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The Unknown Theatre Company present the Welsh premier of a new family musical...

Music by George Stiles Book and Lyrics by Anthony Drewe
 Orchestration - Christopher Jahnke Associate Orchestrator - John Clancy
 Director - Vic Atkins Producer - Jane Donoghue Music Dir. - Ben Davies

Just So...

Souvenir
 Programme

Supported by Welsh Amateur Music Federation, DAW and NODA. This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Josef Weinberger Limited on behalf of Music Theatre International of New York and Cameron Mackintosh Limited



Capital Law LLP wishes the Unknown Theatre Company very best wishes for their "Just So" production

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Welcome from The Company



The committee and cast members of The Unknown Theatre Company would like to extend a warm welcome to you all at this performance of 'Just So'. As a company who strive to provide unique and valuable experiences for our young people, we are extremely proud to be associated with the International Festival of Music Theatre.

Furthermore, we are delighted to be presenting the Welsh premier of this production and would like to say a big thank you to Cameron Mackintosh and the writers – Drewe and Stiles for selecting us as one of a small number of companies chosen to showcase this new musical.

For those of you who are in the company of young children who may not be familiar with the stories of Rudyard Kipling, we have outlined the story, together with a few important quotes or song words at the back of this programme.

Sit back and enjoy the show as The Unknown Theatre Company tell you what it is like to be



JUST SO...



Director's notes

With such a fantastic reaction to our last show Seussical the Musical that *still* has people talking, I am proud to say this talented bunch of youngsters have done it again.

Amongst the cast, are members who have been with the company since it was founded nearly 10 years ago, some who have never been on stage before, whilst others having performed with other companies, have joined us for the first time.

The show is a culmination of all round effort of the production team, especially props and costumes, with requests from me of a chest that converts to a sailing boat and a cooking stove costume! This is just one of nearly 150 costumes needed for the show.

With polished performances now ready; solos, duets, quartets and company numbers, it has been a challenge from beginning to end.

If you enjoy Stiles and Drewe's Just So half as much as the cast and company have enjoyed preparing it, you'll love it. It's great family entertainment for ages 6-90.

Vic Atkins

Cast

Eldest Magician.....Adam King
Elephant's Child.....Ben Reynolds
Kolokolo Bird.....Melissa Moore
Parsee..... Kayed Mason
Cooking Stove.....Jonathon Moore
Rhino.....Matt Atkins
Jaguar.....Steven Donoghue
Leopard.....Andrew Machin
Zebra.....Kelly Littlechild
Giraffe.....Claire Batchelor
Kangaroo.....Sam Jones
Dingo Dog.....Olivia Spence
King Elephant.....Richard Hibbert
Queen Elephant.....Hannah Murphy
Pau Anna the crab.....Wesley Maddocks

Company of Animals, Elephants, Commis Chefs,
Wildebeest, Wallabies:
Elisa Alvarez, Matt Atkins, Claire Batchelor,
Emma Batchelor, Steven Donoghue, Kerry Donovan,
Dafydd Gape, Lizzie Gould, Richard Hibbert, Sam Jones,
Caru King, Sian King, Edith Kirkwood, Jenna Lane,
Roanna Lewis, Kelly Littlechild, Kim Littlechild,
Wesley Maddocks, Andrew Machin, Kayed Mason,
Beth Millard, Jonathan Moore, Hannah Murphy,
Hayley Fritchard, Lauren Roberts, Hannah Sanders,
Olivia Spence, Ben Turner, Katie Warburton,
Georgia Warsama, Rebecca Watkins, Jessica Weymouth,
Reagan Wing, Alex Wood.

Acknowledgements

We would like to say a big THANK YOU to all the people who have helped to make this show such a success: Louise Miles-Crust and staff at WMC, Brian Shapcott & Tricia Burfoot of Roath Church House, Geraldine Roberts for her tireless work making costumes aided by regular supporter Elaine Cartledge and new friend Ruth Cochran. Alex Wood and Carri Busek for stepping in and arranging technical details, Alan Blakoe & Phil Hurley of Stage Lighting & Sound Services, Scenic Property Hire, Marigold Costumes, RATS, St Phillips Church, Welsh Amateur Music Federation & Australian Welsh. Thanks too for the support from cast members, parents and friends of the company for handing out leaflets, putting up posters and generally supporting us throughout the rehearsal and production time.....THANK YOU!!!



Patrons & Membership

Thank you to the continued support of our patrons: Rhiannon Williams and Captain Ray Brinkworth.

If you would like to support The Unknown Theatre Company by becoming a patron, please contact Jane on 029 20 766056 for further details. Patrons receive priority booking of tickets, complimentary tickets and programmes and are acknowledged in our show programmes.

If you are interested in auditioning to be part of this dynamic youth theatre company, please either:
phone Jane on 02920 766056 or check out our website for details of forthcoming productions and auditions.

www.unknowntheatre.co.uk



Musical Numbers



Act One

Just So.....	Eldest magician & company
Another Tempest.....	Elephants
There's No Harm in Asking.....	Eldest magician & Elephant's Child
Silly Questions.....	Elephants & Elephant's Child
The Limpopo River.....	Kolokolo Bird, Elephant's Child, Eldest Magician & Elephants
Living On This Island.....	Parsee, Cooking Stove, Kolokolo Bird & Elephant's Child
Thick Skin.....	Rhino
The Parsee Cake Cake Walk.....	Parsee, Cooking Stove, Rhino, Kolokolo Bird, & Company
The Chase.....	Leopard, Jaguar, Giraffe & Zebra
We Want To Take The Ladies Out.....	Leopard & Jaguar
Pick Up Your Hooves and Trot... ..	Zebra, Giraffe, Elephant's Child & Kolokolo Bird
Jungle Light.....	Eldest Magician & Company
Just So	Giraffe, Zebra & Company
The Limpopo River Reprise.....	Eldest Magician, Kolokolo Bird, Elephant's Child & Company

Act Two

Just So reprise	Eldest Magician
The Argument.....	Kolokolo Bird, Elephant's Child,
Wait A Bit	Kolokolo Bird
Aboriginally I.....	Kangaroo, Dingo Dog
Leaps and Bounds	Kangaroo, Dingo Dog & Company
Does The Moment Ever Come.....	Elephant's Child
Please Don't Touch My Stove	Parsee, Rhino, Cooking Stove & Elephant's Child
Little One Come Hither.....	Elephant's Child, Crocodile, Kolokolo Bird & Elephants
If - The Crab.....	Eldest Magician, Kolokolo Bird, Elephant's Child & Company
Finale - Just So	Eldest Magician & Company

Crew

Director & Choreographer.....Vic Atkins
Producer.....Jane Donoghue
Musical Director.....Ben Davies
Costume Creator.....Geraldine Roberts
Properties Design/Poster design.....Lucy Chiplin
Puppet made by.....Annette Moore
Lighting Design/ASM.....Carri Busek
Lighting operation.....Simeon Smith
Follow spot.....Chris Mackinlay
Sound operation.....WMC
Front of House Manager.....Annette Littlechild

Orchestra

Ben Davies.....Keyboard/MD
David Thomas.....2nd Keyboard
Andy Mulligan.....Guitar
Mike Sunderland.....Drums

Scenes

Act 1
Scene 1A Blank Canvas
Scene 2The Elephant Migration
Scene 3.....An Uninhabited Island
Scene 4.....The Veldt
Scene 5.....The Jungle

Act 2
Scene 1.....En Route To The Limpopo
Scene 2.....The Howling Desert
Scene 3.....Back In The Jungle

Just So – The story behind the musical

Set at the beginning of time, the musical introduces the Eldest Magician who has created a world of beasts and birds and fish where all of the animals are alike. It was long before the rhino had baggy skin, or the leopard had spots, or the kangaroo had bounce, or the elephant had a trunk. Everything was 'just so', until Patu Amma the Crab began playing with the sea, causing a flood that threatened the other animals.

To stop the crab, the ever inquisitive Elephant's child goes on a fantastic journey along the banks of Africa's great, grey-green, greasy Limpopo River, helped by the ever complaining Kolokolo Bird. Along the way he learns many lessons including how the leopard got his spots, how the rhinoceros got his skin and how curiosity and a hungry crocodile can turn an elephant's small nose into a very large trunk. These are just some of the riddles solved in this musical comedy.

Based on the immortal short stories of Rudyard Kipling, Just So is woven with wit and imagination into a song-filled journey through the jungle, set to an eclectic, upbeat score by Stiles and Drewe (Mary Poppins, Honk), - And you will be inspired by its underlying message:

**That one determined individual
can make a real difference in this world.**

(Information taken from website www.stilesanddrewe.co.uk/just_so)

About The Unknown Theatre Company

The Unknown Theatre Company was 'born' in 1997 (look out for our 10th anniversary concert next year!) with our premier production of Peter Pan, starring Sarah Lark (currently in Mama Mia in the West End and Ian Virgo who is now a Hollywood Actor).

In the years that followed, from our very small beginnings we have grown to the company you see before you today. Along the way we have produced at least two full scale productions each year which has given the young members of our company a chance to learn skills, gain confidence and experience that has often lead on to bigger and better things. However, we are just as proud of the shy youngster who gains the courage to be 'a star' on stage.

The Unknown Theatre Company believes that everyone should have equal access to unique opportunities and not just the case of 'if you have the money, you have the talent'. Accordingly we strive to provide affordable, exciting learning experiences for our young people. We are a voluntary organisation and we all help to raise the funds needed for our innovative projects.

To this end, in addition to our regular productions, we have undertaken many extraordinary projects in the last few years - hosted a Japanese Exchange Group, performed at the Kawaguchi International Festival in Japan by invitation of the mayor of Kawaguchi, attended and performed at the 'Fame' school in New York, represented the UK at the World Festival of Theatre in Monaco (a four yearly event under the patronage of the Monaco Royal Family), appeared at the St Avertin Drama Festival, commissioned three musicals, taken three productions to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival where we received 4 star reviews and closer to home entered the Glamorgan Drama League One Act Festival. We have also won numerous awards including several from the Glamorgan Drama League 'Glamantics', entered choir of the year and entertained at many old people's homes and charity concerts.

Keep up to date with how we're doing at

www.unknowntheatre.co.uk

The members of
The Unknown Theatre Company
would like to thank

Demiro's

For letting us borrow their grass umbrella and
stand. Look out for it in the show!

Thank you!!

Why not have a post show supper?



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