



CAYBILL



CAYMAN DRAMA SOCIETY
www.cds.ky

Blood *Brothers*

Book, music and lyrics
by Willy Russell.



This amateur production of BLOOD BROTHERS is
presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd.
www.concordtheatricals.co.uk.

CONTENT WARNING: Strong adult language, violence
(including gun/knife), sexual references, mental health issues.

Prospect Playhouse

SHOW

2023 DATES

7:30 p.m.

May 25, 26, 27
June 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10


3:00 p.m.
(MATINEE)

May 28 & June 4, 10

www.cds.ky



Cayman Drama Society

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CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the Cayman Drama Society's production of Blood Brothers. We are delighted to be staging a musical once again and are especially lucky to be doing so with the magic of a live orchestra! I'm confident you will all agree that Bex Robinson has done a stellar job directing this complex, moving, and poignant production.

A show of this scale requires a heroic effort, and I can't thank this exceptional cast and crew enough for the untold hours they have devoted. A massive thank you to the army of volunteers donating their time to set building, front of house, the bar, and in all areas of Cayman Drama Society, without whom, what you see before you, would simply not be possible. A special thank you to Laura, Angharad and their amazing orchestra for the wonderful live music – what a treat!

This show is testament to what can be achieved when enough wonderful people decide it's worth working together to tell an important story that can touch the lives of others.

Prepare to smile, prepare to cry, and above all else, enjoy the show!

Erica Ebanks
Chairman 2023



Jacques Scott Wines & Spirits

**PROUD TO SUPPORT THE
CAYMAN ISLANDS DRAMA SOCIETY**



DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Why Blood Brothers?

A question I have been asked a lot over the last few months. It is a beautifully written play. A play with stunning music and lots of scope for directional freedom. There is a fine balance between comedy and tragedy.

I saw *Blood Brothers* way back in the late 80's with the legendary Kiki Dee as Mrs. Johnstone. The single working-class mother, living on benefits in the 1960's and scrambling to get by with a large family to feed.

Liverpool back in the 1950's/60's was sharply divided by social class. There was a housing crisis as well as a baby boom. *Blood Brothers* tells the story of Mrs. Johnston, who gives one of her twins away to the upper-class Mrs. Lyons, who she cleans for. We learn that Mrs. Lyons cannot have children herself. The story intertwines with the two brothers Mickey and Eddie meeting at the age of 7 and growing up a few streets away, never knowing who each other is until the last scene, where tragedy and superstition collide. The story is told by the Narrator (played by Adam Roberts). With his sonorous, baritone voice you get the feeling that the narrator is a sinister character, representing the consciences of the mothers. He is always there 'Right behind' the characters, an unseen part of their lives.

I haven't directed anything for over 20 years, so the thought of staging a musical in 3 months was rather daunting and challenging, but I had a vision for the script. I called on Laura Wallace to help with the music. With her infectious and fun personality, her strength as a musical coach really shone through. We were looking forward to the audition process and who would turn up. I was keen to work with people who had always wanted to be on stage, but the opportunity had never come around because of family and work. Who was going to bring this kindhearted Mother to life? More importantly, where was I going to find two grown men to play 7-year-olds?

Simon Bee, who plays Mickey, turned up at the audition having never really been on stage before. *Blood Brothers* is one of his favourite musicals, and as an English teacher he has taught the play for years to his students. Asking someone to act like a 7-year-old at an audition can be quite a challenge, but Simon with his passion, warm, fun personality brought the scouse Mickey to life. Simon really should be on the stage.

Mrs. Johnstone is played by Suzie Dickson. Another new face to the theatre. A loving mother herself who brings a warmth to the play. You feel her story and heartache as you go on this journey with her. Suzie, with her powerful vocals has some of the most heartbreaking songs to sing 'Easy Terms' and 'Tell me it's not true', so have your tissues ready.

I'm thrilled that we were able to have a talented live band. Angharad Parks the conductor has worked hard to bring the music to life. We are very lucky to have some young performers in the band. Henry on saxophone, and Jude and Owen on Keyboards. We are looking forward to watching their talent grow.

Thank you to the Cayman Rugby Football club for letting us use their space for rehearsals. A great space for us to make as much noise as possible!

Thank you to Erica the Producer, Jardae and her Stage Crew, Sound, Lighting, Paul and his team for building the set, Mel for her advice, front of house, everyone who volunteered, and Kirsty for giving me the confidence to put the show on. A big thank you to my cast who have all dedicated so much time and hard work to bring one of my favourite musicals to life! Thank you.

Bex Robinson
Director



THEATRE MANAGER'S MESSAGE

As you can probably imagine, theatrical sets are not easy to build. They are typically 12 feet tall and made out of what we call "flats" which are either 2 feet or 4 feet wide. Some flats are plain – just an everyday wall component. Others feature an operating door or window. Others may be arches. The set builders interpret the needs of the director for a specific production and construct one or more sets to meet those needs. The simplest play has a single set which does not change. Others are more complex, requiring small or large changes to the layout in between scenes or acts. In some cases, we can use what we call "Toblerones" – 3-sided structures with a 4-foot flat on each side, mounted on wheels for easy movement and placement. Toblerones are typically decorated with different scenes on each side – either painted or wall-papered. In some plays the Toblerones are the stars – providing all of the look-and-feel to support the actors, in front of the normal, black stage curtains.

None of this is going to look very good without lights! And so, starting at about 15 feet above the stage are lighting bars, adjustable for height up to about 20 feet. On each bar are hung up to 20 light fixtures. The bars are suspended from pulleys for height adjustment and also to permit the bars to be lowered so that lights can be adjusted for colour or for focus.

The pulleys, the ropes, the bolts and nuts, and the power and network cables all require maintenance between each show and adjustment when lighting the next show or making repairs. You can probably imagine that this is no easy task for the theatre management committee members who build your sets. Imagine building the set for NOISES OFF for example. And so, to the point...

We use a small manlift to work at heights up to the 30 feet necessary to reach the pulleys. Once a set is built, the large manlift typically cannot be brought on stage for maintenance of the set or lights – it is 6 feet wide and 10 feet long. We have a smaller manlift – very old and very broken – which could fit. But it no longer works and parts are difficult to obtain.

And so, we are looking for a corporate or personal sponsor to help us obtain a replacement small manlift. A suitable device, second-hand but in good condition, will cost CDS about \$15,000. The sponsor will be recognised on our foyer board in each and every programme for major productions as a Friend of the Theatre.

Are you that sponsor? If so, please contact the Theatre Manager as soon as possible to indicate your willingness to help the society. This is quite urgent since we need to look after our volunteers who build your sets and maintain the stage equipment. Thanks for reading and considering this.

Paul de Freitas
Theatre Manager



**Cayman Drama Society would like
to welcome our new Governor, Her
Excellency, Mrs. Jane Owen**





MEET THE MUSICAL TEAM

Laura has been part of CDS since 2018 when they put on Grease the musical, where she played the role of Frenchy. Prior to this, Laura studied music at the University of York where she took part in numerous musicals, both on stage and as part of the production team. She studied jazz vocals under the supervision of renown jazz musician Laurie Holloway, and has performed in several incredible venues around the world including the Royal Albert Hall in London, and The Notre Dame in Paris, and also took a performing arts choir to sing at the 2012 Olympics in London. She has a passion for the impact music can have on people across society and has taught music in four prisons, both male and female, in the Cayman Islands and in England.

Blood Brothers is a musical close to her heart and she has enjoyed working with such an incredibly talented cast. She also hopes one day to be compared to 'Marilyn Monroe.'

Laura Wallace,
Musical Director

Welsh cellist Angharad Parkes graduated from The Glenn Gould School of the Royal Conservatory of Music, Toronto in 2009 with an Artist Diploma in cello having studied with Bryan Epperson and Paul Widner. She has performed both as a soloist and chamber musician, some of her most notable solo performances include recitals in Toronto at The Arts and Letters Club and Mazzoleni hall, in her native city of Cardiff at The Wales Millennium Centre and as soloist with the Cardiff Chamber orchestra on a tour of Croatia. Angharad has also been fortunate to work with many renowned musicians including cellist Tsuyoshi Tsutsumi at the Toronto summer music festival and Andre Roy, with whom she worked when she was cellist of the Mosaico string trio.

The recipient of many scholarships and prizes has enabled various studies in Europe, America and Canada. Angharad's graduate studies in Toronto were made possible through the Deans scholarship of the Glenn Gould school of the Royal Conservatory of music and the Boris Hambourg cello scholarship. Prior to her graduate studies in Toronto she received her BMus Hons from the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester UK studying with Jennifer Curtis, during which time she received the cello scholarship of the Curso international de Musica Mattise in Madrid. As a young student Angharad studied under Kathryn Price in Cardiff from the age of 14 at the Junior department of the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama before attending Idyllwild Arts Academy in California as a scholarship student where she studied with John Walz. Currently she lives and teaches in the Cayman Islands, where she conducts The Cayman National Orchestra.

Angharad Parkes
Conductor

UPCOMING SHOWS

Derek Walcott's Beef, No Chicken?

Thursday / Friday / Saturday
Sept 14-16th, 21-23rd, 28-30th 2023

A Playhouse Family Christmas

Friday / Saturday/ Sunday
Nov 24th - Dec 10th 2023

Agatha Christie's The Mousetrap

Thursday / Friday / Saturday
Mar 7th - 23rd, 2024





THE CAYMAN DRAMA SOCIETY

Presents

Blood Brothers

Book, music and lyrics by Willy Russell.

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ORCHESTRA

Conductor – Angharad Parkes

Saxophone – Henry Peedom

Keyboard 1 – Laura Wallace

Keyboard 2 – Jude Solomon

Drums – Laurie Evers

Violin – Richard Addleston

Bass Guitar – Duncan Anderson

Trumpet – Richard Dorrington





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CREW

- DIRECTOR – Bex Robinson
- MUSICAL DIRECTOR – Laura Wallace
- PRODUCER – Erica Ebanks
- STAGE MANAGER – Jardae Barnes
- BACKSTAGE CREW – Angela Bard, Sophia Franklin,
Emma Maddock, Chad Powell Jr,
Cyn Powell
- SOUND – Chad Powell Sr., Owen Bard
- LIGHTS – Erica Ebanks
- SET DESIGN – Bex Robinson, Paul de Freitas
- SET BUILD – Paul De Freitas, Peter Pasold
Michael Forster, Frank McGill
Bill Mervyn
- COSTUMES / PROPS – Bex Robinson
- PRODUCTION SUPPORT AND
CDS ARTISTIC DIRECTOR – Kirsty O'Sullivan
- PROGRAMME DESIGN – Our Secret Agency
- PROGRAMME PRINT – Quick Images
- PRODUCTION LIAISON – Stuart Broad
- YOUTH LIAISON – Mel Wright



MUSICAL NUMBERS

Act 1

Marilyn Monroe (1)
Marilyn Monroe (reprise)
My Child
Easy Terms
Shoes Upon The Table (1)
Easy Terms (reprise)
Kids Game
Shoes Upon The Table (2a)
Shoes Upon The Table (2b)
Bright New Day (preview)
Long Sunday Afternoon
Bright New Day

INTERMISSION

Act 2

Marilyn Monroe (2)
Shoes Upon The Table (3a)
That Guy
Shoes Upon The Table (3b)
I'm Not Saying a Word
Miss Jones
Underscoring
Marilyn Monroe (3)
Underscoring and Light Romance
Shoes Upon The Table (Madman)
Tell Me It's Not True



CAST

- Mrs Johnstone – Suzie Dickson
- Mickey – Simon Bee
- Edward – Nicolas Picard
- Linda – Cecilia Audouin
- Narrator / Milkman / Gynecologist /
Bus Conductor / Teacher – Adam Roberts
- Mrs Lyons – Michaela Adams
- Mr Lyons / Sammy – Michael McLaughlin
Catalogue Man / Policeman
- Finance Man / Kid / Policeman /
Perkins / Various Characters – Adrian Anglin
- Donna Marie / Various Characters – Maya Tatum
- Neighbour / Kid – Victoria King
Miss Jones / Various characters



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Previous performances have included Alice In Wonderland, The Little Prince, The Wizard Of Oz, Fairytale Battle, and A Midsummer Night's Dream for our younger group, and a devised piece on bullying, another on famous assassinations, Murder at Pigsnoarts (a murder mystery inspired by Harry Potter), a Superhero Academy play, and a sketch show for our teenage group.



CayStage
Acting for all

at the Prospect Playhouse



Parents will be invited to a stage performance on the last day at 3:30 p.m.



Bring a packed lunch and a water bottle.

8-12 years old: Mon 10 - Fri 14 July
from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. CI\$300 for the week.

13-18 years old: Mon 17 - Fri 21 July
from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. CI\$325 for the week

Book now at www.cds.ky/classes

DID YOU KNOW?

The Cayman Drama Society, through our CayStage division, offers scholarships to deserving kids who cannot afford our training classes. You can help – please take the time to make a donation, however small – just point your smartphone camera.





CAST BIOGRAPHIES



Suzie Dickson
Mrs Johnstone

Suzie has lived on the island for twenty years and this is her first production. She is married with two teenage children and anyone who knows her will say that she's more than a little dramatic anyway, and not really very quiet at all. After teaching at Cayman Prep, she dedicated her time to raising her two children, with her only singing being nursery rhymes and enthusiastic karaoke. At university she played one of three narrators in (ironically) *Blood Brothers* (the play). That was 25+ years ago and now here we are again. A couple of years of acting classes as a hobby led to the inner actress being awoken once more and she auditioned for *Blood Brothers* (the Musical) on a whim. She was shocked and delighted to be given the part of Mrs Johnstone.



Simon Bee
Mickey

As a long-standing *Blood Brothers* superfan, Simon is so excited to be taking on the role of Mickey in this production. Having played guitar in several stage productions and enjoying 'rocking out' with the band, he now takes to the stage in his first acting role. Perhaps the first of many to come... who knows?!



Nicolas Picard
Edward

Nicolas has always been on stage from as long as he can remember, performing in numerous plays from Shakespeare, Schisgal, Racine, Musset. He also studied classical singing later on, you might have seen him previously at CDS in the last Musical, *Into the Woods*, or in *The Illusion*, today he is a Blood Brother!



Cecilia Audouin
Linda

Cecilia is from a very creative family and has directed many musicals herself in her role as head of drama in secondary education in the UK and now here. She thought it was time to see if she can practice what she preaches in this performance, her first for over 30 years if you don't include karaoke.



Adam Roberts

Narrator/Milkman/Gynecologist/Bus Conductor/Teacher

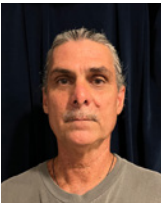
An unexpected career change in 2007 when he stopped being a trial lawyer led to Adam lumbering back on the stage after 23 years' absence. Since then, he has been a regular presence both as an actor and on the CDS Board. He has surprisingly - especially to him - appeared in many musicals - *AGYG*, *Annie*, *Hairspray*, *Legally Blonde*, *Jekyll and Hyde* - as well as many comedies and more serious plays. Highlights for him have been playing Otto Frank in *The Diary of Anne Frank*, and the demanding role of Frank in another Willy Russell play *Educating Rita*.



Michaela Adams

Mrs Lyons

Michaela was told to focus on school but ignored teachers and starred in lots of musicals. She gave up her passion as an adult due to the commitments of work and travel but thanks to the pandemic and a move to the Cayman Islands from the U.K., she's back on stage after 20 years! She's thrilled to rediscover her love for music and theatre in the vibrant Cayman arts community with the fabulous cast of *Blood Brothers*. When not working or performing, she is cuddling her cats and watching the glorious sunsets here.



Michael McLaughlin

Mr Lyons/Sammy/Catalogue Man/Police Man

Having been involved over many years in numerous productions covering comedy to drama; musicals have not been a strong point for Mike (he says). A good challenge is always alluring and the opportunity for multiple age portrayals and various characters has been a pinnacle. He hopes that his participation helps to bring depth and enjoyment to our audiences. He is extremely grateful for the opportunity to explore these aspects of theatre and looks forward to sharing the show.



Adrian Anglin

Finance Man/Kid/Pooliceman/Perkins/Various Characters

Adrian is 22 years old and just recently finished university. He really enjoyed theatre in high school, but took a step back during uni. So he is excited to get back into it with this sweet musical!



Maya Tatum

Donna Marie/Various Characters

Maya is an 18 year old Caymanian. She has performed in *The Women*, and *A Playhouse Family Christmas* for the past three years. She loves her CDS family and is very excited to perform in *Blood Brothers!!!!*



Victoria King

Neighbour/Kid/Miss Jones/Various characters

Vicky has longed to embrace her creative side. A lawyer by profession, she grew up dancing from the age of 4 into her university days and even after. A lover of music, she played the clarinet throughout her secondary education, and enjoys creating playlists for the spin classes she teaches on weekends. Vicky also loves to sing - her karaoke crew and shower head know this well. Though she is fan of the theatre, especially musicals, she has never tried acting or singing on stage herself. Vicky is excited (though, naturally, a little nervous) to step out of her comfort zone and explore a new area of the arts.



CAYMAN DRAMA SOCIETY

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CAYMAN DRAMA SOCIETY

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TRAINING AND ARTISTIC DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

It is show term at Caystage, and our classes are hard at work on a variety of shows, from our teenagers creating a mockumentary about high school shows to our youngest group performing Greek mythology, and much more in between, we have an extremely interesting term on the go!

Perhaps one of the nicest things to see though, is our acting class students getting involved in the main stage production. On stage in her first leading role, we have Suzie Dickson, who did our skills term this year. In her debut as a Stage Manager, we have Jardae Barnes, a current student in our acting classes. Bex Robinson, who is Directing, was actually amongst our first group of Directors course students also. Owen Bard, on the keyboard, is a regular in our acting classes and now sharing his musical talents also! And hidden backstage we have Emma Maddock, Chad Powell Jr, and Sophia Franklin in the crew, who are from our teenage class and currently rehearsing for their Cinderella pantomime, and Cyn and Chad Powell Sr on crew working backstage and with Chad doing his first shot at running sound! There really is space for everyone at our busy theatre.

Since I last wrote one of these messages, my title has officially changed to that of Artistic Director, as well as heading up our training department. This has allowed me to more effectively support our cast, crews, and shows at large, and help shape the theatre to achieve our current goals as a society. I am thrilled to be utilising my background more, and to help CDS keep bringing you quality theatre that engages you. I now get to officially be a part of all three facets of our mission; to enrich, educate, and entertain!

Kirsty O'Sullivan

Artistic Director and Head of Drama Training





THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

A production such as this cannot happen without the donations of time and services from many individuals and businesses.

Our thanks go out to:

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CDS EXECUTIVE

EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN – Erica Ebanks
DEPUTY CHAIRMAN – Stuart Broad
THEATRE MANAGER – Paul de Freitas
SECRETARY – Mike Bishop
TREASURER – Renae Ferguson

With

Fay Anne de Freitas, Agata Kalicki, Gavin McDougall, Judith Nicholls, Caroline Neale-Allenger, Cynthia Powell, Adam Roberts, and Melanie Wright.

We also welcome Juliet Pilgrim as our Inclusion Advisor.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Cayman Drama Society is committed to providing quality live theatre to educate, enrich and entertain, while providing lifelong learning opportunities and fostering creative expression.

The Cayman Drama Society was founded in 1970 and continues to be the leading provider of live theatrical entertainment on Grand Cayman.

Supporting the
Cayman Drama Society since 2009.

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The Ministry of Culture congratulates the Cayman Drama Society on another great production. The arts connect, unify and inspire both audience and actors and we thank you for serving as an outlet for our people's creativity.



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