

KENYA NATIONAL THEATRE
NAIROBI CITY PLAYERS
PRESENT

73

Sleeping Beauty

A GRAND TRADITIONAL PANTOMIME

Directed by: **JON TARLTON**
Musical Director: **SIMON HUNT**
Choreographer: **CATHERINE BRIKKE**

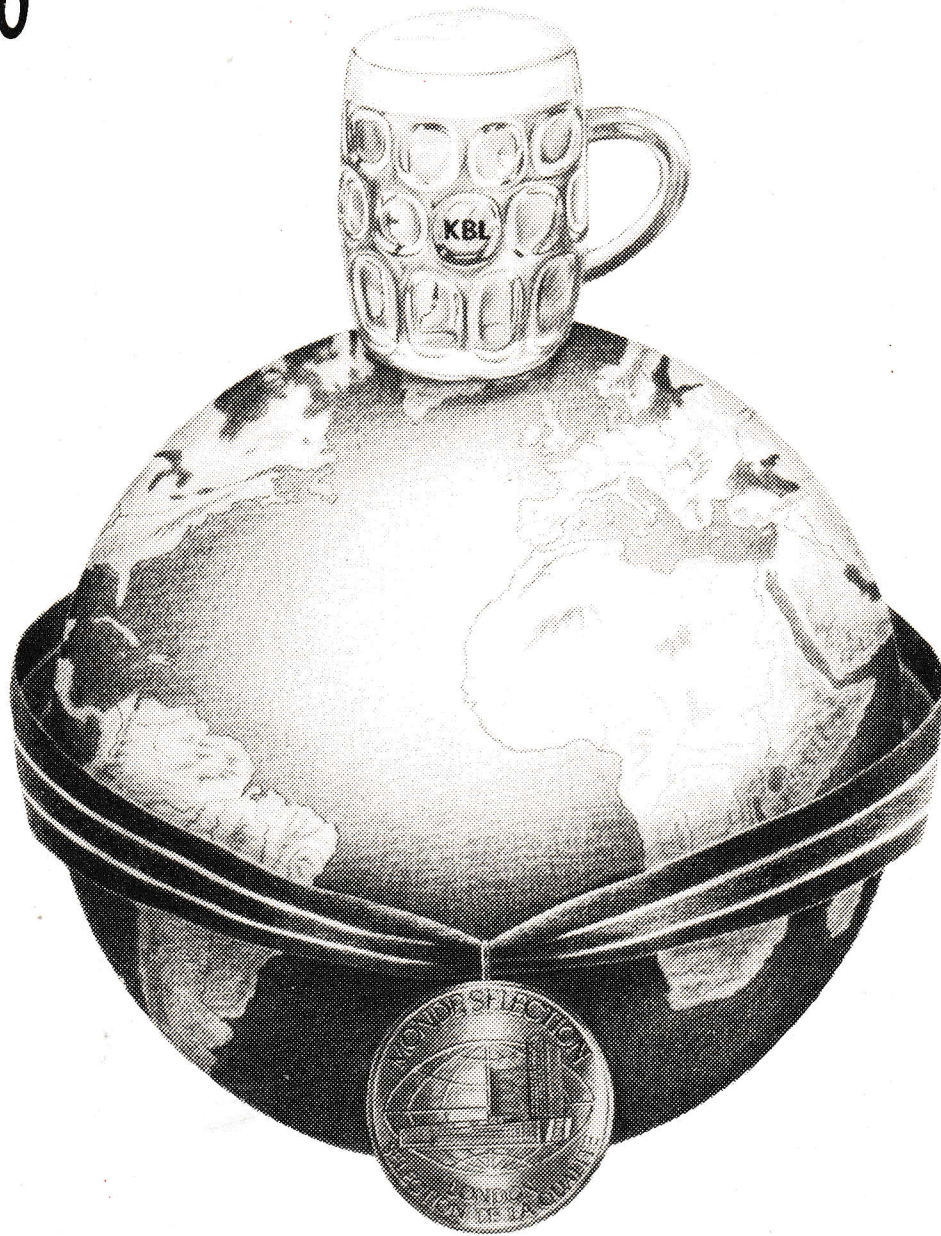
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KENYA NATIONAL THEATRE

Nairobi City Players

PRESENT

*Sleeping
Beauty*

A GRAND TRADITIONAL PANTOMIME

DIRECTED BY: **JON TARLTON**

MUSICAL DIRECTOR: **SIMON HUNT**

ASST. MUSICAL DIRECTOR: **LINDA SCHWEINFURTH**

CHOREOGRAPHER: **CATHERINE BRIKKE**

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→ D.T. Dobie ←

JON TARLTON

A Letter from the Director

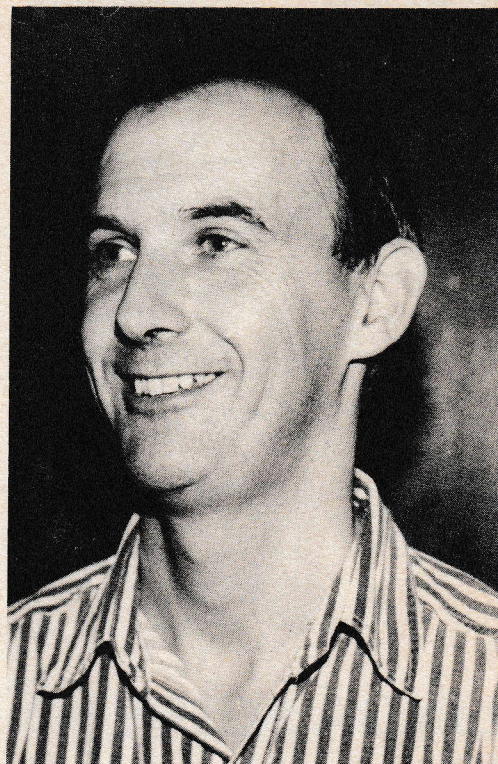
Well, a whole year has passed since I came to Nairobi to direct the pantomime "ROBINSON CRUSOE" for Nairobi City Players and — like the short rains — here I am again! And, after the warm reception you gave to last year's pantomime, it is a pleasure to back in Kenya preparing another show. This year we have chosen one of the great traditional fairy stories, "THE SLEEPING BEAUTY" and, after spending time in London in the summer reading various versions of the story, I decided to go a step further than last year and put together a new script specially for this production. I hope you like it.

I've spent the months since I was last here in Galway, Ireland and in London (where we had summer temperatures this year which, at the hottest, made Nairobi seem chilly!) I went directly to Galway after the pantomime last year — a great contrast with the spring gales blowing in off the Atlantic Ocean. I was there to direct a play by the 18th Century playwright Thomas Brinsley Sheridan. We took all the seats out of the theatre (an old tea warehouse) and did the production as a promenade with the actors and the audience mingling together. It was a great success.

I hope this will be too.

Jon Tarlton has worked in professional theatre in the UK for twenty years. After work in stage management and as an actor, he took up directing in the mid-seventies and has now directed more than sixty productions in regional theatres and drama schools.

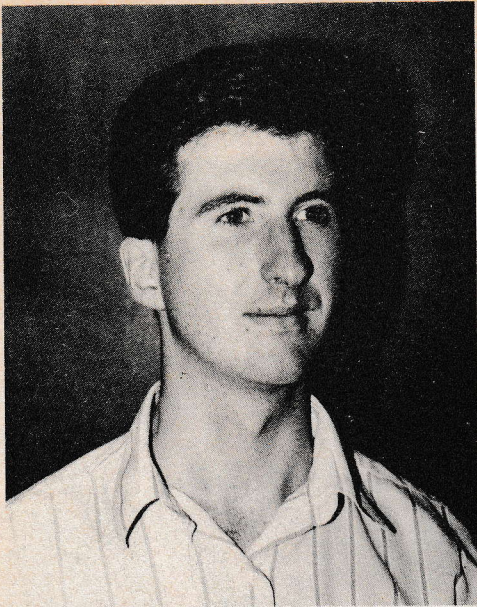
His future projects include directing a play for Nairobi City Players to be performed in late February early March of next year and a production for the Edmonton Festival in Canada later in the year.



The
Nairobi **ncp** City Players

wish you all
A Merry Christmas
and
A Happy New Year

Keep Smiling!



SIMON HUNT (Musical Director)

Simon arrived in Nairobi in September of this year to take up a post as Music Teacher at the Nairobi Academy. In the United Kingdom he has had considerable experience as the Musical Director of various productions including "Toad of Toad Hall", "Oh, What a Lovely War!" and "Salad Days" as well as putting together his own musical production whilst at college. Simon is also a talented musician playing piano and trumpet. He says he is enjoying his first experience of musical theatre in Nairobi and working with director, John Tarlton.

He has also conducted choirs and orchestras and appeared regularly as a piano accompanist.

LINDA SCHWEINFURTH (Assistant Musical Director)

Linda Schweinfurth, who has been in Nairobi for two years, began her involvement with music MANY years ago at age six. Since her arrival here she has played for various productions at the International School of Kenya and for the choirs of ISK. In other countries she has been involved in productions of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat", "Camelot", "Die Fledermaus" and accompanying choirs doing everything from light rock to "The Messiah" and "Brahm's Requiem". Linda works in Nairobi at the U.S. Agency for International Development.



CATHERINE BRIKKE (Choreographer)

Catherine has studied dance in professional schools in France and in other countries. At the age of seventeen, she choreographed her first musical in London for the French Youth Centre, as well as a number of other entertainment shows. She then joined the Dance Academy of Paris where she furthered her training in dance teaching and choreography, along with her university studies. She came to Kenya in 1989 to take up the post of director of the Dance School of l'Ecole Francaise de Nairobi and the French Cultural Centre's dance company. She produced two successful shows in 1990: "La Petite Boutique Fantastique" with her 100 students and "Jazzle" with her dance company.

The Production Team

Stage Manager	Frances Cattermole
Assistant Stage Manager	Rob Dugand
Stage Crew	Simon Young, Sasha Ronsky, Josphat Waitaha, Tyson Wolff, Daniel Mbugua, Peter van Dongen, Anthony Leigh, Daniel Lutah, Royjan Taylor, Rob O'Meara, Brenda Goodman, Wycliffe Msalagani, Danjan Taylor, Moges Gebremedin
Lighting	Rob Linck, Neil Davidson, Jason, Mwai
Follow Spot	Ingrid Dugand, Jenny Sharp, Tim Rowson
Properties	Moira Turner, Sera Hartley
Set Design	Tim Rowson
Set Construction Manager	Ivor Maynard
Construction Crew	Jim Turner, Pieter van Dongen, Brenda Goodman, Barbara Maynard, Chris Wolff, Colin D'Souza, Daniel Mbugua, Simon Mutungi, Julius Mwangi, Harun Amaya
Sound	Colin D'Souza Jim Turner,
Prompt	Denise White,
Costume Designer	Mary Epsom
Costume Team	Mary Epsom, Alies van der Linden, Janneke Kooy, Joanne Lewis, Julie Epsom, Chris Wolff, Ruth Kabwe
Dressers	Michelle Arad, Alice Campaigne Constance van Dongen
Hairdressing	Leslie Cardillo of Salon 680
Make-up	Sylvie Delmas
Tailoring	La Born Exquise, Patty Ltd.
Front of House Manager	Sam Wolff
Publicity	Sam Wolff & Bryan Epsom
Programme	Bryan Epsom
Programme Advertising	Joe Muriithi
Programme Printing	Man Graphics Ltd.
Poster Design	Tim Rowson
Photographs	Roger Athaide of Foto-Unique

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MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT ONE

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Overture | |
| 2. "A Bushel and a Peck" | THE ROYAL POULTRY |
| 3. "Alexander's Ragtime Band" | SIMON |
| 4. "Today I am so Happy" | NURSE TOOGOOD |
| 5. "On a Wonderful Day Like Today" | KING EZEKIEL & QUEEN LUCY,
SIMON & THE COURTIERS |
| 6. "Rising Early in the Morning" | KING EZEKIEL & QUEEN LUCY |
| 7. "I Wish You Love" | THE FAIRIES |
| 8. "Everybody Wants to be a Cat" | THE CATS (sung by EMILY AKUNO) |

ACT TWO

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| 9. "A-Hunting We Will Go" | THE HUNTERS |
| 10. "Bad" | MALEVOLA & THE DRAGONS |
| 11. "Lucky Star"/All Shook Up" | PRINCESS AURORA, FLORIZEL &
THE FAIRIES |
| 12. "You Married my Daughter" | KING EZEKIEL & THE COURTIERS |
| 13. "What a Swell Party" | THE COURTIERS |
| 14. "You're the Top" | PRINCESS AURORA & FLORIZEL |
| 15. From "The Magic Flute" | THE COURTIERS |
| 16. Tiddely Winkey | NURSE TOOGOOD & SIMON |
| 17. "What a Lovely Day for a Wedding" | THE COURTIERS |

The Kenya National Theatre

Manager	ALICE AYARA
Box Office	JEFFREY THUMBI
Electrician	JASON MWAI
Carpenter	DANIEL MBUGUA

Sleep Beauty

DIRECTED BY: JON
MUSICAL DIRECTOR:
ASST. MUSICAL DIRECTOR: LI
CHOREOGRAPHER: CA

THE MUSICIANS

Keyboard SIMON HUNT
Trumpets PATRICK KIKUYU
SIMON HUNT
Saxophone MATHEW GIDDINGS
Guitar SETH THUITA
Bass PETER HUXLEY, CYRUS GIKURI
Glockenspiel DENISE WHITE
Drums BOSCO FERNANDES, ANTON LEIGH

STAGE MANAGER
FRANCES CATTERMOLLE

CONSTRUCTION MANAGER
IVOR MAYNARD

SET DESIGN
TIM ROWSON

COSTUME DESIGN
MARY EPSOM

THE CAST

In order of appearance

Malevola The Wicked Fairy
Simon The Knave
Mickel }
Muckel } The Palace Guards
King Ezekiel
Queen Lucy
Nurse Toogood
Rosebud }
Jacaranda } The Fairies
Nausea }
Benevola - The Good Fairy
Princess Aurora
Phyllis - The Boar
Florizel

ALL SMALL ANIMALS
NABILA ALIBHAI, NICOLA AMOS, ADI A
MUTHONI GACHECHEH, GRACE KA
COSTYN VAN DONGEN, HIRA

ALL LARGE ANIMALS
EMILY AKUNO, CATHERINE BRIK
SHAN LINCK, GEORGE MAKOKHA, CARO
ROBERT NDERITO, DAVID NGUA
CHARLOTTE SJOSTROM-FLANAGAN

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OPHTHALMIC O

and
CONTACT - LENS O

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Sleeping Beauty

WRITTEN BY: JON TARLTON
DIRECTOR: SIMON HUNT
PRODUCTION DIRECTOR: LINDA SCHWEINFURTH
COSTUME DESIGNER: CATHERINE BRIKKE

THE CAST

(in order of appearance)

DUNCAN LINSOTT
DERRICK RODRIGUES
SHABBIR HUSSEIN
OPIYO OKACH
TED WASHBURN
JANE CORFIELD
KEITH ATKINSON
SHAN LINCK
EMILY AKUNO
MALU MUTAMBA
LYDIA SELBY
ASHA LYNCH
DERRICK RODRIGUES
CHERYL MACEY

SMALL ANIMALS AND PEOPLE

ALAN AMOS, ADI ARAD, ALEXANDRIA CHESONI,
ANNE DEW, GRACE KASHANGAKI, SHRUTI PATEL,
JAMES WONG, DONGEN, HIRAL VORA, RAJVI VORA

LARGE ANIMALS AND PEOPLE

CATHERINE BRIKKE, GABRIELLA CIMINO,
ANITA KOKHA, CAROLINE MENYA, MALU MUTAMBA,
JAMES WONG, DAVID NGUAH, MICHAEL ODHIAMBO,
JAMES WONG, TROM-FLANAGAN, MUDASIA VIHENDA

ACT ONE

- Scene 1.** The Fiery Mountain
Scene 2. The Courtyard of the Palace
Scene 3. Nurse Toogood's Boudoir
Scene 4. The Great Hall of the Palace
Scene 5. A Corridor in the Palace
Scene 6. Inside the Clock Tower
Scene 7. The Great Hall of the Palace

INTERVAL

ACT TWO

- Scene 1.** The Hedge of Thorns
Scene 2. The Great Hall - A Hundred Years later
Scene 3. A Room in the Palace
Scene 4. The Centre of the Maze
Scene 5. A Corridor in the Palace
Scene 6. A Royal Wedding

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Acknowledgements

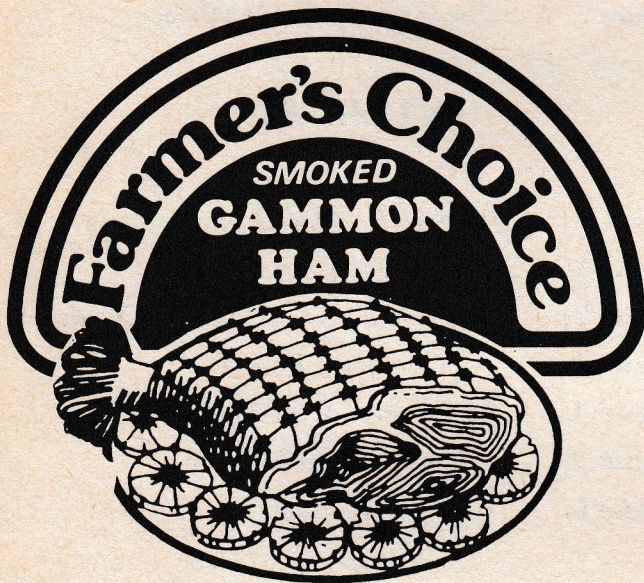
SWISSAIR for airline ticket for director
Greengates Kindergarten for rehearsal facilities

La Born Exquise for tailoring

Patty Ltd.

Assanand for sound equipment

Mr. Terry Scott (professional pantomime dame) for the generous loan of "strip" costume.



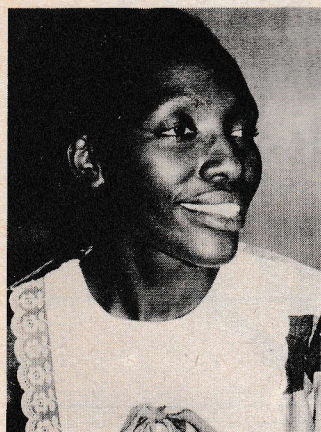
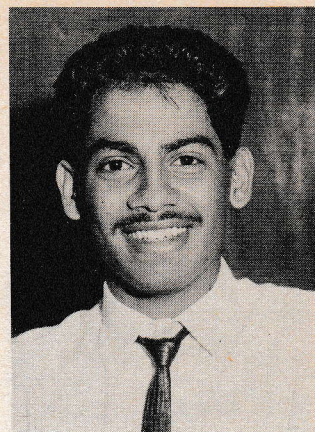
**The Festive
Favourite
for
Christmas**



DERRICK RODRIGUES

(Simon — The Knave)

A great performer and NCP are delighted to have him back in the cast of one their productions, after his excellent performance in their "Godspell". This followed lots of work in schools productions. His tenor voice and rhythmic movement lend a lot to his performances. So much so that Phoenix Players selected him to play the Major-General in their production of "Pirates of Penzance" last year — surely the youngest Major-General ever to play this part. G. & S. would have been amused we're sure. Apart from the theatre, he's into computers.

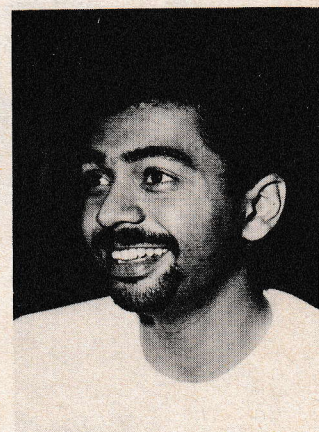


EMILY AKUNO (Fairy Jacaranda)

Emily is a Kenyan, from Nyanza Province. She developed a keen interest in theatre and music from her early education in primary school. She later featured in stage productions at Alliance Girls' High School, mostly playing male roles. She has a fine singing voice and later, as a student at Northwestern, Louisiana, U.S.A. played the part of "Cherubino in Workshop productions of scenes from Mozart's "Le Nozze di Figaro". This is her first appearance with Nairobi City Players and her first pantomime and she says she is enjoying it all. Emily is married with one son, Moses.

SHABBIR HUSSEIN (Mickel — Palace Guard)

This is Shabbir's fourth production for Nairobi City Players. Previously he appeared in the group's productions of the pantomime "Mother Goose", "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying" and "Godspell" and scored big successes in all of these. He is a talented actor and dancer with a strong comedy touch. He says "When I'm not prancing around on stage I prance around the maintenance division of a touring company. I get a great kick out of entertaining people, maybe more than looking into and their problems".



SHAN LINCK (Fairy Rosebud)

This is Shan's first stage appearance in Nairobi. Her previous experience includes five year's active membership with the Dar-es-Salaam Players. Apart from occasional back stage work she played a number of principal roles for Dar-es-Salaam Players including "Nellie Lovelace" in "Dirty Work at the Crossroads", "Little Eva" in "The King and I", a lady-in-waiting in "Vivat Vivat Regina" and in "The Wizard of Wobbling Rock" (a pantomime). Originally from Tanzania, Shan says that she has settled nicely into Nairobi's fast and furious ways, and loves it! When not trying to keep pace with her husband's Rally driving and camel riding exploits, she is mainly at home entertaining Tanzanites and keeping up with the dog world.

DUNCAN LINSCOTT

(Malevola — The Wicked Fairy)

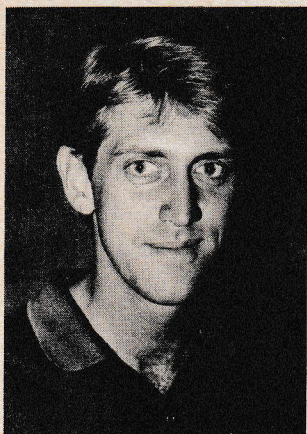
Duncan, making his first appearance for NCP, introduces himself with some typical pantomime verse

“My name’s Malevola, I’m new at this game
They promised me girls, and fortune and fame,
I don’t mind the hat and make-up and lights,
But I’ll tell you something; it’s hell in these tights.

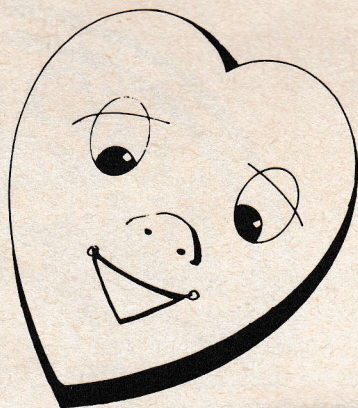
The cast have been great; we’ve all had a ball,
But don’t dare to miss just one rehearsal call,
And, if I don’t get that good fairy, Benevola,
I’ll return to Karen, and play golf, it’s easier.

So, enjoy our Panto; it’s really quite fun,
And don’t be too sad when the performance is done,
Just stay till the end; when all the stalls clear,
Because I’ll be outside and off for a beer”

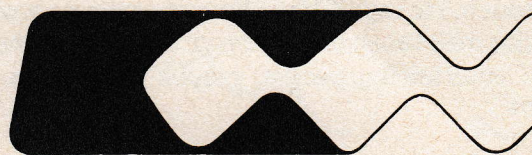
Apart from his considerable histrionic talent, Duncan Linscott is the golf professional at the Karen Country Club.



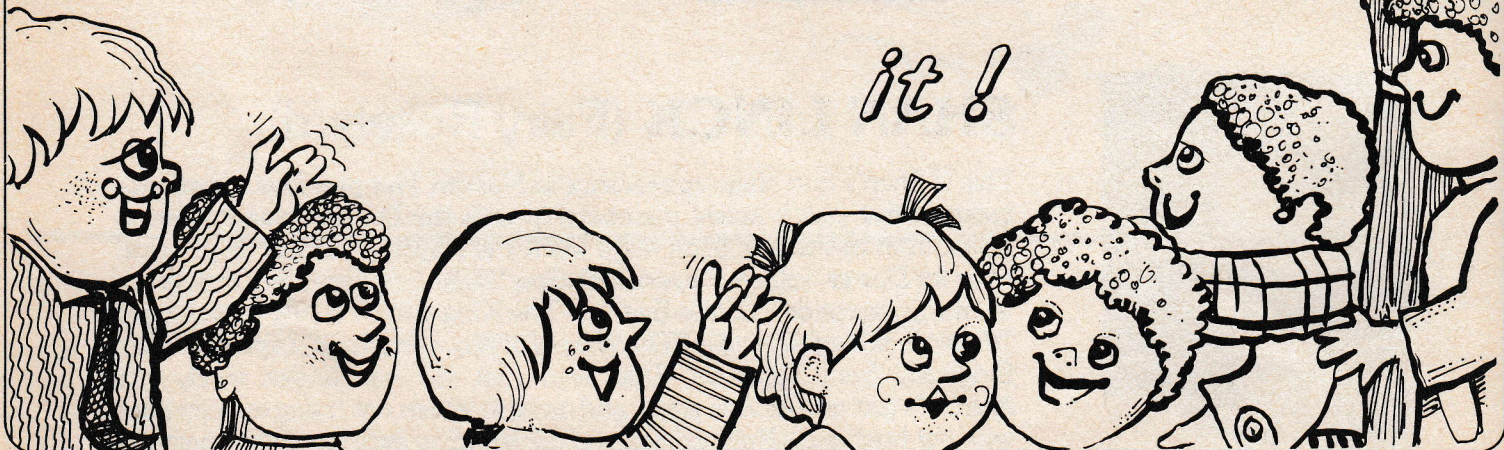
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NAIROBI CITY PLAYERS AND THE KENYA NATIONAL THEATRE

In 1956, John Ebdon and Donald Whittle (both ex-professional actors), the late Noreen Antrobus and Bryan Epsom, all dedicated thespians, met and decided to form an "acting group" to be known as "The Nairobi City Players". The Constitution of this new group was unusual for an amateur society as the main aims and objects were stated as follows:

- (a) Regularly to present theatrical productions of a good dramatic and artistic standard by utilising and coordinating the best available acting talent, directors, set designers and technical stage assistants in Kenya.
- (b) Towards the fulfilment of (a) above, to be unstinting in the cost of productions, subject to the budget limits set by the Standing Committee.
- (c) To take all necessary steps to encourage drama and to improve the facilities available for theatrical productions.

The City Players, despite vastly changed circumstances affecting theatre in Kenya since their inception, have adhered faithfully to these aims and the presented well over 100 productions, including many fullscale musicals, mostly at the Kenya National Theatre.

In fact, this year marks the 34th year of N.C.P's association with the Kenya National Theatre which the group affectionately regards its home ground. Since 1956, the rentals paid by N.C.P. have formed a major contribution to the Kenya National Theatre's revenues; in addition the group has given donations from time to time to assist the Theatre. Apart from this, N.C.P. has made substantial contributions to a number of worthy charities by way of Charity Premieres and also gifts in cash and kind.

Over the years many talented people have made major contributions to the work of the group, working in all fields of theatrical enterprise. Their remarkable endeavours have resulted in a high standard of production of which this group is understandably proud. Some of the highlights of our 34 year history are as follows:

Among the musicals were: "The King and I" (1961). This was revived in 1977, sixteen years later with the original leads Peter Pearce and Dulcie Artwill, known as the Bangkok Pensioners for the latter production. "Annie Get Your Gun" (1963), "Irma La Douce" (1963), "South Pacific" (1964), "Oklahoma" (1964) Revived in 1978, "The Sound of Music" (1967), "Guys and Dolls" (1968) Revived in 1979, "My Fair Lady" (1968), "Kiss Me Kate" (1969), "Fiddler on the Roof" (1971), "Hello, Dolly" (1972), "Man of La Mancha" (1973), "Godspell" (1974) Revived with Gerry Tebbutt's sparkling production last year, "Cabaret" (1976), "The Merry Widow" (1977) "Side by Side by Sondheim" (1980) "Canterbury Tales" (1982) "Annie" (1986) and "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying" (1988)

Gilbert & Sullivan works have also been presented - "The Pirates of Penzance" (1979), "H.M.S. Pinafore" (1980) and "The Gondoliers" (1984) with Nairobi Music Society. In recent years the group has presented pantomime at Christmas with "Cinderella" (1984), "Aladdin" (1985) "Jack and the Beanstalk" (1986), "Mother Goose" (1987) and "Robinson Crusoe" (1989). Travelling revues have also been a popular part of our programme with "Minstrels" (1974), (1975) and (1978), "Savoy Knights" (1981) and "Happy as a Sandbag" (1983).

Particularly successful plays offered by the group were "The Love of Four Colonels" (our first production in 1956), "Ring Round the Moon" (1957), "The Diary of Anne Frank" (1960), "Ross" (1964), "A View from the Bridge" (1966), "The Affair" (1969), "Hadrian VII" (1971), "Conduct Unbecoming" (1973), "The Masters" (1975), "Hostile Witness" (1976) "Crown Matrimonial" (1980), "The Business of Murder" (1987) and "Twelve Angry Men" the late Nigel Slade's brilliant production last year.

Over the last twenty or so years Nairobi City Players have followed a policy of "importing" professional directors, choreographers, actors, singers and musicians. These have included - directors Larry Oaks, David Kelsey, Robert Robinson, Gerry Tebbutt, Fernand Monast, Geoffrey Braun, Jon Tarlton, Leo Kharibian and Larry Drew - actors Hope Jackman, Jenny Logan, Lynne Williamson, Tony Rickell, Christina Artemis, David Middleton, Gaynor Miles, Garth Bandell, Olivia Breeze and Sid Livingstone, and for the productions of "The Merry Widow" and "The Barber of Seville", director, musical director, soloists and musicians from the Vienna Volksoper and the Opernhaus Graz.

This policy of strengthening local talent with visiting professionals has been fully justified, we feel, by the ambitious productions we have been able to stage, and has certainly raised standards.

Bryan Epsom



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Pure Smirnoff
with Lime Juice.

Pure Smirnoff
with Tomato Juice.

Pure Smirnoff
with Ice.

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beauties you can
dream of during this
season's play—

SLEEPING BEAUTY.



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