



NAPIER OPERATIC SOCIETY

# Hans Christian Andersen

SOUVENIR PROGRAMME



## **NAPIER OPERATIC SOCIETY**

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## **WELCOME**

The Napier Operatic Society welcomes all patrons to "Hans Christian Andersen". It is our aim at all times to provide an outlet for the talents of our members of all ages, and this show has enabled many young people to participate.

The Society is always keen to encourage new members, and to this end we try to provide a variety of shows which will appeal to all tastes. This fine example of family entertainment will be followed in November by an "Old Time Music Hall" and in May next year by "Hair".

We invite you to sit back and enjoy your evening.

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THE  
NAPIER OPERATIC SOCIETY  
PROUDLY PRESENTS

# Hans Christian Andersen



*Stepping free, a paper cutting made by Andersen — with a visage like his own — depicts the stock theatrical character, Pierrot.*

**MUNICIPAL THEATRE, NAPIER**  
**August 29th - September 5th, 1981**

**Directed by LAURIE SWINDELL**  
**Musical Direction by ERIC THORPE & ALAN THORPE**  
**Choreography by ANNE BRADLEY**  
**Scenery, Costumes and Properties made by AUCKLAND  
OPERATIC SOCIETY & NAPIER OPERATIC SOCIETY**

**Music and Lyrics by FRANK LOESSER**  
**New Book by JOHN FEARNLEY, BEVERLEY CROSS & TOMMY STEELE**

**Based upon the Motion Picture "Hans Christian Andersen", by  
SAMUEL GOLDWYN PRODUCTIONS. Arranged and  
Orchestrated by DON WALKER.**

"Hans Christian Andersen" is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International, 119 West 57th Street, New York and by arrangement with Chappell & Co. (NZ) Ltd.

# Hans Christian Andersen

## THE STORY . . .

Hans Christian Andersen is a cobbler in the small Danish town of Odense. His great love is to tell stories and the local children would much rather listen to him than go to school. Eventually the school master gives the town an ultimatum. "Either he leaves or I do."

Hans and his apprentice, Peter, reluctantly leave Odense to try their luck in the big city of Copenhagen.

There Hans meets and falls hopelessly in love with Madame Doro, Prima Ballerina of the Royal Danish Ballet, little knowing she is happily married.

He writes several new stories, one of which "The Ugly Duckling" encourages a small boy whose father is editor of a newspaper. The newspaper agrees to publish several stories and Hans is on the road to fame.

Meanwhile, Hans pledges his love to Madame Doro with dreams and fantasies in which she returns his feelings and he writes a special story for her which becomes the "Little Mermaid" ballet.

Eventually he accepts the fact that she can never love him and he returns to Odense, a now famous author.



**From Left:** School Master — Peter Crawshaw, Burgomaster — Peter de Garis, Council Man — George Janes, Peter — Craig Mackay, Hans — David Gardiner.

In 1952, that most famous of Hollywood producers commissioned Frank Loesser to write the music for a new movie "Hans Christian Andersen" lightly based on the life of the famous story teller.

The role of Hans was played by one of Hollywood's most brilliant comedians, Danny Kaye, and the combination of these talents resulted in a film that has become a classic in its own right. Such songs as *Wonderful Copenhagen*, *Inchworm*, *Anywhere I Wander* are just a few of the enchanting melodies from Loesser's score.

The musical you see tonight is the adaptation of this ever-popular movie and if some liberties have been taken with the facts we are sure Mr Andersen would have excused them. "Life", he wrote, "is the most wonderful fairy story of all".



Laurie Swindell, our Show Director, is widely experienced in directing Musicals and Dramas throughout Hawke's Bay — remember her "My Fair Lady" and "The Great Waltz". She heads a strong team — seen here are her Stage Manager Barrie Browne (extreme right), Wardrobe Mistress Roz Van de Ven and Peter Eade her Lighting Designer.



Eric Thorpe (at piano) and his son Alan are directing the music between them. While Eric plays the piano tonight, it is one of the few occasions that Alan can hold the big stick over his father. The choreographer of our team is Anne Bradley, who although new to the Society, has been teaching dancing in Napier for 10 years. The Society is indeed fortunate to have such an experienced team.

# SCENES AND MUSICAL NUMBERS

## OVERTURE

### ACT I

#### SCENE 1: Odense, Denmark — the 1830's

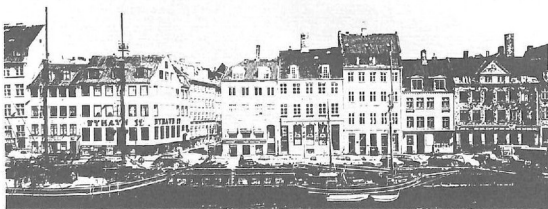
- "I'm Hans Christian Andersen" ..... Hans and Children and Chorus  
"Thumbelina" ..... Hans and Children  
"Inchworm" ..... Hans, Peter and Children

#### SCENE 2: On the Road to Copenhagen

- "I'm Hans Christian Andersen"  
(Reprise) ..... Hans

#### SCENE 3: Copenhagen, The Market- place — morning

- "I'm Hans Christian Andersen" (Tag) ... Hans  
"Wonderful, Wonderful Copenhagen" Hans, Children and Chorus



#### SCENE 4: Backstage, The Danish Royal

##### Ballet's Theatre

- Ballet Rehearsal — 1st Variation  
                          — 2nd Variation  
                          — 3rd Variation

- "No Two People" ..... Neils  
"Anywhere I Wander (1st Fantasy) ... Hans, Doro and Offstage Chorus

#### SCENE 5: Copenhagen, The Market- place

- ..... Hans, Peter and Townsfolk

**ACT II**

**SCENE 1: Copenhagen, The Marketplace**

— 12 weeks later

**"Wonderful, Wonderful, Copenhagen"**

(Reprise) .....

**"The Ugly Duckling"** .....

**Hans, Children and Townsfolk**  
**Hans**

*Man and swan become one in the enchanted world of Hans Christian Andersen. His unlikely rise from back-street poverty to universal fame is mirrored in his immortal story "The Ugly Duckling". "It doesn't matter about being born in a duckyard," he wrote, "as long as you are hatched from a swan's egg."*



**"No Two People" (2nd Fantasy)** .....

**"Tick-Tock"** .....

**Hans, Doro and Offstage Chorus**  
**Hans, Peter and Townsfolk**



*Andersen's "Little Mermaid", tells the tale of the delicate sea creature's quest to forsake the world of the "sea people" for a chance to win a human soul. Her famous image, cast in bronze, haunts the Copenhagen waterfront.*

**SCENE 2: On The Way To The Theatre**

**"Anywhere I Wander" (Reprise)** .....

**Hans**

**SCENE 3: On Stage At The Theatre**

**"Little Mermaid" Ballet (i) Mermaid's**

**Garden** .....

narrated by Hans

**"Little Mermaid" Ballet (ii) The Shore**

**and The Shipwreck** .....

narrated by Hans

**"Little Mermaid" Ballet (iii) Journey To**

**The Sea Witch** .....

narrated by Hans

**"Little Mermaid" Ballet (iv) Sea Witch's**

**Grotto** .....

narrated by Sea Witch

**"Little Mermaid" Ballet (v) Painful**

**Journey To Shore** .....

narrated by Sea Witch

**"Little Mermaid" Ballet (vi) Ballroom,**

**Royal Palace** .....

narrated by Hans

**"Little Mermaid" Ballet (vii) The Tragic**

**Farewell** .....

narrated by Hans

**SCENE 4: Odense**

**"The King's New Clothes"** .....

**"Finale" — "Anywhere I Wander"** ...

**Hans, Children and Chorus**  
**Company**

## THE CAST



### **DAVID GARDINER as Hans Christian Andersen**

This is David's third show for the Society having performed last year in "Jesus Christ Superstar" as one of the Apostles, and then as a duettist and member of the chorus in "Old Time Music Hall". Already this year he has taken a leading role in the successful play, "Prisoners of Mother England" — also directed by Laurie Swindell. David plays the piano and classical guitar and loves music ranging from Baroque to Rock.



### **KAREN SHAND as Madame Doro**

Karen, a mother of four children, has been teaching dancing in Napier for 15 years. She began dancing herself at the age of five and by 18 had performed in Invercargill Operatic Society's "South Pacific", "Charlie's Aunt" and others. This is her first major role. We wish her well and hope she will be back with us again in another show.



### **JOHN WILLIAMS as Niels**

John is no stranger to the stage. When he was 16 he played the leading role in "The Boy Friend" for Waipawa Musical & Dramatic Society. This was followed by roles in "Calamity Jane", "Can Can", "White Horse Inn" and "Sweet Charity". John has played comedy roles in the past, but in this show he has a serious part which requires him to sing and dance. He is an accomplished musician having been in dance bands for the past 20 years playing trumpet and bass guitar.



### **KRAIG MACKAY as Peter**

Kraig is twelve and this is his first major role on stage. However, he has performed in speech and singing competitions since he was five. He also loves playing the piano and drums, while his ambition is to be a chef in the navy. We wish Peter good luck and feel sure this is only the beginning of a bright future on the stage.



### **LEX BARKER as Otto/Sea Witch/Capt Truls/ Professor Pfeifer**

Lex is a true character performer who has the rare knack of being able to change personality with convincing ease. He has taken numerous leading roles for this Society and others ranging from "Man of La Mancha" through "Pirates of Penzance" to "Old Time Music Hall" — he is our local Peter Sellers. His stage experience is a great boost to this young cast and his example will be a source of inspiration to them.





**Ballet:**

Hayley Dowdell  
Rachel Slater  
Nicole Cunliff  
Deborah Otter  
Cheryl Rigby  
Sonja Christensen  
Cheridah Sewell  
Kerrin Smith  
Rewa Lawson  
Suzanne Jones  
Robyn McKay  
Karen Kerr  
Linda Jones  
Rochelle Spence  
Judy Gardiner  
Rayna Creagh  
Heather Wombwell  
Sarah Twyford  
Allan Howes  
Lyndon Smith



**Adult Chorus** (not in photo order): Erena Grehan, Fay Fraser, Anne Thew, Liz Alexander, Lynette Quinn, Mark Baker, Alan Sanders, Ian Johnson, Roy Head, Douglas Peters, Carl Winter, Tony Smith, Bernard Thomas, Catherine Barker, Sonia Barnes, Karen Briggs, Kerry Plested, Jacqui Cook, Fiona Cox.



**Children's Chorus** (not in photo order): Donna-Maree Briggs, Debbie Charteris, Suzanne Stocker, Catherine McKay, Annika Bennett, Jeanette Paine, Jane Heather, Claire Heather, Rachel Bates, Amelia Bates, Penny Uren, Suzanne Jones, Hamish Thomson, Troy Briggs, Michael Wiig, Philip Wiig, Kraig MacKay, Fraser Marett, Michael Charteris, Heidi Kristenson, Heidi Simmonds.

## Behind the Scenes

*Stage Manager:* Barrie Browne  
*Asst. Stage Manager:* Malcolm Kenah  
*Lighting Designer:* Peter Eade  
*Wardrobe Mistress:* Roz Van de Ven  
*Properties Master:* Ian Reid  
*Mechanist:* Alan Jones  
*Head Flyman:* Bill Shirras  
*Chief of Make-up:* Dawn McCowatt  
*House Manager:* Bill Beckett  
*Production Secretary:* Lynda Stevens  
*Prompt:* Radne Ardem  
*Publicity:* Fred Twyford  
*Programme:* Fred Twyford  
*Call Steward:* Doug Ramsay

### WARDROBE TEAM & DRESSERS

Roz Van de Ven  
June Gardiner  
Caron Crabtree  
Shelley Andrews  
Jean Allen  
Phyl Harrison  
Cail Klaus  
Karen Shand  
Margaret Baker  
Pam Graham  
Marie Northe  
Sue Elmore  
Jenny Cotterill  
Mary Baikie  
Beverley Carroll  
Rennee Ashby  
Mary Stafford  
Lois Reefman  
Lee Jones  
Colleen Spence  
Norma Smith

### LIGHTING TECHNICIANS

Dennis Newport  
Mark Hammer  
Robert Lockyer  
Gillian Sweeney  
Mike McConnell  
Neil Page  
Robin Johnson

### STAGE CREW

Stephen Harris  
Reg Whitlock  
David Fright  
Brent Kerr  
Boyd Taylor  
Malcolm Smith  
Paula Jepson  
Craig Wallace  
Greg McAlister  
Douglas Peters  
Michael Smith  
Don Hurley

### TECHNICAL LIGHTING ADVISOR

Gwyn Ace

### SOUND BY PAR Sound

### MAKE-UP TEAM

Dawn McCowatt  
Minnie Wright  
and helpers

### PROPERTIES TEAM

Ian Reid  
Lynda Stevens  
Joy Rhodes  
Barbara Brown  
Digby Edgecombe  
Tania Hutchirson

### FRONT OF HOUSE

Bill Beckett  
Fred Twyford

### SUPPER LADIES

Maureen Northe  
Marie Northe  
Caron Crabtree  
Bromwyn Reed  
Shirley Wilson  
Norma Smith  
Avis Blackburn  
Linda Osgood

### FLY CREW

Bill Shirras  
David Tutty  
Peter Shepherd  
John Briggs  
Lindsay Craig  
Graeme Flett  
Peter Cook  
Vern Crabtree  
Mike Stewart

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Williams & Kettle Ltd.  
S. W. Jones Carriers Ltd.  
Coronation St. Neighbours  
Palmerston North Operatic Society  
Cedric Wright  
Hawkes Bay Museum  
James White & Associates Ltd.  
Bay City Radio  
DB Onekawa  
Gavin Long  
Quality Bakers, Napier

The Committee thanks the many friends and members of the Society who have helped in this Production in any way.


### CENTENARY

The Napier Operatic Society is approaching its centenary sometime in the 1980s. We are busy researching the actual year of our birth, so if anyone has any old programmes or other material that could help us, we would be grateful of any assistance you could give.



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