

**KENYA
NATIONAL
THEATRE**

PRESENT

**NAIROBI
CITY
PLAYERS**

**SIDE BY
SIDE BY**

SONDHEIM

**A MUSICAL REVUE
WITH A VISITING WEST END CAST**

LARRY OAKS

GARTHE BANDELL

OLIVIA BREEZE

LYNNE WILLIAMSON

MATTHEW FREEMAN

BERNARD SMITH

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY

STEPHEN SONDHEIM

and

LEONARD BERNSTEIN, RICHARD RODGERS,
MARY RODGERS, JULE STYNE

Directed by

LARRY OAKS

By arrangement with CAMERON MACKINTOSH

Sponsorship by

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Nairobi **ncp** City Players

Proudly Present

SIDE BY SIDE BY SONDHEIM

A MUSICAL REVUE WITH A VISITING WEST-END CAST

Music and Lyrics by

STEPHEN SONDHEIM

AND

LEONARD BERNSTEIN, RICHARD RODGERS, MARY RODGERS AND JULE STYNE

Directed by

LARRY OAKS

Musical Director

MATTHEW FREEMAN

Starring

OLIVIA BREEZE

LYNNE WILLIAMSON

and

GARTHE BANDELL

Pianist

BERNARD SMITH

at

THE KENYA NATIONAL THEATRE

From 8th February to 1st March 1980

Larry Oaks

The Director

Larry Oaks is a Jerseyman, whose career has taken him to many countries. He started in professional show business as a dancer in a revue at the Theatre Royal, Windsor. He then toured in "Love from Judy", after which he went into the West End at the Prince of Wales Theatre in the Folies Bargaere Revues for 18 months, also played in cabaret at Churchills Club, Bond Street, and the Don Juan in Grosvenor Square. He was in the Rodgers & Hammerstein "Cinderella" at the London Colliseum.

Then followed a long association with Lionel Bart's "Oliver". In 1960 he joined the cast of "Oliver" at the New Theatre as a dancer and Ballet Master for six years, during which time he staged the Broadway production at the Imperial Theatre, New York. He has also staged the production in Los Angeles, Toronto, Tel Aviv (in Hebrew) and Holland, as well as directing the U.K. National Tour. Next year he is going to Denmark to direct "Oliver" (in Danish). He also worked for over a year on the film. He is the co-director of the current revival of "Oliver" which is enjoying a very successful run at the Albery Theatre in London.

His other London work includes "The Young Houdini" at the Phoenix Theatre, "The Last Sweet Days of Isaac" (a "rock" musical) at the Old Vic, "Waters of the Moon" at the Haymarket, with Ingrid Bergman, "Bed Before Yesterday" at the Lyric, with Joan Plowright, and "Man of La Mancha" at the Piccadilly Theatre. He also worked with Michael Crawford throughout the run of "Billy" at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

He directed "The Boys in the Band" at the Theatre Royal, York, where he spent some time as a director and choreographer. While at York he was one of the main directors and organisers of an International Youth Festival to commemorate that City's 1,500 years anniversary, working with 1,600 performers presenting 85 performances in 2 weeks.

He has done a great deal of film and television work, notably working with "straight" actors and actresses, training them to move and dance, including Paul Schofield, Celia Johnson and Roland Culver. He also worked on "The Song of Norway" shot entirely on location in Norway.

His wide experience includes numerous television commercials, conferences, revues and pantomimes.

Larry Oaks is making a very welcome return to the Kenya National Theatre for a Nairobi City Players' production. This is his fifth visit; previously from 1971 to 1973 he directed four very successful productions for the N.C.P. — "Fiddler on the Roof", "Kismet", "Hello, Dolly!" and "Man of La Mancha."

He has already directed "Side by Side by Sondheim" at the Garrick Theatre, London, in Toronto and at the Harrogate Theatre Festival. In the latter production he worked with the same artistes who are appearing in Nairobi tonight — Garthe Bandell, Olivia Breeze and Lynne Williamson.



THE KENYA NATIONAL THEATRE

Manager LEO PARDO
Box Office HENRY ALUDAH
Master Carpenter JOSEPH GICHURE
Electrician JASON MWAI

NOTE:

Photography and recording are not permitted during the performance.
Smoking in the Auditorium is prohibited. Refreshments and drinks may not be brought into the Auditorium.
Orders for drinks during the Interval can be placed in advance at the Theatre Bar.

The Musicians

Matthew Freeman Musical Director

Matthew Freeman has previously worked on "Side by Side by Sondheim" during the show's highly successful run at the Wydhams and Garrick Theatres in London's West End.

Later he was Musical Director for the U.K. National Tour of "Side by Side" directed by Lary Oaks, starring Garthe Bandell, Olivia Breeze & Lynne Williamson. his work in other West End musicals has included "A Chorus Line". He has also worked in ballet for companies in Germany, America and at the Royal Ballet in London.

Most recently he was Musical Director of a T.V. Special "Flowers for Algernon" for London Weekend Television, starring Michael Crawford.

Mr. Freeman studied at the Royal College of Music and London University.



Bernard Smith The Pianist

Bernard Smith has been addicted to playing the piano for half a century. He has played two Beethoven concertos with the Nairobi Orchestra and has recently been working with James Fenton (violin) on the complete cycle of Beethoven Violin and Piano Sonatas. He enjoys the tremendous stimulus of music making in Nairobi, where there are excellent fellow musicians.

He passed the LRAM piano performer examinations at first attempt as a result of some marvellous lessons from a great pianist, the Dean of Music at Manchester University. Otherwise, he is self-taught since the age of about 15 when his old teacher died. Perhaps the most remarkable thing about him is his extremely happy marriage, which has withstood the stresses and strains of so much music without any sign of fatigue failure.

By profession he is a teacher and research worker in Civil Engineering which he regards as an excellent way of acquiring merit. He plays the organ at All Saints Cathedral but claims he is not really an organist. His voice often has to do the work of 3 or 4 tenors in the Choir. He also tortures a viola in the Nairobi Orchestra, although he stresses that he is definitely not a violinist.

SIDE BY SIDE BY SONDHEIM

PART ONE

| | |
|---|---|
| Comedy Tonight | A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum |
| Love is in the Air | Gypsy |
| If Momma Was Married | Company |
| (music: Jule Styne) | A Little Night Music |
| The Little Things You Do Together | Company |
| You Must Meet My Wife | Evening Primrose |
| Getting Married Today | Follies |
| I Remember | Company |
| Can That Boy Foxtrot | Company |
| Company | Company |
| Another Hundred People | Company |
| Barcelona | Company |
| Being Alive | The 7% Solution |
| I Never Do Anything Twice | Follies |
| Bring on the Girls | Follies |
| Ah, Paree! | Follies |
| Buddy's Blues | Follies |
| Broadway Baby | Follies |
| You Could Drive a Person Crazy | Company |

BY ARRANGEMENT WITH

There will be one inter

DIRECTED BY: LARRY OAKS
MUSICAL DIRECTOR: MATTHEW FREEMAN
PIANISTS: MATTHEW FREEMAN and
BERNARD SMITH

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Swissair _____
 The Kenya Conservatoire of Music _____
 Bob West _____
 McGregor Oates, Moktar Daddah Street _____
 The American Embassy _____
 Mr. Philip Benson of U.S.I.S. _____
 Mr. Marino Fanin (the 'A' Promoter Ltd) _____
 Our Advertisers _____

The Nairobi City Players wish to acknowledge all those persons
 programme went to press. "The Players" are

A MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT with

OLIVIA BREEZE
LYNNE WILLIAMSON
GARTHE BANDELL
and LARRY OAKS

PART TWO

| | |
|--|----------------------|
| Everybody Says Don't | Anyone Can Whistle |
| Anyone Can Whistle | Anyone Can Whistle |
| Send in the Clowns | A Little Night Music |
| We're Gonna Be All Right | Do I hear a Waltz? |
| (music: Richard Rodgers) | |
| Duet | West Side Story |
| (music: Leonard Bernstein) | |
| The Boy From | The Mad Show |
| (music: Mary Rodgers) | |
| Pretty Lady | Pacific Overtures |
| You Gotta Have a Gimmick | Gypsy |
| (music: Jule Styne) | |
| Losing My Mind | Follies |
| Could I Leave You? | Follies |
| I'm Still Here | Follies |
| 'Conversation Piece' | |
| (arranged by Caryl Brahms and Stuart Pedlar) | |
| Side by Side by Side | Company |

TH CAMERON MACKINTOSH

interval of fifteen minutes

ENTS AND APPRECIATIONS

_____ for sponsorship of the guest artistes
 _____ for loan of the Bluthner concert grand piano
 _____ for assistance with costumes
 _____ for free loan of car for the guest artistes
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sons who willingly gave their assistance in many ways after this
s" are most grateful for their co-operation.

SIDE BY SIDE BY
SONDHEIM

The Visiting Soloists

Olivia Breeze

Olivia Breeze trained at the Elmhurst School of Ballet & Drama. She began her career playing Principal Girl in Pantomimes all over England, appearing with such artistes as Larry Grayson, Dora Bryan, George Lacey and Ronnie Hulton.

She has played leading roles in Repertory in England at Salisbury, Ipswich, Horchurch, Colchester, Cheltenham, York and Leicester. Her favourite roles include "Jane" in "Absurd Person Singular"; "Lady Windermere" in "Lady Windermere's Fan"; "Violet" in "Man and Superman"; "Vicky" in "My Fat Friend" and "Hortense" in "The Boy Friend".

On tour she played the title role in "All For Mary" with Kathleen Harrison and Raymond Francis.

In the West End she was "Maggie" in "The Matchgirls" at the Globe Theatre; "Vicky" in "A Chorus Line" at Drury Lane. She also appeared for a year in the cast of "Cowardy Custard" at the Mermaid Theatre.

Her television appearances include "A B.B.C. Comedy Series"; "Doctor at Large"; "Sexton Blake"; "Village Hall"; "Accident" and, most recently, "Mabel" in "Maggie and Her".

She recently choreographed "The Mikado" in London.

Olivia says that her most exciting and rewarding time in Theatre has been to play "Side by Side by Sondheim" with Lynne Williamson, Garthe Bandell and Larry Oaks and she is very much looking forward to working with them in the same show in Nairobi.



LYNNE WILLIAMSON

Touring with the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company throughout England and Denmark started Lynne off on her theatrical career. With this background she has been mainly involved with the musical theatre both in and out of London. She has had many leading parts in West End musicals, on tour and in repertory.

In the Adelphi Theatre production of "The King and I" she played "Anna" many times, and in the Yvonne Arnaud Theatre production of "Robert and Elizabeth" she had several opportunities to play "Elizabeth".

More recently Lynne has appeared with great success in "Side by Side by Sondheim" at the Garrick Theatre, and in "Annie" at the Victoria Palace in which she played several principal roles. Canada has also featured prominently in her career with tours of "Robert and Elizabeth" and "Side by Side by Sondheim".

As well as musicals Lynne has worked with many repertory companies playing a variety of straight roles. She has frequent engagements in television and on radio. She also does a great deal of Concert and Cabaret work throughout the United Kingdom.

The Visiting Soloists

Garthe Bandell



Garthe Bandell was born in Tennessee and is a graduate of the University of Miami with a Master's degree in Music and Drama. Whilst studying at University he was a featured singer and dancer with the "June Taylor Dancers" on the famous "Jackie Gleason Show" televised from Miami at that time. Also in Florida he was the featured singer for the "Miss Universe Pageant" held in that State and later went to Atlantic City and performed in the "Miss America Pageant" with Bert Parks. So much for his initial appearances in professional theatre.

On the big musical scene Garthe was in "Cabaret" with Joel Grey (the original M.C.), in "Man of La Mancha" with Richard Kiley, in "Fiddler on the Roof" with the Metropolitan Opera star Robert Merrill and in "Oliver" with Sid Caesar.

Garthe Bandell was the original "Jesus" in "Jesus Christ Superstar" both in America and in Europe.

He appeared with Julie Andrews at Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Centre in New York City.

Since 1972 he has been living part-time in London. During this time he has worked in musical shows and on television with Lulu, Twiggy, Cleo Laine and Danny La Rue.

He was one of the principals in "Side by Side by Sondheim" in the London run, in Dublin, Ireland, and in the United States. He has most recently been starring in an Irving Berlin Special in Monte Carlo.

THE PRODUCTION TEAM

Stage Manager
Production Assistant
Assistant Stage Manager
Construction Manager
Set Construction & Painting

Lighting Design
Lighting Operation
Sound
Costumes

Wardrobe
Front of House Managers
Poster Design
Poster Distribution
Poster Screen
Publicity
Programme
Programme Advertising
Programme Printer

Ken Turner
Frances Cattermole
Gordon Purcell
Ivor Maynard
John Keele, Gordon Purcell, Brenda, Gail and Glen Goodman, and Ion Hamilton
Larry Oaks and Benny Goodman
Brenda, Gail and Glen Goodman, and Jason Mwai
Ken Latham and Tony Bishop
Jane Catlin, Gina Fratini and Arthur Davey

Mary Epsom and Shirley Bishop
Joan Robinson and Joan Greene
Nani Croze
Joe Muriithi
Vogue Screen Prints
Bryan Epsom
Marianne Heme
Joe Muriithi
the 'A' promoter ltd

The Nairobi City Players also wish to thank all those who have assisted in any way after this programme went to press.

About Stephen Sondheim and about the show

Without having been born in a theatrical trunk, Stephen Sondheim is nevertheless a product of the professional musical theatre. It was fortunate for him that Oscar Hammerstein II was an intimate family friend who guided him on his earlier and very promising work from the age of 15.

Sondheim took a degree in music at Williams College in U.S.A. where he was awarded a post-graduate arts fellowship which enabled him to study composition with Milton Babbitt for three years before beginning work in show business. After a number of tentative essays into the television musical scene his work impressed Arthur Laurents who was writing the book for 'West Side Story' (composed by the distinguished Leonard Bernstein), and he was commissioned at the age of 25 to write the lyrics for that memorable work, thus launching a very successful career.

Sondheim is one of the few successful musical comedy writers to prefer working with original stories. Most musicals have been based on well known plays, books or films and, in these, much labour is saved where story and character are concerned, since a large segment of the audience can be depended on to have a preconception of both. Since he starts from scratch, as it were, the strength of Sondheim's characterisations is all the more impressive. Of the six projects which Sondheim initiated in his own right, "Anyone Can Whistle", "Company", "Follies", and "Pacific Overtures" have been based on completely original scripts. "A Little Night Music" and "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum", while based on Bergman and Plautus respectively, have been a lot more unorthodox in execution than the standard musical adaptation.

The music Sondheim listens to for his own pleasure is almost exclusively nineteenth and twentieth century and Bach. No popular music at all, and no Handel, Haydn, or Mozart. As a composer he admits to a very narrow enthusiasm. "I like writing songs that take place in dramatic situations within the proscenium arch. I'm not particularly interested in art songs or pop songs that stand on their own". Nevertheless, many of his greatest hits do stand on their own, songs like "Send in the Clowns" which has become his best known melody and lyric. The tune, irresistible, the words haunting and elusive. A Hit Parade Number for many people despite Sondheim's reserve.

"Sided by Side by Sondheim" is a celebration of Stephen Sondheim's work in the form of a Musical Revue. The show was born out of three long runs in London's West End. Millicent Martin and Julia Mackenzie were appearing in Alan Ayckbourn plays; David Kernan, Ray Cook and Stuart Pedlar (the latter the two co-musical directors) were working in "A Little Night Music", in which David Kernan played a major singing role. It was David Kernan's idea to put together an evening of Sondheim songs for John Dankworth and Cleo Laine's theatre. The show has gone from strength to strength since that time and has won many warm supporters over the past three years.

In the words of one leading London music critic: "Indisputably Sondheim is the best lyric writer of our time: the most adventurous composer of musicals: and the most considerable musical dramatist."

No doubt much of this music is unfamiliar to you but we are confident that you will be happy to join in our tribute to Stephen Sondheim, the most exciting composer/lyricist in modern musical theatre.

THE NAIROBI CITY PLAYERS

In September 1956 an "acting group" was formed to be known as the Nairobi City Players, and in its Constitution were set down the following aims and objects:-

- (a) Regularly to present theatrical productions of a good dramatic and artistic standard by utilising and co-ordinating the best available talent, producers, set designers and technical stage assistants.
- (b) Towards the fulfilment of (a) above, to be unstinting in the cost of production, subject to the limit set by the Standard Committee.
- (c) To take all necessary steps to encourage the drama and to improve the facilities available for theatrical productions. The City Players have adhered to these aims from their formation and since that time have presented a total of 89 productions including 32 full-scale musicals, mostly at the Kenya National Theatre.

The Nairobi City Players under the esteemed patronage of the Hon. Charles Njonjo, EGH, MP, are controlled by a Standing Committee as follows:-

| | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Bryan Epsom (Chairman) | Gordon Purcell (Treasurer) | Benny Goodman (Executive Member) |
| Brenda Goodman (Secretary) | Joe Muriithi | Ivor Maynard |
| Ken Latham | Carol Johnson | Marianne Herne |
| Rurik Ronsky | Ken Turner | Tony Bishop |
| Peter Pearce | Frank Edwards | Jeff Arnold |

In addition to the Committee there is an Associate Membership limited to 75 members.

Daily in the Swissair charts.

Boston

| | |
|-------|----------------------------|
| A1 A0 | DAS ANGELES, ALABAMA |
| A2 A1 | MIAMI, FLORIDA |
| A3 A2 | MARTINEZ, TENNESSEE |
| A4 A3 | NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA |
| A5 A4 | PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA |
| A6 A5 | EL PASO, TEXAS |
| A7 A6 | DETROIT, MICHIGAN |
| A8 A7 | HOUSTON, TEXAS |
| A9 A8 | JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA |

Chicago

| | |
|-------|-------------------------|
| B1 B0 | ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO |
| B2 B1 | BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA |
| B3 B2 | DES MOINES, IOWA |
| B4 B3 | HONOLULU, HAWAII |
| B5 B4 | KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI |
| B6 B5 | LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY |
| B7 B6 | MADISON, WISCONSIN |
| B8 B7 | MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE |
| B9 B8 | MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN |

Montreal

| | |
|-------|----------------------------|
| C1 C0 | MONCTON, NEW BRUNSWICK |
| C2 C1 | SAINT-JEROME, QUEBEC |
| C3 C2 | CHARLOTTETOWN, P.E. ISLAND |
| C4 C3 | QUEBEC, QUEBEC |
| C5 C4 | ST. JOHN, NEW BRUNSWICK |
| C6 C5 | OTTAWA, ONTARIO |
| C7 C6 | SEATTLE, WASHINGTON |
| C8 C7 | WINDSOR, ONTARIO |
| C9 C8 | WINDSOR, ONTARIO |

New York

| | |
|-------|--------------------------|
| D1 D0 | ALBANY, NEW YORK |
| D2 D1 | CLEVELAND, OHIO |
| D3 D2 | COLUMBUS, OHIO |
| D4 D3 | DAYTON, OHIO |
| D5 D4 | FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA |
| D6 D5 | HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT |
| D7 D6 | INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA |
| D8 D7 | KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE |
| D9 D8 | LAS VEGAS, NEVADA |

Toronto

| | |
|-------|-----------------------|
| E1 E0 | CALGARY, ALBERTA |
| E2 E1 | EDMONTON, ALBERTA |
| E3 E2 | EMERSON, ALBERTA |
| E4 E3 | ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA |
| E5 E4 | LONDON, ONTARIO |
| E6 E5 | OTTAWA, ONTARIO |
| E7 E6 | OTTAWA, ONTARIO |
| E8 E7 | PETERBOROUGH, ONTARIO |
| E9 E8 | REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN |

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18

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PRESS LETTER AND NUMBER

A B C D E

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to Toronto. And from those destinations you can go on the same day (exceptions are starred*) to over 200 cities on the American continent. Far more than our juke box has room to show.

Your IATA travel agent or Swissair will be glad to provide further information. For instance on the best connecting flights with its spacious DC-10s from Nairobi to Switzerland.