

CREATIVE YOUTH - OLIVER! at the Rose Theatre

International Youth Arts Festival July 2020

The production team for OLIVER will be JEREMY JAMES TAYLOR (director), JOHN PEARSON (Musical Director) and FELICITY BUTLER (Choreographer) who have worked extensively together in the past

JEREMY JAMES TAYLOR

Jeremy started his career as an actor and director at The Young Vic before going freelance as a director and to run the National Youth Music Theatre, which he founded in 1976. He has directed operas for Glyndebourne, and the ENO and both as a freelancer and with the NYMT has staged fifty productions in Edinburgh, as well as productions in Australia, New Zealand, the USA, Canada, Hong Kong, Mexico, Belgium, Spain, Greece, Taiwan and even Outer Mongolia! He was awarded the OBE in The Queen's Honours list in 2010.

JOHN PEARSON

John was Musical Director and arranger for the National Youth Music Theatre's celebrated production of *BUGSY MALONE* in the West End in 1997 and for the company's New York debut with *THE RAGGED CHILD* in 1993. Other NYMT productions include *THE WIZARD OF OZ*, *TIN PAN ALI*, *PAL JOEY*, *THE DREAMING*, *DRAKE*, *ANNIE* and *OLIVER!* at the Edinburgh Festival in 1994. He has arranged and conducted for numerous corporate and charity events in varied venues including Buckingham Palace, St James's Palace, The Royal Albert Hall, the Royal Festival Hall and for the Queen's 80th birthday celebrations at Windsor Castle. He was a choral exhibition at Christ's College, Cambridge and is currently Director of Studies at Tonbridge School.

FELICITY BUTLER

Since graduating from Guildford School of Acting, Felicity has choreographed tours for Dream World-Wide Productions. Credits Include *MEET ME ON THE SOUTHBANK* (BFI), *THE LOST DRAGON* (Harlow Playhouse), *SEUSSICAL* and *STEPPING OUT* (GSA), several pantomimes for Paul Holman Associates, many workshops for the NYMT and she has taught at URDANG, GSA and BODYWORKS.

Past productions:

Their most recent project, **BUGSY MALONE**, was an enormous success at this year's Festival with a tremendously talented local cast – all of whom will no doubt be amongst the many hopeful young performers attending the auditions for **OLIVER!** in the autumn.

Comments from families and friends following the recent production of **BUGSY MALONE:**

'Thank you so much for creating such a magical experience for all those involved in Buggy and for all of us lucky enough to come and watch the show. It truly was spectacular - Zain's grandparents, friends and teachers cannot stop raving about how magnificent the show was.'

'Congratulations on your great success with Buggy Malone. We were very impressed with every aspect of it. It was amazing. Thank you for allowing Amadeus to be part of it.'

'We thought the performance was absolutely brilliant; thank you so much for all your hard work and inspiration. Really appreciate the fantastic opportunity that was given to Leo to appear in such a wonderful, professional production.'

'Amelia so enjoyed it and didn't want the evening to end. She would have liked to perform it again and again she said! We knew many people in the audience (lots of her classmates came to watch) and they all had a great time.'

'I'm so impressed with what all the cast achieved with great direction and encouragement. Thank you again for enabling this wonderful opportunity - to you, John and everyone else helping with the show.'

'What a fantastic show on Sunday night. We actually managed to buy 15 tickets for friends and families to support and all of my "gang" found the whole production really impressive and the performers super professional! Thanks so much for giving Jeff this wonderful opportunity. He has learnt so much.'

'Thank you to the entire team for this fantastic show and giving Sanmay the opportunity. He enjoyed every bit and feeling that he learned so much.'

