

# Theatre

## Globe Productions 'Guys and Dolls' promises quality musical entertainment

The Performing Arts are a significant part of life in Halton Hills. Area residents have come to expect and enjoy quality theatrical entertainment without having to travel to Toronto, and this fall is no exception!

Guys and Dolls is Globe Productions next show, premiering Nov. 15 at the John Elliott Theatre. Subsequent performances will be held Nov. 16, 17, 22, 23, 24, 29, 30 and Dec. 1, with matinees Nov. 18 and 25. Tickets for all performances are available for \$11, each at Royal LePage Real Estate on Guelph St. Especially important is the Gala Performance Nov. 15, a benefit for The North Halton Association For The Developmentally Handicapped. Coffee and dessert will be served in the Gallery following the show.

Guys and Dolls is a musical comedy set in the early 1950's. There are two pivotal love stories based on characters from Damon Runyan's short story "The Idyll of Miss Sarah Brown". Sister



Mark Llewellyn

Sarah, played by Debbie Tilson, works in the Save-a-Soul Mission. Her romance with the notorious



Pat McManus

gambler Sky Masterson (Mark Llewellyn) creates enough emotion and amusement for its own show. The relationship between bumbling craps shooter Nathan Detroit (Pat McManus) and the vivacious Miss Adelaide (Nanci McNeil) only adds to the hilarity and confusion.

Debbie Tilson is well known in the Halton Hills area as a private music teacher involved in singing

Poet in the Mississauga City Centre Opera production of Kismet. While with the Calbes Voice Studio Mark was Captain Von Trapp in Sound Of Music and Perchik in Fiddler on the Roof. His powerful voice adds credence to his portrayal of the tough (but human) gangster, Sky Masterson.

Nanci McNeil is certainly not a newcomer to Globe Productions but this is her first lead role. Nanci has been a chorus member and dancer in many Globe shows since 1984 including New Girl in Town, Mame, Brigadoon and Hello Dolly. Just as important is her participation on the Globe Executive in various roles as Resident Stage Manager, Props Assistant, Publicity Director and Assistant employed by the Ministry of Community and Social Services in Brampton. Her fun-loving enthusiasm in her role as Adelaide is evident when she states that her most memorable experience at rehearsal so far is practising with Pat McManus (Nathan Detroit) for her first real stage kiss!

Pat McManus has years of experience with the Milton Players including leading roles in The Wizard of Oz, Private Lives, Blythe Spirit and Move Over Mrs. Markham. He is a Milton resident employed at Doris Hosiery Mills.

### Travel

## The lure of Britain

If travel statistics mean anything, the most popular overseas destination among Canadian travellers is Britain, year after year.

Even granting that it is the overseas destination with by far the best air connections to Canada, its popularity must surely mean that the British are doing something right, from the standpoint of overseas visitors.

How is it, then, that the U.K. gets such bad reviews from a certain class of writers?

Graham Vickers, writing recently in a humor section of Regent Magazine - a high-gloss monthly with worldwide distribution among (to judge by its advertisements) the wealthy - dumped heavily on U.K. catering in an article entitled Gruel Britannia.

He describes "a country where expectations are breathtakingly low - a bilious network of restaurants, cafes, wine-bars and tea-rooms where it is possible to be ignored, insulted, kept waiting, poisoned, overcharged, usually - but not always - in that order."

Wait a minute. It may be true that, in your travels around the world, you will never see a restaurant with a sign proclaiming "British Cooking." But some of the finest restaurants anywhere on land or sea are those aboard such British ships as Cunard's Queen Elizabeth 2 and Sagafjord. And such deservedly famous English-style restaurants in London as Locke's and Rule's don't limit themselves to the traditional roast beef and Yorkshire pudding.

### BRITISH HOTELS

Another writer, Joseph Connelly, mused about British hotels in an article for In Britain, the entertaining monthly magazine of the British Tourist Authority.

Prefacing his criticisms with a declaration that the sorts of places that tourists are likely to visit today are extremely good, and that standards have improved out of all recognition over the last 10 or 15 years, Connelly writes:

"Up till then, we British were an unremittingly accepting bunch, who would much rather have been burned alive, frozen to death, or mercifully and methodically poisoned than contemplate anything remotely approaching a scene."

Connelly obviously wasn't lucky enough to have discovered some of those British hotels - such as the one in London called simply 47 Park St. - which, 10 or 15 years ago, were as good as any in the world, and still are.

(On the other hand, I can remember in the 1970s creating something approaching a scene



Vince Egan  
Travel

merely by asking the manager of a small hotel at Eastbourne, on the English Channel, whether a room was available. "A room?" she almost shrieked, registering as much shock as Lady Bracknell's famous line, "A handbag?"

### FOREIGNERS

The celebrated Canadian author, Margaret Atwood, a few years ago contributed an essay to The New York Times that could well serve as a guide to any of us visiting Britain.

"England is a foreign country," she wrote. "The first thing to remember if that you are a foreigner."

The English, said Atwood, have a sixth sense - a class sense - but they exclude foreigners like us from otherwise carefully stratified ranking of classes.

(There are exceptions. Some English people consign all foreigners to a class called savages.)

The visitor who hopes to fit in among the local people should observe the custom of what Atwood called "erecting elaborate artifacts of words."

Thus, if you should ever find yourself in Eastbourne when darkness is approaching, try to avoid the direct approach.

Instead, construct an elaborate artifact of words, such as: "I say, I'm frightfully sorry to trouble you, but by any chance would you have such a thing as a room that might possibly be available tonight?"

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Nanci McNeil

and piano lessons as well as pre-school music programs. Gifted with a wonderful voice, Debbie has been active in Globe Productions for several years, playing the lead role in both Kiss Me Kate and Hello Dolly. This past spring she was involved in a Community play (the first of its kind in North America), held in the ruins of an old woolen mill in the Rockwood Conservation Area. Debbie's portrayal of the repressed Sister Sarah utilizes both her musical ability and her talent as an actress.

Mark Llewellyn is a newcomer to Globe Productions and brings with him a great deal of expertise gained through his association with several respected Theatre groups. A Brampton resident, Mark is employed at Canadian Tire. He has played the lead in both The Music Man and Anything Goes with The Brampton Musical Society. In recent years he has also been Haaj the



Debbie Tilson

Pat brings excellent comedic timing and his strong vocal ability to the role of Nathan. When asked for his most memorable moment so far, Pat states "When I arrived late for the first rehearsal, some of the wise "guys and dolls" greeted me with a line from a song in the show "Why it's good old reliable Nathan"! Their good sense of humour immediately made the newcomer feel welcome!

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