



NAIROBI CITY PLAYERS

AT
DONOVAN MAULE THEATRE

presents

The Fantastika

THE LONGEST RUNNING MUSICAL IN THE WORLD

By:

Tom Jones

and

Harvey Schmidt

Directed by:

BENNY GOODMAN

Musical Director:

MICHAEL JAMES

To be



or not to be



with

**DATA
CENTRE**

**EAST AFRICA'S LEADING
COMPUTER BUREAU**

Caxton House Kenyatta Avenue
P O Box 30286 Nairobi Kenya
Telephone 333491 Four lines

Nairobi **nqp** City Players

present

THE FANTASTICKS

by

TOM JONES and HARVEY SCHMIDT

Produced by

BENNY GOODMAN

Musical Director

MICHAEL JAMES

at

THE DONOVAN MAULE THEATRE

27th October to 6th November 1982



Smooth International Embassy

The smooth way
to go places.



ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

BENNY GOODMAN

by Bryan Epsom

Benny Goodman is affectionately accepted to be the "Resident Genius" of the Nairobi City Players. Another man of the Theatre, Mr. Noel Coward, once referred to himself as "Jack of all trades — master of most". Should one venture this description to fit Benny he would undoubtedly contest it adding "make it — most of all, mate". This is not to signify arrogance in any way on his part, merely a supreme confidence in his own ability which is generally abundantly justified. I speak with some authority having had the pleasure to work with Benny in the theatre for more than thirty years.

So what has he done to deserve this reputation?

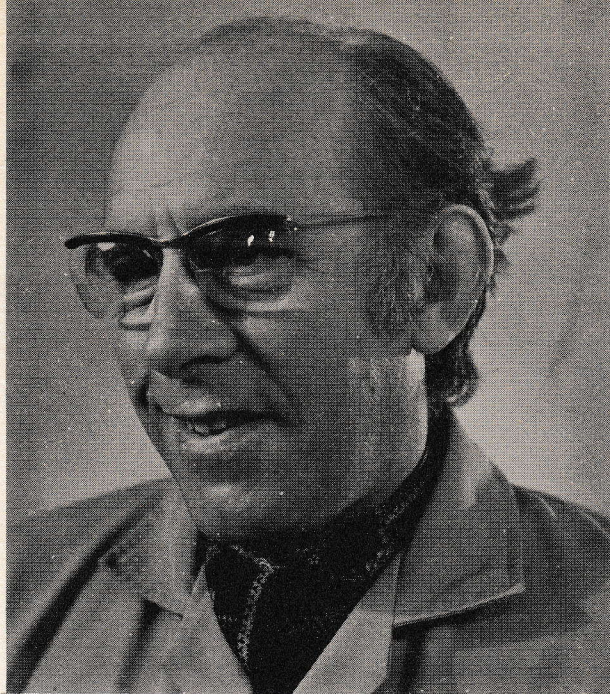
Benny has been associated with the Nairobi City Players from their first production in November, 1956, *The Love of Four Colonels* for which he was Stage Director. But before that, since his arrival in Kenya in 1950, he worked with other groups in the Kenya National Theatre and in other fields of entertainment, including a clown act with an old "banger" of a car which exploded in all directions. He has done almost everything in theatre and, over the past twenty years, mostly for this group. He is a Stage Director, Actor, Set Designer, Singer, Lighting Designer, Dancer, Play Director, Choreographer, Set Constructor and Scenic Artist. So far he hasn't taken much interest in Business Management or Publicity or even wanting to be the Chairman of this Group but it is, I think, only a matter of time.

I should like to pay Benny a sincere tribute for the outstanding work he has achieved for this group and to remember with pleasure some of the highlights:- as an actor: The Cowardly Lion (Maridadi Simba) in *The Wizard of Oz*, Arthur Groomkirby in *One Way Pendulum*, Nicely-Nicely Johnson in *Guys and Dolls*, First Gangster in *Kiss Me Kate*, a double of Twimble and Womper in *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, Sancho Panza in *Man of La Mancha*, Fagin in *Oliver* and the Girl's Father in *Fantasticks*.

Amongst memorable productions directed by Benny were *Kiss Me Kate*, *The Real Inspector Hound*, *Another Opening*, *The Fantasticks*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *Ministrels '74, '75, '78, '79*, *The Pirates of Penzance* and *H.M.S. Pinafore*.

He has also done outstanding work as a Set Lighting Designer and Operator for many of our productions and those of other groups. He was set designer for the eleven sets of *My Fair Lady*. Recently he has tended to concentrate on lighting and was Lighting Designer for *Godspell*, *Genesis*, *Cabaret*, *The Merry Widow*, *The King and I*, *Oklahoma*, *Guys and Dolls* and *Side by Side by Sonheim*!. He was Resident Stage Manager of the Kenya Drama Festival and the Kenya Schools Drama Festival for a considerable period. He has served on the Committee of the Nairobi City Players for many years.

On his arrival in Kenya in 1950, Benny worked with the E.A. Posts and Telecommunications. Twelve years ago he took up another career, that of Computer Consultant, which is particularly appropriate to his talents, and is now a director of Data Centre Ltd., Kenyatta Avenue. His wife, Brenda, and his two children, Gail and Glen have also taken a keen interest in Theatre.



ABOUT THE SHOW

On the 3rd of August 1959, a world premiere of three one-act plays was presented at Barnard College in America. Included in the evening's entertainment was a short musical entitled "*The Fantasticks*", the idea for which came from a French play *Les Romanesques* by Edmund Rostand.

In the audience that evening was a New York producer Lore Noto, who was so delighted by the musical that he asked its authors, Tom Jones and Harvey Schmidt, to expand the show into a full evening entertainment. They did so in just nine months, and on 3rd May, 1960 the musical "*The Fantasticks*" opened at the Sullivan Street Playhouse, Greenwich Village, New York City.

This show is now firmly a part of theatre history, as it is still running at that theatre. It has now entered the Guinness Book of Records as holding the record for the longest-running musical having achieved, on 3rd May 1976, its 6,668th performance. On 3rd May this year, it entered its 23rd year. It has now played nearly 9,000 performances. This show has also played a record 4,000 production in 56 countries.

THE FANTA

by

TOM JONES and HA

DIRECTOR: BENNY GOODMAN

THE CAST

(in order of appearance)

- THE MUTE
- BELLOMY (The Girl's Father)
- HUCKLEBEE (The Boy's Father)
- LUIA (The Girl)
- MATT (The Boy)
- THE NARRATOR/EL GALLO
- MORTIMER
- HENRY

THE MUSICIANS

- Michael James
- Peter Huxley

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

THE TIME THEN

- ACT I — In M
- ACT II — In th

THE PRODUCTION TEAM

Stage Manager	Ron West
Assisted by:	Jane Jarman
Properties	Jane Jarman
Production Secretaries	Frances Cattermole and Alison Stone-Wigg
Set Design	Benny Goodman
Set Construction & Painting	The Donovan Maule Theatre and Members of Nairobi City Players

LENS LIM

OPHTHALMIC OPTICIAN

and

CONTACT - LENS CO

P.O. BOX 49608, NAIROBI
Cables: "ADCOM" NAIROBI

E FANTASTICKS

by

S and HARVEY SCHMIDT

AN MUSICAL DIRECTOR: MICHAEL JAMES

THE CAST

(in order of appearance)

(Mother)
(Father)
(Boy's Father)

GALLO

JAYNE KIWIA
ROGER CORFIELD
MIKE TAYLOR
JANE CORFIELD
BERTIE RAY
MICHAEL CRAIG
KEN LATHAM
BENNY GOODMAN

THE MUSICIANS

Keyboards
Double Bass

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

THE TIME THEN

ACT I — In Moonlight
ACT II — In the Sunlight

PRODUCTION TEAM

Lighting Design
Prompt
Publicity
Programme
Programme Advertising
Programme Printer
Poster Design
Front of House Manager

Benny Goodman
Francis Cattermole and Alison Stone-Wigg
Bryan Epsom
Marianne Herne
Joe Muriithi
the 'A' promoter ltd.
Vogue Screen Print
Peter Pearce

S LIMITED

OPHTHALMIC OPTICIANS

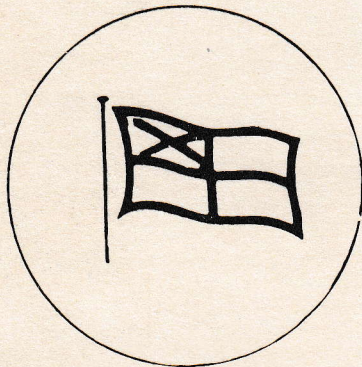
and

CONTACT LENS CONSULTANTS

PHONE 23556 NAIROBI
TELEX 22639 "ADCOM"

**DODWELL SHIPPING
KENYA LTD.**

MOMBASA NAIROBI



**THINK SHIPPING
THINK DODWELL**

**THOMAS WHITE BATTERIES LTD
THERE'S A
HIT
IN EVERY**

**WHITE
BATTERY**

P.O. Box 42707, Kampala Road.

Tele. 558651

THE MUSICAL DIRECTOR MICHAEL JAMES

Michael hails from Forres in the north of Scotland. After learning to play the piano 'tolerably' and the violin 'intolerably' at school, he went on to study music at Aberdeen University. Whilst at university he was co-founder of the University Gilbert and Sullivan Society and was involved in the society's first three productions: "Iolanthe", "Mikado" and "Gondoliers". In 1979 he came to Kenya as a volunteer music teacher at Starehe Boys' Centre where earlier last year he helped write and stage a musical based on the life of Samson from the Bible.

Since arriving in Kenya he has taken part in many NCP productions mostly as a 'keyboard player' in the orchestra pit. These include: "HMS Pinafore", "Toad of Toad Hall" and most recently he was Musical Director of "Savoy Knights".



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND APPRECIATIONS

- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Greengates Kindergarten & Holiday School | — for rehearsal facilities |
| Jax | — for Luisa's costume |
| the 'A' promoter ltd | — for assistant with the programme |
| Our advertisers | — for their support |
| Berger Paints | — for paint |

Our Forthcoming Attraction:-

NAIROBI CITY PLAYERS

take pleasure in announcing that their
Christmas Production

will be

The World-famous Musical

“CANTERBURY TALES”

An off-beat, bawdy show based on Chaucer's history account of pilgrims on
their way to Canterbury

To be directed by **DAVID KELSEY** whose previous outstanding
productions for Nairobi City Players include
“GODSPELL”, “OLIVER”, “GENESIS” and “THE MASTERS”

8-22 December
at the
KENYA NATIONAL 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 Standing 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 rigidly to these aims from their formation and since that time have presented a total 94 productions including 34 full-scale musicals, mostly at the Kenya National Theatre.

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

Bryan Epsom (Chairman)
Ken Latham
Rurik Ronsky
Peter Pearce

Benny Goodman (Executive Member)
Marianne Herne
Jeff Arnold
Frances Cattermole

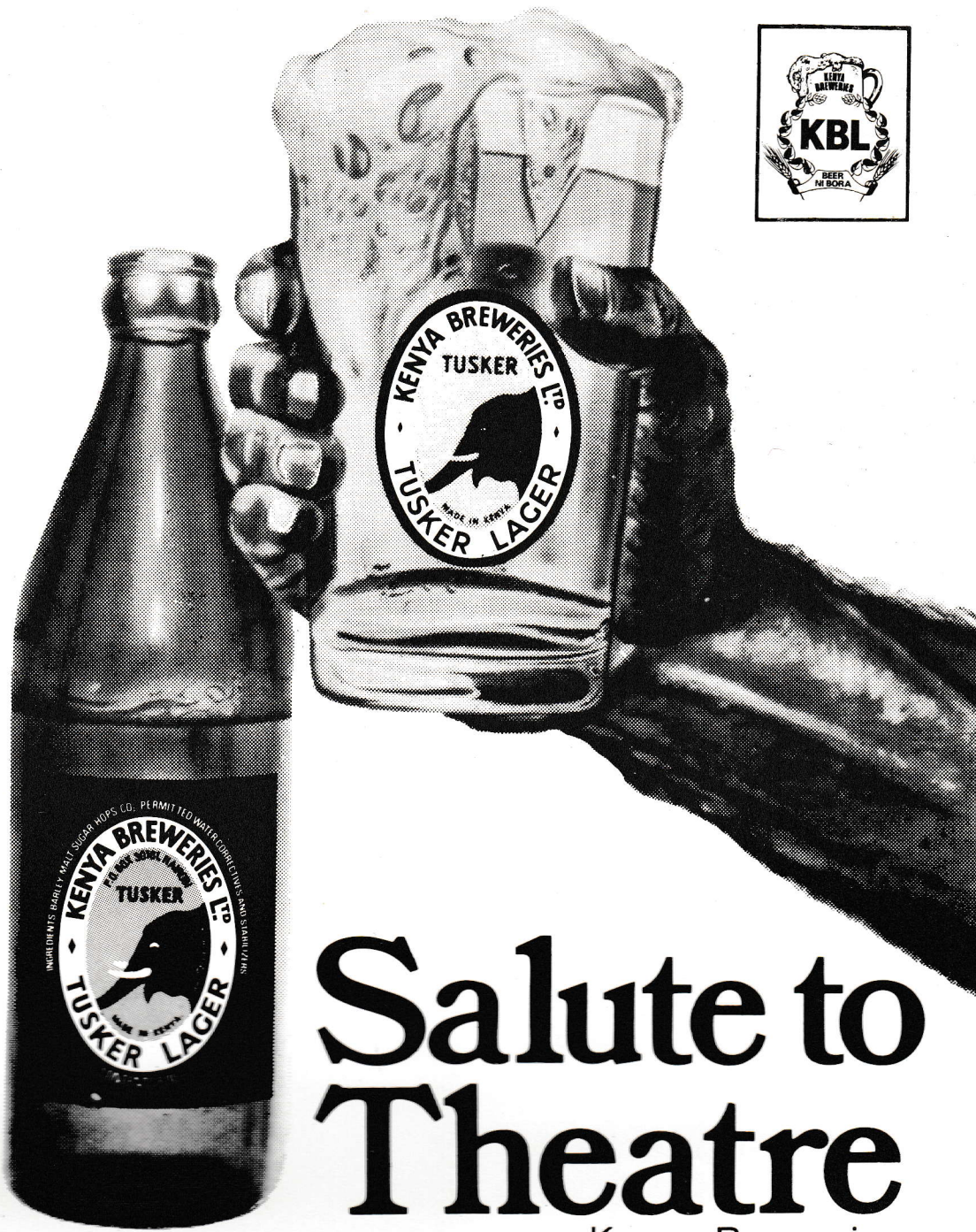
Frank Edwards (Treasurer)
Joe Muriithi
Hugh Cowie
Joan Greene

There is now an open membership on payment of an annual subscription

THE DONOVAN MAULE THEATRE

Administration
Marketing Manager
Artistic Director
Stage Carpenter
Electrician
Stage Technician
Stage Crew

James Falkland
Kenneth Mason
James Ward
Timoth Ngui
Absalom Mujukane
Joseph Gichure
Bernard Mwelia



Salute to Theatre

Kenya Breweries

THE NEWEST QUALITY RESTAURANT

EL PATIO



Its like
a visit
to Spain

Mezzanine Floor, Reinsurance Plaza
Open for Lunch and dinner.

Closed on Sundays Telephone: 340114.

K Kwality Hotel Ltd

"Wives of greatmen all remind us, How to
greatness they did climb, Serve good food
and leave behind us, Receipes from
grandma's time."

Kwality Hotel & Restaurant

Home of real Indian food.

OPEN FOR LUNCH & DINNER

CLOSED ON MONDAYS

Tel. 720479.

1982