



Solihull School

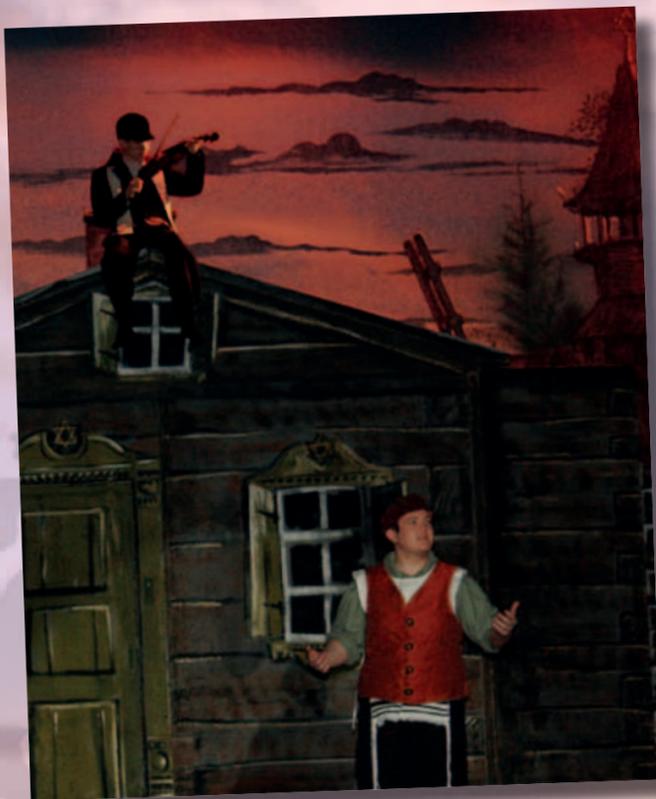
Presents

Fiddler on the Roof

20th - 24th March 2012
Bushell Hall



Fiddler on the Roof



SYNOPSIS

The place is Anatevka, a village in Tsarist Russia. The time is 1905, the eve of the revolution. The musical opens with the haunting strains of a fiddler perched precariously on a roof. Despite the danger of slipping off the roof, the fiddler merrily plays on.

Tevye, a humble milkman, shuffles forth to explain that the villages, too, live precariously. "You may ask, how do we keep our balance? That I can tell you in one word...tradition." Introducing his wife and five daughters, the matchmaker Yente, the butcher, Lazar Wolf, the Rabbi, and all of the close-knit townspeople, Tevye explains that it is the longstanding traditions of their village, culture, and religion that steady and guide the people of Anatevka.

Tevye's three eldest daughters, knowing they have no dowries, consider their fates in "Matchmaker, Matchmaker." Unbeknownst to her father, Tevye's eldest daughter, Tzeitel, has fallen in love with the poor tailor of the village, Motel Kamzoil. Tradition dictates that these things be arranged and Yente has arranged a wedding between Tzeitel and Lazar Wolf, a rich man old enough to be her father.

After another arduous day during which his horse has gone lame Tevye pauses briefly to converse with God and to luxuriate in the daydream, "If I Were A Rich Man." Later, Tevye trudges homeward with the setting sun to join his family and the entire village in the "Sabbath Prayer."

The next day Tzeitel pleads with Tevye not to force her to go through with the wedding. Although bound by tradition to honor his agreement, kind-hearted Tevye agrees to let Tzeitel marry the man she loves, the poor tailor, Motel Kamzoil, who rejoices in "Miracle of Miracles." Knowing that he will have trouble persuading his shrewish wife to agree to the change in groom, Tevye plays upon Golde's superstitions and pretends to have a dream in which Golde's deceased Grandma Tzeitel appears and sanctions "The Tailor, Motel Kamzoil" as a suitor for Tzeitel.

Wide-eyed and astonished, Golde listens to Tevye's recounting of his "dream" and, as Tevye had hoped, she immediately interprets the dream to mean that Tzeitel must break her engagement with Lazar Wolf and marry Motel instead. Tzeitel and Motel's wedding begins simply and touchingly with the traditional ceremony, including the breaking of the wine glass by the couple. In the song "Sunrise, Sunset," Tevye and Golde share their mutual amazement that their little girl has grown up so fast as Hodel and Perchik, the young radical, begin to notice their own feelings for each other. This poignant mood is soon replaced by a boisterous dance in which the men of the village demonstrate their skill at the "Bottle Dance." Once again, traditions crumble when the men and women dance together in the "Wedding Dance."

Unfortunately, the celebration is marred when the Constable arrives, flanked by soldiers, to notify the joyful group that he is required to stage a "little unofficial demonstration." Suddenly and violently, furniture is broken, wedding gifts are destroyed, and villagers are injured. Distraught by the turn in events, Tevye can only turn his face towards heaven to ask God, "Why?" Now that Tzeitel is happily married to the man of her choosing, Hodel, Tevye's second daughter, defies tradition by telling her father that she intends to marry Perchik. The couple asks Tevye for his blessing, rather than his permission. Infuriated, Tevye believes that, according to tradition, he should have influence over his daughter's choice of a husband. "On the other hand," he realizes that the match will bring his daughter happiness, so he gives them his blessing and his permission.

After Tevye leaves, Perchik rejoices his good fortune, admitting to Hodel, "Now I Have Everything." Confused by the changes taking place in his world, Tevye for the first time asks Golde "Do You Love Me?" Eventually, Hodel's strong love for Perchik compels her to leave her family and travel "Far from the Home I Love" in order to be with her beloved in Siberia. Chava, the third daughter, secretly begins to see a young Russian gentile, Fyedka. Although Tevye has weathered the unexpected courtships of Tzeitel and Hodel with dignity, he is unable to tolerate this further and more radical defiance of tradition. Chava's contemplation of marrying outside of the Jewish faith is a violation of his religious beliefs, and Tevye vehemently forbids her to continue the relationship with Fyedka. When she persists, Tevye, who can bend no farther, banishes her from the family, refusing to acknowledge Chava as his daughter.

By this time, the Tsar has ordered that all Jews evacuate their homes, and the village reluctantly begins to pack their belongings. Knowing that she may never see her parents and sisters again, Chava returns briefly for a final reconciliation, explaining that Fyedka and she are also moving away from Anatevka because they cannot remain amongst people who treat others with such callousness.

Although Golde cannot challenge her husband's edict to ignore Chava's overtures, Tzeitel consoles her younger sister by pulling away from the family group to embrace Chava. This simple, but meaningful, gesture signals that Chava is still welcomed by her family, in spite of her strained relationship with her father. At first reluctantly, and later willingly, Tevye approaches his daughter and says, "God be with you." His love for his daughters, once again overcomes his stubborn belief in tradition.

As the family and villagers depart for their new immigrant destinations, the fiddler plays his theme once more, and beckoned by Tevye, leaps to the ground to join Tevye and his family as they leave Anatevka and travel on to the new world, America.

SONGS

Act I

- Prologue: Tradition – Tevye and the Company
- Matchmaker, Matchmaker – Tzeitel, Hodel and Chava
- If I Were a Rich Man – Tevye
- Sabbath Prayer – Tevye, Golde and the Company
- To Life – Tevye, Lazar Wolf and the Company
- Tevye's Monologue – Tevye
- Miracle of Miracles – Motel
- Tevye's Dream – Tevye, Golde, Grandma Tzeitel, Fruma-Sarah and the Company
- Sunrise, Sunset – Tevye, Golde, Perchik, Hodel and the Company
- The Bottle Dance – Instrumental



Act II

- Entr'acte – Orchestra
- Now I Have Everything – Perchik and Hodel
- Tevye's Rebuttal – Tevye
- Do You Love Me? – Tevye and Golde
- The Rumour/I Just Heard\$ – Yente and villagers
- Far From the Home I Love – Hodel
- Chavaleh (Little Bird) – Tevye
- Anatevka – The Company
- The Leave Taking – Tevye, Family and Fiddler



CAST

Tevye , the milkman
 Golde, his wife
 Tzeitel, eldest daughter
 Hodel, second eldest daughter
 Chava, third daughter
 Shprintze, fourth daughter
 Bielke, youngest daughter
 Motel Kamzoil, a tailor
 Perchik, a student
 Fyedka, a young Christian
 Lazar Wolf, the butcher
 Yente, the matchmaker
 Fruma-Sarah, Lazar Wolf's late wife
 Grandma Tzeitel, Golde's late grandmother
 Mordcha, an innkeeper
 Rabbi
 Mendel, the Rabbi's son
 Constable, a Russian
 Avram, a bookseller
 Nachum, a beggar
 Shaindel, Motel's mother
 Fiddler

Tom Wilde
 Emily White
 Sally Farrant
 Florentina Harris
 Julie Whiting
 Victoria McCormack
 Holly Krober
 David Cobbald
 Oscar Street
 Joe Singer
 Ben Newman
 Amy Whittaker
 Emma Rivers
 Jess Berry
 George Morgan
 Callum Fisher
 Oscar Haynes
 Sam Weighall
 Mark Goodwin
 Giles Lawrence
 Isobel McKenzie
 Ben Perrins

Chorus

Emma Parry; Lauren McHale; Hannah Jesani; Lara Jesani;
 Madison Robinson; Anna McNeelie; Amabel Buck; Ali Deol;
 Alice Newbold; Sophie Tillman; Vicky Beech; Amy Bullard;
 Ann Trenchard; Tara Joyce; Hannah Beasley;
 Rhiannon Centurion-Eyrel; Nicola Cronin; Mary Montgomery;
 Isobel Hands; Charlotte Beesley; Jaipreet Deo; Lucy Rosier;
 Taimoor Rashid; Henry Camm; Harry Morgan; Louis Roach;
 Ben Perrins; Gianni Baldi

ORCHESTRA

Flute
 Clarinet
 Trumpet
 Trombone
 Percussion
 Guitar
 Keyboard
 Violin
 Viola
 Cello
 Bass

Hannah Newby
 Alison Hearn
 Richard Smith; Jon Super
 Sam Troth
 Ross Edwards; Jamie Relph
 Dan Beck; Dan Murphy
 Helen Cobbald
 Katie Clarke; Helen Dolby (leader);
 Gail Kirby; Amy Parry; Charlotte Sasse;
 Libby Thomas; Jamie Turpin
 Jess Toogood
 Hannah Featherstone; Dominic Martens
 Catherine Sullivan

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director
 Musical Director
 Production Manager
 Production Stage Manager
 Stage Manager
 Deputy Stage Manager
 Assistant Stage Manager (Props)
 Assistant Stage Manager
 Deputy Stage Manager
 Lighting Operator
 Sound Manager
 Sound Operator
 Follow Spot Operators
 Simran Sunner

Mrs J Wilde
 Mr S Perrins
 Dr P Jukes
 Mr P Hadley
 Laura Newbould
 Joe Hadley
 Freya Harding
 Cameron Botterill
 Jarleth Eaton
 Jonathan Brooke
 Theresa Morgan
 Sam McCumiskey
 Breeshey Woolaston,

Crew

Joe Sherman, Emma Whitfield, Jack Berry, Hector Brooke,
 Tom Sheppard

Make up

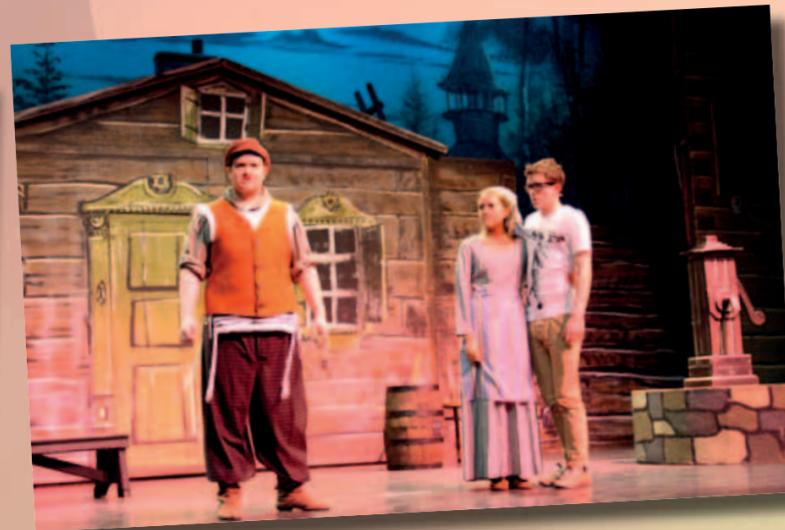
Mrs Thomas, Mr Smith, Mrs Marks, Sasha Mascord,
 Abigail Hinton, Frankie Levey, Katy Hatter, Amy Hughes,
 Katie McIntosh, Chloe Stewart-Robinson, Brooke Jones,
 Claire Christopher, Ellie Rowe, Ella Hamilton, Rio Bird,
 Helen-Cara Younan, Tatiana Cardoso, Frankie Owens.

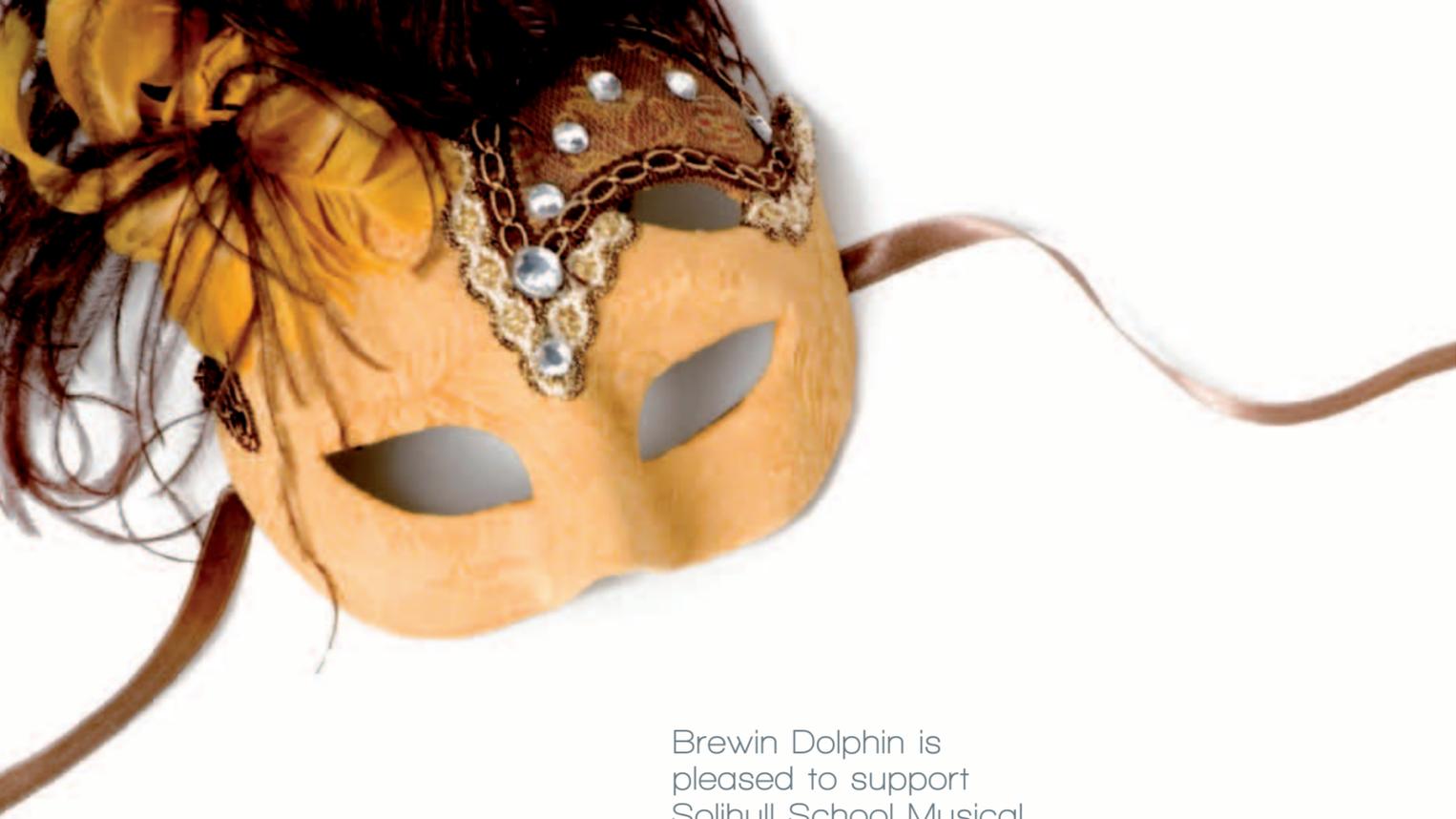
Costume

Mrs Hurst, Emily Hodge

Programme

Alan Hill, Lisa Fair





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Tom Wilde - Tevye

I have been on the stage since the age of 11 and love the rush that you get when you're up there. This is my first lead role in a production such as this, and what a role to have! Next year I am taking a gap year to study music theory and hopefully go on to study music at university.

Emily White - Golde

Emily has been performing since the age of 5 where she attended stagecoach theatre school, and has taken part in shows such as Joseph and the Technicolour Dreamcoat, whistle down the wind and Aida at the Birmingham Hippodrome and Alexander Theatre. She has also participated in amateur shows with Saint Augustines Theatre Company, including The Wizard of Oz, Disco Inferno, and The Wedding Singer, playing the part of Holly. Emily has also competed in a number of festivals, placing first the under 19 singing and under 14 drama categories. She also participated in last year's "Grease" at solihull school, and is very excited to take part in Fiddler on the Roof this year! The part has been a challenge but she has thoroughly enjoyed herself and would like to wish all of the cast luck for show week!



Sally Farrant - Tzeitel

I have enjoyed acting from the moment I joined Solihull School in year 6, and have been involved in every musical production since. The role of Tzeitel has been one of my favourites and I've had a brilliant time taking part. It has been great fun being able to act with my friends in my penultimate year of 6th form and it's only made me more excited for next year's musical. Hopefully I'll take my acting and singing beyond school when I leave. I'd like to thank Miss Wilde and the rest of the cast, crew and orchestra for making it such a fantastic show to work on. Well done to everyone!



David Cobbald - Motel Kamzoil

I have been singing since I was 2, I have always loved it. This progressed into acting and dancing too after years of shows since I was 8. This is my fourth show here at Solihull School, and I am so happy to be a big part this year. After gaining my four grade 8s in piano, flute, singing and musical theatre; I am now applying for Drama Schools in London for courses in Musical Theatre with high hopes. I send the best of luck to the cast, and I wish you all an enjoyable show!



Amy Whittaker - Yente

Fiddler is my fourth musical since joining the school in year seven, and I am enjoying it just as much. It's my second main part since playing Brigitte in The Sound of Music, and I am currently working towards my grade 8 singing. I also play piano and I've taught myself guitar. Next year I hope to study genetics at Cardiff but I hope to carry on my musical career!



Florentina Harris - Hodel



Oscar Street - Perchik



Julie Whiting - Chava



Joe Singer - Fyedka



Holly Krober - Bielke



Victoria McCormack - Shprintze



Oscar Haynes - Mendel



Jess Berry - Grandma Tzeitel



Ben Newman - Lazar Wolf



Emma Rivers - Fruma-Sarah



George Morgan - Mordcha



Callum Fisher - Rabbi



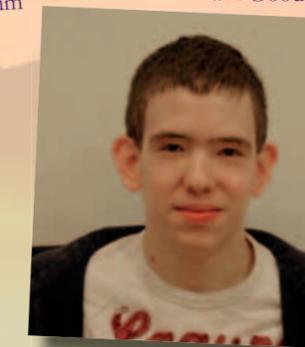
Giles Lawrence - Nachum



Mark Goodwin - Avram



Isobel McKenzie - Shaindel



Ben Perrins - Fiddler



Sam Weighall - Constable

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Fiddler on the Roof



MUSICAL DIRECTOR - Mr Stephen Perrins

Fiddler on the Roof. A musical with a sad ending. Sounds crazy, no? For me, 'Fiddler' is one of the great musicals and a show I have grown up with since its hugely successful run on Broadway in 1964 (with over 3200 performances). Like its equally sad counterpart shows, 'West Side Story' and 'Les Miserables' there is, however, much laughter and joy on the way and the ending, though tearful, nonetheless lets us see a glimmer hope and optimism.

'Fiddler' etched itself on my musical mind with such catchy songs as 'If I Were a Rich Man' and 'Matchmaker' and the duet, 'Do You Love Me?' is a perfectly written love song for a couple married for a quarter of a century!

I'm delighted to have had the chance to be part of a team presenting this much-loved musical again and it's been a real pleasure to work with such a talented and willing cast, crew and orchestra. I'd also like to thank the Production Team, particularly Jean Wilde, Sam Mason and Paul Jukes for their support and advice and the cast for learning their songs so quickly (well most of them!). I hope you enjoy the show, the culmination of all their hard work.

DIRECTOR - Mrs Jean Wilde

Fiddler on the Roof was not a musical I knew well, although I did have vague memories of seeing the film version on TV many years ago with Topol playing Tevye, but other than that I had little knowledge of the story and the songs. When we started rehearsals, however, I was surprised at how many of the show's songs were familiar.

What also surprised me about the piece is its warmth and humour and the underlying seriousness of the story. I been fortunate to have had a lively and enthusiastic cast to work with and also I am very grateful for all the help I've received in putting the show together. I sincerely hope you all enjoy the production.

CHOREOGRAPHER - Miss Sam Mason

It was such a pleasure to be asked for the fourth consecutive year to choreograph the school musical: once again it has been a memorable and enjoyable experience. Fiddler on the Roof is a musical I had little knowledge of so it has been a lot of fun learning all about the show and watching it unfold, as well as choreographing the routines.

I would like to thank David Cobbald for his help with the choreography and, as always, the pupils, who have impressed with their dancing abilities and dedication to making this year's musical a success.

I do hope you enjoy the show.



A BIT OF BACKGROUND

Fiddler on the Roof, based on the short story "Tevye and His Daughters" by Sholom Aleichem, was one of the first musicals to defy Broadway's established rules of commercial success. It dealt with serious issues such as persecution, poverty, and the struggle to hold on to one's beliefs in the midst of a hostile and chaotic environment. Criticized at first for its "limited appeal", Fiddler on the Roof struck such a universal chord in audiences that it became, for a time, the longest running production in the history of Broadway. Fiddler on the Roof opened on September 22, 1964 with Zero Mostel in the leading role. It ran for 3,242 performances at the Imperial Theatre and opened the door for other musicals to deal with more serious issues. The original Broadway production of the show, which opened in 1964, had the first musical theatre run in history to surpass 3,000 performances. Fiddler held the record for the longest-running Broadway musical for almost 10 years until Grease surpassed its run. It remains Broadway's fifteenth longest-running show in history. The production was extraordinarily profitable and highly acclaimed. It was nominated for ten Tony Awards, winning nine, including Best Musical, score, book, direction and choreography. It spawned four Broadway revivals, a successful 1971 film adaptation, and the show has enjoyed enduring international popularity. The 1971 screen version featured Norma Crane, Molly Picon, and Topol.

WHO IS THE FIDDLER?

Tevye describes him as:

A fiddler on the roof, sounds crazy. But here, in our little village of Anatevka, you might say every one of us is a fiddler on the roof. Trying to scratch out a pleasant, simple tune without breaking his neck. It isn't easy. You may ask 'Why do we stay up there if it's so dangerous?' Well, we stay because Anatevka is our home. And how do we keep our balance? That I can tell you in one word: tradition!

FACTS AT-A-GLANCE

Playwright Joseph Stein died in 2010 at age 98. Here are 10 facts about his most famous creation, Fiddler on the Roof.

1. Though Joseph Stein wrote the story for the Broadway production of Fiddler on the Roof, the musical is based on the fictional memoir Tevye and His Daughters, written by Sholem Aleichem and first published in 1894.
2. Unlike most Eastern European Jewish literature at the time, the memoir was written in Yiddish rather than Hebrew. Sholem Aleichem lived most of his life in what is now Ukraine, but immigrated to New York City two years before his death in 1916.
3. The title "Fiddler on the Roof" was inspired by a Marc Chagall painting. The sets, designed by Boris Aronson, were also based on Chagall's work.
4. The original Broadway production opened on September 22, 1964 at the Imperial Theatre.
5. The main character, Tevye, was played by Zero Mostel. He was also considered by director Norman Jewison for the 1971 film adaptation, but Jewison felt Mostel's interpretation was too broadly comical and instead cast actor Chaim Topol. Topol reprised the role in a 2005 touring production.
6. The role of Tevye has also been played by Hershell Bernardi, Theodore Bikel, Leonard Nimoy, Harvey Fierstein and Alfred Molina. Actor Paul Lipson holds the distinction of appearing as Tevye more than 2,000 times.
7. Bea Arthur and Pia Zadora also appeared in the original Broadway production.
8. Fiddler on the Roof was a smash hit, eventually going on to earn \$1,574 for every \$1 invested in the show. It was the first Broadway production to stage over 3,000 performances and earned 9 Tony Awards in 1965. In 1991, it won a Tony for Best Revival of a Musical.
9. The film version was shot mostly on soundstages in England, with exterior shots done in Croatia. The film won two Golden Globes and three Academy Awards – Best Song Score Adaptation, Best Cinematography and Best Sound. Chaim Topol was nominated in the Best Actor category, but lost to Gene Hackman for his role in The French Connection.
10. In 2007, Time Magazine ranked Fiddler on the Roof as the 7th most frequently produced musical in American high schools.

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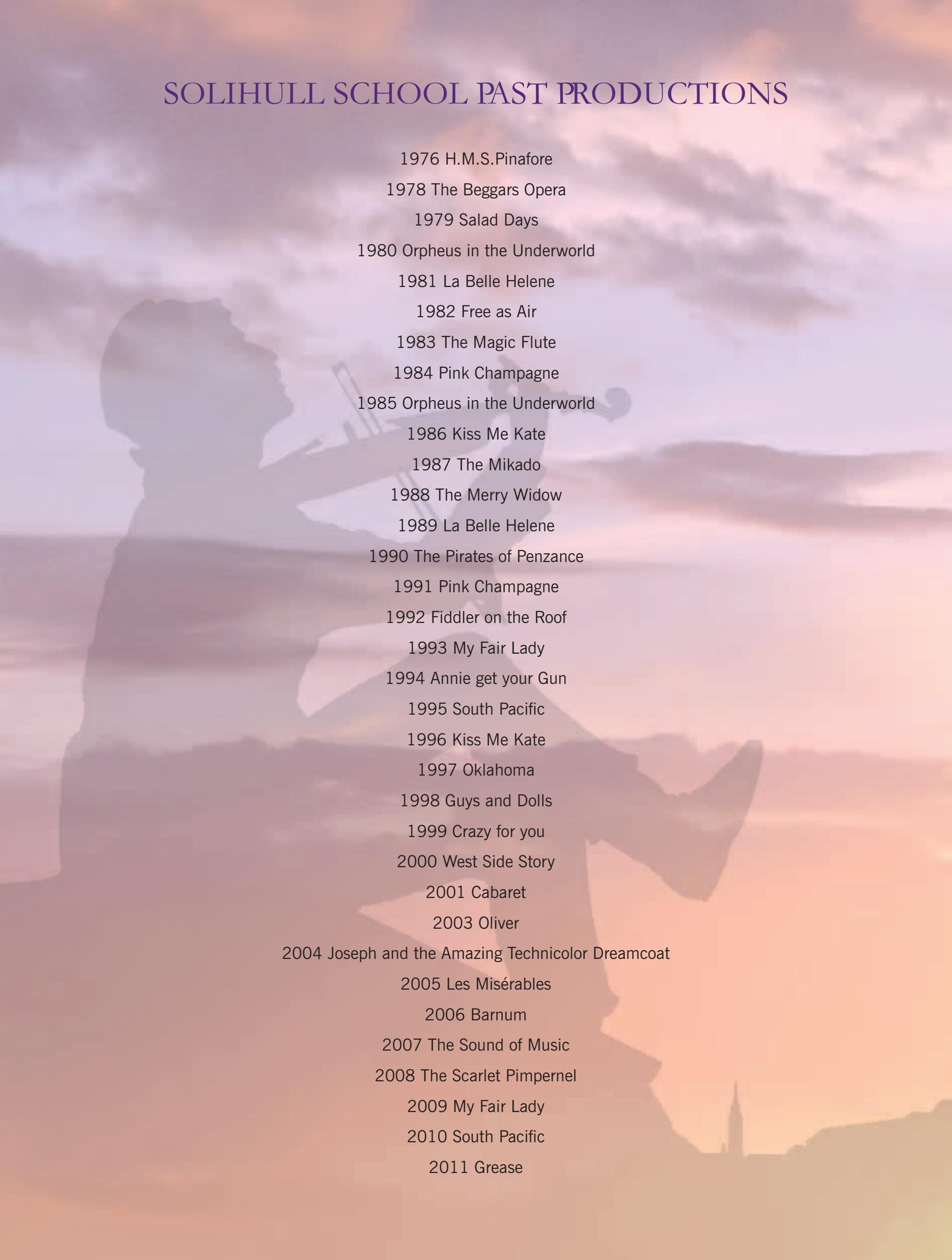
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- A large, semi-transparent silhouette of a person playing a trumpet is overlaid on the page. The person is shown from the side, with their head tilted back and the trumpet held to their lips. The background is a soft, warm sunset or sunrise sky with light clouds. The overall tone is nostalgic and artistic.
- 1976 H.M.S.Pinafore
 - 1978 The Beggars Opera
 - 1979 Salad Days
 - 1980 Orpheus in the Underworld
 - 1981 La Belle Helene
 - 1982 Free as Air
 - 1983 The Magic Flute
 - 1984 Pink Champagne
 - 1985 Orpheus in the Underworld
 - 1986 Kiss Me Kate
 - 1987 The Mikado
 - 1988 The Merry Widow
 - 1989 La Belle Helene
 - 1990 The Pirates of Penzance
 - 1991 Pink Champagne
 - 1992 Fiddler on the Roof
 - 1993 My Fair Lady
 - 1994 Annie get your Gun
 - 1995 South Pacific
 - 1996 Kiss Me Kate
 - 1997 Oklahoma
 - 1998 Guys and Dolls
 - 1999 Crazy for you
 - 2000 West Side Story
 - 2001 Cabaret
 - 2003 Oliver
 - 2004 Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat
 - 2005 Les Misérables
 - 2006 Barnum
 - 2007 The Sound of Music
 - 2008 The Scarlet Pimpernel
 - 2009 My Fair Lady
 - 2010 South Pacific
 - 2011 Grease