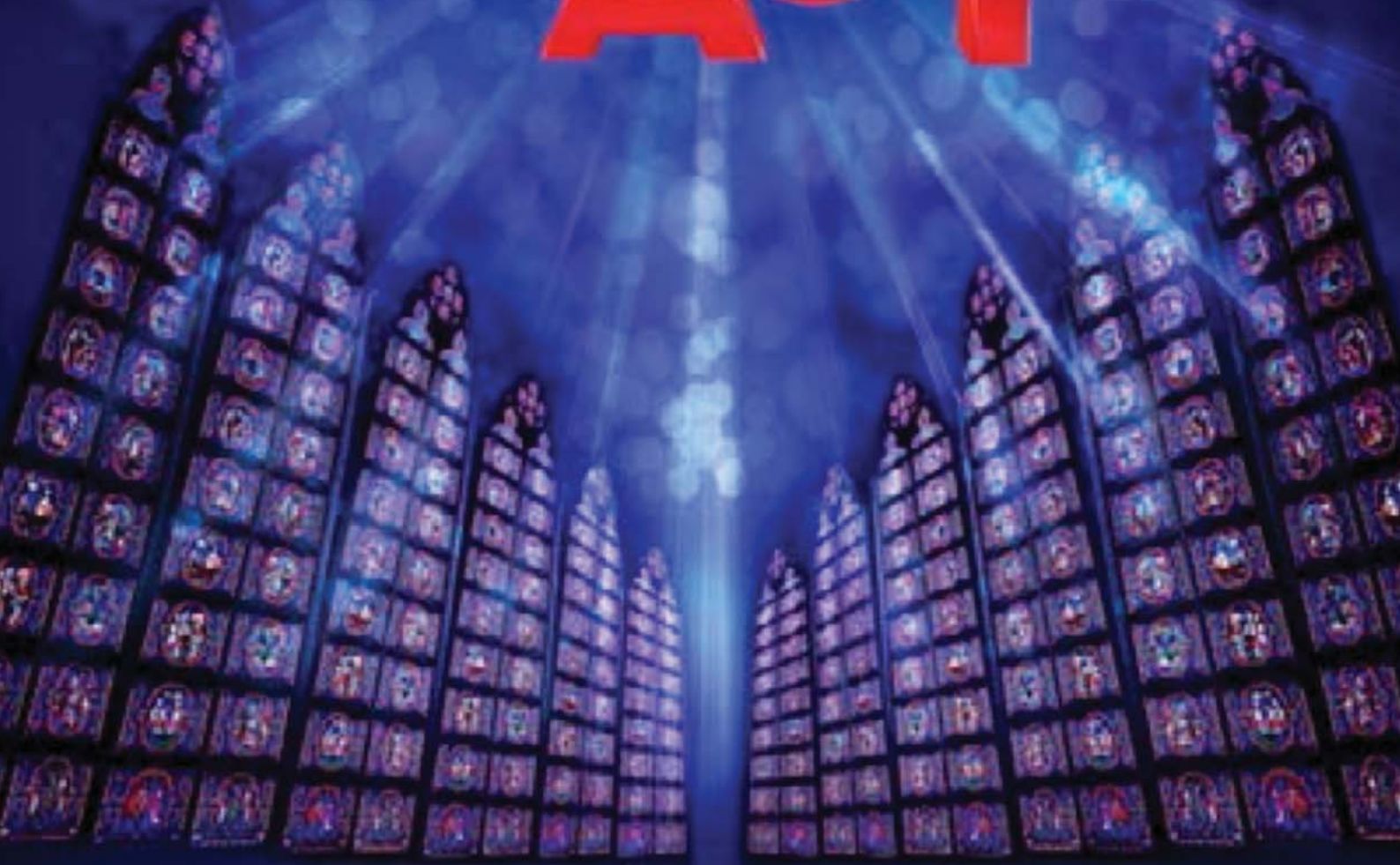


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SISTER ACT



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JANUARY 20TH-30TH 2016

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SOCIAL

The club boasts two lounge bars. 'Court Lounge' (ground floor) and the 'Terrace lounge' (1st floor bar) which has a large terrace overlooking the club grounds where one can perhaps enjoy a refreshing drink following a game of tennis or squash. The restaurant is open every day for morning coffee, lunches, afternoon tea and dinner. Throughout the year there is a busy events calendar offering a wide range of activities including theme evenings, dances, quiz nights, wine tastings and dine ins with guest speakers.

MEMBERSHIP

There are basically two categories of membership.

Playing Members are entitled to use all the facilities of the club.

Social Members are entitled to use all facilities except Tennis, Squash and Swimming.

Special membership rates apply for families and officers, or widows of officers.

Colchester Officer's Club members benefit from a wide range of sporting and social activities

TENNIS

We have six all weather tennis courts at the club of which three are floodlit.

SQUASH

Two squash courts which have been fully refurbished to a high standard.

BRIDGE

A weekly duplicate bridge competition on Friday afternoon, plus a Tuesday rubber bridge afternoon, offering bridge for the less experienced players in a more relaxed atmosphere.

GOLF

The Golf Fellowship gives club members an opportunity to experience a variety of golf courses both locally and abroad in sociable company. Each season culminates in a mens' and ladies' competition awards night dinner.

SWIMMING

A Friday afternoon session at the Garrison swimming pool.

SNOOKER

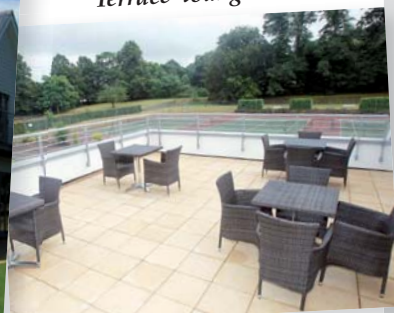
A dedicated snooker room offering the opportunity for gentle but concentrated relaxation.

VENUE HIRE

The club is available for private events including parties, weddings, dinners, conferences and other smaller gatherings.



Snooker room.



'Terrace' lounge area.

SISTER ACT

Music by

Lyrics by

ALAN MENKEN

GLENN SLATER

Book by

CHERI STEINKELLNER
& BILL STEINKELLNER

DOUGLAS CARTER BEANE

written by Joseph Howard

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Tom Ware, Producing Director

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SISTER ACT

Welcome to The Mercury Theatre and our production of Sister Act.

We are blessed in Colchester with a very active arts scene that encompasses some very good quality theatre. Colchester Operatic Society and its youth arm CO2 continue to contribute to that by producing fully self funded productions and this show is no exception.

Our cast, production team and a myriad of people behind the scenes have been working tirelessly to bring this production to the stage and I hope you enjoy and are uplifted by the end result. When I first saw this show at the London Palladium I never considered that it would one day be a show that we would be producing but here it is and I'm delighted that gradually more and more contemporary shows are being made available to us. This manages to keep our membership stimulated by new challenges and encourages you, our audience to experience some new musical show experiences locally in a professional venue.

So, in keeping with The Mercury Theatre's recent programmes we will continue to try and bring new and innovative musical theatre to Colchester interspersed with the timeless classics that continue to delight audiences with both professional and amateur productions.

Thank you for your continued support and if you would like to get involved in what we do then visit our website www.colchesteroperaticsociety.co.uk and let us know.



Mark D Fincham

Chairman & Business Manager Colchester Operatic Society

President - John Enfield

Life Members

Beryl Balls, John Enfield, Sylvia Hawkins, Alan Larner, Valerie Massey, Gill Plumtree, Barbara Ryan, Ken Smith, Michael Spurgeon, Colin Thorne, John Warburton

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Vice Chairperson	Mike Spurgeon
Business Manager	Mark Fincham
Secretary	Elizabeth Thorne
Treasurer	Alan Larner
Membership Secretary	Colin Thorne
Members	Nathan Crame, Katie Cutmore, Diane Emberton, Pat Prestney Neil Somerville, Ann Taylor Maggie Walton,

CO2 Committee

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Secretary	Diane Emberton
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Membership Secretary/Youth Liaison –	Trevor Walton
Members	Connor Pratchett Mike Spurgeon Harry Totham



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www.noda.org.uk

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The Production Team

Director

Nikki Mundell-Poole

Musical Director

Neil Summerville

Assistant Director

Leanne Fincham

Director - Nikki Mundell - Poole

Nikki first started with Colchester Operatic Society in the mid 80's, following in her parent's footsteps and has performed in numerous shows with both COS and CO2.

After a period working with West End productions including *'The Phantom of the Opera'*, *'Cats'*, *'Miss Saigon'* and *'Les Misérables'*, Nikki has spent the last 27 years working as a Director and/or Choreographer for many local societies and during that time has worked on over 40 musicals. Having last performed at the Mercury with COS in 1997, this is a welcome return for Nikki and her first production with COS as Artistic Director.

When not at rehearsals or in the theatre, Nikki works full time as a Marketing Manager but her love of the theatre extends, with her husband, to their two sons who, unsurprisingly, both have some interest in drama and the theatre provided they are out of the spotlight & behind the scenes! She has had a 'fabulous' time working with the cast and production team on such a fun and uplifting show and hopes everyone who sees it, enjoys it just as much and "Spreads the Love Around!"

Musical Director - Neil Summerville

After the recent successes of *42nd Street* and *The Sound of Music*, Neil is delighted to be back on the production team for COS and has loved bringing *Sister Act* to life with Nikki and Leanne. Having been MD for over 60 productions since his first job 14 years ago, some Musical Directing highlights have been; the World Premiere of *The Legend of Beowulf*, the UK amateur premiere of *I Sing!*, the Scottish premiere of *Ragtime* and all of the many Stephen Sondheim musicals he has worked on.

As a well-respected accompanist, Neil has worked extensively in concerts, recitals, cabarets and masterclasses, working with and accompanying many well-known West End, Broadway and TV performers. As a singing teacher and vocal coach, Neil has helped his students gain places at all of the top UK drama schools. Past students have performed lead roles in West End and touring productions of *The Book of Mormon*, *Les Misérables*, *Mary Poppins*, *Hairspray*, *Urinetown* and *Shrek the Musical*. Neil is looking forward to being back in the Mercury pit for CO2's production of *Carousel* in September.

Assistant Director - Leanne Fincham

Leanne has been on stage since the age of 3 having gained all her RAD ballet and ISTD tap and modern exams culminating in being qualified to teach in all disciplines. Musical Theatre has been a passion in addition to having grown up appearing in numerous TV adverts and as an extra in many well known television dramas. Despite having been offered several professional roles, Leanne has chosen to devote her time to her family and indulge her theatrical enthusiasm by being director's assistant and choreographer for many CO2 and COS shows. Leanne has played numerous principal roles within local productions most recently Mary in COS's production of *Jesus Christ Superstar* and Charity Hope Valentine in *Sweet Charity*

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ACT**



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PRODUCTION TEAM /SUPPLIERS

Stage Director	Mike Spurgeon
Deputy Stage Director	Phil Spurgeon
Stage Manager	Terry Lyon
Stage Production Advisor	Alan Larner
Stage Crew	Matthew Clark, Bob Neville, Elaine Lloyd, Bob Wilkinson
Lighting	Eric Lund Lighting Design.
Sound Designed by	Martyn J Hunt
Production Sound Engineer	Graham Hounsell
Assistant Production Sound	Francesca Dingle
No1 Sound	Marty Hunt
No2 Sound	Jack Wiltshire
No3 Sound	Sophie Knights
Sound Equipment Supplied by	MJH Sound Design
Wardrobe Mistress	Maggie Walton, Sarah Miles,
Wardrobe Team	Beryl Balls, Shirley Tindall, Roz Pike Jo Read, members of COS
Assistant to Chichi Armstrong	Lisa Elvish
Costumes supplied by	Dress Circle, Witham and COS members
Props Manager	Diane Emberton,
Props Team	Ann Taylor, Becky Bacon Calum Mundell - Poole
Make-up	Lisa Elvish, COS members
Programme Design	Pat Prestney
Programme/Poster Printer	Spingold Design and Print
Scenery supplied by	Scenic Projects Ltd
Prompt	Shannon Hannah
Front of House	Liz Thorne, Members of COS
Green Room	Katie Cutmore, Members of COS
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THE BAND

Musical Director	Neil Somerville
Keys:	Neil Somerville
Keyboards:	Dan Law, Emma Nash
Reeds:	Clare Lewis, Sandy Tate
Trumpets:	John Jermy, Nick Bailey
Trombone:	Shaun Ballisat
Guitar:	Dave Arch
Bass:	Andy Staples
Drums/Percussion:	Andy Dowding

Our thanks go to the Staff of the Mercury theatre for their endless patience and help and to others who have helped behind the scenes and front of house who are not named above

Thanks also to Montgomery and Prettygate Schools and The Officers Club
for the use of their premises as rehearsal venues.

Additional props supplied by Colne Valley Golf Club, Lawford Church and COS members

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SISTER ACT



Deloris Van Cartier - Chichi Armstrong

Chichi is so excited and very grateful to be playing this role.

She has a wealth of experience as a performer singing with the well established London Community Gospel Choir, travelling worldwide and nationwide, performing at 'Live 8' for Madonna and ministering in countries such as Ghana, Morocco, Austria and Germany to name but a few.

Chichi has been a session singer for 'Boney M' and has also appeared in several television performances including *Songs of Praise*. She has released a reggae gospel album where, as a Christian, her purpose is to generally bring encouragement, inspiration, motivation and joy to peoples' lives through her music.

Mother Superior - Barbara Ryan

Barbara has been performing with C.O.S since the early seventies & also performs regularly with Platform at the Headgate Theatre. Over the years she has been part of the chorus & played a variety of major & minor roles. Her favourite parts include Eliza in *My Fair Lady*, Nellie Forbush in *South Pacific*, Laurie in *Oklahoma* and Ann in *Half a Sixpence*. She is delighted to be playing the part of Mother Superior in this production of as it is a show she has longed to be a part of since seeing it in London a few years ago.



'Sweaty Eddie' - David Rutter

This is David's fourth show with COS. His passion for theatre has led to forming a new theatre group 'OD Productions' which launched with *'Rent'* and are following up with *'A Chorus Line'* at 'The Headgate' in March.

Curtis - Michael Mundell-Poole

Michael came back to Colchester Operatic Society last year for the run of *42nd Street*, playing Andy Lee. He seems to often land the part of the 'baddy!' and played Jigger in *Carousel* several times, *Me and My Girl* gave the lighter side of his character a chance to shine when he played Bill Snibson. Now the baddy's back in this role of Curtis! He says 'Enjoy the show..... or else!'



Monsignor O'Hara - John Enfield

John has been part of Colchester Operatic Society for more years than he cares to remember and has been President of the Society since retiring as Chairman.

His many memorable roles include Alfie Doolittle in *My Fair Lady* and Pelinor in *Camelot* and Chitterlow in *Half a sixpence*

He says he has relished acting with so many 'sisters' and hope you enjoy the show!!

SISTER ACT

CAST

Delores -
Mother Superior -
Sweaty Eddie -
Curtis -
Sister Mary Lazarus -
Sister Mary Patrick -
Sister Mary Robert -
Monsignor O'Hara -
Tj -
Joey -
Pablo -
Michelle -
Tina -
Sister Mary Martin-Of-Tours -
Sister Mary Theresa -
Ernie
Policeman/Cab driver

Chichi Armstrong
Barbara Ryan
David Rutter
Michael Mundell-Poole
Barbara Sculley
Amanda Powell
Helen McCraw
John Enfield
Connor Pratchett
Jonathan Davis
Will Mugford
Sarah White
Corrina Wilson
Emma Spurgeon
Pat Prestney
Philip Wilson
Steve Williams



Nuns

Fiona Bocking, Charlotte Butcher, Sarah Burton, Sofia Caselli, Gulia Cipriani, Ashleigh Cole, Katie Cutmore, Angie Diggins, Suki Fusi, Jade Hey, Katie Leech, Sally Leung, Sarah Miles, Bethany Nial, Lisa Pordham, Claire Rowe, Chloe Rutter, Sarah White, Corrina Wilson, Sarah Young.

Chorus

Maeve Borges , Josephine Carter,
Valentine Cavanagh-White, Celia Greaves, Joanne Davis, Gabriella Fusi, Claire Jones, Kelly Marven, Maxine Taylor
Teresa White, Gill Wilson, Colin Thorne, Steve Williams, Philip Wilson



**Scenes and Musical Numbers
ACT 1**

Scene 1: Philadelphia, 1977. A Disco

Take Me To Heaven

Deloris Michelle and Tina

Fabulous Baby

Deloris Michelle and Tina

Scene 2: An alleyway in the streets of Philadelphia

Scene 3: The Police Station

Scene 4: Queen of Angels Cathedral, South Philadelphia, The Northex

Here Within These Walls

Mother Superior, Deloris & Nuns

Scene 5: The Dining Hall of Queen of Angels Cathedral

Its Good To Be a Nun

Mary Patrick, Mary Lazarus, Deloris & Nuns

Scene 6: The Chapel, Queen of Angels Cathedral

Scene 7: The Police Station

When I Find My Baby

Curtis, Joey, Pablo & TJ

Scene 8: Inside a Dive Bar, South Philadelphia

Scene 9: The Street outside the Bar

I Could Be That Guy

Eddie and the Homeless of Philadelphia

Scene 10: A Hallway, Queen of Angels Cathedral

Here Within These Walls (Reprise)

Mother Superior

Scene 11: The Music Room, Queen of Angels Cathedral

Raise Your Voice

Deloris, Mary Robert, Mary Patrick,
Mary Lazarus & Nuns

Scene 12: In The Church, New Year 1978

Take Me To Heaven(Reprise)

Deloris, Monsignor O'Hara, Mary Patrick,
Mary Lazarus, Mary Robert & Nuns





Scenes and Musical Numbers ACT 2

Scene 1: A Confessional, Queen of Angels Cathedral

Scene 2: The Church, during Morning Service

Sunday Morning Fever

Monsignor O'Hara, Deloris,
Mother Superior, Mary Patrick,
Mary Lazarus, Mary Robert, Eddie & Nuns
Chorus

Scene 3: Curtis' Office, Downtown Philadelphia

Take Me To Heaven

Deloris, Mary Patrick & Nuns

Lady In The Long Black Dress

Joey, TJ & Pablo

Scene 4: Mother Superior's Office

I Haven't Got A Prayer

Mother Superior

Scene 5: Mary Clarence's Room

Bless Our Show

Deloris, Mary Patrick, Mary Robert,
Mary Lazarus & Nuns

Benedicta-ta

Mother Superior & Nuns

Scene 6: Changing Room

The Life I Never Led

Mary Robert

Scene 7: Eddie's Apartment

Fabulous Baby (Reprise)

Eddie, Deloris, Fantasy Dancers & Nuns

Sister Act

Deloris

Scene 8: Outside the Queen of Angels

When I Find My Baby (Reprise)

Curtis

Scene 9: Queen of Angels

The Life I Never Led (Reprise)

Mary Robert

Scene 10: All Over Queen of Angels

Sister Act (Reprise)

Deloris, Mother Superior, Mary Robert,
Mary Patrick, Mary Lazarus, & Nuns

Spread The Love Around

Mother Superior, Deloris, Nuns &
Company

Finale

Raise Your Voice

Company

SISTER ACT



**Sister Mary Patrick
Amanda Powell**



**Sister Mary Lazarus
Barbara Scully**



**Sister Mary Robert
Helen McCraw**



TJ - Connor Pratchett



Joey - Jonathan Davis



Pablo- Will Mungford



**Sister Mary Martin
of Tours
Emma Spurgeon**



**Michelle
Sarah White**



**Tina
Corrina Wilson**



**Sister Mary Theresa
Pat Prestney**

The final performance of this show is dedicated to

Dani Fincham

8.12.64 - 1.1.16



Dani was a much loved member of Colchester Operatic Society, appearing in 'Brigadoon' way back in 1984. When CO2 came into being, Dani appeared in their very first show, 'Grease'. She then played such characters as Evelline in 'The Wiz' and Lady Brockhurst in 'The Boyfriend', before moving on to Direct CO2, beginning with West Side Story in 1995. Her recent experiences with the Society have been in directing CO2 in their 30th Anniversary production of 'Grease' in 2014 and, most notably, she directed both 'Sweeney Todd' and 'Jesus Christ Superstar' for COS.

Dani had no formal training other than years of dance with the San Marie Dance School in Brentwood, where she gained her teaching qualifications, but she was an absolute natural where the theatre was concerned. She performed in the Kenneth More Theatre, Ilford and with Braintree Musical Society, who were the first to ask her to Direct. Dani also directed WOW (at Witham) and Mad Hatters production of Spelling Bee going with the production to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. Many of her productions were recognised by The National Operatic and Dramatic Association, winning several awards and critical acclaim.

Dani was one of life's characters. She was immensely talented both as a performer and as a choreographer and director. She had an impish sense of humour and an unquantifiable knack of getting the best out of her performers. There have been many tributes paid to her memory, here is just one that echoes so many others:

'When I think of you and the times we shared, I will do so always with a smile. You were such a prominent figure in our lives, through our adolescent years and beyond, always instilling confidence and providing support. Without this, many of my friends would not have pursued the careers they currently do, and indeed many of us would not be the people we are today. Thank you for the incredible memories- I truly feel privileged that our paths crossed.'

Dani will be sadly missed by us all, but none more so than her family, including her Sister In Law, Leanne who was her theatrical 'partner in crime' for most of her productions, and her other closest friends. As you enjoy the performance today please do so in the knowledge that without dedicated people like Dani, none of this would be possible.

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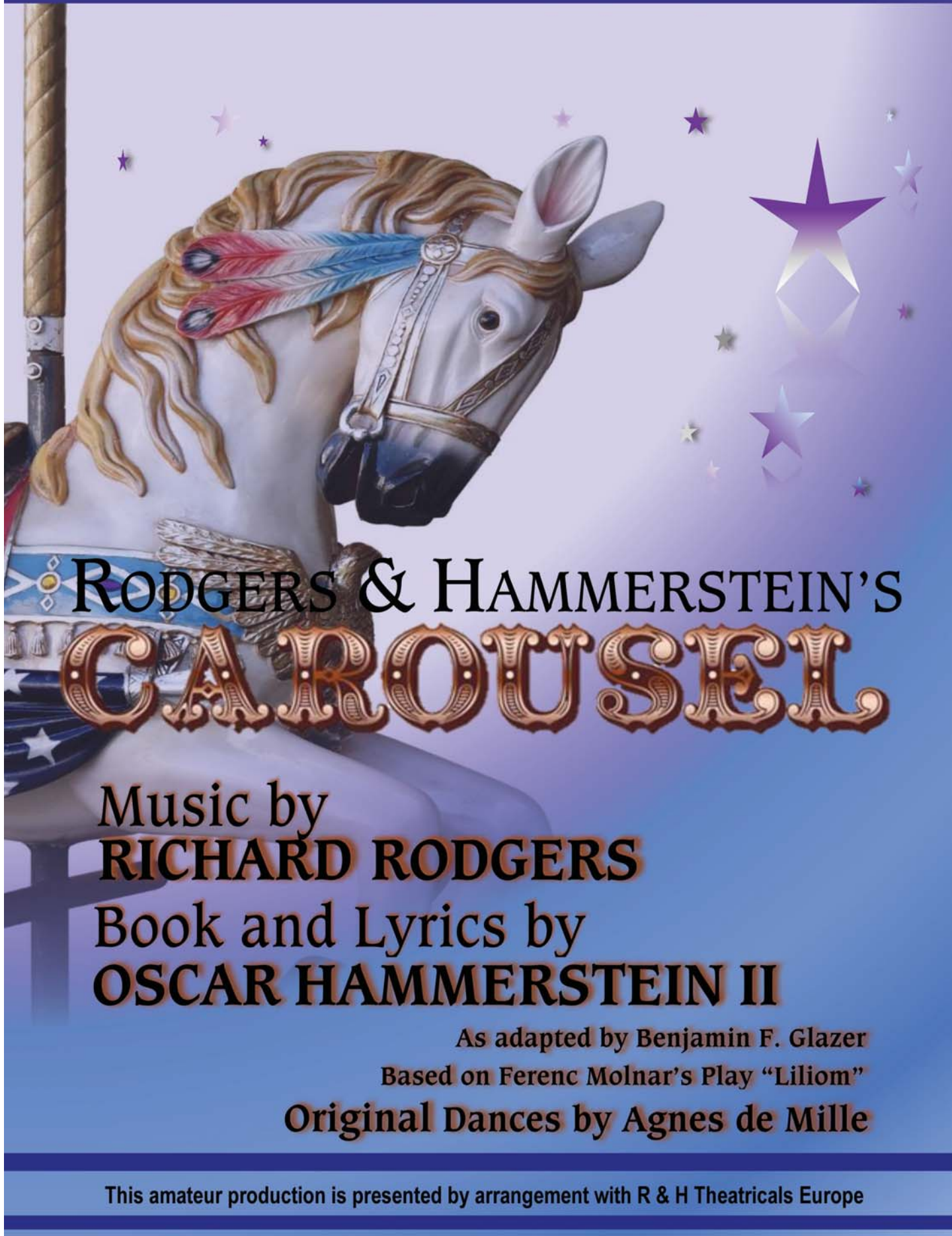
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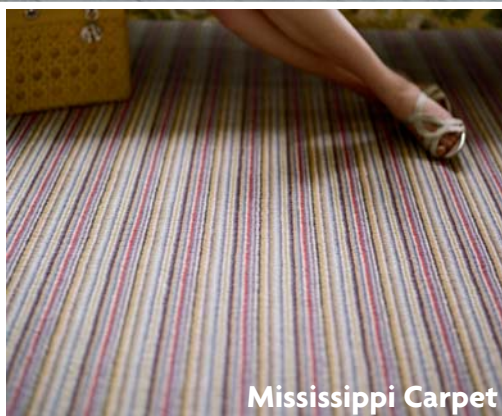
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