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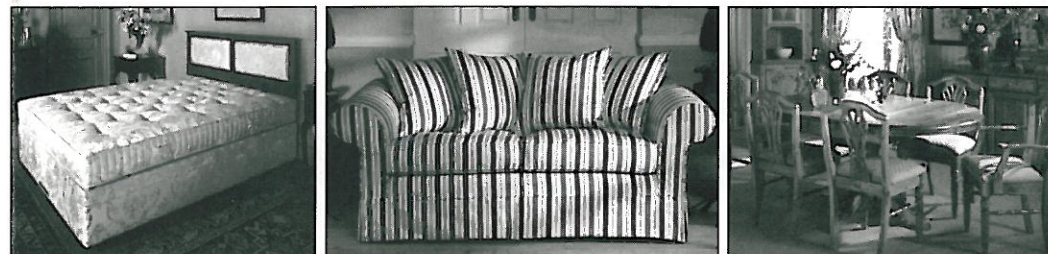


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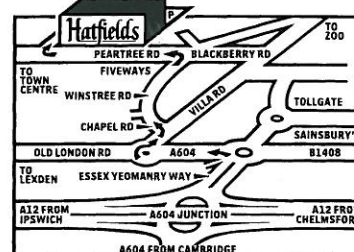


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CO₂ (Colchester Operatic Society 2nd Edition)

Presents

We SIDE Story

29th
2nd

August -
September
1995

**Mercury Theatre
Colchester**

The Jets

Riff Jonathan Davis
Tony Simon Pease
Action Lee Carter
A-Rab Richard Morgan
Baby John Sam Riches
Snow Boy Jim Bagley
Big Deal Jon Gallop
Diesel Alan Rowley
Gee Tar Darren Smith
Mouth Piece David Sparks

Their Girls

Anybody's Rebecca Steward
Graziella Gemma Peacock
Velma Charlotte Morgan
Clarice Lauren Price

Jets Chorus

Laura Maidment, Gemma Flynn,
Emma Bradley, Leanne Rogers,
Katrina Bigwood, Hannah Reubin,
Claire Pudney, Claire Lynas,
Jo Featherstone, Beth Keeble,
Charlotte Mecklenburgh

"Somewhere" sung by Graine Ivell

"Somewhere Ballet" principal dancers: Matthew Cole & Kirstie Chase

The Adults

Doc Derek Massey
Schrank Colin Thorne
Krupke Michael Mundell-Poole
Glad Hand Nick Flower

The Band

Musical Director/Keyboards..... Peter Humphrey
Trumpets..... Geoffrey Harniess, Tony Rickard
Trombone..... Dave Cole
Reeds..... Cliff Whybrow, Neale Ridding, Rebecca Chard
Bass..... Sarah Freeston
Drums..... Malcolm Ball
Percussion..... Emma Haddad

Percussion Consultant Richard Hubbard

The Production Team

Director/Choreographer..... Dani Fincham
Musical Director..... Peter Humphrey
Director's Assistant..... Kim Webster
Dance Captain..... Leanne Knott
Assistant to the Production Team..... Emma Spurgeon
Rehearsal Prompt..... Marion Spurgeon
Sound Design..... Martyn J Hunt

For The Mercury Theatre

Lighting Design Jim Bowman **Sound Assistant** Graham Hounser

Based on a conception of Jerome Robbins. Entire original production directed and choreographed by Jerome Robbins. Book by Arthur Laurents. Music by Leonard Bernstein. Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim. By arrangement with JOSEF WEINBERGER and on behalf of MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL of New York.

The Sharks

Bernardo Jon Southam
Maria (his sister) Emma Weighell
Anita (his girl) Leanne Knott
Chino (his friend) Alan Bell

Their Girls

Rosalia Rachel Johnson
Consuela Kirstie Chase
Francisca Justine Page
Estella Penny Gypps
Margarita Stephanie Badjonat
Teresita Graine Ivell

Sharks Chorus

Matthew Cole, Daniel Parsley,
Steve Pankhurst, Oliver Bridge,
Daniel Westacott, Jason Parker,
Duncan Adkinson, Sam Perren,
Simon Pearce, Diane Emberton,
Ria Farmer, Jenny Leung,
Charlotte McKenzie, Maria Spicer,
Julie Osborne, Abigail Cowan,
Karen Chase

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES AND MUSICAL NUMBERS

Act I

Scene 1: The Neighbourhood: Prologue (Instrumental)
Jet Song (Riff & The Jets)
Scene 2: A Back Yard: Something's Coming (Tony)
Scene 3: A Bridal Shop:
Scene 4: The Gym: The Dance At The Gym
(Instrumental)
Maria (Tony)
Scene 5: A Back Alley: Tonight (Maria & Tony)
America (Anita, Rosalia & The Sharks)
Scene 6: The Drugstore: Cool (Riff & The Jets)

The Next Day

Scene 7: The Bridal Shop: One Hand, One Heart (Tony & Maria)
Scene 8: The Neighbourhood: Tonight (Ensemble)
Scene 9: Under the Highway: The Rumble (Instrumental)

Interval

Act 2

Scene 1: An Apartment: I Feel Pretty (Maria & Girls)
Ballet Sequence (Instrumental)
Somewhere (Tony, Maria & Girl)
Scene 2: A Back Alley: Gee, Officer Krupke (Action & The Jets)
Scene 3: An Apartment: A Boy Like That (Maria & Anita)
I Have A Love (Maria & Anita)
Taunting Scene (Instrumental)
Scene 4: The Drugstore:
Scene 5: The Cellar:
Scene 6: The Neighbourhood: Finale

Notice: There will be a loud gunshot towards the end of Act 2

Stage Crew

Stage Director.....Mike Spurgeon
Stage Managers..... Alan Larner, Chris Barrell
Stage Crew.....Bob Wilkinson, Jim Lynas, Terry Lyon, Dave Clarke,
Martin Hammond, Dave Spicer, Peter Elder, Steve Williams,
Colin Kendall, Matthew Woodhouse

Follow Spots.....Paul Shaw, Christina Larner
Make-up.....Linda Kendall
Assisted by.....Gill Morgan, Sharon Clarke, Anne McClaren
Costumes, Wigs & Make-up Liaison..... Kate Bagley
Costumes.....Carousel Costumes Kelvedon
Wardrobe.....Gill Edwards
Assisted by..... Gill Morgan, Sharon Clarke, Val Massey,
Nicola Mundell-Poole, Margaret Walton
Wigs.....Jim Welling
Hair.....Gill Edwards
Props.....Margaret Walton & Team
Prompt.....Maggie Brush

Forthcoming Productions

Colchester Operatic Society: A musical concert celebrating its 70th anniversary, at the Colchester Institute in November.

CO2: 'Little Shop of Horrors', at about this time next year.

Chairman's Message

Welcome to CO2's production of 'West Side Story' and many thanks for your continued support.

We all know the music. We all know the story. Most audiences were introduced to it through seeing the film that hit our cinema screens in 1961, winning ten Oscars and critical acclaim all over the world. Few people realise that this show was originally conceived in 1949, eventually hitting the stage in Washington D.C. on 20th August 1957, then transferring to Broadway on September 26th of the same year and being hailed as the first mature American musical. It ran on Broadway for 734 performances and then toured America for a year before returning to Broadway for a further 249 performances and winning two Tony awards along the way.

The story was based on William Shakespeare's 'Romeo & Juliet', with the Montagues & Capulets starting life as Italian Catholics & American Jews. When Leonard Bernstein and Jerome Robbins approached Arthur Laurents to write the book, they decided that the Jewish-Catholic premise was not, as Bernstein said, "very fresh" and, so, came up with two warring gangs instead.

By the time the Mirish Brothers bought the film rights for the show, America was publicly condemning the violence that this real life 1950s scenario portrayed, although it was still part of everyday life, with ethnic gangs fighting for equality.

In my opinion, this show still has a very valid message to give to its audiences today and I know the cast in our production have had to think about the consequences of this type of behaviour in order to convey the moods and aggression this show portrays.

'West Side Story' has never been an easy show to produce; even when casting the film, dozens of

actors were considered, including Warren Beatty, Bobby Darin and Richard Chamberlain. Its very nature demands a maturity from its cast together with an accomplished ability to perform its expressive musical score. Maria, Tony and Anita all had singing doubles for the film, proving that even Hollywood couldn't produce the multi-faceted performers needed for the roles.

CO2 have worked very hard for this production. Although the story line is a classic one, the emotion required to portray it convincingly is rarely required from such a young cast. I hope you enjoy our production as much as we have enjoyed the hours of preparation it has taken to produce.

Thankyou all, once again, for coming along to see the final product.

If you would like tickets for Colchester Operatic Societies' future productions, then why not join our Supporters Club by contacting: Mrs. M Spurgeon, 16 Sioux Close, Highwoods, Colchester CO4 4RP. Your regular support is very important and if you are able to sponsor any aspect of our productions, please write to me at: 10 Tabor Road, Colchester CO1 2XA.

Productions on this scale are increasingly expensive and any sponsorship would be gladly accepted helping towards Colchester Operatic Societies' worthwhile future.

Colchester Operatic Society will be performing a musical concert, celebrating its 70th anniversary, at the Colchester Institute in November, with another full scale show, here at the Mercury Theatre, in June next year. CO2's next production will be 'Little Shop of Horrors', at about this time next year. We hope to see you then.

Mark D. Fucham

Chairman

Acknowledgements

Phyl Deeble, Mr. C. Bagley, Tim Mapleston, The Woodbridge School, Arena Leisure Centre, Mr. Jackman - Hamilton Road School, Mercury Theatre, Mr. & Mrs. Dutton - Sunnymead Farm, CAODS, Walker Roast Advertising Ltd, Hythe Offset, Mick Hemstedt, COS Social Committee, Colchester Operatic Society Members and all helpers and CO2 members not mentioned in this programme.

Sound equipment supplied by: mm productions & Theatre Prospects Sound Services

Special thanks are due to all departments of The Mercury Theatre, without whom this production would not have been possible.

Programme compilation: Nick Flower & Lee Carter.

Programme design & artwork: Mick Hemstedt.

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