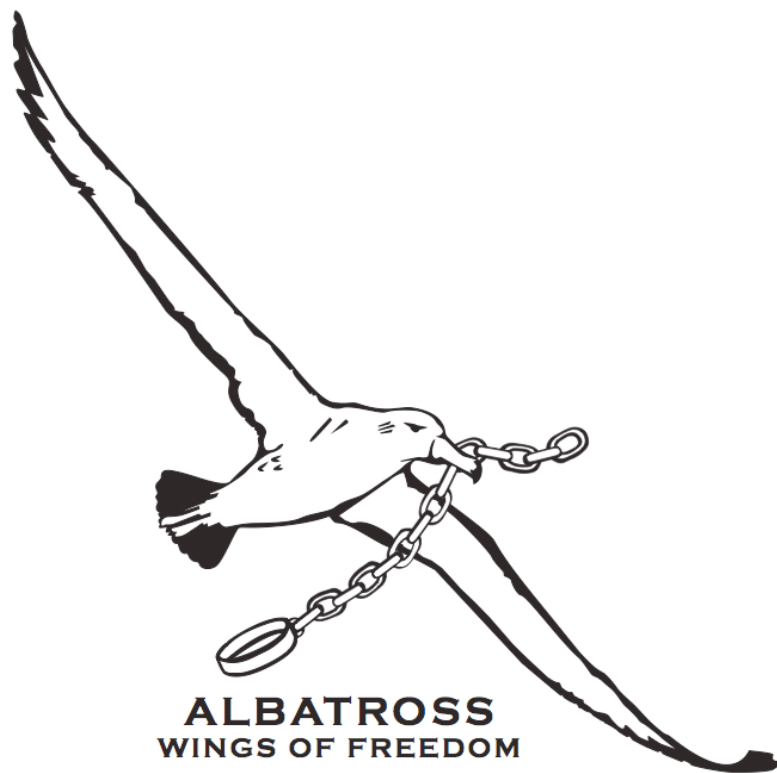


ALBATROSS – WINGS OF FREEDOM

Written by Lizzie Jago with Music and Lyrics by Anna Rusbatch

23-27 July 2014 at the Rose Theatre, Kingston for the
International Youth Arts Festival

PROGRAMME



Brought to you by the
Chicken Knitters International Theatre Company

Involving 100 young performers from
Downs Junior School, Brighton and
Braeburn School, Nairobi, Kenya

www.chickenknitters.com

Albatross – Wings of Freedom

This magical musical delves deep into African history, exploring many different aspects of slavery and freedom. It intertwines mythical folklore with historical fact and emphasises the importance of redemption and forgiveness.

Set in the late 1880s in Zanzibar, East Africa, this musical tells the story of the epic struggle to eradicate the black market slave trade, being perpetrated along the East coast of Africa. Inspired by the true story of Bishop Charles Smythies of Zanzibar, we follow the church's mission to end slavery. In collaboration with the Royal Navy and a passionate and dedicated group of local people, they capture slave boats, free the slaves and bring the reprimanded traders to justice.

Although a historical piece, the themes of anti-slavery are as relevant today as they were over 100 years ago, with recent estimates suggesting there are over 20 million people living in conditions of 'slavery' throughout the world.

This musical is dedicated to the continued struggle to stamp out this illegal practice, wherever it may be found, and to create a world where all can be free.

Crew List

Artistic Directors: Lizzie Jago and Ben James

Musical Director: Anna Rusbatch

Assistant Directors: Jazz Moll and Mimi Mutahi

Tech Crew:

Orchestra:

Lighting: Lizzie Jago and Colin Wood

Piano – Anna Rusbatch

Drums – Andrew Ngatia

Sound: Charlie Simpson and Stephen Durell

Percussion – Anna Rusbatch &
Andrew Ngatia

Backstage Managers:

Strings:

Kim Hill and Beth Hill

Lisa de Simone (violin)

Ella Humphrey (violin)

Backstage Assistants:

Betty Wakhu

Joseph Edwards (violin)

Lilian Ayatta

Alice Hawkes (cello)

Isabel Cattermole

Kate Lacey (cello)

Zak Hague

Sally Clarke (double bass)

Finlay Duffy

Janet Breeze (harp)

Lena Hintz

Woodwind:

Hector Hocking

Elliot Black (flute and piccolo)

Felix Watson

Asha Pabari (flute)

Jake Smith

Poppy Helmer (flute)

Philippe Guyard (saxophone)

Janet Breeze (tenor recorder)

Ballet Choreographer:

Cooper Rust

Brass:

Lewis Delivett (trumpet and flugelhorn)

Caspar Jago Simonsen (trumpet)

Jemima Byrne (French horn)

Sean Byrne (euphonium)

Matthew Bell (tuba)

Cast List

Braeburn School, Nairobi

Mimi Mutahi
Stacey Murage
Dejane Nyakatawa
Pauline Barry
Alina Kurji
Tanam Mohata
Damawa Jallah
Chanel Armstong
Kayla Hotz
Skye McSorley
Wamuyu Kiruri
Julie Solevad
Jazz Moll
Daniel Kandie
Davies Kandie
Adil Muhammad Latif
Adnan Shafi
Itai Smouha
Zedan Bifani
Benji Jago Simonsen
Tobias Jago Simonsen
Kariuki Murage
Damon Hotz
Rohan Sakhyani
Seokin Chang
Jack Machell
Tom Fisher

Downs Junior School, Brighton

Ava Axtell
Abigail Burden
Evie Christopher
Maia Faulkner
Olivia Godson-Biddell
Elise Hardman
Florence Heath
Esme Jones
Alice Lawton
Scarlett Lunny
Ella Monk
Elliot Murnaghan
Hamish Peters
Libby Priddle
Jude Smith
Lola Spicer
Phoebe Thoms
Minnie Venning
Sebi Williams
Edward Anstiss
Joseph Arnold
Freya Baeza-Collis
Audrey Bennet
Jack Bluck-Foster
Leyona Bray
Mia Breuer
Ruben Cook
Isobel Escott
Sam Gellner
Thomas Good
Holly Griffiths
Stanley Hull
Amelie Nummy
Isabel Powell
Samuel Remande-Guyard

Downs Junior School, Brighton

Emily Sell
Ted Smith
Luc Allen
Chelsea Blake
Nell Breckenridge
Theo Coote
Amber Dobbin
Madeline Downie
Theo Hoppe Tarr
Sacha Lakelin
Kitty Lloyd
Thomas Lloyd
Josephine Mortimer
Mia-Faye Oprandi
Zia Rahman Fry
Darcey Starkey
Olive Thompson
Kaia Thowsen
Eva Wheatley
Molly Barratt-Steene
Ewan Bird
Isabelle Campbell
Maggie Chamberlain
Minti Choudhury-Leighton
Zoe Domeney-Wright
Daisy Dunkeld
Mia Esteves
Marcus Faulkner
Ruby Orsola
Humaira Khan
Isobel Thompson

Solomon: Kariuki Murage **Elsie:** Ava Axtell, Abigail Burden, Minnie Venning
The Albatross: Kayla Hotz **Solomon's Mother:** Stacey Murage **Mama Felicitas:** Mimi Mutahi
Bishop Smythies: Benjamin Jago Simonsen **Cecil Majaliwa:** Jazz Moll **John Edwards:** Rohan Sakhyani
Sir Charles Euan Smith: Jack Machell **Captain Rhys Teldric:** Damon Hotz
Jake: Tom Fisher **Abdul:** Seokin Chang **Mama Mercy:** Julie Solevad **Cookie:** Itai Smouha
Scout: Adil Latif **Wheelie:** Tobias Jago Simonsen **Berah:** Adnan Shafi

JOHN DE CONQUER

John de Conquer of feather and flesh, could walk on the waves of sound
He was a saviour, a symbol of hope, for the slaves in the ships that he found
His spirit would follow them, guide and protect them, from horrors that lay in store
He is the Albatross, graceful and strong, and will be forever more
Walking with wings, walking the waves
Walking the winds that filled the sails
Following silently, flying majestically
Hoping to rectify human betrayal
(Anna Rusbach)

SOAR LIKE EAGLES

'But those who trust and hope in the Lord will find new strength. They will soar on wings like Eagles;
they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.' *(Isaiah 40:31)*

CHICKEN KNITTERS

All children deserve to experience peace and happiness - some, sadly, are not that fortunate. Chicken Knitters International Theatre Company aims to give a voice, to the voiceless child with a story to tell, and share their story internationally.

We strive to create innovative, challenging and thought-provoking stage musicals and youth operas that raise awareness of social humanitarian issues, historical events and true stories.

SPECIAL THANKS TO

Creative Youth and the IYAF Team
Rose Theatre, Kingston and their front of house staff
Downs Junior School, Brighton and Braeburn School, Nairobi
Kim Hill and Beth Hill for managing backstage and creating and sourcing props
Host Families and Chaperones for providing their homes and their time
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The people who kindly donated, loaned or made props
Michael Button for his continual support and time
Cooper Rust at the Dance Academy of Nairobi
The outstandingly talented cast and crew

To you, the audience, for supporting the show

www.chickenknitters.com