

It's showtime !

The show is nearly upon us. This newsletter has been dedicated to all the bit's and pieces that need to be written down in order to make everything run smoothly in the next weeks.

The most important information is related to safety at the theatre, some of you will be backstage for the first time. There is a lot going on, and a lot to remember, so please read on.

Studio rehearsals

There are two Sunday rehearsals at the Studio, on the 29th June and 6th July.

We will be rehearsing Act One from 2:00pm until 3:30pm, followed by the Finale between 3:30pm and 4:00pm, and then Act Two from 4:00pm until 5:30pm.

Please bring your costumes for both of these rehearsals, and be prepared to rehearse costume changes if you are in more than one piece.

Also, please wear basic make-up so we can take photographs for use in Programme and the Front of House display.

You are free to leave once all your pieces have been rehearsed and we have run through the Finale. Once you are finished, please keep clear of the changing room and kitchen area so the people rehearsing costume changes have space to change.

The finale

A lot of people have been asking about the finale, well here's what we have planned.

First of all, everybody can join in with the finale, but it's not compulsory if you don't want to. Our aim is to give everyone a chance to dance.

The finale is based on a compilation of James Bond theme tunes, one tune for each style of dancing we currently teach at the studio. You can choose to be in any one single piece depending on your preferred style of dance.

There is also a small section of choreography at the beginning and end for everyone to learn, but don't worry, it's very simple and we will teach it on Sunday at the rehearsals.

Your finale choices are as follows:

- Diamonds are forever – American Jazz
- Tomorrow never dies – Contemporary
- Golden-eye – Street Jazz
- Nobody does it better – Ballet
- Thunderball – Theater Jazz
- Goldfinger – Tap

We are also looking for a James Bond! If you know anyone who fits the bill (at least 6' and looks good in a Tux) then please let us know. He doesn't have to be able to dance, but he must be able to look the part and be prepared to be on stage with 150 ladies!

Dates for you diary:

- *Dress rehearsal at the Studio, Sunday 29th June starting 2pm*
- *Dress rehearsal at the Studio, Sunday 6th July starting 2pm*
- *Act One dress rehearsal at the Rhoda McGaw, Monday 7th July starting 7:00pm*
- *Act Two dress rehearsal at the Rhoda McGaw, Tuesday 8th July starting 7:00pm*
- *Full dress rehearsal at the Rhoda McGaw, Wednesday 9th July starting 7:30pm*

Break a leg !

From the teachers and trustees of WDS.

When you perform...you are out of yourself – larger and more potent, more beautiful. You are for minutes heroic. This is power. This is glory on earth. And it is yours nightly.

Agnes De Mille

Theatre rehearsals

There are three dress rehearsals at the Rhoda McGaw theatre. On Monday we will be rehearsing Act One, on Tuesday Act Two and on Wednesday a full Dress Rehearsal of both Acts and the Finale. The Monday and Tuesday rehearsals will start at 7:00pm and the Wednesday rehearsal at 7:30pm.

Please note, these are **start times on stage** for the first piece, so plan to be at the theatre early to get into costume, put on make-up (for Wednesday) and warm-up.

The dress rehearsals on Monday and Tuesday are very important; this will be the first chance you will have had to dance your pieces on the stage. We will do our best to try and give everyone a chance to run through things a few times, but time is short, so please be warmed-up and ready to go when you are called.

The Wednesday Dress Rehearsal is a full run through as a performance; we will only stop if there are real problems. Please wear full make-up for this rehearsal so we can take some photographs.

The performance

Everyone should enter and exit the theatre through the stage door on Victoria Way due to fire, health and safety rules. Please remember to sign-in and sign-out at the stage door.

Parking is available in the main Peacocks centre car part, or in the Brewery road car park just over the canal opposite the stage door. The Car Park is free after 6pm, and we expect everyone to be in the theatre soon after 6:30pm so you can get ready and warm-up. The performance starts at 7:30pm.

Dressing rooms will be assigned, please check the list in the studio and on the door of each room. When you arrive please dress for the first dance you are in.

Please keep everything tidy in dressing rooms and keep away from the lights surrounding mirrors as they burn easily. Some people are in several pieces and will need to come back to the changing room for a quick costume change.

Remember to remove all jewelry and watches before going up to the stage. If you have any valuable items we recommend that you leave them at home and do not bring them to the theatre, as we cannot guarantee the security of the back-stage area when you are on stage.

Please stay in your dressing room until you are called to the stage for your piece. As soon as you reach double doors by the side of the stage you should reduce noise to a whisper so it does not carry on stage. Please exit the back-stage area as soon as you have finished your piece and return to your dressing room.

We hope you can understand that these are basic things that we must all adhere to in order to ensure that there are no accidents that could have been avoided.

After the last night

Immediately after the show on the Saturday night we will be holding a cast and crew party in the theater bar. This is a cash only bar, so please remember your money. Please remove all your belongings from the backstage area before joining the party.

Video

There will be a video made during the performances. After we have had a chance to edit the tapes we will have a viewing party at the studio. VHS and DVD copies of the video will be available for sale at the studio.