



Pirate Productions Asbl

presents

**STEPPING
OUT...**

by

Richard Harris

Directed

by

Karim Hyatt

Choreography

by

Dominique Vitali

When asked what's actually involved in directing, I've had trouble defining it. My answers have therefore never been quite honest or accurate. In the end, a director is not a manager, organiser, writer and general dogsbody, though there are elements of all of these in the job. No, the director is merely a focal point, a person who can stand there and answer detailed questions on the script, costumes, props, lights, sound, set, makeup, hair, transport, food, parties, and the state of the geopolitical situation in Western Sahara.

So why do it?

First, one falls in love with the script. There's no point else, as Vera would say. In some scripts, characters jump out at you. There is instant visualisation. Then there's the rare script that also has that something special that takes your breath away and you know that you've just got to direct it.

The next step is finding talented people whose sole ambition is to share the responsibility with you. Theatre is one of the only art forms which requires a team to create. The team is vital if a project of this magnitude is to succeed. In this case, I needed a first class choreographer and stage manager. Thankfully, both Dominique and Chris agreed and so it was time to move to the next step in the process.

This step involved obtaining the terminally insane people who would work for 4 months without a guarantee of a part in the play. I think we knew we were onto something special when nearly 80 people turned up over 2 days. Of those, 26 were chosen to learn the tap routines. The commitment shown by those 26 (see cast list) was incredible and somewhat humbling. Sometime in the future, I would like to have the opportunity to work with all of them, for I know that they not only have the talent, but the willpower to see it through.

In this instance, however, the hard part was getting rid of most of them. So we ended up with the final 10 who you will see tonight. But, as you well know, many more people have put in time, effort and talent. Although you may not consciously notice all the details of their work, the total effect is important. This is how the script becomes a play, a performance – an experience.

In the end, that is what directing is about. Making sure each person's talent is incorporated in such a way as to create an experience for an audience to enjoy. No more. No less.

Karim Hyatt

Chapter 1

The all-singing, all-dancing bookshop -



- it's only a step away!

42 RUE ASTRID, L-1143 BELAIR

TEL: 44 07 09 FAX: 44 06 92

E-MAIL: BOOKS@CHAPTER1.LU

WEB: WWW.CHAPTER1.



'Stepping out'

Dancing school Michèle Ensch (dipl. ISTD, London)

- **BALLROOM**
 - **LATIN-AMERICAN**
 - **SALSA - SPECIAL**
 - **TANGO ARGENTINO**
 - **VIDEOCLIP DANCING**
- etc.**

Courses for students and adults

Levels: beginner, intermediate and advanced

'Thé dansant's and workshops

Centre de danse "Champs Elysées"

22, rue de Hollerich / L-1740 Luxembourg

Tél. : 26481063 / 26310530

Fax : 31 21 28

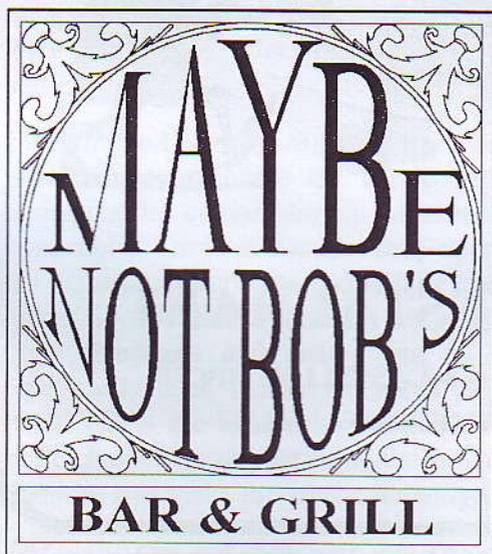
www.steppingout.lu

Formed in 1979 Pirate Productions asbl is Luxembourg's English-Speaking musical theatre group. Initially starting with classic Gilbert & Sullivan operetta, the repertoire has expanded over the years to include big West End or Broadway style productions, pantomime and a host of reviews. In fact these days anything could be happening, which is why we are proud to bring you our production of Stepping Out, ably directed and choreographed by Karim Hyatt and Dominique Vitali.

In recent years we have tried to open up the possibilities for a wider range of shows, presenting smaller scale "studio" musical theatre and in this case a play that would stand as a "straight" production but for the focus on dance.

We are always looking for new members to add to the more than 120 singers, dancers, actors, back-stage crew, production team and sound and lighting crews that now make up the club. So if you have enjoyed tonight's production please consider leaving your contact details at the entry desk – we can just keep you informed or if you are interested in joining in the fun, sign up to our newsletter (or visit www.pirates.lu). There's plenty more stuff in the pipeline.

Brian Parker
Chairman – Pirate Productions asbl



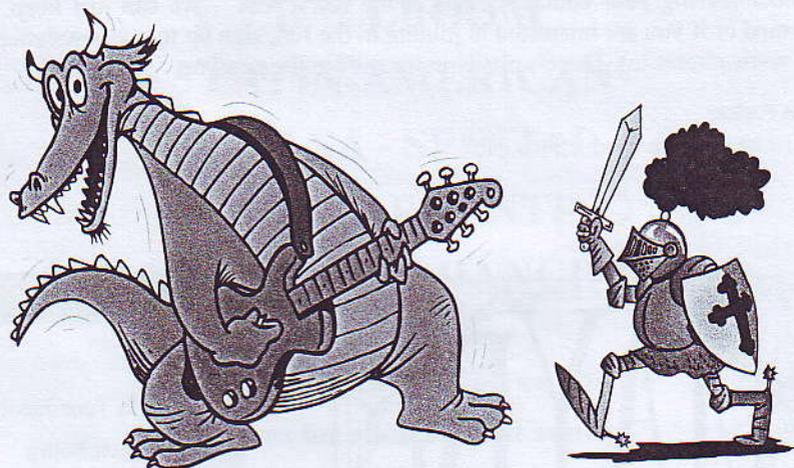
Spécialités Américaines

107, Rue de la Tour Jacob
L-1831 Luxembourg

Kitchen opening hours:
12h00-14h00 & 19h00-23h00
every day apart from Monday,
when we all stay at home !!

TEL: 42 18 69

The George And Dragon



PUB & RESTAURANT

217, rue Albert Unden • L-2552 LUXEMBOURG

Tel. 47 41 86

STEPPING OUT

<u>Act I</u>	<u>Act II</u>
Scene 1 - Thursday Evening	Scene 1 - A week later
Scene 2 - A month later	Scene 2 - 2 weeks later
Scene 3 - A month later	Scene 3 - 2 weeks later
Scene 4 - A month later	Scene 4 - 3 weeks later
	Scene 5 - 3 weeks later

“Stepping Out” by Richard Harris was written in 1985 and won The London Standard’s Best Comedy award in 1986. Also written as a musical and adapted for the screen with Liza Minelli as Mavis and Julie Walters playing Vera, it is surprising that there has not been more written about either play or author.

The story is about 7 women and 1 man who meet in a local parish hall to learn how to dance. Taught by Mavis, an ex-professional dancer, and accompanied by a grim pianist called Mrs. Fraser, the 8 dancers try to escape their everyday lives, even if it is only for a little while. All goes well until Mavis offers them a chance to perform in front of a real audience.

Like all good comedy, this play has a bite to it. Harris has successfully been able to combine the comic with the tragic, some lines even managing this combination in the same sentence! All the characters are believable. They are not fake soap opera figurines - they’re real and for the duration of the show you will be transported into their very ordinary North London world of which we only see a very small part. Because both characters and setting are so familiar, there is a sense of community even before we come to know each individual in more detail. It is the hidden ‘unfamiliar’ aspects that slowly emerge from each character, coupled with the intensely easy-to-relate-to ‘familiar’ features, that make this play eminently watch-able and enjoyable.

The entire cast and crew wish you a wonderful evening.



Established since 1976

Restaurant
Pizzeria - Hôtel

Bella Napoli

Téléphones :

49 33 67 (grande salle)

48 46 29 (petite salle - hôtel)

Fax : 49 33 54

4, rue de Strasbourg

L-2560 LUXEMBOURG

Green Heart Toastmasters, Luxembourg



Do you wish to improve your *communication skills*?... to *express yourself more clearly* at work and at home?... to *speak more confidently* in public? ...to develop *impromptu speaking skills*?

If you answer '*I do*' to these questions Toastmasters can help! Toastmasters is an organization that provides a training programme in communication and public speaking in a supportive and friendly environment.

Green Heart Toastmasters Luxembourg meet every *first and third Monday* of the month in the *Pizza Hut (upstairs), Route d'Arlon at 19.30*. Exceptionally in February the meetings will be *February 3rd* and after that *February 17th*. You are always welcome to come as a guest and observe.

For more information contact Margaret on (352) 458518 or via email at Margaret.Murphy@education.lu.



Perfect Nail Studio
"The beauty of acrylic nails"

Hirondelle S.a.r.l.

Tel: 48 12 10

Pirate Productions present

STEPPING OUT...

Directed by Karim Hyatt

Choreographed by Dominique Vitali

Original Script by Richard Harris

Cast

Allison Kingsbury.....*Mavis*

Amanda Hyatt.....*Vera*

Ciara Barker.....*Andy*

Clare Abbott.....*Sylvia*

David Mittel.....*Geoffrey*

Lindsay Crouch.....*Dorothy*

Liz Turner.....*Mrs. Fraser*

Maiken Thamdrup.....*Lynne*

Valerie Scott.....*Maxine*

Zeta Field.....*Rose*

Crew

Stage Manager.....Chris Wilson

Asst. Stage Mgr.....Neil Johnson

Producer.....Steve Preston, Valerie Scott

Set.....Matthew Kahn, Jack Allen, Damian Clintworth, Tomas Bremen,
Les Wilson, the Kahn-Cleland family

Props.....Angela Milne, Simon Critchlow

Lighting.....John Brigg, Anthony McCarthy

Sound.....Parminder Plahe, Tomas Bremen

Makeup.....Jane Philpott, Judy Milne

Hair.....Tekla Skowronski

Costumes.....Aleksandra Valozik, Vera Nagibina, Elena Nagibina-Kavschirina

Box Office / FoH.....Janice Allgrove and the Front of House team

Publicity.....Barbara Thompson

Poster / Programme...Liz Turner, Steve Preston



Allison Kingsbury - Mavis

After training as a dancer, Allison spent a number of years treading the boards in various shows ranging from musical, pantomime, jazz dance, drama and UK No.1 tours.

Her high (and low) points include parts in Berkoff's "*Decadence*", Mamet's "*Sexual Perversity in Chicago*", Brenton's "*Bloody Poetry*", a stint at being one of Russ Abbots 'leggy lovelies', Witch of the East, Genie of the Lamp and a Californian sun-dried raisin (don't ask!).

Having retired from the profession almost fourteen years ago, it was something of a shock to her body to have to start moving it about again, but she is thoroughly enjoying her first Pirates production.



Amanda Hyatt - Vera

Amanda's first ever appearance on stage was as a chorus member for Pirate Productions' pantomime "*Jack and the Beanstalk*" in 1989.

Since then she has been seen in various plays and musicals for Pirates, New World Theatre Club and Round Tower Players, her favourite memories being as 'Rita' in *Educating Rita* and 'Gertie' in *Oklahoma*.

Amanda performs regularly with 'The Accidentals', but this will be her first attempt at some form of dancing!!!

Tap, I think they call it! Can't be all bad – six months of rehearsal (that's got to be a record) and she's still enjoying every minute, and she hopes you do, too.



Ciara Barker - Andy

Ciara began her life on stage at the age of 5 as a 'pixie' in a crêpe paper skirt, but was mortified by her grandmother standing up in the audience and waving to her. This so traumatised her, it was many years before she was tempted to repeat the experience. She managed to quell her theatrical terror, however, and has been an enthusiastic member of Pirates since her arrival in Luxembourg 15 years ago.

Although she has taken part in many musical shows over the years, she has never been tempted to dance on stage before - and with good reason, as anyone who has seen her on the dance floor will testify. Struck dumb with terror when chosen for the final cast, she has had many a colourful nightmare about it since then. Among her friends, Ciara is known for appearing on stage in ever-more revealing costumes. Thankfully this play sees her somewhat more modestly attired.



Clare Abbott - Sylvia

Clare is from the West Highlands of Scotland and has lived in Luxembourg for three years.

She was last seen on stage as a very young Highland dancer and a (for brief spell) as a mouse in "*The Nutcracker*" - neither of which prepared her for the role of Sylvia.



David Mittel - Geoffrey

David has loved theatre both in his native New York City and in the U.K. where he lived for five years. His experience, however, was confined to the other side of the footlights.

It has taken a mere fourteen years of living in Luxembourg for him to have plucked up the gumption to join 'Pirates'.

He brings to the stage a background in literature that he studied in the USA and the UK in addition to the two left feet that he was born with.



Lindsay Crouch - Dorothy

Shortly after moving to Luxembourg at the beginning of the year, Lindsay heard about the audition for this show.

Having recently stopped work in General Practice in the UK and her three children happily settled at St. George's School, it seemed a great opportunity to try and get involved once more in dancing and acting, both of which she had enjoyed in her childhood and early teens.

She has thoroughly enjoyed the experience and is very pleased to have had the opportunity to pick up on something she gave up many years ago. She is, however, glad that her old ballet teacher will not be around to see her perform ballet steps as Dorothy!



Liz Turner - Mrs. Fraser

Liz Turner has been playing the part of the cantankerous pianist for Pirates' for rehearsals and performances of *"Fiddler on the Roof"*, *"Old Time Music Hall"*, *"The Grand Old Duke of York"*, *"Showbitz"*, *"Curtain Call"*, *"Me and My Girl"*, *"Company"*, and *"Cinderella"*.

She is pleased to have the chance to show off her grumpiness on the stage this time.



Maiken Thamdrup - Lynne

Maiken is from Esbjerg on the west coast of Denmark and followed the love of her life to Luxembourg in January 2002.

Having once played Eliza Doolittle in a production of *"My Fair Lady"*, her many talents now include an ability to say 'the rain in Spain falls mainly on the plain' in Danish.



Valerie Scott - Maxine

Valerie has appeared in all shows since she made her debut with Pirates' in 1998 as the wicked witch in *"The Grand Old Duke of York"*. Some of the time she planned to be in a show, but at other times she just found herself drafted - as was the case in *"Cinderella"* last January when she played the evil Stepmother as well as being the producer!

Valerie was delighted to be selected as part of the 'troupe' to learn to tap dance for *"Stepping Out"*, as tap dancing has been on her wish list for a number of years and then to become a member of the final cast, where the dancing will be on public display, is indeed a (nerve racking) challenge!

Her nomadic lifestyle brought her to Luxembourg 12 years ago and she finds the place still has plenty to offer!



Zeta Field - Rose

Zeta Field is from London via Barbados and Nevis, and has lived and worked in Luxembourg for four years.

Before being plucked from obscurity to play the part of Rose in "*Stepping Out*", her acting and stage experience consisted of providing the voice for a Jamaican crocodile in a cartoon and hoofing it up for 'Steam Heat' as part of the "*Cabaret Dinner*".

She combines her acting with her normal work as a translator by dictating in a Trini-Bajan accent.

As befits a tap dancer, she has an inordinate love of footwear.

Though it was not possible for the whole troupe of 26 people to be in this show, Karim and Dominique would like to thank all those who worked so hard and cannot be on stage tonight:

Aris Pofantis, Beverley Atkinson, Blathnaid O'Hannrachain, Carolina Lazo, Danielle Wells, Deirdre Ecock, Emma Farrell, Geoff Stevens, Isabelle Thepin, Janice Allgrove, Jill Griffin, Julia McNulty, Linda Harley, Lynsey Banter, Rachel Parker, Sarah Wilkie, Steve Wilkie and Tina Gibson.

Karim Hyatt - Director



Karim Hyatt is not new to the Luxembourg theatre scene. Making his debut over a decade ago as a Saddam Hussein look-alike (in this case the Wicked Wizard) in "*Hickway Dickway Dock*", he went on to appear as King Rat in "*Dick Whittington*", MacDuff in "*Macbeth*", Tegus in "*A Phoenix too Frequent*" and Bruce in "*Beyond Therapy*".

His directing career was launched with a one-act play "*The Monkey's Paw*", followed rapidly by "*Same Time Next Year*", part of which was subsequently performed at FEATS in Bad Homburg, winning awards for best actress and second best play over all! After co-directing the pantomime "*The Grand Old Duke of York*" with Brian Parker, it was time to return to the stage as the MC in "*Showbitz*". This was followed by appearances as a variety of characters in "*Curtain Call*", Peter in "*Company*", Buttons in "*Cinderella*" and he was recently spotted in some very fetching lederhosen at Pirates' "*Café Theatre*"!! Additionally, he can be seen performing in and around Luxembourg with *The Accidentals*.

When not directing, acting, rehearsing, designing sets, choosing costumes, listing props, trawling the internet for sound effects or re-reading *Stepping Out*, he can be found freelancing as an IT consultant and playing with his 4 fantastic children. How does he do all this? Well, sleep, for the most part, is optional!

Dominique Vitali - Choreographer



Born auspiciously on Friday 13th, joined Pirates in Summer 2002 as choreographer for "Cinderella", "Stepping Out" being his second production for Pirates. "This production has been a real challenge," he says, "making a cast of non- (except 1) dancers look like acceptable tappers in 6 months was quite an experience & they've done great! Not forgetting the other auditionees (26 all told) who have been working their socks off since April!"

Dominique started dancing at the age of nine, while all his friends joined the local football club. A professional career on stage and screen followed and for the last 30 years his feet have 'tripped the light fantastic' using a variety of styles, including Ballet, Modern, Latin and Tap. He retired from his active dancing career with 2 French professional titles in his pocket.

Today he works in public relations, but continues to choreograph (as they say, once a dancer, always a dancer). On the other hand, his childhood pals haven't played football in years....

Chris Wilson - Stage Manager



Chris Wilson is probably best known for her role as manager of Chapter 1, the English bookshop.

Since coming to Luxembourg she has been involved with all three English-language theatre groups as either director or stage-manager.

She has even been persuaded to 'tread the boards' on the odd occasion, most recently in the NWTG production of "Vagina Monologues".

Steve Preston - Producer



Steve is previously best known for his understated (!) portrayal of character roles on-stage (including Lord Mammon in "Oedipus Tyrannus", Pooh-Bah in "The Mikado", Baron Snatcher in "The Grand Old Duke of York" and M. Thénardier in the 'Les Miserables' segment of "Showbitz").

Since returning in 2001 after a few years in Singapore, Steve's theatrical activities have primarily been focussed backstage. Having his directorial debut at the beginning of the year with the hugely successful pantomime "Cinderella", he has also been the producer of "Company", "Cabaret Dinner" and now "Stepping Out".

He hopes to return to treading the boards very soon. He also has an expectation of a return to gainful employ before the decade is out!

Want to study and help your career?

Want to have a top quality education?

Want to study without having to give up your job or leave Luxembourg?

The **OPEN UNIVERSITY** has 30 years experience in offering supported distance learning programmes in a wide range of subjects and qualifications and here in Luxembourg we have over 200 students taking **OPEN UNIVERSITY** courses.

For more information contact: Valerie Scott 26 34 00 72
E-mail: valerie.scott@open.ac.uk Web: www.open.ac.uk

Crafts Unique



Is having its Christmas craft fair at Janice's apartment at 6 rue Adolphe, L-1116 Belair.

It will be from 10am to 10pm (or later) on Thursday 27th November 2003

Please come along and have a glass of mulled wine and a mince pie and peruse our new stock items.

Any questions please call Janice on 021181767. Looking forward to seeing you there.

The English Shop

SERVING LUXEMBOURG FOR 27 YEARS

NEW! NEW! NEW!

*Come and see our New Range of Fresh
Foods collected weekly From the UK*

DUCHY BACON DUCHY SAUSAGES

PORK PIES DIPS SAUCES

FRESH SOUPS

READY MEALS DESSERTS

ORGANIC YOGHURTS SMOOTHIES

THICKIES

*For Your Christmas Fayre, orders are
now being taken*

*16 Ave Victor Hugo, Limpertsberg
Tel: +352 224 925 Fax: +352 471 925*

Membership Form

This form should be completed in the case of new members or in order to amend the details for existing members.

Name :

Address :

Telephone Number (home) :

Telephone Number (work) :

Email Address :

Would you like to receive the Newsletter in electronic format via email?

YES / NO

Do you agree that the above contact details may be included on a contact list, circulated to members on a regular basis ?

YES / NO

Date and Method of payment for first annual subscription :

Subscriptions are due on an annual basis, payable in September each year -please see back page of Newsletter for payment details.

Please return this form in electronic format (N.B. this form is only a guide to what we need to know - you can just put the info in an email) to Simon Critchlow (simoncr@everyday.com).

Pirate Productions would like to thank André, Angela and Nathalie Feltes for their continued support and enthusiasm.

The logo for FOCUS, featuring the word "FOCUS" in a bold, sans-serif font with a curved underline.

FOCUS Internet
62 rue de Mersch
L-8181 KOPSTAL
tel. (+352) 30 51 97
fax (+352) 30 51 88
e-mail : contact@focus.lu
<http://focus.lu>

COMPANY

DOMAINS

HOSTING

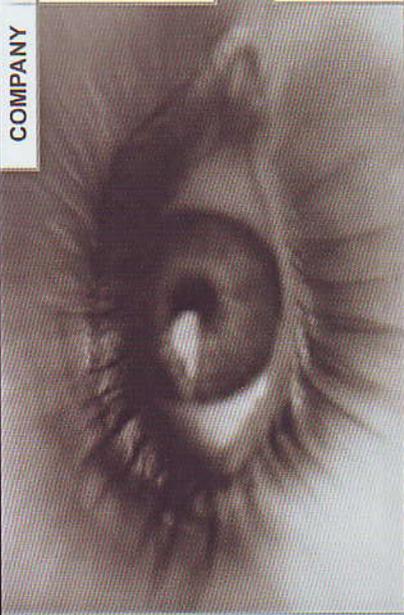
DESIGN

CUSTOM SOLUTIONS

E-COMMERCE

INTERNET

BUSINESS SOLUTIONS



Domains

Name Registration,
Administration,
Management...



Hosting

Hosting for Web Sites or
Applications; Virtual &
Dedicated Servers...



Design

Web Site Design &
Development, Content
Management...



Custom

Database Integration,
Custom Applications,
Data-driven Sites...



E-Commerce

ShopSite & MIVA
solutions; Custom
& Add-on Solutions...



© 2005 MOBILUX



Roaming+ :
Save up to 50%
on your calls while abroad.

Procedure : Dial *111* your international phone number # send. For further information, please contact our helpline on 800 2 4321 or 4321 from your mobile.

TANT DUE LE MONDE VOUS SURPRENDRA...