D|PERA AUSTRALI|A

Star cast revealed for *Guys & Dolls* musical on Sydney Harbour spectacular



Opera Australia today announced the extended, all-star cast of supporting and ensemble performers for its brand-new production of the award-winning Broadway musical *Guys & Dolls* at Handa Opera on Sydney Harbour, opening 21 March next year.

Joining the previously announced stars Cody Simpson, Annie Aitken, Jason Arrow and Bobby Fox, will be the cream of Australia's musical theatre talent, many of whom have been seen in recent productions of *Hamilton, West Side Story, Rent, The Phantom of the Opera, Elvis* and *Cinderella.* Some have also appeared on our TV screens on The Voice, Australia's Got Talent, Strictly Come Dancing, and more.

Making their return to the stage at Mrs Macquaries Point having previously performed in *West Side Story* will be Doron Chester, Emma Feliciano, Joel Granger, Ewan Herdman and Bronson Pfeiler.

The remainder of the 35-strong cast will be making their debut on Australia's largest outdoor stage, sitting over the water in Sydney's Farm Cove, with the glorious views of the Sydney Opera House and city skyline in the background.

The cast is a heady mix of seasoned professionals and emerging artists from around Australia with four making their musical theatre debuts: Michelle Leung, Maddie Owen, Julian Seguna and Billy Wilson.

Directed by award-winner Shaun Rennie, *Guys & Dolls* on Sydney Harbour promises a night of fun, fabulous singing and a host of show-stopping dance numbers all set on a larger than life slice of New York City designed by Brian Thomson with costumes by Jennifer Irwin.

Guys & Dolls is filled-to-the-brim with instantly recognisable tunes, including 'Luck Be a Lady' which will be sung by Cody Simpson's character Sky Masterton and the super catchy 'Sit Down You're Rockin' the Boat' performed by Jason Arrow's character Nicely-Nicely Johnsnon.

With music by Frank Loesser and book by Joe Swerling and Abe Burrows, *Guys & Dolls* is regarded as one of the finest musicals ever written and has enjoyed huge success since its premiere on Broadway in 1950, winning five Tony Awards including Best Musical, the adaptation to a Hollywood film in 1955 starring Frank Sinatra and Marlon Brando, to its most recent smashhit revival on the West End.

Handa Opera on Sydney Harbour is supported by the NSW Government, via its tourism and major events agency Destination NSW, and through the International Foundation for Arts and Culture as Naming Rights Partner, Dr Haruhisa Handa OA's Patron in Chief, and OA's Principal Partner HSBC.

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GUYS AND DOLLS

A Musical Fable of Broadway

Based on a Story and Characters of Damon Runyon

Music and Lyrics by FRANK LOESSER Book by JO SWERLING and ABE BURROWS

Licensed exclusively by Music Theatre International (Australasia).

Creatives

Director Shaun Rennie Musical Director & Supervisor Guy Simpson Choreographer Kelley Abbey Set Designer Brian Thomson Costume Designer Jennifer Irwin Sound Design Jim Atkins

Cast

Sky Masterton Cody Simpson Nathan Detroit Bobby Fox Sarah Brown Annie Aitken Nicely-Nicely Johnson Jason Arrow Benny Southstreet Joel Granger Rusty Charlie Kieran McGrath Harry the Horse John Xintavelonis Big Jule Doron Chester Arvide Abernathy Tony McGill Lt Brannigan Thomas Campbell General Matilda B. Cartwright Naomi Livingston

Ensemble:

Rachel Breeze, Scarlet Lindsay, Sienna Embrey Olivia Carniato, Maddie Owen Emma Feliciano, Isabella Roberts, Sarah Bourke, Sophie Zidar, Matthew Hearne, Paul Whiteley, Matt Douglass, Lachlan Dearing, Bronson Pfeiler, Zac de Gersigny, Rania Potaka-Osborne, Billy Wilson, Nic Collins, Julian Seguna

Swings:

Ewan Herdman, Christopher Tendai, Michelle Leung

Note: The role of Miss Adelaide will be announced soon.

Images: <u>www.opera.org.au/about/media-centre/handa-opera-on-sydney-harbour/</u> Website: <u>www.opera.org.au/harbour</u>

Handa Opera on Sydney Harbour Fleet Steps, Mrs Macquaries Point

Performance dates

21 March – 20 April Evenings 7:30pm Excluding Mondays and Good Friday on 18 April

Bookings

Adult tickets from \$79 (fees may apply) Children tickets from \$59 (fees may apply) Group and concession prices available for most performances.

Opera Australia Box Office +61 2 9318 8200 opera.org.au/harbour

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