

Director's Notes

The musical *Gypsy* is adapted from the autobiography of Gypsy Rose Lee, who moved from a mediocre career in vaudeville to meteoric stardom in burlesque. The story of her childhood and that of her sister, June, revolves around their mother, Rose. She is a woman driven by the conviction that June will one day be a star and, to this end, she creates a vaudeville act to showcase June's talents. Louise (Gypsy) is the ugly duckling who is in the act to make up the numbers.

As vaudeville dies and is replaced by burlesque, *Gypsy* takes the opportunity to move with the times – much to her mother's dismay – and very soon becomes known throughout the world. What was so special about her? Well, she was no longer an ugly duckling but, more importantly, her act was different from all the others: rather than bump, grind and strip, she teased. It was mainly about engaging the audience in banter. Rose was always dismissive of burlesque, although she had no qualms about living on the proceeds from it until her death. When burlesque reached the end of its days, *Gypsy* found alternative careers: writing, acting and talk-show hostess.

In this production, we have been lucky enough to find some very talented youngsters to take us through *Gypsy's* early years and we are also delighted to welcome a number of other new faces to join some of our regular performers.

I hope the Criterion audiences will enjoy this unusual story, made very special by Jule Styne's memorable music and Sondheim's gift for the perfect lyric.

John Ruscoe
Director

If you have any comments about your experience at The Criterion Theatre, please email us at comments@critteriontheatre.co.uk



www.criteriontheatre.co.uk



Our next production...

Be careful what you lie about because some of it may come true...



Our Man in Havana

By Graham Greene
Adapted by Clive Francis

February 2nd – February 9th 2013

Jim Wormold, an under-employed vacuum cleaner salesman living in 1950s Cuba, is struggling to pay for his teenage daughter's increasingly extravagant lifestyle. So when the British Secret Service asks him to become their 'man in Havana' he can't afford to say no. There's just one problem: he doesn't know anything!

To avoid suspicion he begins to recruit non-existent sub-agents, concocting a series of intricate fictions. But Wormold soon discovers that his stories are closer to the truth than he could have ever imagined ...

In Clive Francis' adaptation, Graham Greene's classic satirical novel becomes a wonderfully funny and fast-moving romp.

BOX OFFICE (Direct) 024 7667 5175

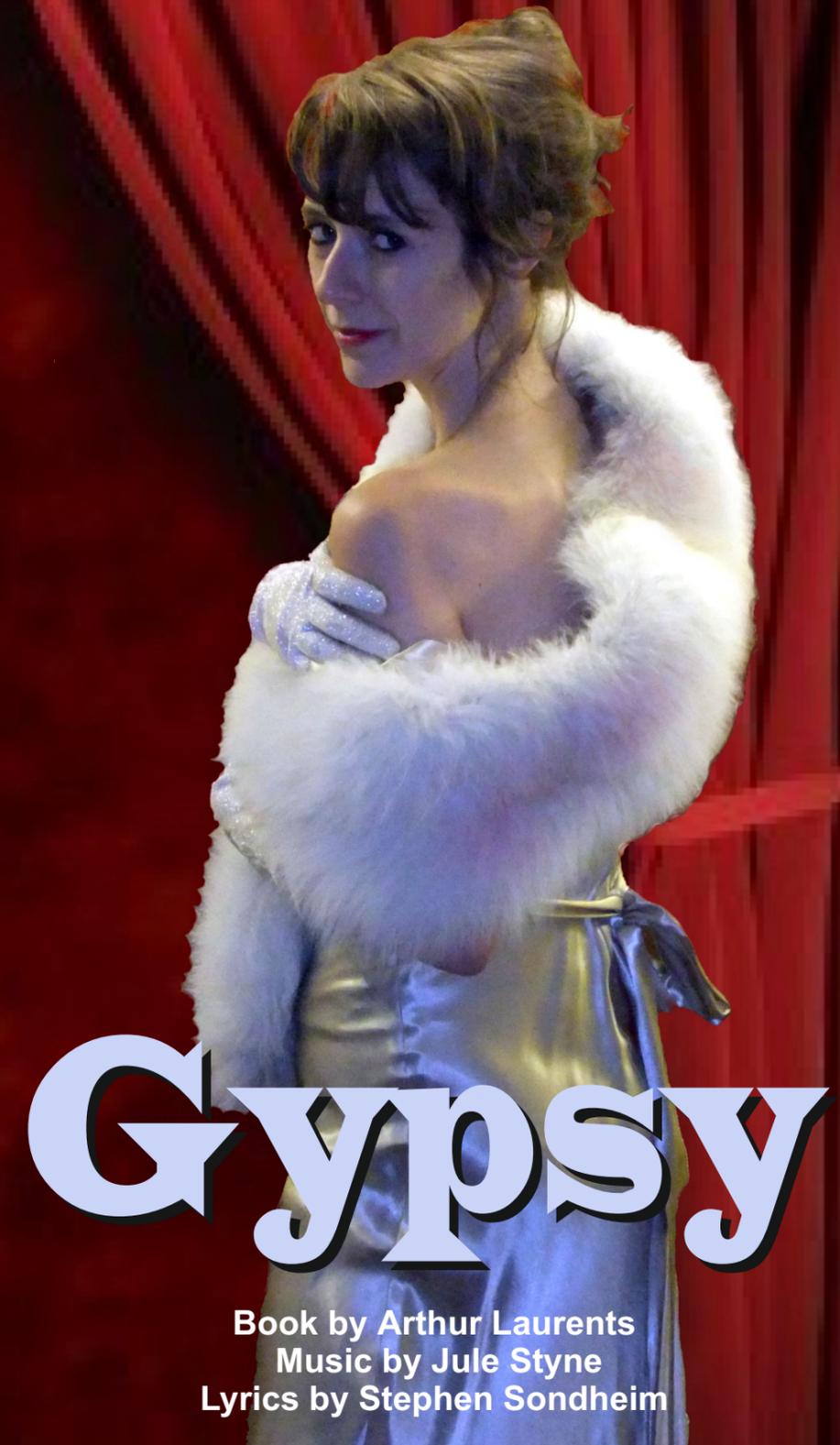
This is a notice to members



Production photography by
Richard Johnson
079 0450 6280

No photography or videoing allowed.
The Criterion is a non-smoking theatre.

A dazzling musical based on the memoirs of Gypsy Rose Lee.



Gypsy

Book by Arthur Laurents
Music by Jule Styne
Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

Suggested by memories of Gypsy Rose Lee
Originally directed & choreographed by Jerome Robbins

Programme

By arrangement with MusicScope and Stage Musicals Ltd of New York

CAST

Gypsy

CREW

The action takes place in and around the vaudeville houses across the USA in the 1920s and 1930s.

There will be one interval of 15 minutes.

George
 Baby Louise
 Baby June
 Rose
 Pop
 Newsboys

Weber
 Herbie
 Louise
 June
 Tulsa
 Yonkers
 Angie
 L.A.
 Kringelein
 Agnes
 Hollywood Blondes

Tessie Tura
 Mazeppa
 Electra
 Uncle Jocko's Acts

Dave Cornish
 Joanna Gay
 Cherry-Rose Cleverley
 Vicki Hollings
 Doug Griffiths
 Ollie James
 Alexandra Gummery
 Daisy Robb
 Lauren Cooke

Joe Fallowell
 Matt Sweatman
 Lucy Hayton
 Jodie Gibson
 Pete Meredith
 Sam Taylor
 Dan Houston
 Callum Roulson
 Mark Wiszowaty
 Lucy Rushton
 Kathryn Fitch
 Charlotte Toon
 Lizzie Coughlan
 Chris Evans
 Anne-Marie Greene
 Cathryn Bowler
 Louisa Ruscoe
 Frederique Withers
 Madeleine Firth
 Vincent Gillam-Greene
 Verity Gillam-Greene
 Beatrice Shelton
 Emma Withers
 Nicole Firth

Other parts played by members of the company.

Rehearsal Pianists: Richard Hastie, Roger Haygreen

Director: John Ruscoe
 Co-director: Deb Relton-Elves
 Musical Director: Bill Bosworth
 Choreographers: Deb Relton-Elves
 Jayne Meggitt

Stage Manager: Ben Woodward
 Prompt: Maggie Parkes
 Set Design: Pete Bagley
 Lighting Design: Karl Stafford
 Lighting Operator: Sarah Zujans
 Becky Cribden
 Simon Sharpe

Follow Spot Operator: Stella Gabriel
 Sound: Paul Forey
 Set Build: Pete Bagley
 Ben Woodward
 Bill Hamill
 Kevin Woods
 Simon Sharpe
 Terry Rahilly
 Mike Tooley
 Frances Dixon

Set Paint: Judy Talbot
 Louise Bagley
 Paul Chokran
 Becky Cribden
 Grace Parker

Wardrobe: Maureen Liggins
 Pam Coleman
 Candy Waddell
 Sara Farmanfarmai
 Maureen Copping
 Emma Withers
 Doreen Belton
 Ann Houston
 Nancy Silvester
 Dee O'Donoghue
 Nicole Firth
 Chris Ingall
 Nicky Gabriel

Props: Annie Woodward
 Les Rahilly
 Lorenzo Moldoveanu

