



**I
Love
You,**

**You're
Perfect,**



**Now
Change**



**Book and
Lyrics
by
Joe DiPietro**

**Music
by
Jimmy Roberts**

**Orchestrations
by
Doug Katsaros**

**Tues 26th to Sat
30th April 2022**

Programme

Welcome!

During lockdown times, all theatre groups had to modify and make changes to the way they operated. Pied Pipers have performed a lot of the big, well known, classic shows and in Spring 2021 we staged Musical of Musicals; a small cast show with a restricted audience and live streaming. We gave a new Director the opportunity to take on this show and it worked really well for them, and for us. So, we decided to do the same again.

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change had a record beating run off Broadway and the music is wonderful. It's a small cast show and we have placed it in the very capable hands of Tom Heald to direct. Tom auditioned some extremely talented performers and was able to select some truly outstanding singers to bring the show to you, our audience.

I think the themes and lyrics within the show cannot fail to resonate with us all as we move through life's journey. I hope that you have lots of laughs and enjoy the ride!

I look forward to greeting you in September 2022 when Pied Pipers will be staging *The Wedding Singer*

Madeline

Madeline Harmer, Chair,
Pied Pipers Musical Theatre Club



I Love You,



You're Perfect,



Now Change

Director: **Tom Heald**

I've never directed anything on this scale before, and I began feeling a mixture of fright, but also excitement. Initially the script of *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* is written for four people - two men and two women - however, I decided to cast a larger group, and form the cast into a larger ensemble. This show is, at its core, very funny and full of silliness, but it can also make some really sincere, human points about relationships, and I hope that comes across!

I am so grateful to The Pied Pipers and this cast for supporting me in making this show as great as possible, and I hope you enjoy it!



Musical Director: **Andrew Taylor**

I first joined the Pied Pipers as a chorus member in 'Camelot', and first took up the MD's baton for 'The Music Man', since when I have been Musical Director for more than 30 Pied Pipers shows; I've also regularly acted as MD, accompanist and pit player for other groups in the Cambridge area. My credits as MD include *Me and My Girl* (twice), *Barnum*, *Anything Goes* (twice), Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*, *Singin' in the Rain* and *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*. Most recently I've been MD for *The Musical Of Musicals - The Musical!* (another small-cast show) and *Grease*, both of which involved the extra challenges of Covid-19 restrictions. Alongside my involvement with Musical Theatre, I try to keep up my more "serious" piano playing, and enjoy playing in chamber ensembles when the opportunity arises.



Assistant Musical Director: **Nellie Cass**

I'm currently in my last year at Hills Road Sixth Form College, studying music and theatre after training in classical music performance and composition. Over the past two years I've been Musical Directing within the Cambridgeshire theatre scene, including writing and producing an original musical, *Cluedo: A Musical Murder*, which premiered at The Robinson Theatre. I am now working with St. Ives Youth Theatre, Musical Directing their production of *The Wizard of Oz*. Next year I am going to continue my theatre studies at drama school in London, pursuing a career in Musical Direction.



Scenes and Songs

ACT 1

- 1 Prologue**
Cantata for a First Date (The Company)
- 2 Not Tonight, I'm Busy, Busy, Busy**
Better Things To Do (Jilliann, Luke)
- 3 A Stud and a Babe**
A Stud and a Babe (Philippa, Zack)
- 4 Men Who Talk and Women Who Pretend They're Listening**
Single Man Drought (Laura, Antonia, Philippa)
Why? 'Cause I'm a Guy! (Zack, Luke, Alan)
- 5 Tear Jerk**
Tear Jerk (Alan, Jilliann)
- 6 The Lasagna Incident**
I Will Be Loved Tonight (Antonia)
- 7 And Now The Parents**
Hey There, Single Gal/Guy (Alan, Jilliann, Zack, Philippa)

ACT 2

- 1 Entr'acte**
Cantata Reprise #2 (Laura)
- 2 Whatever Happened to Baby's Parents**
The Baby Song (Alan)
- 3 Sex and the Married Couple** Marriage
Tango (Zack, Laura)
- 4 The Family That Drives Together...**
On The Highway of Love Alan, Philippa, Zack, Laura
- 5 Waiting**
Waiting Trio Luke, Jilliann, Toni
Cantata Reprise #3 Toni, Alan
- 6 Shouldn't I Be Less In Love With You?**
Shouldn't I Be Less In Love With You? Zack
- 7 The Very First Dating Video of Rose Ritz**
(no song)
- 8 Funerals Are For Dating**
I Can Live With That Luke, Toni
- 9 Epilogue**
I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change (Finale) The Company

When Jimmy Met Joe

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change opened at the Westside Theatre in New York on August 1st, 1996. In the middle of one of the very early performances, a woman in the audience couldn't help but blurt out, "This is my life!". From that moment on, Joe DiPietro and Jimmy Roberts, the show's creators, knew they were on to something. It played its final performance at the Westside on July 27th, 2008, making it the second longest-running musical in Off-Broadway history (***The Fantasticks*** held on to the number-one spot), with a total of 20 previews and 5,003 performances, during which there were also over 50 recorded marriage proposals in the auditorium!

Since then, the musical has been performed professionally in more than 250 cities worldwide, including London, Tel Aviv, Amsterdam, Sydney, Seoul, Rio de Janeiro and Johannesburg. But how did this hugely successful show come about and develop?

In the late 1980s Joe DiPietro had put together an evening of sharply observed sketches about being single and dating, primarily about people his own age (he was then in his late twenties). It was called ***Love Lemmings***, billed as "a leap into the dating abyss". ***Love Lemmings*** wasn't a musical, although the sketches

were linked by dramatically appropriate pop songs.



Joe DiPietro and Jimmy Roberts

In Joe's own words "The sketches were being produced in basement theatres around New York (which is about as glamorous as it sounds) when a producer saw the sketches and said, "This should be a musical revue; put music in this".

The only musical revue I had ever seen was ***Ain't Misbehavin'***, so I had no idea what she was talking about. Fortunately, she introduced me to a young composer named Jimmy Roberts, who took one look at the sketches and said, "These are really good. They don't need music".

"I knew immediately he was the person I wanted to write the show with".

Says Jimmy: "I was sent a video of ***Love Lemmings*** and, like everyone else, loved Joe's work. We initially wrote a few songs together and liked them. Nevertheless, I, the composer, felt that the addition of music somehow watered-down Joe's trenchant sketches, and I didn't want to see them end up in a typical conventional revue, with five people in nice sweaters sitting on stools, singing. It amazes me now that I said that!"

So Joe and Jimmy parted for a year. Joe further developed the show, even finding a different composer to add just a few songs to the evening. But then another producer offered Joe a real opportunity to turn it into a musical. He called Jimmy again, and this time they began working together in earnest.

Jimmy: "I really respected Joe's comic voice. It turned out that his comic gift extended to song lyrics as well. That, combined with my knack for writing in many musical styles - led to some pretty funny, and sometimes moving, songs. Suddenly the subject wasn't just about young single people dating, but about marriage, even long marriages. The use of music actually deepened the show. One of the songs was called, "***I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change***" Ultimately that song was dropped, but the title

struck us as a pithy summary of the whole deal. And poof! ***Love Lemmings*** became ***I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change***."

Now Playing!

I LOVE YOU, YOU'RE PERFECT, NOW CHANGE

The Hilarious Hit Musical

BOOK & LYRICS BY JOE DIPIETRO
MUSIC BY JIMMY ROBERTS
DIRECTED BY JOEL BISHOFF

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Original Off-Broadway Poster



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CAST

(In Alphabetical Order)

Alan Hay

Antonia Ogilvie

Jilliann Law

Laura Saunders

Luke Thomas

Philippa Watts

Zack Szreter

Deputy Stage Manager: Lucy Allen

Technical Director: George Batemen

Publicity Manager: Lucy Farrow

Sound Design: Serena Povia

Paul Gotch

Lighting Design: James Wright

Lighting Operator: Lan Tu

Production Assistant: Tom Greenhaugh

Additional Costumes: Carol Bye

Pippa Taylor

Band

Piano/Conductor: Andrew Taylor

Reeds: Simon Andrews

Guitar/Bass: András Droppa

Percussion: James Andrews

Meet our Cast

Hi, I'm **Jilliann Law**. I was born in Erie, Pennsylvania (USA). My musical journey began as a child, singing non-stop at home until my parents enrolled me in a children's choir and piano lessons. My love of theatre began as a teenager under the very sarcastic stewardship of the late, legendary Don McCalmon of Northwestern Senior High School. From there I focused more on classical music as I studied music education and vocal performance at Ithaca College in New York, and later completed a Master's in historical vocal performance practice at Indiana University. Since graduating I have managed to find a balance between teaching and performing. Before moving to Cambridge I was a choir member and soloist with the Bach Society of St. Louis (Missouri), the St. Louis Chamber Chorus, and the Indianapolis Baroque Orchestra, among others. My favourite past role is Kathy from Jason Robert Brown's *The Last Five Years*.



Hi there! I'm **Laura Louise Saunders**. I have a first class bachelor's degree in Performing Arts from Anglia Ruskin University, and in 2021 I graduated from Associated Studios in London where I obtained my diploma in Musical Theatre. I moved to Cambridge from Norfolk to study, and have had some wonderful stage experiences whilst here, including playing Velma in *Chicago* and Bridget in *Bring It On* during my studies, as well as playing Maureen in *RENT* and Tracy Turnblad in *Hairspray*, both with CTC. I've also trod the boards backstage, having directed and choreographed *The Musical of Musicals: The Musical* with the Pied Pipers. I am also proudly the co-vice principal of PQA Cambridge, a performing arts school for kids, and I'm a vocal coach.

Hi! I'm Zack Szeleter, I've been performing in the Cambridge amateur scene for about 6 months now and I spent many of my teenage years as a member of the local Young Actor's Company.

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change is my third musical after performing in Grease and Priscilla. Each of these productions has been extremely unique and presented me with exciting challenges across all areas of musical theatre. I look forward to working again with the many talented people I've met during these productions, including in Kinky Boots in which I am performing later this year.



Hi! I'm **Luke Thomas**. I was born in North Wales, and raised in the strong performance traditions of my homeland. I've performed as both member and soloist with several choirs and choral societies, including the BBC Symphony Chorus. During my studies in Liverpool, I was also introduced to the magic of stage performance, and through amateur and professional performances, developed a love of opera and operetta which has continued to this day. In 2021, I extended my stage experience to include musicals, performing in *Half A Sixpence* with the Festival Players, and I'm greatly looking forward to continuing in this new direction with *I Love You You're Perfect Now Change*, and *Kinky Boots* later in the year.



Hi! I'm **Alan Hay**. I've been working with the Pied Pipers, on and off stage, for 22 years, and I'm very much looking forward to my first return to stage performance since 2019! I have had a blast rehearsing with this talented company, and hope the audience have as much fun as the cast have had rehearsing. I have been involved in countless productions on stage and off in the Cambridge area, and am also a current member of the Cambridge Improv Factory. For a more complete background of mystage and screen appearances, visit www.alandhay.com



Hi! I'm **Antonia Ogilvie**. I was recently clearing out some old boxes and found a programme from the first show I did in Cambridge which was unbelievably 30 years ago (!) where I played a Munchkin in *The Wizard of Oz*. I have been in love with musical theatre ever since.

> Some of my favourite roles over the years have been Belle in *Beauty and the Beast* and Sally in *Follies* (with Pied Pipers), Lucy in *Jekyll & Hyde*, Sukie in *The Witches of Eastwick* and Yum Yum in *Hot Mikado* (with Festival Players). In addition to performing, I also trained as a dance teacher and have choreographed for several local groups, some of my favourite being *Honk!* and *The Ratcatcher* for Pied Pipers. When I'm not treading the boards I teach maths to teenagers and am a mum to three gorgeous kids who are most disappointed to be too young to see this show!



Hey! I'm **Philippa Watts**, and despite growing up in tap shoes I'm returning to musicals for the first time in more than 10 years. As a teenager I played roles including Miss Dorothy in *Thoroughly Modern Milly*, Fantine in *Les Miserables* and Irene in *Hello Dolly!*, but more recently I've been busy in plays and operas, including as Phyllis in *Iolanthe*, Frasquita in *Carmen*, Metella in *La Vie Parisienne*, Jane in *Pride and Prejudice*, Mariah in *Compleat Female Stage Beauty* and Marianne in *Tartuffe*. When I'm not on stage, I can be found making costumes, dancing/ choreographing, and even directing (Aphra Behn's *The Rover*).







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Cambridge Youth Theatre by CTC is open to young people of all abilities aged 9 to 21 who want to discover new skills, build their confidence and make new friends, whilst working with experienced professionals as part of our new Cambridge Youth Theatre by CTC strand, with performance opportunities across the year.



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The ADC Theatre is a non-smoking venue.

Patrons are reminded that in accordance with Cambridgeshire County Council regulations, the consumption of drinks in glasses is not permitted in the auditorium.

Tonight's performance will include a 15 minute interval



Next time you come to a show would you like to be behind the scenes?

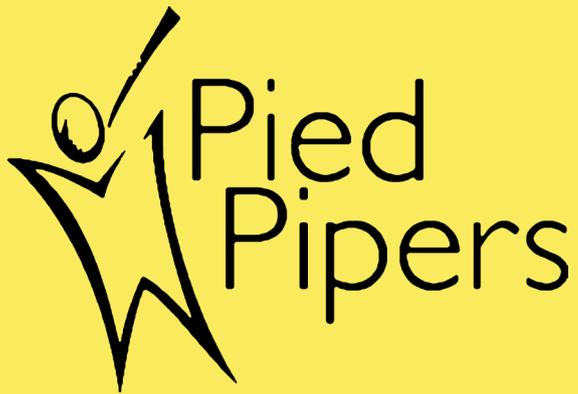
The Penguin Club provides backstage help from set construction to stage management for shows in the Cambridge area, and is always on the look out for new volunteers - previous experience is not required! If you're interested in knowing more, get in touch with us at:

clubcontact@penguinclub.org.uk

Find out more at: penguinclub.org.uk

Facebook: Penguin Club

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The Pied Pipers Musical Theatre Club always welcomes new members.

If you are interested in becoming involved, whether performing on-stage or helping behind the scenes, then please e-mail us with your contact details at:

secretary@piedpipers.co.uk

Our Next Show: September 20th - 24th, 2022

