



LTAS flies high with Aladdin

Limassol Theatre Arts School (LTAS) is taking a magical carpet ride this weekend – and everyone's invited.

Back by popular demand, the LTAS group who brought audiences the highly praised *Beauty and the Beast* is presenting *Aladdin* for its big annual performance. Performances will take place on Saturday and Sunday at 3pm and 6.30pm. A closed premiere performance for an invited charity audience will also take place on the Saturday.

Young performers aged three to 18 have been working on the show for months under the direction of their teachers. The cast will show you "A Whole New World" as they lead you on an adventure-filled journey to the ancient city of Agrabah, where every beggar has a story and every camel has a tail...

The show sets out to bring fresh excitement to lovers of musicals. The Disney story tells the tale of the street urchin Aladdin who finds a lamp, which contains a magical genie. It pops out when he rubs the lamp and, from then on, the pair get up to all sorts of japes. Aladdin, Genie and Jasmine, the lovely princess, educate and entertain the audience through their thrilling quests. The evil Jafar adds a villainous presence to the tale as he plots against our hero.

There is never a dull moment in this production, with plenty of mischief and mayhem, audiences' spirits will soar with excitement and the performance is not short of humour and fun dance routines. Most of all, the tuneful, Academy award-winning score with songs including 'Friend Like Me', will certainly make this school production a favourite for all ages.

For those not familiar with LTAS, it's a thriving stage school for kids, which aims to identify talent, nurture that gift and enable each student to reach their full potential. Under the expert guid-

ance of an ex-West End performer and a team of professionals, LTAS seeks to build confidence and communication skills as well as vocational development in the following disciplines: Musical Theatre, Dance, Drama, Singing (Vocals), Communication (Public Speaking/Confidence building), Musical Instruments (Piano/keyboard). LTAS combines traditional theatre training with up-to-the-minute performance techniques. Students learn their skills through both practice in class and performance opportunities outside, with a strong emphasis on discipline and learning how to meet any occasion encountered with confidence.

Their productions have been praised for their quality and their ability to give students valuable exposure to the profession. As well as varied and regular performance opportunities, LTAS prepares students for auditions (including those for vocational Stage Schools in the UK post 16 years and post 18 years) and provides filming experiences/training, recording opportunities and casting for TV work.

Regular workshops are also organised for the students. Classes are available after school during the week and on Saturdays for children from the age of three years. There are three terms in the academic year and children are welcome to join classes at any time.

Aladdin

Limassol Theatre Arts School (LTAS) presents its big annual performance for 2013. February 23-24. Limassol Theatre Arts School, 13 Panathineon Street, Ayia Zoni. 3pm & 6.30pm. €10 adults/€5 children. Tel: 99-784927/99-324123. Email: limassol.arts@gmail.com, admin@limassolarts.com. www.limassolarts.com

By Ledha Socratous

Coming Up

Music

Bringing back the "feel good" factor

Paphos Voices is a newly-formed group, the members of which have already established themselves as accomplished singers with other Paphos choirs. Sixteen in number, and with highly-talented accompanist Nadia Iotova, they are hoping to make a fresh impact on the Paphos musical scene with songs and choruses that are familiar, but not hackneyed. Definitely not a "rock" choir, they are aiming to re-introduce a "feel good" factor to musical evenings by performing selections from light opera and operettas that have been somewhat neglected over the past years, by composers such as Strauss, Offenbach, Sigmund Romberg, Ivor Novello, Franz Lehar and,

of course, Gilbert and Sullivan. Some joyous classical choral music will also be in their future repertoire, together with traditional songs and madrigals that were, and still are, widely sung by famous choral societies throughout the United Kingdom.

All the members are of equal status in that there is no overall leader or conductor. Each member has the right and opportunity to contribute to the smooth running of the choir, using their musical knowledge and skill to help maintain a professional standard of singing. Formality will be kept to a minimum, the aim being to look and sound elegantly pleasing rather than mimicking the standardised format of other choirs.

Their debut concert, *A String of Pearls*, takes place on Saturday, and will be a delightful mixture of operetta and opera choruses. The first half of the programme will be light-hearted excerpts from the Savoy Operas of Gilbert and Sullivan, once a prerequisite of all choral

societies everywhere, but now seldom heard. Beginning with the declaration 'Hail Poetry!' from *The Pirates of Penzance*, the programme has songs from *The Mikado*, *The Sorcerer*, *Utopia Ltd*, *Iolanthe*, *Trial by Jury*, *H.M.S. Pinafore* and ending with the sparkling finale from *The Gondoliers*. After the Interval come lovely choruses from the operas of Wagner, Verdi, Gounod, Borodin and Humperdinck. The programme concludes with familiar melodies by Offenbach, Franz Lehar and finally Johann Strauss. Taking place at the Palia Ilectriki Centre, the tickets will be a mere €5, which is hoped will encourage a substantial audience to come and sample this musical venture.

A String of Pearls

Paphos Voices present musical gems from the world of opera and operetta. February 23. The Palia Ilectriki Centre, Paphos. 7.30pm. €5. Profits will be donated to local charities. Tel: 99-771548/99-0065286

By Anita E.Dye

To have your event included for FREE in our listings, send details to: Arts Editor, Cyprus Mail, PO Box 21144, Nicosia. Fax: 22-676385. Email: whatson@cyprus-mail.com. Please send your information as early as possible. Include full details, a contact number and good quality photos

Tomorrow

Music

Love in all shapes and sizes

Love songs come in all guises. Some are soppy (come on down, Celine Dion!), some are filled with yearning, some are heartbroken, hurt, even angry. You could spend a whole night listening to nothing but love songs - and, just in case you didn't get the chance to celebrate this Valentine's Day, the Rialto Theatre in Limassol gives you (and your loved one) a chance to do exactly that, presenting a live concert dedicated to love songs from all over the world. Known for her incredible talent

and instantly recognisable voice, Elli Paspala will give new life to the most beautiful Greek and foreign love songs, accompanied by composer-jazz piano soloist Takis Farazis. This touching concert is both tender and explosive. Aptly named "The Faces of Love", during the evening Paspala and Farazis will attempt to awaken within the audience memories of being in love and love lost, with songs by Manos Hadjidakis, Stavros Xarchakos, Stamatia Kraounakis, as well as songs by Tom Waits, Leonard Cohen and Van Morrison.

The Faces of Love

Concert with English and Greek love songs featuring the distinctive voice of Elli Paspala accompanied by pianist Takis Farazis February 22. Rialto Theatre, Limassol. 8.30pm. Tel: 77-777745. E-ticket: www.rialto.com.cy



NIGHTLIFE

Raves, grunge, Britpop... is it 90s nostalgia already?

Bust out your scrunchies, bumbags and acid wash jeans, because the '90s are back!

After the great success of Volume 1, 2, 3 & 4, Choice FM is Back for Volume 5 and taking everyone back to the '90s tomorrow evening at Columbia Plaza's 7Seas, for a night of classic hits mixed by none other than the 90s expert DJ Mario. In an era where there was no social networking, we watched the latest videos on TV instead of YouTube and we bought CD's at record stores instead of downloading songs from iTunes, the political and economical climate in Europe and the US was relatively peaceful, allowing 90s kids to grow up worry free and able to fully embrace and enjoy the culture around them.

As the 90s went along, key parts of its culture and spirit were captured and fuelled by the music that accompanied it. As with any decade, some songs were so integral to the experience that they became a reminder of what living at the



time was like. This was the decade that spawned the non-stop rave, had us rocking out to grunge, bouncing to Britpop, and blowing our whistles to techno. So if you love 90s music and 'wannabe' dancing to the very best pop from that great decade, then get yourself to 7Seas tomorrow, for a night of non-stop 90s floor fillers. The 90s has made a phenomenal comeback recently in both the music and fashion worlds, so it only seems right to take a nostalgic tour through some of the landmark tracks that defined not only the decade, but also dance music itself. Don't forget your glow stick!

Back to the 90s

DJ Mario plays the best hits of the 90s. February 22. 7 Seas, Columbia Plaza, 223 St. Andrews Street, Limassol. 10.30pm. Free. Tel: 25-278000