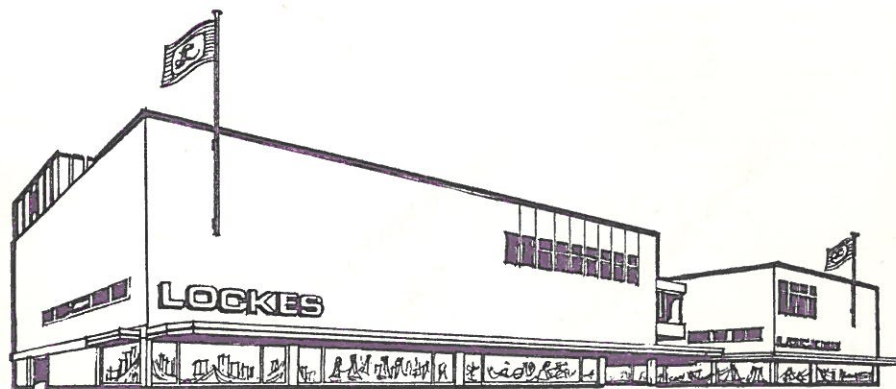


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The Count of Luxembourg

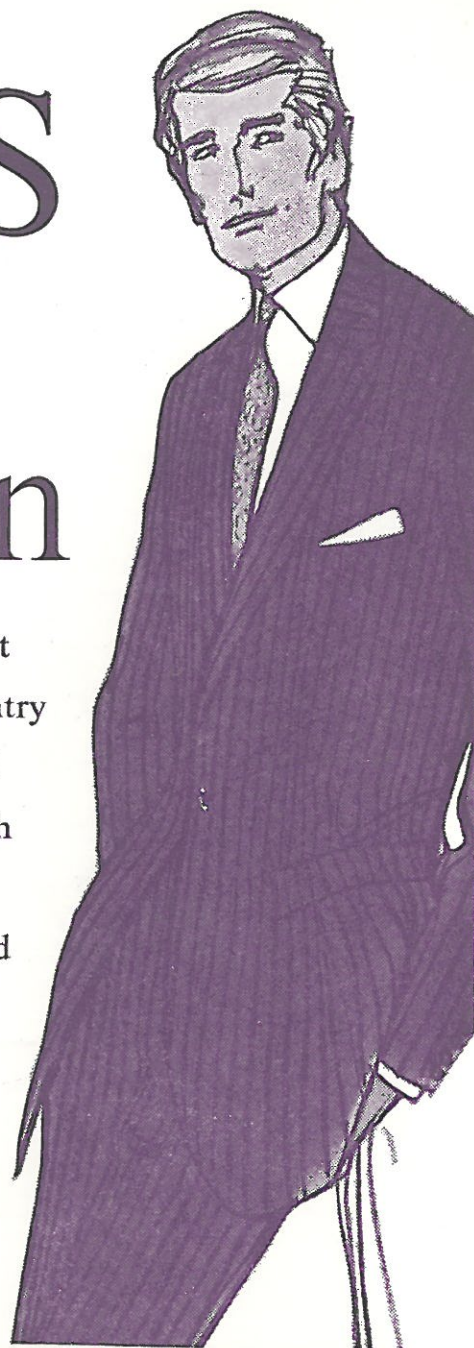


Colchester Operatic and
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The Story

RENE, Count of Luxembourg, is an incorrigible spendthrift who has run through one fortune after another. He is now an aspiring painter in Paris, and sharing his studio with his friend, Andre Brissard, an ex pastrycook, who is now an unsuccessful painter. His girl friend and model is Juliette. The play is set at the turn of the century, and as it opens it is carnival time—a night of wild and careless merrymaking. The Count is crowned "King of Carnival". Brissard and Juliette are not amongst the revellers—they are trying to sell some paintings.

Into these festivities come three sinister characters, two secret agents and a local Registrar of Marriages. They are the representatives of the Grand Duke Basil, a Russian aristocrat, for whom they are trying to arrange a marriage for Angele Didier, an opera singer. Curiously enough Basil is in love with Angele, and yet he wishes to arrange this marriage! The explanation is that since Russian court procedure makes it impossible for him to marry a commoner, the Grand Duke is in search of an aristocrat who will give Angele his title, and after three months' pretence of marriage, allow himself to be divorced for desertion. For these services he will receive a substantial sum of money.

The man chosen for this marriage is the Count of Luxembourg, because of his financial distress. Angele is beautiful but disillusioned. She also finds the Grand Duke rather a bore, but is prepared to settle for his great title and money. She accepts the fact that she will be married with a screen between herself and the stranger who is to make her a real Countess.

All seems to be proceeding according to plan, until just before the three months expires, when Rene and Angele meet at a reception, not knowing they are, in fact, man and wife, and fall hopelessly in love with each other. The problem seems insoluble as Angele tells Rene that she is already married, and engaged to someone else. The Grand Duke arrives at the reception full of excitement that tomorrow he will make Angele his Grand Duchess.

However, into the garden sweeps an elegant stranger, the Princess Kokosov from Russia. She is looking for Basil to whom she declares she was betrothed as a girl, and "in Russia an engagement is for ever". To Basil's chagrin, she claims him as her husband-to-be, which leaves Rene and Angele free to share their love, and live happily as the Count and Countess of Luxembourg.



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ALAN MERRILL

ANGELE
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1926 MIKADO	1938 COUNTRY GIRL	1957 WHITE HORSE INN
1927 PRINCESS IDA	1946 BEGGARS' OPERA	1958 SUMMER SONG
1929 IOLANTHE	1947 TOM JONES	1959 THE MERRY WIDOW
1930 YEOMEN OF THE GUARD	THE ARCADIAN	1960 SONG OF NORWAY
1931 TRIAL BY JURY and PIRATES OF PENZANCE	1948 WALTZ DREAM	1961 NAUGHTY MARIETTA
LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE	1949 NEW MOON	1962 THE DANCING YEARS
1932 QUAKER GIRL	1950 THE WIND AND RAIN	1963 KISMET
1933 MIKADO	THE DESERT SONG	1964 THE MOST HAPPY FELLA
1934 GONDOLIERS	1951 THE STUDENT PRINCE	1965 THEY CAME TO A CITY
1935 MERRIE ENGLAND	1952 HARMONY HILL	THE STUDENT PRINCE
1936 DUCHESS OF DANZIG	1953 SHOW BOAT	1966 HAY FEVER
	1954 BRIGADOON	LA BELLE HELENE
	1955 PINK CHAMPAGNE	1967 CAROUSEL

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TOM JONES at the Moot Hall, Colchester, 11th and 12th April, 1969



BASIL
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ANGELE
JUNE HARRISON



RENE
ALAN MERRILL

JULIETTE
GILLIAN PLUMTREE

BRISSARD
MERVYN HARRIDENCE

The Colchester Operatic and Dramatic Society

presents

The Count of Luxembourg

(AN OPERETTA IN THREE ACTS)

By A. M. Willner and R. Bodansky

Translated and adapted by: ERIC MASCHWITZ

Music arranged and adapted by: BERNARD GRUN

Music by FRANZ LEHÁR

ACT ONE

The Studio of Rene and Brissard

1. Prologue—Carnival RENE, CHORUS & DANCERS
2. Two Millionaires on
the Rue D'Amour JULIETTE AND BRISSARD
3. Mardi Gras JULIETTE AND CHORUS
4. Exit of Rene
5. I'm so in Love BASIL, MENTCHIKOFF,
PAVLOVITCH AND PELEGRIN
6. A Cool
Half Million Francs RENE, BASIL, MENTCHIKOFF,
PAVLOVITCH AND PELEGRIN
7. Fancy Free ANGELE
8. Finale, Act I THE COMPANY

INTERVAL (15 minutes)

ACT TWO

The Entrance Hall of Angele's House—three months later

9. Hail, Angele ANGELE AND CHORUS
10. I know this must be Love .. ANGELE, RENE AND CHORUS

ACT TWO—continued

11. Lip to Lip JULIETTE AND BRISSARD
12. The Rosebud and the Bee .. BASIL, GIRLS AND DANCERS
13. The Glove Song RENE
14. Razzle-Dazzle Basil BASIL AND JULIETTE
15. Finale, Act II BASIL, RENE, ANGELE,
BRISSARD AND GUESTS

INTERVAL (10 minutes)

ACT THREE

The Champagne Garden of the Grand Hotel—same evening

16. The Champagne Call SAVILLE AND GUESTS
17. Reprise: The Rue D'Amour .. SAVILLE, JULIETTE
AND MARCHAND
18. First Love PRINCESS KOKOSOV,
RENE AND ANGELE
19. Finale THE COMPANY

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ANGELE
JUNE HARRISON

RENE
ALAN MERRILL



BASIL
MAURICE BOND

PRINCESS KOKOSOV
FREDA EVANS



VERNE MORGAN

The Count of Luxembourg

Production Directed

by

Verne Morgan

CAST

RENE, COUNT OF LUXEMBOURG	Alan Merrill
BRISSARD, A PASTRY-COOK, TURNED ARTIST	Mervyn Harridence
JULIETTE, A MODEL	Gillian Plumtree
SAVILLE, AN ASPIRING PAINTER	Les Porter
MARCHAND, AN ASPIRING SCULPTOR	John Enfield
PELEGRIN, A REGISTRAR OF MARRIAGES	Joseph Robinson
MENTCHIKOFF, SECRET AGENT	Colin Thorne
PAVLOVITCH, SECRET AGENT	Derek Massey
H.R.H. THE GRAND DUKE BASIL, A RUSSIAN ARISTOCRAT	Maurice Bond
ANGELE DIDIER, AN OPERA SINGER	June Harrison
MOUCHOIR, HER MAJOR-DOMO	John Rowntree
CAZENOVE	Thomas Berry
PORTER	John Rowntree
PRINCESS KOKOSOV	Freda Evans
JO-JO	Vicky Giles

Hon. Stage Director: G. M. Dowrick

Hon. Stage Manager: David Snow

Hon. Property Mistress: Muriel Pearce

Hon. Asst. Property Mistress: Audrey Davies

Hon. Wardrobe Mistress: Margaret Berry

Hon. Asst. Wardrobe Mistress: Margaret Kellet

Hon. Prompters: Phyl Blanc and Ann Platten

Hon. Call Boy: Rosemary Keeling

Hon. Make-up Team: Eva Palmer, Phyllis Baker, Dorothy Rendell

Perruquier: Dulcis Todd

Hon. Box Office Manager: Barbara Gentry

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Stage Lighting by: Martin Dye, Chris Dye, Doug Banham, Paul Hunter, Colin Tracey

Additional Stage Lighting by: Strand Electric and Engineering Co. Ltd.

Photographs by: West End Studio

Programme Sales: Marjorie Chattey



MENTCHIKOFF
COLIN THORNE
PAVLOVITCH
DEREK MASSEY

PELEGRIN
JOSEPH ROBINSON
RENE
ALAN MERRILL



MARCHAND
JOHN ENFIELD

JULIETTE
GILLIAN PLUMTREE

SAVILLE
LES PORTER

Musical Direction

by

Roy Budden

Hon. Chorus Master: DON SCOTT

Ensemble Choreography by: VERNE MORGAN

Choreography by: DOREEN BRADBROOK



ROY BUDDEN

CHORUS

Daphne Bandy
Rosemary Bland
Mary Caughey
Kathleen Davey
Jane Evans
Valda Geater
Pamela Gibson
Janet Goody

Doreen Hammerton
Jenny Inns
Margaret Lambert
Ada Lees
Joan Maxey
Pamela Mills
Doris Redhouse
Winifred Roden
Judith Rowley

Heather Rush
Edna Scottow
Olive Siggery
Heather Smith
Marion Spurgeon
Doreen Tubby
Marion Turner
Helen Woodhurst

John Belcher
Thomas Berry
John Evans

R. John Evans
Jim Hill
David Marris

Harry Pope
Dennis Rainbird
Geoffrey Wibberley

DANCERS

Ann Dye
Heather Elias
Judy Fitt
Mary Foster
John Belcher

Jennie Horrocks
Fiona Hunt
Angela Millbank
Hilary Motson
Alan Hodgson
Michael Spurgeon

Karen Munns
Susan Reed
Jennifer Spurgeon
Adrienne Scottow
John Rowntree

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Led by: REGINALD MORLEY



JULIETTE
GILLIAN PLUMTREE

BRISSARD
MERVYN HARRIDENCE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

THE SOCIETY expresses grateful thanks to all who have helped in this production, and particularly acknowledges the co-operation and assistance of the undermentioned:

Mr. H. W. PEARCE, for cover design.
Pianists at rehearsals—Margaret Notley, Jose Cavender and Audrey Davies.
Messrs. JOHN WARRELL, for Theatre Flower arrangements.
Mr. JOHN LOWE, Hon. Solicitor.
Messrs. BENSUSAN-BUTT, EVES AND CO., Hon. Auditors, for professional services.
The Manager and the Staff of the RED LION HOTEL for co-operation during rehearsals.
The Management and Staff of the ABC CINEMA.
The Electricians, Scenery Staff and all Back Stage Assistants.
The Society's Non-Playing Members for their loyal support and assistance in the sale of programmes, booking office, publicity and other essential duties.
The team of willing helpers who provide refreshments during this week.
ALL PAST and PRESENT SUPPORTERS whose patronage enables the Society to continue its Productions.
THE COLCHESTER UNITED FOOTBALL SUPPORTERS' CLUB, for their much appreciated publicity.
WEST END STUDIO—Official Photographers to the Society.
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