

WHERE ARE THEY NOW? JUNE 2015

THE NYMT'S FIRST OSCAR WINNER IS ALSO HONOURED WITH THE OBE. Many congratulations to **EDDIE REDMAYNE**. Also how encouraging to find that there are almost as many past and present NYMTers now working in the straight theatre as those in the musical theatre.

At the moment, **ALEX HASSELL** (*The Kissing Dance 1997, The Wizard of Oz 1998*) having just played Prince Hal in the RSC's *Henry IV Parts 1 and 2* (brilliantly) is now playing opposite Anthony Sher in the RSC production of *Death of a Salesman* coming to the Noel Coward Theatre; **PHILIP CUMBUS** (*Tin Pan Ali 1997, The Wizard of Oz 1998*) is currently in the cast of *The Importance of Being Earnest* at the Vaudeville Theatre as is **EMILY BARBER** (*All Above Board 2008, The Hired Man 2009*) playing Gwendolyn with David Suchet playing her mother, Lady Bracknell. Following her stunning five star reviews at The Bristol Old Vic **MADDY WORRALL**, (*Pendragon 1994, The Beggar's Opera 1996*) is bringing her *Jane Eyre* to The National Theatre in September - do not miss it - while **BEN LAMB** (*The Ballad of Salomon Pavey 2000, The Dreaming 2004*) is back at Shakespeare's Globe this summer in *The Merchant of Venice*. Also in *The Beggar's Opera* and *The Wizard of Oz* was **GAVIN SPOKES**, who is currently wowing the country playing the lead in the National Theatre's tour of *One Man, Two Guvnors*. **HARA YANNAS**, (*Aurelius 1998, XNYMT 2000*) is at The Almeida in *The Oresteia* and **TIM McMULLEN** (*Tin Pan Ali 1979*), who continues as a member of the National Theatre Company in *Man and Superman* at the Olivier, recently read beautifully *The Weather Experiment*, BBC Radio 4's book of the week. Another regular radio voice is **ADAM PARSONS** (*Captain Stirrick 1980*), Chief Presenter of *Wake Up To Money* on BBC Radio Five Live. At the Royal Court Theatre the success of *The Twits* has no doubt owed a great deal to **OLIVER LLEWELLYN-JENKINS** (*The Dreaming 2000*). He was hilarious aged 13 playing WALTER GRUBB in *The Dreaming* and another past Dreamer, **DOM HODSON** (*The Dreaming 2006, Whistle Down the Wind 2007, The Last 5 Years 2012*) is currently playing Captain Nicholls in the National Theatre's production of *War Horse* at the New London Theatre.

Meanwhile, back in the old familiar territory of the world of Musical Theatre, the NYMT continues to dominate!

LARA PULVER (*Pendragon 1995, Aurelius, 1996*) is giving Imelda Staunton a run for her money playing her daughter in the hugely acclaimed production of *Gypsy* at The Savoy, which is where the Chichester production of *Guys and Dolls* is transferring to with **JAMIE PARKER** (*The Beggar's Opera 1998, Into The Woods 1999*), playing Sky Masterson (UK Theatre Award for Best Performance in a Musical). JAMIE, hot from *Assassins* at The Meunier Chocolate Factory, is currently playing the lead in *High Society* at the Old Vic where old NYMT friend **JOE STILGOE** is also on stage on the keyboards. (Congratulations are due to Joe and **KATIE BEARD** (*Choreography, The Dreaming 2004* and countless workshops) who, following their marriage in 2014, have recently celebrated the arrival of Sylvie into the world (and she's down for an audition in 2026!). Also in the cast of *Assassins*, playing Giuseppe Zangara, was **Stewart Clarke** (*Sweeney Todd 2010/11, Songs for a New World 2012*). In the cast of *Billy Elliot*, **CHARLOTTE RIBEY** (*Bugsy Malone 1997, creation 1999*) continues the NYMT link - (**JAMIE BELL** who played the lead in the film was with the NYMT for four years in *Tin Pan Ali 1996, Bugsy Malone 1997, The Wizard of Oz 1998* and *The Ragged Child 1999*). In *Mamma Mia* at The Strand, **REBECCA LOCK** (*The Song of the Loathly Lady 1993, Pendragon 1994*) and **SHONA WHITE** (*Brilliant the Dinosaur 1993*) are flying the NYMT flag, as is **ASHLEY DAY** (creation 2000, *Oklahoma! 2002*) in *The Book of Mormon* at The Prince of Wales and **ADAM PEARCE** (*Pendragon 2000, Oklahoma! 2002*) in *Les Misérables* at The Queen's. Another Dreamer, **ED CURRIE** (*The Dreaming 2008, Fiddler On The Roof 2007*), following his triumphs in *A Chorus Line* at The Palladium, is now doing his stuff in the wonderful production of *Beautiful* at The Aldwych - very highly recommended. Mention of *The Dreaming* prompts a neat segue to *Bend it Like Beckham*, just opening at The Phoenix. **HOWARD GOODALL** and **CHARLES HART** (who wrote *The Hired Man*, which the NYMT has staged twice in the past ten years, also wrote **THE**

KISSING DANCE and **THE DREAMING** to commissions from the NYMT) clearly and kindly giving a big nod to the NYMT, they sensibly cast **JAMIE CAMPBELL BOWER**, (**The Dreaming 2004**) into the show - which we all wish well. Glinda in **Wicked** is still in the capable hands of **SAVANNAH STEPHENSON** (**Whistle Down the Wind 1996**) while another past Glinda, **GINA BECK** (**Warchild 1996, The Kissing Dance 1998, Pendragon 1999**) is to appear in a July revival of **I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change** in the new studio space Above The Arts. **PHOEBE STREET** (**Whistle Down The Wind 2008, All Above Board 2008**) has just completed her time on tour playing Katie Brown in **Calamity Jane**, directed by **NIKOLAI FOSTER** (**West Side Story 2013, The Hired Man 2014**). **MICHAEL COLBOURNE** (**The Other School 2013**) has just completed his run as Enjolras in **Les Misérables**, just as **EDD CAMPBELL BIRD** (**The Hired Man 2009**) joins the cast as Prouvaire/1st cover Marius following his stint in the ENO production of **Sweeney Todd**. **DOMINIC TIGHE** (**Whistle Down the Wind 1996, The Dreaming 1999, Oklahoma! 2003**) continues in the wonderful Kinks musical **Sunny Afternoon** at the Harold Pinter Theatre. **JJT** has just returned from a three month stint in Sydney where he co-wrote and directed a new musical, **A Peculiar People**, working with composer **DAVID JENSEN** (**Assistant Musical Director, The Little Rats, Greece 1989**). He also staged **The Ballad of Salomon Pavey** at Shore Grammar School where in January, **HUON MACKLEY** (**Whistle Down the Wind 2013 Brass, 2014**) and **GEORGE RENSHAW** (**The Ragged Child 2014, Pendragon 2015**) who won scholarships to attend the International Boys' Summer Ballet School.

In the world of opera In Grange Park Opera's production of **Fiddler on the Roof** NYMT provides two of Tevye's (Bryn Terfel) daughters: **MOLLY LYNCH** (**The Dreaming 2012**) and **KATIE HALL** (**The Dreaming 2006, Fiddler on the Roof 2007**). The ensemble also features another from the 2007 NYMT production, **TOM ISHERWOOD** (**also Sweeney Todd 2010/11**) and from English National Opera North comes a recent announcement of a new production of **Kiss Me Kate** to be directed by **JO DAVIES** (**The Ragged Child 1986, The Roman Invasion of Ramsbottom 1987. Director, The Wizard of Oz 1996**)

Finally, casting a somewhat wistful glance back to NYMT's triumphant production of **Bugsy Malone** at The Horsham Arts Centre, The George Square Theatre (1996) The Edinburgh Festival Theatre, The Lyric Hammersmith and the hugely successful West End run in The Queen's Theatre in 1997/8, it would be churlish not to wish **Bugsy Malone** in general and **DREW McONIE**, (**Choreographer, 13 2012 and West Side Story 2013**) in particular, all the very best for the current revival production at The Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, where the cast includes **JACQUES MICHE** (**13 2012, The Hired Man 2014**) and Isaac Gryn (**West Side Story 2013**). **DOMINIC HARRISON** (**13, West Side Story and The Hired Man 2014**) had to drop out of the cast due to injury and we wish him a very speedy recovery.

OUR FIRST OSCAR!

Meanwhile, on screen a brilliant NYMT first achieved by the formidable figure of **EDDIE REDMAYNE** (**The Ballad of Salomon Pavey 2000**) has seen the NYMT's first **OSCAR** as well as its second **GOLDEN GLOBE**, its umpteenth **BAFTA** and its first **SCREENWRITERS' GUILD** award for his brilliant performance in **The Theory of Everything**. Add his recent wedding and his award of the **OBE** to the mix and it could be said that the Redmayne cup is full to overflowing at the moment. **Question**: Is Eddie the first actor to have won all four major film awards in one year?

MIKE JIBSON (**Bugsy Malone 1996, Tin Pan Ali 1997, The Kissing Dance 1998**), not content with just being in films, has made his own, **The Lighthouse**, which he co-wrote and starred in which is out next year. Following his brief performance in the magnificent Victoria Wood musical play **That Day We Sang** on ITV, he is currently filming a small role in **Beauty and the Beast**. **BEN BARNES** (**Bugsy Malone 1997, The Ballad of Salomon Pavey 1998, The Dreaming**) has a new film **The Seventh Son** just opening, and **SALLY HAWKINS** (**El Retablo de Maese Pedro 1992, Pendragon 1994**) gives yet another winning performance in **Paddington** alongside **MADDIE WORRALL** (see above). Soon to collect her OBE at Buckingham Palace, **SHERIDAN SMITH** (**Pendragon 1995, Tin Pan Ali 1996, Bugsy Malone 1997/8 The Kissing Dance 1998**) following on from her impressive past television performances as Mrs Biggs and Cilla recently added yet another magnificent role as Lisa Lynch in **The C Word** for the BBC.

No prizes for guessing who is the busiest actor on the block! **TOBY JONES** (**The Leaving of Liverpool 1981, Tin Pan Ali 1983**) who has no fewer than nine filming projects on the boil at the

moment: ***The Canterville Ghost, Alice Through the Looking Glass, Dad's Army, Capital, The Hunger Games, Part 2, Wayward Pines, The Man Who Knew Infinity, Agent Carter*** and ***Tale of Tales***. Let's hope he'll have enough energy left to repeat his marvellous reading he gave us last year at the NYMT Christmas Concert in St John's Smith Square in December.

And finally, our congratulations go to **AMY NUTTALL** (NYMT Patron, ***Whistle Down the Wind 1995, Aurelius 1996***) who gave birth to a gorgeous little girl on Easter Sunday, called Tabitha Ellen Rose Buchan.