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PANTOMIMES

ALADDIN

BRADFORD AND WEBSTER (2009)

Classic pantomime with some wonderful set-piece scenes. Princess Jasmine is 'slumming it' in Peking market, when she meets street rat Aladdin and it is love at first sight. Unfortunately for Aladdin, he is immediately under sentence of death, for talking to the Princess and PCs 27 and 39 are soon hot on his trail. Aladdin and his dim-witted brother, Wishee Washee, work with their mother, Widow Twanky, in her laundry. Cue some very funny action amongst the soap suds! It is also here that Aladdin first meets the evil Abanazar, who needs Aladdin's help to retrieve a magic lamp that is hidden in a mysterious cave. After thwarting Abanazar's plan, Aladdin is trapped in the cave and unwittingly unleashes a powerful genie, Jeanie, who was trapped in the lamp. When Aladdin arrives at the Imperial Palace a wealthy man, his death sentence is immediately lifted, but Jasmine is not impressed by this new Aladdin, dismissing him as a rich, arrogant, over-confident popinjay. Jasmine feels she was too hard on Aladdin and goes to the laundry to apologise. Aladdin is not there but she meets Abanazar disguised as an old lamp seller and innocently hands over Aladdin's lamp. Now with Jeanie at his command, and with Jasmine in chains, Abanazar moves into the Imperial Palace, the first step in his plan for world domination. But, in true pantomime style, Aladdin arrives to save the day, defeat Abanazar and win back Jasmine.

7 M, 6 F – three small roles plus chorus roles of villagers and courtiers.

LEONARD CADDY (1986)

The traditional story but has Widow Twankey trying to update her laundry without success, a young and up-to-date Spirit of the Ring, and a cad of a Demon who has the Fairy Queen dashing from Pantomime to Pantomime. There are opportunities for spectacle and dance in the Cave Scene and for stage effects with the Genie.

5 sets 7 M, 5 F

PETER DENYER (ENTITLED ALADDIN AND HIS WONDERFUL LAMP, 2006)

A strong adventure story where a poor laundry boy falls in love with the Emperor's daughter. To win her hand he has to become rich - which gets him involved with Abanazar, the evil sorcerer and his quest to find the magic lamp. There are many opportunities for some exotic settings as the story moves from Ancient China to Africa and, of course, the Magic Cave of Jewels.

6 main sets and 4 front cloths/curtains 6 M, 3 F

STEPHEN DUCKHAM (2003)

One of the most performed of all pantomimes, this colourful story set in Peking, China (with a quick trip to Egypt!) encompasses all the ingredients needed for a family entertainment. Quick-witted Aladdin constantly avoids the bumbling Peking police force (in the shape of a female Sergeant and a rather clumsy PC) and gets to meet the beautiful Princess Jasmine. His mother, Widow Twankey, wants him to help in the laundry, but he daydreams of bigger and better things. These are almost realised when the evil Abanazar tricks him into entering an eerie cave to retrieve a magic lamp. Once the secret of the lamp is revealed by a rap-speaking Genie, a number of adventures follow before the happy multiple-wedding finale.

Cast: Abanazar, Slave of the Ring, Sergeant Chop, PC Suey, Aladdin, Wishee Washee, Widow Twankey, Emperor, Princess Jasmine, Notsoshy, Genie of the Lamp. Scenes: 2 or 3 Front cloths (or tabs). 4 Full sets. 1 Inset.

RON HALL (ENTITLED ALADDIN AND HIS WONDERFUL LAMP, 1986)

Colourful exciting story with lots of comedy routines and scope for effects. Ample opportunities for inclusion of popular songs.

6 main sets and 5 insets/curtains 5M, 4F main characters with 3 supporting roles and 'camel'

BOB HEATHER (2009)

Abanazar, the wicked wizard, discovers the whereabouts of a magic lamp hidden in a cave near old Peking, but only a young and honest washer-woman's son can retrieve the lamp from its dark cavern. Abanazar travels to Peking to find such a boy, and discovers Widow Twankey's son, Aladdin, who fits the description perfectly. Meanwhile Aladdin falls in love with the beautiful Princess So-Shy, but the evil Abanazar has other plans for him. The wonderful characters include the inscrutable Wishee-Washee - The Genie of the Lamp - Jade, the Slave of the Ring - Abanazar's two henchmen Mustapha Phag and Ali Khatt - and Emperor Pan Ting.

8 M, 5 F – plus chorus members

MARK LLEWELLIN (2007)

The emphasis is on comedy in this reworking of the traditional tale. Widow Twankey runs a poodle parlour whilst son Aladdin is a gardener at the palace, where he meets, and falls for, Princess Jasmine. Meanwhile, the obsequious Vizier aided and abetted by the two hapless henchmen, Kaboodle and Kerfuffle, (who could be played by females) attempt to undermine the Empress. When the Vizier meets Abanazar they hatch a plan to ruin Aladdin and his Princess.

M 3, F 3, Either 5 + chorus. 4 full sets and 3 half sets.

LONG & RAWNSLEY (2006)

A traditional fun filled pantomime, set in China's old Peking. The story is centred around the poor widow Twankey, her son Aladdin and their adventures. Aladdin is infatuated with the Emperor's daughter Balraabadour, his quest for wealth is thwarted by the arrival of his arch enemy and villain Abanazar the wicked magician. Off setting this are the comic antics of Wishee Washee and his girlfriend Sing-Lo and the hapless Chinese policeman Charlie Chan and his number one son Chin Chin.

7 main sets - 2 half stage/front cloth. 7 M - 4 F plus comic Panda Chee-Kee. Musical items are indicated within the script.

ROBERT MARLOWE (1987)

A strictly traditional version of this most popular of titles. There are strong comedy scenes, and full details are given on how to achieve just the right magical effects.

5 full sets, 1 half-set, 2 front cloths, 8 M, 5 F plus chorus

MARSDEN & RUNDLE (2008)

Written in 2006, this colourful pantomime has all the ingredients you'd expect for a great family night's entertainment. Please call for a detailed synopsis.

8 M, 3 F

DAVID SWAN (1988)

Modern but traditional, full or action and suspense. One enormous joke with an exciting plot which fully involves the children.

3 full sets. 5 M, 5 F, 3 either

ALI BABA

LEONARD CADDY (1977)

Follows the original story but omits the more gruesome parts. As well as the usual Pantomime cast it has several original characters including an outrageous Parrot and a talking Skull. Ali gets locked in the Robbers' cove which can give scope for a jewel ballet, and also in the haunted vaults!

4 sets. 6 M, 6 F, plus the Parrot and other small speaking parts.

DAVID SWAN (1988)

Funny, imaginative, clear and uncomplicated. The pace never flags and holds the interest of the young and the young-in-heart.

3 full sets, 1 half set. 5 M, 4 F, 4 either.

ALICE IN PANTOLAND

RAY EYERS & RAY ELDER (1995)

Have you ever wondered where all the Panto characters go when the shows end? Pantoland of course!

4 F 4 M 3 M/F (there are also 11 small chorus/cameo parts, 5+5 Optional characters) and a chorus of Pantolians (Panto characters), fairies and creatures. Four main scenes with Front Tab work, these can be easily created as the script describes. Costume changes are minimal and give societies with a costume collection a chance to re-use them. Although a new story/concept this pantomime contains all the traditional ingredients - verbal and visual comedy with lots of slapstick and a variety of popular songs. The script is adaptable for large and small productions with a running time of between two and a half hours and three hours depending on the optional routines used. In Pantoland, the home of Panto characters, the witch calls together her cronies and they steal the fairies' wands. Now they can change the outcome of pantomimes and win. Alice, a human recruited by trigger the panto horse, must help the Pantolians to retrieve the wands and defeat the baddies.

ALICE IN WONDERLAND

ROBERT MARLOWE (2004)

For the first time in Pantomime format. Whilst sticking to Lewis Carroll's original story. Contains usual Pantomime slapstick but with modern references i.e. Internet Chatrooms, Mobiles etc. Only one costume per character throughout. Instructions on Sets - Costumes - Character analysis. Nothing left to chance.

Principles – 5 M-3 F-12 parts in total plus Chorus and Children.

ALICE THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS

ADAPTED BY CHRISTOPHER DENYS & NEIL RHODEN (2009)

Alice's adventures in the Strange and Whimsical World which lies behind the Looking-Glass provide the perfect Family Treat. In this mysterious land, she finds the Walrus and the Carpenter feasting on Oysters, the Lion and the Unicorn fighting as usual, the Mad Hatter, the March Hare, and Tweedledum and Tweedledee. She takes a wild Train Journey to meet the whole population of the Kings, Queens and Knights (with their good-natured Horses) of the Chessboard as they all jostle and fret in colourful confusion, stalked and terrified by the Sinister Jaberwocky - until the smallest of the chess-pieces unsheathes his Vorpal Sword and proves that even a Pawn can be a Hero! With a new original score and lyrics and a helter-skelter of comedy routines culminating in a custard pie fight at Queen Alice's Coronation Banquet.

All pantomime scripts are £6.50 each and subject to a performance fee. For details of charges, licensing and perusal details of pantomimes, musicals, plays & dramas please contact NODA on 01733 865 790 Email: info@noda.org.uk

BABES IN THE WOOD

LEONARD CADDY (1969)

The Dame is the Babes' Nanny so there is comedy in the bedroom; she is also the school mistress so a classroom scene is hilarious. They are captured by the otherwise ineffectual Robbers but rescued by Robin Hood in the time-honoured way.

5 sets. 6 M, 6 F, 2 youngsters plus one Pantomime Horse

Peter Denyer (entitled Robin Hood and the Babes in the Wood, 2006)

With Robin Hood as the Hero and the Sheriff of Nottingham as the Babes' wicked guardian this is the classic pantomime battle between Good and Evil. There is plenty of comedy, particularly involving the Babes' nanny, Nurse Norah, and Herman, the Sheriff's bungling henchman.

5 main sets and 3 front cloths/curtains. 6 M, 3 F

Stephen Duckham (2007)

Robin Hood and his Merry Men do battle with the evil Sheriff of Nottingham to save the Babes and return them safely to Nurse Jemima Jollop. Lovely Maid Marion is on hand to help and the Sheriff's two bumbling henchmen, Floggem and Whippem are continually messing things up for him. Greenwillow, a goodly Sprite, keeps watch over the proceedings.

4 Main Sets, 1Half Set and 2 Front Cloths or Tabs

RON HALL (1985)

This is different from the run-of-the-mill 'Babes' pantomime in as much as historic characters such as the Sheriff of Nottingham and King Richard are included, thus giving more backbone to the story and creating a more exciting plot. Plenty of comedy and suggested songs. Chorus, senior and junior dancers.

5/6 main sets & 5 insets, 4 of which need only be curtains. 6 M, 4 F, 2 youngsters plus donkey

MARK LLEWELLIN (2007)

Nice-but-dim Sir Lancelot Prancelot and his two children live in an idyllic village where everyone gets along very well indeed. That is until his evil brother, the Sheriff of Nottingham arrives with side-kicks Fetchitt and Carrie. They plan to lock up the knight and bundle his children off to the woods. However, his arch nemesis Robin Hood arrives to undo his wicked deeds with the help of his number one fan, Nurse Nelly, Friar Tuck in drag and the castle servants.

M 5, F 3, Either 2 + chorus. 2 full sets and 2 half sets.

LONG & RAWNSLEY (2006)

This story is set in and around Nottingham castle. Robin Hood and his merry men fight the wicked Sheriff of Nottingham who is the guardian of his niece the Lady Marion and her two younger siblings James and Mary (the babes). The comic antics of Nanny Nuttall and the castle staff, together with, the merry men and the hapless Sheriff's men Hookline and Sinker make the comedy sparkle. Our story is narrated by a strolling minstrel.

8 main set - 1 half set. 8 M - 5 F - 2 children. Musical items are indicated within the script.

JOHN MORLEY (1987)

It's a fast-moving adventure story, with an emphasis on comedy. There is ample work for small parts and chorus, and the inclusion of popular songs. This script is adapted from the pantomimes performed by the "Hi di Hi" television cast at the Birmingham Alexandra Theatre, though it has also been presented in many other venues. The script explains how with ingenuity only three main sets are needed, how no costume change is needed for the Principals, and one very simple costume change is required for the Chorus.

3 main sets. 5 M, 6 F

MARSDEN & RUNDLE (2008)

Another gem from the writing duo from West Yorkshire. Imaginative, original and hysterically funny. Please call for a detailed synopsis.

8 Sets. 7 M, 3 F plus 4

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

BRADFORD AND WEBSTER (2009)

A dramatic pantomime full of colourful characters.

Belle lives in the village of Petit Pois with her mean older sisters, Chardonnay and Lambrini. Their impoverished mother, Madame Dolores Lilly Chantilly Tres Jolie (or Dolly Jolly), is keen to marry them off to rich husbands. The vain and egotistical Jean-Claude and the spoiled but good-natured Prince Louis both have their eye on Belle. Chardonnay and Lambrini want Jean-Claude for themselves and continually try to outdo each other, to get him to notice them. Meanwhile, the evil Countess Cruella is obsessed with Prince Louis and, in a jealous rage, she turns him into a hideous beast. The girls' Papa, lost in the mountains, is imprisoned by the angry Beast.

Papa's horse, Gigi, then leads Belle to the Beast's castle, where Belle offers to take her father's place in the Beast's dungeon. Belle's kindness calms the Beast's anger and he falls in love with her. Meanwhile, encouraged by Cruella, Jean-Claude rallies a mob to storm the castle and kill the Beast. In the final confrontation, the Beast appears mortally wounded. Jean-Claude believes he has proved himself worthy and that Belle will love him. Belle, however, realises she loves the Beast, and her kiss magically transforms him back into Prince Louis.

6 M, 5 F principal roles - plus 8 small roles (covering one or two scenes) pantomime horse (two people) and roles for chorus and dancers.

PETER DENYER (2006)

A fairy tale type of pantomime which is unique in that it is the heroine who sets out on a dangerous adventure, whereas the hero spends most of the show in a hideous, hairy mask! Lots of comedy but it is the developing relationship between the title roles - from fear, to friendship, to love - that enthalls the audience.

5 main sets, 3 front cloths/curtains. 6 M, 3 F

STEPHEN DUCKHAM (2005)

Prince Rowan is travelling the country with his friend Thomas before settling down to marry the Princess Horridana according to a betrothal at birth. With him are his nurse Madam Lotte and her son Charlie. They arrive at the village of Prettybelle where Rowan meets Beauty, the daughter of Panisse, a local merchant. He falls instantly in love with her and vows to return after breaking his engagement to Horridana. Panisse learns that his latest cargo has been lost at sea and he is penniless. Back at his castle Rowan feels the full wrath of Horridana's anger when he tries to break the marriage agreement. She informs him she is a Sorceress and if she can't have him no one shall. She uses her powers to turn him into a hideous Beast. A year passes and Panisse learns that some of his cargo may have been saved and goes to the port to retrieve it. Losing his way in a storm he comes upon the castle and taking a white rose as a gift for Beauty meets the Beast who accuses him of stealing. For his crime Panisse must either face death or send his beloved daughter to stay at the castle. The remainder of the story is how Beauty tames the Beast and eventually falls in love with him, breaking the spell and destroying Horridana.

3/4 Main Sets, 1 Half Set, 2 Front Cloths and a set of Black Tabs. 6 M, 3 F, 3 either

RON HALL (1993)

The strong story line will appeal to adults and children alike. There is an abundance of comedy situations with plenty of audience participation and a magical quality that will win over the sternest critic. This pantomime can be as spectacular as facilities allow and yet can adapt successfully to the smallest stage. Chorus, senior and junior dancers. Min 2 main sets, 3 flat insets and front cloth or running tabs.

6 M, 5 F plus 1 supporting role, a 'horse' and a very small part for a child

JOHN MORLEY (1995)

With the original characters of Lucy Lastic and Gregory's Granny as well as a frantic pair of Ugly Sisters, there is plenty of scope for female comedy in this script. The Beast is played by a separate actor which allows the prince to be the traditional Principal Boy. There are details given for making a simple but effective Magical rose that is so important to the story.

4 main scenes and Finale, with drop cloth or curtain. 3 M, 6 F plus Ugly Sisters, Sinister Duo and Pantomime Horse who could be either.

DAVID SWAN (1993)

An unexpected gem: imaginative, original and hysterically funny. It's a traditional pantomime given a delicious new twist, with a French setting wittily exploited, giving everyone a chance to practice a bit of entente discordial. There are also Traffic Wardens.

2 full sets (Act Two repositioned for scene changes). 5 M, 6 F, 2 either

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

PETER DENYER (2000)

To this day this remains one of Dickens' most popular titles – the characters of Ebenezer Scrooge, Bob Cratchit and Marley's Ghost are known to everyone. This is a not a pantomime version. Peter Denyer intended it to be a dramatised adaptation of the book – and it gives the actors involved a wonderful opportunity to play some of the greatest characters ever created. It is particularly well-suited to societies who want to do something different and have more actors than singers, as although music is used throughout the show, there are no 'solos' to be sung!

CHRISTOPHER DENYS (2009)

The true Spirit of Christmas is brought vividly to life in this wonderful and eternally popular celebration of the Best Time of the Year. To the accompaniment of the joyful Carols of the Season, Dickens' truly magical masterpiece takes the Miser which lurks in all of us and reminds us - along with Ebenezer Scrooge - of the people we intend to be. As the reformed Scrooge says 'I will honour Christmas in my heart and try to keep it all the year. I will live in the Past, the Present and the Future. The Spirits of all Three shall strive within me' This is not the costly commercial Christmas of the Shopping Mall. This is the Christmas of the Memory - of the Heart - and of the Family. In fact, Christmas starts here. 'God Bless us - Every One.'

ROBERT MARLOWE (1987)

Adapted from Dickens' novel, this faithfully follows the original and is thus a strong drama. It contains sung carols and could, in fact, form part of a carol concert.

Many small speaking parts which could be doubled/trebled. Fully detailed ghost sequences. 1 set.

CINDERELLA

LEONARD CADDY (1970)

The kitchen and bedroom scenes give excellent opportunity for comedy from the Sisters. The Evil Spirit uses Jack Frost to cover the land with snow and ice and prevent Cinderella going to the Palace, but it is changed into a Winter Wonderland with her coach becoming a glittering sledge.

5 sets. 6 M, 6 F, 2 Youngsters and one Pantomime Horse

PETER DENYER (2008)

Though the Ugly Sisters treat Cinderella appallingly they are also very funny, and the pathos of Buttons' unrequited love for Cinders has a big "Aah!" factor. This version makes Dandini rather more "down-market" than usual, which gives more comic opportunities in the scenes where he changes roles with Prince Charming.

5 main sets and 3 frontcloths/curtains. 5 M, 4 F

STEPHEN DUCKHAM (2002)

The age-old favourite story containing all the familiar characters with a few twists. We see the tale unfold more through the eyes of the Fairy Godmother who is now in the technological age complete with mobile phone that doubles as her wand. Through her guidance, and with help from faithful Buttons, Cinderella gets her Prince, the Step-Sisters get their comeuppance and all ends happily.

4 Main Sets. 2 Front Cloths and a set of tabs

RON HALL (1985)

Strong traditional story line with plenty of scope for a lovely transformation scene. Comedy in abundance with ample opportunity to include popular songs. Chorus, senior and junior dancers.

7 main sets and 5 insets/curtains. 4 M, 4 F with 4 supporting roles and 'horse'

MARK LLEWELLIN, ROY BARRACLOUGH AND JOHN JARDINE (2007)

The widowed Baroness Stoneybroke and her two daughters, Kylie and Britney, lord it up over step-daughter Cinderella and servant Buttons - but they have a secret: they really are stoney broke and Squire Snatchall wants either his back rent or the Baroness as his bride. When Prince Charming begins a national hunt for a wife they see a way forward, that is until the Fairy Godmother arrives. Hilarious script with very effective cooking routine.

M 2, F 3, Either 6 + chorus. 3 full sets and 2 half sets + optional half scene.

LONG & RAWNSLEY (2006)

All and much more than you would expect from this favourite pantomime, strong comedy from Buttons the page at Harduppe Manor, also from Witney and Britney the ugly daughters/sisters and the not so private detectives Gawed and Bennet and an all round supporting comedy cast.

9 main sets. 7 M - 6 F Musical items are indicated within the script.

ROBERT MARLOWE (1987)

The traditional story is simply and clearly told but at a swinging pace with plenty of colour and glitter. There are hilarious gags and the script contains valuable tips to directors, detailed instructions on the knock-about style necessary for policemen, broker's men etc. A professional production adapted to smaller stages and resources.

6 M, 4 F with chorus

JOHN MORLEY (1987)

Although a lot of this script was used in a lavish production at the London Palladium, only four main scenes are needed - as explained in the script. Because of the Ballroom, there is one costume change but that is all. The Ugly Sisters are hilarious and Dandini is an excellent part which earned a good national press in the original production. Much comedy throughout, plenty of work for small parts and the Chorus, recommendations for popular songs.

4 main scenes. 4 M, 10 F

MARSDEN & RUNDLE (2008)

Another gem from the writing duo from West Yorkshire, Cinderella has all the vital ingredients for a magical and moving production. Please call for a detailed synopsis.

6 Sets. 6 M, 4 F plus 1

DAVID SWAN (1992)

An original script bringing the traditional story bang up to date. Using suggested songs in the script will give very much a 60's feel to the script.

2 full sets. 4 M, 5 F, 3 either

DICK WHITTINGTON

BRADFORD AND WEBSTER (2009)

A vibrant pantomime full of colourful comedy characters.

As young Dick arrives in London to seek his fortune, King Rat vows to ruin this pure and honest boy, to prove to Fairy Bow Belle that evil always triumphs over good.

Dick becomes apprentice to Alderman Fitzwarren, working with Sarah, the cook, and her lazy son, Idle Jack, and he falls in love with the Alderman's delightful daughter, Alice. King Rat, with the help of his dim-witted henchmen, Rot and Stench, tries to tempt Dick off the straight and narrow, but is seen off at every turn by Dick's cat, Tom. Dick's shiny image is tarnished, when King Rat frames him for breaking into the Alderman's safe. And Dick, sent away in disgrace, runs away to sea. When his friends realise he was innocent after all, they set off after him aboard the 'Everything's A Groat'.

Angry that Dick's reputation is restored, King Rat conjures up a storm to sink the ship and our heroes are washed up on the shores of a far-off land ruled by Queen Megabazooma, a land suffering a plague of rats. With the help of Tom, Dick defeats King Rat to set up a colourful, South American carnival-style finale

7 M, 5 F plus Tom the cat, chorus roles of Londoners, sailors and courtiers

LEONARD CADDY (1987)

Traditional comedy in the kitchen at home, and exotic fun and characters in Morocco. The Highgate Hill sequence and the shipwreck give the opportunity for a dance spectacle if required.

5 sets. 6-9 M, 6-8 F (doubling possible), 1 cat and 1 camel

PETER DENYER (2006)

A strong, dramatic story line, with lots of different locations and the nastiest villain of them all in King Rat. Alice Fitzwarren is one of the feistiest heroines as she disguises herself as a boy to stow away on board the ship. Also a wonderful animal role in the character of Tommy the Cat.

7 main sets and 4 front cloths/curtains. 5 M, 4 F

STEPHEN DUCKHAM (2000)

Dick Whittington, together with his faithful cat Tommy, has many adventures in London, on the high seas and in Morocco before finally becoming Lord Mayor. Ratface (King of the Rats) continually tries to thwart him, but Fairy Bow-Bells is always around to see that goodness wins the day. Alice Fitzwarren and her father, the Alderman together with Captain Cod, Skate the Mate and Idle Jack help the proceedings along.

4 main sets, 2 half sets, 2 front cloths and a set of black tabs.

RON HALL (1982)

A fast-moving story line with plenty of comedy and yet not too many props. Can be as simple or spectacular as facilities permit. Many points in the script where songs and dances can be incorporated. Chorus, senior and junior dancers.

7 main sets and 5 insets/curtains. 7 M, 5 F plus 1M supporting role, one child and a 'Cat'

BOB HEATHER (2009)

Dick Whittington travelled to London to find fame and fortune, but when it eluded him, he started heading back home to Gloucester. By the time he reached Highgate Hill, he had made friends with a cat that had been following him. Whilst talking to the cat, Dick hears the bells of London tolling in the distance, they seem to be telling him - "Turn again Whittington, Lord Mayor of London". Dick heads back to London and adventure. When he reaches Cheapside in London, he meets Alderman Fitzwarren and his beautiful daughter, Alice. Things start to go wrong for Dick, when he is falsely accused of stealing Alice's necklace. Dick decides to run away to sea, only to be joined on board ship by Alderman Fitzwarren and his entourage. The other colourful characters include; Sarah Stewpot, Fitzwarren's cook; Fitzwarren's shop-boy, Idle Jack; Captain Slog and his Bosun from the good ship Enterprise; The Sheikh of Morocco; and Karaffe, the Sheikh's witch-doctor.

6 M, 4 F - chorus of villagers, servants and ratlings.

MARK LLEWELLIN (2007)

Dick, his mum Wanda and their cat Tommy arrive in London searching for fame and fortune. They land jobs with store keeper Alderman Fitzwarren and Dick falls for his daughter Alice. However, nasty King Rat wants Tommy off his patch and sets Dick up as a thief which results in the family leaving town whilst vermin overrun the shop. Fairy Bow Bells tells Wanda that a Whittington will become Mayor and she thinks she's the chosen one. They return to London where Tommy fights King Rat and they all head off to Morocco where he does the same again and Dick is rewarded with riches. The tale ends with a double wedding and some one becoming Mayor.

M 3, F 2, Either 3 + chorus. 2 full sets and 6 half sets.

LONG & RAWNSLEY (2006)

The Storyline is as you would expect that Dick Whittington arrives in London penniless with his sole companion Tom his cat. Adventures ensue after meeting the lovely Alice Fitzwarren and her father the Alderman. Dick has extremely funny comedy complications with his encounters with Gertrude Sparrow and her son (idle) Jack, Maisie, Jack's sweetheart, Captain Barnacle and his crew, and the North African connection Sheikh Ahleg and Ahmed Ahmess. The story is laced with the evil of King Rat. Young Fairy Bow Bells is helped out by the comical Old Fairy Bow Bells brought out of retirement. 8 main sets - 1 front cloth. **7 M - 5 F** - Tom the Cat and Sopwith the Camel. Musical items are indicated within the script.

GAIL LOWE 1994

This new and original script follows the adventures of Dick and his friends as they travel from London to Morocco in search of fame and fortune. It has a strong, comic story line and some entertaining new characters as well as the traditional favourites of Kitty, Sarah the Cook, King Rat and the Sultan. There are some very strong roles for women such as the 'tomboyish' Alice, the man-chasing Maneeta, the ever-proper Miss Peabody, and the evil Esmerelda. A fun-filled panto from start to finish: a cat, a camel and lots of laughs, culminating in an exciting showdown by a shark pool in King Rat's Lair.

6F, 6M, 4 either; plus chorus and scope for dancers if required

6 main sets plus 4 insets or curtains, as elaborate or simple as necessary

ROBERT MARLOWE (1987)

A strictly traditional version, full of laughlines. There is a comedy shop scene to include children, and shipboard scenes with a jazz Rats Ball. Full details are given on how to achieve an effective shipwreck, prior to the Moroccan scene.

7 full sets, 4 front cloths. 6 M, 5 F plus chorus.

MARSDEN & RUNDLE (2008)

Another gem from the writing duo from west Yorkshire, this traditional comedy is full of colourful comedy characters. Please call for a detailed synopsis.

7 full sets and 1 half set. 9 M, 3 F plus chorus

FATHER CHRISTMAS

MARK LLEWELLIN (2007)

Dreary Deirdre hasn't received a Christmas present in years and she's finally decided to do something about it - get not-so-evil side-kicks Snaffle and Snatchitt to go and teach Father Christmas a lesson he won't forget. At the North Pole we meet the elves, Rudolph, Reindeer Ruby and son Ronnie and the eccentric Toy Professor plus of course, Father Christmas. With all the traditional panto elements, seasonal songs and comic routines plus a moral story - Deirdre only gets a gift when she brings joy to others first.

M 6, F 1, Either 3 + chorus. 1 full set and 3 half sets.

FRANKENSTEIN, THE PANTO

DAVID SWAN (1987)

It's a hard life for the little orphan Heidi in Pumpernickel's Tavern. The greedy innkeeper and his bossy wife treat her like a slave. And that's not all...up in his castle, gormless Count Dracula and his gummy grandmother are planning a dinner party, with Heidi as the main course!

Luckily, she's got the audience and other friends to help: her faithful dog Kodak, her best friend Frankie Stein and the handsome Prince Ludwig. The forces of evil never stand a chance... especially when Professor Crackpot transforms Frankie into a superhero!

The only real *horrors* are a party of rowdy schoolgirls under the supervision of Miss Nelly, famed pedagogue and pantomime dame. They're studying how to create havoc... and they're all fast-learners!

A warm-hearted story with a strong sense of traditional panto, geared to bring young people into the theatre.

1 full set (adapted for each scene). 5 M, 9 F, 2 either (doubling-up possible)

GOLDILOCKS AND THE THREE BEARS

STEPHEN DUCKHAM (2006)

Goldilocks has run away from her greedy money-lending guardian Gaspar Grey, and joined "Sophie Sawdust's Spectacular Circus". There, with a host of colourful characters, she finds happiness; but it is short lived as Gaspar and his two cohorts, Swindle and Filch, arrive to take her home. She is about to come into a large inheritance, which Gaspar intends to steal. If Goldilocks doesn't return with him, Gaspar will call in a loan he made to Sophie thereby putting the Circus out of business. Again she runs away and this time discovers the home of the Three Bears. They befriend her and all four of them devise an act that becomes the hit of the Circus. But the story doesn't end there as Gaspar hatches an even more dastardly plot to kidnap the Bears and get his hands on the fortune.

Cast: Goldilocks, Sophie Sawdust, Tommy, Jocko the Clown, Ricki the Ringmaster, Gloria, Gaspar Grey, Swindle, Filch, Madam Zarina, Father Bear, Mother Bear, Baby Bear - plus five minor parts.

10 M, 7 F and 1 either.

RON HALL (1998)

An inspired interpretation of the old fairy tale using the well-known elements of the story but also weaving in a more elaborate and captivating plot to ensure the audience is enthralled and amused from start to finish. Songs are suggested at various points and there is even a community song included. Chorus, senior and junior dancers.

Min 4 main sets and one front cloth or use of running tabs. 5 M, 5 F, plus 2 supporting roles and one child (Baby Bear)

LONG & RAWNSLEY (2006)

This vibrant and colourful pantomime is set against a circus background. The comedy comes thick and fast throughout from almost all the characters. Barnaby's circus is threatened by the evil zoo owner Baron Von Trappem and his henchmen Dunn and Dusted. After many threats and counter threats of course goodness prevails and the Three Bears save the day.

9 main sets. 7 males (includes Father Bear) - 5 females (includes Mother Bear) plus 1 boy/girls as Baby Bear. Musical items are indicated within the script.

ROBERT MARLOWE (1987)

This script has a circus theme, and features a novel introduction of Count Dracula! Detailed strong comedy, including a schoolroom sequence featuring children.

6 M, 8 F plus chorus

GOODY TWO SHOES

ROBERT MARLOWE (1986)

This original treatment of an old story combines an unusual Scottish background with strong comedy and spectacle combined with powerfully defined characters. For those societies requiring something different!

6 full sets, 4 front cloths. 7 M, 5 F, 1 child, chorus

HANSEL & GRETAL

RON HALL (1986)

Set in the German Black Forest region the charming tale sets out the Brothers Grimm story made more amusing by the introduction of a Dame and a funny man. A pantomime for the society looking for something with a difference. Suggested song and dance spots.

4 main sets and 4 insets/curtains. 3 M, 5 F plus 2 children or small adults (Hansel & Gretel) with 'robot' and 'gorilla' each one scene only. Chorus, senior & junior dancers

HUMPTY DUMPTY

RON HALL (1989)

This captivating show informs you what happens after the fall from the wall and brings in a whole gang of nursery rhyme characters to help tell the strong story line. Even the chorus get a chance to dress up as individual characters. There is plenty of audience participation with ample opportunity to hiss the villains. An enjoyable show for all the family. Chorus, senior and junior dancers.

5 main sets and 3 front cloths or use of running tabs. 6 M, 6 F, with one child (Humpty Dumpty) and 'cow'

JOHN MORLEY (1987)

This is a new comedy-pantomime with a totally new story and a lot of comedy in places like Eggsville, Stonehenge and the spooky Cave of Cobwebs. There are many small parts for chorus members most important to the story, and although there are five main scenes the script explains how simple these can be if economies are required. There are no costume changes for the principals, and if "poncho" style cloaks are worn over the basic costume from the Snowland scene, there need be no chorus costume change either - these points are clearly explained in the script.

3 M, 7 F, chorus

MARSDEN & RUNDLE (2008)

Another gem from the writing duo from West Yorkshire. This version gets the Marsden & Rundle treatment synonymous with a great night's entertainment. Please call for a detailed synopsis.

6 Sets. 4 M, 3 F plus 2

HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME

LEONARD CADDY (1985)

Incorporates all the famous incidents but has a happy ending of course! There is a Principal Boy and a Dame although these are not the leading parts. "Hunch" is important but non-speaking. Plenty of comedy and some original characters.

1 scene + 3 insets. 6 M, 6 F

JACK AND THE BEANSTALK

BRADFORD AND WEBSTER (2009)

A giant of a pantomime with a host of wonderful comedy characters.

The villagers of Greendale are under the cosh. The Giant Blunderbore, with the help of his evil sidekick, Grotviler, is bleeding them dry, and the pompous but terrified Mayor is kowtowing to the Giant's will, taxing the villagers for all he is worth.

The good Fairy Haricot Vert arrives from France, to help Greendale's downtrodden populous. Grotviler is not happy about the arrival of Haricot Vert, and throughout the pantomime, there are some cleverly-rhymed exchanges between these two characters. Dame Tilly Trot is suffering more than most. Her dairy isn't doing very well and her sons, Jack and Simple Simon, don't possess great business brains. The only way to pay the Dame's back-taxes and rent arrears is to sell her cow, Buttercup, so Jack is sent to the market to get a good price.

When Jack returns with a handful of beans, Dame Trot throws them out of the window, only to find, next morning, that a giant beanstalk has grown in her garden. Meanwhile, Grotviler kidnaps Jack's sweetheart, Jill, who is the daughter of the very posh, Lady Lotsadosh. Jack sets off up the beanstalk to rescue Jill. He succeeds, and also manages to snatch the Giant's treasure, before racing back to the beanstalk, with Blunderbore hot on their heels. Jack and Jill reach the bottom of the beanstalk, and the plant is quickly cut down, sending Blunderbore crashing to the ground. Jack is a hero, Jill accepts his proposal of marriage, and the Mayor announces an end to all taxes.

6 M, 5 F plus evil giant Blunderbore and Buttercup, small roles can be played by chorus members

LEONARD CADDY (1971)

The Giant can either be portrayed in the usual way by building up a tall actor or by effects and an amplified voice, but either way he is magically reduced in size and we see him get his come-uppance from Jack.

4 sets. 7 M, 7 F and 1 Pantomime Cow.

PETER DENYER (2006)

An action-packed pantomime with the most heroic hero, Jack, who fights and defeats the huge Giant Blunderbore. There are comic capers from Silly Billy and Dame Trot. It is a real opportunity for some simple, yet spectacular-looking, effects.

5 main sets and 4 front cloths/curtains. 4 M, 3 F plus the Giant and Daisy the Cow.

STEPHEN DUCKHAM (2001)

The Durden family is very poor and the only possession left to sell is their cow, Daisy. Grisly, Giant Blunerbore's henchman, dupes Jack into parting with Daisy for a bag of beans before kidnapping the Squire's daughter, Miranda and taking them both back to the castle in the clouds. With the help of Fairy Green Bean, the beans are transformed into a huge beanstalk which Jack climbs followed by his family. Many adventures follow above the clouds before they rescue Miranda and Daisy together with the Squire's niece, Harriet. Once back at the foot of the beanstalk, Jack chops it down and saves the town from the Giant.

4 main sets, 1 half set, 1 three-quarter set, 2 front cloths and tabs

RON HALL (1979)

An exciting and adventurous script with plenty of slapstick and scope for imaginative staging. There's a hilarious routine with the 'Cow'.

6 main sets and 6 insets/curtains. 4 M, 4 F with 6 supporting roles

BOB HEATHER (2009)

Jack Bean and his Grandmother are very poor and live in a tiny cottage in the village of Soggy Bottom. One day Granny decides to send Jack to market to sell her faithful old cow, Daisy. While Jack is on his way to market, he meets an old woman who buys Daisy from him for a purse full of beans. When Jack returns home, Granny throws the beans into the garden. During the night the beans grow into a giant beanstalk. In time honoured tradition, Jack climbs the beanstalk to the Giant's castle, where he meets Lima, the Giant's slave-girl, who helps him to escape. As with all good pantomimes, everyone lives happily ever after. The other colourful characters include Jasper, an ancient yokel; Harry Coe, the wicked Squire; Fetch and Carry, the squire's bailiffs; Mrs Mungus, the Giant's wife; and of course, Hugh Mungus, the Giant.

7 M, 3 F – plus giant could be either, Daisy the cow and chorus of villagers

MARK LLEWELIN, ROY BARRACLOUGH AND JOHN JARDINE (2007)

Jack is in love with squire's daughter Alice Stoneyheart but until Jack's mum Dame Dandelion can clear her debts there's no chance the Squire will give their union his blessing. When the squire calls in the broker's men Dame Dandelion is forced to sell her precious cow. With Witch Furosia and Fairy Greenbean fighting over the tale, chaos ensues and a magic beanstalk takes Jack, Alice and his mum on an adventure into the clouds.

M 4, F 3, Either 5 + chorus. 3 full sets and 4 half sets

LONG & RAWNSLEY (2006)

A traditional story with added comic twists. Centred around the farm of Dame Trot who rules the roost over her son Jack, farmhand Jethro and Buttercup the Cow. As usual, there is the evil Giant Blunderbuss to contend with but the comedy out weighs the evil. A Pantomime with fun packed sketches and sparkling dialogue.

8 main sets. 6 M – 7 F and Buttercup the Cow. Musical items are indicated within the script.

ROBERT MARLOWE (1987)

A traditional plot with many professional comedy sequences detailed. The settings can test the ingenuity in the Beanstalk and Giant sequences!

4 full sets, 1 half-set, 2 front cloths. 6 M, 5 F plus chorus.

KING ARTHUR

RON HALL (1983)

All the excitement and colour of Camelot with lots of comedy and scope for effects in the strong story line. Chorus, senior and junior dancers.

3 main sets, 4 insets/curtains and gauze. 5 M, 5 F with 4 supporting roles and a 'dragon'

LITTLE MERMAID

RON HALL (1986)

The magical Hans Andersen fairy tale is here woven into a spectacular and hilarious show to keep the whole family entertained. There are lots of opportunities for special effects and audience participation. The story may be old but the comedy is bang up to date. Chorus, senior and junior dancers.

Min 2 main sets and 2 front cloths or use of running tabs. 6 M, 6 F, with small part for a child.

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD

RON HALL (1981)

Lots of visual comedy and unusual angle on the 'wolf' theme. Modern songs can be incorporated at various parts of the plot. Chorus, senior and junior dancers.

6 main sets and 5 insets/curtains. 5 M, 4 F with 2 supporting roles.

LONG & RAWNSLEY (2006)

A great storyline takes us to Nutwood Orphanage "Where tradition has it that if a child is left abandoned on the orphanage steps and has no name, the child is named after what ever it is wrapped in". Red Riding Hood is one of those orphans; will she be chosen by the kindly comical Granny Knott? Do not let the austere background fool you; this is a laugh a minute panto with fun for all the family.

8 main sets - 1 front cloth. 6 M - 5 F - plus Delilah the Horse. Musical items are indicated within the script.

JOHN MORLEY (1994)

This is a fast moving script with plenty of comedy throughout and the famous scene with Red Riding Hood visiting her Granny (the Wolf in disguise of course...) will have audiences gripping the edge of their seats and shouting their warning to our heroine. There need be no costume changes for the Principals (except, of course, for the Dame). Also no major costume changes for the most of the Adult Chorus. A permanent forest set could be used and dressed for various occasions.

1 main set, with insets. 5 M, 3 F, 3 either, plus smaller parts which can be played by members of the Chorus.

MARSDEN & RUNDLE (2008)

Another gem from the West Yorkshire writing duo, Red Riding Hood is a slick pantomime with all the ingredients for a great family night out. Please call for a detailed synopsis.

8 Sets. 6 M, 4 F plus 1

MOTHER GOOSE

LEONARD CADDY (1986)

The Dame is the central figure; she sells the Magic Goose to regain her youth, but things do not turn out as she expected and many adventures befall her and her friends before the precious bird is saved from the power of evil. They are helped by a brave but not very experienced Fairy and a willing though rather ineffectual old Wizard.

5 sets. 5 M, 5 F plus the Goose

PETER DENYER (2006)

The only pantomime which has a Dame in the leading role; but unlike most heroines Mother Goose is not perfect. Tempted by the insidious Demon of Discontent she sells her best friend, Priscilla the Goose, in search of beauty. Of course she realises how wrong she has been and sets off in search of Priscilla and is eventually reconciled with her at the court of King Gander. Another wonderful animal role in the character of Priscilla.

5 main sets and 4 front cloths/curtains. 5 M, 3 F

STEPHEN DUCKHAM (2011)

The Queen of Gooseland has a daughter, Priscilla who has the gift of laying eggs of pure gold. She decides to help a poor old woman living in the village of Ganderville. The woman, Mother Goose, is a kindly old lady with two sons Jack and Billy. But life has been hard for her and a large amount of back rent is owing to the Squire. The Squire threatens to evict the Goose family if they don't pay. Jill, the Squire's niece, is in love with Jack and begs her uncle to help Mother Goose, but he refuses. Grizelda Golddigger, the estranged sister of the Queen, has the Squire in her power and when she learns that Priscilla is to help Mother Goose, sees a way to steal her away and have the gold for herself. Once Priscilla has begun to lay her eggs the family become rich and are able to pay off all their debts. But as well as wealth Mother Goose craves beauty. She is duped into parting with Priscilla in return for beauty, which only lasts for a short time. Aware of how foolish she has been, she sets out with the rest of the family to search for Priscilla. After a number of adventures, they confront Grizelda and Jack puts an end to her evil ways once and for all.

Characters: Queen of Gooseland, Priscilla (the Golden Goose), Grizelda Golddigger, Jack, Jill, Squire Stoneyheart, Mother Goose, Billy Goose, Mountain Beast, Prime Minister of Gooseland.

Scenes: Gooseland (Tabs), Village of Ganderville, Outside Mother Gooses' New House, Kitchen, The Golden Ballroom, The Magic Grotto, The Snow Mountains, Gooseland Throne Room.

4 Main Sets, 2 Half Sets, 2 Front Cloths and Tabs

RON HALL (1984)

Strong story line culminating in an exciting climax. Lots of comedy situations and chances to provide magical visual effects. The Fairy Queen and Demon King characters provide comedy at its funniest. Songs suggested at various points of plot. Chorus, senior and junior dancers.

6 main sets and 5 insets/curtains. 5 M, 5 F plus the Goose which can be M or F. There are also 'walk on' parts of 2 ghosts, a skeleton and a cyclops.

MARK LLEWELLIN (2007)

Set in the 20s, Mother Goose finds herself behind in her rent and at odds with both landowner Lord Loot and the Mayor. Her son Billy is hopelessly in love with Lord Loot's daughter Amy, who in turn has attracted the attentions of the Mayor's twit of a son, Cedric Clanger. When Mother Goose's goose starts laying golden eggs she sees a way of making everyone happy but Cedric cons her into splashing out on a facelift in return for goose, Priscilla.

M 3, F 2, Either 3 + chorus and double for Mother Goose. 3 full sets and 2 half sets.

LONG & RAWNSLEY (2006)

We start with a stand off between the Good Fairy and the Demon King in this fun packed panto with a good strong storyline. The Goose family are broke and their only possession is the family pet Priscilla the Goose. Will Mother Goose fall for the temptations of the Demon King? Comedy a plenty from Bobby and the Au Pair from Holland Gretchen Van-Rental. There is even a holiday in Spain for Mother Goose and her friends. Not to be missed.

9 main sets - 1 half set. 6 M (Baron Bankroll doubles as King of Gooseland). 5 F - plus Priscilla the Goose. Musical items are indicated within the script.

JOHN MORLEY (1987)

The script is based on one written for Danny La Rue, and is a comedy-adventure story with a Magic Mirror, a Waterfall of Beauty, the Demon's Rocket Range, a Mysterious Gooseland and yet it is easily presented economically. There is plenty of work for the small parts/chorus. When all the poor villagers become rich, there is one costume change, and another simple costume change consisting of a "poncho" put over the main basic costume.

5 main scenes. 5 M, 9 F

OH SCROOGE

LEONARD CADDY

There is no Principal Boy or Dame but all the other 'larger than life' elements of traditional Christmas entertainment are there, all cleverly woven into the famous story without losing its appeal and pathos. Father Christmas himself plays a part. Scope for original fun.

1 set + additions. 6 M, 5 F (or 13 M, 11 F) 3 youngsters.

PETER PAN

RON HALL (1985)

This sparkling version of J M Barrie's famous tale of the boy who never grew up is complete with dame and audience participation. It can be performed with as few as 3 sets and although there is a 'flying' scene no harnesses or special equipment are required. Whilst keeping basically to the original plot loved by grown-ups and children alike it also incorporates hilarious comedy situations. Most of the costumes are simple to make with little in the way of changes needed. There is plenty to occupy the chorus and dancers and the music is well known and can be obtained through NODA. There is even a community song. If you want something just that bit different to amuse and enchant your audience, this show is a must!

3 sets min. 6 M, 5 F with 6 children and 'dog'.

JOHN MORLEY (1988)

Simple scenery and if Tabs are used, then only four scenes are needed — the Never Never Land, Nursery, Secret Cave of the Lost Boys and the Pirate Ship. There are no costume changes — just one change for a few of the chorus. This script is adaptable to small or large stages and regardless of the size of production, all 'flying' problems are solved. The playing time is two hours 15 minutes instead of the former three hours.

5 M, 12 F, chorus

PIED PIPER OF HAMELIN

LEONARD CADDY (1986)

Follows the original story but incorporates all the elements of a traditional pantomime including a kitchen scene and a Pantomime Cat.

5 sets. 6 M, 5 F, 1 youth, a Cat, several smaller speaking parts, children as the Rats and the Children themselves.

STEPHEN DUCKHAM (2011)

The city of Hamelin is overrun with rats. They are causing havoc and their master, the Rodent Lord, is waiting for the opportunity to take over. He already has the Burgomaster in his power and will stop at nothing to achieve his aim. Frieda Von Froth and her son Willy run the local Beer Garden and are fed up with the rats eating everything they find. Lorelei, the good White Witch of the mountain, informs the mysterious Pied Piper of the problem. He enters the town and tells the people that he can rid Hamelin of the rats by playing a special tune on his pipe – for a fee of 1.000 guilders. Karl, the town council's book-keeper, and Liesl, the Burgomaster's daughter, try to persuade the Burgomaster to accept the offer and reluctantly he does so. The Piper fulfils his promise, but the Burgomaster fails to pay him what he is owed. At the celebrations in Frieda's inn – where Willy is constantly fighting off the amorous advantage of the waitress Gretchen – the Piper plays another tune and all the children of the town follow him to the magical Koppelberg Mountain. Once the townspeople see what has happened they berate the Burgomaster for reneging on the deal and it is left to Karl to persuade the Piper to return the children. The Rodent Lord attempts to take control of the city and once again it is Karl and the Piper who save the day.

Characters: The Rodent Lord, Lorelei, Pied Piper, Karl, Liesl, Burgomaster, Frieda Von Froth (Dame) Carrots, Willy, Gretchen, The Mountain King.

SCENES: The Countryside, The City of Hamelin, The River Weser, Frieda's Boudoir, The Beer Garden, Koppelberg Mountain, The Burgomaster's Hall.

RON HALL (1983)

Fast moving exciting story with lots of comedy and charm. Scope for effects and the inclusion of popular songs. Chorus and senior and junior dancers.

5 main sets and 5 insets/curtains. 5 M, 4 F with 4 supporting roles and a 'Cow'.

LONG & RAWNSLEY (2006)

Sitting at a high desk in front of stage right proscenium/house curtains the Storywriter relates the story to the audience as if he is actually writing it there and then and the panto we see is the story he is writing. Hamlin has a plague of rats but there is someone just arrived in the town who will be their saviour. A great storyline - wonderful comedy characters - a sprinkling of evil which is overshadowed by the hilarious comic antics throughout. A classic schoolroom sketch is one of many highs in this unforgettable panto.

7 main sets. 6 M, 4 F plus 1 boy and 1 girl. Musical items are indicated within the script.

PINOCCHIO

RON HALL (1980)

An amusing, exciting, moving and romantic realisation of the original story with plenty of scope for special effects. Suggestions for songs to be included. Chorus, senior and junior dancers.

6 main sets and 5 insets/curtains. 5 M, 5 F with 2 supporting roles and a 'donkey'.

LONG & RAWNSLEY (2006)

This fast moving and interesting pantomime is full of comic twist and turns. Based around the toy maker Geppetto and his favourite puppet Pinocchio. The evil is supplied by Stromboli the travelling puppeteer and his two henchmen the Morrissinis'. The evil is cancelled by the comic capers of Lampwick, Mama Macaroni and Pinocchio's conscience Jiminy Cricket.

8 main sets - 1 half set. 5 M, 4 F and 2 good strong child performers. Musical items are indicated within the script.

DAVID SWAN (1989)

An action-packed, fun show full of pace and colour with a subtle message for the kids. Guaranteed to bring the most wooden of audiences to life!

2 full sets. 4 M, 6 F, 4 either

STEPHEN DUCKHAM

In a small town in Italy Geppetto, the toymaker unveils his new toy to an excited public. All the children in the town love his toys, but the one thing Geppetto has always longed for is a child of his own. He decides to carve a puppet – a wooden boy – and calls him Pinocchio. The Blue Fairy hears Geppetto wishing that the puppet could be real and grants the wish. Pinocchio can now move without the aid of strings but to become a real boy he must prove himself as a trustworthy and honest person. She enlists the help of Jiminy cricket to keep an eye on the little puppet. Across the road from Geppetto's is a food shop run by Mama Macaroni and her son, Lampwick. She is a larger than life 'Italian Mama' with a soft spot for Geppetto. Lampwick befriends Pinocchio and takes him to school. But the outside world holds many fascinations for Pinocchio and he is soon duped by the wily Fox and Cat into missing school and attending the evil Stromboli's marionette show. Stromboli sees there is money to be made by a talking puppet with no strings and captures Pinocchio. He is rescued in the nick of time by Jiminy and the Blue Fairy only to be in trouble again when enticed by the wonders of Pleasure Island. Further adventures follow on a Pirate Ship and inside a Whale before Pinocchio finally learns his lessons and is turned into a real boy.

Characters: Pinocchio, The Blue Fairy, Geppetto, Mama Macaroni (Dame), Lampwick, Fox, Cat, Stromboli, Jiminy Cricket, Pirate Leader. Chorus of Townspeople, Pleasure Islanders and Pirates.

Scenes: Gauze (or tabs) Italian Village, Beach front cloth, Geppetto's Shop, Marionette Theatre, Pleasure Island, Pirate Ship, Inside the Whale.

All pantomime scripts are £6.50 each and subject to a performance fee. For details of charges, licensing and perusal details of pantomimes, musicals, plays & dramas please contact NODA on 01733 865 790 Email: info@noda.org.uk

PRINCE'S QUEST

BRADFORD AND WEBSTER (2009)

A fable told in traditional pantomime style, brimming with comedy, slapstick and colourful set-piece scenes. Brave young Prince Andreas is on a quest to find his father. But, when he arrives in the kingdom of Verdentia, he is called upon to help defeat the evil sorcerer Lord Elbirret. Here, Andreas also meets Fairy Ethel, a very keen, but not very successful Good Fairy, who always turns up late! At the Royal Palace, the rich, pompous Prince Dimitri, has arrived to lay suit to Verdentia's beautiful Princess Francesca. Elbirret's idiotic henchmen, Badd and Wurse, are sent to kidnap the Princess, but instead, they mistakenly kidnap her handmaiden, Rosa. Rosa is the daughter of Dame Batterspoon, the palace cook, she is also Princess Francesca's best friend. The bickering princes, Andreas and Dimitri, set off to rescue Rosa. Fairy Ethel decides to "help", but her hopeless spells send them too far west, to hillbilly country, then too far east, to a Sultan's palace. Unfortunately, the princes are captured by Elbirret, and thrown into his dungeon, where Rosa is also being held captive. Cue Dame Batterspoon, Princess Francesca and Fairy Ethel to heroically save the day! And in a traditionally happy ending, Elbirret is finally defeated, both princes find true love, and Andreas finds his father, thus fulfilling his quest.

7 M, 5 F plus small speaking roles, many roles can be doubled or played by chorus members.

PUSS IN BOOTS

LEONARD CADDY (1978)

Two particularly good parts for girls as Principal Boy and Puss who carry the story, but usual Pantomime characters very much involved.

5 sets. 6 M, 5 F, 5 supporting roles.

STEPHEN DUCKHAM (2007)

Colin has inherited the family mill, but the evil Ogre intends to take it just as he has taken everything else in the town. With the help of a magical pair of boots that gives his cat the power of speech, Colin and his friend Patchem set about ridding the land of the Ogre and winning the hand of Princess Melinda.

4 main sets, 1 half set, 2 front cloths or tabs.

RON HALL (1986)

Hilarious comedy situations abound within the strong story line. Lots of lovely cameo character parts and an evil giant with full instructions on how to achieve a height of over 9 feet. Panto at its most impressive. Chorus, senior and junior dancers.

4 main sets and 5 insets/curtains 6 M, 5 F with 3 supporting roles and 'cow'.

LONG & RAWNSLEY (2006)

Rosie Rags the Scarecrow introduces us to the village of Barley Bottom and all its inhabitants. Great kitchen scene in the King's Palace where cook Deliah Smythe is in charge, Talking Cat - Magical boots - Hot air balloon - Rib tickling fun all the way.

9 main sets. 7 M - 4 F - plus Tabby the Cat and Daisy the Cow. Musical items are indicated within the script.

JOHN MORLEY (1988)

This pantomime can be played in a permanent set which is a straight forward exterior scene. Into the permanent set goes the simple insert scene of 'The Magic Machine' which can be just a flat. The story takes place in Holland which allows for attractive scenery and costumes, but if 'Panto Villager' costumes are required, then these can be used just as well as the 'Dutch Holland' idea. There are no changes of costume required, except for the juveniles who are young villagers, then rabbits, then punk rock spooks. Suggested popular songs. Ample work for small parts and chorus who are often involved in the comedy as well as the singing.

One permanent set with insets. 7 M, 9 F

QUEEN OF HEARTS

ROBERT MARLOWE (1986)

Based on the well-known nursery rhyme, this has plot changes involving exciting battle scenes between Hearts & Diamonds versus Clubs & Spades. A parade of historical lovers gives spectacle, and comedy is a powerful element.

6 full sets, 5 front cloths. 6 M, 5 F, plus chorus.

ROBINSON CRUSOE

LEONARD CADDY (1986)

Robinson loves Katie, Sir Roger objects. A storm, caused by Queen Neptune, washes up an old bottle with a message in it. It is from Mrs Crusoe's long-lost husband Robin. It leads them to a tropical island where they meet Man Friday. They are captured by Yum Tum's natives and are pursued by the Bad Pirates but despite it all they arrive home safe and happy.

3 sets. 7 M, 6 F, boys as pirates.

STEPHEN DUCKHAM (2010)

The story of Robinson Crusoe is retold in this family pantomime that contains everything that the seasonal entertainment requires – but with a number of twists and surprises. Robinson lives in the port of Hull with his mother Mrs Clarissa Crusoe and his bother Billy. Rather than help his mother in Clarissa Crusoe's Old Curiosity Shop, Robinson is always found by the docks dreaming of a life at sea. Long suffering brother Billy would rather his brother help him in the shop, but girlfriend Susie shares Robinson's desire for adventure, if only to get away from working in her uncle's bank.

Lotsadosh Bank is owned by the miserly Monty Moneybags who holds the mortgage on the Crusoe shop, a mortgage which is six months in arrears. Among the secondhand items for sale in the shop, the Crusoe family find a treasure map. This is all Robinson needs to fulfil his ambition and when a couple of ex-fishermen turned no frills cruise ship proprietors (Seafaring Sam and Paddling Pete) announce they are looking for crew, Robinson signs up.

Thinking that finding any treasure could be a way of paying off the mortgage, Mrs Crusoe and Billy decide to go with him. With the idea of getting his hands on the treasure, Monty goes along for the ride. There then follows a number of adventures on and under the sea, on a desert island (where Robinson finds a new mate in a very different Friday) and finally in the mysterious Skull Valley. Watching over the proceedings is Ruler of the Waves, Britannia, while the awful Davy Jones is doing his best to restock his locker with any lost souls. This pantomime can be staged as simply or as lavishly as facilities dictate.

Cast is 7M 4F and Chorus.

RON HALL (1985)

Daniel Defoe's book suitably embellished to include lots of comedy, drama and romance. The delightful story moves from York to Hull to Rio de Janeiro before reaching the Desert Island where after many adventures buried treasure is found. Fun for all the family. Chorus, senior and junior dancers.

5 main sets and 3 insets/curtains. 7 M, 6 F

MARK LLEWELIN, ROY BARRACLOUGH AND JOHN JARDINE (2007)

Popular sea captain Robinson offers to take his beau, Polly, on a voyage - but her father, Captain Cockles insists on coming along too. Eventually, the whole family boards ship and sets sail. Under the wicked guidance of Witch Atalanta, Cockles attempts to sink the ship but he hasn't counted on Fairy Pantomime's magic. After sinking, washing up on an island, encountering a cannibal king and discovering a cave full of treasures, the Crusoe and Cockles family are rescued by the QE2.

M 5, F 3, Either 2 + gorilla, optional dog and chorus. 3 full sets and 5 half sets.

LONG & RAWNSLEY (2006)

A mermaid takes us on this voyage of fun. Laughter and adventure as Mrs Crusoe, her family and friends set sail to find her son "Robbie" who was shipwrecked 10 years earlier. A real traditional pantomime with some very quirky characters. A storm - Some Cannibals - A touching re-union - and laughs galore, a real favourite.

7 main sets. 7 M - 5 F - plus Pee-Gee the Monkey. Musical items are indicated within the script.

ROBERT MARLOWE (1987)

Exciting plot with shipwreck and undersea settings, including a 'Jaws' sequence. This script has two different endings, either traditional with Captain Cook or novelty with James Bond. Much comedy.

5 full sets, 1 half set, 4 front tabs. 8 M, 4 F plus chorus.

SCROOGE THE PANTOMIME

ADAPTED FROM 'A CHRISTMAS CAROL' BY TREVOR WAKEFIELD

One of the most famous and most loved stories in the English language, Dickens' story has been augmented with the addition of a few extra characters to enable the story to be told in traditional pantomime format. Most notable amongst these is Nora Carrot, the tea lady, the traditional pantomime dame. A combination of simple sets, popular music, much comedy and plenty of work for small parts/Chorus make this an ideal Christmas choice for many societies.

6 M and 5 F. Four main scenes.

SINBAD THE SAILOR

LEONARD CADDY (1974)

Sinbad is played by a man with the Prince being the Principal Boy. Together they set out to rescue the Principal Girl and meet many exotic and unusual characters, including the evil Old Man of The Sea, a laconic talking Idol and a cheeky little bird.

4 sets. 7 M, 4 F, 2 youngsters and 5 small speaking parts.

PETER DENYER (2006)

Sinbad the Sailor is one of the Tales of the Arabian Nights. This version merges the exotic story with the more traditional elements of pantomime and has a dramatic story line as Sinbad sets sail to make his fortune, unaware that Cassim the Corsair is trying to kill him so that he can steal the hand of the beautiful Princess Haidee. (The "narrator" character, The Old Man of The Sea, is a perfect example of a part which could easily be played as The Old Woman of the Sea).

6 main sets and 1 front cloth/curtain. 5 M, 4 F

RON HALL (1984)

Terrific scope for magical effects and colourful costumes with comedy abounding. Plenty of opportunities for including popular songs.

7 main sets and 5 insets/curtains. 5 M, 4 F with 7 supporting roles and 'serpent'.

STEPHEN DUCKHAM (2004)

An Arabian Night pantomime adventure for companies large and small with a strong storyline and detailed staging notes for theatres with limited space. Sinbad is returning from his sixth voyage to his hometown of Chandra. He is welcomed by his mother and friends as well as the beautiful Princess Parissa. Chandra is protected from harm by the mystical powers of the fabulous Cobra Jewel, but the country's peace and prosperity is threatened when the evil magician Mephisto steals the Jewel. Soon Sinbad and his friends are off on another voyage to find the Jewel and along the way encounter Sea Monsters, Shipwrecks, Flying Carpets and a six armed, scimitar-waving creature called a Khali. Eventually good overcomes evil under the shifting sands of the desert and the Jewel is returned to its rightful owner. This pantomime adventure also contains a large amount of comedy and audience participation and is a challenge for a company with an enthusiastic technical department.

Cast: Sinbad the Sailor, Tinbad the Tailor, Mrs Sinbad, Princess Parissa, The Caliph of Chandra, Shanti, Mephisto, Genie of the Bottle, Macho (A monkey), Black-Eyed Pete, Slave Seller, Zahrat Musafa, Kassim.

Scenery: 5 main sets, 2 half or three-quarter sets, 2 front cloths. 2 sets of black tabs (or 1 set and a star cloth).

SLEEPING BEAUTY

BRADFORD AND WEBSTER (2009)

A novel take on the traditional tale. The witch, Deadly Nightshade, casts an evil spell that Princess Rose will prick her finger on a spinning wheel and die before her 16th birthday. To keep Rose safe, she is hidden away in a cottage in the forest, cared for by Winifred Slaptickle, a paediatric observation officer (yes, that's Winnie the POO), and the King's jester, Happy Harry.

On the eve of Rose's 16th birthday, she meets a handsome young man in the forest. It is love at first sight for both of them. Brought back to the palace, Rose is angry when she is told she is a princess and must marry a prince. Prince William duly arrives and, would you believe it, it is the same handsome young man. Rose is delighted. However, due to an unfortunate misunderstanding, the Prince is thrown out of the palace, tarred and feathered and dumped on a ship heading who knows where. While Harry and Winnie are dispatched to retrieve the Prince, Nightshade's plan comes to fruition but, thanks to the three good fairies, Lilac, Lavender and the nice but dim Lupin,

Rose does not die, she only sleeps. Winnie, Harry and Lupin take the ballroom cruise to Easter Island, where they find the Prince about to go into the cannibals' pot. The Prince returns to fight his way through a forest of thorns to deliver his true love's kiss, thus setting the scene for a traditional happy ending.

4 M, 7 F plus smaller roles, many roles can be doubled up if required.

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LEONARD CADDY (1981)

The Prince and his party are out riding when they meet an old, old Wizard who tells them the story of the Sleeping Princess, of her christening, and what happened on her sixteenth birthday. The story comes to life and the Prince sets out to rescue her. Lots of charm and plenty of comedy.

3 sets plus Thornwood drop. 6 M, 9 F plus several smaller speaking parts and optional Panto Horse.

PETER DENYER (2008)

This story may be better known as a ballet, but it is in fact a popular Pantomime. A beautiful Fairy Tale, with strong parts for women - especially the Black Fairy Carabosse, a truly evil villainess! Although the story ends 118 years after it starts (!), the show is linked by a narrator, The Minstrel, who keeps the action moving quickly. The final, dramatic confrontation, between the Good and the Bad Fairies, ensures the audience's attention.

5 main sets and 3 front cloths/curtains. 5 M, 6 F

STEPHEN DUCKHAM (2009)

It is Princess Aurora's christening and Carabosse is furious at not being invited. She vents her anger by prophesying that on her eighteenth birthday, Aurora will die by pricking her finger on a spinning wheel. When the prophecy comes true the Fairy Queen uses her powers to put the whole court into a deep sleep for one hundred years. Prince Michael wakes Aurora from her slumbers with a kiss and together with Nanny Nora, Barney, King Septimus and Queen Sybil they set out to destroy Carabosse once and for all.

3 or 4 main sets, 1 half set, 2 or 3 front cloths and black tabs.

RON HALL (1983)

This is a charming, pretty pantomime with lots of scope for lovely sets with plenty of sparkle. Songs suggested, some with specially written words: chorus, senior and junior dancers. An ideal pantomime for the society with far more ladies than men — 4 M and 14 F parts, 6 F being good fairies with small speaking roles. There are also 5 non-speaking parts which can be either sex, and a dragon is included.

6 main sets, one gauze and 5 insets/curtains.

MARK LLEWELLIN (2007)

Queen Carol and hen-pecked King Colin have oft longed for a child, so when the good fairies grant their wish and a stork is dispatched to the castle, joy abounds and a lavish christening is planned. However, thanks to jester Billy Whizz's stupidity Fairy Midnight is not invited and she casts a spell over the Princess Beauty which eventually causes all the castle (including an incredulous Nurse Nancy) to sleep for many years (or at least through the interval). The arrival of Prince William and his coachman, lost in the forest, wakens them.

M 4, F 4, Either 1 plus chorus. 2 full sets and 5 half sets.

LONG & RAWNSLEY (2006)

A lovely traditional pantomime everyone will recognise. It begins with the christening of the baby Princess Beauty, but who is the uninvited guest? Comedy throughout as the Princess grows to womanhood, protected by her family, servants and friends. There's a hundred years sleep, but certainly not for the audience, there is even a comedy boxing match. Don't miss this one!

8 main sets. 6 M - 6 F. Musical items are indicated within the script.

JOHN MORLEY (1987)

The famous fairy story is accurately told as a romantic adventure, is mainly comedy and is fast-paced. Although based on lavish versions in professional theatres in Glasgow and Edinburgh, this can be an extremely economical pantomime to present it can literally be played in a permanent set without causing any lack of pantomime comedy and adventure. It is also possible to have no costume changes as suggestions are made for economy points. The small parts and chorus have plenty to do and there are mainly female parts, though these things are adaptable. Suggestions for the use of popular songs.

One permanent set. 3 M, 9 F

DAVID SWAN (1987)

A fast-moving realisation crammed full of humour.

3 full sets, 1 half set. 5 M, 7 F, 1 either

SNOW QUEEN

PETER DENYER (2006)

Although not a traditional pantomime the Snow Queen is a wonderful adventure story, where Gerda sets off in search of her friend Kay. To rescue him from the icy clutches of the Snow Queen she does not realise where her journey will lead her. Because she meets so many different people on her quest there is opportunity to use as many or as few actors as are available.

6 main sets, 4 front cloths/curtains. 7/6 M, 7/10 F

SNOW WHITE (& THE SEVEN DWARFS)

LEONARD CADDY (1979)

Faithfully follows the original story, but incorporates all the main elements of Pantomime - Dame, Principal Boy, Animals, slapstick comedy. By reverting to normal casting and production it will play successfully as a straight musical.

4 sets. 7 M, 4 F, 1 dog, and 7 children as dwarfs (in two scenes only).

PETER DENYER (2008)

Another perennially popular pantomime. A strong story with the heroine resisting the wicked wiles of her evil stepmother, Queen Morgiana. The roles of the dwarfs are crucial and although played by children, the dialogue can be provided by offstage voices of adults.

5 main sets and 3 front cloths/curtains. 4 M, 3 F with 7 children as dwarfs.

STEPHEN DUCKHAM (2002)

Snow White is eighteen and to Queen Malevolent's rage is pronounced 'fairest in the land' by the Spirit of the Mirror. Handsome Prince Rupert arrives at court and is instantly attracted to Snow White. The Queen works her spells on the Huntsman and instructs him to take Snow White into the forest and kill her. At the last minute the Huntsman realises what he was about to do and tells Snow White to flee for her life. In the depths of the forest she finds a cottage belonging to seven dwarfs who take her in. Back at the castle Dame Doitall (Snow Whites nurse) and Handy Andy her friend discover the truth and together with Prince Rupert set off to rescue Snow White and destroy the Queen.

3 or 4 Main Sets, 2 Half Sets, 2 Front Cloths or Tabs.

RON HALL (1986)

With plenty of comedy interspersed in the exciting story line, this show gives everyone in the society a chance. Scope for several popular songs, chorus, senior and junior dancers.

6 main sets and 5 insets/curtains. 5 M, 4 F with 7 children as dwarfs and 7 supporting roles

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MARK LLEWELLIN (2007)

Queen Devila should be celebrating daughter, Snow White's birthday. Instead she begins to look at her own lonely life and in her anger, decides to have Snow White slain. Her besotted henchman Igor is given the deadly task but lets Snow White escape into the woods where she is befriended by a group of dwarfs. Back at the castle Igor instructs interior designers Bitz and Bob to install a magic mirror capable of convincing Devila she has recaptured her good looks but he hasn't counted on the meddling of Cora the Cook and a certain Prince.

M 4, F 2, Either 3 + chorus and 7 dwarfs (speaking roles). 2 full sets and 3 half sets.

LONG & RAWNSLEY (2006)

A real favourite with the kids this one. All Seven Dwarfs have their own characteristics. There are laughs from the traditional serious characters. Romance and adventure feature strongly. A real love story that will enchant and entertain the whole family.

8 main sets. 4 M - 5 F - plus the Seven Dwarfs, the Dwarfs can be played by adults working on their knees with soft felt boots attached to their knees and long trailing tail coats to cover their lower legs, it really does work (we've staged it using one real dwarfs (Gawpy) who does all the running about. Try it, you won't regret it!! Musical items are indicated within the script.

JOHN MORLEY (1987)

A traditional telling of the fairy story, with the principals supported by a cast consisting of good small parts and chorus work. The famous seven dwarfs are played by juveniles with their leader as the main speaking character of this group. Because of the story, the Magic Mirror has to be seen many times and this means that there need be only two main sets, and there are no costume changes, except for some juveniles that wear 'ponchos' over their basic costume in one scene. Suggestions for popular songs. **2 main sets. 3 M, 5 F**

TREASURE ISLAND

BRADFORD AND WEBSTER (2009)

A high-octane pantomime based on the classic pirate adventure.

At the Admiral Benbow Inn, our hero, Jim Hawkins, and his mother, Ma Hawkins, find Captain Flint's treasure map in old Billy Bones' trunk. The famed pirate and renowned baddie Long John Silver is also after the map and, with the dim-witted Brass and Knuckles and the rest of his cutthroat band, lays siege to the inn.

Jim and Ma escape Silver's clutches and, with the help of Squire Trelawney and his lovely daughter, Felicity, set sail to seek their fortune. The ship's cook, however, is oddly familiar, having one leg and an over-sized, sarcastic parrot. As our heroes reach the island, the pirates reveal themselves and kidnap Felicity to force Jim to hand over the map.

The race across the island to find the treasure ends with Jim and Silver 'buckling some swash' until the pirate is finally dispatched to Davy Jones's Locker. The treasure chest is opened ... but it is empty! Robinson Crusoe, who has been living on the island with his Girl Friday, and his Girls Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, desperately trying not to be rescued, has spent the treasure turning the island into a casino and nightspot. Cue big cabaret ending!

6 M, 7 F plus small speaking roles, chorus roles included inn customers and servers, pirates and sailors.

WIND IN THE WILLOWS

RON HALL (1985)

Not a pantomime but a children's story with suggested music, this is a delightful interpretation of Kenneth Grahame's book keeping as close to the original story line as possible in a stage production. Specially written words for songs included, which can be set to Arthur Sullivan's music for the Savoy Operas. An amusing nostalgic look at Edwardian England.

4 main sets, 5 insets/curtains. 8 M (6 if doubled up), 8 F, 1 either, 1 child

WIZARD OF OZ

LEONARD CADDY (1985)

All the familiar characters and incidents of the well-known story, incorporating plenty of humour without losing the charm of the original book.

4 sets plus Yellow Brick Road. 4 M, 4 F, plus extras.

JOHN MORLEY (1985)

There are the four famous parts of Dorothy, Cowardly Lion, Tinman and Scarecrow, yet plenty of work for the small parts and chorus because they play the crazy Munchkins and then the military Emeralders who live in the Emerald City. The sets are simple - only four main scenes which can be cut outs, easily made, placed in the simple permanent set. There are no costume changes - the chorus merely put eccentric Munchkin overcoats over the Emeraldler costumes. The Principals have no costume change. Popular songs.

1 permanent set, cut outs. 4 M, 8 F

PLAYS AND DRAMAS

ALL IN THE MIND

BY LEE TORRANCE

A one-act play set in a sitting room.

2M, 2F

HOOVERING ON THE EDGE

BY HILARY SPIERS

A new play by award-winning writer Hilary Spiers.

This play charts the, sometimes unusual, relationships which develop between seven disparate women on a creative writing course in Spain, tutored by one hapless male.

Sun, sand, sangria and storytelling – coupled with a hint of surreptitious sex – what could possibly go wrong?

The play is described as a "feel-good" piece of theatre for people who enjoyed Calendar Girls and Mamma Mia!

THE LINK

BY LEE TORRANCE

A one-act play set in a sitting room.

2M, 1F.

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MAXDIX, ZERO TO SIX

BY VINCENT EATON

Award Winning!

George Taylor Memorial Award in the UK's National Drama Festival Association Playwriting Competition for 2008

Verulam award for best original play, Festival of European Anglophone Festival, Stockholm, 2008

The play takes the audience through the birth and first six influential years of its hero, Max Dix. We see his unique perception of his life and those around him - and we see the family's perception of Max.

Our early images and resulting emotions make a deep impression - but remain hidden because we cannot verbalise our thoughts - except Max can.

This is theatre as child's play - in this case, quite literally. The different scenes of Max's young life tumbled in front of us in quick succession, scenes and characters shift and segue, bringing impressions, emotional awakening and confusion, with the main character defining himself in the strange landscape of family. It is funny, touching and emotional.

Use of a five-strong cast play multiple roles - apart from Max. Three different actresses to portray the three different personalities that make up Max's mother.

Staging can be minimalist, with no set as such, apart from a white curtain of vertical strips onto which mood-enhancing images are projected and characters sometimes use for entrance and exits. Lighting and sound are vital, and the most basic props used. The script details the playwright/director's initial approach, to give the reading a smoother, more vivid weight in staging.

MURDER IN THE RED BARN

MARIA MARTEN (MELODRAMA)

ADAPTED FROM TRADITIONAL VERSIONS BY CHRISTOPHER DENYS

An evening of bodice-ripping Melodrama and Victorian Ballads – of Virtue Seduced, Murder Concealed, Ghosts Wailing and Evil Punished. Hiss the Villain – Adore the Heroine – Cheer the Hero - Wonder at the Cunning Disguises of Hawkshaw, the Detective. Always the most popular of the barnstorming Victorian plays, the true (well, nearly true) story of the seduction and murder of village beauty, Maria Marten, by the evil, philandering Squire William Corder provides the most extravagant and exciting melodrama of them all.

There are romantic Gypsies, Mysterious Dreams and Ghosts crying out for Vengeance. There are Robberies, Poisonings, Shootings, Stabbings, Opium Dens, Red Indians and Arson before Hawkshaw - the Detective of many disguises - brings the Villain to the Gallows at last. William Corder really did murder Maria Marten in the Red Barn at Polestead, Suffolk, and was hanged for his crime at Bury St. Edmunds in 1828 but it was the strolling actors of the day who brought their own characters, talents and imaginations to the tale to make it, quite literally, a 'Barnstorming Triumph'. Interspersed with the tuneful parlour ballads of the Victorian age and rustic knock-about comedy to offset the horrors and excitements, 'The Murder in the Red Barn' offers all the thrills and spectacle which made the Victorian Melodrama so universally popular.

THE MYSTERIES

ADAPTED FROM THE WAKEFIELD, YORK AND CHESTER CYCLES OF PLAYS BY CHRISTOPHER DENYS

Assembled into a continuous performance, the rich, exciting and powerful plays of the Mystery Cycles offer some of the most lively, beautiful and often humorous verse in the English language at its vernacular best.

Here, brought vividly to life are:

The Creation

The Expulsion from the Garden of Eden

Cain's Murder of Abel

Noah's Flood and the Building of the Ark

The Annunciation

The Nativity

The Life, Ministry, Crucifixion, Resurrection and Ascension of Christ.

Banned for centuries, these plays speak to the modern audiences with all the vigour, excitement and originality of contemporary drama.

THE PICKWICK PAPERS

BY CHARLES DICKENS

ADAPTED BY CHRISTOPHER DENYS

The hilarious adventures of the benevolent but accident-prone Mr. Pickwick and the blundering but enthusiastic members of the Pickwick Club as they set out to explore the wider world beyond their comfortable homes. Never, before or since, has such a wonderful cast of richly eccentric innocents abroad been assembled in one place. Never before or since has there been a more joyous rumble-tumble of misunderstandings, misalliances and misadventures than those which beset and bewilder the delightful characters of Samuel Pickwick (Chairman and founder), Mr. Winkle (the ineffectual sporting member), Mr. Snodgrass (the would-be poetic member) and Mr. Tupman (the very romantic member) aided in their wanderings and frequently protected from themselves by the ever-resourceful Sam Weller. Whether bamboozled by confidence tricksters, or on the wrong end of duelling pistols, involved in romantic entanglements or suits for breach of promise of marriage – whether arrested as house-breakers, or both assisting and preventing elopements – whether playing cricket, hunting, skating or incarcerated in a debtors' prison, they are borne through the highspots and lowspots of early-Victorian England on a tidal wave of irrepressible good humour, well-meaning gullibility and copious quantities of liquid refreshment. 'The Pickwick Papers' was the young Charles Dickens' first novel and immediately established him as 'The Inimitable' family entertainer.

REMEMBRANCE DAY

AN AWARD WINNING PLAY BY BEV CLARK

REMEMBRANCE DAY is a poignant poetic drama of conflict, secrets, love and salvation. With a strong cast and an original soundtrack, this one act play offers an atmospheric, moving and enigmatic piece of theatre, which explores many issues and themes.

This story covers five generations of one family's inner conflicts against a background of global conflict. War can leave its scars upon each generation but the real battle is the torment, shame and frustration they each feel within their own relationships.

RUNNING OUT OF TIME

BY BEV CLARK

(To get where you're going you just have to stand still)

We are all running out of time.

James Hargreaves must change his lifestyle: overweight and over worked he must get fit and healthy to avoid a heart attack.

His wife, Hannah, must change her lifestyle: never enough hours in a day to be all things to all people, she must learn to relax to avoid a nervous breakdown.

Amy, their daughter, wants the world to change its lifestyle: go green, recycle and save the planet to avoid a global catastrophe.

TIME:

We can be a slave to it or we could just try and appreciate it.

One family find themselves off the beaten track in a remote idyll in the picturesque West Country.

They are strangely drawn to the mysterious lake where Time appears to have stood still. What is its secret? What is its magic?

A sweet elderly lady and her old fashioned son seem to know a lot more than they are saying. Who are they? And why has the Grandfather Clock stopped?

A strange legend, an egg timer and an old record seem to hold the key.

Could it be that Time never runs out?

The Hargreaves realise they have all been on a journey – but to where?

And will they ever be able to find that time again?

TIME: A fleeting moment? Or Eternity?

TIGER

BY LEE TORRANCE

A one-act play set in a living room.

2M, 1F

UNSEEDED

BY ROY KENDALL

This comedy is a cautionary tale about how not to go about having a baby. A suburban couple, Frances Livingstone, a prep school teacher and a leading light in her local amateur dramatic society, and her husband William, a tax collector and tennis obsessive, are childless but have always treated their dog as a kind of surrogate child. When the dog is killed by a hit and run driver, their deep need for a child resurfaces and they adopt desperate measures to avail themselves of one. With too little forethought they decide to approach Julie and Declan, a young, financially needy, working class couple and fellow members of their local tennis club, with a not very well thought out plan for Julie to have a baby for them. The result is surprisingly hilarious. Unfortunately this leads to an even more sticky situation for the Livingstones as Julie becomes pregnant (by William) and she and Declan are evicted from their flat. Forced to move in with Frances and William, a comedy of manners ensues when the oil of the middle class mores of the Livingstones does not mix with the working class habits of Declan and Julie as they all try to live together on a day to day basis. But this is not the worst of it. More desperate measures are called for when Declan decides he wants Julie to keep the baby, which in turn leads to unexpected events and a unique arrangement.

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THE VICAR OF WAKEFIELD (MELODRAMA)

ADAPTED BY CHRISTOPHER DENYS

Part Melodrama, part Pastoral Romance and part Hilarious Comedy the fortunes and misfortunes of the ever-optimistic Vicar of Wakefield and his large family offer an entertainment with far more ups and downs than any television soap opera.

Fallen from fortune and security, the Vicar and his family are forced to earn their living as farmers by toil and sweat. Forced from their rich city home, they are thrown into new and humble surroundings and, while the trusting Vicar thinks only the best of everybody, not everybody deserves his trust. Innocents in a world of sharpers and tricksters, they are cheated and ill-treated and members of the family are variously subjected to seduction by the predatory Squire, abduction by ruffians, imprisonment for debt and one of them even stands condemned to hang for murder. But, in Melodrama, Romance or Comedy, all must end happily and the Vicar's faith in his fellow man is fully justified in the end.

MUSICALS

ALICE IN WONDERLAND

ADAPTED BY CHRISTOPHER DENYS AND NEIL RHODEN (2009)

A Colourful and Comical Musical adaptation, presenting this Popular Classic as a Hilarious Entertainment for all the Family. Chasing a White Rabbit down a rabbit hole tumbles Alice into a strange and wonderful land where she meets a grinning Cheshire Cat with an alarming gift for appearing and disappearing, watches the acrobatic antics of Father William and his Son, rescues the Duchess's Baby (which promptly turns into a Pig) and is caught up in the lunacy of the Mad Hatter's Tea Party. She and the Audience referee a battle between Tweedledum and Tweedledee while the Gryphon tells terrible jokes and the Mock Turtle has a nervous breakdown while singing about soup – or, as he calls it – 'thoup'. As a bewildered contestant in the Queen of Hearts' Croquet Match, Alice is on hand when the Knave of Hearts steals the Tarts and finds herself a very confused Witness for the Defence at his utterly improbable and eccentric Trial. There is also an original musical score and lyrics and a string of comedy routines leading to the hilarious knock-about of the Croquet Match played – of course - with Hedgehogs and Flamingos.

BARNABY RUDGE

MUSIC BY BILL SCOTT, LIBRETTO AND LYRICS BY MIKE LYONS,

BASED ON THE NOVEL BY CHARLES DICKENS.

In 2012 we celebrate the bicentennial of the birth of Charles Dickens, one of the world's most celebrated novelists. His works have been adapted in almost every conceivable medium but at least one of his novels has been relatively neglected – until now!

"Barnaby Rudge" is an epic tale set against The Gordon Riots of 1780, the worst and most destructive riots ever to hit the United Kingdom. The story is brought to life as a sung - through Musical with a symphonic score in which the musical themes are integrated into the drama. In two Acts and at a little over 2¼ hours long, "Barnaby Rudge" includes many new songs as well as a dynamic recitative that gives the unfolding story its pace and vibrancy.

With a large cast and a very busy chorus, there is a good age range with parts for younger adult performers but also an extensive representation of 'middle – aged' characters. The musical range can be facilitated easily by a small band with 2/3 keyboards, bass and percussion making for economical yet full orchestration.

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This original Musical is threaded with memorable songs ranging from riotous refrains to moving ballads and from black – comic choruses to rousing eulogies as the mood changes, scene by scene.

The perusal pack includes a full synopsis of scenes and a CD with musical excerpts.

GEMSONG

BOOK AND LYRICS BY JEAN MCCONNELL - MUSIC BY TERRY SHAW

Set in 1820 and based on a true incident in the history of Idar Oberstein, a town famous for the craft of gem cutting from the middle ages to the present day. The musical has a good story and music that instantly appeals. The opportunity for fantastic scene changes and as the story has two locations the opportunity for different dancing styles.

A full synopsis of scenes is available upon request. Materials available:- Libretto, Piano and Vocal Score with additional parts for Percussion and Double Bass.

PINOCCHIO

CHRISTOPHER DENYS AND NEIL RHODEN

WITH ORIGINAL MUSIC AND LYRICS BY NEIL RHODEN

The miraculous musical tale of the Wonderful Puppet, carved from magical wood by a master Toymaker who longs for a son. And Pinocchio's only wish in his wooden heart is to become a real boy and to be that son. But, though he is guided by his Fairy Guardian, the tricksters and temptations of the world are too hard to resist and Pinocchio must face many dangers and pitfalls. He is kidnapped by an evil Puppet-Master. He is a prisoner of Pirates to be sold into slavery. He plays the ass among the delights of Pleasure Island until he begins to turn into one. But, at last, he proves himself a hero, sacrificing his wooden life to rescue his Father from the belly of a Sea Monster.

A Joyful and Spectacular Musical Entertainment in which the Audience play their own Very Important Part in helping Pinocchio to become - at last - a Real Boy.

QUEEN OF THE AIR

BY PETER AVEYARD

The plot is based on a real scenario that of Amy Johnson's solo flight to Australia told through a third party and there is a love interest in it. The piece is a play with music and would appeal to groups who might try it as they would do for either No, No Nanette, The Boyfriend or Salad Days.

THE SLIPPER & THE ROSE

ADAPTATION BY PHILIP BURLEY

Cinderella is one of the best-loved and most often told fairy stories; an enchanting tale of imagination, delighting people of all age The Slipper and the Rose is a real story about two people in love and ideal for a family audience.

The musical score is provided by Robert B, and Richard Sherman. Available as a 9 or 18 piece orchestra. 37 parts in total + chorus

VALENTINO

BOOK, MUSIC AND LYRICS BY STEPHEN DUCKHAM AND LAURIE HORNSBY

The untimely death of Italian actor and 'Latin Lover' Rudolph Valentino led to mass hysteria among female fans. This new NODA musical, written by Stephen Duckham with Laurie Hornsby, celebrates his life and iconic status. Based on the life of the first screen superstar, the story of Rudolph Valentino has romance, intrigue, even a murder, all set in the glamorous world of 1920's New York and Hollywood. There is the possibility of doubling for small companies and during the show the entire company acts as a form of narrator, singing various reprises of the title song and moving the story forward. There is also lots of ensemble work, several small characters and thanks to tango being the dance rage of the era, plenty of opportunity for choreography. Musicals often require a strong female lead character; this is definitely a vehicle for a strong and versatile lead male!

A CD sampler containing snippets of the songs from the show is available as part of the perusal pack.

WHAT COLOUR IS CHRISTMAS?

BOOK, MUSIC AND LIBRETTO BY DAVE BUXTON, LYRICS BY DAVIE BUXTON AND PHIL TURNER

Although created as a musical, this could actually be either a musical or indeed a pantomime. Containing very beautiful and catchy tunes, this amazing piece of work is available with a Piano and Vocal score corresponding with the Orchestral Score (useful for those societies that have a very small band), Orchestral score for a 17 piece orchestra or with fully orchestrated backing tracks! All with underscoring (incidental music to capture moods and moments). As well as the many variations listed above, this very carefully crafted piece of work has:

- Good directional notes
- Clear costume notes
- Very descriptive scenery and set notes
- Audio book available
- Very up-to-date with environmental themes
- A wealth of characters
- Opportunities for a large number of persons to be part of the production
- Suitable for youth, adult or mixed groups

Available are a number of variations – Cast of 18, cast of 49, cast of 60 and even a School Version (12 songs) with a cast of 49, plus a Narrator. The story is set at the East Pole in Rainbowland, where Santa and his little helpers, the Dinkybets, make toys for Christmas trees from recycled materials.

A perusal pack is now available containing the script and a CD featuring 15 fully orchestrated versions, with vocals, of all the songs from the show.



Did you know.....?

You can now view, download and/or print any NODA pantomime perusal from our website **Free of charge?**

Simply go to the **pantomime section** of the website, then to **'Free sample scripts'**

There you will find our full range of titles and by clicking on the title you can view, download, save and/or print as many titles as you wish, absolutely free!

Each sample contains between 50-75% of the original script.

We do still offer hard copies for hire too!

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