



NAIROBI CITY PLAYERS
Presents



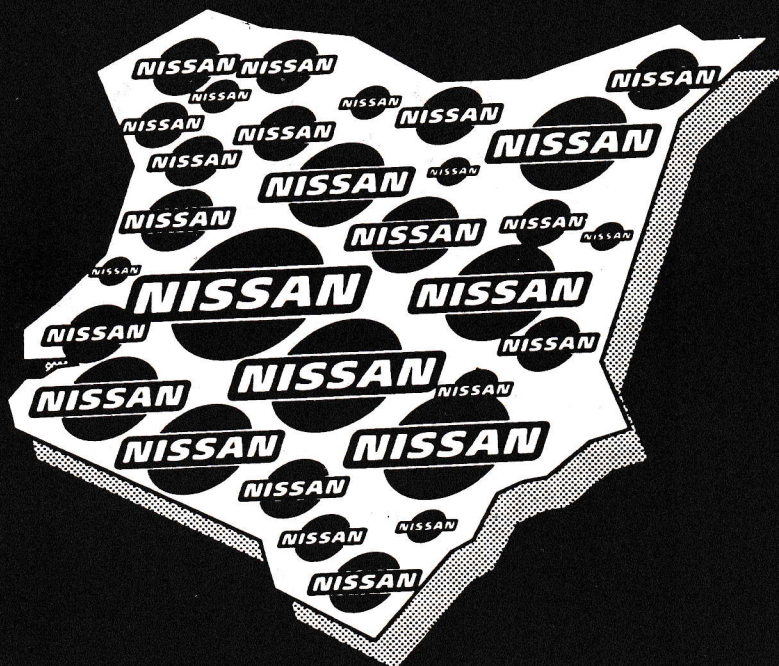
Little Red Riding Hood

at the
KENYA NATIONAL THEATRE

Director: Roy Lawrence
Assistant Director: Margaret Curran
Choreographer: Richard Pitt-Kennedy
Musical Director: Geoffrey Njogu



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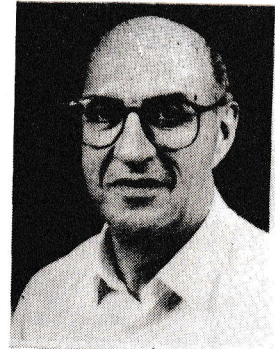
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LARRY OAKS

An Appreciation



The Pantomime this year is dedicated to the memory of Larry Oaks - director, choreographer, mentor and, above all, friend of Nairobi City Players. We were saddened to hear of his death in June this year. The world of theatre lost a talented and experienced "Jack-of-all-Trades".

Born in Jersey to a farming family, Larry set his sights on being a dancer. He achieved this, and from those early foot tapping years in theatre, television and cabaret, he went on to become choreographer for many stage and film productions. He then entered the field of direction and his great success associated him with many star names and smash hit musicals and took him to New York, Los Angeles, Toronto, Norway, Denmark, Holland and Israel as well as the United Kingdom.

But friends and colleagues throughout the world mourn the loss of a warm, generous-hearted man who loved life. He showed his own confidence in Kenyan talent when he returned time and time again. In all, he directed ten productions for Nairobi City Players. Tonight we remember him as we knew him.

His first production was "Fiddler on the Roof" in 1971 with Frank Price in the leading role, when his admiration for the hard-working and talented amateurs he worked with was born. He revived "Fiddler" bringing Barry Master to play Tevye in 1991 and between those years he directed "Kismet" (1971), "Hello Dolly" (1972), "Man of La Mancha" (1973), "Side by Side by Sondheim" (1980), "Annie" and "Jack and the Beanstalk" (1986), "Dick Whittington" (1992). "Cinderella" in 1993 was his last production in Kenya.

In a typically courageous and generous gesture, knowing that his life was to be shortened by cancer, he returned to Kenya in 1994 to throw a farewell party for his friends, as he did in many countries he had visited in his long career.

We miss his friendship. We will long remember his warmth, his wonderful smile and the high standards he sought and achieved in fine productions for NCP.

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FORWARD

Written by

FRANCES CATTERMOLLE
Chairman

Once again it's pantomime time and my first task is to thank Jon Tarlton who was originally supposed to direct this year's show but due to health problems was unable to come to Kenya, so our sincere thanks to Jon who wrote the script for us to work from, among all the other things he has done for this show. We hope that he has now fully recovered and will be able to come out and work with us next year.

The group's most heartfelt gratitude to Roy Lawrence, the Director, who stepped in and took over the reins so that we could stage this pantomime. Our thanks also to Richard Pitt-Kennedy for the Choreography, Geoffrey Njogu for Musical Direction and Margaret Curran for all the assistance she has given Roy.

This year's show sees a lot of new faces on the stage and it is very encouraging to see the old hands back again. Everyone has worked tremendously hard this year and my congratulations to all those who have been involved both on stage and behind the scenes.

This year we also see for the first time the effect of all the wonderful new equipment installed in the theatre during November and we must thank the Kenya National Theatre for allowing us to use the stage and for the hard work they put into ensuring that all the equipment was ready for us.

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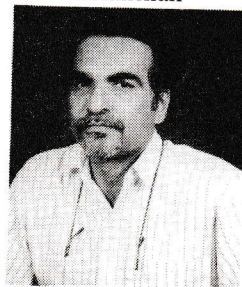
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Chairman



Jenny Dunnet
Executive Member



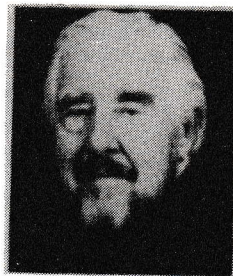
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Secretary



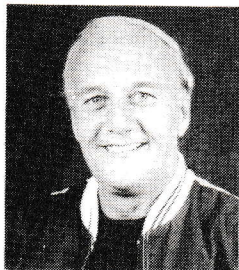
Lesley Mullan
Member



Rurik Ronsky
Member



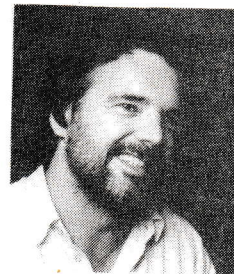
Jacqui Mason
Member



Roy Lawrence
Member



Margaret Curran
Member



Jon Freeman
Member

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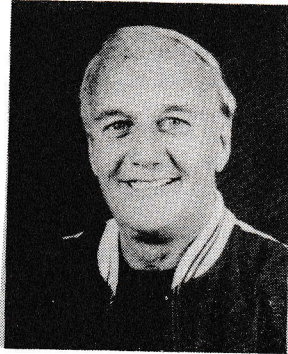


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DIRECTOR / WOLF



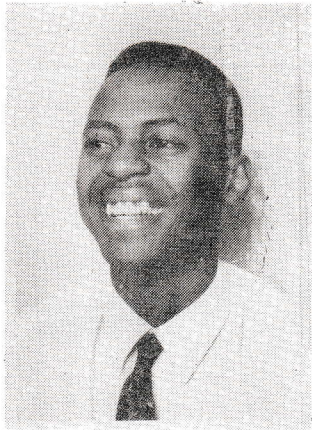
ROY LAWRENCE

It is with mixed feelings that Roy directs this pantomime, as it is due to the fact that Jon Tarlton was taken very ill just before flying out to Kenya. Roy had been looking forward to just playing the part of the Wolf, but has admirably stepped into the breach as Director as well. He wishes Jon a speedy recovery and hopes that he did as good a job as Jon would have done.

More about Roy. From an early age in Manchester, England, Roy took an interest in Theatre assisting back-stage and playing "bit" parts whenever possible. He came to East Africa as a young man where he worked in Kampala, Dar-es-Salaam and finally Nairobi. He has produced, choreographed and taken part in several successful productions including "Kiss Me Kate", "The Rivals", "Guys and Dolls". "A Funny Thing....", "Wait Until Dark" and "Man For All Seasons". His pantomimes include "Sinbad the Sailor", "Cinderella", "Aladdin", "Dick Whittington" and "Jack and the Beanstalk". The latter three he directed, and in each one had to step in to play one of the leading roles!!

Roy writes about the play...

"Little Red Riding Hood" based on the famous short fairy-tale is an entirely new pantomime for Nairobi City Players. The action takes place in and around the village of "Merrydown-Under-the-Wood". A peaceful little place - at least until a ravenous wolf arrives on the scene intent on satiating his hunger by stealing a lamb or two which are carefully tended by young Mary, the heroine of this tale. Mary is presented with a lovely white dress and splendid red hood and cape for her birthday by her Grandmother, who lives in a cottage within the nearby woods. The local constabulary comes out in force to hunt the wolf, who, after failing to snatch any of the lambs, plots to snare (with the help of some woodland jinis) "Miss Red Riding Hood" whilst she is visiting her Grandmother at her cottage.....



GEOFFREY NJOGU - Musical Director

Geoffrey joined Starehe Boy's Centre in 1989 where he began to study the piano and saxophone. During his four years of Secondary Education he achieved the Associated Board of Royal Schools of Music Grade 8 piano and Grade 5 saxophone. He also won first place in the 1992 Kenya Music Festival in the advanced piano solo class and the Kibuhosya Cup for woodwinds. In 1993 he won a British Council Scholarship to study music at the Chichester College of Arts, Science and Technology where he was highly commended. At 21 he is one of the youngest Musical Directors to work with Nairobi City Players, although as you can gather not the least talented. Geoffrey is currently a Student of Architecture at the University of Nairobi.



RICHARD PITT-KENNEDY
Choreographer

Richard started his dancing career with Vera Zerkovitch here in Nairobi. From Kenya he moved to Elmhurst Ballet School under Mercia Hetherington for advanced Royal Academy Dancing and Solo Seal. He moved briefly to the Royal Ballet under Anthony Dowell and then to Ballet Rambert under Richard Alston and Robert North. After being injured on tour in Italy, Richard gave up commercial dancing and moved in to the Pub business and also opened an entertainment agency in London. He is at the moment in the process of selling his pub in England as he moved back to Kenya in March 1994 due to his mother's illness. Sadly she passed away at the end of September this year. Richard is a Director of MD Kampf Insurance Agents and has no plans to leave Kenya.





ADRIAN STRAIN - Grandma

Adrian is a new recruit to the Nairobi City Players although he has lived in Kenya for nearly 20 years. His acting career began 30 years ago in an amateur West End Company, where he met his wife. Since then, it has been interrupted by long periods of "resting" while he has had to pursue other interests, including his career as an economist. He prides himself as being the only "practical" member of his gifted family, as his wife is a musician, his son is an art historian and his daughter writes and produces plays.



CHARLENE PAMELA ELKINGTON -
Red Riding Hood

Charlene goes to school at the Nairobi Academy where she is active in Drama, Sports, Ballet and Music. She has featured in several school productions including "Sound of Music" (as the Baroness), "The Nutcracker" and "Romeo and Juliet". She is also a professional model.

This is her first performance with Nairobi City Players and hopefully will not be her last.





GERALD IRUNGU - Police Inspector

Gerald is a bacteriologist at the Kenyatta National Hospital and has been for the last 14 years. He first acted with Nairobi City Players in "Toad of Toad Hall" and after a longish break was seen treading the boards for us last year in "Lifegame'94". His first appearance on stage was in "J.C. Superstar" in 1977 and since then has also been in "Joseph....." (1980), "Equus" and "The Wiz" (1984) at the Donovan Maule and the Phoenix. Gerald loves reading Si-Fi and collects Marvel Comic "X" titles. To keep fit he plays squash, soccer, table-tennis and lawn tennis, as well as being an avid runner with the Nairobi Hash House Harriers. He says his favourite past-time is cookery. In what little spare time he has left after all his other interests, Gerald also likes to do a little water colouring, sketching and calligraphy.



TONY KIMANI - Jason

Tony is 20 years old and works for a news gathering company as an administrator and loves the excitement and variety it offers.

He claims to have found the secret of long life and he is revealing it to us. That is song, dance and laughter - in one word Pantomime!!!





BIRGIT KRAUSE - Mum

We asked Birgit to write a short piece telling us a little bit of her life story, and why she was doing the pantomime. This is what she wrote....

"Oh goodness, Oh goodness what shall I say
About myself and what's "behind me" - no way!

Pantos are big fun and crazy too,
rehearsals are often like being in a zoo!!

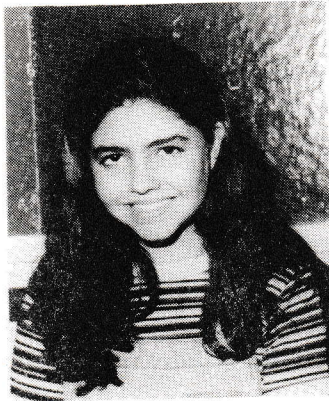
That's why I join in for the third time,
and trust you equally enjoy this pantomime"



JACQUI MASON - Fairy

Jacqui made her "stage" debut at the age of three, singing and dancing on a table top in a pub - The Winning Post - in Twickenham, England. She sang "You Are My Sunshine" to British and American servicemen home on leave from fighting in Europe. From that day music and drama have been part of her life. She has appeared in most American musicals, in cabaret, in Old Tyme Music Hall, in straight plays, in pantomime and sang tenor in her local choir for 26 years. She took a break from the theatre in the sixties to have her five children but resumed when the oldest boy joined the school choir. This school choir became famous for its Christmas television broadcast of Carols on Christmas Eve. At one time Jacqui and her five children were all part of that choir as they were of the church choir. She met her husband, Robin, through music and he and his daughter were part of both church and school choirs. In Kenya she is again involved with music being chairman of the Nairobi Music Society and a committee member of Nairobi City Players. She says whether performing, doing administration or behind the scenes, it doesn't matter, she still gets that theatrical "buzz" on opening night.





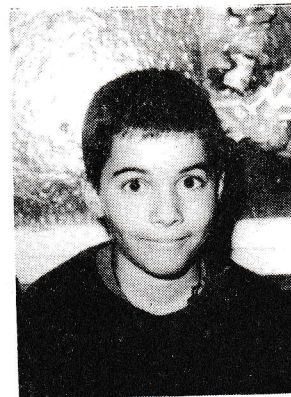
LACY WARNER - Sammy

Lacy Warner, 11 years old, was born in Jacksonville, Florida. She has lived in Austria, Zimbabwe, Ireland, Mexico, America and now Kenya. Lacy is not a stranger to the stage having appeared in productions in California, Maryland and here. She has also appeared in an Educational Television show.



SIMON RIBEIRO OLIVER - Robbie

Simon, 11 years old, was born in Manila, Philippines. He is a Swiss/Portuguese and has lived with his parents in many different countries and came to Kenya in 1991. He speaks French, English and Portuguese. He is a 6th form student at Kenton College and is very good in sports being an accomplished swimmer and tennis player. He enjoys music and plays the recorder, piano, flute and guitar. For hobbies he lists theatre, jazz dance and singing. For 2 years he has been studying LAMDA and has passed both exams with distinction and honours. These skills he put to use in different school plays. This performance with Nairobi City Players is to broaden his experience by working with a larger number of people - and besides which Simon loves being on stage!

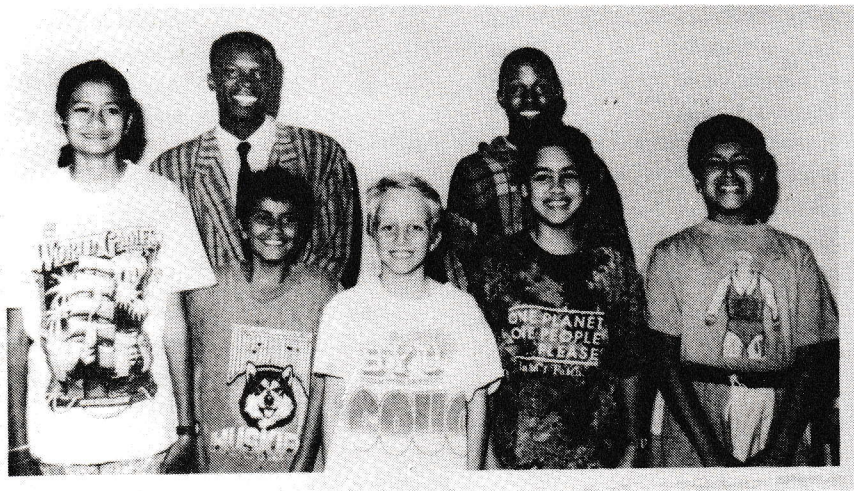


MEG, LUCY AND ETHEL



L to R: Kim Jenkins "Meg", Lois Wamaitha "Lucy", Naomi Clark "Ethel"

"JINIS"



John Odor, Michael Voihya,
Reme Patel, Nikhil Jackson, Jesse Ransom, Shayda Vance, Mayankh Umamaheswar

LITTLE RED I

DIRECTOR: RC
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
CHOREOGRAPHER: RIC
MUSICAL DIRECTOR

MUSICIANS

Piano	Geoffrey Njogu
Clarinet	Njane Mugambi
Trumpet	Julius Watatua
Oboe	Wanjiru Njoya
Alto Saxophone	Nimrod Onyango
Drums	Robin Mason

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT ONE

Its a lovely day	Villagers
Barbara Ann	Mary, Lambs, Police
Who's afraid of the big bad wolf	Company
Hey look me over	Grandma
Anything you can do	Mary, Jason
Friends and Neighbours	Villagers
Oom Pah Pah	Company

ACT 2

Be Prepared	Wolf & Jinis
Whenever I feel afraid	Police
Nobody Loves a Fairy.....	Fairy
We're following the Leader	Police/Villagers
Food Glorious Food	Jinis
Bye Bye Bad Wolf	Song Sheet
Happy Days are here again	Company
That's Entertainment	Company

THE

In order of

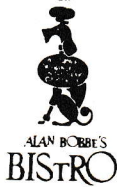
Fairy
Police Inspector
Jason
Mum
Zac
John
Sammy
Robbie
Mary
Wolf
Grandma
Meg
Ethel

LAMBS

Ciera Mullan
Rekha Paunrana
Megan Warner
Azra Premji
Nishma Shah

JINIS

John Odor
Michael Voihya
Reme Patel
Jesse Ransom
Mayankh Umamaheswar
Shadya Vance
Nikhil Jackson



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THE RIDING HOOD

BY: ROY LAWRENCE

DIRECTOR: MARGARET CURRAN

PRODUCER: RICHARD PITT-KENNEDY

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: GEOFFREY NJOGU

THE CAST

Order of appearance

Jacqui Mason
Gerald Irungu
Anthony Kimani
Birgit Krause
Michael Voihya
John Odor
Lacy Warner
Simon Oliver
Charlene Elkington
Roy Lawrence
Adrian Strain
Kim Jenkins
Naomi Clark

POLICE

CONSTABLES

Andrew Kiragu
Charles Otieno
John Mundia
Anthony Thiongo

VILLAGERS

Wycliffe Munubi
Lillian Agola
Pascale Pamba
Alice Chege
James Mwangi
David Thiongo
Wilson Omondi

CHILDREN

Maxim Oliver
Chiyku Makau
Aadarsh Shah
Lauren Salm

SCENES

The place - The Village of
"Merrydown-in-the-Wood"

ACT ONE

Scene 1 The Wood
Scene 2 The Village of Merrydown
Scene 3 The Wood
Scene 4 Grandma's Cottage
Scene 5 The Wood
Scene 6 The Village of Merrydown
Scene 7 The Wood

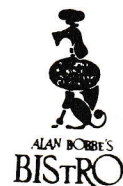
INTERMISSION

ACT TWO

Scene 1 A clearing in the forest
Scene 2 The forest
Scene 3 A clearing in the forest
Scene 4 Grandma's Cottage
Scene 5 A clearing in the forest
Scene 6 Grandma's Cottage
Scene 7 A clearing in the forest
Scene 8 Merrydown Glen

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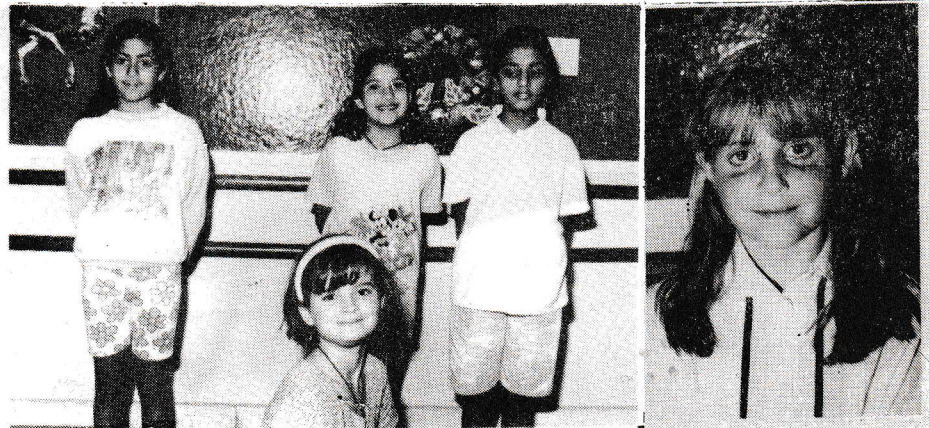
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"POLICE"



Anthony Thiongo, John Mundia, Andrew Kiragu, Charles Otieno

"LAMBS"



Azra Premji, Rekha Paunran, Ciera Mullan, Nishma Shah, Megan Warner

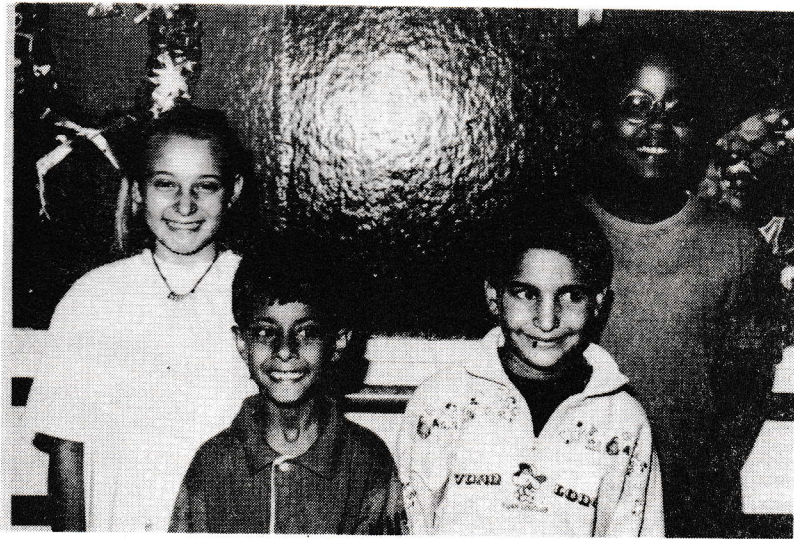
"VILLAGERS"



BACK L - R: Lillian Agola, Kim Jenkins, Lois Waimatha, Naomi Clark, Pascale Pamba, Alice Chege

FRONT L - R: James Mwangi, David Thiongo, John Odor, Wycliffe Munubi, Wilson Omondi, Michael Voihya

"VILLAGE CHILDREN"



L to R: Lauren Salm, Aadarsh Shah, Maxim Oliver, Chiyku Makau

COSTUME TEAM



Patti Ransom, Lesley Mullan, Anne Nicklin

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PRODUCTION TEAM

Production Secretary:	Gail Langton
Stage Director:	Frances Cattermole
Stage Managers:	Sasha Ronsky, Ingrid Dugand, Rob Dugand
Stage Crew:	Jim Were, Eddie Ongwae, Daniel Mbugua, Josphat Waithaka, John Mwenje, Daniel Njoroge, Lazarus Tsuma, Benson Muroki
Lighting:	Neil Davidson, Jason Mwai, Moses, Shabbir Hussein, Stanley Dangana
Properties:	Ingrid Dugand, Fran Young, Bee Everett
Sound:	Jon Freeman, Martin Kiziili
Costume Team:	Lesley Mullan, Patti Ransom, Debrah Ngoya, Anne Nicklin, Mary Epsom, Lesley Strain, Jacqui Mason
Set Designer:	Chris Meck
Set Artist:	Chris Meck
Painters:	Brenda Goodman, Kirstie Davis, Katrina Tilley
Construction:	Daniel Mbugua and his team
Front of House:	Manny Sidnick, Joan Greene
Programme and Publicity:	Gail Langton, Jenny Dunnet

NAIROBI CITY PLAYERS

In 1956, John Ebdon, Donald Whittle (both ex-professional actors), the Late Noreen Antrobus and the late 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 of 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 the theatre in Kenya since their inception, have adhered faithfully to these aims and they have presented over 120 productions, including many fullscale musicals, mostly at the Kenya National Theatre.

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.

Membership to Nairobi City Players is available upon payment of an annual subscription. The membership form is to be found on the opposite page.

Membership Form

APPLICATION FOR NAIROBI CITY PLAYERS MEMBERSHIP

PLEASE COMPLETE IN BLOCK LETTERS

Mr/Mrs/Miss First Name(s)

Mailing Address

Telephone: Home: Work

I hereby apply for membership of Nairobi City Players for 1996 and enclose my cheque/cash for 250/- Adult 100/- Junior

Signed

My particular interests are: (Please tick as many as applicable)

- Acting
- Singing
- Dancing
- Costumes
- Properties
- Set Construction
- Set Painting
- Stage Crew
- Hairdressing
- Sound Operation
- Lighting Operation
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- Publicity
- Make-up
- OTHERS (please specify)

Any other comments, suggestions or information you think relevant

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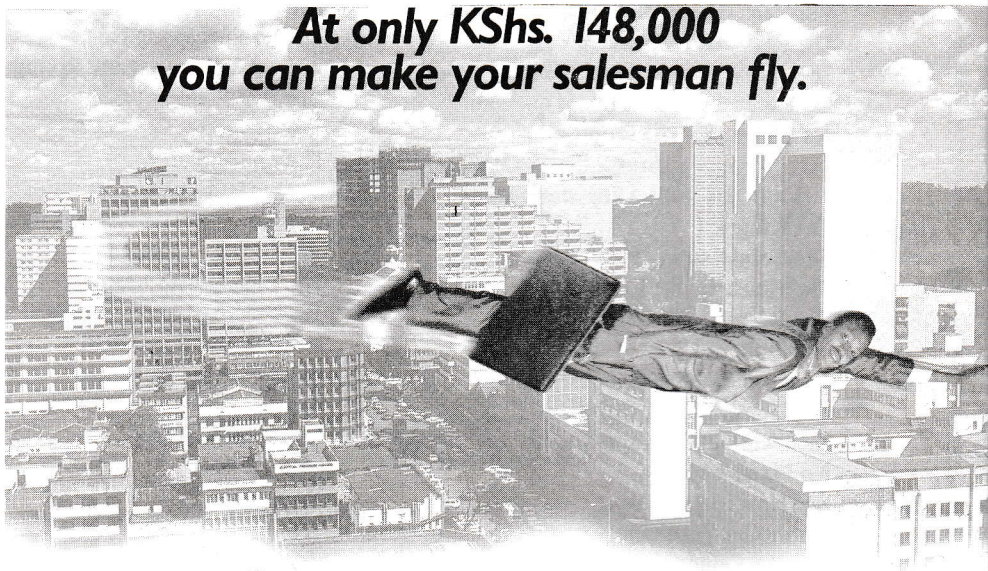
MANUFACTURERS OF RECONDITIONED METAL DRUMS






NAIROBI CITY PLAYERS - Previous Productions

1956	The Love of Four Colonels	1966	A View From the Bridge
1957	The Man Who Came to Dinner		The Man Who Came to Dinner
	Ring Round the Moon	1967	Twelve Angry Men
	Payment Deferred		Double Bill - Lunch Hour
1958	Romanoff & Juliet		- One Way Pendulum
	Two Gentlemen of Soho		The Sound of Music
	Carrington V.C.	1968	A Streetcar Named Desire
	Will any Gentleman		Guys and Dolls
1959	Rope		My Fair Lady
	You can't take It With You	1969	The Affair
	The Paragon		How to Succeed in Business
1960	The Diary of Anne Frank		without really Trying
	Six Characters in Search of an Author		After the Fall
	A Farrago of - The Proposal		Kiss Me Kate
	- Uneasy lies the Head	1970	The Magistrate
	- Red Peppers		Double Bill - The Dock Brief
1961	The King & I		- The Real Inspector
	The Caine Mutiny Court Martial		Hound
	The House by the Lake		The Lion & The Jewel
	The Bespoke Overcoat		The Pyjama Game
	The Hole	1971	Hadrian VII
1962	Caesar & Cleopatra		Fiddler on the Roof
	The Long & Short & the Tall		Kismet
	Men without Shadows	1972	Under Milk Wood
	No Fixed Abode		Salad Days
1963	See How They Run		Saint Joan
	Annie Get Your Gun		Hello Dolly!
	Irma La Douce	1973	Conduct Unbecoming
	Excerpts from St. Joan		Man of La Mancha
	The Resounding Tinkle		A Voyage Round My Father
1964	South Pacific	1974	Minstrels 1974
	Rose		Everything in the Garden
	The Valiant		Godspell
	The Scar		The Rainmaker
	Oklahoma		Oliver
1965	The Country Wife	1975	Minstrels 1975
	The Duchess of Malfi		The Masters
	The Wizard of Oz		Genesis

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Nairobi City Players - Previous Productions (contd)

(1975)	An Inspector Calls Another Opening	1984	The Gondoliers Cinderella
1976	Hostile Witness Cabaret A Funny Thing Happened on the way to the Forum	1985	Aladdin
1977	Trio season - The Man in the Glass Booth - The Fantasticks - The Desperate Hours The Merry Widow The King & I	1986	Annie
1978	Minstrels 1978 The Barber of Seville Oklahoma	1987	Jack & the Beanstalk Old Time Music Hall The Business of Murder Mother Goose
1979	The Pirates of Penzance Guys & Dolls	1988	How to Succeed in Business without really Trying
1980	Side by Side by Sondheim H.M.S. Pinafore Crown Matrimonial Toad of Toad Hall	1989	Godspell Twelve Angry Men Robinson Crusoe
1981	The Lady of the Camellias Savoy Knights	1990	Stepping Out Sleeping Beauty
1982	The Fantasticks Canterbury Tales	1991	Fiddler on the Roof Ali Baba & The Forty Thieves
1983	Happy as a Sandbag	1992	Habeas Corpus West Side Story Dick Whittington
		1993	Cabaret Magic Cinderella
		1994	Dancing at Lughnasa Lifegame '94 Aladdin
		1995	A Taste of Honey

Nairobi City Players is pleased to announce
that 1996 is their 40th Anniversary and
that the first production of the year to
celebrate will be
An Irish Play
opening in March, 1996

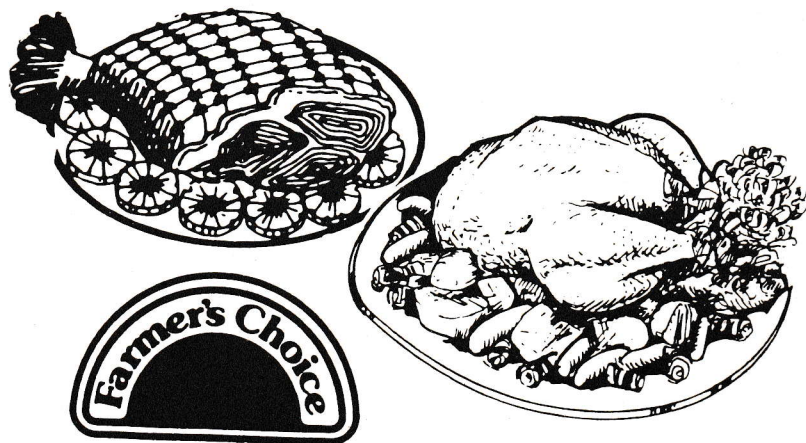
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

BARCLAYS BANK OF KENYA for sponsorship
CROWN PAINTS for scenery paints
HILTON HOTEL for cast catering
KILIMANJARO MINERAL WATER for cast bottled drinking water
CADBURY'S for sweets
GREENGATES KINDERGARTEN for rehearsal facilities
ADVERTISERS for their support
SMART PRINTERS for printing posters and programmes
MARY EPSOM for assistance with wolf's costume
LESLEY STRAIN for assistance with dame's costume
TIM NICKLIN for assistance with wolf's costume
FRANCIS OLUDHE for musical assistance
Dame's hair dressed by Alan of Salon Serena
TO ALL THOSE PEOPLE AND ORGANISATIONS
who have given assistance after this programme went to press

Nairobi **nqp** City Players

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A Happy New Year
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