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NODA
For every stage

everybody's talking about
JAMIE

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Hull Truck Theatre
21-25 October 2025
Tues - Fri 7:30pm, Sat 2pm & 7:30pm

Good evening, and a very warm welcome to Hull Truck Theatre!

We're delighted you're supporting the local arts by joining us for our production of 'Everybody's Talking About Jamie', a vibrant, heartwarming and fearless musical that celebrates being true to yourself, whoever you are.

Our talented cast, creative team, and crew have poured their hearts into bringing this inspiring story to life and we are delighted to share this uplifting journey with you tonight. So get ready to laugh, cry and dance in your seat as we step into Jamie's world: a place full of big dreams, bigger heels and the biggest heart.

Enjoy the show, have a lovely evening, and we'll look forward to seeing you again.

John Drury
Chairman
Hessle Theatre Company



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Director

Richard Foot

Richard trained at Bretton Hall and has been part of Hessle Theatre Company for many years, both on stage and behind the scenes. He has enjoyed roles in 'Oklahoma!', 'The Producers' and 'Crazy for You'. He has also directed a number of HTC shows at Hull Truck, including 'Return to the Forbidden Planet', 'Avenue Q', 'Urinetown' and 'Grease'.

'Everybody's Talking About Jamie' has been an especially exciting project for him. He describes it as a bold, heartfelt and joyful show that champions the communities which lift us up. Richard is incredibly proud of the talented cast, crew and creative team who have worked so hard to bring Jamie's story to the stage, and looks forward to audiences experiencing the heart they have put into it.



Director/Choreographer

Sarah Brodie

Sarah has been a member of Hessle Theatre Company for 13 years. In that time, she has taken on many leading roles including Audrey in 'Little Shop of Horrors', Adelaide in 'Guys and Dolls', Ulla in 'The Producers', Princess Fiona in 'Shrek' and most recently, Brooke Wyndham in 'Legally Blonde'.

Sarah has also choreographed a number of shows for HTC including 'Grease', 'Urinetown' and 'Return to the Forbidden Planet'. As well as choreographing this show this is also her directorial debut - working with Richard Foot. She has found the whole process thoroughly enjoyable and would like to thank all the cast, crew and creative team for being such a dream to work with.



Musical Director

Rebecca Barques

Rebecca has worked as a Musical Director for over three years and this will be Rebecca's third musical with Hessle Theatre Company. She is incredibly excited to be back at Hull Truck Theatre for this hilarious yet heartwarming show.

Rebecca has a BA (Hons) in Music specialising in flute and vocal performance and went on to achieve a PGCE. Rebecca now teaches young people in a variety of settings, from initial grades in performance all the way up to A Level Music and seeing students applying to conservatoires. The cast have worked so hard and Rebecca hopes you enjoy the talented voices of the cast with the sounds of the skilful live band performing underneath the stage!



Stage Manager

Kieran Danby

Kieran has been a part of Hessle Theatre Company since 2018 and has been in shows such as 'The Producers', 'Shrek' and 'Our House'. Throughout working on shows with HTC, Kieran realised that he has a passion for backstage in theatre, whether it be set design or being a part of the backstage crew or taking on the role of stage manager.

Kieran's first show as stage manager was Park Street Performing Arts production of 'Spend, Spend, Spend'. Since then, he has gone on to be stage manager and produce sets for various productions. Previous shows he has stage managed for HTC include 'Grease' at Hull Truck Theatre and 'Crazy for You' at Hull New Theatre and earlier this year, 'Legally Blonde'.



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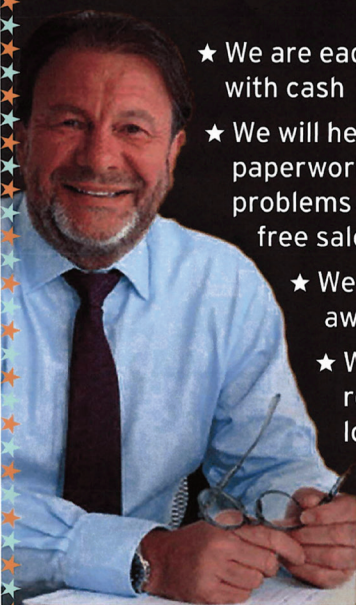


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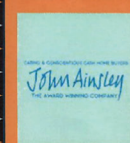
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- Painting/constructing sets
- Organising or helping at social events
- Welcoming audiences & selling programmes
- Marketing and computer skills
- Helping on our management team
- Making or finding props/costumes

For more information, or to
express an interest, please get in
touch via our website:

www.hessestheatre.co.uk



Musical Numbers

Act One

And You Don't Even Know It

Jamie, Miss Hedge & Year 11

And You Don't Even Know It Tag

Jamie

The Wall in My Head

Jamie

Spotlight

Pritti & Year 11 Girls

Spotlight (Reprise) (Star of the Show)

Jamie & Pritti

**The Legend of Loco Chanelle
(and the Blood Red Dress)**

Hugo & the Legs Eleven Girls

**The Legend of Loco Chanelle
(and the Blood Red Dress) (Reprise)**

Hugo

If I Met Myself Again

Margaret

Work of Art

Miss Hedge, Jamie, Dean & Year 11

Over the Top

Hugo & the Legs Eleven Girls

Out of the Darkness

Offstage Ensemble

Act Two

Everybody's Talking About Jamie

Year 11

Limited Edition Prom Night Special

Jamie, Ray & Margaret

It Means Beautiful

Pritti

It Means Beautiful (Reprise)

Pritti

Ugly in This Ugly World

Jamie

He's My Boy

Margaret

**And You Don't Even Know It
(Bus Station Reprise)**

Jamie

My Man, Your Boy

Jamie & Margaret

The Prom Song

Year 11

Finale

Company

**Out of the Darkness
(A Place Where We Belong)**

Company



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Sunday
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Jamie New

Rhys Hodgson

Rhys is very excited to be playing "Jamie New" in Hesse Theatre Company's production of 'Everybody's Talking About Jamie'. Jamie is a 16-year-old boy whose dream is to live the glamorous life as a drag queen, but behind this confident facade, he is struggling with who he is, and how he fits into the world. Rhys admires Jamie and his confidence to stand up for himself, his friends and his family, as well as his resilience as he goes through trials and tribulations throughout the musical.

He hopes everyone enjoys the show. Rhys would like to thank his friends and family for supporting him throughout the process, as well as Hull Performance Academy for pushing him and shaping him into the performer that he is today.



Margaret

Sarah North

Sarah first joined HTC 16 years ago for 'Calamity Jane', then took on roles in 'Blithe Spirit', 'Jane Eyre', 'The Baker's Wife' and 'Made in Dagenham'. After a six-year hiatus, she was tempted back to the fold this year by the heartwarming message of "Jamie", and specifically the character of Margaret, whose pride and belief in her son have made her an incredibly special role to develop. Having trained in Acting and Production Operations, Sarah is a fan of good storytelling on the stage, and she is delighted to be sharing the beautiful story of Jamie here in Hull.

Sarah has really enjoyed working with such a talented cast and production team to bring this wonderful piece of theatre to the Hull Truck stage.



Pritti

Alexia Ho

Alexia is delighted to be joining Hesse Theatre Company in a role and experience she will treasure. With a background in piano and vocals, she found a love for theatre at school, where she performed in productions such as 'Six: Teen Edition' and 'Beauty and the Beast'.

Being Alexia's first production of this scale, she feels honoured to help share such an important and uplifting story. Alexia feels privileged to have worked alongside such talented, supportive people and congratulates everyone involved. She sends a special thank you to Richard for encouraging her to audition and begin this journey.



Hugo/Loco

Joe Spence

'Everybody's Talking About Jamie' marks just over eight years since he joined Hessle Theatre Company. In that time, he has gained a degree in Theatre from the University of York and directed, written and performed in many shows, including HTC shows such as Antoine in 'The Baker's Wife', Robbie in 'Soho Cinders', Eugene in 'Crazy for You' and Doody in 'Grease'.

Joe would like to thank the cast and crew of 'Everybody's Talking About Jamie' for all their hard work and friendship during rehearsals, and to you, our audience, without whom we wouldn't be able to make such a fabulous show! Enjoy this fast-paced electric show - I promise you it won't be a DRAG (Queen)!

Laika Virgin

Mark Gillyon-Powell

After a break of 30 years Mark has recently returned to HTC and the world of musical theatre. He is delighted to be slipping on heels and false lashes for the role of Laika Virgin. Having spent several years in his youth working the drag scene (including as one of the highly popular drag trio, 'The GiGi Girls') Mark feels he has a lot to bring to this role.

Mark's recent roles include 'Evita' with One Off Productions, 'Crazy for You', 'Legally Blonde' and panto with Hessle Theatre Company, 'Joseph' with Hull Musical Theatre Company and 'Kinky Boots' with Beverley Musical Theatre Company. When not onstage he can be found working backstage, designing and creating costume, or doing his 'proper job' at NHS England.

Mark studied Drama and Theatre Arts at Birmingham University.



Miss Hedge

Michelle Metcalfe

Michelle is thrilled to be playing the role of Miss Hedge and has found the process of rehearsing and getting to this point an absolute blast!

This will be her fourth production with Hessle Theatre Company, playing Deloris in 'Sister Act' in 2015 and Gary Coleman in 'Avenue Q'. She last performed with the company in 2019 for 'Made In Dagenham'.

Her love for theatre was found at the age of ten and went on to gain a Degree in Musical Theatre, teach Performing Arts and been part of a Meat Loaf tribute aptly named Bat Out of Hull for the last thirty years.

Sandra Bollock

Karl Maltby-Hitch

Karl trained for many years in Musical Theatre, performing shows like 'Blood Brothers', 'Bugsy Malone', 'Into the Woods' and 'Guys and Dolls' to name a few.

After many years away from the stage and moving to Hull during the pandemic, Karl joined Hessle Theatre Company to get back to his roots and what he loves to do.

Karl says it has been fantastic meeting and working with such a talented group of performers and he can't wait to see what comes next.



Ray

Lisa J Coates

Lisa is an artist whose work spans music, directing and creative writing, along with educational and outreach work. She trained initially as a singer, with music degrees from the universities of Newcastle, York and a PG Artist Diploma at Trinity Laban Conservatoire.

She has performed internationally on stage and in concert, recorded for labels Naxos, Delphian and Boreas, and appeared on radio and television. Most of her stage experience comes from opera, taking principal roles in operas such 'Carmen', 'La Traviata' and 'Cavalleria Rusticana'. Ray is Lisa's first musical theatre role, and she has enjoyed the new challenge.

Tray Sophisticay

Josh Murraybutler

Josh has been performing with Hessle Theatre Company for 2 years, having joined the company for their production of 'Our House'. Since then he has performed in musicals at Hull New Theatre and Hull Truck Theatre and taken part in HTC's pantomimes.

Josh is overjoyed to take centre stage in what is, for all intents and purposes, Everybody's Talking About Josh. With an impressive four lines across two unforgettable scenes, he is the undeniable beating heart of the show. Though some might call it a "supporting role," Josh prefers "headline act with strategic pauses."



CAST

Jamie New
Rhys Hodgson

Margaret New
Sarah North

Pritti Pasha
Alexia Ho

Hugo Battersby/Loco Chanelle
Joe Spence

Miss Hedge
Michelle Metcalfe

Ray
Lisa J Coates

Dean Paxton
Joseph Walker

Jamie's Dad
James Gridley

Laika Virgin
Mark Gillyon-Powell

Sandra Bollock
Karl Maltby-Hitch

Tray Sophisticay
Josh Murraybutler

Levi	Chris Barques
Bex	Grace Galloway
Mickey	Jacob Gerken
Becca	Grace Gray
Lauren	Samantha Hotham
Fatimah	Jiane Jamil
Vicki	Elise Johnson
Chelsea	Katie Leslie
Sayid	Oscar Morton
Cy	Harry Salter
Ollie	Callum Wright

The Band

Tenor Sax	Matthew Harman
Trumpet	Charlie Springall
Trombone	David Clarke
Keyboard 1	Mark Ridpath
Keyboard 2/	
Guitar	Jamie Nowell
Percussion	Isobel Newton-Green
Drums	David Stoten, Evan Barnes
Bass	Izzy Thornton

everybody's talking about

JAMIE

Music by **Dan Gillespie Sells**
Book & Lyrics by **Tom MacRae**



CREATIVE

Director
Richard Foot

Director/Choreographer
Sarah Brodie

Musical Director
Rebecca Barques

Stage Manager
Kieran Danby

Backstage Team
Ethan Childs, Katie Elizabeth, Harry Gillyon-Powell, Mike Hall, Colin Thompson

Lighting Design
Richard Foot

Sound
Ryan Wilson

Scenery
NSOS Musical Theatre

Props
Colin Thompson, Mike Hall, Elizabeth Walker

Costumes
Mark Gillyon-Powell, David Gillyon-Powell, Hesse Theatre Company, School Uniform Supplies

Wardrobe Team
David Gillyon-Powell, Dot Gilchrist

Wigs & Millinery
Mark Gillyon-Powell, David Gillyon-Powell, Dream Wigs by Tanya

Make Up
Esther May, Lizzie Moy

Publicity & Marketing
Mark Jardine

Public Relations
Jan Brumby, John Drury, Nicola Wilson

Front of House Manager
Nicola Wilson

Front of House Team
John Ainsley, Jan Brumby, Liz Carmichael, Richard Carmichael, Lesley Cussons, Luke Gillingham, Kerry Leslie, Naomi Quin, Adrian Roach, Christine Rolston, Karen Todman

Business Manager
Richard Carmichael

Poster Design
Mark Jardine

Programme Design
Mark Jardine

Photography
John Drury

Cast Headshots
Andy Crozier - Insight Photography



Dean Paxton

Joseph Walker

Joseph is currently training at NKH School for Performing Arts, taking classes in both dance and musical theatre. He has also recently begun a full-time Performing Arts course at college through NAPA. Joseph has performed with Hessle Theatre Company in musicals including 'Our House', 'Grease', 'Crazy for You' and 'Legally Blonde'.

He is especially excited to take on the challenging role of Dean Paxton in 'Everybody's Talking About Jamie'. The role has pushed him to explore a very different type of character, while enjoying being part of a show that celebrates individuality and inclusivity. He thanks his family for their support and encouragement and hopes you love this show.

Jamie's Dad

James Gridley

James is delighted to return to amateur theatre after a long hiatus. Formerly with the Harland Hamstrings, he has performed locally and at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

Recent appearances include Hessle Theatre Company's 'Crazy for You' and 'Legally Blonde' at Hull New Theatre, Park Street's 'Sunshine on Leith', and most recently performed as John Hinkley Jr. in 'Assassins' at the East Riding Theatre, Beverley.

He is thrilled to join this talented cast, even in the role of a particularly unsympathetic character, and hopes you enjoy the show!



Becca
Grace Gray



Sayid
Oscar Morton



Chelsea
Katie Leslie



Cy
Harry Salter



Lauren
Samantha Hotham



Mickey
Jacob Gerken



Fatimah "Fats"
Jiane Jamil



Levi
Chris Barques



Vicki
Elise Johnson



Ollie
Callum Wright



Bex
Grace Galloway

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The Boy in the Dress

Jamie Campbell grew up in Bishop Auckland, County Durham. Born in 1994 and raised by his mother, Margaret, his parents separated when he was around seven. Jamie realised early on that he didn't feel the same as many of his peers, and he came out as gay when he was fourteen. Jamie knew he had a dream that he didn't know how to share. He dreamt of performing in drag. He wanted to wear make-up, heels, and gowns, and light up the world, most of all, he wanted to become the person who made him feel more like himself.

When he was sixteen, Jamie made a brave and, some might say, crazy decision when he reached out to documentary makers with the idea of capturing his journey towards that dream. The BBC picked up his idea and 'Jamie: Drag Queen at 16' was produced by BBC Three. The documentary directed by Jenny Popplewell, followed Jamie as he prepared to attend his school prom in drag. The film also showed how his school, his friends and his family reacted to his journey. That documentary struck a chord with many who saw themselves in Jamie, and felt inspired by his courage, vulnerability and his fierce insistence on being seen.

Jamie was initially told he could not attend prom in what he wanted to wear. In a true moment of solidarity, many classmates threatened to walk out unless he was allowed in. At that moment, it showed that this was about more than just a dress and a pair of shoes; Jamie's journey was about identity, belonging and acceptance.



Jamie Campbell in BBC Three's 'Jamie: Drag Queen at 16'

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John McCrea in the debut of 'Everybody's Talking About Jamie' at Sheffield Crucible Theatre

Completely by chance, director Jonathan Butterell saw that BBC documentary and developed the idea of turning it into the musical 'Everybody's Talking About Jamie'. He interpreted Jamie's story for the stage, collaborating with writer and lyricist Tom MacRae and composer Dan Gillespie Sells to build a work full of colour, heart, struggle, but above all hope. The musical premiered in Sheffield's Crucible Theatre in February 2017, later transferring to London's West End in November of the same year.

For the musical, the writers have explored and brought to life what growing up queer means in a working-class town, and what it takes to ask for understanding from people who fear difference, and what happens when someone refuses to hide their true self.

Jamie Campbell is not just the boy who put on the dress, but he was a young person who dared to demand recognition for himself and for countless others who followed him. 'Everybody's Talking About Jamie' reminds us that self-belief, love and compassion can transform lives. What began as a boy's determination to be heard, has created a documentary that went on to become a joyous, award-winning musical that has toured the world and got everybody talking.

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Michael Jibson



"I want to wish everyone involved in Everybody's Talking About Jamie at Hull Truck the very best of luck. It's such a beautiful show about authenticity, being true to yourself, and celebrating how brilliant mums can be.

My own mum introduced me to theatre back in 1994 through the Hessle Theatre Company, and I wouldn't be where I am today without both that company and her encouragement.

Have a wonderful time performing, and I hope the audiences of Hull enjoy this powerful, contemporary show in such a great theatre!"

Michael Jibson

Our President

Jan Brumby



We are absolutely thrilled to have you join us for this bold, vibrant, and inspiring show. At its heart, Jamie is a celebration of individuality, self-expression, and the courage it takes to be unapologetically yourself — no matter what the world might say. It's a story about acceptance, resilience, and the power of community, all themes that we believe are more important today than ever.

This production has been a true labour of love. I'd like to extend my heartfelt thanks to our incredibly talented cast, who have brought Jamie's story to life with such energy, emotion, and authenticity. To our management, production, creative and backstage teams — their hard work, passion and dedication behind the scenes make everything on stage possible, and we are grateful for the time and commitment that they give so generously.

To our audiences — thank you for supporting local theatre. Whether you're a regular or this is your first time with us, your presence means the world to our company and to everyone involved in this production. We hope this performance moves you, entertains you and most importantly, inspires you.

Enjoy the show — and don't forget to keep talking about Jamie.

Warm regards,

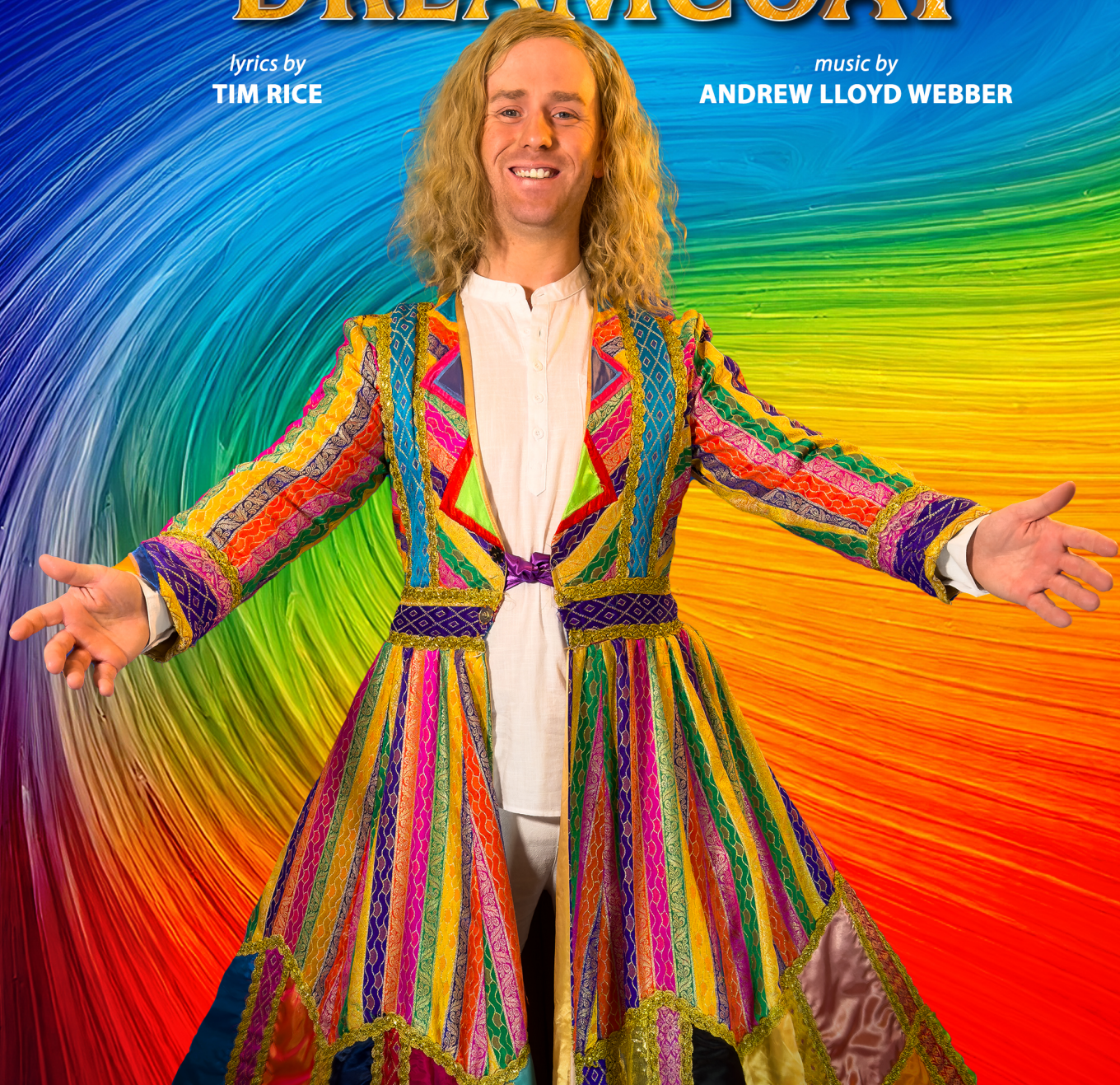
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lyrics by
TIM RICE

music by
ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER



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THEATRE

Hessle Theatre Company has been creating theatre for over 100 years, since it was founded in 1922 as Hessle Operatic and Dramatic Society. We have been presenting musicals at Hull New Theatre every year since 1958, only stopped by the theatre closing for refurbishments in 2016 and then by the COVID pandemic which saw theatre lights go dark across the world. We were very excited when the curtain rose again in 2022, when we staged our showstopping production of 'Shrek the Musical', which had also been postponed from 2019 because of the pandemic.

We also stage exciting productions at Hull Truck Theatre and produce an annual family pantomime at Hessle Town Hall every Christmas. We're proud to say that we are still one of the area's leading community theatre companies and we are affiliated to the professional organisation, the National Operatic & Dramatic Association (NODA).

As a not-for-profit company with charitable status, we never fail to bring exciting productions to local audiences and a high calibre of performers, some of whom have gone on to perform on London's West End, stages around the globe and even on the silver screen! In fact, past member Michael Jibson has won an Olivier Award for his role in the West End phenomenon, 'Hamilton', and now acts as our company patron.

Holding charitable status and being a not-for-profit theatre company, and with the climate as it is, we find the costs of staging a full-scale production like 'Everybody's Talking About Jamie' are mounting year on year. With our commitment to high artistic standards and affordable ticket pricing, we rely on the generous support that we receive from local businesses and individuals to help us carry on doing what we do best.

If you can help Hessle Theatre Company in any way, whether that be through sponsorship or helping out behind the scenes, we'd love to hear from you. We are easy to get hold of, either via our website or through our social media channels.

Thank you so much for coming along and purchasing a ticket for 'Everybody's Talking About Jamie' and helping to keep local theatre alive!

Whether you are staging a musical, an opera, a play, a concert or a pantomime, as the UK's leading amateur theatre membership organisation, NODA is here for every show, every rehearsal, every curtain call – here for our members every step of the way.

From just starting out to centre stage; village halls to professional venues; NODA exists to celebrate, connect, support and amplify amateur theatre and theatre groups across the UK.

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Past Productions

2025

Legally Blonde

2024

Crazy For You, Dick
Whittington

2023

Our House, Grease

2022

Shrek the Musical,
Urinetown,
Robin Hood & the Babes in
the Wood

2021

The Regina Monologues
(online)
Songs For a New World
(online)
Robinson Crusoe

2020

The Night Before Christmas
(online)

2019

Made in Dagenham, The
Wedding Singer, Jack and
the Beanstalk

2018

The Producers, Soho Cinders,
Cinderella

2017

The Baker's Wife, Aladdin

2016

The Hired Man, Avenue Q,
Snow White and the Seven
Dwarfs

2015

Sister Act, Into the Woods

2014

Oklahoma!
Return to the Forbidden
Planet

2013

Guys and Dolls,
A Broadway Christmas

2012

Curtains, Little Shop of
Horrors

2011

Jane Eyre the Musical,
Nunsense

2010

Calamity Jane, Blithe Spirit

2009

Sweeney Todd, Abigail's
Party

2008

Barnum, Summer Serenade

2007

Titanic the Musical,
Broadway to Berkeley
Square, Mixed Doubles

2006

Fiddler on the Roof, Summer
Showstoppers, Time of My
Life

2005

Oliver!, A Walk Through the
West End, Make It Musical

2004

Half a Sixpence, Steel
Magnolias

2003

Kiss Me Kate,
Sounds Sensational

2002

Annie Get Your Gun,
A Festive Treat

2001

My Fair Lady, The Crucible

2000

Carousel, Stagestruck

1999

South Pacific, Last Tango in
Whitby

1998

The Sound of Music, Godspell

1997

Me and My Girl,
Runaways - Phantom of the
Opera

Big Thanks from Hessle Theatre Company

Hessle Theatre Company wouldn't be able to continue staging fabulous shows like 'Everybody's Talking About Jamie' without the continued support of numerous people. We'd like to take this opportunity to thank;

Mike Foot for helping build a number of set pieces. Derringham Bank Methodist Church for our rehearsal venue. John Moore for his generous donation. Scribes Digital Print Ltd for printing our posters, leaflets and this programme. Hull Truck Theatre marketing team, box office, production teams and crew.

And, YOU, our valued audience members for continuing to support our productions.



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