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IT'S DELIGHTFUL, IT'S DELICIOUS, IT'S COLE PORTER'S



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Music and Lyrics by COLE PORTER Original Book by P.G WODEHOUSE & GUY BOLTON and HOWARD LINDSAY & RUSSELL CROUSE New book by TIMOTHY CROUSE & JOHN WEIDMAN Originally produced by LINCOLN CENTER THEATER, NEW YORK CITY

AMANDA HARRISON \* ALEX RATHGEBER \* TODD MCKENNEY \* CHRISTIE WHELAN WAYNE SCOTT KERMOND \* CHRISTY SULLIVAN \* ANNE WOOD \* JOHN O'MAY PETER LOWREY \* ROHAN BROWNE \* ALJIN ABELLA \* MARCUS RIVERA

with

ANNA BURGESS JAN DI PIETRO SAMANTHA DODEMAIDE EUAN DOIDGE CLAIRE GEORGE ALEX GIVEN VICTORIA HINDE BENJAMIN HOETJES KRISTOPHER LONG SAM LUDEMAN COLLIN MACKENZIE POOLE NICOLE MELLOY ANTHONY PEPE EVE PRIDEAUX RYAN STUART MONICA SWAYNE

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#### THE ARTS CENTRE – STATE THEATRE JULY 20 to JULY 24, 2011

Presented by arrangement with Tams-Witmark Music Library Inc., 560 Lexington Avenue, New York, New York 10022 In olden days a glimpse of stocking was looked on as something shocking, but now, god knows

YTHING

# WELGOME ABOARD

What fun to be opening our 2011 season with the delightful, delicious and de-lovely **Anything Goes**.

Our directors, Andrew Hallsworth and Dean Bryant, have just returned from Broadway, where they have been working on *Priscilla Queen of the Desert*. Anything Goes is having yet another revival on Broadway and has just picked up three Tonys. The New York Times described it as having 'the zesty effervescence of a freshly poured gin fizz'.

I know you will love this Cole Porter classic set on the high seas. We are in the wonderful hands of Andrew and Dean

and our marvellous Musical Director, Peter Casey. We welcome a new Set Designer, Adam Gardnir and welcome back our Costume Designer, Fleur Thiemeyer and Lighting Designer, Gavan Swift. Of course, the experts at System Sound will make sure you hear every witty word.

Our cast is one that dreams are made of. Amanda Harrison, Alex Rathgeber, Todd McKenney, Christie Whelan, John O'May, Anne Wood, Rohan Browne, Peter Lowrey and Marcus Rivera have performed with us before and are valued artists of The Production Company family. It is a thrill to welcome them back. Welcome to our new stars Christy Sullivan, Wayne Scott Kermond and Aljin Abella. I hope this is the first of many productions in which they will share their talent with us.

I am thrilled to see so many familiar names returning in the ensemble and to meeting our new artists.

We could not exist without the help of our sponsors and patrons. Thank you all, especially Star City, who is a major sponsor in 2011 and is sponsoring this production.

The New York Times commented that 'the 1930's called for bold smiles, tough wisecracks and defiant fantasies of over the top opulence.' I think our times call for them again, if indeed they ever went out of fashion.

Perhaps times have not changed all that much after all?



# Amanda Harrison Reno Sweeney

Amanda's performance credits span three continents, the USA, the UK and Australia. On London's West End she created roles in *We Will Rock You* and *Mamma Mia!* In New York Amanda sang at Carnegie Hall in *Australia Plays Broadway* as part of G'day Australia Week 2009. Amanda's television appearances in the UK include *Parkinson, Children In Need* and guest roles in Oscar Charlie, Grange Hill and Casualty. As a finalist in the inaugural Voice of Musical Theatre for BBC Radio 2, Amanda featured in *Broadway Babies*, a BBC documentary that aired throughout the UK and Australia.

Theatrical credits in Australia include creating the role of Elphaba in Wicked, Betty in Sunset Boulevard, Jenny in Aspects of Love, Les Miserables, The Journey Girl, Liza in The Boy From Oz, Oz in We Will Rock You, Ellie in Leader Of The Pack and Ellen in Miss Saigon. Across these productions Amanda has amassed several Green Room and Helpmann Award nominations and wins.

For The Production Company, Amanda has featured in *Mame, She Loves Me, Guys and Dolls* and *Oklahoma!* She is delighted to return in the role of Reno Sweeney in **Anything Goes**.

# Alex Rathgeber Billy Crocker

A WAAPA graduate, Alex's career highlights include playing Raoul on London's West End in Cameron Mackintosh's 21st Anniversary cast of *The Phantom of the Opera*, Robert Martin in the MTC's production of *The Drowsy Chaperone* and Patrick in The Production Company's 10th Anniversary production of *Mame*, for which he received a Green Room Award nomination.

Alex recently appeared as Peter Allen's partner Greg Connell in The Production Company's *The Boy From Oz.* Also for The Production Company, Alex has starred in *The Boy Friend* (Tony); *Camelot* (Lancelot); *Kiss Me, Kate* (Gremio); *Annie Get Your Gun* and *The Pajama Game*.

Alex played Brad Majors in the New Zealand and Korean tour of *The Rocky Horror Show*. Further credits include GFO's workshop of *An Officer and a Gentleman*, the world premiere of *Sideshow Alley* (QPAC), *Fiddler on the Roof* (TML), a range of concert and benefit appearances, most recently the City of Stonnington's *Musical Melodies* in the park and Channel Ten's *Rush*.

Alex performed in the 2010 Adelaide Cabaret Festival in *Experiment*, his second solo show after A Momentary Act.

www.alexrathgeber.com

# Todd McKenney Lord Evelyn Oakleigh

Todd McKenney knows showbiz from every angle. He has worked across stage, screen, television and radio. Since 2004, Todd has enjoyed his role as a judge on Channel 7's Dancing with the Stars. He has also hosted National Spelling Bee and been a guest presenter on The Morning Show. Todd has represented Australia in ballroom and Latin American dancing, winning many international dancing titles - perfect training for his role as Nathan Starkey in Baz Luhrmann's film Strictly Ballroom.

His first musical was Andrew Lloyd Webber's Song and Dance in 1983. From roles in Born Yesterday, Pirates of Penzance and Camelot, La Cage Aux Folles and Cats, he landed the lead roles of

Billy Lawlor in 42nd Street, Riff in West Side Story and the Emcee in Cabaret. In Crazy For You he proved he had what it takes to become a star when he took over the lead role from American actor Jim Walton.

After landing the prized role of Peter Allen in The Boy From Oz, Todd played the role for 766 performances. For this role he received two Mo Awards, the Variety Club Heart Award, the Glugg Award, the Green Room Award, the Australian Dance Award and 2 Helpmann Awards.

Todd also starred in Singin' In The Rain, and received an Australian Dance Award for his performance.

In 2007 he toured Australia opposite Nancye Hayes in the play Six Dance Lessons in Six Weeks.

Other roles include Priscilla Queen Of The Desert and reprising his role as Peter Allen in The Production Company's The Boy From Oz in Melbourne and Sydney.



# **Christie Whelen**

#### Erma

Christie most recently appeared in Xanadu The Musical playing the lead role of Kira to rave reviews. In 2010 she was nominated for a Helpmann Award for her performance of Janet Van De Graaf in the MTC's The Drowsy Chaperone.

In 2005 Christie made her musical theatre debut in Grease The Arena Spectacular, playing the role of Patti Simcox and understudying the role of Sandy. She was then asked to join the London cast. On returning to Australia, Christie landed the role of April in Stephen Sondheim's Company, for which she won the 2008 Sydney Critics' Award for Best New

Other roles include Sugar Kane in Sugar (Green Room Award

Nomination), Maisy in The Boy Friend, both for The Production Company, and Lecy in Once We Lived Here (Green Room Award Nomination).

In 2009 Christie was critically acclaimed for her one woman show Britney Spears: The Cabaret, which premiered at The Adelaide Cabaret Festival and went on to successful seasons in Sydney and Melbourne (Sydney Critics Award Nomination and Green Room Award Nomination - Best Cabaret). The show was written specifically for her by award winning writers Dean Bryant and Matthew Frank.

Her television credits include Kylie in Winners and Losers, Jenny in Offspring and Katarina in Conspiracy 365. Christie has also been seen on Spicks and Specks, The Circle and Good Morning Australia.

#### Wayne Scott Kermond Moonface Martin

Wayne has a four-generation show business heritage to his name. He is best known for his role as Cosmo Brown in Singin' in the Rain, where his slapstick routine of Make ' em Laugh had critics raving.

Other musical credits include Gypsy, Barnum, Chicago, Guys and Dolls, West Side Story, A Chorus Line, the STC's Jonah Jones and the MTC's Urinetown. Most recently he appeared in Smoke and Mirrors at The Famous Spiegel Tent.

Wayne's film credits include *Rebel, The Heroes, Kings In Grass Castles* and *Happy Feet.* He recently recreated the role of Lovelace in the soon to be released *Happy Feet 2*.

Wayne's greatest joy is performing live. He conceived and starred in his own musical cabaret show, *Candy Man*, which celebrates the art of the song and dance man. He has been nominated for an Australian Dance Award, Green Room Award, Helpmann Award and is a recipient of the Brian Stacey Musical Theatre Performer of the Year Award.

This is Wayne's debut with The Production Company and he is thrilled to be playing the role of Moonface Martin.

#### Christy Sullivan Hope Harcourt

Since graduating from WAAPA in 2009, Christy Sullivan stepped straight into the Sydney Theatre Company's rock musical *Spring Awakening* understudying the roles of Wendla and Martha, she quickly followed this up with the roles of Phoebe / Le Beau in *As You Like It* with The Shakespeare Centre, directed by Jason Langley.

Most recently, Christy performed the role of Natalie with the Melbourne Theatre Company in their critically acclaimed production of *Next To Normal* directed by Dean Bryant. On the small screen, Christy has appeared in Network Seven's award winning drama *Packed to the Rafters*, and *All Saints*.

Anything Goes is Christy's debut for The Production Company and she is very excited to be surrounded by such a magnificent cast and creative team.

#### Anne Wood Evangeline Harcourt

Anne spent nearly three years playing the leading role of Donna Sheridan in the original Australian cast of *Mamma Mia!* This earned her a Green Room Award and an invitation to play the role on London's West End. Anne also re-created the role in the national tour, celebrating the show's ten-year anniversary.

Previously she spent time in London and Hamburg, playing leading roles in Cats, Aspects of Love, Crazy For You, A Swell Party and Barnum.

Other credits include Elsa in *The Sound of Music*, *Minefields and Miniskirts* for Malthouse Theatre, concerts

throughout Australia in *Australia's Leading Ladies, Menopause, the Musical*, Magenta in *The Rocky Horror Show* and, most recently, *Prodigal* for the Melbourne Midsumma Festival.

For The Production Company, Anne has appeared as Phyllis Stone in *Follies*, Meg Boyd in *Damn Yankees* and Mrs Mullin in *Carousel*.

Her debut solo album is due for release in September.

# John O'May Elisha Whitney

John has worked in most areas of the entertainment industry: musical theatre, cabaret, drama, opera, concerts, comedy, radio, writing and directing.

His musical theatre credits include Godspell, The Twenties and All That Jazz, Evita, Seven Little Australians (which he also directed), HMS Pinafore, Crazy For You, The Merry Widow, A Little Night Music, for which he won a Green Room Award for Leading Male Performer, The Phantom of the Opera in the roles of both Monsieur Andre and Monsieur Firmin, and Mamma Mia!

John has worked extensively with the MTC and the STC.

His television and film credits include A Heartbeat Away, City Homicide, The Games, Carson's Law, Between Wars and Starstruck.

For The Production Company, John has played General Harrison Howell/ Harry Trevor in Kiss Me, Kate and Nicky Arnstein in Funny Girl.



#### Peter Lowrey Captain

Peter began his career in Gypsy. His credits include the national tours of Best Little Whorehouse in Texas, Evita and Me and My Girl.

In *Cats*, Peter has performed the roles of Coricopat, Alonzo and Rum Tum Tugger. Other engagements include *The Sentimental Bloke* for Q Theatre, the role of Ed in *Torch Song Trilogy*, national tours of *My Fair Lady*, *Crazy For You*,

The Secret Garden, Mamma Mia! and South Pacific in Australia and Thailand and Australasian tours of Anything Goes and Les Miserables.

Peter was the Artistic Director for the One Night Stand concert for the Victorian AIDS Council. In 1997 he returned to IMG's production of My Fair Lady as Associate Choreographer. In 1999 he was Assistant Choreographer in the EssGee production of The Merry Widow

This is Peter's fifth show with The Production Company. He has appeared in *Kiss Me, Kate, Sunset Boulevard, Little Me* and *Sugar*. He dedicates this performance to his daughter Olivia.

# Alfin Abella

Aljin is a NIDA graduate. He made his stage debut in he MTC and Belvoir Street Theatre seasons of *The Sapphires* in 2005, a role he reprised during the

Australian, South Korean and London tours over 2010 and 2011.

Aljin has worked as an actor both nationally and internationally in film, television, animation, theatre and voice-over sectors. Selected credits include Three Sisters, Love's Labour's Lost, The Matchmaker, The Laramie Project, I Love You Too, Underbelly Files: The Man Who Got Away, Who Wants To Be A Terrorist?, Just Punishment, Power Rangers Jungle Fury, City Homicide, Noah & Saskia, Neighbours, Guinevere Jones, Bootleg, Legacy of the Silver Shadow, Blue Heelers, Horace & Tina and High Flyers.



## Rohan Browne Purser

Rohan recently performed the role of Riff in the Australian tour of West Side Story (Green Room Award nomination). Prior to that he played George, in the

Australian premiere of

The Drowsy Chaperone for the MTC (Green Room Award nomination). Rohan was also part of the Australian revival of *Chicago*, playing the role of Fred Casely.

Rohan toured as Rum Tum Tugger in *Cats* throughout Asia and performed as Herod in *Jesus Christ Superstar* in both Europe and Asia.

Other Australian theatre credits include Wing in Hot Shoe Shuffle, Clarrie in Tivoli with Sydney Dance Company, the original The Boy From Oz, Grease, Dirty Dancing, Anything Goes, Kiss Me, Kate [Green Room Award nomination], Thoroughly Modern Millie, Follies and Mame.

Rohan has made numerous television appearances and was in George Miller's Academy Award winning film, *Happy Feet*. His most recent appearance was in *Doris Day – So Much More Than The Girl Next Door* in Brisbane and for the Adelaide Cabaret Festival.



# Marcus Rivera John

Marcus' career spans opera, music theatre, cabaret, recording, television and film. He has sung with Opera Queensland, Melbourne

City Opera and the Puccini Festival. His music theatre credits include Sondheim's Assassins, Pacific Overtures and Gale Edward's production of Sweeney Todd. Marcus was seen Australia wide Miss Saigon covering and alternating the role of The Engineer. In July 2008, Marcus performed with ENCORE at The World Youth Day Celebration in Sydney.

Marcus performed in The Production Company's season of *The King and I* in 2010 and is delighted to be back for *Anything Goes*.

# 'We Get a Kick Out of You'

#### Frank Van Straten discovers that Anything Goes aboard the S.S. American

It seemed like a good idea at the time: a big, bright musical comedy to challenge the growing attraction of 'the talkies' and to help chase away Depression blues.

It was the dream of an experienced Broadway producer, Vinton Freedley, anxious to recoup the considerable losses he'd made with the Gershwins' *Pardon My English* in 1933. As was then the custom, Freedley recruited his stars first, even before he had a show. He signed William Gaxton and Victor Moore, who'd scored hugely in another Gershwin piece, *Of Thee I Sing*. With them he teamed leather lunged young Ethel Merman, whose only previous Broadway exposure had been in his production of *Girl Crazy* in 1930.

The 'book' came next. Freedley asked Guy Bolton and P.G. Wodehouse to concoct a plot about a collection of assorted odd bods who are shipwrecked when an explosion sinks a luxury cruise ship. To provide the all-important score, Freedley snared the phenomenally successful Cole Porter. He'd already had hits like 'Let's Do It', 'You Do Something to Me', 'What Is This Thing Called Love?' and 'Night and Day'.

Titled Hard To Get, rehearsals were to begin on 10 September 1934 for a mid November Broadway opening.

Then, just two days before rehearsals started, disaster struck. Returning from Havana, the cruise ship S.S. *Morro Castle* caught fire off New Jersey; 134 people died.

It was obvious that the plot of the new show would have to be reworked, and quickly. Frantically Freedley turned to Howard Lindsay and Russel Crouse, pleading with them to devise a completely new story. It would have to avoid any reference to disaster at sea, while still utilising all his contracted players, the sets and the costumes. Somehow they did it. And they changed the name. Now the new show was to be called *Bon Voyage*.

Rehearsals finally got under way on 8 October. Legend has it that one day Crouse asked William Gaxton if he was happy with the placing of his first stage entry. 'In this kind of a spot,' grumbled Gaxton, 'anything goes.' Porter pricked up his ears, rushed home and wrote what became the show's zingy title number.

With the paint on Donald Oenslager's sets still damp and the second act barely out of the typewriter, **Anything Goes** debuted at the Colonial Theatre in Boston on 5 November. Incredibly, it all worked. The reception was rapturous.

Nevertheless, before the show sailed off to Broadway, there were a few changes. Merman, for instance, refused to sing the racy lyrics of 'Kate the Great'; 'All Through the Night' replaced 'Easy To Love', which Porter later reused in the film *Born to Dance*; and 'Waltz down the Aisle' was cut, though Porter reworked its melody for 'Wunderbar' in *Kiss Me, Kate*.

Anything Goes finally docked at New York's Alvin Theatre on 21 November. Broadway loved it even more than Boston had. According to *The New York Times*, first nighter Sol Herman, a dealer in women's apparel, announced, 'Take it from me – the Depression is over'.



The New Yorker suggested that with just one song, 'You're the Top', Cole Porter 'summarised American civilization.' Porter had applauded wildly all through the premiere. Not surprising – Anything Goes gave him his greatest success so far; it was, in his modest opinion, 'the first of my two perfect shows'; the other was Kiss Me, Kate.

Anything Goes achieved a rollicking run of 420 performances. The most acclaimed Broadway



The stars of the first Australian reduction. Harry Langdon and Lilian Portka, aurwing in signey, 1950



leining crustony ethick werman and charlie Rungigles in the 1926 film



Ron Frazer and Toni Lawend in the 1921 Australian production



show of the 1930s, its run was exceeded by only three other productions.

No less than five of Porter's numbers became genuine hits – the title song, 'I Get a Kick Out of You', 'All Through the Night', 'Blow, Gabriel, Blow' and 'You're the Top'. The later, of course, has inspired endless satirical updates. And we mustn't forget 'Be Like the Bluebird', with its tongue-in-cheek reference to our own Dame Nellie Melba!

> Charles B. Cochran's 1935 London production starred Jack Whiting, Sydney Howard and Adele Dixon, with Jeanne Aubert in the 'Ethel Merman' part.

> > Merman repeated her role for Paramount when **Anything Goes** was filmed in 1936. Her co-stars were Bing Crosby, Ida Lupino and Charles Ruggles. No less than six non-Porter songs were added to the score. For the

1956 remake, Porter's songs, plus a few more new ones, were fitted into a completely new storyline. Crosby was again featured, this time with Donald O'Connor, Mitzi Gaynor and Zizi Jeanmaire. Before this, though, there were a couple of condensed, star-studded live television versions, in 1950 with Martha Raye and in 1954 with Merman, Bert Lahr and Frank Sinatra.

Anything Goes has proved the most durable of all Cole Porter's shows. It was produced off-Broadway in 1962, and enjoyed major Broadway revivals in 1987, 2002 and again in 2011 – a jaunty crowd pleaser that garnered three Tony Awards, including Best Revival of a Musical. London saw it in 1969, 1989 and 2002.

Australia was introduced to **Anything Goes** by J.C. Williamson Ltd in 1936.

The casting was interesting. To play Moonface, The Firm imported diminutive, lugubrious silent screen clown Harry Langdon. He'd been out of work for years and, for Americans, his fey appeal had palled. But at least he was a 'name'. That couldn't be said for 20-year-old Lillian Pertka, she of the 'Jean Harlowed hair': the highlight of her modest four-year career had been a stint as Ethel Merman's understudy in Anything Goes. Dapper Australian Charles Norman returned from London to play Billy Crocker. In featured roles were English 'silly ass' light comedian Robert Coote as Sir Evelyn (many years later he became the archetypal Pickering in My Fair Lady); and, as Mrs Harcourt, Rita Pauncefort, perhaps more familiar as half of the garrulous Ada and Elsie of 1940s radio.

Anything Goes opened at the Theatre Royal in Sydney on 8 February 1936. The reviews were generally complimentary, but there were some defiantly prudish dissenters. 'There is too much that will be debated on the score of good taste' (*Sydney Sun*); 'Inexcusably coarse... Men should think twice before bringing their wives... Apart from the show's inherent indecencies, its burlesque on religion is a shocking exhibition of bad taste' (*Smith's Weekly*); 'Garish entertainment, fatuous where it was not vulgar... the music is arid and blatant... the boundaries of bad taste have never been more thoroughly explored' (*Sydney Mail*).



Perhaps stuffy 1930s Australia was not ready for the vigour and verve of **Anything Goes.** It played six weeks in Sydney, ten days at His Majesty's in Brisbane,

and seven weeks at His

Majesty's in Melbourne – and then disappeared from Australian stages for 35 years.

Mr Goldman produced **Anything Goes** at his Richbrooke Theatre (the former Phillip in Elizabeth Street, Sydney) on 29 October 1971. His cast included Toni Lamond as Reno, Tony Geappen as Billy, Ron Fraser as Moonface and Barbara Wyndon as Mrs Harcourt. It was directed and choreographed by the multitalented Noel Tovey. The reviews were generous but not enough to give Goldman the long run he wanted, let alone interstate transfers.

The New York revival of 1987 – which had a judiciously revised book co-rewritten by journalist Timothy Crouse, Russel's son – was the cue for a major new Australian **Anything Goes**, a co-production of Mike Walsh's Hayden Attractions, the Victoria State Opera and Melbourne entrepreneur Bill Armstrong.

Director Philip Cusack and choreographer Kirk Peterson came from New York to recreate the Lincoln Center original, although the sets and costumes were created locally by Roger Kirk.

The cast was a virtual Who's Who of Australian theatre at the time: Geraldine Turner (Reno), Simon Burke (Billy), Peter Whitford (Moonface), Marina Prior (Hope), Grant Dodwell (Lord Evelyn) and Maggie Kirkpatrick (Mrs Harcourt). Tony Geappen, Jacqui Rae, James Wright, Tom Blair and Dale Burridge had featured roles. Dale Ringland was musical director. This warmly remembered production premiered at the State Theatre in Sydney on 2 March 1989. It was a smash hit. In *The Australian*, Angela Bennie used words like 'fascinates', 'entertains', 'enthrals' and 'delights'. John Larkin, in *The Age*, called it 'a toe-tapping, singalong escape to the past.' And the *Herald*'s Andrew Bolt enthused, 'This is a show that gives you FUN – rolled gold, high-octane, party-hat fun. And I had a ball.'

Melbourne saw **Anything Goes** again in 2001 in a joyous Production Company version directed by Peter J. Adams.

The cast included Chelsea Gibb (Reno), Kane Alexander (Billy), Marty Fields (Moonface), Theresa Borg (Hope), Philip Gould (Lord Evelyn), Ernie Bourne (Elisha Whitney) and Val Jellay (Mrs Harcourt). John Foreman was musical director. In *The Age*, Jim Murphy called it 'An open-and-shut case of crowd-pleasing fun' while the *Herald Sun*'s Xenia Hanusiak peppered her review with words like 'timeless', 'sparkle', 'irresistible' and 'super-slick'.

And now, happily, the S.S. American has docked in town again. Welcome back, Reno and Billy, Moonface and Hope. We still get a kick out of you! And, you too, Mr Porter – You're the top!

# ©Frank Van Straten OAM



of the frail, Autralian production free protection stress MUSICAL NUMBER

- ACT ONE Overture I Get a Kick Out Of You There's No Cure Like Travel Bon Voyage You' re The Top Easy To Love Easy To Love (Reprise) The Crew Song There' II Always Be A Lady Fair Friendship It' s De-Lovely Anything Goes
- Orchestra Reno Captain, Sailors Company Reno and Billy Billy Hope Whitney Sailors' Quartet Reno and Moonface Martin Billy and Hope Reno and Company

#### ACT TWO

Entr' acte Public Enemy Number One Blow, Gabriel, Blow Goodbye, Little Dream, Goodbye Be Like The Blue Bird All Through The Night The Gypsy In Me Buddie, Beware Finale

Orchestra Captain, Purser, Company Reno and Company Hope Moonface Martin Billy, Hope and Sailors' Quartet Lord Evelyn Oakleigh Erma and Sailors Company CAST OF CHARACTERS

In order of appearance ELISHA WHITNEY RENO SWEENEY BILLY CROCKER CAPTAIN PURSER HENRY T DOBSON, A MINISTER LUKE JOHN ANGELS

#### SAILORS' QUARTET

HOPE HARCOURT EVANGELINE HARCOURT MOONFACE MARTIN LORD EVELYN OAKLEIGH ERMA CHEEKY John O'May Amanda Harrison Alex Rathgeber Peter Lowrey Rohan Browne Anthony Pepe

Aljin Abella

**Marcus Rivera** 

Anna Burgess Samantha Dodemaide Victoria Hinde Eve Prideaux

Alex Given, Benjamin Hoetjes, Sam Ludeman, Anthony Pepe

**Christy Sullivan** 

Anne Wood

Wayne Scott Kermond

Todd McKenney

**Christie Whelan** 

Sherry Mackenzie

# **PRODUCTION CREDITS**

**Technical Director Production Manager Company Administrator Company Manager** Assistant Company Manager Stage Manager Assistant Stage Manager Wardrobe Supervisor Wigs, Hair & Make Up Sound Mix Engineer Stage Sound Technicians **Radio Mic Engineer** Assistant to the Set Designer Set Construction **Lighting Equipment** Secondments: Lighting Stage Management

David Miller Mel Robertson Adam J Lowe Graeme Haddon r Tom Lambert Natalie Moir Tia Clark Kim Bishop Gay Gallacher and Simone Kay Paul Hitchens Merren Spink, Jackson Scandrett Cameron Herbert Casey-Scott Corless Malthouse Resolution X

> Mitchell Fenton (WAAPA) Lee-Anne Roza (NIDA) Liam Murray (WAAPA)

# THANK YOU

Frank Van Straten OAM for the program article Colin Page for photography Marjorie Mackenzie for Sherry

# ORCHESTRA VICTORIA

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#### Orchestra Victoria - inspiring Victorians through music!

Orchestra Victoria is Australia's leading opera and ballet orchestra. Based in Melbourne, Orchestra Victoria has longstanding partnerships with some of Australia's premier arts companies and performs a diverse program of events throughout the year.

In addition to this commitment, Orchestra Victoria seeks to share music with all Victorians. Welcoming the widest possible audiences to each performance, the Orchestra provides unique opportunities for students and emerging artists to work alongside professional musicians through an innovative statewide community and education program.

Orchestra Victoria is celebrated and acknowledged for its musical diversity. Established in 1969 as the Elizabethan Theatre Trust Orchestra, it is now an independent not-for-profit company that employs 69 fulltime musicians and over 150 casual musicians each year.

# ENSEMBLE



#### ANNA BURGESS

Anna trained in classical ballet at The Melbourne Academy of Dance with Karen Stephens and obtained her Bachelor of Contemporary Arts Drama/ Dance at Deakin University. She then furthered her acting studies at The National Theatre, The Victorian College of the Arts and The Lee Strasberg Institute in New York.

Her theatre credits include: Crazy For You, Damn Yankees, Sweet Charity, 42nd Street and The Pajama Game for The Production Company, Macbeth and Rigoletto for Opera Australia and the Australian tour of Mel Brooks' The Producers. Film credits include Working Dog's 25, The Caretaker, Loves Brother and SMS. She has worked in television for Rove Live, the AFI Awards, Good Morning Australia, Starstruck, Australian Idol, Thank God You' re Here and Postcards.



#### SAMANTHA DODEMAIDE

Samantha trained at Patrick Studios in Australia for three years and has returned for further training, undertaking

the school's new one-year music theatre course. Her recent stage credits include Wicked.

Hello Kitty - Things I Like at Universal Studios in Japan, Looney Tunes Christmas for x systems and Marilla Productions, Cinderella and Sleeping Beauty for proMAC Productions, Countdown 2 - The Arena Spectacular for Frontier Touring, and Hats Off. She also performs at Witches in Britches Theatre Restaurant. Samantha would like to thank Andrew Hallsworth, Todd Patrick and Jaci Testro for their constant support, guidance and love.



#### **EUAN DOIDGE**

Euan began his dancing career at MI Dance Studio in Mount Gambier. He is currently completing the Musical Theatre course at

Patrick Studios, His credits include

representing Australia in the World Dance Championships in Los Angeles, Canada and New York. He was named Australian Senior National Dancer of the year in 2010.

Anything Goes marks Euan's professional debut. He would like to thank his teachers Maria Slape and Pamela Walker for all their support and everyone who has helped him along his journey to become a performer.



#### IAN DI PIETRO

After completing his dance training at the Victorian College of the Arts, Jan graduated from the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in New York, where he won the Charles

Jehlinger Award for excellence in acting. He has worked throughout the United States with lead roles in How He Lied To Her Husband, The Browning Version, Night Must Fall, What the Butler Saw and Cloud Nine. He also featured in productions of Sweet Charity. The Producers and Far Out! Television credits include John Safran Vs God and Charles Bean's War.

For The Production Company, Jan has appeared in The Music Man and The Boy From Oz.



#### **CLAIRE GEORGE**

Claire is delighted to be working with The Production Company again, having recently played the role of Karen in the Melbourne and Sydney seasons of *The Boy From Oz.* 

She has previously appeared in *Sugar* and *Crazy For You* for The Production Company and played the role of Helen in *Saturday Night* for Magnormos.

As a cast member for Disney Entertainment, Claire performed in Japan, Canada and the USA. She was also in the original cast of *Hunter Bell* and Jeff Bowen's newest musical, *Villains Tonight*.

Claire is a graduate of the Arts Academy at the University of Ballarat. She wishes to thank DTM and her wonderful family.



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#### ALEX GIVEN

Anything Goes marks Alex's debut with The Production Company.

Originally from Tasmania, Alex completed the Performing Arts Course

at Patrick Studios last year. He is currently completing their Musical Theatre course.

He has performed in various events, include Starry Starry Night, Think Pink Ball, Dancer Cancer Initiative and Racing Victoria Awards.

Alex would like to thank Gina, Jenina, Todd and his family for their support and guidance. He is thrilled to be performing with such an amazing cast and crew.



#### **VICTORIA HINDE**

Victoria trained professionally at Laine Theatre Arts. Her UK theatre credits include Assistant Choreographer/ Olga in *Bells Are Ringing*,

Lisa in Dirty Dancing, Carousel, Sinatra at the London Palladium, Aladdin with Sir Ian McKellen, Oliver!, Cha Cha in Grease (UK Tour), West End Laine, Dick Whittington, Aladdin, International Festival Of Musical Theatre Opening Gala 2003. Workshops include Peter and the Wolf – choreographed by Adam Cooper.

Television credits include the *Royal Variety Performance* 2002 (BBC Television), *Bafta Television Awards* 2002 (Carlton Television), *Bring It On* (ITV) and Christmas television pantomimes, *Dick Whittington* and *Aladdin* (London Weekend Television).

Victoria has modelled for Salon International and the Alternative Hair Show at the London Hippodrome.

For The Production Company, Victoria recently appeared in the Sydney season of *The Boy From Oz*.



#### **BENJAMIN HOETJES**

Benjamin graduated in 2010 from WAAPA in Musical Theatre. His credits there include 42nd Street, Cabaret, Ragtime and Anything Goes.

Benjamin has recently appeared as Henry in the Australian Premiere season of *Next to Normal* for the Melbourne Theatre Company.

Anything Goes marks Benjamin's first appearance with The Production Company. Benjamin is pleased to continue his professional association with Andrew and Dean.

# ENSEMBLE



#### **KRISTOPHER LONG**

Perth-born Kristopher completed his Certificate IV in Performing Arts at ED5 International Studios in Sydney. He has worked with Jason Coleman, Danny Teeson,

Dein Perry, William A Forsythe and The Squared Division.

Kristopher's credits include the Washington performance of the Aria Awards in 2010, engagements on The Royal Princess and The Crown Princess and numerous corporate appearances for both stage and television.

Kristopher is thrilled to be making his musical theatre debut in **Anything Goes** and would like to thank his family, friends, teachers and colleagues for their ongoing love and support.



#### SAM LUDEMAN

Sam graduated with a Bachelor of Arts (Music Theatre) from BAPA in 2007.

His recent credits include performing opposite Melinda

Schneider in *Doris*, playing the lead role of Sonny Malone in *Xanadu The Musical* opposite Christine Whelan and the role of Joe Begas in GFO's production of *Fame the Musical*. Sam understudied the leads Troy Bolton and Zeke in *High School Musical Live On Stage*.

For The Production Company, Sam has appeared in *Crazy For You* and as Henry in *Damn Yankees*. Other roles include Shaun in Bryant and Frank's *Once We Lived Here*, Stephen in *Godspell* for CEO, *An Officer and a Gentleman* workshop for the MTC and *Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk* and *Aida* for Opera Australia. He also appeared as Curtis 'the kid' Conlon in Channel 7's *City Homicide*.



# COLLIN MACKENZIE

This is Collin's first show with The Production Company. She has performed for Disney as Belle in *Beauty and the Beast* 

and Amneris in the Hong Kong Concert performance of Aida. Collin has also performed on the Princess and Norwegian Cruises as a guest entertainer, off Broadway in Macbeth as a swing/choreographer and as cohost in the television series Anime TV.

Collin is very excited to be making her Melbourne debut.



#### **NICOLE MELLOY**

Nicole began dancing at an early age with Julie Cookson, later completing a Diploma in Classical Ballet with Christine Walsh and continuing her studies at the

Victorian College of the Arts.

She most recently toured Asia with *The Rocky Horror Show* for TML in the role of Magenta and worked on the Australian premiere season of *Jersey Boys* for Newtheatricals as Dance Captain. Other credits include *Die Fledermaus* as Ginger Rogers, *The Merry Widow* and *The Gondoliers* for Opera Australia, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *Little Me*, 42nd Street and Damn Yankees for The Production Company, Dame Edna's Back with a Vengeance for Duet Productions, Monty Python's Spamalot for Louise Withers and Associates and the Korean tour of Eurobeat for Glynn Nicholas Group.



#### **ANTHONY PEPE**

Anthony is a 2009 WAAPA graduate. He made his professional debut in 2008 when he was asked to perform alongside stage legend

Debbie Reynolds in Peach Productions Irene In Concert.

In 2010 Anthony played the role of Will Parker in IAJ International's Oklahoma! and appeared in The Boy From Oz and Sugar with The Production Company. This year he has also appeared on Neighbours. Anthony's WAAPA credits include Benny in Rent, Andy Lee in 42<sup>nd</sup> Street and Matt Galloway in The Laramie Project.



#### **EVE PRIDEAUX**

Originally from Byron Bay, Eve's theatre credits include both the original cast and regional tours of Shout! playing the role of

Maryanne O'Keefe, the Asian tour of Fame the Musical, the Australasian tour of Mamma Mia! Leader of the Pack - The Ellie Greenwich Musical, Feerie at the Moulin Rouge in Paris, the London Production of Dirty Dancing, where she understudied and performed the roles of Lisa Houseman and Vivienne Pressman, and the Australasian tour of Chicago in the role of Go To Hell Kitty.

For The Production Company, Eve has performed in *Bye Bye Birdie*, *Mame* and most recently *The Boy From Oz*.

Eve would like to dedicate her performance to the beautiful Peter, Clare, Amy and Nick, and of course her three best girls.



#### RYAN STUART

Ryan trained at both Danceworld Studios and Patrick Studios in Melbourne. His credits include *The Rocky Horror Show*, the Australasian tours of *Chicago* and *Priscilla Queen of The Desert the Musical* and The Production Company's *The Boy From Oz* in Melbourne and Sydney. He has also performed as a principal dancer on *Countdown Arena Spectacular 1 & 2* and on Princess Cruises. Ryan has worked with some of Australia's finest recording artists, including Marcia Hynes, Kate Cebrano, Ricki-Lee, Dannii Minogue and Guy Sebastian.

Ryan would like to thank his incredible family and friends for their undying support.



#### MONICA SWAYNE

Monica is from Adelaide. Her musical theatre credits include Dirty Rotten Scoundrels for The Production Company, the

Australian tour of

West Side Story as Margarita and understudy of Maria, The 7pm Project and Neighbours for Channel 10, Channel 7's Sunrise and the 2010 Helpmann Awards.

Monica is excited to be aboard the S.S American with The Production Company and would like to dedicate her performances to her Mum, Dad, brother Lewis and partner Brett, who have been there every step of the way.



#### SHERRY MACKENZIE

Sherry has been rushed through Puppy School to prepare her for the role of Cheeky. Apart from looking

beautiful, she has few skills.

She does not come on command, sit, fetch or play dead when requested.

Many intelligent and highly trained Melbourne pooches have been outraged and discouraged by the nepotism of Sheny's big break into showbiz. This is her debut with The Production Company. It is doubtful, however, that you will see this little bitch on the stage again.

# Andrew Hallsworth

#### **Director and Choreographer**

Andrew's most recent choreographic credits include the Broadway production of Priscilla Queen of the Desert (Broadwayworld.com Toronto award for Best Choreography), the MTC's productions of Next to Normal, Hamlet and The Drowsy Chaperone starring Geoffrey Rush (Helpmann and Green Room Award

Nomination) and The Production Company's revival of *The Boy From Oz* starring Todd McKenney (Green Room Award nomination).

Other choreographic credits include the original Australian production of *Eurobeat - Almost Eurovision* (Green Room Award nomination for Best Choreography), which was revived for the Edinburgh Festival, West End and UK tour. The smash hit *Menopause - the Musical*, (nominated for Helpmann and Green Room Awards), *Leader of the Pack - The Elli Greenwich Musical* (Betty Pounder Green Room Award winner for Best Choreography, Helpmann Award nomination) *Sideshow Alley* (QPAC and Pratt Prize Workshop), *The Merry Widow* for Melbourne City Opera, *Wombat Stew, Prodigal* and cabaret shows *Doris Day-So Much More Than The Girl Next Door, Britney Spears: The Cabaret* and *Newley Discovered*.

Andrew's television credits include the Australian series of So You Think You Can Dance, Indigeridoo and Ja'ime's Assembly Routine on the cult TV show We Can Be Heroes, Dead Gorgeous for ABC/BBC TV and The Librarians for the ABC. He has choreographed and staged the Helpmann Awards live telecast for Foxtel.

Andrew has worked extensively with The Production Company, choreographing *Carousel, Mame* and *The Boy Friend* (2009 Green Room Award nomination) and with Ross Coleman, co-choreographing *The Music Man* and *Bye Bye Birdie* (receiving Green Room Award nominations for both productions).



# Dean Bryant

#### Director

Dean recently directed Next to Normal for the MTC and Hansel and Gretel for OzOpera. Other directing credits include The Last Five Years (45 Downstairs, SBW Stables Theatre and NSW tour - Green Room and Helpmann Award nominations - Best Director of a Musical), Prodigal (45 Downstairs), Once We Lived Here (45 Downstairs) and Virgins: A Musical Threesome (CUB Malthouse).

He is Worldwide Associate Director of *Priscilla, Queen of the Desert – The Musical*, and recently returned from the Broadway premiere.

Dean's cabaret credits as writer/director include: Britney Spears: The Cabaret (Green Room nominations for Best Cabaret/Best Director of a Cabaret); Liza (on an E); I' m Every Woman (Sydney Opera House, Sydney Theatre Award – Best Cabaret); Newley Discovered (Sydney Opera House/ Adelaide Cabaret Festival, Sydney Theatre nomination – Best Cabaret); Experiment: Cole Porter (Adelaide Cabaret Festival) and at this year's Festival, Josie in the Bathhouse and In Vogue: Songs By Madonna. With composer Mathew Frank he has written the musicals Prodigal (off-Broadway season at the York Theatre, Green Room – Best Original Score), Once We Lived Here (Green Room – Best New Musical), Virgins and The Silver Donkey.

www.bryantandfrank.com



# Peter Casey

#### **Musical Director/Conductor**

Peter has been Musical Director for Les Miserables, The Sound of Music, The King and I, The Wizard of Oz, Chicago, Cabaret, Smokey Joe's Café, The Songs of Leiber and Stoller, Topol's Fiddler on the Roof, Stephen Sondheim's Company, Monty Python's Spamalot, the Andrew Lloyd Webber musicals Evita, Cats, Aspects of Love, Song and Dance, Joseph and the Amazing

Technicolor Dreamcoat, and Jesus Christ Superstar, The Mel Brooks musical The Producers - for which he received a 2004 Green Room Award, and The Production Company's productions of Sunset Boulevard, The Pajama Game, 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, Mame, Crazy For You and The King and I. He was recently Musical Director for the Asian tour of Jekyll & Hyde.

He was Musical Supervisor for *Guys and Dolls, South Pacific, How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying, Grease - The Arena Spectacular,* and the Big Top touring productions of *Cats - Run Away To The Circus* and *Grease - The Mega Musical.* Peter was Musical Director for the acclaimed arena production *The Main Event,* starring John Farnham, Olivia Newton-John and Anthony Warlow, and the 2001, 2002, 2005 and 2006 *Helpmann Awards.* 

Anything Goes will be Peter's seventh musical for The Production Company, and he is delighted to be associated with this de-lovely musical.



# Fleur Thiemeyer

#### **Costume Designer**

Fleur has been designing clothes all of her life. She studied art as a young student in Melbourne, before moving overseas and working in London and America. While studying design in America, she received her A.A. Degree In Fashion Design at the Fashion Institute in Los Angeles. Fleur was also accepted as a member of the Costume Designers Guild, USA.

Throughout her illustrious career, Fleur has designed for theatre, film, television and stage. Her international career spans from Australia to London, New York, Atlantic City, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Asia and back to Australia where she is currently works in live theatre production.

Fleur has worked with many of the world's great entertainers creating costumes for full production stage shows for Liza Minnelli, Bette Midler, Raquel Welch, Olivia Newton-John, ABBA, Donna Summer, The Pointer Sisters, Dusty Springfield, The Jackson's, KISS, Sheena Easton, Lionel Ritchie, Rod Stewart, Ozzy Osbourne, Mick Jagger, Pat Benatar, Michael Bolton, Deborah Harry, Motley Crue and Van Halen.

Fleur has received Emmy nominations for her work on television specials that include *Physical* with Olivia Newton-John and *Hollywood Nights* with Olivia Newton-John and guests Elton John, Tina Turner, Cliff Richard and Andy Gibb. While most of Fleur's design career has been with live stage performance, she has also designed gowns and suits for many of her clients for the Academy Awards, the Grammy's, the Emmy's and the American Music awards.

After designing the costumes for *Sugar* last year, Fleur is thrilled to be asked back to design **Anything Goes.** She would like to thank everyone involved for all the help and support that is given while doing the shows especially Ken Mackenzie-Forbes and Rachel Taylor. Fleur would also like to thank her son Dylan for his patience and support.

# Adam Gardnir

#### **Set Designer**

Adam is a 2003 graduate from the Victorian College of the Arts. His set and/ or costume designs include Angelique, The Bear and Rembrandt's Wife for Victorian Opera, The Beggar's Opera and The Little Sweep for OzOpera, Semele for The Australian Ballet, Love Me Tender, The Promise and Paul for

Company B Belvoir, Saturn's Return for the STC, Grace for the MTC, Happy As Larry for Shaun Parker/Sydney Festival, Don't Say The Words for Griffin and A View Of Concrete, The Autobiography of Red, The Yellow Wallpaper and Drink, Pepsi Bitch! for Malthouse. His special event designs include Good Evening for the Melbourne International Comedy Festival, Walking With Dinosaurs Arena Tours for BBC – Live, concurrently touring Europe and North America, as well as the site design for M2006, Melbourne's Commonwealth Games Cultural Festival Site, which won the Helpmann Award for Best Special Event.

In film, Adam's designs include the feature *Tragedy of Hamlet*, which received a Melbourne International Film Festival Premier. Adam has been nominated for four Green Room Awards and has received scholarships from both the VCA and Malthouse.

Adam's current projects include *Winteriesse* for ThinIce and Malthouse, *Albert Herring* for Victorian Opera and he is the Associate Designer for the Australian Premier Production of *Love Never Dies*.



# **Gavan Swift**

#### **Lighting Designer**

Gavan graduated from NIDA in 1994. Since then, he has been in constant demand as a lighting designer for plays, musicals, dance and corporate events. Lighting design for musicals include *The Mikado, The Pirates of Penzance, Hot Shoe Shuffle, Little Shop of Horrors, Sweet Charity, Fiddler on the Roof, Jolson, Buddy, Oh, What A Night, Footloose, Hair* and

Saturday Night Fever, both in Australia and on London's West End.

For Bell Shakespeare, he has designed lighting for *The Winter's Tale, Pericles* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream.* Gavan has also designed the lighting for productions at the STC, the MTC, the Ensemble Theatre, Australian Theatre for Young People, Marian Street and the Q Theatre. He was also the Associate Lighting Designer for the Australian productions of *Cabaret, The Full Monty, Chicago, High School Musical, Wicked* and *The Lion King.* 

Gavan's most recent work includes Florida Grand Opera's Lakme (an Opera Australia production) and the State Theatre of South Australia's Entertaining Mr Sloane, King Lear and Hamlet.

Lighting designs for The Production Company comprise Sugar, The Music Man, Hair, Mack and Mabel and the inaugural production of Mame.

# SYSTEM Sound Design For System Sound by John Scandrett, Mark Benson and David Tonion SOUND

System Sound is proud to have been involved in all of The Production Company's shows since it's inception.

#### **David Tonion**

David is responsible for the major electronic design, building and programming of the sound system for Anything Goes. For a number of years, as one of Systems favoured mix-engineers, David has mixed many of System's major musicals throughout Asia and Australia. He is currently Assistant Designer for Mary Poppins and Associate Designer for Miss Saigon in Korea.

#### Mark Benson

Mark is responsible for the orchestral sound and system engineering. System's orchestral and operatic specialist, he has designed and mixed concerts throughout Australasia with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, The Australian Philharmonic Orchestra and The Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra and many others with world-renowned singers and performers.

#### John Scandrett

The Managing Director of System Sound Pty Ltd, John is responsible for the loudspeaker system design and tuning, and was Sound Designer for the Australian tours of Chicago, Man of La Mancha, Cabaret, The Producers and Guys and Dolls.

System Sound has designed or engineered throughout Australasia Les Miserables, Joseph, Rent, Cats, Aspects of Love, Show Boat, Sunset Boulevard, Miss Saigon, Cabaret, Mamma Mia! Spamalot, The Producers, We Will Rock You, Guys and Dolls, and Billy Elliot. Currently, they are sounding Jersey Boys, Wicked, Love Never Dies, Rock of Ages, Mary Poppins and an upcoming Phantom of the Opera tour of South Africa, Manila and Korea.

# Tanya Mitford

#### Assistant Director/Choreographer

Tanya has established herself as a music theatre dance captain, Resident Director/Choreographer, Assistant Choreographer, Assistant Director, musician, and performer. She has creatively managed and appeared in The Boy From Oz, Billy Elliot, Guys and Dolls, Dusty – The Original Pop Diva, Fiddler on the Roof, Leader of the Pack, Sam Mendes' Cabaret - The Musical, Sugar, Carousel, High Society, Mack and Mabel, Gypsy, Jolson, Grand Hotel,

Dancing with the Stars, The Librarians, The Morning Show with Kerri-Anne, a Colgate commercial, The Kylie Show Tribute Show as well as children's entertainment for The Wiggles, Disney, Warner Bros, Bob the Builder and ABC for Kids.

Tanya is proud to have choreographed numerous productions for the Victorian College of the Arts Music Theatre Degree as their Head of Movement. She is undertaking a directing mentorship at WAAPA, where she is currently directing Little Voice and she has choreographed Anna Karenina and Ruben Guthrie. Tanya is also in demand as a Personal Trainer, Adjudicator and Dance Lecturer.



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The management reserves the right to add, withdraw or substitute artists and to vary the programme as necessary.

The Trust reserves the right of refusing admission.

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