>	28	<u>Bachelo</u>	<u>Banker</u>	<u>9 Charles Street Greenwich Lane</u>	<u>Mr R. Mills</u> <u>Middlesex</u>	<u>Surgeon</u>
		<u>Constance Mary Lloyd</u>	26	<u>Spinster</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>100 Lancaster Road</u>	<u>Her late father</u> <u>deceased</u>	<u>Queen's Counsel</u>

Married in the Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, by Special or after _____ by me,
William Abbott

This Marriage was solemnized between us { Osca Fitzgerald O'Flaherty } in the Presence of us, { John Harmon, Layman }
{ Constance Mary Lloyd } { William Abbott }
{ William C. O'Connell } { Edw. Seribon King }

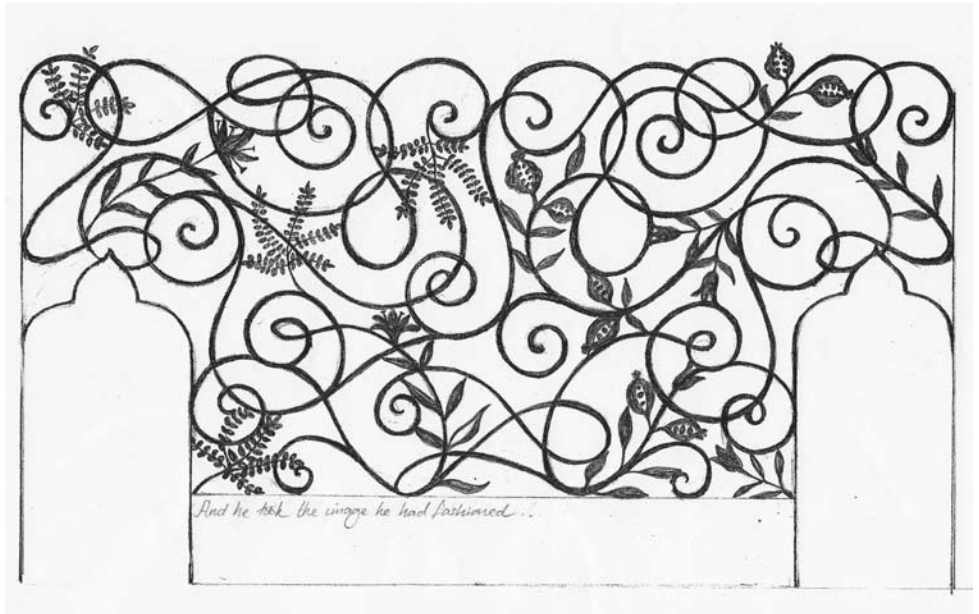
Saturday 6th June 2009

~ Programme ~

Oscance
The Oscar & Constance Wilde
Commemoration Fund at St James's Sussex Gardens

In association with The Oscar Wilde Society to commemorate the wedding of Oscar Wilde and Constance Lloyd in the Church of St James the Less, Paddington, London. The wedding took place on the afternoon of the 29th of May, 1884.

We aim to construct an aesthetic memorial within the church building. One possibility is a chancel screen elaborated with Wildean elements – lilies for Oscar, ferns for Constance. Heather Burrell has made a preliminary sketch which incorporates decorative ingredients of the chancel. The estimated cost is between £20,000 and £25,000.



Programme

The Reception - Canapés & sparkling wine

Introduction

*Christopher Cook will open the 125th anniversary event
and welcomes our special guest Stephen Fry*

Wilde about London - 1:

*from "Coffee with Oscar Wilde" by Merlin Holland
'Almost Respectable' and 'Shocking the Middle Classes'*

A dialogue John Biddle (Interlocutor) and Robert Aldous (Oscar Wilde)

*In Conversation about Wilde the film
Christopher Cook and Stephen Fry*

1909 London Musical Comedy Hits

sung by Marilyn Hill-Smith with Donald MacKenzie at the piano

*More Conversation from
Stephen Fry and Christopher Cook*

*Intermission to charge your glasses for ... The Toast to
Oscar & Constance proposed by Stephen Fry*

An Historical Note . . . the wedding in context with Monica Sims

*Wilde about London - 2: from "Oscar Wilde's London
A Scrapbook of Vices and Virtues: 1880 – 1900" Read by Jonathan Fryer*

En-Gendered Songs!

from Marilyn Hill-Smith and Donald MacKenzie

*The Young King – a fairy tale (1891) from A House of Pomegranates.
Read by Stephen Fry*

Robert Aldous trained at RADA, graduating in 1955. His appearances in London have included *The School for Scandal* at the Theatre Royal, Haymarket, and in *An Enemy of the People* and *Peter Pan* at the National Theatre. The bulk of his career has been on stage and for thirty years he was a "baddie" in major commercial pantomimes, but he can boast performing in the first series of *Dr Who*, in *Dad's Army* and in 'Allo, 'Allo! As if in preparation for this afternoon's event Robert toured the UK for sixteen weeks last year in *An Ideal Husband!*

John Biddle is a young singer and actor based in London. He holds Lay-Clerk positions at Southwark Anglican Cathedral and with the London Oratory Schola, and he is an Associate Artist with En Masse Theatre, with whom he has toured extensively in Britain (to venues including Bristol Old Vic, West Yorkshire Playhouse, Lyric Hammersmith), as well as overseas. John is currently busy doing previews with his double-act Jollie, whose new show *Abreast of Culture* will be on at the Edinburgh Fringe this summer. He has recently done a reading for Channel 4 of a new sitcom being produced by Ash Atalla, and worked as composer and musical director on a new production called *Sabbat*, for the Dukes Theatre in Lancaster.

Christopher Cook began his career in television, producing for BBC-2 and Channel 4. He broadcasts regularly on BBC Radios 3, 4, and 5. He is a regular contributor to BBC Music Magazine and International Record Review. He teaches 'Cultural Studies' for the University of Syracuse on their London Programme, courses on 'Theatre and Culture; and the History of Theatre for the British American Drama Academy and he has recently been appointed Visiting Professor at the University of the Arts, London. He chairs pre-concert events for the BBC Symphony Orchestra, the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, the Hallé Orchestra, the London Philharmonic Orchestra and Study Evenings at the Royal Opera House where he also interviews for their 'In Conversation with ...' programmes. Christopher was the Director of the Cheltenham Festival of Literature in 2004 and is currently Chair of the Cheltenham International Music Festival.

Stephen Fry is an actor, writer, director and broadcaster. He played Peter in *Peter's Friends* (1992), Wilde in the film *Wilde* (1997), Jeeves in the television series *Jeeves & Wooster* (1990 – 1993) and *Himself* with fellow former Cambridge Footlights' member Hugh Laurie, in *ABOFAL* (*A Bit of Fry and Laurie*) 1989 - 1995. He has recorded an audio CD of *Wilde's Children's Stories*. Stephen is a Patron of the Oscar Wilde Society. He passes his time by travelling between London, Norfolk and New York.

Jonathan Fryer is a London-based writer, lecturer and broadcaster with the twin interests of literary biography and international affairs. A familiar voice from BBC Radio 4's *From Our Own Correspondent*, he is a regular commentator on the Iranian television channel PressTV and has reported from or travelled in nearly 160 countries. He'll die happy when he has polished off the rest.

A Patron of the Oscar Wilde Society, Jonathan has written three books about Oscar and his circle: *André & Oscar*, *Robbie Ross and Wilde*, and he frequently lectures on 'Exploding the Oscar Wilde Myth'. His study of T.E. Lawrence is due out in the autumn.

Donald MacKenzie is perhaps better known for being an organist but today he is at the piano! He is the resident organist of the Odeon Cinema, Leicester Square and has played at countless Royal & Gala Premieres, Gala Openings and other special events. His interest in cinema also extends to an enviable accomplishment in the art of accompanying silent films. He has recently become editor of *Vienna Music*, the magazine of the UK's Johann Strauss Society.

Monica Sims OBE spent three seasons working in theatres in Windsor and Bristol before joining BBC Radio as a Talks Producer. She moved to television to become Head of Children's Programmes. She returned to Radio as Controller of Radio 4. Monica has also been a Vice President of the British Board of Film Classification, and Director of the Children's Film Foundation.

Marilyn Hill Smith made her debut with English National Opera as 'Adele' in *Die Fledermaus*. She has sung principal roles with Welsh National Opera, Royal Opera House both at Covent Garden and in Los Angeles, Canadian Opera in Toronto, Lyric Opera of Singapore, Penang Festival Opera, New Sadlers Wells Opera and Carl Rosa Opera Company.

She sings regularly on P & O Classical Music Cruises. She is in constant demand for concert engagements at home and abroad, and broadcasts frequently on BBC Radio – having been a particular favourite with listeners of *Friday Night is Music Night*. Her award-winning recordings of operetta and Ivor Novello continue to be acclaimed worldwide. She is also a popular adjudicator for the British Federation of Music Festivals and teaches singing.

Our thanks to:

Robert Aldous, Will Baynes, John Biddle, Christopher Cook, Stephen Fry, Jonathan Fryer, Donald MacKenzie, Monica Sims, Marilyn Hill Smith, The Vicar & Wardens of St James's, Paddington, The Oscar Wilde Society