**MAMMA MIA!**

Act 2

Good evening ladies and gentlemen, and welcome back to this performance of Mamma Mia the Musical. My name is Penny and I will be describing Act 2 for you.

Please be aware that there are flashing lights and smoke effects in Act 2

The sets and scenery are little changed from Act 1, and we meet one new character – The Priest, Father Alexander who will conduct the wedding ceremony. He is played by Martin Dickinson.

Act 2 begins with a second overture medley of the music composed for ABBA by Bjorn Ulvaeus and Benny Anderson. As the music plays, projected onto the curtain is a swirling mass of fluorescent green bubbles on a dark background.

Scene 1 opens to reveal a dark stage with ghostly green light. At the front, lit by a spotlight, and centre stage is a single brass bed on which Sophie is trying to sleep, but haunted by the nightmare of her three putative fathers. In her tormented thoughts they all swirl around her pulling and pushing the bed. The ensemble enter and they sing ‘Under attack’ together. A heavily veiled bride in a wedding dress walks in, only to reveal a vision of Sky once the veil is lifted. Donna, dressed as a Dynamo, lies on the bed and with Sophie standing over her, and is courted by the three Dads.

Scene 2 sees a confused Sophie in the courtyard, bathed in the dawn light. Donna looks down on her from the balcony. In the courtyard is a small circular table with two chairs. Sophie leaves and the Sky, Pepper and Eddie arrive a little the worse for wear after the ‘stag night’ carrying a set of bagpipes that they have found. Donna sings ‘One of us is lonely’ thoughtfully to herself, Sam is sketching unseen by Donna, he reveals himself and they then sing ‘SOS’ to each other.

Scene 3 takes us to the beach. To the left is a white sun lounger, and to the right a circular cocktail bar and beach umbrella. Tanya taunts Pepper singing ‘Does your Mother know?’ surrounded by young men, and watched by Rosie and Sophie’s friends. The beach changes to the courtyard as Sky and Sophie talk, Sky leaves only to be replaced with Sam offering fatherly advice. Sam sings ‘Knowing me, knowing you’ to her.

Scene 4 is in Donna’s bedroom. To the left is a double brass bed with a blue cotton coverlet. It is strewn with a selection of hats, and crimson feather boas are draped around the bedposts. To the right is a chair and dressing table, on which stands a mirror and make up box. To the rear and through an open doorway, by the early evening light, we can see the foliage of a tree. Harry joins Donna in singing ‘Our last summer’. As he leaves Sophie comes in carrying her wedding dress. Donna sings ‘Slipping through my fingers’ gazing thoughtfully at her daughter’s back who is seated at the the dressing table and applying her makeup. Once Sophie has put on her wedding dress, she leaves, only to be replaced by Sam. Donna sings ‘The winner takes it all’ to him.

In scene 5 we are back in the courtyard. Lit from above by a chandelier, the rows of chairs are arranged either side of a central aisle, facing us in readiness for the wedding. Rosie sings ‘Take a chance on me’ to Bill, followed by the arrival of the guests, the groom, the other Dad’s, and Sophie and Donna. They all sing ‘I do, I do, I do’.

The final scene is the jetty down by the beach. It is a dark evening, but the sky is filled with a bright full moon. Sky and Sophie sing ‘I have a dream’.

In the finale and encore audience participation is encouraged in singing ‘Dancing Queen and ‘Waterloo’.

Costumes.

In scene 1 Sophie is wearing white pyjamas. The three fathers are all dressed in morning suits with a twist - black and white checked trousers with a matching silk waistcoat over a white shirt, pink cravat and grey top hats. They are joined by the ensemble who wear black and white swimsuits with fluorescent dayglo pink and yellow gloves. The girls have flowered swimming caps, the boys have yellow lifejackets, and swimming googles perched on their heads. Donna appears on the bed below Sophie, wearing her white satin frilled Dynamos outfit.

In scene 2 Sophie is joined in the courtyard by Donna who is wearing a white knee length slip covered by a light blue cotton dressing gown. Sky, Pepper and Eddie are wearing swimming trunks and draped with fishing nets. After they have left, Sam arrives wearing a black short sleeved shirt and black linen trousers.

In scene 3 on the beach Tanya is wearing a turquoise swimsuit with orange trim, an orange tiger print sarong tied at the hip, the gap at the side revealing a long, slender leg. She has a large straw hat, a raffia beach bag, large sunglasses and wedge high heeled sandals. Pepper tries to seduce her and is wearing a Hawaiian shirt over an orange vest top and knee length dark shorts. Harry, Rosie, Ali, Lisa, Eddie and Bill are all wearing shorts and T shirts. Sky arrives wearing cream chinos and a white T shirt. Sophie has dressed in a loose white shirt and blue and white striped cropped trousers.

In scene 4 we are in Donna’s bedroom. Donna is halfway through dressing and is wearing a simple black slip under her dressing gown. Harry walks in wearing cream trousers and a blue loose short sleeved shirt. Sophie joins her Donna wearing a white slip under her white cotton bathrobe, and carrying her wedding dress. Donna helps her into her beautiful wedding dress.

In scene 5 the courtyard is prepared for the nuptials. Rosie is wearing a cinnamon coloured long tunic top over matching loose leg trousers. Tanya is wearing a knee length fitted orange jacket over a dress, and a hat with a white brim and orange crown. Donna is wearing a fitted knee length sugar pink skirt suit and a smart white hat. All the Dad’s are wearing cream linen suits. Bill is wearing a rust coloured shirt, Sam is wearing a black shirt and Harry is wearing a white shirt. Sky wears a pale suit and white shirt. The priest wears a cream jacket over dark trousers. The friends of the bride and groom wear outfits in bright variations on pink, the girls wear frothy pink hats. Sophie’s wedding dress is sheer loose flowing satin with folds falling from below the bodice and slightly longer at the back to form a small train. Her head is crowned by a circlet of white flowers from which flows a floor length veil.

In the last scene Sky and Sophie both wear hiking boots, jeans and jackets over white T shirts and each has a canvas backpack.

For the finale Donna and the Dynamos are wearing matching satin trouser suits in differing bright colours. All are covered with sequins, rhinestones, frilled and flared trousers and jackets and knee length silver platform boots. They are later joined by the Dad’s in outfits to match for the final number.

I hope you have enjoyed tonight’s performance. Our next Audio Described performance will be Footloose on Friday 18th February at 7.30 pm