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CHESS

A Musical Love Story



29th MAR - 2nd APR 2022

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DURHAM MUSICAL THEATRE COMPANY



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Affiliated to the National Operatic & Dramatic Association

at

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Tuesday 29th March – Saturday 2nd April 2022

proudly presents its 158th production

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*Florence Vassy: **Pascalie Rossle**, The Arbiter: **Michael Taphouse**, Molokov: **Anthony Smith**
De Courcey: **Ed Turner**, Frederick Trumper: **Steven Berry**, Anatoly Sergievsky: **Graeme Walton**, Svetlana Sergievsky: **Katy Walton***

Director
FRED WHARTON

Musical Director
MALCOLM MOFFAT

Choreographer
KATHLEEN KNOX

Book & Lyrics: TIM RICE

Music: BENNY ANDERSSON & BJÖRN ULVAEUS

Original Orchestrations and Arrangements: ANDERS ELJAS

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with **Music Theatre International (Europe)**

Please ensure that all mobile phones and pagers are switched off before the start of the performance.
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DURHAM MUSICAL THEATRE COMPANY

(formerly: Durham Amateur Operatic Society)

Founded 1908

www.dmtc.co.uk



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President: Valenda Taylor

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Mary Robinson, Margaret Sutton & Valenda Taylor

CHAIRMAN'S LETTER



Welcome, finally, to **DMTC's** postponed production of "**Chess**". Following on from our multi-award-winning 2019 production of "**Evita**", we started rehearsals for our next show which was due to be staged in 2020. Little did we know that Covid-19 would scupper those plans in such a dramatic way. Our last rehearsal before lockdown, just 9 weeks before the show was due on stage, was on Sunday 15th March (the Ides of March!) Like Julius Caesar, **DMTC** should have been warned to beware this date! We had several attempts to re-schedule the show, but they all fell by the wayside. We are now delighted to be back and thrilled to be joined once again by our very loyal audiences for another great night of musical theatre. It doesn't seem possible that it is now 20 years since **Durham Amateur Operatic Society**, as we were then called, was presenting our first show in the newly built **GALA Theatre** – "**Me and My Girl**". Our new staging of "**Chess**" will be our **27th** production in **GALA** and we are honoured to be back in this wonderful venue again. Over these past 20 years our tickets sales have averaged just under **92%**, which equates to **c.70,000** tickets sold,

which is quite an achievement. This is all thanks to you, our public.

During the various lockdowns, we were all deeply affected by the pandemic, none more so than the medics and carers, who were under continuous stress, both physical and mental. Everyone at **DMTC** felt we needed to do something to raise money to help support the wonderful staff at **Durham University Hospital**. We hope you will join us at our "**NHS, We Thank You**" concert, to be staged at **Consett Empire Theatre** on **24th-25th June 2022**. All profits from these shows will be donated to the staff charitable fund. If you would like to send me feedback about our work, I would be delighted to hear from you. You can contact me via the **DMTC** website (www.dmtc.co.uk) or by using my personal e-mail (anthonymsmith89a@aol.com).

Anthony Smith

DIRECTOR'S NOTE



The first version of the musical "**Chess**" appeared at the Prince Edward Theatre in London on 14th May 1986 and starred Elaine Paige and Tommy Körberg. It was a huge hit and ran for over three years. Since then, there have been more than eight different versions of the show, some with minor changes to the original, while others were radically different. The version you are seeing tonight is the latest version, which is the one released for amateur performance. In April 1988, the show opened in New York at the Imperial Theatre, but it was not the version which had been staged in London. The story was substantially altered with a new book by Richard Nelson, different characters were introduced and the score was considerably changed. Unfortunately, this version was not a success and the show closed after only ten weeks. Since then, later versions have all been based on the original London staging, but with the introduction of one song from the

American version, namely "**Someone Else's Story**", which you will hear tonight. Tim Rice has been involved in all the later versions, which have been seen in Australia, Sweden, Washington and Japan. Only last year another version was produced in Russia, to great acclaim. In Britain a concert version was presented at the Royal Albert Hall in 2008, starring Josh Groban and Idina Menzel. In 2018, Michael Ball appeared in yet another version at the London Coliseum. Tim Rice was not joking when he referred to the show's '*turbulent history*'. The music for "**Chess**" was composed by Benny Andersson and Björn Ulvaeus, who in 1972 set up the famous **ABBA** quartet of singers who became so popular on the pop scene until their regrettable demise in 1983. Their music, of course, has been incorporated into the phenomenally successful show "**Mamma Mia**".

"**Chess**" was the idea of Tim Rice and he wrote the original lyrics after his partnership with Andrew Lloyd Webber ended, having previously produced "**Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat**", "**Jesus Christ Superstar**" and "**Evita**". It took him 10 years to write "**Chess**". The show is set towards the end of the Cold War when American/Russian antagonism was at its height. The two countries were competing to be the best in different fields including sport, music, the space race and even in chess. Their rivalry for world domination threatened world peace. In the musical, the chess match between a Russian and an American is an analogy of the real-life USA/USSR rivalry in politics. The story shows that it is the ordinary people (i.e. the pawns) in life who suffer most and are sacrificed by the people in power. Tim Rice commented, "*Chess is a wonderful game because it is politics writ small*".

Above all, the show is a love story, as Florence has to decide which man she should spend her life with – be it Freddie, the American, or Anatoly, the Russian. Her heart-breaking choice is the core of the show and it is told in what Kurt Gänzl called "*some of the most exciting new stage music of its time*".

Fred Wharton

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Steven Berry ~ *Freddie Trumper, the American chess champion*



Steven works for Durham University, is a freelance videographer and also sings semi-professionally across the North East. Steven has been involved in amateur dramatics and musical theatre for nearly 20 years. His first role was in a play at university and in his final year (2005) he graduated to a lead role as sleazy editor Sidney in the Ben Elton satire **"Silly Cow"** at the Edinburgh Fringe. After returning to the North East, he joined **Bishop Auckland AOS** and **Bishop Auckland Little Theatre Club**, appearing in their productions. In 2009 Steven joined DMTC to play Harry in **"Scrooge"**. He then appeared as a dancing waiter in **"Hello, Dolly!"** followed by Erik in **"Grand Hotel"**. He played the part of Tobias in **"Sweeney Todd"** and was a soloist in **"Some Enchanted Evenings"**. This was followed by Charles Darnay in **"A Tale of Two Cities"** for which he won jointly the

Mary Hamilton Award. This was followed by Hysterium in **"A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum"**, Myron/Salesman in **"Sunset Boulevard"** and he was a soloist in **"The Best of British Musicals"**. In **"Carousel"** Steven played Enoch Snow and followed this with Hortensio in **"Kiss Me Kate"**. In our last production of **"Evita"** Steven was the sleazy tango singer Magaldi. For other groups Steven has played the Beast in Disney's **"Beauty and the Beast"** at the **Sunderland Empire Theatre**, Bob Wallace in **"White Christmas"**, Curly in **"Oklahoma!"**, Francis Fryer in **"Calamity Jane"**, Sir Evelyn Oakleigh in **"Anything Goes"**, Freddy Eynsford-Hill and Henry Higgins in **"My Fair Lady"** and Bert Healey in **"Annie"**.



Pascalie Rossle ~ *Florence Vassy, Trumper's manager and head of the American Delegation*



Pascalie joined **Durham Musical Theatre Company** in 2017. A couple of years prior to joining she graduated from the **University of Cumbria** with a BA in Musical Theatre & Contemporary Dance. In her final Musical performance, she starred as the charming Petra in Stephen Sondheim's **"A Little Night Music"**. In her second-year final, she played the part of Lisa in the modern show **"A New Brain"** by William Finn. Her first major role landed her the part of Mimi in Jonathan Larson's **"Rent"** whilst she was studying at Oldham College. In her teen years, Pascalie spent a lot of time performing with **Oldham Theatre Workshop** and at the **Royal Northern College of Music** and has worked on various other productions

such as **"Children of Eden"** and **"Alice in Wonderland"**. Pascalie played the part of the fun-loving Lois Lane in **"Kiss Me Kate"** and was a chorus principal in our last production of **"Evita"**.



WHY NOT JOIN US ON STAGE?

We are always looking for new members. If you are interested in performing with us, please contact the Production Secretary: Delia McNally (telephone: 0191-5363572) or visit our website for further information:



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Graeme Walton ~ Anatoly Sergievsky, the Soviet chess champion



Graeme joined **DMTC** in 2001 to play the part of Dominique in our last production at the Assembly Rooms, **"The Baker's Wife"**, which marked his stage debut. Since then, over the past 20 years, he has returned for many other productions with **DMTC** playing Freddy Eynsford-Hill in **"My Fair Lady"**, Third Officer Pitman and J. H. Rogers in **"Titanic"**, Robert in **"Company"**, Fatty Arbuckle in **"Mack and Mabel"** and a soloist in **"Noel and Ivor"**. He appeared as Cornelius Hackl in **"Hello, Dolly!"** followed by the Baron in **"Grand Hotel"**. Graeme was also a soloist in our tribute to Richard Rodgers, **"Some Enchanted Evenings"**. He played the anti-hero Sydney Carton in **"A Tale of Two Cities"**, for which he jointly won the Mary Hamilton Award. This was followed by a Protean in **"A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum"** and Joe Gillis in **"Sunset Boulevard"**. He then appeared as a soloist in **"The Best of British Musicals"**.

Graeme most recently played Billy Bigelow in **"Carousel"** and Che in **"Evita"** for **DMTC**. He has also taken memorable parts with other groups, including Magaldi in the Northern premiere of **"Evita"** for **Sunderland AOS** and the part of Bobby Child in **"Crazy for You"** for **Spennymoor AOS**. Graeme also performed as a semi-professional entertainer for about fifteen years, working extensively throughout the north east and has had prominent tours of Scotland, Wales, Yorkshire and Lancashire. For Graeme, **DMTC** has become a family hobby, together with wife Katy and their 4 children. Graeme said: *"I am proud to be taking on the role of Anatoly in our latest production of **"Chess"**!"*



Katy Walton ~ Svetlana Sergievsky, Anatoly's wife



Katy's first few experiences delivering performances to audiences came at the age of 8 where she took to the stage with her school choir at the Guildhall in Portsmouth and also to the decks of HMS Warrior. From these moments Katy knew she loved performing. She joined **DMTC** in 1995 to take part in our production of **"Oliver!"** and loved the experience. Following this show Katy appeared in other **DMTC** pantomimes including **"Red Riding Hood"** and **"Babes in the Wood"**. After a break she returned to the bigger stage at **GALA** and performed in the chorus of **"Me and My Girl"**, **"What a Swell Party!"**, **"Peter Pan"**, **"My Fair Lady"**, **"Camelot"**, **"The Secret Garden"** and **"Guys and Dolls"**. She then played Kate McGowan in **"Titanic"** followed by appearances in **"Gigi"** and **"Mack and Mabel"**. She was a soloist in **"Noel and Ivor"**. She played Mrs. Molloy in **"Hello, Dolly!"** followed by one of the Tootsies in **"Grand Hotel"**, the tap-dancing Ethel in **"42nd Street"**, a soloist in **"Some Enchanted Evenings"** and the role of Lucie Manette in **"A Tale of Two Cities"**. In **"Sunset Boulevard"**, Katy played Betty Schaefer and she was a soloist in our latest compilation show, **"The Best of British Musicals"**. Her last major roles with **DMTC** were playing Julie Jordan in **"Carousel"** and the Mistress in **"Evita"**. **DMTC** has become a something of a family activity with her husband and children also all being involved in **DMTC** productions over the years.



Anthony Smith ~ Alexander Molokov, head of the Soviet Delegation



Anthony joined DMTC in 1976, working back stage. He first appeared on stage in the 1977 production of **"Hello Dolly!"** and his first role came the following year, playing Mordred in the company's first production of **"Camelot"**. and has taken part in almost every show staged by the Company since then. At **GALA** he has been seen as Bill Snibson in **"Me and My Girl"**, Captain Hook in **"Peter Pan"**, Henry Higgins in **"My Fair Lady"**, King Arthur in **"Camelot"**, Archibald Craven in **"The Secret Garden"**, Nathan Detroit in **"Guys & Dolls"**, Andrews in **"Titanic"**, Harry in **"Company"**, Mack Sennett in **"Mack and Mabel"**, Tevye in **"Fiddler on the Roof"**, the title role in **"Scrooge"**, Horace Vandergelder in **"Hello, Dolly!"**, Otto Kringlein in **"Grand Hotel"**, Julian

Marsh in **"42nd Street"**, the title role in **"Sweeney Todd"**, Dr. Manette in **"A Tale of Two Cities"** and Pseudolus in **"A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum"** for which he won a NODA Best Performance Award. He then appeared as Max von Mayerling in **"Sunset Boulevard"** and he was a soloist in **"The Best of British Musicals"**, followed by Jigger Craigin in **"Carousel"**, Fred Graham in **"Kiss Me Kate"** and Juan Perón in **"Evita"**. Other favourite parts have included Kipps in **"Half a Sixpence"**, Fagin in **"Oliver!"**, Captain Von Trapp in **"The Sound of Music"**, Harold Hill in **"The Music Man"** and anything written by Stephen Sondheim. He was also one of the three kings in the promenade performances of our **"Farmyard Nativity"**.



Ed Turner ~ Walter de Courcey, the presenter for Global Television



Ed has had a passion for performing since a very young age. At the age of twelve he joined the **National Youth Training Choir of Great Britain** and was promoted to the main **National Youth Choir** when he was eighteen. Ed has sung at the **FA Cup Final in Cardiff** and twice at the **BBC Proms** in the **Royal Albert Hall**. Ed also sang with **Northern Spirit Singers**, a choir based in Durham. Ed joined DMTC in 2008 and it's fair to say his life has changed completely as he met his wife, Rebecca, in his first show with us, **"Fiddler on the Roof"**. He played Motel in this, our second production of **"Fiddler on the Roof"** followed by Bob Cratchit in **"Scrooge"**. He loved being a dancing waiter in **"Hello, Dolly!"**, one of the two Jimmys in **"Grand Hotel"** and the Doctor in **"42nd**

Street". More recently he has undertaken the part of Beadle Bamford in **"Sweeney Todd"**, Richard Rodgers in our musical tribute **"Some Enchanted Evenings"**, Barsad in **"A Tale of Two Cities"**, Hero in **"A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum"** and Manfred/Morino in **"Sunset Boulevard"**. He was a soloist in **"The Best of British Musicals"**, the First Policeman in **"Carousel"** and one of the three kings in the promenade performances of our **"Farmyard Nativity"**. His last performances with DMTC were as Gremio in **"Kiss Me Kate"**.



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Cast Biographies



Michael Taphouse ~ *The Arbiter*, the referee of all the chess matches



Michael studied drama at **New College, Durham** and continued his studies at **Northumbria University**, from where he graduated with a BA (Hons) in Performing Arts. He is now trying to carve out a career as a young professional actor. He has played Prince Charming in **A J Production's** version of "**Cinderella**", Sid in **Murton Operatic Society's** production of "**Half a Sixpence**" and Carmen Ghia in **Astravaganza's** production of "**The Producers**". Michael has toured all over the UK for the **Youth Music Theatre Company** and has recently performed in a string of "**Murder Mystery Plays**" with **Tall Tales Mysteries**. He joined **DMTC** in 2019 as the dancing Perón in "**Evita**".



Clark Adamson ~ *Leonid Viigand*, another Soviet chess champion



Clark joined **DMTC** to play the part of Lancelot in our 2004 production of "**Camelot**" and returned as Dr. Craven in "**The Secret Garden**", Sky Masterson in "**Guys and Dolls**", Bruce Ismay in "**Titanic**", Peter in "**Company**", William Desmond Taylor in "**Mack and Mabel**", a soloist in "**Noel & Ivor**", the Doctor in "**Grand Hotel**", Judge Turpin in "**Sweeney Todd**" and most recently as the Marquis St. Evrémonde in "**A Tale of Two Cities**" in 2014. Clark has performed extensively throughout the northeast with many other groups. Other favourite roles include Gaston in "**Gigi**", Freddy in "**My Fair Lady**", Young Ben in "**Follies**", Perchik in "**Fiddler on the Roof**", Billy Bigelow in "**Carousel**", Petruchio in "**Kiss Me Kate**" and the Prince in "**Into the Woods**". Clark's opera performances include Escamillo in "**Carmen**", Kecal in "**The Bartered Bride**", Valentine in "**Faust**" and Leporello in "**Don Giovanni**".

Chorus Principal Biographies

Christopher Carr ~ *Chorus Principal*



Christopher directed his first musical "**Cabaret**" in 1998, closely followed by "**Chess**" and "**Spend, Spend, Spend**". He has worked professionally for **Live Theatre**, including the award-winning "**Pitman Painters**", **Northern Stage** and for **Newcastle Theatre Royal's** annual pantomime, as well as various national tours. Christopher directs together with Lesley-Anne Crawford who he met through a mutual love of theatre. Their close friendship developed over the numerous productions they have worked on together both on and off the stage. Together they directed our 2018 production of "**Kiss Me Kate**". Christopher is a hairdresser and he has been wig master on many productions. He supplied wigs for several of our recent productions including our last production of "**Evita**".



Izzy Chazot ~ *Chorus Principal*



Izzy joined **DMTC** in 2018, as part of the chorus of "**Kiss Me, Kate**". Whilst this was her first major show, she had previously performed in choirs, orchestras and productions at school and **Durham University**, where she studied Zoology. Her favourite parts have included playing Glinda in "**The Wizard of Oz**", small Mrs Hall in "**Fawlty Towers**" and Maurice the Meerkat in a college pantomime. Whilst at university, she also wrote and directed a panto and sampled the world of Shakespeare, as Mustardseed in "**A Midsummer Night's Dream**". After finishing her degree, Izzy completed a PGCE and now shares her love for music and performing with the children in her class and school choir. She is thrilled to have been selected as a chorus principal in her third show with **DMTC** and can't wait to see what her future with the company will hold!



Chorus Principal Biographies

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Chris Coates ~ Chorus Principal



Chris joined **Astravaganza Entertainment** in Chester-le-Street a couple of years ago to play the part of Hugo Horton in the stage version of **"The Vicar of Dibley"**. This was followed by Sonny Lattierri in **"Grease"**. Chris then decided to try his first pantomime, playing Baron Hard-Up in **"Cinderella"** and his first Music Hall, singing several solos. He recently performed in **"Pinocchio"**. His latest participation with **Astravaganza** has been in their last production of **"The Wedding Singer"** and in their next production, **"Blood Brothers"**. Chris volunteered to help out **DMTC** to work backstage and appear as a soldier in **"A Tale of Two Cities"**. He enjoyed the experience and he decided to join the company to audition for a part in

"Sunset Boulevard". He was delighted to be chosen as one of the chorus principals in the show.

He has since appeared in several other **DMTC** productions and is excited about his upcoming performances of **"Chess"**.



Rebecca Hassell ~ Chorus Principal



Rebecca first joined **DMTC** in 2012, where she joined the chorus for **"Sweeney Todd"** whilst studying at Durham Sixth Form Centre, having previously sung with **Durham County Youth Choir** and performed with other local youth theatre groups. She stayed with the Company until after **"Some Enchanted Evenings"**, before she left to study Drama and Theatre Practice at the University of Hull. Whilst at university, Rebecca helped out with many productions both on and off stage: from playing the Nurse in **"Romeo and Juliet"**, to designing costumes and creating special effects make up for shows. In her first year at university, she was lucky enough to be able to perform at the **Edinburgh Fringe Festival** in an original show

written by one of her fellow students. After moving back to Durham in early 2018, Rebecca returned to **DMTC** to take part in the chorus for our production of **"Evita"**, and she is thrilled to have been cast as a chorus principal for **"Chess"**.



Mike Langthorne ~ Chorus Principal



Mike's earliest brush with musical theatre was being turned down for the part of Herod in **"Joseph and his Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat"** – it was a tough blow to take at 9 years old! He first got the performing bug playing drums in various bands on the local pub and club circuit. His initial involvement in 'proper' theatre was when he joined **DMTC** in 2007 to work in the Props Team for **"Gigi"**. The following year's show was **"Mack and Mabel"**, by which time Mike had joined the chorus to appear on stage for the first time. He then continued in the chorus for **"Noel and Ivor"** and

"Fiddler on the Roof", before working backstage in the Stage Crew for **"Scrooge the Musical"**. Mike then had a three-year break from theatre while studying for his degree in history at Newcastle University, returning to the Stage Crew again for **"42nd Street"** and **"Sweeney Todd"**. Back in the chorus again for **"A Tale of Two Cities"** (his favourite show to date) he then alternated between backstage work in the Stage Crew and on-stage work in the chorus whilst also doing further university study. His first part as a chorus principal came in **"Kiss Me Kate"**, which he thoroughly enjoyed. He now looks forward to bringing **"Chess"** to the **GALA Theatre** and the **DMTC** audience.



Steve Norman ~ Chorus Principal



Steve has been involved with amateur theatre for over 50 years, appearing in many productions ranging from Chekov and Pinter to Shakespeare. Steve won an award for best supporting actor in 1988 as Cheswick in **"One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest"**. In musical theatre he has played Mr. Bumble in **"Oliver"** and Alfie Doolittle in **"My Fair Lady"**, plus numerous other roles. Moving to Durham in 2005, he joined the **Durham Dramatic Society** and has appeared frequently with them. In 2008 he won the Best Actor Award for his performance in **"Dickens' Children"**. He joined **DMTC** in 2010 to play the part of Zinnowitz in **"Grand Hotel"**, followed by Abner Dillon in **"42nd Street"**. He was a soloist in **"Some Enchanted Evenings"** and

appeared as Jerry Cruncher in our production of **"A Tale of Two Cities"**, Sheldrake in **"Sunset Boulevard"** and the School Principal in **"Carousel"**. Most recently he played one of the Gangsters in **"Kiss Me Kate"**. Steve said, *"I am so happy to have been chosen as one of the chorus principals for **"Chess"** – it's a wonderful show with a wonderful cast."*



Chorus Principal Biographies

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Nicky Tones ~ Chorus Principal



Nicky joined DMTC in 1998 to play the role of Rolf in **"The Sound of Music"**. He continued to perform in many shows and pantomimes, including **"Beauty and the Beast"** and **"Into the Woods"**. Before taking a break to attend University, Nicky played the role of Patrick Dennis in the 2000 production of **"Little Me"**. After graduating Nicky returned to the region and re-joined DMTC in 2006 to appear in the chorus for **"Gigi"**. He then went on to play Andy in **"Mack and Mabel"** and a son in **"Fiddler on the Roof"**. Nicky continued to be involved in many more shows including: **"Scrooge"**, Ambrose Kemper in **"Hello Dolly!"**, Pat Denning in **"42nd Street"**, **"Sweeny Todd"**, Sheldon Harnick in **"Some Enchanted Evenings"**,



Stryver in **"A Tale of Two Cities"**, a Gangster in **"Sunset Boulevard"**, a soloist in **"The Best of British Musicals"** and most recently in **"Carousel"** and **"Evita"**. A trained teacher, Nicky currently works for a training company delivering IT Apprenticeships across the country. He also develops iPhone and iPad apps.



Grace Cattell

Children



Lucy Cattell

THE CAST



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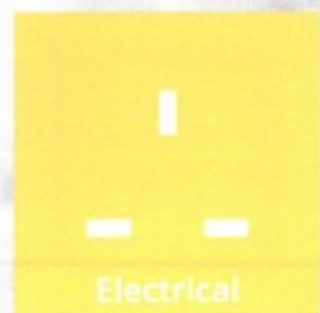
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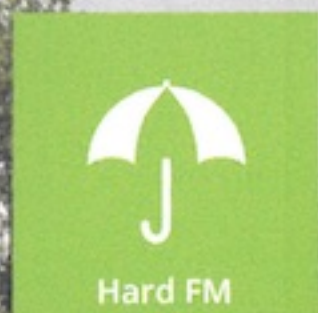
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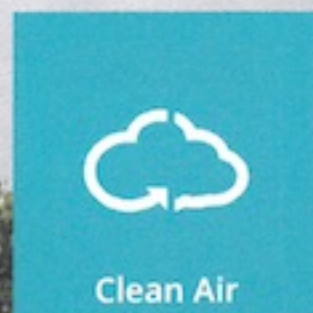
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Cast List & Orchestra



THE CAST

Frederick Trumper, *the American chess champion*
 Florence Vassy, *his manager and the Head of the American Delegation*
 Anatoly Sergievsky, *the Soviet chess champion*
 Svetlana Sergievsky, *his wife*
 Alexander Molokov, *the Head of the Soviet Delegation*
 Walter de Courcey, *the presenter for Global Television*
 The Arbiter, *the referee of all the chess matches*
 Leonid Viigand, *another Soviet chess champion*
 Tyrolean/Reporter/Embassy Staff
 Tyrolean/Reporter/Secretary/Waitress
 Tyrolean/Reporter/Embassy Staff/Floor Manager/Thug
 Tyrolean/Reporter/Secretary/Waitress
 Tyrolean/Reporter/Embassy Staff/Messenger
 The Mayor/Reporter/Embassy Staff
 Choir Conductor/Reporter/Embassy Staff/Thug
 Extra Reporters

Steven Berry
 Pascale Rossle
 Graeme Walton
 Katy Walton
 Anthony Smith
 Ed Turner
 Michael Taphouse
 Clark Adamson
 Christopher Carr
 Izzy Chazot
 Chris Coates
 Rebecca Hassell
 Mike Langthorne
 Steve Norman
 Nicky Tones
 Janet Dixon
 Liz Cairns

The Princes' Mother
 Tea Lady

Michael Beckford, Alison Elrick, Anne Gatherar, Catherine Lawes,
 Delia McNally, Sue Morl, David Wallace, Karen Willson, Deborah Wilson

ENSEMBLE

Emma Barthel, Denise Beckford, Michael Beckford, Lisa Bicknell, Enid Bilton-Gale, Liz Cairns, Christopher Carr, Emily Charlton, Izzy Chazot, Chris Coates, Doreen Cothay, Janet Dixon, Mike Dixon, Alison Elrick, Anne Gatherar, Katy Haggart, Stewart Harland, Rebecca Hassell, Jade Henderson, John Hunt, Erin Kinnee, Mike Langthorne, Catherine Lawes, Sue Mason, Delia McNally, Kameron Milton, Cameron Morl, Sue Morl, Aine Musgrave, Steve Norman, Charlotte Penston, Sue Robinson, Michael Taphouse, Nicky Tones, Claire Ungley, David Wallace, Karen Willson, Caroline Wilson, Deborah Wilson & Peter Wilson

DANCERS

Grace Brown, Holly Duke, Abigail Ellis, Anna Foster, Rebecca Fowler,
 Lily Law, Kameron Milton & Holly Rogerson

CHILDREN

Grace Cattell & Lucy Cattell

ORCHESTRA

Conductor: Malcolm Moffat

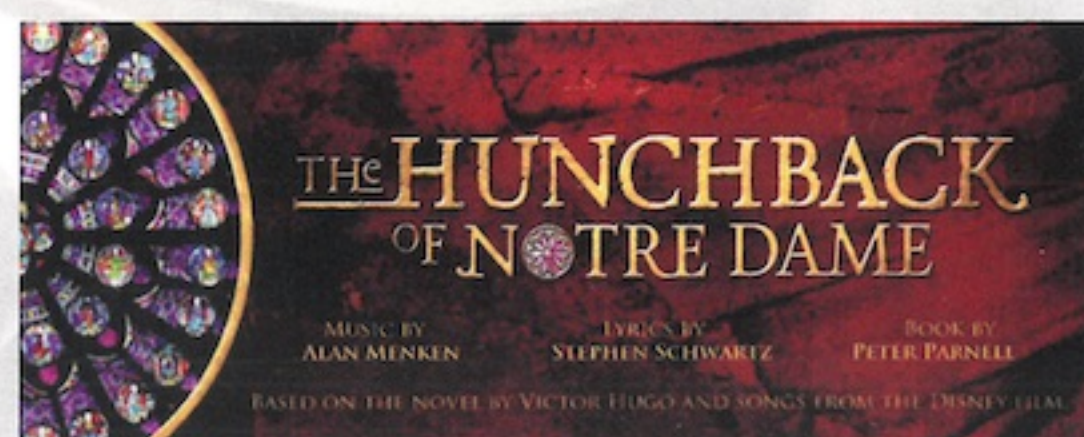
Keyboards: Jason Hawkins, Andrew Richardson, Jonny Winter **Flute:** Rachel Jeffers **Oboe:** Philip Cull
Clarinet: Sue Ferris **Trumpet:** Michael Lamb **Horn:** Chris Senior **Trombone:** John Flood
Guitar: Stuart Davies **Bass:** Peter Morris **Drums:** Malcolm Dick **Percussion:** Susie Jones



"NHS, We Thank You" Concert

June 24/25 2022 Empire Theatre, Consett

Join us as we raise money for the wonderful, medical staff of University Hospital, Durham, who have so bravely and selflessly served our community throughout the Covid-19 pandemic over the past two years. It is our way of saying a heartfelt 'thank you' for all they have done for us all.



"The Hunchback of Notre Dame"

March 21/25 2023 – Gala Theatre, Durham

Join us for this wonderful thought-provoking musical, based on the famous novel by Victor Hugo and the Disney cartoon.

"What makes a monster and what makes a man?"

This powerful musical has a wonderful message for children and adults alike. It is not to be missed!

Dates for your Diary

Scenes and Musical Numbers

14

PROLOGUE

The Story of the Origins of the Game of Chess

Full Company & Dancers

ACT ONE: (Merano, Northern Italy, in 1979)

Scene 1 – At the Railway Station

Merano

Townfolk of Merano, the Mayor, Tourists, Freddie & Dancers

Scene 2 – A Bedroom in the Palace Hotel

Commie Newspapers

Freddie & Florence

The Press Conference

Freddie, Florence & Reporters

Scene 3 – Anatoly's Suite in the Aurora Hotel

Where I Want to Be

Anatoly & Molokov

Scene 4 – The Arbiter's Chambers

No One Can Deny That These are Difficult Times

Molokov, Walter & Diplomats

The Arbiter's Song

Arbiter, Dancers & Chorus

Scene 5 – The Arena

The Song of the Merchandisers

Merchandisers, Chorus & Dancers

The Hymn to Chess

Arbiter, Walter, Molokov & Chorus

Scene 6 – The 1979 World Chess Championship Arena

First Chess Match

Freddie, Anatoly, Chorus & Dancers

reprise: The Arbiter's Song

Arbiter

Quartet

Molokov, Florence, Arbiter & Anatoly

The Accusation

Molokov & Florence

Scene 7 – A Bedroom in the Palace Hotel

Budapest is Rising

Florence, Freddie & Chorus

Nobody's Side

Florence & Chorus Principals

Scene 8 – The Merano Mountain Inn

Mountain Duet

Florence & Anatoly

Scene 9 – The 1979 World Chess Championship Arena

Second Chess Match

Freddie, Anatoly, Chorus & Dancers

Scene 10 – A Bedroom in the Palace Hotel

Florence Quits

Florence & Freddie

Pity the Child

Freddie

Scene 11 – The British Embassy in Merano

The Embassy Lament

4 Civil Servants & 2 Typists

Heaven Help My Heart

Florence

Scene 12 – Merano Airport

Anthem

Anatoly & Chorus

ACT TWO: (Bangkok, Thailand, in 1980)

Scene 1 – The Pat-Pong District of Bangkok

One Night in Bangkok

Freddie, Chorus & Dancers

Scene 2 – The Oriental Hotel

You and I

Anatoly & Florence

Scene 3 – Molokov's Hotel Suite

The Soviet Machine

Molokov & Cronies

Scene 4 – Global Television Studios

The Interview

Walter, Freddie & Anatoly

Scene 5 – Bangkok Airport

Someone Else's Story

Svetlana

Scene 6 – Various Bangkok Hotels

The Deal

Arbiter, Anatoly, Florence, Freddie, Molokov, Walter & Svetlana

I Know Him So Well

Florence & Svetlana

Scene 7 – A Park in Bangkok

This is the One Situation

Freddie & Anatoly

Scene 8 – The 1980 World Chess Championship Arena

Endgame

Full Company & Dancers

Scene 9 – A Park in Bangkok

An All Too Familiar Scene

Anatoly & Florence

Scene 10 – Bangkok Airport

reprise: You and I

Anatoly & Florence

Finale Act Two

Walter, Florence & Chorus



Fred Wharton ~ Director



Fred has been directing now for over 50 years resulting in nearly 150 productions. He has worked with companies in Durham, Newcastle, South Shields, Peterlee and Chester-le-Street, staging productions at the **Theatre Royal**, Newcastle; Sunderland's **Empire Theatre**; the **New Tyne Theatre**; the **Regent Theatre** and the **Customs House**, both in South Shields and the **Whitley Bay Playhouse**. Fred has directed musicals, opera, operetta, pantomime, revue and compilation shows. His special love is opera and he gained great satisfaction directing for **Northern Opera**. He has directed all the major musicals, some of them many times, but particularly enjoys the works of Stephen Sondheim (he has directed 7 of them), and rarer musicals such as "**The Most Happy Fella**", "**Little Me**", "**The Great Waltz**", "**The Secret Garden**", "**Titanic**", "**Grand Hotel**", "**A Tale of Two Cities**" and "**Sunset Boulevard**". Fred has directed the majority of the shows presented by **DMTC** since his first production for us of "**The Desert Song**" in 1968, including 26 out of the 27 we have staged at **GALA**. In summer 2013 he was awarded the **British Empire Medal** in the Queen's Birthday Honours for "**services to amateur drama in the northeast**". His latest productions for **DMTC** were the **NODA**

Award-winning productions of "**Carousel**" and "**Evita**". He is really pleased to finally being able to stage **DMTC's** postponed production of "**Chess**".

Malcolm Moffat ~ Musical Director/Conductor



Malcolm originates from Ashington. He was a music scholar at the King's School Tynemouth and he toured Europe accompanying the Cappella choir. He read music at the University of Cambridge, specialising in Renaissance keyboard music, and his teachers included John Wellingham and the late Christopher Hogwood. It was also at Cambridge that he made his first foray into musical direction, with another Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice musical, "**Jesus Christ Superstar**". He is a keen accompanist, and has worked with singers including Janice Cairns and Anthony Rolfe Johnson. Returning to the North East to study medicine at Newcastle University, he founded the **Northern Doctors Chorus** in 2012 and has performed with the **European Doctors Orchestra** at Sage Gateshead, as well as directing two **CLIC Sargent Christmas Carol Concerts**. He has been musical director for **Newcastle Musical Theatre Company** for "**West Side Story**", "**The Wizard of Oz**" and Monty Python's "**Spamalot**". He recently conducted a production of "**Elf**" at the New Tyne Theatre. Malcolm qualified as a doctor in 2012 and worked for several years in Obstetrics and Gynaecology before taking up a new position in Public Health Medicine in 2017. He was delighted to join **Durham Musical Theatre Company** for the challenging and beloved show – "**Evita**" and he is pleased now to be conducting another Tim Rice iconic musical, "**Chess**".

Kathleen Knox ~ Choreographer



Kathleen started dancing at the age of seven with the **Elsa Wilkins School of Dance**. She studied all theatre dance branches, attaining the Fellowship Teachers' Certificate through the International Dance Teachers' Association, together with membership of the Royal Academy of Dancing. At 18, Kathleen attended the London-based Doreen Bird College of Theatre Dance, from where she embarked on a professional career in theatre and television. In 1985 she took over the **Elsa Wilkins School of Dance**, her first dancing school, where she continues to enjoy teaching pupils of all ages, many of whom have gone on to become professional dancers. Kathleen has choreographed numerous shows for local operatic societies. She first came to **DMTC** in 2002 for our inaugural **GALA** production of "**Me and My Girl**". She has since returned for "**Guys and Dolls**", "**Company**", "**Mack and Mabel**", "**Hello, Dolly!**", "**Grand Hotel**", "**42nd Street**", "**Some Enchanted Evenings**", "**A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum**", "**Sunset Boulevard**", "**The Best of British Musicals**", "**Carousel**", "**Kiss Me Kate**" and "**Evita**". This will be her 15th production with **DMTC**.



During lockdown, we decided that **DMTC** wanted to do something to raise money in support of our wonderful health care professionals, who have nursed and cared for us so valiantly during the pandemic. To that end, we have put together our "**NHS, We Thank You**" concert, based on the great American musicals. **All the profits** from this show are to be given to the University Hospital, Durham to support staff mental and physical well-being, following the hugely stressful two years they have experienced. As we were unable to obtain a booking at the **GALA Theatre**, this concert will be staged at the **Consett Empire Theatre** for **three performances only**, on **Friday 24th June at 7.00 pm** and **Saturday 25th June at 2.00 pm and 7.00 pm**. Tickets for this show can be purchased from the **Consett Empire**

Theatre Box Office by telephoning: **03000 262 400** or on line at www.empireconsett.co.uk or from the **GALA Theatre Box Office**. We sincerely hope you will continue to support of us in this venture, which is for such a very worthy cause.

We are also having a bucket collection at the end of each "**Chess**" performance to add to our donation.

Stage Manager	Alex Bird
Deputy Stage Manager	Emma Parnaby
Assistant Stage Managers	Gary Milton & Simon Lawes
Sound Design	Tez Errington
Lighting Design & Operation	Darren Lowe
Follow Spot Operators	John Murdoch & Sam Smith
Technical Support	Tez Errington, Andrew Shutt & GALA Crew
Stage Crew	Anthony Dixon, Kevin McNally & Team
Stage Plans	Nicky Tones
Set Hire	Scenic Projects, Suffolk
Properties Team	Denise Brooksbank, Melanie Spedding, Rachael Burnett, Sharon Milton, Maureen Hinds, Laraine Harrison & Team
Properties	Scenic Projects, Suffolk & Society Prop Store
Extra Properties	Michael Grocock, Maria Turner, Peter Turner, Judith Baglee & Peter Baglee
Wardrobe	Enid Bilton-Gale, Kate Gair & Jane Flowers
Costumes	Society Wardrobe & Alan Graham Costumes, Consett
Video Imaging	Steven Berry
Make-Up	Rebecca Turner, Neve Harrison, Linda Harrison & Team
Wigs	Christopher Carr, Whitley Bay
Rehearsal Pianists	Andrew Richardson, Jonny Winter, Jack Hawkins
Front of House	Rob Gair, Ruth Ball, Frank Cure, Val Cure, Christine Dobbie, John Cuckson, Elizabeth Clapham, Rebecca Grundy, Kate Ayres, Shireen Gale, Bob Gale, Rachael Forrester, Katie Cowler, Valenda Taylor & Team
Dressers	Louise Mills, Valenda Taylor, Allison Smith & Team
Chaperones	Caroline Brown, Nicola Duke, Joanne Finley Maxine Hitch, Helen Rogerson & Lisa Cattell
Refreshments	Joan Foxall, David Foxall, Christine Dobbie & Team

Acknowledgements

DMTC greatly appreciates the assistance of:

Our Friends for their continued support

The Staff of GALA for all their help & continued support of **DMTC**

Peter Forster at North East Printing Services Ltd for printing programmes

The Advertisers for this programme

Martin Hastings of Imaginative Ink Design for poster artwork and printing

Plawsworth Community Centre for rehearsal space

The Jubilee Hall, West Rainton for rehearsal space

Coxhoe Village Hall for rehearsal space

Hotel Indigo, Durham for photoshoot

Derek Smith for photography

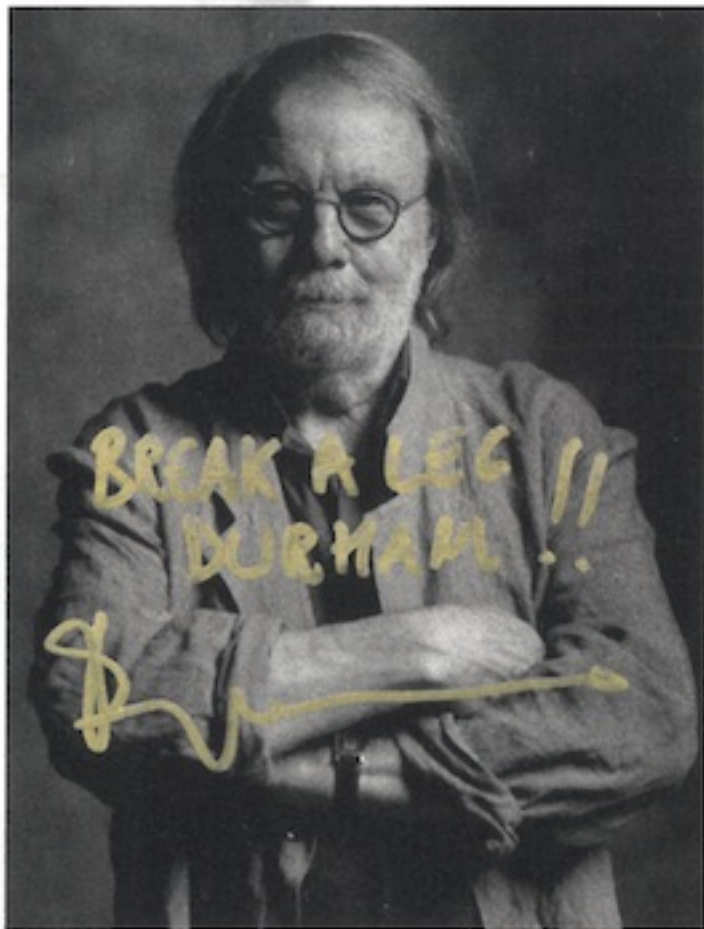
Colin Elrick for help with sponsorship

All others who have helped in any way with this production whom we may have unintentionally omitted to mention. Especially, we acknowledge **YOU**, our public, for your continued generous support

Please note that DMTC hires out PROPERTIES and COSTUMES
www.dmtc.co.uk

The Artistic Creators of "Chess"

18



Benny Andersson & Björn Ulvaeus were the musical writing geniuses behind the pop group **ABBA**. Their score for "**Chess**" has always been regarded as one of the great musical theatre masterpieces of the late 20th century. Its incomparable music combines completely different styles from pop-rock and rap to operatic ballads and a rich diverse score with a symphonic sweep. Several songs became classics and went straight into the hit parade when they were released. They are also responsible for the musicals "**Mamma Mia**" and "**Kristina**".



BENNY ANDERSSON

TIM RICE

BJÖRN ULVAEUS

Tim Rice is probably best known for his early collaborations with Andrew Lloyd Webber, with whom he wrote "**Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat**", "**Jesus Christ Superstar**" and "**Evita**". He has also worked a lot with the Disney organisation on their musical productions of "**Aladdin**", "**Beauty and the Beast**", "**King David**", "**Aida**" and "**The Lion King**". He is one of only a few artists who have received Emmy, Grammy, Oscar and Tony awards for their work.

"Chess" and the Cold War

The story of "**Chess**" involves a politically driven, Cold War-era chess tournament between two grandmasters, one American and the other Soviet, and their fight over a woman who manages one and falls in love with the other.

"**Chess**" allegorically reflects the Cold War tensions which were present in the 1980s. The musical has been referred to as a metaphor for the whole Cold War, with the insinuation being made that the Cold War was itself a manipulative game, where people were sacrificed like pawns to achieve specific goals. The musical was released and staged at the height of the strong anti-communist agenda of the 1980s. "**Chess**" addressed and satirized the hostility of the then current international political atmosphere which existed between the East and West.

In the 1990s, when communism fell, many people felt that "**Chess**" no longer held such a relevant message. However, with the current situation of 2022, the story of "**Chess**" should act as a warning lesson to us all. We should learn from history as it is all too easy to slip back into a Cold War scenario. We must all do everything we can to prevent this from happening.

At the end of Act One, Anatoly decides he has to leave his home country and flee to the west. He sings the famous song, "**Anthem**". This song was written to symbolize the Cold War between nations, and it represents the love of one man for his homeland, which goes beyond the borders drawn by nations. This love is definitely not about sovereignty. It is about loving the land upon which one is born and bred; it espouses the notion of being connected to and belonging to this land, which, even though tyrants may devastate it through wars, inspires love and devotion. Every one of us has his own homeland and the genius of this powerful song is that it could equally be applied to any one of our home countries.

STARRING

STEVE STEINMAN

ANYTHING FOR LOVE



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Meat Loaf & Jim Steinman

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All Revved Up With No Place To Go • For Crying Out Loud
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And Many More.



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9th December 2022

<https://www.skiddle.com/whats-on/Durham/Rainton-Arena/Steve-Steinmans-Anything-For-Love-The-Meat-Loaf-Story/35909322/>

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WE NEED FRIENDS



The Friends of Durham Musical Theatre Company is an organisation for those who would like to support our work. In return for a modest subscription of £10 per household, Friends are entitled to priority bookings for the seats of their choice. They are acknowledged in the programme and are kept informed of future productions and activities of DMTC.

The cost of putting on our shows is very high and we would be most grateful for your support and encouragement.

I am interested in becoming a 'Friend of Durham Musical Theatre Company'

Name.....

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Telephone Number..... Email Address.....

Please return to the Friends' Liaison Officer: Ruth Ball, together with a cheque for £10 made payable to DMTC
16 Norham Road, Newton Hall, Durham, DH1 5NU email: ruth.ball@btinternet.com

Dancers



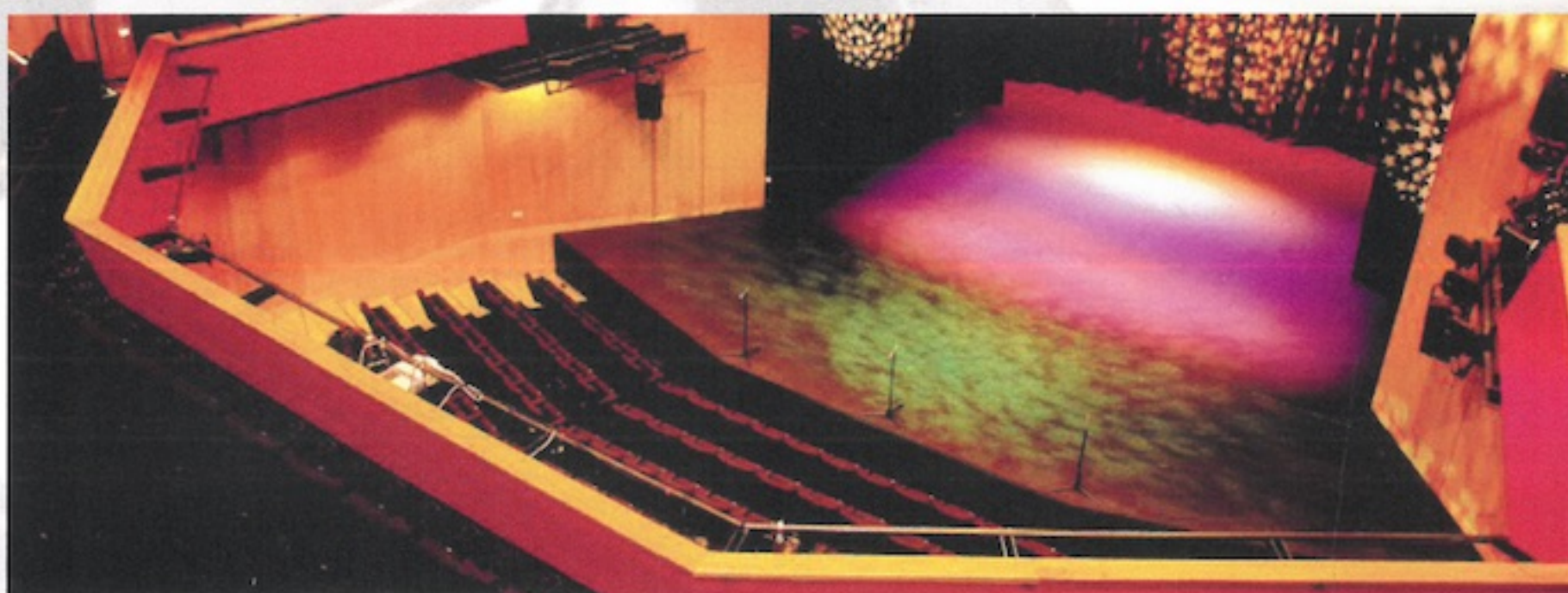
Durham Amateur Operatic Society, as we were then called, campaigned long and hard to get a theatre of professional standard built in Durham City. Finally, with the millennium in 2000, funding was made available to build a new theatre on the old car park at the end of Claypath, with an opening date set for early 2002. On **Tuesday 12th February 2002**, **DAOS** stepped out onto the **GALA Theatre** stage for our very first production in the newly built venue – "**Me and My**



Girl". Following in the footsteps of Alan Ayckbourn's theatre company, **DAOS** was honoured to be just the second company to perform in the venue. It was a huge financial risk for **DAOS**, as previously we had been performing in either the small **Assembly Rooms Theatre** or in the **George Garland Theatre** at New College. Coming to a professional theatre, costs escalated exponentially and our ticket prices had to increase overnight from £7.00 to £14.00. Would audiences be prepared to pay this amount or would they simply stay away? It could have bankrupted the Society. However, audiences were intrigued to sample Durham's new venue and they came in their droves to see the show resulting in a complete sell-out. A few weeks later the venue was officially opened by Her Majesty the Queen.

Thus began our 20-year association with **GALA**, resulting in 27 productions (1 pantomime, 4 staged concerts and 22 musicals) with average ticket sales of close to **92%**. Many individual performances have completely sold out. This equates to **c.70,000 tickets** sold! During this time, we changed our name to become **Durham Musical Theatre Company**, to better reflect the work we were doing.

Sadly, it will be three years since our last production in **GALA** was staged. "**Evita**" proved to be extremely popular and was also another complete sell-out. During these last three years, Covid-19 intervened, preventing people from having the communal experiences of live theatre. We hope this is now over. During this time period the theatre has undergone a wonderful face-lift, making any trip to **GALA** even more pleasurable. **DMTC** has the luxury of performing on a large stage with an intimate, comfortable auditorium that offers audiences a great experience. We are planning to have many more exciting nights of musical theatre in this wonderful venue and we hope that you our audiences will want to join us as we travel forward into the next 20 years. Happy birthday **GALA**!





NORMA DESMOND



SWEENEY TODD

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Previous Productions

25

1909	H.M.S. Pinafore				
1910	The Pirates of Penzance	1973	Trial by Jury	1994	Underneath the Arches
1911	Iolanthe	1974	La Belle Helene		The Sleeping Beauty
1912	The Gondoliers		Fiddler on the Roof	1995	Oliver!
1913	Trial by Jury		Sounds Pleasant		Babes in the Wood
	The Sorcerer	1975	Robert and Elizabeth	1996	A Little Night Music
1914	H.M.S. Pinafore		Salad Days		Red Riding Hood
1920	The Gondoliers	1976	King's Rhapsody	1997	Barnum *
1921	Iolanthe		Summer Serenade	1998	The Sound of Music
1922	Tom Jones	1977	Hello, Dolly!		Beauty and the Beast
1923	The Mikado		Cinderella	1999	Into the Woods
1924	The Rebel Maid	1978	Camelot		Dick Whittington
1925	Princess Ida		A Funny Thing Happened on	2000	Little Me
1926	Miss Hook of Holland		the Way to the Forum		An Evening with Oscar and Steve
1927	The Geisha	1979	Jack and the Beanstalk		Cinderella
1928	Tom Jones		My Fair Lady	2001	The Baker's Wife
1930	The Vagabond King	1980	The Good Companions	2002	Me and My Girl
1931	The Duchess of Dantzig		The Pajama Game		What a Swell Party!
1956	The Mikado		Dames at Sea	2003	Peter Pan
1957	The Gondoliers	1981	Aladdin		My Fair Lady
1958	Tom Jones		The Merry Widow	2004	Camelot
1959	Princess Ida		Old Time Music Hall		The Secret Garden
1960	The Quaker Girl	1982	Dick Whittington and His Cat	2005	Guys and Dolls
1961	Iolanthe		Mame	2006	Titanic
1962	The Gypsy Baron		Old Time Music Hall		Company
	Merrie England	1983	Robin Hood	2007	Gigi
1963	The Arcadians		Perchance to Dream	2008	Mack and Mabel
	A Summer Show		Charlie Girl		Noel and Ivor
1964	The Rebel Maid	1984	Mother Goose	2009	Fiddler on the Roof
	Songs from the Shows		Kiss Me Kate		Scrooge
	Owen Brannigan Concert	1985	Palace of Variety	2010	Hello, Dolly!
1965	Merrie England		Kismet	2011	Grand Hotel
	50 Years of Song	1986	Puss in Boots	2012	42 nd Street
	Ian Wallace Concert		The Most Happy Fella	2013	Sweeney Todd
1966	The New Moon		Andy Capp		Some Enchanted Evenings
	Charity Concert	1987	Cinderella	2014	A Tale of Two Cities
1967	Pink Champagne		The King and I		A Funny Thing Happened on
	Round the World in Song	1988	Robinson Crusoe		the Way to the Forum
	The Yeoman of the Guard		Pickwick	2015	Sunset Boulevard
1968	The Desert Song	1989	Humpty Dumpty		Christmas Nativity
	Summer Song		Calamity Jane		A Christmas Celebration
1969	Orpheus in the Underworld	1990	Aladdin	2016	The Best of British Musicals
	The Mikado		Annie		Christmas Nativity
1970	Showboat	1991	Jack and the Beanstalk	2017	Carousel
	Ruddigore		Sweeney Todd		Christmas Nativity
	Brass and Voices	1992	The Wizard of Oz		Another Christmas Celebration
1971	Summer Song		The Music Man	2018	Kiss Me Kate
	Patience		Cinderella	2019	Evita
1972	Brigadoon	1993	A Christmas Celebration		
	The Best of Ivor Novello/		How to Succeed in Business		
			without Really Trying		
			Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs		

* No performances as the theatre burnt down two weeks beforehand

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noda

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shared voice to the amateur theatre sector; help amateur societies and individuals achieve the highest standards of best practice and performance; and provide leadership and advice to enable the amateur theatre sector to continue to succeed in the 21st century.



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