Offstage

Lent 2009



Guys and Dolls Preview

Set in New York following World War II, Nathan Detroit bets his pal, Sky Masterson, that he can't make the next lady he sees fall in love with him. But when the next 'doll' happens to be the prim and proper neighbourhood missionary, Sarah Brown, the stage is set for an evening of high-spirited entertainment, set to the toe-tapping beat of Frank Loesser's superlative score.

Widely regarded as one of the greatest musicals of all time, 'Guys & Dolls' is a big Broadway show that's put a smile on the face of millions

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of millions of theatre-goers since it first premiered in 1950.

Featuring the hit songs 'Luck Be a Lady Tonight', 'If I Were a Bell' and 'Sit Down You're Rocking the Boat', the show's strong narrative, stunning score and witty comic writing deliver an enduring classic that everyone can enjoy.

'Guys & Dolls' has proved to be so popular over the years that it has attracted some of the biggest names in show business – not to mention a clutch of Tonys, Oliviers and Grammys! From Marlon Brando and Frank Sinatra – who starred in the 1955 film – to Nathan Lane and Ewan McGregor – who starred in the most recent Broadway and West End productions, respectively – the engaging characters of the show have drawn memorable performances.

For the ADC, 'Guys and Dolls' has offered the opportunity for all types of performers to get involved with a large-scale musical, with a large male and female chorus and several fun character parts. A company of 26 performers is already rehearsing the show under the artistic leadership of Uri Adiv (director), Jenny Houghton (choreographer) and Joe Shaw (musical director). The leading men are played by Oli Hunt (Nathan) and Ned Stuart-Smith (Sky), while the leading women are Mel Heslop (Adelaide) and Tara Crabbe (Sarah). But no production of 'Guys & Dolls' is complete without a Benny and Nicely Nicely Johnson to complete the gamblers, two roles that will be performed by Matt Eberhardt and Jonny Kanagasoorian.

With opening night looming (10 March) and over 100 tickets sold already, make sure you don't miss one of New York's finest musicals (starting Week 8!). Gorgeous guys and delectable dolls – onstage at the ADC in March. *Andre Anderson*

Editorial

As the end of this committee comes, I thought a small reflection on a successful year was due.

An outstanding lent term musical last year in the form of into the woods set the scene for a great year. The closure of the ADC for easter term and the long vacation allowed the final stage of the redevelopment to be undertaken creating a magnificent new space backstage, a new studio /rehearsal room and greatly improved seating.

The Theatre was reopened in october with a performance of Hero written by two cambridge students, Ashley Riches and Ben Nicholls. Hero was performed to a good reception at the Edinburgh festival along with Real Inspector Hound by Stoppard, both productions lifting the clubs reputation outside of the university.

Last term a few great plays set the tone for the term culminating in a brilliant and hugely successful Pantomime in collaboration with the Footlights. ing projects on the horizon, this years lent term musical Guys and Dolls, Suitcase Cabaret - to be found in several venues around cambridge, a fresh production of Richard II, and a short play with songs, The Big Book for Girls. Not to mention a new translation of the Chekov play The Three Sisters by Cambridge's very own Rory Mullarkey.

As well as the great selection of plays on this term the club will be holding its annual dinner to which all members are invited, following the AGM at which next years committee will be elected.

If you're interested in standing for the committee and it is a very rewarding job, all the members of the committee will be on hand at clubnights this term so grab someone and ask about it. If you are not so interested in the committee but would like to spend a fun evening in the ADC bar come to clubnight, there are drinks discounts for members and lots of theatrical people to talk to.

David Pugh

Anthology

Looking to the future and there are several excit-

eral excit- Clubnight is 9-11pm on wednesday evenings

Suitcase Cabaret 21st - 24th January @ Various Venues Suitcase Cabaret is a new, excitingly original project based on Edgar Lee Masters' Spoon River

Le Fil 7th - 10th Febuary 8:00 pm @ Outside (tbc) A sharp sensory experience, taking inspiration from the album of the same name by French singer

Camille. The Three Sisters 17th -21st Febuary 7:45 pm @ ADC Theatre In a new translation by Rory Mullarkey, a play about the subtle and complex emotional shifts amongst a subtle and complex group of people

The Big Book For Girls 18th - 21st Febuary11:00 pm @ ADC Theatre An exuberant, innuendo-filled comic extravaganza culminating in a dénouement of ludicrously improbable coincidences.

Richard IInd 24th - 28th Febuary 7:45 pm @ ADC Theatre Containing some of Shakespeare's most evocative and brilliant language, placed alongside many of the most insightful political observations in the history of drama

The Chairs 4th -7th March 11:00 pm @ ADC Theatre An elegy for the past and a plea for a brighter future, a tragic farce that conflates the whimsical with an underlying despondency

Guys and Dolls 7:45pm @ ADC Theatre

Tells the story of a group of small-time gamblers and the ladies in their lives. Nathan Detroit bets his pal, Sky Masterson, that he can't make the next lady he sees fall in love with him; and when the next 'doll' happens to be the prim and proper neighbourhood missionary, Sarah Brown, the stage is set for an evening of high-spirited entertainment.

Offstage Newsletter Lent Term 2009, edited by David Pugh & the CUADC Committee. All articles © their respective authors. Please direct comments to offstage@cuadc.org