



SOUTHPORT DRAMATIC CLUB



Present Their Traditional Family Pantomime

Cinderella

Written and directed by Stephen Hughes-Alty,

Staged by Arnold Gorse,

Choreography by Rob MacGregor,

Musical director Dave Thomson

*22nd December 2003 -
11th January 2004*

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and a Happy New Year**

Director's Notes



Traditionally, pantomime is a Christmas entertainment intended particularly for the young. It is an art form that the rest of the world thinks is peculiarly British, claiming, in a puzzled fashion, not to understand it at all. Like Punch and Judy, Harlequinade and the French tradition of mime, its origins can be traced back to the 16th and 17th century Italian improvised comic drama, commedia dell'arte.

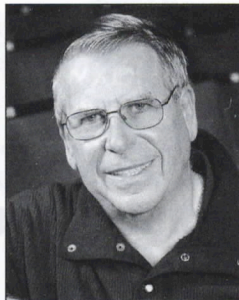
Cinderella was first performed at Drury Lane in 1804 and with its rags to riches storyline, the wonderfully wicked evil sisters and a fairy godmother who can turn pumpkins into coaches it remains one of the most popular and enduring of tales.

Once again, I am delighted to have been involved in another SDC pantomime. I am also delighted to be working with such a huge cross-section of our membership. I am indebted to my talented production team, my enthusiastic cast, the hard-working stage crew and everyone else who has helped get Cinders to the ball before midnight. We hope you find our version of this classic story entertaining and refreshing. Merry Christmas.

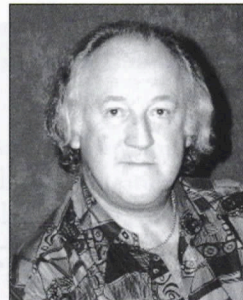
Stephen Hughes-Alty
Director



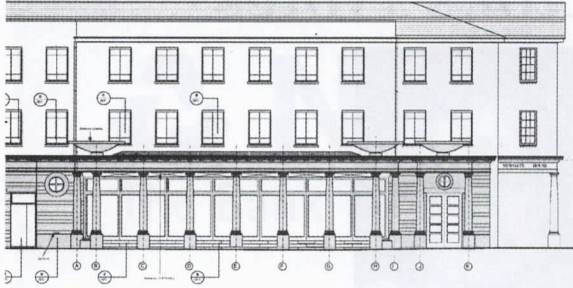
Rob MacGregor
Choreographer



Arnold Gorse
Staging Director



Dave Thomson
Musical Director



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Stephen Hughes-Alty



In each programme this season, there has been a page dedicated to the author of the play being presented. Tonight's production has been penned by one of our members and just because he is not as famous as Alan Ayckbourn or Noel Coward (yet) we thought we'd offer him the same courtesy.

Stephen Hughes-Alty started his theatrical journey when he was just 11 years old. He appeared in S.O.N.G's production of *The Boyfriend* before taking the title role in *Oliver* the following year. Then, there followed over 300 productions where Stephen played such diverse roles as Mercutio in *Romeo and Juliet* and Albin in *La Cage aux Folles*.

After attending the University of Kent, he took his drama degree and started the successful WYSIWYG Theatre Company. As Artistic Director he wrote and directed several *Murder Nights* as well as taking part in several regional tours.

He collaborated on the SDC pantomime of *The Babes in the Wood* (1998) before writing and directing *Dick Whittington* (1999) and *Sleeping Beauty* (2000). His other works include *The Hotspot*, a musical for children, and *Grim Hotel* a surreal horror story.

He is currently Co-ordinator for Performing Arts at Bispham High School Arts College in Blackpool. His essays on drama education have appeared in several publications and he has a book on drama teaching coming out in 2004.

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Cinderella





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Cinderella



Cinderella

Written and directed by Stephen Hughes-Alty, Staged by Arnold Gorse,
Choreographed by Rob MacGregor, Musical director Dave Thomson

Cast

in order of appearance

Queen Mab	HELEN PICKAVANCE
Fairy Fuddles	MANDY EVANS
Baron Stoneybroke	NORMAN HOPE
Buttons	PETER FORSHAW
Lavatrina (Lavvy)	JAMES HUGHES-ALTY
Pottietta (Potty)	ARNOLD GORSE
Dandini	GUY UNSWORTH
Prince Charming	ADAM CLARKE
Queen Prudence	HELENE PORTER
Cinderella	NATALIE PYE
Other parts played by members of the ensemble	

Ensemble

Edward Beardsell, Nick Breen, Michael Breen, Wendy Chalke, Mellissa Clarke,
Stephanie Clarke, Jonathan Coote, Helen Garrahan, Laura Gorse, Rebecca Hinds,
Heather Holden, Alex Howarth, Sophie Jackson, Luke Montague, Sabrina Regazzoni,
Rikki Spofforth, Ashley Turner, Rachel Turner.

Children

Sarah Alty, Gabby Clarke, Olivia Darkes-Sutcliffe, Zoe Findlay, Matthew Green,
Jennifer Holden, Yasmin Paul, Ethan Wheeler.

Musicians

Percussion	Tony Harrison
Keyboards	Dave Thomson / Paul Williams
Bass Guitar	John Watkinson / Roger Watkinson

Prologue: In Fairy Land

Act 1

Scene 1: The village square

Scene 2: The palace gardens

Scene 3: Deep in the forest

Scene 4: Another part of the forest

Scene 5: The kitchen of Stoneybroke Hall

Scene 6: Potty and Lavvy's boudoir

Scene 7: Back in the kitchen of Stoneybroke Hall

Act 2

Scene 1: The palace

Scene 2: The Haunted Woods

Scene 3: The ballroom of Stoneybroke Hall

Scene 4: Song sheet

Scene 5: The wedding

There will be a 20 minute interval between the two acts

Pyrotechnics, smoke, ultraviolet light and strobe lighting may be used in this production. The management reserves the right to refuse admission to the auditorium after curtain up until a suitable opportunity occurs. First aid facilities are provided at this theatre by St John Ambulance Brigade, whose members give their services voluntarily.

Why not beat the rush and pre-order your interval drinks in the bar?

An induction loop is installed in this theatre for the benefit of hearing impaired patrons. Please turn your hearing aid to 'T'.

Please ensure that all mobile telephones are switched off

At the end of tonight's performance you may leave by any of the exits, all of which will be open. In an emergency, this theatre can be emptied in three minutes or less if everyone leaves in an orderly manner.

Smoking is prohibited in the auditorium.

THEATRE LICENSEE, BRIAN FORSHAW

Cinderella

Staging

Stage Manager	JUDITH GORSE
Assistant Stage Manager	REBECCA SIMISTER SEAN SUTTON
Wardrobe Director	JAMES HUGHES-ALTY
Wardrobe Assistants	DOROTHY ALTY, MARGARET HORNE IRENE TRIM, COLIN ALTY BETTY DAVIDSON, CHERYL COLEY
Properties	BARBARA BEARDSSELL ANN RICHARDS, JULIE WHELAN
Lighting Design	TONY BERRY
Lighting Operator	ANDREW CONNARD
Special Effects/Pyrotechnics	SYD COLEY
Flys	PETER BESWICK COLIN HAYNES
Sound	JONATHAN GOSLING
Set Designed by	ARNOLD GORSE
Set Constructed by	SDC PRODUCTION TEAM
Scenic Artist	BOB JESSAMINE
Photography by	ROBIN HIRSCH NEIL HICKSON
Choreographer	ROB MACGREGOR
Musical Director & Original Lyrics	DAVE THOMSON
Sequencing and Special Musical Arrangements	PAUL WILLIAMS

Acknowledgements

Thanks to www.southport.gb.com for additional publicity

Stage Crew

Roderick Beardsell	Nick Evans	Mike Yates
Michelle Yates	Peter Davies	Chris B. Appleton
Phil Davies	Chris Appleton	Jeremy Myers
Alan Newport	John Russell	Philip Hutchinson
	Alec Robson	

Cinderella

Cast in order of appearance

Stephen Hughes-Alty (*Director / Writer*)

Stephen started writing at age two when he was sent to his room for scribbling on the dining room wallpaper. This continued for many years until his parents bought him a typewriter. He started directing as soon as his younger brother was old enough to wear his grandmother's old dress and be told to dance around the hall singing 'Happy Days are Here Again'.



Helen Pickavance (*Queen Mab*)

After having had a year off from panto last year, Helen is back as the fairy once again.

She is looking forward to playing Queen Mab and wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year



Mandy Evans (*Fairy Fuddles*)

After choreographing our pantomimes for the past two years, Mandy has been pleased to leave it all in the capable hands of Rob and Steve this year and is really enjoying playing Fairy Fuddles and especially being 'trained' by the lovely Queen Mab.



Cinderella

Cast in order of appearance



Norman Hope (*Baron Stoneybroke*)

Norman is very happy to be playing The Baron in his sixth panto for SDC, because it is one of the few old parts which he has not played before after appearing in many different pantos. It beats being a New York cop in his last appearance here in *Laura*, even though he has to try and dance again.



Peter Forshaw (*Buttons*)

Peter took last year off from doing panto and after ten gruelling weeks of rehearsal this time, he now realises why - he just isn't fit enough for all this running around, every night and twice on Saturdays!

Still at least it's cheaper than the gym! (Welcome back, Peter) (Ed).



James Hughes-Alty (*Lavatrina / Wardrobe Director*)

This is James' first public performance for over 20 years, although rumour has it that his Shirley Bassey impersonation is a legend at after-show parties. He is usually far too busy making all the costumes to appear on stage but this year he is doing both because he didn't know what he wanted for Christmas and decided he'd quite like a nervous breakdown.



Arnold Gorse (*Pottietta / Staging Director*)

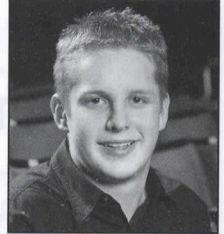
Arnold returns to the Little stage again, this year doing something he finds difficult to achieve - being ugly. Besides many other parts in plays and musicals with SDC, Arnold still finds time to be the club's treasurer and was one of the founders of the Panto tradition here at the Little; co-writing the first three pantomimes as well as playing Aladdin, Dick Whittington, Prince Charming, etc. over the years (then thankfully they filled his tights with concrete!) (Ed). After staging the pantò for many years it was then into frocks to play dame on many occasions. Arnold and his famous 'gang' have created the stunning sets you see again this year.

Cinderella

Cast in order of appearance

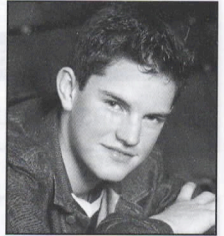
Guy Unsworth (*Dandini*)

This is Guy's 11th panto for the SDC and he is enjoying his first *Cinderella* after performing in *Godspell*. Guy is very glad to be working with another wonderful team. He is looking forward to a busy few months ahead as he is taking part in *Telling Wilde Tales* (March), and *Chorus of Disapproval* (April).



Adam Clarke (*Prince Charming*)

Adam's last leading role for SDC was playing Jesus in SDC's Youth Production of *Godspell* in September, which has resulted in him landing this leading role in *Cinderella*. In his youth he has also performed in *The Secret Garden*, for the RSC in Stratford and in London, and *The Ballad of Salomon Pawey* at The Globe, also in London. This is his eighth panto with SDC and he is very pleased to be back again appearing with this very talented cast.



Helene Porter (*Queen Prudence*)

Helene is looking forward to playing in her first panto and has enjoyed all the rehearsals which she has found so different from her usual active roles, as in *The Herbal Bed* and *The Perfect Murder*. She is very pleased to be appearing with this talented cast and director (Welcome to panto, Helene) (Ed).



Natalie Pye (*Cinderella*)

Natalie has been dancing since she was three and appeared in *Aladdin* at the Southport Theatre when she was six, since then she has appeared in many shows such as Panto last year for SDC and *Our Day Out* SDC's Youth Production; *Copacabana*, *Oliver* and *Meet Me in St Louis* for Birkdale Orpheus Society and *Wizard of Oz* and *Bugsy Malone* for Suzy Walker's productions. She is very pleased now to be playing the title and leading role of *Cinderella* for SDC.





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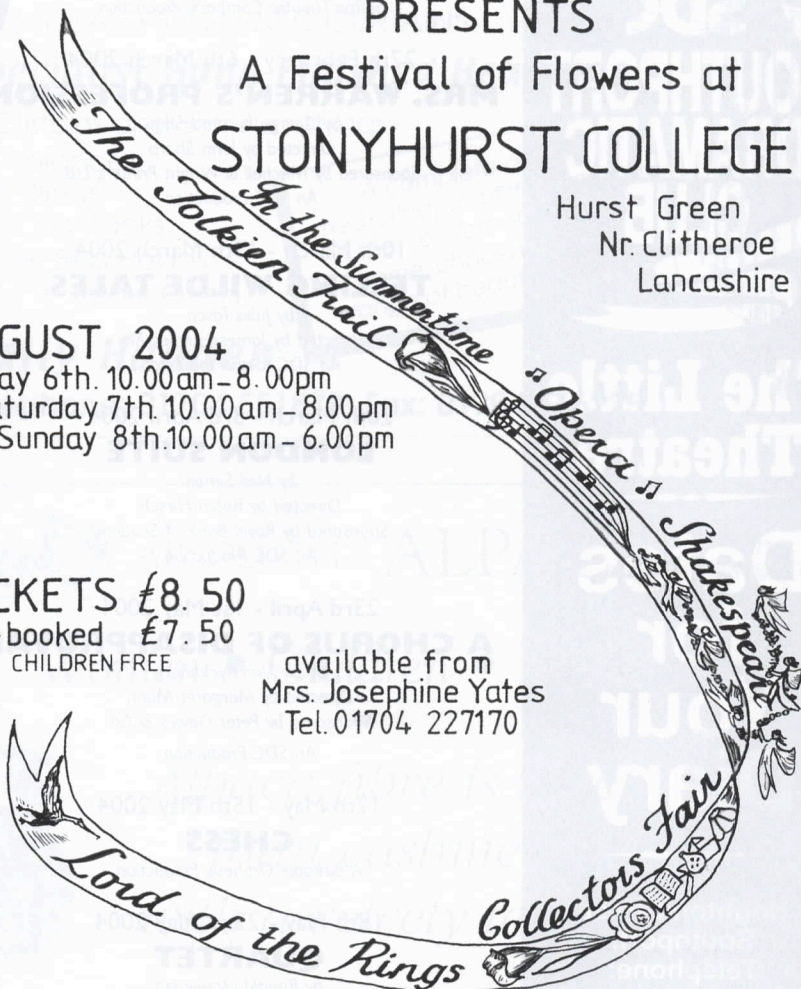
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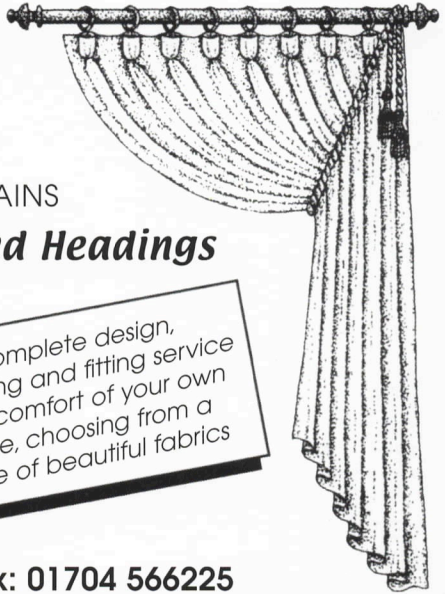
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