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Christchurch Symphony
Orchestra

showbiz
CHRISTCHURCH

The SAUNDERS & C ● season of
Lerner and Loewe's

*My Fair
Lady*

September 21-30, 2023

Isaac Theatre Royal



showbiz

CHRISTCHURCH

PRESENTS

The **SAUNDERS & CO** season of
Lerner and Loewe's

My Fair Lady

Book and Lyrics by

ALAN JAY LERNER

Music by

FREDERICK LOEWE

ADAPTED FROM GEORGE BERNARD SHAW'S PLAY AND
GABRIEL PASCAL'S MOTION PICTURE PYGMALION

ORIGINAL PRODUCTION DIRECTED AND STAGED
BY MOSS HART

21-30 SEPTEMBER 2023

ISAAC THEATRE ROYAL

DIRECTOR: STEPHEN ROBERTSON

MUSICAL DIRECTOR: RICHARD MARRETT

CHOREOGRAPHER: GLEN HARRIS

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SEASON SPONSOR



JOHN
BATES

I extend you a warm welcome to the Isaac Theatre Royal for an extraordinary evening as Showbiz Christchurch proudly presents the Saunders and Co Season of *My Fair Lady*.

Saunders and Co is thrilled to be a part of this exciting show, once again as season sponsor, supporting Showbiz Christchurch in their creative endeavours. We are proud to collaborate with an organisation that consistently delivers exceptional productions to our community.

At Saunders and Co, we recognise the transformative power of the arts and their ability to inspire, challenge, and entertain. Showbiz Christchurch's dedication to quality and innovation aligns perfectly with our own values. Together, we strive to create meaningful experiences that put people first. For both the participants, and the audiences, we are all enriched by their endeavours.

As the curtains rise, get ready to be transported to a world of beautiful music and dramatic storytelling with *My Fair Lady*. This production is a testament to the talent and passion of the remarkable team at Showbiz Christchurch. Their collective vision and expertise promise to bring this captivatingly story to life, leaving a lasting impression on all who witness it.

Formed in 1923, Saunders and Co is proud to be celebrating its 100 year anniversary this year. The firm is unrecognisable from that of its formative years with 90 staff and partners practicing across four Christchurch offices. Aside from core services in property, business and family we have specialists in immigration, employment, construction, greenfield property development, and litigation. Our range of service reflects the comprehensive needs and aspirations of businesses and households in Canterbury and beyond.

On behalf of the staff and partners of Saunders and Co, sit back and enjoy an unforgettable evening filled with passion, drama, and the celebration of the performing arts.

John Bates
General Manager
Saunders and Co





Gladly helping to raise the
Showbiz curtain since 2017.

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WELCOME



PHIL
MAUGER

Christchurch
City Council 

As the Patron of Showbiz Christchurch, it's great to welcome you to the highly anticipated 2023 production of *My Fair Lady*!

Once again, Showbiz Christchurch showcases its resilience and unwavering commitment to bringing the best musical theatre to our city. *My Fair Lady* has been a long time coming for Christchurch audiences, having been postponed twice due to the lasting effects of Covid 19 on the performing arts. It is fantastic to see this classic and most beautiful musical finally come to life on the Isaac Theatre Royal stage.

Despite the challenges faced over the past three years, Showbiz Christchurch continues to shine, captivating audiences with their exceptional talent and dedication.

The arts sector plays a vital role in our city's cultural life and provides valuable experiences, connections and opportunities for all those involved. Shows like this can only succeed through the collective efforts of volunteers on stage, behind the scenes, and throughout the production and I want to acknowledge the tremendous contribution they make.

Thank you for joining us for this production of *My Fair Lady*. Prepare yourselves for an unforgettable experience as Showbiz Christchurch delights and entertains with the magic of live performance.

Phil Major
Mayor of Christchurch



SARAH
BUCHANAN

showbiz
CHRISTCHURCH

Tēnā koutou, it is my greatest pleasure to welcome you to tonight's performance of *My Fair Lady*!

Showbiz Christchurch is absolutely thrilled to be back at the Isaac Theatre Royal, treading the boards and bringing you the very best of musical theatre. While we bask in the recent success of *That Bloody Woman*, tonight we embark on a new journey with *My Fair Lady*, a production that promises to captivate and inspire.

Under the visionary guidance of Stephen Robertson as Director, Richard Marrett as Musical Director, and Glen Harris as Choreographer, *My Fair Lady* takes to the stage, infused with their exceptional creative talents. Their collective expertise and passion have shaped this production into a remarkable theatrical experience that will transport you through time and touch your hearts.

We are also thrilled to have Christchurch Symphony Orchestra with us under Richard's baton bringing the incredible music of Lerner and Loewe to life!

Supported by a dedicated volunteer cast and crew, many of whom have poured their hearts into this production, *My Fair Lady* has been a labour of love over the last three years for us here at Showbiz. Their commitment, tireless efforts, and countless hours of hard work have come together to bring you a show that is both powerful and unforgettable.

We extend our deepest gratitude to our industry partners, business supporters, and sponsors. Your continued support has been instrumental in making this production a reality. Special thanks go to our major funders, the Christchurch City Council, the Christchurch Music Theatre Education Trust, and our longstanding season sponsor, Saunders and Co. Your ongoing support is truly appreciated and invaluable.

And, of course, a tremendous thank you to you, our beloved theatre lovers. Without your support and presence, none of this would be possible. Tonight, we invite you to sit back, relax, and immerse yourselves in the enthralling world of *My Fair Lady*. Prepare to be moved by the indomitable spirit of the characters and the powerful melodies that will echo in your hearts.

So, without further ado, let the performance begin, and let us revel in this extraordinary theatrical experience that is *My Fair Lady*.

Whakawhetai ki a koe me te pai ki te whakaaturanga.

Sarah Buchanan
President
Showbiz Christchurch

THE CREATIVES

DIRECTOR



STEPHEN
ROBERTSON

Stephen is a freelance Director spending much of the year touring New Zealand directing, staging and designing musical theatre productions, corporate events and cabaret.

He has amassed an impressive résumé of directing credits throughout the years. These include: *Chess*, *A Chorus Line*, *The Phantom of the Opera*, *West Side Story*, *Avenue Q* and *Evita*. In 1993 Stephen directed the New Zealand première of *Les Misérables* followed by the national premières of *42nd Street* and *Disney's Beauty and the Beast* (Wellington); *CATS*, *Miss Saigon* and more recently, *Wicked* and *Matilda* for Showbiz Christchurch.

For the National Academy of Singing and Dramatic Art (NASDA), Stephen has directed *CATS*, *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*, *Hair*, *Spring Awakening*, *Cabaret* and *Little Women*.

His credits for The Court Theatre Christchurch include: Director and Choreographer for *Grease*, *Mary Poppins* and *Chicago*; Director/Designer for *Blood Brothers*, Choreographer for *The Mikado*, Director of *Legally Blonde* and, more recently, *Jesus Christ Superstar* and *Jersey Boys*. Costume design credits for The Court Theatre include: *The Mikado*, *One Man, Two Guvvners*, *Grease*, *Mary Poppins*, *Legally Blonde*, *The Lady Killers*, *End of the Rainbow*, *ROPABLE*, *Chicago*, *Jesus Christ Superstar* and *Jersey Boys*.

Previous productions for Showbiz Christchurch include *Wicked*, *We Will Rock You*, *Priscilla Queen of the Desert*, *Mamma Mia!* and *Avenue Q*. Earlier this year Stephen designed the costumes for *Kinky Boots* – Auckland and Wellington seasons.

Stephen would like to thank Glen, Richard and Angela for their support and also the staff of the CCU department of the Christchurch Hospital for their overwhelming knowledge and care.



MUSICAL DIRECTOR



RICHARD
MARRETT

Richard is well-known for his work throughout the country as a musical director, vocal coach, pianist, producer, arranger and conductor. He was a principal lecturer then manager of the degree programmes offered by the National Academy of Singing and Dramatic Art (NASDA) as well as Ara Music Arts. He has an MA in music and an LRSM.

He has conducted and arranged for Showbiz Christchurch, Wellington Musical Theatre, ARTCO, Dunedin Operatic, Invercargill Musical Theatre and the Choral Federation, and arranged for the Christchurch City and Orpheus Choirs and the NZSO. Richard's work with the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra has included seasons of *Starry Nights* and *Classical Sparks* and the popular concert productions *Rodgers & Hammerstein*, *Bernstein & Sondheim* and *The Magical Music of Disney*. He regularly works as a coach for Christchurch City Chorus, consulting musical director on several productions touring the country, and in 2019 was appointed as Artistic Director of the popular choir, The Vocal Collective.

His numerous musical direction credits for theatre include: *Mame*, *The King and I*, *Sweet Charity*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Tell Me on a Sunday*, *West End to Broadway I, II, and III*, *Les Misérables*, *My Fair Lady*, *42nd Street*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Annie*, *Urinetown*, *Grease*, *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*, *The Witches of Eastwick*, *Buddy*, *Spring Awakening*, *Cats*, *Hair*, *Chicago*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Into the Woods*, *Curtains*, *Avenue Q*, *Miss Saigon*, *Ragtime*, *Mamma Mia!*, *Hairspray*, *Evita*, *The Phantom of the Opera*, *Priscilla Queen of the Desert* and *Matilda*. At The Court Theatre he has been musical director for: *My Fair Lady*, *South Pacific*, *The Rocky Horror Show*, *The Sound of Music*, *Jerry's Girls*, *Oliver!*, *Guys and Dolls*, *The Producers*, *La Cage Aux Folles*, *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change!*, *Anything Goes*, *Cabaret*, *Side By Side By Sondheim*, *Grease*, *End of the Rainbow*, *Blood Brothers*, *Mary Poppins*, *Legally Blonde the Musical*, *Songs For Nobodies*, *Chicago*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Jersey Boys*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Rent* and *Next To Normal*.

THE CREATIVES

CHOREOGRAPHER



GLEN
HARRIS

Glen Harris began his classical ballet training at the age of seven. Upon completion at the Southern Ballet and Australian Ballet schools he went on to begin an extensive dancing career overseas. He first joined the Australian Ballet in 1981 and while there was a featured soloist in many roles dancing throughout Australia. His career then took him to Europe where he was invited to join the Opernhaus Ballet in Zurich. After two years in Switzerland he went to the U.S.A, where he joined the world renowned Joffrey Ballet based in New York, dancing with them for six years.

In 1994 Glen appeared on Broadway in the Lincoln Center Production of *Carousel*. He danced the lead role of the Fairground Boy choreographed by Sir Kenneth MacMillan. He then joined the Metropolitan Opera Ballet in New York and enjoyed nine years performing in a vast repertoire.

Glen spent two years teaching and choreographing for the Miami City Ballet School.

As well as setting the children dancers in Balanchine's, *The Nutcracker*, on returning to New Zealand he was appointed the position of Senior Teacher/Choreographer for the Southern Ballet Theatre and taught ballet to the Musical Theatre students at NASDA.

He has created numerous ballets for the Senior and Intermediate Ballet Companies, he tutors boys classes, Professional Open Classes and the very popular Adults Ballet Classes.

In 2012 Glen was guest Ballet Master for the Royal NZ Ballets season of *Giselle*.

For Showbiz Christchurch Glen has worked on *The Full Monty* (Choreographer), *Chicago* (Associate Choreographer), *The Phantom of the Opera* (Choreographer) and *Wicked* (Choreographer).



MY FAIR LADY IS PRESENTED
IN LOVING MEMORY OF
MANDY ROBERTS



MANDY
ROBERTS



THE DESIGNERS

SET DESIGN



HAROLD
MOOT

Harold has worked in the professional theatre industry for over 34 years. He studied Visual Communication at the Christchurch Polytechnic where he majored in 3 Dimensional Studies

He joined the Court Theatre as a member of the set construction team. Since 1990, he has been freelancing as a designer, set builder and scenic artist. He has designed extensively for The Court Theatre including *On The Rocks*, *Glorious*, *Eros*, *Four Flat Whites in Italy*, *Backstage*, *Who wants to be 100...?*, *Three Days of Rain*, *I Scream*, *Crumpy*, *A Room of Ones Own*, and in 2011 the inaugural production in their new theatre, *A Shortcut to Happiness*.

For Showbiz Christchurch he has designed *Hot Shoe Shuffle*, *The Full Monty*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Grease*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Priscilla Queen of the Desert* and *Wicked*. He has worked for Wellington Musical Theatre, Downstage and Circa on productions including *My Fair Lady*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Black Comedy* and *Telling Stories*.

He designed the set for the New Zealand premiere of *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*, *Miss Saigon* and *Matilda* for NZ Music Consortiums. He has work with G&T Productions on *Jersey Boys* in 2021 and *Kinky Boots* 2023.

Harold has worked in film, television and advertising including working at Weta Workshop. In 2021 Harold received Sir Roger Hall's Out of the Limelight Theatre Award.

LIGHTING DESIGN



GRANT
ROBERTSON

Grant's professional career began in 1988 at the Court Theatre where he worked as a technician, designer and stage manager for 6 years, followed by several years freelancing around New Zealand.

For the last 20 years he has been a director of The Light Site, designing and supplying lighting for theatre, outdoor and corporate events.

Grant has designed lighting for over 100 productions around New Zealand including the Court Theatre's summer musicals *The Mikado*, *Mary Poppins*, *Legally Blonde* and *Rent*. For Showbiz Christchurch he has designed *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*, *Cats*, *Chicago*, *Les Misérables*, *Avenue Q*, *Phantom of the Opera*, *Evita*, *We Will Rock You*, *Miss Saigon* and co-designed *That Bloody Woman*.

Grant also co-designed the specialist lighting for the New Brighton Pier.

Grant is involved in the design of various outdoor installations including the annual Tīrama Mai festival in Ōtautahi.

SOUND DESIGN



BEN
RENTOUL

Since 2001 Ben Rentoul has been supplying superior sound for bands, theatre shows and corporate events. He is sought after internationally and his reputation has seen him tour with numerous professionals and operatic theatre companies, orchestras and international artists throughout New Zealand and Overseas.

2009 led Ben to the UK with London based boys choir Libera to tour with them in various International performances. He then stayed on in London to work with Britannia Row Productions who contracted him with opportunities to tour with Pearl Jam, Aerosmith, Bryan Adams, Foo Fighters, Andrea Bocelli and Amy McDonald to name a few.

In 2011 he returned to Christchurch to work full time with BounceNZ and since been involved with mixing shows for the CSO and various other artists. He has been the Sound Designer for many shows with Showbiz Christchurch, Court theatre and other Musical Societies around NZ. These shows include *The Rocky Horror Show* in Singapore, *Maui*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Les Misérables*, *Cats*, *Miss Saigon*, *Joseph*, *My Fair Lady*, *42nd Street*, *Priscilla Queen of the Desert*, *Wicked*, *The Mikado*, *Jersey Boys*, *Chicago*, *Mary Poppins* and *Legally Blonde*.

He is proud to be a part of another fantastic Showbiz production.

THE DESIGNERS

PROPS DESIGN



CHRISTY
LASSEN

Christy is a Christchurch-based freelancer who dabbles in "a little bit of everything theatre".

She spent 10 years touring internationally as part of the stage management team on various productions, and more recently, spent three years at The Court Theatre as Properties Manager.

Whilst stage managing a school production, Christy decided to start her own props design, build and hire company, and so The Little Red Hen Company was born.

Over the past few years Christy has been involved in many covid-cancelled shows (sadly), but also *Cinderella*, *Madagascar* and *Beauty and the Beast* for GMG Productions, *Suor Angelica* and *Trouble in Tahiti* for Toi Toi Opera, *Jersey Boys NZ*, and *Kinky Boots* for G&T Productions, *Matilda* for The NZ Musical Theatre Consortium, plus numerous other school and dance productions.

Christy is delighted to be working with Showbiz Christchurch on their 2023 production of *My Fair Lady*.

AV DESIGN



DAVE
SPARK

Dave is a professional designer with over 25 years experience in the live events industry. He is highly sought after for his creative, innovative high end video, lighting and production design and technical solutions.

He has designed and produced an extensive amount of large scale corporate, concert and theatre events around NZ and overseas.

Dave has spent a number of recent years predominantly designing and running video systems for live events.

He has worked on countless Showbiz Christchurch productions in the past and is excited to be once again involved with the team to deliver this classic show.

HEAD MECHANIST



DAVID
BOSWORTH

David has worked as a Stage Manager, Mechanist, Technical Director and Scenic Designer for more than 30 years.

Early work was as a freelance lighting and rigging technician, including work on productions for the Royal New Zealand Ballet, Canterbury Opera, Edgleys and Stetsons.

David was then engaged as Stage Manager for The Court Theatre, where he called productions including *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *A Long Day's Journey into Night* and *Away*.

He then travelled to the UK and worked on Westend productions of *A Life in the Theatre* and the world premiere of *Aspects of Love*. Moving to Scotland David took on the role of Stage Manager at the busy Pitlochry Festival Theatre. On his return, he co-founded The Light Site, overseeing a wide range of events that included The State Gala Dinner for US President Bill Clinton, The Queenstown Winter Festival, and the Ignition Festival at ARA.

More recent times have seen David focus heavily on Musical Theatre. Design work includes *A Chorus Line*, *Little Shop of Horrors* and *Hair* for Showbiz Christchurch, as well as for the G&T production of *Chess* in 2022. David has been Mechanist for many productions including *Phantom of the Opera*, *Mamma Mia!*, *Wicked* and *Priscilla Queen of the Desert*. He has been Technical Director on touring productions such as *Les Misérables*, *Evita*, *Jersey Boys*, *Matilda* and *Kinky Boots*.

In 2018 David formed his own company, 4th Wall Theatre Services, specialising in theatre Project Management and Production Services.

THE MUSIC

ACT I

Overture.....	Orchestra
Why Can't The English?.....	Higgins
Wouldn't It Be Lovely.....	Eliza and Costermongers
With A Little Bit Of Luck.....	Alfred, Harry and Jamie
I'm An Ordinary Man.....	Higgins
With A Little Bit Of Luck (reprise).....	Alfred and Ensemble
Just You Wait.....	Eliza
The Servants' Chorus.....	Mrs Pearce and Servants
The Rain In Spain.....	Higgins, Eliza and Pickering
I Could Have Danced All Night.....	Eliza, Mrs Pearce and Maids
Ascot Gavotte.....	Ensemble
On The Street Where You Live.....	Freddy

ACT II

Promenade.....	Orchestra
Embassy Waltz.....	Higgins, Eliza, Karpathy and Guests
You Did It.....	Pickering, Higgins, Mrs Pearce and Servants
Just You Wait (reprise).....	Eliza
On The Street Where You Live (reprise).....	Freddy
Show Me.....	Eliza
Wouldn't It Be Lovely (reprise).....	Eliza and Costermongers
Get Me To The Church On Time.....	Alfred, Harry, Jamie and Ensemble
A Hymn To Him.....	Higgins
Without You.....	Eliza and Higgins
I've Grown Accustomed To Her Face.....	Higgins
Finale.....	Orchestra



THE CAST

Eliza Doolittle

Emily Burns
Laurel Gregory

Henry Higgins

Michael Lee Porter

Colonel Pickering

Warwick Shillito

Alfred P. Doolittle

John Clarke

Mrs Higgins

Angela Johnson

Freddy Eynsford-Hill

Cameron Melville

Mrs Pearce

Libby Fraser

Harry

Chris Goodyear

Jamie

Jake McKay

Mrs Eynsford-Hill

Rebecca Boyce

Zoltan Karpathy

Nathan Munn

Queen of Transylvania

Sarah Greenwood Buchanan

Ensemble

Taylor Ballantyne

Ruth Bishop

Lawrence Botting

Nic Catto

Oliver Davidson

Joshua Dickens

Lennox Dunn

Imogen Edwards

Bianca Escobar

Jane Godfrey

Daniel Harris

Anna Henderson

Kristina Hockey

Meredith Jackson

Austin Jenks

Rylie MacGibbon

Juliette Newman

Holly Palmer

Lorraine Turner

Leon Vant Veen

Siâni Wyatt



ELIZA DOOLITTLE



EMILY
BURNS

Emily graduated in 2014 from NASDA with a Bachelor of Performing Arts (Music Theatre).

She has been performing internationally since 2017 as a resident guest entertainer on luxury cruise liners. Emily came home to New Zealand in 2019 and she performed in the National Tour of *The Shows Must Go On*.

Emily has performed leading roles, such as Eva Peron in the 2016 production of *Evita*, Sophie Sheridan in *Mamma Mia!*, Mary in *Mary Poppins* and Alternate Elle in *Legally Blonde* (The Court Theatre) as well as in *Priscilla Queen of the Desert*.

Her other theatre credits include: *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Ladykillers* and *Little Red Riding Hood* (The Court Theatre), *Into the Woods* (Good Value Productions), *Les Misérables* and *All Shook Up* (Showbiz Queenstown).

Other professional performance work includes singing the national anthem at various sporting events, a guest feature in a television series and a number of TV commercials. One of Emily's fondest memories was performing alongside well-known New Zealand singer, the late Rob Guest during his New Zealand tour.

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THE BREEZE

ELIZA DOOLITTLE



LAUREL
GREGORY

Laurel is a 2017 graduate of NASDA, with a Bachelor of Performing Arts (Musical Theatre).

With Showbiz, Laurel has performed in *Wicked* (2018), *Les Misérables* (2018), *An Evening of Rodgers and Hammerstein* (2017), and *Hairspray* (2016).

Her other theatre credits include, *Next to Normal*, *Appropriate*, and *The Wind in the Willows* (The Court Theatre), *As You Like It* (Third Bear), and *Oliver Twist* (Lyttelton Arts Factory). At the beginning of 2021, she moved to Beijing, China to open a brand new Universal Studios theme park, performing multiple singing and acting roles across the park, including a Hogwarts student in the *Wizarding World of Harry Potter*, until her happy return home earlier this year.

Laurel is a proud member of Equity New Zealand.

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BEKON

HENRY HIGGINS



MICHAEL
LEE PORTER

Michael is a graduate from the National Academy of Singing and Dramatic Art (NASDA), with a Bachelor of Performing Arts (Musical Theatre).

Michael's directing credits include NZ Premiere of *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* (Court Theatre), *Avenue Q*, *Mary Poppins*, *Tell Me on a Sunday*, *Mamma Mia!*, *The Last Five Years*, *Wicked* (Cairns), *Tell Me on a Sunday* (Port Douglas), Co-director, *A Slice of Saturday Night* (Fortune Theatre) *Guys and Dolls* (NASDA) Australasian premiere of *The Light in the Piazza*.

His acting highlights include *Come From Away* (Australasian Tour, Junkyard Dogs), *The Phantom of the Opera* (97-99 Australasian Tour, RUG), *Jekyll & Hyde* (South Korean Tour, TML), *Tuesdays with Morrie* (Fringe), *Mary Poppins*, *Pacific Post*, *Side by Side by Sondheim*, *Cabaret* (1999 & 2010), *The Female of the Species*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Flagons and Foxtrots*, *Oliver!*, *Mum's Choir*, *The Rocky Horror Show*, *South Pacific*, *Kiss Me Kate*, *My Fair Lady* (Court Theatre), *Old Wicked Songs*, *Souvenir – a fantasia on the life of Florence Foster Jenkins*, *The Wind in the Willows*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *The Jungle Book*, *Old Wicked Songs*, *Nonsense Jamboree*, *Dirty Weekends* (Fortune Theatre), *Sweeney Todd* (Peach Productions), *Cats*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Little Shop of Horrors* (Showbiz Christchurch).

He has musically directed *Cabaret*, *Kiss Me Kate*, *Bombshells*, *Flagons and Foxtrots*, *Mum's Choir*, *Badjelly the Witch* (Court Theatre), *Sweet Charity*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Once on this Island*, *My Favorite Year*, *Marat Sade*, *The Trial*, *The No-Frills Revue*, *Bat Boy – The Musical*, *The World Goes 'Round*, *Baby*, *City of Angels* (NASDA), *Nonsense Jamboree*, *Old Wicked Songs*, *Souvenir*, *A Slice of Saturday Night*, *Dirty Weekends*, *The Wind in the Willows*, *Avenue Q* (Fortune Theatre), *The Fantasticks*, *Tell Me On A Sunday* (Cairns/Port Douglas) and as a rehearsal pianist for many more.

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THE MAGAZINE ŌTAUTAHĪ LIVES BY



MY FAIR LADY SYNOPSIS

ACT 1

A rainy night in Edwardian London near the Royal Opera House, a young cockney flower girl, Eliza Doolittle, is selling violets. A young man, Freddy, bumps into her and spoils her flowers. Eliza is cheered up when an elderly gentleman, Mr. Pickering, buys a flower, but again has an outburst when she notices another gentleman writing down how she talks. He introduces himself to the older gentleman as Henry Higgins, a phoneticist, and bets that he can make Eliza a lady by improving her speech ("Why Can't the English"). As they depart he unwillingly throws some loose change into Eliza's basket and she imagines what it would be like to live a life like the 'upper class' ("Wouldn't It Be Lovely").

The next morning Alfred Doolittle, Eliza's father, seeks out Eliza for some money for a drink ("With A Little Bit of Luck"). Meanwhile Higgins and Pickering are discussing linguistics when they get an unexpected visit from Eliza. She is seeking speech lessons to be able to get a job as an assistant at a florist's shop. The two men reinstate their previously discussed wager, and Higgins begins the preliminary attempt to refining Eliza ("I'm An Ordinary Man"). Alfred Doolittle hears of Eliza's lessons, and decides to try and see if he can score a little money out of the arrangement ("With a Little Bit of Luck - Reprise").

Higgins, impressed by Alfred's linguistics and lack of moral code, agrees to pay Alfred to go on a spree so Eliza can continue lessons and also recommends him to an American millionaire seeking a lecturer on moral values. Eliza's tumultuous lessons continue, and she frustratingly imagines ways to get rid of Higgins ("Just You Wait"). The tired servants are on the verge of giving up when suddenly Eliza has a phonetic breakthrough and perfectly recites ("The Rain in Spain"). An overjoyed Eliza is too thrilled to sleep ("I Could Have Danced All Night").

Eliza is brought to the racecourse to test her new skills ("Ascot Gavotte"). After an initial good first impression, Eliza shocks the attendees with vulgar slang and Cockney attitude. But not without entrancing the young man, Freddy Eynsford-Hill, she bumps into outside the opera. Freddy is denied by Eliza when he calls on her, but swears to wait for her as long as necessary ("On The Street Where You Live").

Eliza, Higgins and Pickering prepare for the final test at the Embassy Ball.



MY FAIR LADY SYNOPSIS

ACT 2

Eliza dazzles as a lady and impresses everyone, including the Queen of Transylvania ("Embassy Waltz"). A former student of Higgins, Zoltan Karpathy, is employed to discover the truth about Eliza through her speech. Though cautioned by his mother and Pickering not to let Karpathy dance with Eliza, Higgins relents. The test at the Embassy Ball is considered a success as Karpathy has concluded that Eliza must be of Royal Hungarian blood. Pickering and Higgins are ecstatic at the success and declare the experiment over ("You Did It").

Eliza feels used and alone, her feelings unnoticed by Higgins. She lashes out at him and decides to leave. Higgins insults her and abruptly leaves ("Just You Wait - Reprise"). Outside she finds Freddy, still waiting for her ("On The Street Where You Live - Reprise"). He begins to explain his feelings of love towards her, but she cuts him off, tired of words ("Show Me").

The two return to Covent Garden where Eliza is unrecognisable with her new demeanor ("The Flower Market / Wouldn't It Be Lovely - Reprise"). Her father also happens to be there, well dressed and with news that he has been bequeathed four thousand pounds a year and now must marry Eliza's "step-mother" to be a respectable gentleman ("Get Me To The Church On Time").

Higgins reflects on life with and without Eliza ("A Hymn to Him"). Higgins seeks his mother's advice and is surprised to find Eliza having tea with her. Left alone, the two can clear the air. While Higgins always treated Eliza like a flower girl, Pickering treated her like a lady. Higgins denies any difference in treatment, and Eliza announces she will marry Freddy because he loves her. She says she was foolish to think she needed Higgins and will never see him again ("Without You").

Henry Higgins realises his attachment to Eliza ("I've Grown Accustomed To Her Face"). He re-plays the recordings of their first lesson and only hears his harsh and disparaging words. He is interrupted by a Cockney accent, Eliza, who has returned for a possible reconciliation.



THE SCENES

ACT I

- Scene 1. Outside the Opera House, Covent Garden - A cold March night
- Scene 2. A Tenement Section, Tottenham Court Road - Immediately following
- Scene 3. Higgins' Study - The following morning
- Scene 4. A Tenement Section, Tottenham Court Road - Three days later
- Scene 5. Higgins' Study - Later that day
- Scene 6. Near the Race Meeting, Ascot - A July afternoon
- Scene 7. Inside a Club Tent, Ascot - Immediately following
- Scene 8. Outside Higgins' House, Wimpole Street - Later that afternoon
- Scene 9. Higgins' Study - Six weeks later

ACT II

- Scene 1. The Promenade of the Embassy - Later that night
- Scene 2. The Ballroom of the Embassy - Immediately following
- Scene 3. Higgins' Study - 3 o'clock the following morning
- Scene 4. Outside Higgins' House, Wimpole Street - Immediately following
- Scene 5. Flower Market of Covent Garden - 5 o'clock that morning
- Scene 6. Higgins' Study - 11 o'clock that morning
- Scene 7. The Conservatory of Mrs. Higgins' house - Later that day
- Scene 8. Outside Higgins' House, Wimpole Street - Immediately following
- Scene 9. Higgins' Study - Immediately following

THE CAST

COLONEL PICKERING



WARWICK
SHILLITO

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Warwick took up ballet relatively late in life, training at Southern Ballet in Christchurch, then the Victorian College of the Arts School of Dance in Melbourne. He joined postmodern company, Danceworks, in Australia in 1983 which created new contemporary works. He gave up dance in 1986 to pursue another career. In 2015 he returned to the stage in *The Phantom of the Opera* and as Patsy in *Monty Python's Spamalot* for Showbiz. He also performed in *Madame Butterfly* with NZ Opera.

Warwick has performed the role of Wilbur Turnblad in *Hairspray* (2016), ensemble in *Evita* (2016) and *Sister Act* (2017), a feature soloist in *Broadway Hitmen* (2018) and ensemble in *The Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber in Concert* and in *Miss Saigon* (2019).

For North Canterbury Musicals his roles have included Max Detweiler in *The Sound of Music* (2017), Larry in *Company* (2017), Sir Danvers Carew in *Jekyll & Hyde* (2018) and Andre Thibault in *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* (2019). He has also performed in *La Traviata* (2016), *Carmen* (2017), *Tosca* (2018) and *The Barber of Seville* (2019) for NZ Opera.

Warwick teaches clinical anatomy, physiology, pathology and image interpretation to medical imaging and osteopathy students at Ara Institute of Canterbury.

ALFRED P. DOOLITTLE



JOHN
CLARKE

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John's musical experience started at an early age. His family's favourite album was *My Fair Lady*, and his father had him singing 'On the Street Where You Live' to entertain his guests. John's mother took him to see the 1962 production of *My Fair Lady* at the Theatre Royal, and his love affair with theatre and music began.

John was a professional drummer and singer with local Christchurch pub bands in the 1970's and early 1980's. He left Christchurch in 1987 to live in Auckland. In 1989 at age 39, he performed in his very first theatrical production, *Jesus Christ Superstar*. Since then he has appeared in 17 more musicals, including playing Julian Marsh in Christchurch Operatic Society's 1996 production of *42nd Street*.

John has performed in some 20 plays. He appeared in many TV dramas, short films and feature films (notably *King Kong* in 1994), and TV commercials. He won 'Best Actor/Short Film' at the 2014 'NZ Film Awards' for a film called *Ross and Beth*.

This production of *My Fair Lady* will be John's return to the musical theatre stage after a long gap of some 20 years.

MRS HIGGINS



ANGELA
JOHNSON

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After an extensive career in Music Theatre throughout Australia and New Zealand, Angela took some years off from performing but is now delighted to be back, reuniting with friends for this production of *My Fair Lady*.

Some past credits include: *Mary Poppins* (Miss Andrew, Court Theatre), *Souvenir: A Fantasia on the Life of Florence Foster Jenkins* (Florence Foster Jenkins, Fortune Theatre) *The Sound of Music* (Sister Berthe, Australian Tour), *The Phantom of the Opera* (Really Useful Group, Sydney), *Cats* (Really Useful Group, Melbourne), *Fiddler on the Roof* (Opera Australia), *A Little Night Music* (Sydney Theatre Company).

Past shows for Showbiz include *The Phantom of the Opera*, *Man of La Mancha*, *Follow the Star*, *West Side Story* and *Jesus Christ Superstar*.

Angela has also taught at the National Academy of Dramatic Arts (NASDA) for over 18 years passing her love of Music Theatre onto the next generations.

In this production Angela has also acted in the role of Assistant to the Director.

THE CAST

FREDDY EYNSTFORD-HILL



CAMERON
MELVILLE

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Cameron has been involved in musical theatre from a young age, taking up voice training at primary school and participating in many solo voice competitions and male and mixed-voice choirs.

Cameron made his Showbiz Christchurch debut in the 2010 production of *Sweeney Todd* as Tobias Ragg. His other Showbiz credits include William Lovell-Smith in *That Bloody Woman*, *Wicked*, *Sister Act*, *Mamma Mia!*, *Monty Python's Spamalot*, *Buddy - The Buddy Holly Story* as well as various ASB *Starry Nights* concerts.

Cameron's additional theatre credits include Roger in *Rent* (MUSOC), Artful Dodger in *Oliver!*, and *Chicago* (Riccarton Players). Cameron has also featured several times as a soloist in *Coca Cola Christmas in the Park*.

Cameron is pleased to be sponsored by his employer, Saunders Robinson Brown. Please feel free to reach out to Cameron for all your legal needs.

MRS PEARCE



LIBBY
FRASER

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Originally from Southland, Libby holds an ATCL in Musical Theatre Performance and Flute from Trinity College of Music, and degrees in law and politics from the University of Otago.

Performing highlights include performing as Elphaba in *Wicked* (2019), Mother Superior in *Sister Act*, Mrs Banks in *Mary Poppins* (2017), Rizzo in *Grease* (2013), all with Invercargill Musical Theatre, and as Widow Twanky in *Aladdin* in a UK tour with The Pantomime Company UK (2015).

Other performing credits include *Mamma Mia!*, *Chicago*, (Invercargill Musical Theatre), *As You Like It*, *Games and Thrones* (Shakespeare in the Park), *Social Climbers*, *Cinderella* (Repertory Invercargill), featured soloist at *ILT Christmas at the Stadium*, and *The Faulty Towers Dinner Theatre Show* (DKCM Limited).

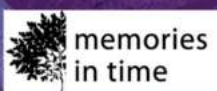
Since moving to Ōtautahi in late 2020, Libby has performed as a featured soloist in *The Isolation Mixtape Vol. 2* (Blackboard Theatre Collective), as Mrs Fox in *Clever Mr Fox* (Canterbury Childrens' Theatre), in the CSO Chorus in Christchurch Symphony Orchestra's *Verdi Requiem* and most recently, as Ada in *That Bloody Woman* (Showbiz Christchurch) earlier this year.

HARRY



CHRIS
GOODYEAR

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Chris graduated from the New Zealand Broadcasting School with a Bachelor of Broadcasting Communications (Radio) and holds an Associate level diploma in both speech and drama, and musical theatre (SOUNDSTAGE) from the Trinity College of London.

Chris has been involved in many productions both on and off the stage, working as both a performer and director. Some of his previous Showbiz credits include: Walter in *That Bloody Woman*, Mr Wormwood in *Matilda*, The Wizard in *Wicked*, as well as ensemble roles in both *Sister Act* and *Miss Saigon*. Chris has also acted as MC for our *Way Off Broadway* musical theatre open mic night.

Elsewhere, Chris has played Sir Robin in *Monty Python's Spamalot*, Thenardier in *Les Misérables* and Lucas in *The Addams Family* (Nelson Musical Theatre) and held various roles in *The Hound of the Baskervilles* (Antics Theatre Company).

During the weekdays you can hear Chris on More FM's Breakfast Club, where he is better known as 'Speedy'.

THE CAST

JAMIE



JAKE
MCKAY

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Jake graduated in 2020 from Toi Whakaari with a Bachelor of Performing Arts (acting). *My Fair Lady* will be his first Showbiz Christchurch production after seeing the *Phantom Of The Opera* and knowing he just had to be on stage. This show also is his homecoming to Christchurch and a return to acting since his last appearance as Prince Lyall in The Circa Theatre's pantomime, *The Little Mermaid* (2021).

Other theatre credits include *The Glass Menagerie*, *Merrily We Roll Along* and *Pre-Lockdown Post* (Toi Whakaari).

Jake is developing his new found singing voice with the help and patience of Angela Johnson (Mrs Higgins).

When Jake isn't learning to sing or rolling around on the floor he works as a building labourer and runs his own small business restoring stainless steel.

Jake is a member of Equity New Zealand.

MRS ENYSTORD-HILL



REBECCA
BOYCE

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Rebecca's passion for dance began early, and music followed soon after. She trained and competed for 21 years in Highland and National Dance, including Young Performer of the Year competition twice (finalist 1995) and National Champion 1993.

Rebecca studied Performance Music (Voice) at University of Otago. She appeared in 12 productions for Dunedin Operatic whilst living there. She has since appeared in 12 productions for Showbiz including as Sandy in *Grease*, Jemima in *Cats* and Velma Von Tussle in *Hairspray*.

Rebecca is a qualified Zumba® Instructor and holds a Diploma in Fashion Modelling. She is a current member of The Starlets professional vocal trio and has appeared with, and acted as vocal coach for Top Dog Theatre.

In her spare time Rebecca cherishes her role as a mum, wifey and owner of many pets.

"Life is a musical".

NATHAN KARPATY



NATHAN
MUNN

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Nathan is a long-term advocate of the arts with experience performing in a variety of settings. He has a background in education with experience directing and producing musical theatre and is a founding member of Moonlight Theatre company.

He has a many performing credits to his name from throughout New Zealand including, *Hair* (Berger), *42nd Street* (Julian Marsh), *Mary Poppins* (George Banks), *Sister Act* (Pablo), *The Phantom Of The Opera* (Ensemble), *Jekyll and Hyde* (Jekyll and Hyde), Moonlight Cabaret, Blackboard Theatre Company and a variety of concerts and directing credits in high school productions.

Nathan currently teaches drama at Shirley Boys High School and is passionate about education and the healing effects engagement in drama can have on society.

Nathan is thrilled to be involved in a show with such a talented group of performers and is excited to see Showbiz bring back such a classic musical to the Isaac Theatre Royal.

THE CAST

QUEEN OF TRANSYLVANIA



SARAH
GREENWOOD
BUCHANAN

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Sarah has performed nationally and internationally for over 30 years in shows, various festivals, and corporate events.

Her Showbiz Christchurch credits include, *Les Misérables*, *Anything Goes*, *Chess*, *42 Street*, *West-End to Broadway I, II and III*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat*, *Buddy Holly*, *Mamma Mia!*, *Sister Act* and *Wicked* to name a few.

Her professional credits include, *The Queen and I*, *Wind in the Willows*, *Mother Courage*, *Market Forces*, *Kiss Me Kate* and *She loves Me* for Court Theatre. In 2001 she toured New Zealand in Stetson Production Ltd.'s season of *Chicago*. In 2021 she also co-wrote and co-produced her own show for Made in Canterbury festival, *The Young and the Ageless*.

Sarah is currently co-director and co-performer of the glamorous professional vocal trio of vintage swing, *The Starlets* and the newly founded 90's all girl band *Girl Power*.



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Serenity Thurlow - Principal Viola, Arna Morton - Principal Second Violin, Jonathan Tanner - Assistant Concertmaster
Cameron Pearce - Trumpet, Thomas Eves - Principal Trumpet, Karl Margevka - Principal Trombone, Nigel Seaton - Principal Tuba
Emma Eden - Principal Horn, Jeremy Garside - Principal Cello, Hannah Darroch - Principal Flute, Annabella Zilber - Principal Double Bass

Front row, left to right: Helen Webby - Principal Harp, Laura Barton - First Violin, Roanna Funcke - Principal Timpani
Milana Kornienko - Associate Principal Second Violin, Brett Painter - Principal Percussion, Richard Marrett - Conductor
Pablo Ruiz Henao - Principal Bass Trombone, Sarah McCracken - Concertmaster, Jonathan Prior - Associate Principal Clarinet
Selena Prior - Principal Bassoon, Bernard Shapiro - Associate Principal Horn. **Absent:** Slade Hocking - Associate Principal Trumpet



THE ENSEMBLE



TAYLOR
BALLANTYNE

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Originally from Southland, Taylor has recently graduated from Ara Institute of Canterbury with a Bachelor of International Tourism and Hospitality Management.

Passionate about performing, Taylor featured in all his high school productions which included shows such as *Grease*, *Back to the 80's*, *High School Musical* and multiple school-produced shows which toured local primary schools. After a three-year hiatus from the stage, he is stoked to be making his performance debut with Showbiz Christchurch.

Taylor is currently the Food and Beverage Deputy Manager at The Court Theatre.



RUTH
BISHOP

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Ruth is currently in her final year of study at NASDA, working towards her Bachelor of Musical Theatre. During her time there, she has had the privilege of performing in musicals and plays such as *Chicago*, *Company*, and *The Bacchae*.

Raised in Wellington, Ruth began dancing at age 3 and in 2020 she completed her RAD Advanced 2 Ballet Exam and received her NZAMD Diplomas in Contemporary and Jazz. Extensive experience with choirs in high school ignited a big passion for ensemble singing, which Ruth continues to nurture here in Ōtautahi with Christchurch Youth Choir.

This is Ruth's first time performing with Showbiz.



LAWRENCE
BOTTING

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Lawrence is an Intermediate Teacher, who has been working at Kirkwood Intermediate for the past 3 years. He thoroughly enjoys his profession and loves that he can share his passion of musical theatre with all his students.

Lawrence started his musical theatre journey following his fathers' footsteps in stage lighting and sound, often behind consoles and followspots, before flipping his role onto the stage. Lawrence sang and played the violin from an early age and fell in love with classical music. Lawrence has performed in many roles for MUSOC, NCMS and Showbiz Christchurch and is looking forward to being involved in *My Fair Lady* a second time around.

His theatre credits include Ram Sweeny in *Heathers* (2018) and J. B. Biggley in *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* (2019) with MUSOC. Eugene in *Grease* (2022) with NCMS, as well as other ensemble roles throughout the years.



NIC
CATTO

Proudly Sponsored By:

FRASER FLYNN

Nicholas is thrilled to be making his Showbiz Christchurch debut as part of the *My Fair Lady* whānau.

His love of musicals stems back to watching the *Hairspray* movie, listening to the *Wicked* soundtrack, and performing in a musical theatre revue show while at high school.

A self-professed "choir nerd", Nic performed with the New Zealand National Secondary Students' Choir from 2011-2012, performing across New Zealand and travelling to South Africa to perform in the Ihlombe Choral Festival. He then showcased his talent with the Christchurch Youth Choir from 2013-2021, performing as a soloist on multiple occasions in New Zealand and Australia.

Nicholas works as a Civil Engineer by day and loves spending time with his husband and two dogs in the evening. And just for fun he can belt out the Pokémon theme song (including the second verse) and name every Pokémon introduced so far.

THE ENSEMBLE



OLIVER
DAVIDSON

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Oliver graduated from the New York Conservatory for Dramatic Arts in 2020 in Manhattan, NY with an Associate Degree in Occupational Studies endorsed for Film and Television. He returned home due to the COVID-19 lockdown, and has been here since.

Oliver began dancing at age 7 at Southern Ballet where he trained in classical ballet, jazz and hip hop. His passion for performing grew from there, and he has been involved in the arts since.

This is his sixth show with Showbiz! Previous shows include *Matilda*, *Wicked*, *Evita*, *Hairspray*, and *Mamma Mia!* Other credits include *Chicago* (Court Theatre), *Curtains* and *Reefer Madness* (MUSOC) *Mary Poppins* (Taieri Musical Society)

In his limited spare time, Oliver enjoys playing rugby, basketball and netball, as well as collecting vinyl records!



JOSHUA
DICKENS

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Joshua's first foray into the world of Musical Theatre came in 2017, when he was asked to join the ensemble for the first ever New Zealand highschool production of *Evita*, produced by the Marlborough Combined Colleges.

6 years, and 9 shows later, having been in such hits as *Young Frankenstein* (Marlborough combined colleges, 2019) and *Les Misérables* (Blenheim Musical Theatre, 2022).

Joshua is fully immersed in the musical theatre world, coming to Christchurch this year to study at the National Academy of Singing and Dramatic Arts, working toward his Certificate in Performing Arts.



LENNOX
DUNN

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Lennox has been dancing since the age of 10 and has performed all around New Zealand.

He began ballet dance at Linda Simons School of Dance before moving to Southern Ballet. To prepare for his pre professional training Lennox attended the New Zealand School of Dance. After one year he headed home to dance with the New Zealand Youth Ballet Company where he stayed for two years.

Lennox has performed multiple principal roles while dancing ballet such as The Beast in *Beauty And The Beast*, *Nutcracker Prince* and *Sleeping Beauty Prince*.

Lennox has appeared in two Showbiz Christchurch shows as an ensemble member in *We Will Rock You* and *The Music Of Andrew Lloyd Webber In Concert*.



IMOGEN
EDWARDS

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Imogen started dancing at the age of four, when she began her Classical Ballet training in the UK. She studied Classical Ballet until the age of 14, when she began her Latin American and Ballroom training in Auckland.

She has competed nationally and internationally in both Latin American and Ballroom for several years, going to the Australian Dancesport Championships and the South Pacific Dancesport Championships, before taking a break to attend University.

My Fair Lady is Imogen's third production with Showbiz Christchurch. She made her debut performance with Showbiz Christchurch in the 2016 production of *Evita* followed by *Wicked* (2018).

THE ENSEMBLE



BIANCA
ESCOBAR

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Bianca is happy to be back on stage after choreographing shows for MUSOC, including *The Addams Family Musical* (2022), *Reefer Madness* (2021), and most recently, *Alphabetized, an Alphabetical Songbook of Showtunes* (2023).

No stranger to performing, she started ballet as soon as she could walk, and her passion for performing grew into a love of acting and musical theatre. Originally from Auckland, Bianca has been performing in various musicals in Christchurch since 2017. When not on stage or telling people on stage what to do, Bianca is an embroidery artist and runs her business, Embroider with Bee.

She is overjoyed to make her Showbiz debut with *My Fair Lady*, especially after the disappointing cancellation in 2020, when she was originally cast. A production of *My Fair Lady* in 2009 was Bianca's introduction to live musical theatre and it's held a very special place in her heart ever since.



JANE
GODFREY

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Returning to the stage for her first musical in 15 years, Jane performed the role of Baroness Schraeder in NCM's sell-out season of *The Sound of Music* in 2017, followed by Joanne in NCM's production of *Company* later that year, Lady Beaconsfield in *Jekyll and Hyde* in 2018 and she has been involved with every NCM show since then – *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, *Retrospective*, *Joseph and the Technicolour Dreamcoat*, *Annie*, *Grease*.

Jane graduated from NASDA in 1995 with a Diploma in Performance Art and has been involved in a wide variety of performance projects since then, in various parts of the world.

She returned to New Zealand in 2001 to raise a family and become a secondary Drama and English teacher. She has been a busy marriage celebrant in Canterbury for the past 14 years and is now a celebrant trainer for The Celebrants Training College. This is Jane's first production with Showbiz.



DANIEL
HARRIS

Proudly Sponsored By:



Daniel is making his theatrical debut in *My Fair Lady* as an ensemble member.

He previously sang with Consortia, where he performed in *Dido and Aeneas* and in *Acis and Galatea*. Daniel is currently in his second year of studying jazz piano at Te Pūkenga. Although he has not had much experience in theatre, Daniel is super excited to join the cast of *My Fair Lady*, and can't wait to get on stage!

Outside music, Daniel studied Computer Science and Mathematics at the University of Canterbury, and he enjoys working part time at Allied Telesis Labs. He also loves board games, and he is trying to learn Spanish on the side.

Later this year, Daniel is playing with the Christchurch School of Music Big Band, and he is also planning to debut an album release soon!



ANNA
HENDERSON

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Anna discovered her passion for the theatre as a teenager and soon joined Create School of Arts in Christchurch as a dance tutor, choreographer and singing tutor. She also started an itinerant music programme at Emmanuel Christian School in 2011, where she taught singing and directed their annual musical productions until 2019.

Anna has represented New Zealand in Latin American Dance in Australia and England, eventually touring Victoria with the Macedonian Theatre Company. She trained as a classical singer, including one year at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, and has represented New Zealand in a Youth Choir at the International Music Festival. Anna has worked as Choreographer and Junior Choir Tutor for the Canterbury School's Music Festival and was part of the production team for Silhouette Studios New Zealand for seven years.

In 2017 Anna appeared as an extra for the Christchurch season of the Royal New Zealand Ballet's production of *Romeo & Juliet*. *Les Misérables* in 2018 was Anna's first production with Showbiz Christchurch. Since 2019 Anna has been part of the music & production team at Majestic Church.

THE ENSEMBLE



KRISTINA
HOCKEY

Proudly Sponsored By:



Kristina is ecstatic to be a part of the *My Fair Lady* cast. She was part of the original cast back in 2020, and is very happy to see it get to the stage this time.

She was most recently seen in The New Zealand Opera Company's production of *Macbeth* (2022) and *The Marriage of Figaro* (2021), and as Audrey in *Little Shop of Horrors* (2021), Nessarose in *Wicked* (2019) and Donna-Marie in *Blood Brothers* (2019). Her other theatre credits include *Suor Angelica*, *Priscilla Queen of the Desert*, *The Mikado*, *The Pirates of Penzance* and *Don Giovanni*.

Kristina studied classical voice at the University of Otago, alongside her Physiotherapy degree.

She is now a Vocal and Performing Arts Physiotherapist, running a business called Voice Physiotherapy New Zealand, where she helps performers across NZ to get back on the stage.



MEREDITH
JACKSON

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Meredith began her musical theatre training at John Curtin College of the Arts in Perth before moving to Sydney to continue her training at Brent Street. Meredith graduated from the National Academy of Singing and Dramatic Art in 2019 with a Bachelor of Performing Arts (Music Theatre) and has since made Ōtautahi her home.

Meredith recently performed in the Middle East where she played Gingy/Fairy Godmother in the international tour of *Shrek the Musical*. Other theatre highlights include *Flagns and Foxtrots* (The Court Theatre), *Shrek the Musical* (NZ Tour/ Showcase Entertainment), *Curtains* (4th Wall Theatre), *Matilda* (Showbiz Christchurch), *A Better Life* (Turn Round Theatre Ōtautahi), *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (NCMS), *Curtains*, *Earthquakes in London* (NASDA), *Nine, 9 to 5* (Brent Street), *Or So They Say and Severely Queer: It's A Pirate's Life* (Blackboard Theatre Collective). She is also an experienced violinist. When not performing, Meredith teaches music and acting as well as a variety of dance disciplines in New Zealand and Australia.



AUSTIN
JENKS

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Austin discovered his love for dance at an early age studying at Sharon Howells School of Dance and then honing his craft with the Houston Ballet from 2012 to 2014 and the Court Youth Company, before joining Southern Ballet from 2016 to 2019.

Austin appeared in *The Nutcracker*, *Peter Pan* and *Beauty and the Beast* during his time with Southern Ballet and took part in many high school productions during this time including *The irresistible rise of Arturo Ui* and *Animal Farm*.

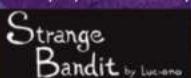
Now, while his engineering apprenticeship takes centre stage, Austin's years in dance remain a vital part of his journey and he is thrilled to be on stage for Showbiz Christchurch once again.

His recent past performances include *Boys* and *The Unauthorised Biography of...* with The Court Theatre Youth Company, *The Music Of Andrew Lloyd Webber in Concert* with Showbiz Christchurch and *Heathers* and *Monty Python's Spamalot* with Luminaries Charitable Trust.



RYLIE
MACGIBBON

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Rylie has trained for the last 17 years in tap, jazz, ballet, hip hop, and contemporary dance. Rylie's previous performance experience includes several Showbiz productions, including *Broadway Hitmen* (2018), *We Will Rock You* (2019), and *The Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber* (2019) and *Matilda* (2022).

Rylie has previously performed as a Crusaders dancer in Christchurch, in horror feature film *Pearl* and in Wellington's Fringe Festival (2022). Rylie trained in commercial dance at Te Auaha.

Outside of performing onstage, Rylie is a jazz, contemporary and tap tutor at TDA-SMC.

Riley dedicates her performance to the memory of her Mother, Mandy Roberts, who had a huge impact on the Christchurch dance and theatre community.

THE ENSEMBLE



JULIETTE
NEWMAN

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Juliette began tap dancing at the age of 3 and subsequently picked up ballet, jazz, contemporary, and musical theatre at both Southern Ballet and St Andrew's College Ballet Academy.

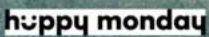
She soon began performing in musicals and is most proud of playing the role of Lucille Frank in *Parade*, and her other performance credits include *Blood Brothers*, *Encore*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Anything Goes* (St Andrew's College).

She is currently a medical student completing her degree at the University of Otago, Christchurch. She remained an active part of the dance and musical theatre communities during her time in Dunedin, taking part in yearly amateur productions.



HOLLY
PALMER

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Holly has been dancing since the age of four and trains at JK Performing Arts in tap, jazz, musical theatre, contemporary, ballet and drama. She studies singing with Andrea Koorey.

Stage credits include *Annie the Musical* as Miss Hannigan (Villa Maria College, 2023), and *Beauty and the Beast the Pantomime* (2022) and *Cinderella the Pantomime* (2020) with GMG Productions. She also appeared in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* with North Canterbury Musical Society. A highlight for Holly was winning the Primary Musical Theatre Award at the New Zealand Dance Awards (2019).

She has performed many times on What Now and in *Coca Cola Christmas in the Park*. Holly also received a nomination to perform tap dancing at PACANZ last year (2022).



LORRAINE
TURNER

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Lorraine is a 2017 graduate of the National Academy of Singing and Dramatic Art (NASDA) with a Bachelor of Performing Arts (Music Theatre).

My Fair Lady is her third show with Showbiz after performing in *Les Misérables* (2018) and *An Evening of Rodgers and Hammerstein Classics* (2017).

Her other theatre credits include; *Or So They Say* (Blackboard Theatre Collective), *He Says She Says* (Blackboard Theatre Collective), *Oedipus Rex* (Team Ginger Bear), *One Sh*t Couch* (Blackboard Theatre Collective), *Cabaret* (NASDA), *Julius Caesar* (NASDA), *And the World Goes 'Round* (NASDA), *Mad Forest* (NASDA), and *Ragtime* (NASDA).



LEON
VANT VEEN

Proudly Sponsored By:



Leon is thrilled to be returning to the stage in this stunning production of *My Fair Lady*.

Previous performances for Showbiz include *Les Misérables*, *Joseph (Baker)*, *42nd Street* (Abner Dillon), *Little Shop of Horrors* (U/S Seymour), *Miss Saigon*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *West End To Broadway 2*, *Copacabana* and *ASB Bank Starry Nights*. He performed at the opening of the Christchurch Art Gallery and was cast as Sir Bedevere in the un-staged Showbiz production of *Spamalot*.

Leon has toured in several cabaret shows, film, and performed in *Rush*, *Hercules*, *Singing In The Rain*, *Rent Charlie & The Chocolate Factory* and with Excalibur's Theatre Restaurant.

As a director, highlights include Directing & Designing sell-out productions of *Les Misérables* and *Jesus Christ Superstar* for North Canterbury Musicals & *The Lion King Junior*.



SIÂNI
WYATT

Proudly Sponsored By:



Siâni is thrilled to be returning for her fourth production with Showbiz Christchurch. Her previous stage credits for Showbiz include *We Will Rock You* (2019), *Wicked* (2018) and *Phantom of the Opera* (2015) where she has performed as a dancer and ensemble member.

Siâni's passion for dance and performing has been a lifelong journey shaped by her training in ballet and other performing arts.

She studied dancing at The Edge Performers' School in Melbourne and performed in the DanceBourne Arts triple bill performance of *Balance*.

With a recent Bachelor's degree in Health Science, she is currently embarking on a rewarding career in health, driven by a strong commitment to serve and empower her community.

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THE MAGAZINE ŌTAUTAHI LIVES BY

PRODUCTION TEAM

STAGE MANAGER



GAVIN
BAILEY

Gavin has had a long association with musical theatre over the years, starting at school in Timaru during the '90s. He has since worked in a variety of roles both in New Zealand and overseas productions.

Gavin is involved with a number of theatre groups throughout Canterbury and currently is the zone representative for Musical Theatre New Zealand and currently sits on the board as Vice-President here at Showbiz Christchurch. By day he works as a building specialist with the Christchurch City Council.

His first Showbiz Christchurch production was moving the coins on props for *42nd Street* in 2002. He has since worked for Showbiz in other areas including fly and floor crew, Assistant Stage Manager and Stage Manager on such shows as *Monty Python's Spamalot*, *Mamma Mia!*, *Priscilla Queen of the Desert*, *Wicked* and most recently *Matilda*.

COSTUME, WIG AND HAIR MANAGER



SARAH
BUCHANAN

Sarah is thrilled to be working both on and offstage in this magical production of *My Fair Lady*.

No stranger to being on the stage, behind the scenes Sarah has worked as Wigs and Makeup Manager, on many of our productions including *The Phantom of the Opera*, *Hairspray*, *Priscilla Queen of the Desert*, *Wicked*, *Les Misérables*, *We Will Rock You*. And most recently as Costume Manager for 2022 *Matilda* and Costume Designer on *That Bloody Woman*.

As well as spending over 4 decades in salon hairdressing, Sarah was the South Island Education Manager for New Zealand hair product company 'Schwarzkopf' for five years. She also managed one of the country's top salons in education, 'Mod's Hair' and holds a level 4 certificate in Makeup design.

Sarah has tutored hair and stage makeup for other theatre societies around NZ and is currently the wardrobe manager for MTNZ Consortium for *We will Rock You* and has worked on other production companies such as New Zealand Opera,

Sarah has just recently returned from the middle east where she recently was Head of Wigs for 'Showcase Entertainments' professional musical of *Shrek*, and will be returning to the middle east straight after the season of *My Fair Lady* to begin work on 'Broadway Entertainment Groups', *The Phantom Of The Opera*.

PROPERTIES MANAGER



CATHERINA
HENGST

Catherina, a quiet school librarian by day, had her first taste of the theatrical world in 2003 when a friend suggested she join the crew for Showbiz Christchurch's production of *Copacabana*. Little did she know that this would mark the beginning of an extraordinary journey that would see her involved in all 35 productions since then, becoming an invaluable member of the Showbiz community and honing her craft along the way.

Behind the scenes, Catherina takes on the crucial role of properties manager. With meticulous care, she sources props and collaborates with skilled craftspeople to bring each production to life, ensuring an authentic and visually stunning experience for the audience.

Some of her favourite prop builds include the glitz and glamour of *Priscilla Queen of the Desert* and the uproarious comedy of *Monty Python's Spamalot*. Catherina's attention to detail, resourcefulness, and organisational prowess shine through in every show she contributes to.

PRODUCTION TEAM

PRODUCTION MANAGER



MANDY
PERRY

Mandy has been working in local theatre for over 30 years and has been involved with over 120 productions as either stage manager or production manager, her most recent at Showbiz Christchurch being *That Bloody Woman*. She started with Showbiz as volunteer crew for *Me and My Girl*, *Anything Goes* and *Les Misérables* before stepping into the professional world. She has come back to stage manage a number of shows including *Hairspray* and *Miss Saigon* and is now part-time production manager at Showbiz Christchurch.

Mandy has also worked for the Court Theatre with highlights including *August: Osage County*, *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare*, *Great Expectations*, *The Sound of Music*, *Mary Poppins*, *Stones in his Pockets* and *Disney's Moana Jr* as well as helping to create a new home for The Court at The Shed and as a regular stage manager for *Scared Scriptless* for over 30 years.

Mandy has worked with many other companies including Pacific Underground, Christchurch Arts Festival, The World Buskers Festival, NASDA, Two Productions, NZ Opera, Cubbin Theatre Company, Rollicking Entertainment, Noosed Octopus and Christchurch City Choir. Some show highlights include *Tell me on a Sunday*; Summertimes Theatre productions and the NZ tour of *Mau: One Man against the Gods*.

PRODUCTION SECRETARY



SUE
BEARDSLEY

Sue has been a member of Showbiz Christchurch (and Christchurch Operatic Society as it was formerly called) since 1973. This marks 50 years of membership with Showbiz Christchurch for Sue.

Over the years she has held the positions of Secretary, Treasurer, and Production Manager within the society and been involved in a multitude of shows. Since Returning from Australia Sue has enjoyed being Production Secretary for *Mamma Mia!*, *Hairspray* and *Priscilla Queen Of The Desert*.

As well as the role of production secretary for *My Fair Lady*, Sue also serves as front of house manager for the production.

Sue is also significantly involved in supporting the future of musical theatre in Christchurch as Chairperson of Christchurch Music Theatre Education Trust.

GENERAL MANAGER



CRAIG
OGILVIE

Craig's journey with Showbiz Christchurch spans over three decades, marking him as an integral part of our theatrical family. His involvement began on the stage, where he showcased his versatile talents in an array of acclaimed productions such as *Les Misérables*, *Phantom of the Opera*, *Chess*, *Evita*, *42nd Street*, and *Buddy - The Buddy Holly Story*, among others. As the years progressed, Craig transitioned into pivotal roles behind the scenes, assuming the responsibilities of production manager and dedicating his expertise to show marketing. His commitment extended even further as he served on our Board, contributing his insights and passion for theatre.

Craig has worked extensively in management in both New Zealand, Japan and the Middle East but has always been a member and strong supporter of Showbiz whether resident or overseas. Having grown up around Showbiz on and off over the last 30 years, Craig is enjoying the challenge of leading the organisation through a transformational period. The impact of Covid has led to numerous organisational and strategic challenges to manage. Developing our next generation of creatives and crew, a commitment to greater diversity and te ao Māori and strengthening our sense of community through a greater range of activities are key initiatives Craig and his team are driving.

Craig is immensely grateful to his dedicated Showbiz team, whose unwavering support brings the theatrical magic to life. The contributions of Mandy Perry as Production Manager, Tom Hart as Marketing Manager, and Suzanne Rivers as Administrator are invaluable, as they play pivotal roles in orchestrating our activities and ensuring the seamless execution of our productions.

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PRODUCTION MANAGER..... Mandy Perry
MARKETING MANAGER..... Tom Hart
ADMINISTRATOR..... Suzanne Rivers

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PRODUCER..... Showbiz Christchurch
DIRECTOR..... Stephen Robertson
MUSICAL DIRECTOR..... Richard Marrett
CHOREOGRAPHER..... Glen Harris
ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR..... Angela Johnson
ASSOCIATE MUSICAL DIRECTOR..... Caelan Thomas
SET DESIGN..... Harold Moot
LIGHTING DESIGN..... Grant Robertson
SOUND DESIGN..... Ben Rentoul
COSTUME DESIGN..... Stephen Robertson
PROPS DESIGN..... Christy Lassen
AV DESIGN..... Dave Spark
TECHNICAL DIRECTOR/HEAD MECHANIST..... David Bosworth
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PRODUCTION MANAGER..... Mandy Perry
PRODUCTION SECRETARY..... Sue Beardsley
STAGE MANAGER..... Gavin Bailey
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGERS..... Nicole Johnstone
 Louise Topping
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FOLLOW SPOT OPERATORS..... Matt Johnston
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ADDITIONAL SCENIC ELEMENTS..... Don Gillanders
LED SCREEN SUPPLIER..... Pixel
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- 1951 Bless The Bride
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- 1959 Showboat
- 1960 Zip Goes a Million
- 1961 Carousel
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- 1964 Chrysanthemum
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- 1967 The Pirates of Penzance
- 1968 Can Can
- 1968 The Fantasticks
- 1969 The Pajama Game
- 1970 The Sound of Music
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- 1972 Hello Dolly
- 1973 Oliver!
- 1973 The Desert Song
- 1974 The King & I
- 1974 Fiddler on the Roof
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- 1977 Guys and Dolls
- 1977 Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat
- 1978 The Merry Widow
- 1979 The Sound of Music
- 1980 Hello Dolly
- 1980 Oliver!
- 1981 Half a Sixpence
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- 1982 Jesus Christ Superstar
- 1982 The Little Swallow and the Happy Prince
- 1982 Fiddler on the Roof
- 1982 Follow the Star
- 1983 The King and I
- 1983 West Side Story
- 1983 Oklahoma!
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- 1984 Stardust Cabaret
- 1984 Man of La Mancha
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- 1987 Chicago
- 1988 Mack & Mabel
- 1989 Stage Door 2
- 1989 Oliver!
- 1990 Magic Moments from the Movies
- 1990 The Best Little Whorehouse In Texas
- 1991 Evita
- 1992 Me and My Girl
- 1993 Anything Goes
- 1994 Les Misérables
- 1995 Into the Woods
- 1996 42nd Street
- 1996 Chess
- 1997 Chorus Line
- 1998 Hair
- 1998 West End To Broadway
- 1999 West Side Story
- 1999 Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat
- 2000 WestEnd to Broadway II
- 2000 Little Shop of Horrors
- 2001 Les Misérables
- 2002 42nd Street
- 2002 Fiddler on the Roof
- 2003 Copacabana
- 2004 Grease
- 2005 Jesus Christ Superstar
- 2005 WestEnd to Broadway III
- 2006 Disney's Beauty and the Beast
- 2007 Cats
- 2007 The Full Monty
- 2008 Chicago
- 2008 Hot Shoe Shuffle
- 2009 Miss Saigon
- 2010 Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat
- 2010 Forbidden Broadway
- 2010 Sweeney Todd
- 2012 Buddy - The Buddy Holly Story
- 2013 Avenue Q
- 2015 The Phantom of the Opera
- 2015 Monty Python's Spamalot
- 2016 Mamma Mia!
- 2016 Hairspray
- 2016 Evita
- 2017 Priscilla, Queen of the Desert
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- 2023 That Bloody Woman



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