

autumn
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Seeing really is believing, so I hope to welcome you into our store soon, where you can appreciate the new refurbishment first hand.

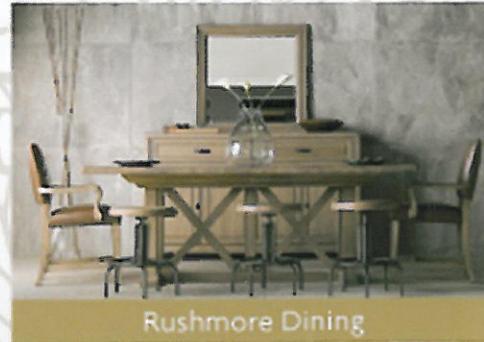
Graham Drysdale
Store Manager



Devon Bedroom



Flooring



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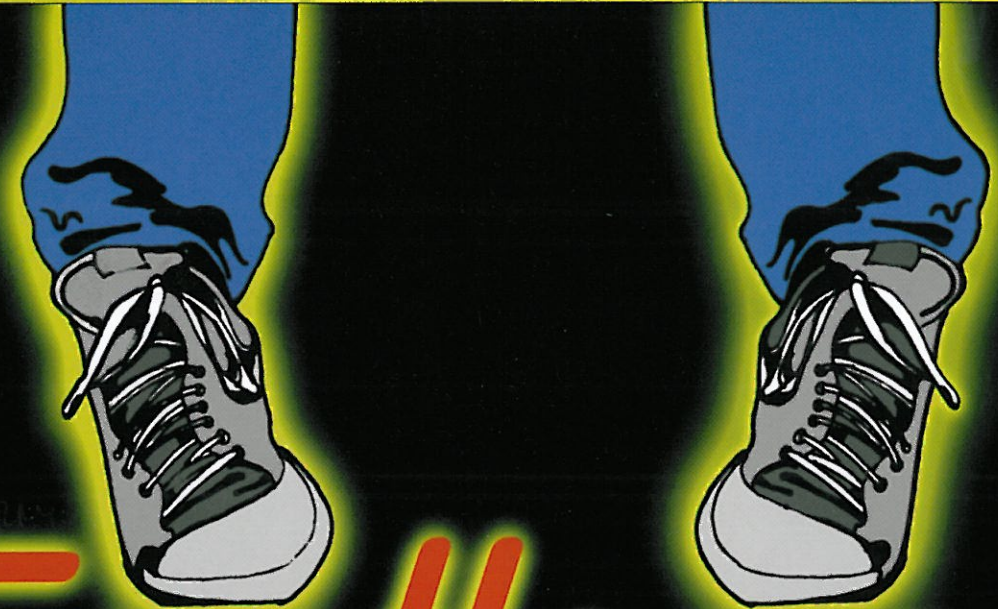
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COLCHESTER OPERATIC SOCIETY
SECOND EDITION (CO2)

PRESENTS



Footloose

MERCURY THEATRE
COLCHESTER

5TH - 9TH

OCTOBER 2010

£2.00



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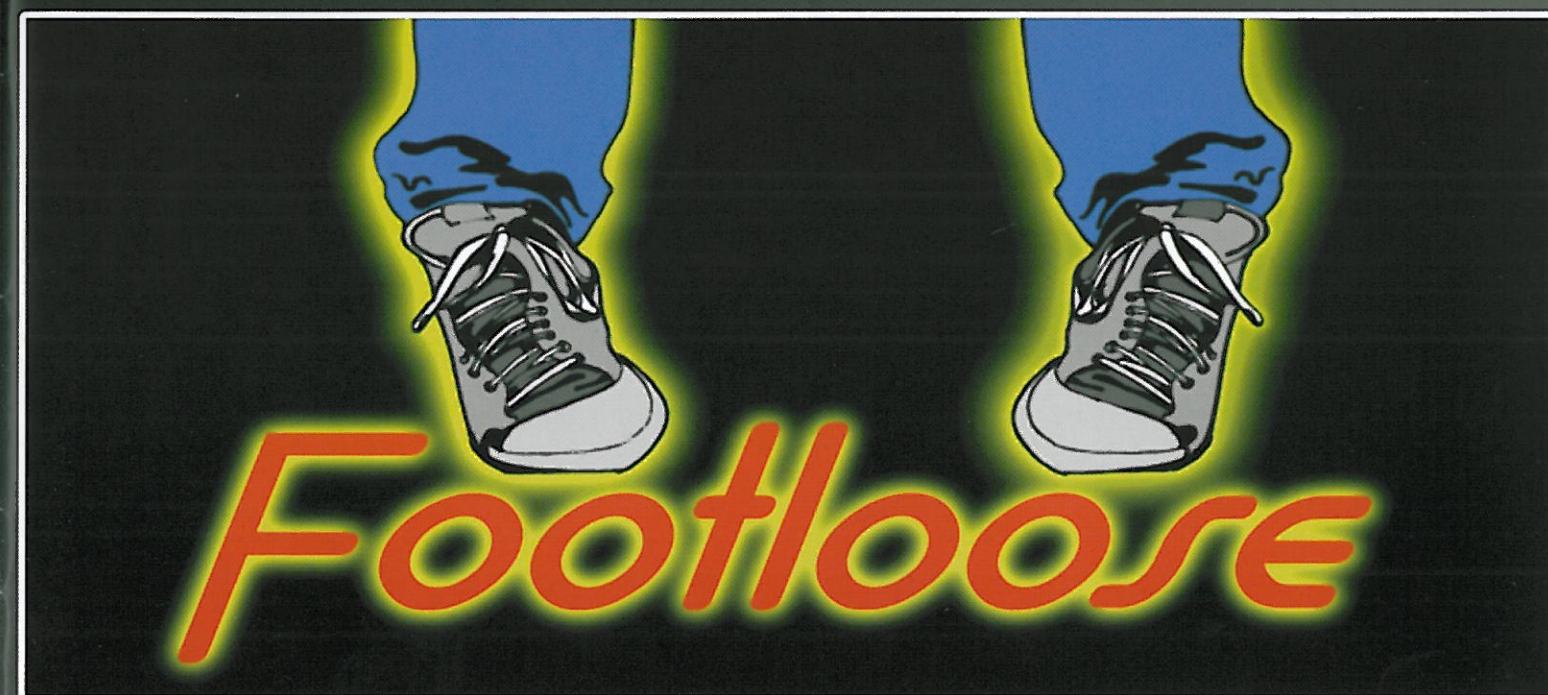
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43 St. John's Street, Colchester, Essex CO2 7AD

Colchester Operatic Society

Second Edition (CO2)

Proudly Present



Stage adaptation by DEAN PITCHFORD and WALTER BOBBIE

Based on the original screenplay by DEAN PITCHFORD

Music by TOM SNOW

Lyrics by DEAN PITCHFORD

Additional music by ERIC CARMEN, SAMMY HAGAR, KENNY LOGGINS and
JIM STEINMAN

An amateur production by arrangement with JOSEF WEINBERGER LIMITED
on behalf of R & H THEATRICALS of New York

Please note that the videoing, photography or sound recording of any part of this performance is not permitted.

PRODUCTION TEAM

DIRECTOR DANI FINCHAM

Dani has been involved on stage and off with CO2 since its creation and is very proud and delighted to be directing this young group of talented performers in our version of "Footloose". It's a fantastically fun and high energy show and the cast have truly risen to the challenge of this hit filled show. It has been her pleasure to, once again, work alongside Leanne and with our new MD for the show, Neil Somerville. CO2 always produces high energy shows and may they continue to do so for many years to come!

DIRECTOR'S ASSISTANT LEANNE FINCHAM

Leanne started dancing aged 4 and is fully trained in R.A.D. Ballet, I.S.T.D. tap and modern. Leanne has been performing in musical theatre all her life and has performed many leading roles with various local societies including several with CO2. She joined Colchester Operatic Society eighteen years ago and counts amongst her favourite roles the part of Anita in CO2's production of 'West Side Story'.

Leanne has been part of the production team for eight society shows and is delighted to be assisting Dani on this production of 'Footloose'.



MUSICAL DIRECTOR NEIL SOMERVILLE

Neil is a freelance Musical Director, singing teacher and vocal coach. He has taught at the Colchester Institute for the last 4 years and also coaches at the London School of Musical Theatre. He joined COS as a cast member in "Fiddler on the Roof", playing Fruma Sarah but is delighted to now be on the production team as Musical Director for "Footloose" where no flying or 15-foot long dresses are involved!

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRPERSON

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the Mercury Theatre and CO2's production of Footloose.

I've been involved with Colchester Operatic for over 10 years, both on stage and back stage but this is my first year as Chairperson of CO2 and it's been an amazing experience. Right from the very beginning of rehearsals it was very clear that we had a very talented cast.

Our Director & Choreographer Dani Fincham, her assistant Leanne Fincham and our Musical Director Neil Somerville have stretched the talents of this young group of actors and I thank them for all their hard work.

I would also like to thank the CO2 committee for their hard work and support, also a big thank you to everyone who has been involved with this production.

And finally I would like to thank you, our audience, for your continued support to CO2.

Enjoy the show

Ann Mills, Chairperson CO2

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COLCHESTER OPERATIC COMMITTEES

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Business Manager – Mark Fincham

Secretary – Elizabeth Thorne

Treasurer – Norman Ryan

Membership Secretary/Vice Chair – Colin Thorne

Members

Barbara Pears, Maggie Walton, Barbara Scully, Caroline Fritz, John Davies, Ann Mills, Steven Chan

CO2

Chairperson – Ann Mills

Business Manager – Mark Fincham

Secretary – Dianne Emberton

Treasurer – Norman Ryan

Membership Secretary – Trevor Walton

Members

Michael Spurgeon, Jenna Saiz, Ben Powell, Rhys McDowall, Richard Bland

THE CAST



CAST BIOGS

PHIL YOUNG

REN MCCORMACK

Since joining in 2005, Phil has been a stalwart of the society, playing such parts as Bernado in 'West Side Story', Jesus in 'Godspell', Kashogi in 'We Will Rock You' and Steve in 'Summer Holiday' for CO2 and Motel in 'Fiddler on the Roof' for COS. Phil has also worked with a number of other local theatre groups, more recently winning Best Actor in the NETG One Act Play Festival with the Colchester Theatre group. He hopes to continue to flourish in performing arts at a professional capacity.

RHYS MCDOWALL

WILLARD HEWITT

Rhys has been performing and working backstage with CO2 and COS since CO2's production of 'West Side Story' in 2005. He has played a number of roles in numerous shows and always enjoys working with the society. This year, Rhys was accepted into Mountview Academy of Theatre Arts where he will embark on a BA (Hons) Technical Theatre course in September 2011. He then hopes to go on to achieve an MA in Technical Theatre. Rhys is the Chairperson of local theatre group 'Mad Hatter Productions' and hopes to continue its recent success.

JASON HENDERSON

REVEREND SHAW

'Footloose' marks Jason's first show with CO2 and he is thrilled to be playing Reverend Shaw. Recently he has appeared as Oberon in 'A Midsummer Night's Dream', at Colchester Institute, and in the Mercury Theatre Company's 'Depot' last year. Jason has performed, on several occasions, at Her Majesty's Theatre, both with Frinton Musical Theatre and StarFX. In the future he plans to continue studying performing arts locally before auditioning for drama schools. He would like to thank his family for their support, especially his mum.

JENNA SAIZ

ETHEL MCCORMACK

This year's production of 'Footloose' marks Jenna's fourteenth show with COS and CO2. Her first role was back in 2002, appearing as Molly in CO2's production of 'Annie'. Since then, she has appeared in shows such as 'We Will Rock You', 'West Side Story' and 'The Wiz' playing the role of Dorothy. She has also appeared as Audrey in 'Little Shop of Horrors' at Philip Morant College. Jenna is a member of the management team for local theatre group 'Mad Hatter Productions' and recently played the role of Mrs Smith in their production of 'The Bald Prima Donna', receiving a nomination for Best Young Actress from the North Essex Theatre Guild.

HANNAH SHAYLE-KENNEDY

URLEEN

Hannah has been a member of CO2 since 2007, appearing in 'We Will Rock You', 'Summer Holiday' and 'The Wiz', playing the role of Glinda. She has also performed as the voice on the plant (Audrey II) in 'Little Shop of Horrors' at Philip Morant College. This year marked the release of 'Kennedy Green', a charity album Hannah recorded last year with Rocket Girl Records. Hannah has just finished her diploma in Musical Theatre and is currently taking a gap year before auditioning for drama school next year.

RACHEL WOOD

ARIEL MOORE

Rachel joined CO2 in 2007, landing the role of Scaramouche in CO2's award-winning production of 'We Will Rock You'. The following year she played Barbara in 'Summer Holiday'. Rachel is thrilled to have been cast as Ariel in this year's show, 'Footloose'. She has just finished a BA (Hons) in Musical Theatre at Colchester Institute, where she also played Holly in 'The Wedding Singer'. Rachel would like to thank CO2 for everything and the lucky person sitting in Row B, Seat 12!

ALEX JOHNSON

RUSTY

Alex has been a member of CO2 for four years, first appearing in 'We Will Rock You'. Since then she has appeared as Alma in 'Summer Holiday' and Addaperle in 'The Wiz'. Other credits include Sarah Brown in 'Guys and Dolls' and Maria in 'West Side Story' at Philip Morant College, Audrey in 'Little Shop of Horrors' for Mad Hatter Productions as well as Mrs Martin in 'The Bald Prima Donna', receiving a nomination for Best Young Actress from the North Essex Theatre Guild. Alex was also recently involved in the National Youth Theatre.

MELANIE GREANEY

VI MOORE

'Footloose' marks Melanie's first performance with CO2. Mel is originally from Lowestoft but is currently studying a BA (Hons) in Musical Theatre at Colchester Institute and plans to move on to studying further at drama school. Other recent roles and productions include Miss Flannery in 'Thoroughly Modern Millie', Trish in 'Boogie Nights', 'Jekyll and Hyde' and 'My Fair Lady', all with the Lowestoft Players. She would like to thank the cast for being so welcoming and is certain that 'Footloose' won't be her last show with the society.

MICHAEL WISEMAN

CHUCK CRANSTON

This year's production is Michael's first show with CO2. Michael trained at Arts Ed and has performed in a number of professional productions including the Bill Kenwright Tour of 'Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat', the UK Tour of 'Chicago' and in countless pantomimes all over. He's also appeared on the Pam Ann Show. Michael is now in the army and starts his first tour of Afghanistan at the end of this month. He played the role of Ren in 'Footloose' at drama school and has thoroughly enjoyed revisiting the show.

LAUREN CARNE

WENDY JO

'Footloose' is Lauren's first show with CO2 and has enjoyed every minute of the experience. Lauren moved to Colchester to study for her degree in Musical Theatre, of which she is now in her final year. Over the years, Lauren has performed with various theatre companies, appearing in shows such as 'We Will Rock You' and 'Guys and Dolls'. Lauren has a great passion for camera work and has produced several short films. In the future, Lauren hopes to venture further into camera work by taking an MA course at a film school in London or the US.

CAST LIST

CAST LIST



Alice Light
Studio Singer



Sarah Lloyd
Chorus



Fred Lodge
Hero and Chorus



Jessica Lovelock
Betty Blast and
Chorus



Katherine May
Studio Singer



Rhys McDowall
Willard Hewitt



Kirsten
Abo-Henriksen
Chorus



Chris Ager
Travis and Chorus



Helen Ager
Chorus



David Ayton
Studio Singer



Sophie Baines
Lulu Warnicker and
Studio Singer



Arianna Bland
Studio Singer



Ava Meyer
Chorus



Toby Mugford
Studio Singer



William Mugford
Chorus



Leanne Nagle
Principle Clarke



Fran Oldacre
Studio Singer



Ben Powell
Wes Warnicker/
Cowboy Bob



Richard Bland
Lyle, Hero and
Chorus



Lauren Carne
Wendy-Jo



Alex Carter
Chorus



Holy Cavill
Chorus



Emily Dixon
Chorus



Ella Djurovich
Studio Singer



Jenna Saiz
Ethel McCormack



Amy Secker
Chorus



Hannah Shayle-
Kennedy
Urleen



Eleanor Sippings
Chorus



Daniella Smith
Studio Singer



Thomas Snipe
Coach Dunbar



Natalie Ellis
Studio Singer



Barney Fritz
Chorus



Lily Fritz
Chorus



Ali Fusi
Chorus



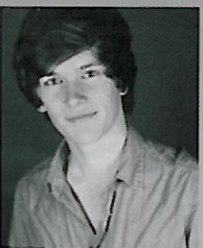
Robert Gathercole
Chorus



Mel Greaney
Vi Moore



Will Tamblyn
Jeter, Hero and
Chorus



Robbie Taylor-
Hunt
Police officer, Hero
and Chorus



Harry Totham
Hero and Chorus



Rosina Turner
Chorus



Emma Ward
Eleanor Dunbar



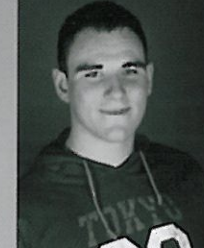
Miriam Welfare
Chorus



Shannon Hannah
Studio Singer



George Harvison
Chorus



Jason Henderson
Reverend Shaw
Moore



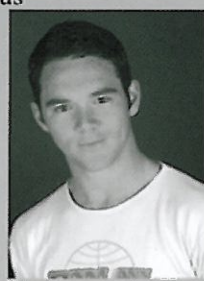
Alex Highfield
Garvin, Hero and
Chorus



Katherine
Hinchcliffe
Chorus



Emily-May Hyde
Chorus



Michael Wiseman
Chuck Cranston,
Hero and Chorus



Rachel Wood
Ariel Moore



Phil Young
Ren McCormack



Matt Jewson
Bickle, Hero and
Chorus



Alex Johnson
Rusty



Shane King
Ren McCormack
Understudy

SYNOPSIS

ACT ONE

An ordinary city kid (Ren) makes his final visit to a Chicago Dance Club where he tells his friends that he and his mother Ethel are moving to a small town named Bomont. Once there, Ren and Ethel meet Reverend Shaw Moore, a conservative minister who is a big authority figure in the town. After a long sermon lambasting the evils of "rock and roll" music, the Reverend's daughter, Ariel, runs off to meet her boyfriend Chuck Cranston, who is, for lack of a better term, trailer trash. While they embrace, the Reverend shows up and catches Chuck with his hands around his daughter, much to his annoyance.

The next day, Ren shows up for school and becomes friends with Willard Hewitt, a slow-witted local. Ren tells Willard about the dancing he used to do in Chicago but is interrupted by Principal Clark, who angrily explains that dancing is illegal in Bomont. After Willard manages to get Ren out of further trouble, Rusty, who's got a major crush on Willard, and her friends Wendy Jo and Urleen, explain to a bemused Ren that dancing is illegal after Reverend Moore passed a law forbidding dance after losing his son in a car accident.

Later, Ariel returns home to a disgruntled Shaw, who stubbornly ignores her. Exasperated, she leaves the room, leaving the Reverend and Vi, his wife, alone to bicker over her. Shaw expresses his concern over Ariel's relationship with Chuck Cranston, but when Vi attempts to assure him their fling will soon cool down, he silences her and storms off.

We then find ourselves at the Burger Blast, where Ren has just been hired to work. Ariel, Rusty and their friends are at the restaurant doing homework and when Ren takes Ariel's order, she flirts with him. Willard warns Ren that Chuck Cranston would not be happy if Ren were to become involved with Ariel. Soon Chuck shows up in a fury and starts to yell at Ariel. Ren and Willard come to her defence, but it is Betty Blast, the owner of the restaurant, who breaks up the fight.

After Ren gets off work, Ariel takes him to her secret place beneath the train tracks where she discusses her hatred of Bomont. Afterwards, Ren walks her home, catching the Reverend and Vi by surprise, as they believed that Ariel was at home all evening. Despite Shaw's displeasure at his daughter's disobedience, a nervous Ren absentmindedly insults him in an attempt to ease his worries, causing all of Shaw's friends to dash off. An irritated Shaw then sternly orders Ariel to cease her visits with him, but Ariel retaliates, claiming that he is doing no more than make her feel like a prisoner.

At school the next day, Ren shows up late to gym class with Ariel and Willard who try to tell Coach Dunbar that Ren was attacked by a small gang, but the teacher won't listen. Ren laments that the citizens of Bomont are so "wound up", muttering that at least in Chicago he had the clubs to turn to in times of stress. Ren then realises that throwing a dance would be the perfect way to alleviate the teenagers' pressures, while at the same time making a statement to Reverend Moore and the town council. Ren reveals his plan to throw a dance to all of the students, eventually winning them over. Word catches on to Reverend Shaw, who, as the one responsible for banning it to begin with, is determined to do anything within his power to ensure that it does not happen.

ACT TWO

Ren, Ariel, Willard, and Rusty are in a town miles from Bomont where there is a big dance hall, complete with a country band. Rusty repeatedly attempts to dance with Willard, but he weasels his way out, dragging Ren off to the bar to get drinks. There, he explains to Ren that he doesn't know how to dance. Rusty overhears them, and so do several cowboys, who begin to mock Willard. Rusty comes to his defence, saying that he might not be perfect, but she loves him. Ren then tries to teach Willard to dance, who, after much initial stumbling and apprehension, whips off an amazing dance combination, much to Rusty's surprise. When Ren brings Ariel home, Shaw is extremely angry with her for seeing Ren.

Meanwhile, Ren, Willard, and their friends are trying to find a way to present their idea to the town council. Ren is extremely discouraged and considers forgetting the whole idea. Willard gives Ren some advice that his mother told him and explains that he can't back down. Just as Ren's confidence has built up, Ariel shows up with a black eye and tells Ren that Chuck beat her up. Willard and his friends go off to find Chuck, and Ren comforts Ariel. Ariel gives Ren a Bible with various passages he can use for his motion. It is then they both realize they've fallen in love with each other.

At the town council meeting, Ren stands up and explains to the council, that dancing is written about in the Bible and should not be illegal. Ren is favourably supported, but the members don't listen and the motion is dismissed.

After the meeting, Ren's mother explains that Shaw had those votes locked no matter what, and she suggests

for Ren to go talk to him. Ren goes to the pastor's house on the suggestion of his mother and explains to Reverend Moore that he should not take his anguish about his son's death out on the entire town. They argue, but when Ren points out that they're both dealing with loss—Rev. Moore's loss of his son, Ren's loss of his father—they realize a common bond. Ren leaves, but, struck by Ren's insight, Rev. Moore struggles with what to do.

At the next service, Shaw tells the whole congregation that he is going to allow the teenagers to hold a dance. Ren asks Ariel to the dance and Willard invites Rusty, telling her that he is even willing to dance with her. After the crowd leaves, Vi and Shaw are left alone, where Shaw tells Vi how much he loves her and how he has made many mistakes in the past. The Reverend, his wife, and even the townsfolk then attend the dance that Ren had fought for.



SCENES AND MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT ONE

Scene 1 - City of Chicago

"Footloose"* - Ren and Company
Town of Bomont Church

"On Any Sunday" - Rev. Shaw Moore and Company

Scene 2 - Church Yard

"The Girl Gets Around"** - Chuck, Ariel, Travis and Lyle

Scene 3 - Moore Home

Scene 4 - High School Hallway

"I Can't Stand Still" - Ren

Scene 5 - Areas of Bomont

"Somebody's Eyes" - Rusty, Wendy Jo, Urleen and Company

Scene 6 - Moore Home

"Learning To Be Silent" - Vi, Ethel, Ariel

Scene 7 - Burger Blast Restaurant

"Holding Out for a Hero"+.....Ariel, Rusty, Wendy Jo and Urleen

Scene 8 - Plains of Bomont

Scene 9 - Moore Home

"Somebody's Eyes" (reprise) - Rusty, Wendy Jo and Urleen

"Heaven Help Me" - Shaw

Scene 10 - High School Gymnasium

ACT TWO

Scene 1 - The "Bar-B-Q" Country & Western Bar

"Still Rocking" - Cowboy Bob and his Band
"Let's Hear It for the Boy" - Rusty and Company

Scene 2 - Moore Home

"Can You Find It in Your Heart?" - Vi

Scene 3 - Lot Behind the Feed and Fuel

"Dancing is Not a Crime" - Ren and the Boys
"Mama Says" - Willard, Jeter, Bickle and Garvin

Scene 4 - The Potawney Bridge

"Almost Paradise"++ - Ren and Ariel

Scene 5 - Bomont Town Hall

Scene 6 - Moore Home

"Heaven Help Me" (reprise) - Shaw

Scene 7 - Church

"Can You Find It in Your Heart?" (reprise) - Shaw

Scene 8 - High School Gymnasium

"Footloose"* (reprise) - Company

All music by Tom Snow except: *Kenny Loggins, **Sammy Hagar, +Jim Steinman and ++Eric Carmen

SHOW HISTORY

Footloose, completed in 1998, is a musical based on the 1984 film of the same name starring Kevin Bacon. "Footloose - The Musical" opened at Broadway's Richard Rogers Theatre on October 22nd 1998, running for 709 performances until July 2nd 2000. The show was directed by Walter Bobbie and choreographed by A. C. Ciulla. "Footloose" received, at best, mixed critical reception though it was reasonably successful. "Footloose" has developed a strong following since its release and has been one of the most frequently performed school musicals in recent years in the United States.

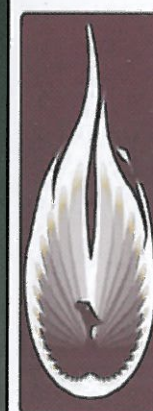
The London production of "Footloose - The Musical" opened at the Novello Theatre on The Strand following two regional tours across the United Kingdom. It premiered on April 18th 2006 following previews from April 8th 2006. Directed by Karen Bruce, the creative team included Morgan Large designing sets and costumes, James Whiteside as lighting designer and Mike Dixon and Chris Egan as musical supervisors. After playing to packed houses, the production closed on November 11th 2006 when the theatre became unavailable for a longer run. After completing its third UK tour, it returned to the West End where it played from August 17th 2007 to December 6th 2007 at the Playhouse Theatre. On March 6th 2008 it returned from its hiatus for a short run in London before beginning a fourth UK tour in August 2008, ending in the December of the same year.



Stevie Tate-Bauer, Rusty in London's original West End production of 'Footloose', wishes the cast of CO2 the best of luck in this year's performance.

PAST PRODUCTIONS

1984	Grease	1997	The Wiz
1985	The Wiz	1999	Rock Nativity
1986	The Boyfriend	2000	Fame
1987	Bye Bye Birdie	2001	Guys & Dolls
1988	West Side Story	2002	Annie
1989	Godspell	2003	42 nd Street
1990	Guys & Dolls	2004	Hot Mikado
1991	Grease	2005	West Side Story
1992	Anything Goes	2006	Godspell
1993	Annie	2007	We Will Rock You
1994	42 nd Street	2008	Summer Holiday
1995	West Side Story	2009	The Wiz
1996	Little Shop of Horrors		



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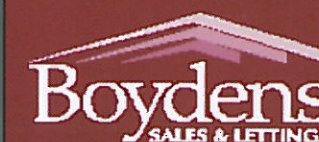
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Committee and Members of Colchester Operatic Society and CO2 would like to express their thanks to all those who contributed to this production through their help in the Green Room, Front of House and Chaperoning the cast.

Thanks to Dee Evans and The Mercury Staff

The Arena Leisure Centre

Rollerworld, Eastgates for loan of Roller skates

Colourfast-Europe for printing of Posters, Flyers and Programme

Banners by NES Visual Thinking

Artwork by Jo Woolf

Sound Equipment supplied by MM Productions Ltd

To all companies who have advertised in our programme

The Orchestra

Neil Somerville – 1st Keyboard and Musical Director

Daniel Law – 2nd Keyboard

Jane Elston – Reeds

Martin Donald – Guitar

Rob Paterson – Bass

Andy Dowding – Drums

Lighting Designed by Jim Bowman

Sound Designed By Martyn J Hunt

Production Sound Engineer Graham Hounsell

Assistant Production Sound Chris Barrell

No1 Sound Martyn Hunt

Sound Assistant for CO2 Joe Hawken

Stage Director Mike Spurgeon

Stage Crew Terry Lyons, Alan Lerner, Bob Wilkinson, Gareth Gwyn-Jones and Ashley Gobot

Prompt Emma Ward and Juliet Turner

Wardrobe Mistress Ros Pike
With thanks to: The Gilbert School
and Mad Hatter Productions

Properties Manager Maggie Walton

Hair Tansie Hyde

Make up Lucie Ward and Ellen Goriup

Backstage Team Christine Warrenner, Clare Edwards, Lucie Ward, Joseph Brazier, Diane Emberton, Ellen Goriup, Alice Milne and Rebecca Knight

Green Room Barbara Scully assisted by members of the Society

Front of House Trevor Walton and members of the Society

Photographer Sally Parkinson

Publicity Barbara Pears assisted by Ben Powell and Rhys McDowall

Programme Rhys McDowall

Chaperones Trevor Walton, Diane Emberton, Tracy Hunt, Tansie Hyde, Sue Johnson, Rhys McDowall, Ann Mills Ros Pike, Ben Powell, Jenna Saiz, Maggie Walton and Sarah Young

FUTURE PRODUCTIONS

Colchester Operatic Society Presents



Wed 26th Jan – Sat 5th Feb 2011

Colchester Operatic Society Presents

Sweeney Todd

The Demon Barber of Fleet Street

7.30pm Wednesday 26 January – Saturday 5 February 2011
Saturday Matinees 2.30pm

Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim. Book by Hugh Wheeler from an adaptation by Christopher Bond. Original directed by Harold Prince. Originally produced on Broadway by Richard Barr, Charles Woodward, Robert Fryer, Mary Lea Johnson, Martin Richards, in association with Dean and Judy Manos.

This Amateur Production is presented by arrangement with Josef Weinberger Ltd. on behalf of MUSIC THEATER INTERNATIONAL of NEW YORK.

Not suitable for children under twelve


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