

BROS Theatre Company

## **BROS CENTENARY GALA • OCTOBER 2008 • RICHMOND THEATRE**

### **Alumni Testimonial**

We were not quite sure what to expect as from the various missives you wrote in the BROS Newsletter we rather thought it was going to be endless excerpts from the various shows suggested. Instead, we got a very well constructed panorama of the sort of shows BROS produced over the years, presented as a series of musical numbers by a superb group of artists and dancers.

We were very impressed with the verve and dash which the chorus put into it. I noticed for instance that every one of your male chorus acted their socks off in the Dames Number from South Pacific which had as much punch as the original show at Drury Lane! My goodness, what an amazing bunch of male and female singers you have in the Company. To be honest, I am not sure what they would have sounded like without the mikes, but nearly all shows now have this facility, so why not use it to the full, and how well they did just that.

I think the one word which describes the production is "slick". It was obviously well rehearsed and as far as we could see, went entirely without a hitch.

Finally, I must say what a fantastic contribution Alan made to the proceedings. Since I knew him, he has obviously blossomed out to the one of TV's most polished presenters and his talents certainly made the evening go with such a swing. I must say, I did not realise just how much BROS meant to him and I was personally very proud to have been associated with him when he first joined the company.

I was also very impressed with the amount Alison has put in. I must confess, I did not know she had produced so many shows and had been President for so long. Now, she has a talented daughter in the show as well.

I am sure that if Geoffrey and Daphne Needs were watching from above, they would have been very proud parents.

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**David & Anne Armstrong**

Many congratulations to everyone who took part in the marvellous Gala Show on Sunday. It was so well put together and performed by such a lot of talented people, an absolute joy to behold!

Many thanks for the opportunity to meet old friends in the interval, one or two great surprises which was fantastic.

We're looking forward to The Ball and the culmination of a marvellously planned Centenary Year. Everyone concerned must have worked sooh hard!

See you at the Ball! Best Wishes,

San Pedro de Alcántara October 28th 2008

I just wanted to say how much I enjoyed the Gala Concert on Sunday night. It brought back many happy memories of the shows I did with BROS and I got quite emotional at the end. It was great to see that the tradition of presenting professional shows still continues and that the company has so many talented young people.

The production team did an excellent job - it can't have been easy deciding what to leave out with such a large choice of material and it can't have been easy working out a rehearsal schedule with a cast of 60.

Having done many overnight get-ins followed by a dress rehearsal I can appreciate the amount of effort that everyone had to put in to achieve such an excellent end result in the short time available in the theatre. It was well worth coming back from Spain to be part of and to meet up with so many old friends.

I'm only sorry that I'm unlikely to be around for the 150th anniversary celebrations.

**Barbie Mitchell**

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