

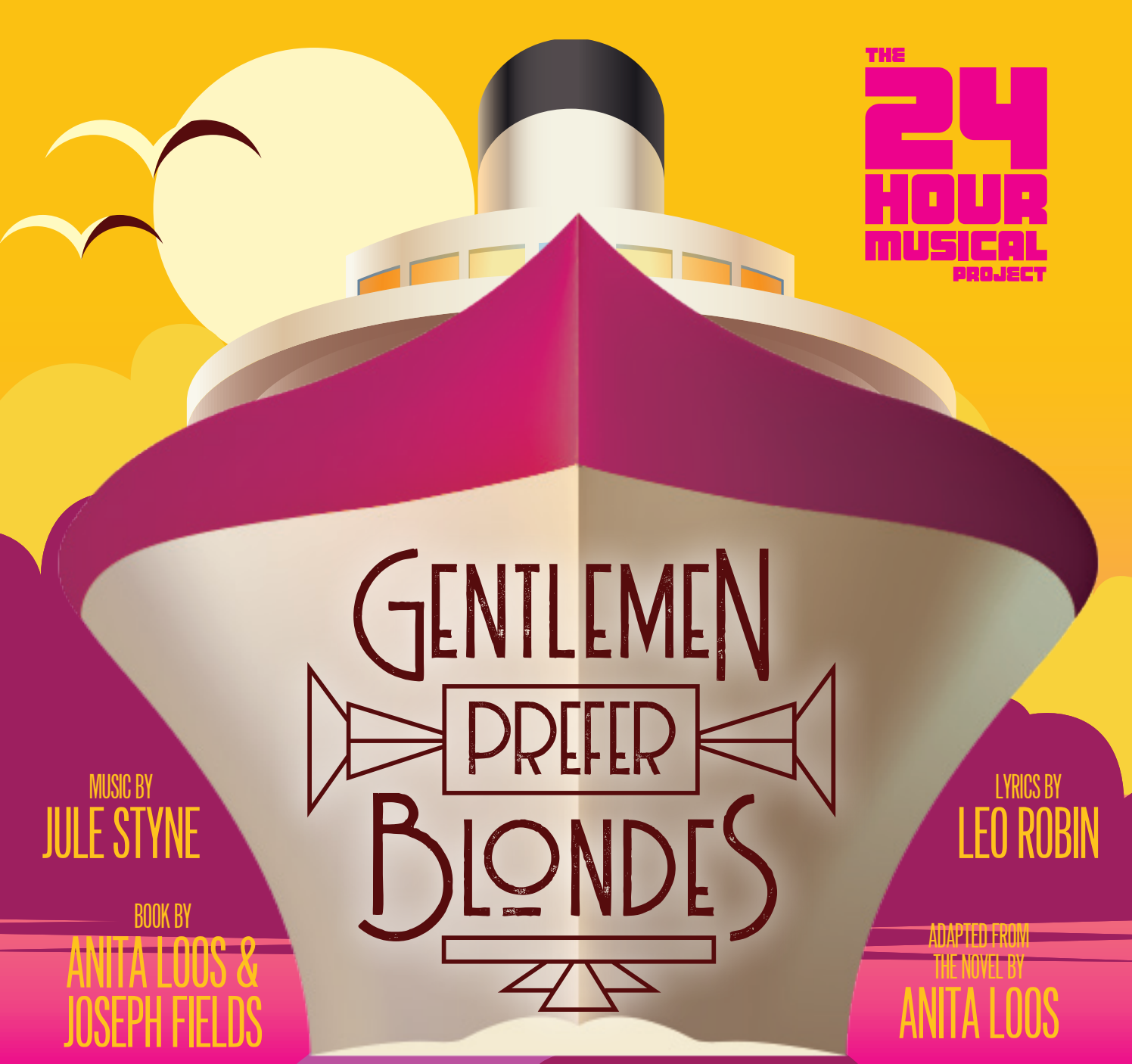
THE

24

HOUR

MUSICAL

PROJECT



THE
24
HOUR
MUSICAL
PROJECT

MUSIC BY
JULE STYNE

BOOK BY
**ANITA LOOS &
JOSEPH FIELDS**

LYRICS BY
LEO ROBIN

ADAPTED FROM
THE NOVEL BY
ANITA LOOS

"GENTLEMEN PREFER BLONDES" IS PRESENTED BY ARRANGEMENT WITH ORIGIN THEATRICAL ON BEHALF OF TAMS-WITMARK LLC, A CONCORD THEATRICALS COMPANY

FROM THE PRODUCER

2020 [Take 2]
Once more, with feeling...

The 2020 Project has been waiting in the wings for almost two years and it's finally ready to roar onto the stage in a flurry of 1920s frivolity. This show that was envisaged to be a celebration of all things 20s for 2020, has become so much more: a celebration of hope and triumph! It seems fitting and somewhat reminiscent of the spirit of the 1920s, when the world emerged after the First World War with a renewed vigour for life!

I've had the wonderful pleasure of stepping back into the Director's role for this production, and I am so glad to be able to bring you "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes" in all it's gaiety, complete with my two favourite things – tap shoes and sequins. A return to form for us, this is a classic golden-era Broadway show, with great characters, a ridiculous plot, a jazzy score and huge musical dance numbers, and let's not forget, a boat!

It is a big show and we cast it, not once, but TWICE! Most of the cast you'll see tonight auditioned and were cast in March 2020 and we are so glad they were able to come back to it after all this time. To those who were unable to come back into the

cast and the Prod Team members who worked on the original and couldn't commit to Take 2 – from the bottom of my heart, thank you. You might not be in the theatre with us this weekend, but we are thinking of you and we know that you're here in spirit.

Finally, a few very important thank yous: to the 2020 [Take 2] Prod Team, most of whom have done back-to-back Projects this year, thank you for not only doing what you do best for the show, but for helping me to juggle producing and directing this time around; thank you to all the participants who give their time and energy to the Project; thank you to the growing list of Alumni and the 72 Hour and 120 Hour Club members who keep



ABOUT THE PROJECT

The 24 Hour Musical Project is a community fundraising venture in support of The Actors' and Entertainers' Benevolent Fund of Qld. We bring together the local theatre community for one weekend of madness, mayhem and goodwill. The challenge is to produce a full-scale musical in just 24 hours, but the purpose is really to get as many people as we can from as many different companies as we can to work together to achieve a common goal. The Project is an opportunity to build and strengthen our theatre community and raise funds for some good causes at the same time. Everyone wins!

The Project is unique in the way it is structured, with a blind audition process in which none of the auditionees know what they're auditioning for; a Production Team who work through the whole show without the performers; and perhaps most unusually, a Support Director and Catering Coordinator are among the most important roles in the team.

Of course, the greatest advantage of the Project is the short-term commitment. Participants need only set aside one weekend for the experience and as a result we get a wonderful mix of people who are ready to do their best at whatever we throw at them.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

1. Pick a show (yes, the production team know what the show is!)
2. Audition... without telling anyone what the show is
3. Cast the show... without telling anyone which roles they have
4. Assemble the band... without giving them any music
5. Plan and prepare the show in secret
6. Gather the crew and support volunteers
7. Release a shortlist of 10 shows...
8. Remove a show from the list each day until...
9. The last show standing is IT!
10. Rehearse for 24 hours and then finally put on a show!

If you really want to know what the Project is like, there's only one way to know for sure – GET INVOLVED NEXT YEAR!

THE STORY SO FAR:

2016 - CINDERELLA
2017 - KISS ME, KATE
2018 - THE WITCHES OF EASTWICK
2019 - THE SOUND OF MUSIC
2020 - @HOME ALUMNI CHALLENGE
2021 - STARLIGHT EXPRESS
2020 [TAKE 2] - GENTLEMEN PREFER BLONDES

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– THAT'S 3 PROJECTS!

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STEVEN DAYS
HARRIET JACKSON
DEAN LANGTON
CASEY MCCOLLOW
ELLIOTT MCGUIRE
KATE MCMILLAN
STEVE NORRIS
LUKE O'HAGAN
STEVEN PORT
IZZIE RADLEY
ALEXANDRA RITCHIE
HAYLEY SAGE
KAT SUCHINSKY
BEC SWAIN
BEC THOMAS

120 HOUR CLUB

CONGRATULATIONS
TO OUR NEW 120
HOUR CLUB MEMBERS
– THAT'S 5 PROJECTS!

NICK CAO
TAYLOR DAVIDSON
AERLYN O'BRIEN
CARLY QUINN
ROSEMARY WARD
ANN WHITAKER

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5TH – 27TH | BEENLEIGH
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ABOUT THE SHOW

GENTLEMEN PREFER BLONDES is based on Anita Loos's 1925 bestseller of the same title, and follows Lorelei Lee, a blonde from Little Rock, Arkansas, who sails to Europe with her friend Dorothy to perform in a nightclub in Paris.

Lorelei is about to embark on the Ile de France for a cruise to Europe, where she will marry the delightfully rich Gus Esmond, son of America's "Button King". With her is her friend Dorothy Shaw, both of them ex-Follies girls. However, two clouds appear on the horizon: Gus announces that his father insists he stay behind for an important button conference, so he can't travel with the girls. He also has heard worrying news about a new invention called "the zipper", which might just ruin his great button empire.

The girls set about enjoying their cruise. They have plenty of help, notably from the American Olympic Team, who are also en route to Paris. Also on board are Mrs Spofford, the richest widow in Philadelphia, and her son, Henry, who takes to Dorothy in a big way.

There is an English couple, too - Sir Francis and Lady Beekman. She has a diamond tiara that Lorelei just knows would look its best on her own blonde head. And there is Josephus Gage, a hearty young man who turns out to be America's "Zipper King". So when Lorelei gets a wireless message from Gus saying that his father has found out about a little escapade of hers involving a revolver when in Little Rock, it looks like the wedding is off. And it is only logical that she should turn her attention to Gage instead.

Eventually, Lorelei succeeds in getting her tiara and her Gus - and arranges a merger between the button and zipper businesses that looks like it will bring lots of success (and lots more diamonds!) in the future.

GENTLEMEN PREFER BLONDES premiered on Broadway in 1949 starring Carol Channing, Yvonne Adair, Jack McCauley, Eric Brotherson and George S. Irving, and was revived in 1995 starring KT Sullivan. A staged concert production was presented in 2012 starring Megan Hilty and Rachel York.



MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT I

Overture

It's High Time

Bye, Bye, Baby

I'm Just A Little Girl From Little Rock

I Love What I'm Doing

Just A Kiss Apart

Scherzo (Gloria's Dance)

It's Delightful Down In Chile

Sunshine

Park Scene / Pas De Deux

Sunshine (reprise)

I'm Atingle, I'm Aglow

You Say You Care

Finale Act I

Orchestra

Dorothy, Ensemble

Gus, Lorelei, Ensemble

Lorelei

Dorothy

Henry

Orchestra

Lorelei, Sir Francis, Ensemble

Dorothy, Henry

Ensemble

Ensemble

Gage

Dorothy, Henry

Lorelei, Ensemble

ACT II

Opening Act II

Mamie Is Mimi

Coquette

Diamonds Are A Girl's Best Friend

Gentlemen Prefer Blondes

Homesick

Orchestra

Coles & Atkins

Madame B

Lorelei

Gus, Lorelei

Lorelei, Dorothy, Mrs Spofford

Henry, Gus, Gage

Dorothy, Ensemble

Lorelei, Ensemble

Full Company

Keeping Cool With Coolidge

Button Up With Esmond

Finale Act II

PRODUCTION TEAM

PRODUCER & DIRECTOR

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

MUSICAL DIRECTOR

ASSISTANT MUSICAL DIRECTOR – BAND

ASSISTANT MUSICAL DIRECTOR – VOCAL

CHOREOGRAPHER

ASSISTANT CHOREOGRAPHER

MUSIC ASSISTANT

REHEARSAL ACCOMPANISTS

STAGE MANAGER

SOUND

LIGHTING

COSTUME

WARDROBE ASSISTANTS

HAIR & MAKE UP

ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGERS

STAGE CREW

Miranda Selwood

Julie Eisentrager

Kym Brown

Sally Faint

Danika Saal

Taylor Davidson

Izzie Radley

Steven Days

Katherine Gavranich,

Carla Bures, Luke Johnstone

Kristen Barros

Ben Murray (PQI Technologies)

Marissa Hilliar

Megan Laurie-Thomson

Carly Quinn, Alexander Ellem,

Sarah Lack, Millie Talbot

Carla Milne

Daisy Leadbetter, Jorgia Munroe

Britney Cawkwell, Hayley Cox, Jason Gardner

Laura Grace Hill, Samantha McLaughlin

Aimee Monement, Steve Norris, Lachlan Van Der Kreek

CAST CREDITS

LORELEI LEE

DOROTHY SHAW

GUS ESMOND

HENRY SPOFFORD

MRS SPOFFORD

SIR FRANCIS BEEKMAN

LADY BEEKMAN

JOSEPHUS GAGE

GLORIA

MADAME B.

ROBBEAR

LOUIS

ESMOND SNR

COLES & ATKINS

Erika Naddei

Gracie Clarke

Damien Quick

Cameron Rollo

Meg Kiddle

Chris Kellett

Aerlyn James

Jordan Ross

Nadia Vanek

Georgie Purdie

Alexander Thanasoulis

Will Chen

Luke O'Hagan

Katyia and Tatijana Wills

VOCAL ENSEMBLE

Lisa Alsop

Shewit Belay

Maree Butterworth

William Chen

Sofie Christofis

Torin Cook

Kelly Cooper

Chris Drummond

Clayton Eltis

Meg Hamilton

Harriet Jackson

Graeme Kerr

Harry Leis

Paige McKay

Phillip Maas

Elyse Rea

Katelyn Suschinsky

Alexander Thanasoulis

DANCE ENSEMBLE

Stephanie Baxter

Joshua Brandon

Harley Coghlan

Hannah Crowther

Brendan Dieckmann

Conor Ensor

Nick Ferguson

Alanah Giles

Casey McCollow

Megan Peacock

Hayley Sage

Bec Swain

Tristan Vanyai



Special thank you to our original production team members from 2020 –
Tammy Linde, Hayley Marsh, Stacie Hobbs, Russell Jensen & Michelle Weston.

ORCHESTRA

CONDUCTOR

Kym Brown

VIOLIN I

Ben Richards

Alexandra Ritchie

Ann Whittaker

VIOLIN II

Madeline Ambrey

Dani Partoredjo

VIOLA

Brendan Crosby

Kate McMillan

CELLO

Kate Robinson

Daniel Smeardon

BASS

Nicky Griffith

WOODWINDS

Megan Beckinsale

Erin Blythe

John Connolly

Sally Faint

Jess Hall

Elliot Maguire

HORN

Arabella Davie

TRUMPET

Adam Darby

Michael Keen

Ben Ryan

TROMBONE

Nick Cao

Steven Port

GUITAR

Lucas Fisher

PIANO

Lily Colmer

PERCUSSION

Alice Tilbury

Owen Tilbury

SUPPORT TEAM

SUPPORT & COMMUNITY DIRECTOR

Laurene Cooper-Fox

ASSISTANT TO SUPPORT DIRECTOR

Tammy Richards

CATERING COORDINATOR

Shellie Ward

CATERING ASSISTANTS

Bec Thomas, Raymond Ward

COVID SAFE OFFICER & FOH MANAGER

Alicia Poulter

MARKETING & GRAPHIC DESIGN

Laurene Cooper-Fox, Zane C Weber

PHOTOGRAPHY

Stefan Cooper-Fox

VIDEOGRAPHY

Stephen Hirst

VISUAL MEDIA

Andrew Kirkman

SOCIAL MEDIA

Julie Eisentrager

SUPPORT TEAM

Roselie Chase, Grace Driscoll, Gabriella Flowers, Ren Gerry

Hayley Gervais, Brianna Gibbins, Daniel Lelic, Cameron Selwood

John & Heather Selwood, Laura Starre, Michelle Weston

HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM

Laura Kennedy, Carly Quinn, Akari Tokita

MINI-TROUPERS

Liv & Eli Cooper-Fox, Abbey Poulsen

Maddie Selwood, Astrid Thomson



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2020 would have marked our 5th year of creating fast-paced, sleep-deprived, adreneline-pumping musicals but sadly, like so many other performers and companies, we had to postpone. This also meant postponing our birthday celebrations, but we were delighted to party together as we announced the 2020 [Take 2] cast.



In 2020, when the COVID 19 pandemic forced the postponement of the 24 Hour Musical Project, participants banded together and took part in the 24 Hour Alumni Challenge!

Through their joint efforts in singing, dancing, rapping, sewing, woodwork, crocheting among so many others we were able to donate

\$6,283.23!

Every year Australian performers make thousands of free appearances in support of deserving charities. But who looks after the performers in need? We do.

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THANK YOU

Thank you to Professor Paul Sabey, Head of Performing Arts, Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University for his generous support of this production.

The 24 Hour Musical Project relies on the generous contributions of our community and sponsors. A huge thank you from the entire team to the following:

Russell Morgan, Todd Heinrich, Tresona Stenlake and St John's Anglican College, Dominique Fegan (Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University), PQI Technologies, Phoenix Ensemble, Tony Street, Rochedale State High School, Jo Toia and Savoyards Musical Comedy Society, Lia Pritchard and The Prop House, Beenleigh Theatre Group, JAL Dance, Spotlight Theatre, Queensland Musical Theatre, SK Entertainment
And everyone who donated, appeared in, supported, worked on, or was otherwise involved in the Project!



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OF

HORRORS

5 - 12 MARCH

THE STAR THEATRE

Peel Street, Manly

LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

Book and Lyrics by
HOWARD ASHMAN

Music by
ALAN MENKEN

Based on the film by Roger Corman. Screenplay by Charles Griffith
Originally produced by the WPA Theatre (Kyle Renick, Producing Director)
Originally produced at the Orpheum Theatre
New York City by the WPA Theatre, David Geffen, Cameron Mackintosh and
the Shubert Organisation.

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THE

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HOUR

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2022