Pirate Productions Presents
Thirteen
A spooky musical comedy
for all the family
Centre Culturel Hollerich
34 rue Emile Lavandier L-1924 Luxembourg
Thu 25th Fri 26th Sat 27th April at 19:30
Sat 27th & Sun 28th April at 15:00

SAZIO
restaurant & pizzeria
modern italian cuisine

opening early june

7 Bisserweg, 1238
luxembourg, grund
(was bosso)

watch this space.....

SAZIO

A Word from the Director

"Horror is a funny old genre for a musical, you may think. I know I certainly did, before I got to work on this show. There's the well known *Rocky Horror Picture Show*, *Little Shop of Horrors* and, I suppose, *Sweeny Todd* could even be classed as a "horror" musical. But these shows are hugely outnumbered by the romantic, the pastiche .... the Disney.

I suppose that's why I was attracted to this project in the first place; the chance to do something a little bit different. That, and the opportunity to work with a young cast. Having young people on stage is always interesting. It's refreshing to see what they bring to a production, how they look at things from a different perspective.

So, when I sat down to write the script, the horror trope of "the haunted house" seemed a good starting point. I've always liked the kind of scary movie that's set in a remote, isolated location. I particularly like Daphne du Maurier's *Rebecca*, the sense of remoteness in her novel and the film version becomes very unnerving. Hence, *Thirteen* is set in Cornwall, England.

Rather than have Satan as the main evil presence, I chose to go down a more mythological line. I spent a lot of time researching the links between Greek mythology and Cornish folklore. The Greek Gods could be capricious, jealous, vindictive, irrational .... But they were "human" in a sense, and I wanted to bring that over in the script of *Thirteen*.

A big thank you to all the cast and crew involved. It's been challenging at times, but I'm sure the end product is something we can be proud of.

Enjoy the show!"
Neil Johnson

A Word from the Co-Chairs

"We are delighted to present our latest musical production, Thirteen, written and directed by our own Neil Johnson. Neil is no newcomer to writing scripts. Last year, he wrote the script and directed the very successful *Too Darn Hot* which embraced the life and music of Cole Porter. Neil has also directed many great shows including *Oliver!* (2016) and *Young Frankenstein* (2018).

Thirteen is a spooky musical comedy which Neil wrote to include a lot of young people (under 18s) as well as adults and he wanted it to be slightly scary and provide great family entertainment for all.

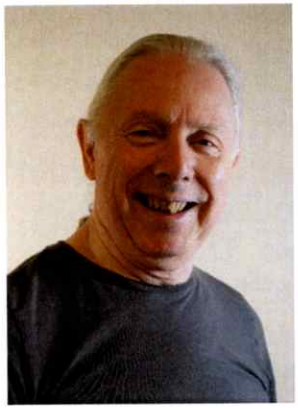
We are happy to be back again at the Centre Culturel in Hollerich and we would like the thank the staff for their good humour, co-operation and support. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank you, the audience, for your continued support of Pirate Productions. Without you we would not exist as it is the money you pay for your tickets that enables us to finance the shows we perform.
Thank you.

It remains for us to say that we hope you are suitably spooked by the show and have a good laugh (in all the right places!) so please sit back and enjoy!"

Valerie Scott and
Philip Dutton

Co-Chairs of
Pirate Productions

A Word from the Musical Director



"Being musical director of a show where there is no band and the singers perform to backing tracks isn't necessarily easier, it is just different. The tracks have to be adjusted or created afresh to suit the play and the singers have to be helped to work with an inflexible backing.
However, I did manage to find some time to build the set as well, so I must have won some time from somewhere.
This has been a fun show to work on and Neil has introduced me to lots of great pop music that I didn't know before."

A Word from the Choreographer

"Most choreographers were dancers at some point, and some dancers are choreographers. I have loved dancing for a while, and am just recently branching out into choreography, dabbling in the area in a couple of previous Pirate's shows.

One of the biggest challenges with choreography for a musical is organizing the movement on stage without getting the singers out of breath, since dancing alone and dancing while singing are two quite different things. When considering also that only a few cast members have a long history of dancing, it's the choreographer's job to make sure that they can do the moves and enjoy the process.

I am happy that Neil has given me this opportunity and I hope that the rest of the cast will look back on these moments fondly."

Synopsis

Act I

A single mother, Carine, and her three children move from London to the Cornish coast into an old house in the country along with their housekeeper, Liliya. They're greeted by the lovely folk of the town including Marrak the groundkeeper, Mrs. Pascoe their neighbor, and Mrs. Penhaligan, the President of the local Penwith Women's Institute. As they get settled into their new home, odd things begin to happen, starting with the grandfather clock that doesn't stop at twelve chimes on the stroke of midnight. Unbeknownst to the family, some of these friendly townspeople have other plans up their sleeves that start to come together during a night to (not) remember at the bar.

Act II

An unexpected romance begins to blossom between Carine and the local bartender, Cesare, although the children don't seem so enthusiastic about it, worried that their mom is moving on too fast, and with a much younger man. However, things soon go south as Persephone meets the lord of the underworld, the children get called to the principle's office, and Cesare vanishes from the town. All seems lost in this new place as the annual Easter celebration approaches, possibly their last chance to help this town.

Featuring songs from Stevie Wonder, Blondie, The White Stripes, and many more, *Thirteen* has a little something for everyone to enjoy.

Cast List

Ms. Babbage	Anne Louise Littlejohn
Ms. Athena Trelawny	Athena Teligadas
Ariadne Penhaligan	Beverley Atkinson
Cassie	Carlotta Broom
Ben	Charlie Donnell
Schoolkid	Clément Feugier Camisuli
Tarquin	David Puc
Hades	Florin Purice
Cesare	Giacomo Mureddu
Schoolkid	Giorgio Palmisano
Persephone	Heaven Thimmesch
Schoolkid	Jakob Puc
Jasmine	Karolina Lazarus Yazbeck
Julia	Katy Frank
Mom	Maiken Thamdrup
Schoolkid	María Willms Mercado
Acolyte	Marina Tomasic
Jennie	Marta Humeniuk
Fraulein Bögen	Nicole Steffen
Hector	Oscar Roe
Liliya	Regina Chumakova
Schoolkid	Roisin Shirley
Marrak	Simon Taylor-Kielty
Ms. Penelope Penrose	Soumaya Naouar
Trevelyan	Stephen Wilkie
The White Lady	Tara Klassen
Jo	Vishana Georgieva
Mrs. Pascoe	Zoe Amador Martinez

Act 1

Scene 1 - Exterior of House

Superstition - Stevie Wonder

Scene 2 - Kitchen

Ghost Town - The Specials

Scene 3 - Bedrooms

Pretty Baby - Blondie

Scene 4 - School Playground

Psycho Killer - Talking Heads

Scene 5 - Penhaligan's Cellar

Seven Nation Army - The White Stripes

Scene 6 - Living Room

Scene 7 - Kitchen / Bedrooms

Pretty Baby (reprise) - Blondie

Lullaby - The Cure

Scene 8 - Kitchen

Scene 9 - Wine Bar

Heads Will Roll - Yeah Yeah Yeahs

Act 2

Scene 1 - Kitchen

Scene 2 - Outdoors on a cliff-top

Love Again - Dua Lipa

Scene 3a - Kitchen / Cassie's Bedroom

We Belong - Pat Benatar

Scene 3b - Percie's Bedroom

Confide in Me - Kylie Minogue

Scene 4 - School Playground

One Way or Another - Blondie

Scene 5a - Kitchen

Insomnia - The White Stripes

Scene 5b - Percie's Bedroom

Love Song for a Vampire - Annie Lennox

Scene 6 - Penhaligan's Cellar

Scene 7 - Kitchen

Hazy Shade of Winter - The Bangles

Finale - *Monster Mash* - Bobby Picket

Meet The Cast

Maiken has been a member of Pirate's since 2003, but this show is her first meeting with the thriller genre. It has been fun and challenging to make the character come alive. It is her hope that you will enjoy the show!

"I was once described in a review of a Pirates show as "convincingly dislikable", which might explain me being given the role of Ariadne Penhaligan. Apologies to any audience members from the West Country for the attempted Cornish accent!" ~Beverley Atkinson

Zoe has been involved in musical theatre for some time, including Pirates' *Too Darn Hot*. In *Thirteen* she plays the single mum of a teenager (which could not be further from the truth). She hopes you will enjoy the show!

"I've been a nurse and retail assistant, but mostly an illustrator of children's books. I spent over thirty years acting on the amateur stage as a killer, a useless crook, several doctors, and in various farces and comedies. More recently, with Pirates I've been in *Scrooge* and *Young Frankenstein*". ~Simon Taylor-Kielty

"I have loved acting since childhood and am grateful that Pirates production gives the opportunity for amateurs to feel like real actors. It's my third show and second with Neil as director. I enjoyed the process and hope you will like the result." ~Regina Chumakova

Giacomo, born in Sardinia, Italy. I am very happy to be part of this group for my first theatre experience with Pirates! While balancing my working career in Luxembourg, I find joy and inspiration in playing music and in acting performances.

"This year marks 20 years that I have been a member of Pirates. I have always had lots of fun singing, dancing, and being someone else on the stage, while socialising with other cast members. For this show I have also choreographed a couple of dancing numbers. I hope that you will have great time." ~Marina Tomasic

Nicole has been with Pirates since 2011, singing in *Wine and Folk* and playing in *Aladdin* in 2012. She was part of the Members of the Board and dancing in Seasons of Love in 2014.

Athena has been an active member of Pirate Productions for over 20 years and has enjoyed participating in various shows, both onstage and off, throughout the years. After a 4-year absence, she is happy to be back with this fun group for a "bewitching" adventure.

"I was delighted to be cast in *Thirteen*. This is my 3rd show with Pirates and I've enjoyed it so much. Neil is an amazing director and I've immensely enjoyed watching the dedication and talent of everyone involved, especially the kids." ~Anne Louise Littlejohn

Steve has been helping to fill up the stage in productions for Pirates and New World for longer than audiences care to remember. Here he's playing a headmaster who may have missed his vocation.

Tara has enjoyed being part of many Pirates shows in the nearly 13 years she has lived in Luxembourg. She was pregnant during the first show and now her son has gone from backstage to performing on stage for Thirteen!

"My name is Carlotta, I am 11 years old and attend the S1 class at the EU School in Mamer. I like dancing, karate and playing my harp and this is my first time in a theatre production." ~Carlotta Broom

Charlie was practically raised on film sets and in theaters, as his mother worked for years in the industry. He sings in choirs, plays piano, and has performed in numerous films. This is his first show acting for Pirates!

Clement is 13 years old and started acting in musicals at the age of 7 with Doha Players in Qatar. He took dance classes at the conservatoire for 3 years. He is now part of NWTC drama club and takes percussion and electric guitar lessons.

"Inspired by my older siblings, I've loved acting. I also play various instruments and sing in the youth choir. When I don't do music, I play basketball. This is my first musical with Pirates, and I have a feeling that it won't be the last." ~David Puc

"My name is Heaven Thimmesch and I like to draw, sleep, dance and read in my spare time. I enjoy working with Pirates and getting to be part of something I love to do. I'm looking forward to playing in other musicals in the future!" ~Heaven Thimmesch

"Since I was little, I was making movies and acting for my parents and friends. I'm passionate about dancing and performing on stage. I have been acting in school shows and at home, but this is the perfect way to show my talents in *Thirteen*!" ~Jakob Puc

"With Pirates I have acted in *Melusina*. The Arts is one of my joys, recently played to role of Lady MacBeth. I enjoy acting because you can be anyone on stage and tell a story in exciting ways. I hope you enjoy."

~Katy Frank

"The moment the lights turned on, I fell in love with theatre. When I was small, me and my family went to see *Oliver Twist*. After that show, I knew that I wanted to perform on stage." ~María Willms Mercado

Oscar was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, and raised in Essex, Manchester and Luxembourg by a pair of Yorkshire folk. His passions are acting, singing, skiing and football. He has the cutest Russian teddy bear dog named Lolita.

Roisin is British and has lived in Luxembourg since 2020. She has a vivid imagination and enjoys telling, writing and reading stories as well as acting and singing. She is excited to be part of this production!

"Ever since I was in my school's play in 5th grade, *Rockbottom*, I've had a passion for acting. In 2019 I was in *Melusina the Pantomime* with Pirate Productions and absolutely loved it. I'm thrilled to have the opportunity of being in another show with the Pirates." ~Vishana Georgieva

"I'm Karolina and I go to the Athénée. I like watching Disney and Studio Ghibli movies. My hobbies include baking, singing, dancing, theater, reading and painting. Summer is my favourite season when I enjoy sailing and windsurfing." ~Karolina Lazarus Yazbeck

Production Team

Director & Author	Neil Johnson
Musical Director	Philip Dutton
Assistant Musical Director	Eric Gherardi
Choreographer	Marina Tomasic
Producer	Samantha Huffman
Assistant Producer	Valerie Scott
Stage Manager	Dustin Andersen
Costumes	Ciara Barker, Shani Henderson
Props	Dustin Andersen
	Samantha Huffman
Makeup (Hades)	Carrie Milne
Lighting	Ant McCarthy
Sound	Alex Teligadas
Projections Design	Dominique Zelter Russell
Projections Operator	Artemios Vogiatzis
Microphones	Clare Haigh
Backstage Crew	Jan Thoemel, Vital Pourprix
	Caroline Marsh
Bar Manager	Simon Critchlow
Deputy Bar Managers	Blathnaid O'Hannrachain
	Beverley Atkinson
Box Office	Pam Carlisle
Programme	Samantha Huffman
Video Cameraman	Mike Lochtchinine
Microphones	Claire Haigh
Co-ordinator	Lynn Frank

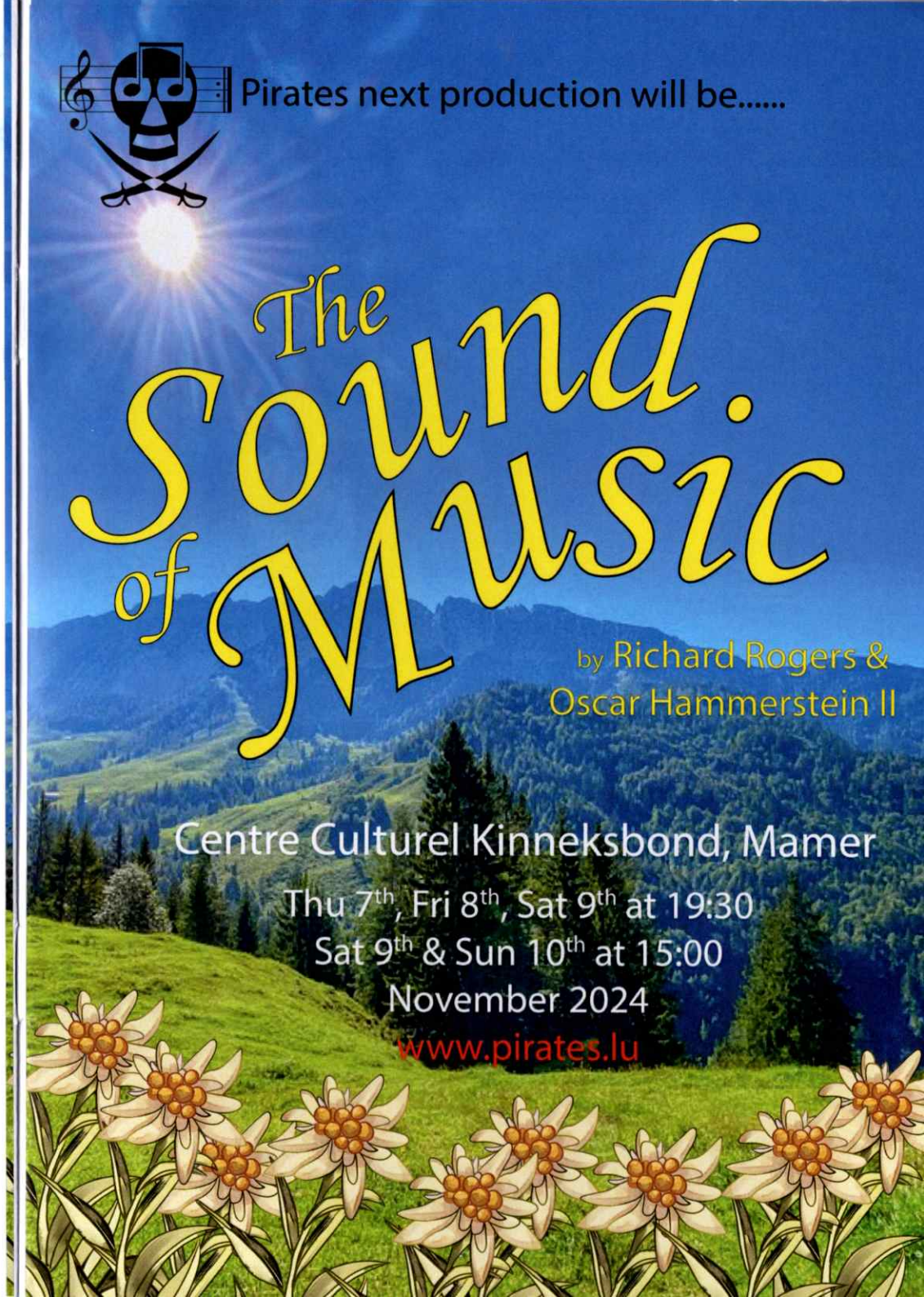
And many more!

Want to join our Backstage Team?

We'd love to have you!

When you come to our shows, these are the people you won't see on stage, but who are vital to the success of our productions. We're always looking for new members of the team for costumes, props, lighting, sound, and more!

If you'd be interested, please contact us at **backstage@pirates.lu**.



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