

70TH
ANNIVERSARY
1949-2019



**ST MICHAEL'S
PLAYERS
CHISWICK**

**OPEN AIR MUSICAL
SPECTACULAR
SALAD
DAYS**



*Book & Lyrics by Dorothy Reynolds & Julian Slade
Music by Julian Slade*

25 - 29 JUNE
ST PAUL'S CHURCH GARDEN
GROVE PARK CHISWICK
W4 3SD

PROGRAMME

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY



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JULIAN SLADE



Two interesting coincidences link my brother Julian with the 70th Anniversary of the St Michael's Players. The first is that 1949 was the year in which Julian began to write musicals. He was at Cambridge University and his contemporaries still remember and love the unlikely titled 'Bang Goes The Meringue' and 'Lady May'. The second coincidence is that the cottage in Painswick (Glos) where all we Slades were brought up was called 'St Michaels', a name that still means a lot to us, even if it is now a small restaurant!

After Cambridge Julian won a place at the Bristol Old Vic Theatre School where he was spotted by the Bristol Vic's Artistic Director Denis Carey. Denis brought him into the theatre company principally to write music for Shakespeare but very soon also, jointly with Dorothy Reynolds and James Cairncross, to write two Christmas shows – 'Christmas in King St' and 'The Merry Gentlema.' They both proved hugely popular with Bristol audiences.

In 1954, at not much more than three weeks notice before rehearsals needed to start, Denis asked Julian and Dorothy to write a summer show. Somehow they met the deadline and 'Salad Days' was born, so named at the suggestion of the lady who ran the bar in the Theatre Royal who knew her Shakespeare well. On its first night in Bristol the simple freshness of its story and the tunefulness of its music won the show 21 curtain calls.

By August 1954 'Salad Days' was opening in London at the Vaudeville Theatre to the same number of first night curtain calls. It remained there for the next six years, out-running 'My Fair Lady' and all previous record-breaking runs for musicals in the West End. It has since been performed by professional and amateur companies many times in the UK and also all over the world. It is exciting now to see it being performed in the open air, possibly for the very first time. Enjoy it and well done, St Michael's Players!

Adrian Slade

THE CAST

(IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE)

JANE
SARAH BRADLEY

TIMOTHY
MICHAEL HILL

THE TRAMP
GEORGE ATKINSON

TIMOTHY'S MOTHER, NURSE, PRESS
JO HARRY

TIMOTHY'S FATHER & UNCLE ZED
ADRIAN ELLIS

AUNT PRUE, BUTTERFLY CATCHER, THEATREGOER, PRESS
SUE DARRIEULAT

LADY RAEBURN & PRESS
CRESSIDA STRAUSS

HELOISE, THE NUN, LADY
CHRISTINE LEE

BEAUTY SHOP ASSISTANT, ASPHYNXIA, ANTHEA & LADY
EMILIA LEDERLEITNEROVÁ

**MANICURIST, TENNIS PLAYER, LADY,
MARGUERITE & ELECTRODE**
PIHU DUBÉ

P.C. BOOT & ARMS DANCER
PETER PRICE

ROWENA, SUNBATHER & ARMS DANCER
ANNY AUSTIN-SMITH

TROPPO & THE MANAGER
UTKU ER

ARTIST, THEATREGOER, LADY, SLAVE, WAITRESS
SHEILA CHURCHILL

FOSDYKE, NIGEL
MICHAEL COOK



SIR CLAMSBY WILLIAMS, TOM SMITH & WELL DRESSED MAN
ALASTAIR DEWAR

INSPECTOR
CHRISTINE NEYMAN

BELLY DANCER
HULYA KIRAZ ER

FIONA
MISTY HAMMOND

AUGUSTINE WILLIAMS
RODGER HAYWARD SMITH

AMBROSE
DAVID BURLES

THE BAND

MUSICAL DIRECTOR
SIMON DOUGLAS LANE

PERCUSSION
NICK HANDEL

UPRIGHT DOUBLE BASS
JAMES ROYAN

**THE FIRST SCENE IS SET IN A UNIVERSITY.
THE REMAINDER OF THE ACTION TAKES PLACE IN
LONDON, MAINLY IN ONE OF IT'S PARKS.**

INTERVAL - 15 MINUTES

HELPING OUT

FRONT OF HOUSE
MEMBERS & FRIENDS OF ST MICHAEL'S PLAYERS

BAR & BBQ
JENNY POWELL & ST PAUL'S CHURCH VOLUNTEERS

PRODUCTION TEAM

DIRECTED BY
MARC PEARCE

PRODUCED BY
FLEUR DE HENRIE PEARCE

LIGHTING DESIGNER
MARTIN WALTON

SOUND DESIGNER
MARTIN SPRIGGS

SOUND ENGINEER
IAN TROWBRIDGE

SOUND ASSISTANTS
JOANNA FIELD & ANDY MURRAY

CHOREOGRAPHY
AMANDA HARKER

ADDITIONAL CHOREOGRAPHY
PAUL TOMKINSON

PRODUCTION DESIGNER
FRANCESCA STONE

COSTUME DESIGN & STAGE MANAGEMENT
JANE ATKINSON & BRYONY WILMAN

PROPS SUPERVISOR
CLAIRE RICHMOND

PROPS ASSISTANT
CHRIS PEASE

MAKE-UP & HAIR
TEENA HEER

'ELECTRODE' PROSTHETICS, MAKE-UP & HAIR ASSISTANT
ROSIE COPPING

ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGERS
ARABELLA BURLES & MADELEINE HAZARD

RIGGING & FOLLOW SPOT OPERATORS
STUART CAMPBELL & ANDREW HALE

ST MICHAEL'S PLAYERS

St Michaels' Players is one of London's longest-standing drama groups. Based at St Michael's Centre, Elmwood Road, W4, we rehearse twice a week and perform four plays a year. Our repertoire is varied and we are always on the lookout for new members. If you would like to get involved we'd love to hear from you! alastair.dewar@cgi.com

"I am really proud to be Chairman of this fantastic group. St Michael's players is a vibrant part of the Chiswick community. For 70 years we have been delighting audiences and have built a reputation for producing good quality shows. We are a friendly bunch and always have fun along the way. As we press on towards 100 years, I am hoping to see the next generation of theatre lovers come on board. I'm also looking forward continuing to try new things – like our first ever musical Salad Days and our forthcoming production of The Long Road at the Edinburgh Fringe." Alastair Dewar

19-24 Aug | The Long Road
Edinburgh Festival Fringe edfringe.com

16-19 Oct | Autumn Production

11-14 Dec | Treasure Island

SPECIAL THANKS

Father Michael, Anusha and St Paul's Church for their support throughout the production

Pennie Bayliss and Barnes Community Players for costume hire

Jan Cunningham for providing additional singing coaching

Elizabeth Ollier for assistance with RP coaching 'Jane & Timothy'

Fullers Brewery Chiswick

Pre-Show Entertainment (25 June) THE DECIBELLES
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