

Prospectus

The Newsletter of the Cayman Drama Society

January 2007

Editor – Alan Hall

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The Judith Code

By Colin Wilson

Our calendar of productions for 2007 opens on Friday 16th February with an original play written and directed by Colin Wilson.

“The Judith Code” is a present day drama based on the apocryphal biblical book “Judith”. A new wave of terrorism has struck America and the west. The Nebak-Ad-Nizzar Group boasts they act for all Muslim Freedom Fighters. Their target is the multi-national department stores that have come under attack from suicide bombers, killing and maiming thousands of people. Only “Judith’s”, the largest and most successful of the department stores, has been spared. Why? Who is Judith, the mysterious owner whom no one has ever seen? A talk-show host asks these questions to the Muslim CEO of “Judith’s”, a woman known simply as Ayin with surprising results. A devout widowed Christian Jew decides to make an unconventional stand against the terrorist general, Holofernes. She is shocked to discover he is the man she was deeply in love with when she was a teenager – a love she still carries in her heart.

For this production, Colin has selected a highly talented cast consisting of Joanna Lawrence, Jacinta Mohammed, Martin Tedd, Maria Kennedy, Dennis Hue, Catherine Tyson, Mariasol Hernandez, Bill Bewley, and Richard Tyson. For those who saw the first production of this play in October 2006, when it was presented as a fund-raiser for St George’s Church, you should note that:

- This is a new cast;
- It will be presented with a full stage set constructed by Peter Phillips and Paul de Freitas;
- The script has been substantially modified by Colin to remove some of the themes which proved controversial last time out;
- The play now has a totally new ending;
- It is now 30 minutes shorter !!

The play runs on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 16th February to 3rd March with performances on Fridays and Saturdays at 7.30 pm and on Sundays at 4 pm. Ticket prices are CI\$20 for adults and CI\$10 for children (although it is not really suitable for very young children).

In addition, a special preview night has been arranged for CDS members only on Thursday 15th February with admission at only CI\$10 per person.

Please phone the Box Office at 949 5054 to reserve your tickets now.

Auditions for Annie Get Your Gun

We are pleased to announce that the next major production of the CDS will be Irving Berlin’s *Annie Get Your Gun*. This exciting musical will run for 16 performances from 3rd May to 27th May 2007.

Auditions will be held at the Prospect Playhouse on Sunday 4th February between 1 pm and 6 pm.

The idea for this production was conceived by Wendy Moore and Neil Rooney, who will play Annie Oakley and Frank Butler respectively, and will be directed by Susan Howe.

The show requires a large adult cast, including singing and speaking parts, solo parts and chorus parts, dancing and non-dancing parts.

There are also 3 parts for children aged 6 to 12.

If you've always enjoyed the timeless music of "There's No Business Like Show Business", "Doin' What Comes Natur'lly" and "Anything You Can Do", you'll want to be a part of this show!

To help those who would like to audition, the director has selected in advance the lines which will be used for the auditions, and these, together with further information about the roles to be cast, can be found on the CDS website at www.caymandrama.org.ky.



2007 AGM

The 2007 AGM held on Monday 8th January was well attended, and following presentation of reports by the Chairman, Theatre Manager, and Treasurer, the Annual Accounts for the year ended 31 August 2004 (which had been delayed because of the loss of accounting records in Hurricane Ivan) were presented and approved by the members.

The Treasurer also presented draft Accounts for the year ended 31 August 2005, which are currently with our Independent Accountants for review, and preliminary figures for the year ended 31 August 2006. We were very pleased that Mr Michael Pilling of Deloitte was at the AGM, and he confirmed that Deloitte would

be prepared to continue to act as our Independent Accountants, and to waive any fees for doing so, for the review of these outstanding accounts. It will be necessary for the CDS to then make alternative arrangements for future independent reviews of our accounts after August 2007, so if any member of the Society is a practising, professional accountant, or knows someone who is, and would be prepared to assist the Cayman Drama Society with this task, we should be grateful if they could contact any member of the Executive Committee.

The meeting then turned to the election of an Executive Committee for 2007, and the Chairman reported that Valerie Cottier, Regina Oliver, Cathy Wight, and Rick Glass, who had all served admirably for many years, had indicated that for various reasons they did not wish to stand for re-election. Following nominations, the Executive Committee for 2007 will be as noted in the inset, and we are grateful for the ongoing commitment of Alan Hall, Peter Phillips, Ian Morgan, Penny Paterson and Penny Phillips, we welcome back Sue Horrocks and Paul de Freitas to the committee after a few years' break, and new members Janine Nyssonen and Isobel ("Isi") Murray.

Following the completion of formal business of the meeting, discussion then turned to the financial predicament in which the Society finds itself at the moment, and possible means of alleviating our difficulties. There was a great deal of very useful input, all of which will be receiving serious consideration by the committee in coming months, and some of which will be put into effect immediately, as reported elsewhere in this newsletter.

2007 Production Meeting

An open meeting was held at 7 pm on Friday 12th January, preceded by Happy Hour and hors d'oeuvres kindly prepared by Penny Phillips and Regina Oliver.

A large number of members were present, and resulted in very useful discussion of proposed major productions for 2007/2008, a few possible productions which may be staged on a simpler basis or for a shorter run than our major productions, and a number of suggestions for our Club Nights and occasions of a more social nature to involve CDS members.

Following the Production Meeting the Executive Committee has approved the following:

- *Annie Get Your Gun*, which had received prior approval in principle subject to submission of a satisfactory budget and production plan, will now go ahead in May as our Major Musical for 2007;
- *Mort*, a stage adaptation by Stephen Briggs of Terry Pratchett's immensely popular comedy/fantasy/adventure will be staged in October/November 2007, to be directed by Caroline Neale with Janine Nyssonen as Producer;

Further possible productions still being considered are:

- The musical *Chicago*, probably in early 2008;

2007-08 Executive Committee

Chairman	Alan Hall	Tel (cell) 925 6057 (home) 949 3063	e-mail alanhall@candw.ky
Theatre Manager	Peter Phillips	Tel (cell) 926 2655 (work) 949 5585	e-mail philelec@weststartv.com
Secretary	Isobel Murray	Tel (cell) 916 0393	e-mail isimurray@weststartv.com
Treasurer	Ian Morgan	Tel (cell) 926 4200 (work) 815 7569	e-mail ian.morgan@butterfieldbank.ky
Committee Members	Penny Paterson, Penny Phillips, Paul de Freitas, Sue Horrocks, Janine Nyssonen		

- *Juno and the Paycock* by Sean O'Casey;
- *The Gin Game* by D L Coburn;
- *The Glass Menagerie* by Tennessee Williams;
- *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller;
- A Neil Simon comedy;
- A musical version of *Jekyll and Hyde*;

The intention is that the committee would like to complete a balanced calendar for 2007 by including a popular comedy for production in July and a major drama in September. If you have any further suggestions which you would like to be considered please contact Alan Hall or any member of the Executive Committee before their next meeting on 13th February.

The committee is also considering the following for presentation between our major productions to ensure maximum use is made of the Prospect Playhouse during the coming year:

- Additional Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre nights, similar to those performed whilst the Playhouse was under reconstruction;
- Further evenings of Improv and Thespian Quiz, both of which have been popular in the past;
- Subject to the availability of volunteers, a series of workshops to provide training for members in basic stagecraft, lighting and sound operation, set design and construction, makeup, etc, etc;
- A children's camp during the summer vacation;

Again, we would like to hear from you if you are interested in these, or have any other ideas.

Financial Measures

In an attempt to resolve some of the financial challenges which the CDS is currently facing (as noted in the November 2006 edition of Prospectus and as reported at the AGM), at their first meeting on 16th January the Executive Committee has approved the following measures effective immediately.

Membership Subscriptions

Adult subscription for renewal or new annual membership has been increased to \$20

A new category has been introduced for Junior Membership (under 18) at \$10

Annual Family Membership has been increased to \$50

Life Membership can now be obtained for a one-off payment of \$200

Ticket Prices

Adult ticket prices for straight plays will now be \$20, with children's prices remaining at \$10

Adult ticket prices for musicals will be \$25, and children's prices at \$15

Discounts of 10% can be obtained for bookings of 10 tickets or more, payable in full in advance.

At the discretion of each Director/Producer a Preview Night may be held, at which CDS members can obtain half-price tickets.

Entire Theatre

By prior arrangement, all tickets for a performance may be purchased by a School, Service Club, Sports Club, or other Non-Profit Association at a cost of \$1,500 (for a straight play, with cost for a musical yet to be fixed), with the purchaser able to set their own ticket prices for that performance.

Similar facilities may be negotiated for companies wishing to provide an evening's entertainment for their staff or customers, provided no tickets are re-sold.

Programmes

In the past, production programmes have been provided free-of-charge to all theatre-goers. This will no longer be possible and, following The Judith Code, a nominal charge of \$1 will be made for our standard black-and-white programmes, with a higher charge for those productions providing a large, glossy, colour souvenir programme.



CDS PATRONS

HONORARY PATRON

Mrs Mariko Jack

PLATINUM PATRONS

(for Donations in excess of CI\$5,000)

Peter and Anne Pasold

GOLD PATRONS

(for Donations of CI\$1,500 to CI\$4,999)

**In Memory of Marion Auld
Anonymous**

SILVER PATRONS

(for Donations of CI\$1,000 to CI\$1,499)

Visual Arts Society

BRONZE PATRONS

(for Donations of CI\$500 to CI\$999)

Joyce Cantlay

FRIENDS OF THE THEATRE

**Phillips Electrical Ltd
Androgroup Ltd
Butterfield Bank (Cayman)
Limited
CITN
Cayman Coating Industries
Ltd
Deloitte
Island Electronics Group**

The future generosity of our Patrons and Friends is essential if we are to continue to present quality productions and to maintain the Prospect Playhouse to acceptable standards.

For further information about how individuals may become a Patron, or how corporate benefactors may become Friends of the Theatre, please contact any member of the Executive Committee.



Membership Renewal and Update of CDS Members Database

All annual members are advised that they must now renew their membership, and are asked to print a copy of the Membership Application from the CDS website, or obtain a copy at the Prospect Playhouse, complete it, and send it to the Secretary with a cheque for the subscription due.

As we understand that a number of Life Members have also not been receiving recent communications sent out, it would also be helpful if all Life Members could also complete the application form, in order to confirm their current contact information and send the form to the Secretary (without further payment).

Similarly, if you hear that other members have not heard from us for a while, perhaps because they have failed to advise us of changed e-mail or mailing address, please ask them to contact the Secretary to verify the information held.

Congratulations 1

Our congratulations to Mr Peter Phillips who was awarded the Cayman Islands Certificate and Badge of Honour in Her Majesty the Queen's New Year Honours List, for his 50+ years of service to the community of the Cayman islands, in particular his work for the Cayman Drama Society.

The Medal was presented to Peter by His Excellency the Governor on behalf of Her Majesty during the National Heroes Day celebrations on Monday 22nd January.

Congratulations 2

We also offer our congratulations to Cathy Wight and Rick Glass who were married on Saturday 30th December 2006, much to the surprise (and delight?) of their family and friends who thought they were only going out for lunch!



Cayman Drama Society 2007 Calendar of Events

Sunday 4th February at 1 pm to 6 pm

Auditions for Annie Get Your Gun

Directed by Susan Howe

Thursday 15th February at 7.30 pm

CDS Members' Preview of The Judith Code

Fridays and Saturdays at 7.30 pm Sundays at 4 pm 16th February to 4th March 2007

The Judith Code

Written and Directed by Colin Wilson

3rd May to 27th May 2007

Annie Get Your Gun

October / November 2007

Mort

By Terry Pratchett, adapted by Stephen Briggs