

**JEROME KERN** was born in New York on 27 January 1885. Looking back over those 100 years one can trace an early association with music through his mother, herself a gifted pianist and his first teacher, the composing of songs for school productions and at 17, a place at the New York College of Music.

Jerome Kern's early years with the professional theatre were spent writing "interpolated" songs considered necessary to add a native spark to shows that came from America from England and Europe. His meeting with Guy Bolton and P.G. Wodehouse in 1915 brought together three talents that produced a series of shows over the next decade which were enormously popular in New York — the best known being "Very Good Eddie" and "Oh, Boy!". But his greatest acclaim came with Oscar Hammerstein I and "Show Boat".

"Show Boat" opened at the Ziegfeld Theatre, New York on 27 December 1927. It broke with the established pattern of musical shows; the story was credible, the characters colourful and the portrayal of the life of southern Negroes added to the drama. Particularly poignant was the song "Ol' Man River" sung by Joe. It was an all American show not afraid to show life in its harsh realities.

Revived innumerable times on the amateur stage our Society is pleased to present our own production this year, the 100th anniversary of the birth of Jerome Kern.

### Previous Productions of the Society

1922 H.M.S. Pinafore	1966 Gypsy Love
1923 The Pirates of Penzance	H.M.S. Pinafore (CV)
1924 Ruddigore	1967 Call Me Madam
1925 Patience	Iolanthe (CV)
1926 The Yeomen of the Guard	1968 The Desert Song
1927 Dorothy	Patience (CV)
1928 Les Cloches de Corneville	1969 Rose Marie
1929 The Mikado	The Mikado
1930 The Gondoliers	1970 Free as Air
1931 Falke	The Pirates of Penzance
1932 H.M.S. Pinafore	1971 Oklahoma!
1933 Merrie England	Trial by Jury
1934 Tom Jones	H.M.S. Pinafore
1935 The Grisha	1972 The Merry Widow
1936 Dorothy	The Gondoliers
1937 The Maid of the Mountains	1973 Carousel
1938 The Street Singer	Iolanthe
1939 Goodnight Vienna	1974 The Pajama Game
1947 Miss Hook of Holland	The Yeomen of the Guard
1948 Maritza	1975 Pink Champagne
1949 Katinka	Patience
1950 The Lilac Domino	1976 South Pacific
1951 Rio Rita	Ruddigore
1952 Wild Violets	1977 Guys & Dolls
1953 Magyar Melody	Utopia Ltd
1954 Carissima	1978 White Horse Inn
1955 Rose Marie	Mikado
1956 Tulip Time	Brigadoon
1957 White Horse Inn	Princess Ida
1958 Gypsy Princess	1980 Orpheus in the Underworld
1959 The Merry Widow	Iolanthe
1960 Bless the Bride	1981 Summer Song
1961 The Boy Friend	The Quaker Girl
1962 Grab me a Gondola	Desert Song
1963 The Quaker Girl	Cox & Box & Sorcerer
1964 The New Moon	1983 Oklahoma!
The Mikado (CV)	The Pirates of Penzance
1965 The Maid of the Mountains	My Fair Lady
The Pirates of Penzance (CV)	Free as Air

### Witham Amateur Operatic Society

Inaugurated in 1921

President: Mr. E.R. Maltby

Hon. Life Members: Mrs. K. Adams, Miss L. Croxall and Miss K. Richards

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### Officers of the Society

Hon. Secretary: Miss A. Brewer, 23 Manor Street, Braintree, Essex.  
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Hon. Business Manager: Miss K. Richards "Litmans", 14 Avenue Road, Witham, Essex.  
Hon. Social Secretary: Mrs K. Adkins, 82 Rickstones Road, Witham, Essex.  
Hon. Auditor: Mr M.C. Dewdney  
Hon. Publicity Manager: Mrs K.E. Stevenson, 1 Lawn Chase, Witham, Essex

### Executive Committee:

Hon. Chairman: Mr G.H. Coverdale  
Mr E.R. Maltby, Mrs E. Miller, Mrs A. King, Mrs J. Wood

### Dates for Your Diary

Witham Amateur Operatic Society (Autumn Production)  
LA VIE PARISIENNE (28 October – 2 November, 1985)

Witham Dramatic Club (Summer Production)  
WAITING FOR GODOT (6 – 8 June, 1985)

WITHAM AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY

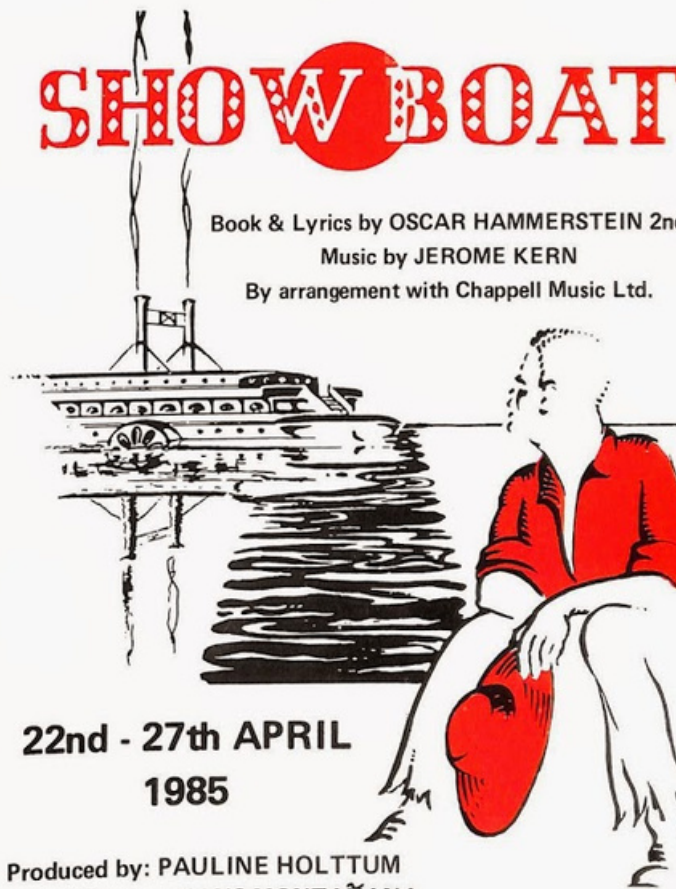
present

# SHOW BOAT

Book & Lyrics by OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN 2nd

Music by JEROME KERN

By arrangement with Chappell Music Ltd.



22nd - 27th APRIL  
1985

Produced by: PAULINE HOLTUM  
Musical director: HANS MONTAÑANA  
Choreographer: PAM DEDMAN

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(by arrangement with Chappell Music Ltd.)

Book and Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein 2nd

Music by Jerome Kern

### CAST

WINDY ... ..	Edward Maltby
STEVE ... ..	Brian Clark
PETE ... ..	David Green
QUEENIE ... ..	Pat Briggs
PARTHY ANN HAWKS ... ..	Rita Page
CAP'N ANDY ... ..	Geoff Coverdale
ELLIE ... ..	Patsy Doy
FRANK ... ..	Patrick O'Connor
RUBBER FACE ... ..	Dick Enfield
JULIE ... ..	Elisabeth Miller
GAYLORD RAVENAL ... ..	Malcolm Loue
VALLON ... ..	Peter Green
MAGNOLIA ... ..	Lorraine Ely
JOE ... ..	Tony Wood
BACKWOODSMAN ... ..	Wayne Savill
JEB ... ..	Gary Smith
LANDLADY ... ..	Debbie Miller
ETHEL ... ..	Janice Hawkes
MAX ... ..	Ron Howe
KIM (as a young woman) ... ..	Helene Jones

### CHORUS

Kathryn Adkins	Nicholas Clough	Helene Jones	Julia Reed
Alison Brewer	Matthew Doy	Joan Lyon	Wayne Savill
Howard Brooks	Jocelyn Duck	Debbie Miller	Mandy Smith
Katrina Brooks	Dick Enfield	Simon Mitchell	Gary Smith
Brian Clark	Julie Hampshire	Yvonne Mitchell	Edna Starling
Tessa Carabine	Janice Hawkes	Roger Munt	Carole Turner
Lydia Clough	Ron Howe	Susan Page	Phillip Waller
			Jo Wood

### DANCERS

Kathryn Adkins	Nicholas Clough	Simon Mitchell	Susan Page
Alison Brewer	Julie Hampshire	Yvonne Mitchell	Edna Starling
Lydia Clough	Ron Howe		

### ORCHESTRA

Musical Director ... ..	Hans Montanana
First Violin/Leader ... ..	Graham Snelling
First Violin ... ..	Linda Brown
Second Violin ... ..	Betty Smith
Viola ... ..	Mark Fogg-Elliott
Cello ... ..	John McMaster
Double Bass ... ..	Stan Smith
Flute ... ..	Sid Cooper
Clarinet ... ..	Bob Lindsay
Trumpet ... ..	Brian Connell
Trombone ... ..	Mark Scaife
Percussion ... ..	Gareth Hancock
Piano ... ..	Tracy Wheeler

INTERVAL — 15 MINS

### CREDITS

Stage Manager:	Audrey King
Assistant Stage Manager:	Derek Hunt
Lighting:	Robin Dedman
Assisted by:	Andrew Chalkley, Mark Rigby, James Howard
Stage Crew:	Les King, John Reed, Mick Adams, Roger Clark, Brian Howell, Peter Howard, David Hunt, Tom Barnes
Tab:	Phillip Harris
Props:	Ann Hunt, Dorothy Reed, Sally Bell, Caroline Fraser
Make-up:	June Smith
Wardrobe:	Alison Brewer, Pat Briggs, Nesta Hinchliffe, Cynthia Meek
Prompt:	Ewart Cornfield
Front of House:	John Gunson
Programmes:	June Locke
Scenery:	Stage Sets
Costumes:	Theatrical Costume House, Westcliffe and The Society
Accompanist in rehearsal:	Tracy Wheeler

### SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

#### ACT I

SCENE 1	The Levee at Natchez on the Mississippi. In the late eighteen eighties
SCENE 2	Kitchen Pantry of the Cotton Blossom A half-hour later.
SCENE 3	Outside the Waterfront Gambling Saloon Simultaneous with Scene 2
SCENE 4	Auditorium and Stage of the Cotton Blossom One hour later
SCENE 5	Box-Office, on Foredeck of the Cotton Blossom Three weeks later
SCENE 6	Auditorium and Stage of the Cotton Blossom During the Third Act of "The Parson's Bride".
SCENE 7	The Top Deck of the Cotton Blossom Later that night
SCENE 8	The Levee Next morning

#### ACT II

SCENE 1	The Midway Plaisance, Chicago World's Fair, 1893
SCENE 2	A Room on Ontario Street, 1904
SCENE 3	Rehearsal Room of the Trocadero Music Hall About 5 p.m.
SCENE 4	Trocadero Music Hall New Year's Eve, 1904, 11.30.
SCENE 5	In front of the Office of "The Natchez Evening Democrat", 1927.
SCENE 6	Top Deck of the New "Cotton Blossom", 1927
SCENE 7	Levee at Natchez The next night.

### PRINCIPAL MUSICAL NUMBERS

#### ACT I

OVERTURE		
OPENING — "COTTON BLOSSOM"		
Cap'n Andy's Entrance and BALLY-HOO	...	Chorus
"Who Cares If My Boat Goes Up-Stream?"	...	Ravenal
"Only Make Believe"	...	Ravenal and Magnolia
"Of Man River"	...	Joe and Men
"Can't Help Lovin' Dat Man"	...	Julie, Queenie, Magnolia, Joe and Ensemble
"Life On The Wicked Stage"	...	Elle and Girls
"Till Good Luck Comes My Way"	...	Ravenal and Men
"I Might Fall Back On You"	...	Elle and Frank
"Hey! Where Yo' Think Yo' Goin'?"	...	Queenie
Incidental Music to "The Parson's Bride" — "You Are Love"	...	Ravenal and Magnolia
FINALE — "Oh, Tell Me, Did You Ever?"	...	Chorus

#### ACT II

PRELUDE and OPENING		
"When We Tell Them About It All"	...	Chorus
Fatima's Dance and Chorus "When The Sports of Gay Chicago"	...	Chorus
"Why Do I Love You?"	...	Magnolia, Ravenal, Ensemble and Chorus
"In Dahomey"	...	Chorus
"Bill"	...	Julie
"Can't Help Lovin' Dat Man" Reprise	...	Julie
"How'd You Like to Spoon With Me?"	...	Elle
"After the Ball"	...	Magnolia
"Of Man River" Reprise	...	Joe
"You Are Love" Reprise	...	Ravenal
"Cotton Blossom Reprise"	...	Chorus
"Dance Away The Night"	...	Kim and Chorus
FINALE "Of Man River"	...	Joe and Chorus