

DIRECTOR'S NOTE



It has been twenty seven years since I first trod the boards in Company Theatre's first ever Music Hall in St. Michael's Church Hall, Bayswater, where we were based from 1980 until our move to The Rose Centre in 1992. During those early times in Bayswater, Company produced a musical every two years and so this has been a real pleasure for me, personally, to be involved once again with a Music Hall in 2010, coinciding with Company Theatre's 30th birthday celebrations.

A huge thank you must go to a team of dedicated cast and crew and more especially to my Production Manager Sherry Ede and Wardrobe Mistress Cathie Sandy who have worked tirelessly to bring this show to fruition. For me, singing is a huge part of my life and this production is a dream come true. A famous person once said "If only the best birds sang the woods would be silent"! We hope you all enjoy this walk down memory lane and that you will all sing-a-long with THE COMPANY from Company Theatre.

RUTH CHAPMAN
Director

Welcome to the Music Hall

ACT 1

Overture

Let's all go to the Music Hall
Tavern and London Medley
Don't Have Any More, Mrs Moore
Be My Baby Bumble Bee

Your Chairman, Mr Colin Francis
The Chorus

Mr Keith Leggett
Mr Greg Stockwell, Miss Patricia Stafford- Bush,
Miss Jocelyn Diver

Alice Blue Gown
The Park Bench
The Merry Widow Waltz
Seaside Medley

Miss Delwynne Winter
The Chorus
Miss Delwynne Winter and Mr Colin Francis
The Chorus

There will be an INTERVAL of 15 minutes for refreshments.

ACT 2

Minstrel Medley
Guest Spot
The Sewing Circle
Poor Wandering One
On The Road To Mandalay
Irish Medley
Glocca Morra
If I Were Not Upon The Stage
SING-A-LONG
Now You've Been To The Music Hall

The Chorus
Mr Keith Leggett
A Melodrama
Miss Delwynne Winter
Mr Colin Francis
The Chorus
Miss Liz McClellan
Members of the Chorus
The Chorus
The Chorus

13th - 27th November 2010

At The Rose Centre, School Road, Belmont

Evenings Tuesday - Saturday at 8pm

Matinées - Sunday 14th & 21st at 2pm

\$25 Adults • \$20 Concessions

Bookings 445 9900 or email rosecentre@xtra.co.nz

COMPANY THEATRE MEMBERSHIP
www.companytheatre.co.nz
1980 - 2010 Company Theatre turns 30!

Our next Production will be **PRIDE AND PREJUDICE**. March 2011
Auditions Sunday 5th December at 2pm. See website or phone 445.9900

CAST

The Gentlemen of the Chorus: Mr. David Best, Mr Gordon Carlyle, Mr John Gardner, Mr Steven Green, Mr Tony Sandy, Mr Richard Sandford, Mr Greg Stockwell, Mr Graeme Webber

The Ladies of the Chorus: Miss Marilyn Best, Miss Kirsten Brooks, Miss Jocelyn Diver, Miss Elizabeth McLellan, Miss Pauline Ockleston, Miss Carla Newton, Miss Patricia Stafford- Bush, Miss Delwynne Winter.

Chairman: Mr Colin Francis

Guest Artist: Mr Keith Leggett

The Band: Colin Roderick (Piano) Muriel Musson (Violin) Murray Musson (Clarinet) Bob Savigny (Violin) and Chris Cheung (Drums) Richard Ellsworth (Rehearsal & Reserve Pianist)

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director Ruth Chapman
Production Manager Sherry Ede
Costume Design & Creation Cathie Sandy
Wardrobe Sewing Mary Gardner, Ruth Chapman, Annie Conza
Stage Manager Linda Camplin
Catering for Cast & Crew Annie Conza
Set Construction & Painting Dave Best, Tony Sandy, Paddy Stafford-Bush, John Gardner, Richard Parmée, Max Golding
Lighting Design Scott Thomas
Lighting & Sound Operator Jacob Thumath
Projected Images Design Sherry Ede
Hair & Make-Up Jos Diver
Publicity, Photos, Programme Sherry Ede
Bookings Richard Parmée
Bar Manager Alastair Fletcher
Front of House Lynne Davis
Front of House Team Members of Company Theatre

CAST PROFILES

David Best: I am loving every minute on stage. Normally found behind the scenes building the sets, this is my first time in front.

Gordon Carlyle: I became involved in theatre back in 1992 at Peninsula Players Whangaparaoa where my debut was in a Music Hall. Since then I have been involved in several more music hall shows as well as pantomimes, musicals, plays and comedy. I have been to several shows at Company Theatre and was delighted to have been included in the cast for this show.

Colin Francis: A love of musicals led Colin to England's West End in the 1970's where he performed with the likes of Arthur Askey. Appearances in many British TV programmes, (Eastenders, Morecombe & Wise etc) to several tours of England as a Walt Disney character to being a regular Stand In for BBC's Top of the Pops. In NZ he has been a Playschool presenter, had many film & TV roles (Xena, Hercules, Shortland St.), has produced and compared his own musical variety shows, "Let The People Sing" at the Bruce Mason Centre with guest artists including Hayley Westenra, Tim Beveridge. Was in DNTV2's production of Music Hall in the 1960s! Last performance for Company was as Captain Mainwaring in the Dad's Army Club Night.

John Gardner: This is a trip down memory lane, as the last Music Hall I was involved in, was with The Putaruru Theatre Players in 1985.

Steve Green: A Company member for 12 years and loving working with such a diverse group in this show. I wake up in the wee small hours in a cold sweat worrying why I can hear the words of other peoples songs in my head, but not the ones I am performing!

Keith Leggett: Keith's first taste of Music Hall was on a tour of the UK after leaving school at 15., followed by years of variety, revue, & pantomime before spending 16 years with the famous Black and White Minstrels on stage and television. Recently retired from Event Organiser for Auckland City, Keith can now go back to his first love as a performer.

Tony Sandy: Tony has been a member of Company since 1984. He was in all the MUSIC HALLS at St Michael's Church Hall, during the 1980's. Now more often found behind the scenes on set construction or behind the Bar in the foyer, calling out "What's your poison, luv?!" But his most important job is supporting his wife Cathie, the Wardrobe Mistress, whom he met through Company.

Richard Sandford: This is Richard's first show with Company Theatre, but his 7th year doing musical productions around Auckland. Ever since the first rehearsal, he has enjoyed working on the show with all the lovely and talented people of the cast, crew and muso's. A big thank you to Ruth & Sherry for letting me be a part of Music Hall, and to be involved in Company Theatre's 30th Anniversary.

Greg Stockwell: Initially, just a lover of Les Miserables and a singer in the shower until I found the courage to audition for Les Miserable at Centrestage Theatre, Orewa in 2009. Since then I can't get enough of theatre. My first Music hall was last year also at Orewa, and I'm very excited about being cast in Miss Saigon in 2011 at the Civic in Auckland.

Graeme Webber: I've always longed to be 'discovered' - and still waiting! I have had a 5 year association with Company Theatre and played Corporal Jones in the Dad's Army Club Night. Interests are music, music, music - and fishing. Have just finished writing a huge London Hit Musical in association with Sherry Ede - which is however yet to be staged.! Do you have a spare \$5 million??

Marilyn Best: Marilyn was first involved with Company Theatre, earlier in the year with the hilarious Dad's Army musical Club Night. Aa musical background she performed in a range of light operas at school. Education and work commitments didn't allow her to perform again until now. She is enjoying being with the talented team in the Music Hall and the fun experience it has turned out to be.

Kirsten Brooks: I have been in shows since I was very young. Including ACMT's 'Beauty and the Beast', and NYTC's 'Cinderella' and 'Grease'. I've also been in school productions and was part of a group which won a school drama competition. I enjoy drama and hope to continue being involved with it.

Jocelyn Diver: I was roped into this show and after thinking about it; I thought yes, I should take myself out of my comfort zone and give it my best shot. I've never been on stage since I was 10 years old in and that was in school plays only. This has been a whole new experience for me that I find both nerve -wracking but lots of fun too. I hope you all enjoy the show!

Liz McClennan: Liz has been in Theatre for more years than she cares to remember. From Music Hall to Gilbert & Sullivan, having lots of fun along the way. Most of these productions have been with N.S.M.T. and Company Theatre.

Pauline Ockleston: Pauline has been involved with the entertainment world since primary school, where she coerced classmates into School Journal productions, and developed the life long disease of "Performing". Thank you to Ruth, Sherry, Lee and Company Theatre for having me in your Music Hall. It is so much Fun!!

Carla Newton: I have always loved acting, music and theatre and have attended drama and dance classes. I have also been involved in school plays My passion is music, whether singing, playing or listening. I will continue to study Drama and Music at school next year and hope to have many more experiences in theatre, as an actor and musician in years to come .

Paddy Stafford-Bush: As Patron of the Rose Centre, actually being in this show is very special to me. Back in 1989, as Chairperson of the steering committee for the proposed Rose Centre it was suggested that the Company Theatre be involved. Being a sportswoman, I knew very little about theatre but when invited to attend their then current production of "Music Hall", I was rapt, and the concept of a multi use Centre was developed. My prior acting was as part of a crowd scene in the Babes in the Wood Pantomime in 1990. It is very satisfying to me to see the way Company Theatre has grown to become an inseparable part of the Rose Centre.

Delwynne Winter: Since studying Music at Auckland University, Delwynne has performed with Opera NZ, Source Theatre and Auckland Musical Theatre, and most recently Hooray for Hollywood at Centerstage, in Orewa. She's also done a number of recordings for Source and Mainly Music Children's CDs.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS...

The ROCK SHOP for loan of drums
 Centre Stage Theatre • Torbay Theatre
 North Shore Music • Jos' Salon Devonport



2010 MUSIC HALL



Taken from the 40th Anniversary Book compiled by Scott Thomas

Come on down to the Music Hall

Company Theatre's Music Hall is a great way to end the year with a laugh and a song.

Excerpts from over 60 old-time songs are in the show.

Based on the popular Victorian Music Halls, the full evening's entertainment involves chorus and solo items, both comic and serious.

Each new item is introduced by MC, 'The Chairman' Mr Lee Chambers in top hat and tails. Participation is encouraged – you'll be asked to cheer the heroine and hiss the villain in the melodrama, 'The Seamier Side of Life'.

The show is directed by Ruth Chapman who has over 25 years' musical theatre experience.

Some of the 16 chorus members have never been in a big production

such as this before, whereas others are veterans of the stage.

A highlight of the evening is the performance by Keith Leggett, who toured for 16 years with the original Black and White Minstrel Show. The show opened at the Victoria Palace in England and was a 1960s favourite with both live and television audiences.

Another highlight is the wonderful duet rendering of 'Galway Bay' by soprano Delwynne Winters and tenor Greg Stockwell.

The large cast has given plenty of challenge to wardrobe mistress Cathie Sandy, who spent hours researching and recreating the elegant Victorian costumes.

There are five chorus brackets, each with a



Variety voices: Delwynne Winters and Greg Stockwell make a captivating duet.



Top hat: Lee Chambers is 'Chairman of the Music Hall'.

complete costume change. Bring your singing voices for a singalong at the end.

There is also a talented five-piece band on stage, led by pianist Colin Roderick, under the musical direction of Lee Chambers.

The lighting is by Scott Thomas who has just finished working on '42nd Street' at the Civic.

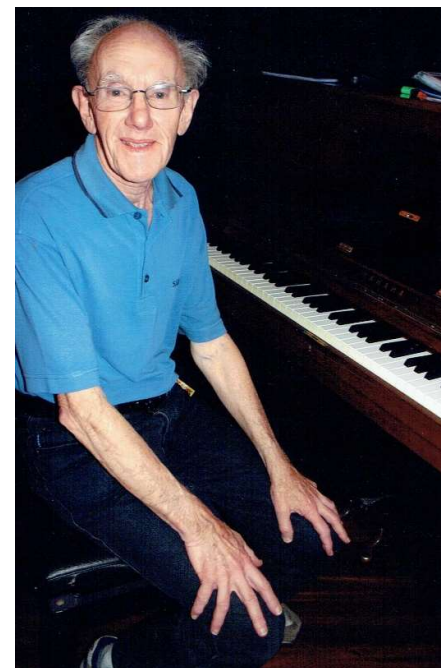
The show runs from Saturday November 13

to 27. Tickets for the opening night include a free glass of wine or bubbly. Early booking is advised.

There are two Sunday matinee performances at 2pm on November 14 and 21. The Saturday November 20 performance will celebrate Company Theatre's 30th

anniversary and is reserved for members and invited friends.

For all other performances phone Richard at The Rose Centre on 445-9900. Prices are \$25 with \$20 concessions. More details on www.companytheatre.co.nz.



Colin Roderick on piano



Murray Musson on clarinet, Muriel Musson on violin

Lee Chambers pulled out 2 weeks before opening night. Colin Francis stepped in as Chairman

Elizabeth McLellan pull out mid-season due to illness and Cathie Sandy stepped in.

DECEMBER 3 2010

THE DEVONPORT FLAGSTAFF PAGE 31



Tripping the light fantastic...Jos Diver and Dave Best



Ruth Chapman, Colin Francis



Dancing the night away...the MUSIC HALL cast



Mary Gardiner, Cathy Sandy