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CHESS

THE MUSICAL

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for their production of Chess."*

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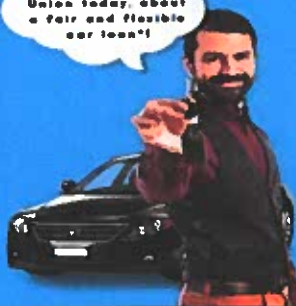
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WELCOME



It gives me enormous pleasure to welcome you to the KMS production of "Chess – The Musical". The musical Chess is a major undertaking for any society but we have risen to the challenge and are so excited to present you with the fruits of our labour. And what a labour of love it has been!

Originally shut down just days away from stage during dark days in March 2020, our 2021 production has come to represent for us a re-awakening, a healing and an appreciation for each other and what we do. So, if it's possible, we present our show to you today, two and a half years in the making, with more enthusiasm and heart than ever before.

I am honoured to work alongside the members who form the KMS committee. In the long run up to this show they have amazed me with their dedication, support of the members and sheer hard work, all in their spare time. It has been an unwavering objective of this team to stage a KMS production like no other of recent years and I know you will agree with me that they have achieved this...and more!

We are extremely lucky that helping us rise to this challenge has been our production team, led by El Reilly and Geoff Woods. From the outset, their talent, passion and determination have guided our cast and crew to bring this production to a "Check-mate"! Joined by Rachel and Colum, as well as our set, props, wardrobe, back-stage and technical teams, it genuinely has been a coming together of skill and commitment that has made this show a joy to work on and I wholeheartedly thank each and every one of them.

I would like to pay tribute to our patrons and sponsors as well as DLR County Council, Rockford Manor school and those individuals and local businesses who have helped the society over the years, whether as part of our fundraising efforts or in preparation for our shows. We would not be able to present our productions without your continued support and we greatly appreciate it.

Finally to you, our audience and friends, I thank you for your support and encouragement of this wonderfully talented cast. They have worked tirelessly to ensure that you have an unforgettable evening with us. They are the heartbeat of KMS and it has been my absolute pleasure to watch Chess come to life through their perseverance and camaraderie. Now they are ready to Make their Move so please, sit back and enjoy the show!

A stylized, handwritten signature of Gillian Lynch in dark ink.

Gillian Lynch
Chairperson

ABOUT CHESS



Björn Ulvaeus

Tim Rice

Benny Andersson

CHESS is a musical with lyrics by Tim Rice and music by Björn Ulvaeus and Benny Andersson, formerly of ABBA. The story involves a romantic triangle between two players in a world chess championship, and a woman who manages one and falls in love with the other. Although the protagonists were not intended to represent any specific individuals, the character's personalities are loosely based on those of Victor Korchnoi and Bobby Fischer, and the oddity of the Merano championship in the musical is based on the similar oddities which occurred during the 1978 World Championship between Korchnoi and Anatoly Karpov.

Following the pattern of *Jesus Christ Superstar* and *Evita*, a concept album was recorded and released in 1984 before any stage production was underway. A single from the album, "One Night In Bangkok", performed by Murray Head with Anders Glenmark became a worldwide smash and reached No.3 on Billboard Hot 100 chart in the US, while the duet, "I Know Him So Well", by Elaine Paige and Barbara Dickson, held the number one spot on the UK singles charts for 4 weeks in February 1985.

THE PLOT

PROLOGUE: An ancient bitter feud between two brothers results in the concept of a game called Chess.

ACT 1 Now, the World Chess Championship is being held in the northern Italian town of Merano. Freddie, the brash American champion relishes the crowd's affection, while Anatoly, his Russian challenger, and Molokov, his second (actually a KGB agent), watch with curiosity and disdain.

The opening ceremony features The Arbiter insisting on holding the proceedings together, US and Soviet diplomats vowing their side will win, and marketers just looking to make a buck. The American storms out of a rules meeting, leaving his second, Florence, in an argument with the Arbiter and the Russians. She later scolds him, but he insists that she, a child emigré who escaped Hungary during the 1956 Hungarian Revolution, should support him. Instead, she reflects that "Nobody's on Nobody's Side".

The first game of the match goes badly, with dirty tricks nearly evolving into a brawl. A meeting to smooth things over goes badly and strands Anatoly and Florence together, where they quickly develop feelings for one another. As the matches continue, Freddie flounders and blames Florence, who leaves him.

The Russian wins the championship, then defects to the West. Answering reporters' questions about his loyalties, his "Anthem" declares that "my land's only borders lie around my heart."

ACT 2 A year later, Anatoly is set to defend his Championship in Bangkok, Thailand. Freddie, now a news reporter, is already there, chatting up locals about the nightlife. Florence and Anatoly, who are now lovers, worry about the situation.

Molokov, meanwhile, has trained a new Russian protégé Vigaand to challenge Anatoly. Freddie interviews Anatoly on TV and makes obvious attempts to rattle him, even declaring that his wife Svetlana is being allowed to leave Russia to attend the match. Anatoly makes a deal to return to Russia in exchange for the release of Florence's father while Svetlana and Florence both reflect on their relationships with the Champion.

Freddie goes to Anatoly with information about Florence's long-lost father, claiming that instead of being a hero as she believed, he was a collaborator. Anatoly, and later Florence, dismiss him, unwilling to hear what he has to say. He reflects on his life and his obsession with Chess as a way to escape an unhappy childhood. In the deciding game of the match, he manages an exceptional victory, and realises that it may be the only success he can achieve - Svetlana castigates him for wallowing in the crowd's empty praise. Both acknowledge they are doomed to care only for themselves.

Later, he and Florence reflect on their story that seemed so promising, and how they go on pretending stories like theirs have happy endings. Left alone, Florence is approached by Walter and receives further devastating news when he tells her that the old man she met was not her father after all. Instead of him being released, Anatoly's return has secured the release of a CIA agent. As her world falls apart, she realises that it's all been a trick. She asks if Anatoly knew the man was not her father and Walter tells her that he believes Anatoly thought his return to Russia would secure the release of her father.

MUSICAL NUMBERS-ACT 1

"The Story of Chess"	The Arbiter and Ensemble
"Merano" / "Rock Merano"	Mayor and Ensemble / Freddie and Florence
"Commie Newspapers"	Freddie and Florence
"Press Conference"	Freddie, Florence and Reporters
"Anatoly & Molokov" /	Anatoly and Molokov / Anatoly and Ensemble
"Where I Want to Be"	
"Diplomats"	Molokov, Walter and Ensemble
"The Arbiter"	The Arbiter and Ensemble
"Hymn to Chess"	Ensemble
"Merchandisers"	Ensemble
"Chess #1"	<i>Instrumental</i>
"The Arbiter (Reprise)"	The Arbiter
"Quartet (A Model of Decorum and Tranquillity)"	Molokov, Florence, The Arbiter and Anatoly
"Florence and Molokov"	Molokov, Florence, Walter and Freddie
"1956 – Budapest is Rising"	Florence and Freddie
"Nobody's Side"	Florence and Ensemble
"Der Kleine Franz"	Ensemble
"Mountain Duet"	Florence and Anatoly
"Chess #2"	<i>Instrumental</i>
"Florence Quits"	Freddie and Florence
"Pity the Child"	Freddie and Ensemble
"Defection Scene"	<i>Instrumental</i>
"Embassy Lament"	Ensemble
"Heaven Help My Heart"	Florence
"Anatoly and the Press"	Anatoly and Reporters
"Anthem"	Anatoly and Ensemble



MUSICAL NUMBERS-ACT 2

"Golden Bangkok"

"One Night in Bangkok"

"One More Opponent" / "You and I"

"The Soviet Machine"

"The Interview"

"Someone Else's Story"

"The Deal"

"I Know Him So Well"

"Talking Chess"

"Endgame"

"You and I (Reprise)"

"Finale"

Instrumental

Freddie and Ensemble

Anatoly and Florence

Molokov and Ensemble

Walter, Freddie and Anatoly

Svetlana

The Arbiter, Molokov, Svetlana, Walter,

Florence, Freddie and Anatoly

Florence and Svetlana

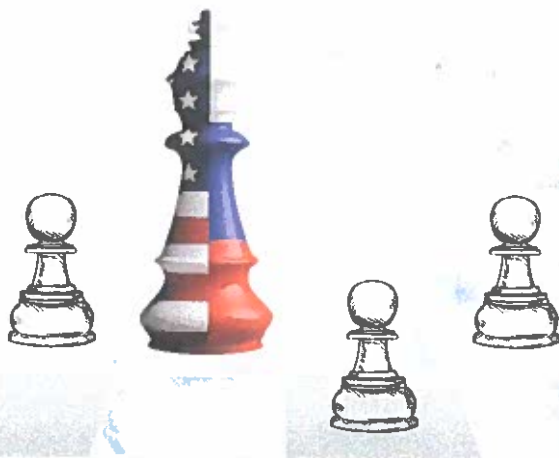
Freddie and Anatoly

Molokov, Walter, Florence, Anatoly,

Svetlana and Ensemble

Florence and Anatoly

Walter and Florence



KMS COMMITTEE 2019 - 2021



CHAIRPERSON: Gillian Lynch
TREASURER: Claire Manning

VICE CHAIR: Rhona Gleeson
SECRETARY: Nikki Johnston

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Ciarán Mc Loughlin
Chris O'Connor
Nora Dwyer
Gopi Krishna

Malcolm Bolton
Marianne Lambert
Rosaleen Scallan

PRODUCTION TEAM

PRODUCTION MANAGER:

Gillian Lynch

STAGE MANAGER & SET PRODUCTION:

Colum McDaid

LIGHTING:

Kris Mooney

SOUND:

Wilkins Sound Systems

COSTUMES & STYLING:

Rhona Gleeson

PROPS:

Claire Manning

PHOTOGRAPHY:

Hazel Button

PROGRAMME:

Marianne Lambert

GRAPHIC DESIGN & VISUALS:

EJ Reilly

STAGE CREW:

Paul Meehan, Paul
Johnston, Julie Donohue,
Suzanne Cotter, Emily Deasy,
Lorraine McDaid, Clare Keating



Director—EJ Reilly

No stranger to the stage, EJ has been nominated for 4 AIMS awards: Best Comedienne and Best Actress, both for her performances of Mrs. Lovett in Sweeney Todd. She won Best Female Singer for her performance as Katisha in The Hot Mikado and Best Comedienne for Delor's Van Cartier in Sister Act. Her highlight to date was being selected to perform as a soloist on the Bord Gais Energy Theatre stage for the AIMS 50th Anniversary Concert. Other favourite theatre credits include: Mayor Matilda (All Shook Up) Ernestina Money (Hello Dolly) Muriel Eubanks (Dirty Rotten Scoundrels), Eviline (The Wiz) and Frauline Grossenbustenhälter (Spring Awakening, Irish Premiere). EJ's directing credits include: Hair (The Dublin Premiere), Back to the 80's, Little Shop Of Horrors and The Wizard of Oz. She is honoured to have had the opportunity to work with KMS. Chess is a huge undertaking for any group and watching the hard work, dedication and trust this welcoming group has given over the past 20 months really has been inspiring. Enjoy every minute!



Musical Director—Geoff Woods

Geoff was very involved in the Irish music scene for many years, recording, performing and touring internationally with platinum selling Indie-pop band Picturehouse.

Since then he has taken to writing, editing and musical directing, as well as choral and music teaching at national and post-primary school levels. Geoff holds a BA in Music and Human Development and is currently studying for a Masters in Education. He has been working with KMS since 2014 and he loves the positive atmosphere and working with the wonderfully talented cast here. He is really looking forward to this production of Chess at The Mill Theatre. Enjoy the show!



Choreographer—Rachel Sheahan

Rachel trained in dance from the age of 3. She has a Certificate in Dance from Sallynoggin College and she trained in Performance full-time in Bull Alley Theatre Training School. She also holds a Certificate in Solo Acting from The Guild Hall London School of Music and Drama. Rachel is a T.C.R.G. with An Coimisiún le Rinci Gaelacha, making her a qualified Irish dancing teacher. She has toured with many Irish dance shows and musicals and appeared in numerous theatre shows, short films, music videos and commercials. Rachel has choreographed many dance shows, musicals and TV shows and has been working with KMS since 2015. Her choreography for KMS includes The Witches of Eastwick, Singin' in the Rain, Spirit of Ireland, All Shook Up, Funny Girl, Hammerstein to Hamilton, It's Showtime, The Greatest Musical and Tale As Old As Time. Rachel is delighted to be back working with KMS again for the musical Chess.



THE PLAYERS



Frederick Trumper *played by* Dónal Lynch

This is Dónal's second show with KMS, having played Dean Hyde in the 2017 production of "All Shook Up" after his sister Aisling introduced him to the society. He is absolutely thrilled to be returning this year playing the intriguing role of Freddie Trumper. He would like to pass on a huge thank you to the cast, crew and production team for the huge effort put into the show and for making everything possible. He'd like to thank you for supporting the society and hopes you enjoy the show!



Anatoly Sergievsky *played by* Ciarán McLoughlin

This is Ciarán's first year with KMS. His first performance with KMS was in the show "Tale as Old as Time" staged in November 2019. Anatoly is Ciarán's first named role on stage since playing Jean Valjean in his Transition Year school musical Les Misérables. He has since been a member of the ensemble in a 2019 production of Chicag. He is excited to be taking on the role of Anatoly and wishes to thank the production team, cast and crew for all their hard work.



Florence Vassy *played by* Sarah Riddick

Sarah has been a member of Kilmacud Musical Society since 2015, when she played the role of Kathy Selden in "Singin' in the Rain," for which she received an AIMS nomination for Best Female Singer. Within the society, Sarah went on to play such roles as Lorraine in "All Shook Up" (2017) and Judy in "9 to 5" (2019). She also performed the role of Woman One in the Irish premiere of "Edges" (2018) with The Rising Theatre Company. Sarah couldn't be happier to be back on stage and wishes the entire cast and crew well.



Arbiter *played by* Nikki Johnston

Nikki is delighted to be on stage with KMS again, playing the fierce role of the Arbiter in this year's musical, Chess! Nikki joined KMS for their 2017 production of "All Shook Up" and loved it so much that she never left! Her theatre credits include Roz Keith (9to5 - The Musical), Linda (The Wedding Singer), Susan (Calamity Jane) and Poopsie (The Pajama Game). Nikki enjoys weekly vocal coaching in The Voice Studio, Dublin. She wants to thank all the cast, crew, committee and production team for their amazing work.

THE PLAYERS



Walter de Courcey *played by* Chris O'Connor

This is Chris's 12th show with KMS, having been a member since 2008. Being involved in theatre as far back as he remembers, Chris has performed in the Trinity and Edinburgh Fringe Festivals & directed numerous shows, recently winning 'Best Director' at the 65th Wicklow ICA Drama Festival. When he's not singing, acting, directing, designing, writing or dancing (badly), he can also be heard on the podcast "Dublin & Dragons". He is delighted to be back with KMS and would like to thank everyone for all their hard work. Break a Leg!



Alexander Molokov *played by* Brian Dennison

Brian has been involved in all aspects of theatre for over 20 years. He has performed in works like Amadeus, by Peter Shaffer, Stay Carl Stay by Peter Tolin and David Hare's The Blue Room. His musical background includes roles in Avenue Q, The Wedding Singer and Jekyll and Hyde. Brian loves writing and directing plays and has written a dozen which have been performed. While talking dogs are now a specialty, working on Avenue Q has proven that there is room for more than one muppet on stage.



Svetlana Sergievskaya *played by* Kirsty McDougall

Kirsty is absolutely thrilled to be joining KMS for Chess. Kirsty graduated from D.I.T Conservatory of Music & Drama with a B.A in Drama Performance & Theatre Studies and is a winner of numerous vocal awards. She has played Ado Annie (Oklahoma!), Ilse (u/s: Irish Premiere of Spring Awakening), Giriband Member (Godspell), The Scarecrow (The Wiz), First Witch (Macbeth) and Benvolio (Romeo & Juliet) and been a Featured Soloist (Sound of Music concert). She would like to thank KMS for this wonderful opportunity and for all their hard work.

"Merchandisers"

BR L-R: Orla Cooney, Mary Dunphy, Marianne Lambert, Haolin (Rex) Zhang

FR: Joyce Neary, Rachel Brady, Alison Gill, Rhona Gleeson



"Reporters"

BR L-R: Amy Behan, Gillian Lynch, Dave Claffey, Aisling Cuffe, Mary Dunphy

FR: Avril McCarthy, Rhona Gleeson, Lauren Murphy



"Viigand & The Mayor of Merano"
Dave Claffey & Marianne Lambert



"Civil Servants"

BR L-R: Rhona Gleeson, Claire Manning, Marianne Lambert

FR: Joyce Neary, Alison Gill, Avril McCarthy



"Pop-Up-Choir"

BR L-R: Claire Manning, Dave Claffey, Marianne Lambert, Sinead Ní Ghriofa, Sarah Dooley

FR: Nora Dwyer, Rachel Brady, Eimear Greene, Aisling Cuffe

"Dance Troupe"

BR L-R: Amy Behan, Gillian Lynch, Nora Dwyer, Lauren Murphy.

FR L-R: Sarah Dooley, Rosaleen Scallan, Zarah Doyle, Eimear Philbin.



"Diplomats"

BR L-R: Avril McCarthy, Billy Andrews, Gary Graham, Gopi Krishna, Dave Claffey

FR: Eimear Philbin, Alison Gill, Haolin (Rex) Zhang, Rhona Gleeson, Mary Dunphy



If you have enjoyed this show, KMS are back in 2022

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Gopi Khrishna
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Joyce Neary
Kirsty McDougall
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Fred Graham
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Roisin Doherty

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The Society continues to be amazed by the unstinting kindness, generosity and support of you, the local business community and people of South County Dublin and beyond.

You have once again accepted our invitation to avail of the opportunity to contribute unselfishly of your time and resources in the staging of our productions, and so ensure the attainment of consistently high standards.

IN REMEMBRANCE

We would like to take this opportunity to remember pioneering members of KMS and friends of our society whom we have lost in recent times. Their love of the arts, determination to enhance our society and enduring generosity towards us are an inspiration to us as we carry on their legacy. We hold them dear in our hearts as we take to the stage today.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a n-anamacha dílse.



ABOUT US

It all began in 1982, when Kilmacud Musical & Dramatic Society (as it was known then) staged the classic John B. Keane play, Big Maggie. In 1988, we decided to focus all our efforts on musicals and since then have staged many of the best known and loved musicals available.

In 2011, KMS celebrated its thirtieth anniversary season by staging a special variety show, entitled An Evening with KMS, in The Stillorgan Park Hotel. Such was its success, we have staged an original, inhouse-written show every Autumn since then with various themes and musical styles, as well as a musical in springtime.

KMS has received numerous national AIMS awards over the years including Best Chorus (Fiddler on the Roof), Best Comedienne (Marijka Walsh) and Best Visual (Hot Mikado), as well as runner-up awards for a number of our solo singers and actors. We also attend the annual AIMS choral festival in New Ross, Co. Wexford and have been successful in winning trophies on a few occasions.

Each year we strive to use our talents for the good of a charity partner and in 2019, following a carol singing performance in Dundrum TC, we were delighted to donate a significant amount to the Crumlin Medical Research Foundation, and we hope to do the same this year.



Friendship and community spirit is very important to us in KMS and we continue to greatly appreciate the bonds of friendship that we form as well as the local support we receive. Whether it is assistance with our annual fundraiser or preparation for both of our shows, or simply coming to see us perform, it all forms part of this exciting society that we hope will continue to thrive for years to come!

If you would like to be part of Kilmacud Musical Society, either on the stage or behind the scenes, please feel free to get in touch. Visit us at

www.kilmacudmusicalsociety.ie





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