ALAN MONTANARO IN

22 DEC 2016 - 8 JAN 2017 MFCC, TA'QALI









I feel very strongly tied to the MADC Panto.

I've been a part of it, in some way or other, since their first Cinderella, way back in 1978. I have played Principal Boy in several, wrote one, and directed four. This makes me a real glutton for punishment!

Directing a cast of 40, liaising with costume and set designers, props, make-up, hair, musical directors and choreographer, publicity and marketing departments, to create a spectacular show such as is a Pantomime, certainly requires stamina. Add to that the complexity of a 'flying car' on stage, and I sometimes wonder how I managed to survive through it all. But my driving force is passion and dedication.

As I get older, the chorus seem to get younger and their constant energy often drains mine completely! Yet these youngsters are to be commended for their commitment. They have to give up most of their social life for 3 months to attend rehearsals, and though they sometimes drive me insane, I grow to love them all and I shall miss them when this is over.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

It is also the passion and dedication of my amazing team which has made it possible for us to bring you Un-Believe it! Alan Montanaro, my partner in crime, the quintessential Panto Dame, also the script writer; Marvic Okoh, my ASM and my calming force in every Panto I've directed; the cast on stage; the hard-working and talented Les Gals; Mro. Paul Abela, our Musical Director; Roger Tirazona – who created such beautiful harmonies; Francesco Nicodeme, our choreographer – who livened scenes with his dynamic routines; and, of course, the production crew backstage who have worked tirelessly to create outstanding costumes, props and visual effects. A heartfelt thank you all for your effort and support.

And thank you, our audience, for attending and making our hard work worthwhile. You, too, are Un-Believe it!



NANETTE BRIMMER



LIFE IS A MOMENT. LIVE IT



SYNOPSIS

What happens when you get an eccentric professor, a fabulous dame and a couple of mischievous children and throw them into a flying car? You get pantomime gold, that's

UN-BELIEVE IT tells the story of two children, Peter and Penelope Potter who are more than a little taken by a rusty race car that's been forgotten in an old junk-yard.

On a day when they should be in school they bump into the larger-than-life Dame Vera Tastee, the only daughter of major confectionery-maker Lord Tastee. She insists on having a word with their father about his terrible parenting skills.

Of course, as with all good tales, there is an instant attraction between the children's father, a down-on-his-luck inventor named Professor Patrick Potter and Dame Vera, but they start on the wrong foot.

Through an unlikely series of events, Dame Vera buys the old banger of a car for 30 shillings and insists that Professor Potter restores it to its former glory - unaware that the car has magical properties and the ability to fly into the air and into trouble.

Unbeknownst to them, two bumbling henchmen have their eyes set on the car as a gift for their bombastic and tantrum-throwing King Unterhosen and his equally selfcentered Queen, Brustheilter, But their plans are thwarted when they mistakenly kidnap the children's grandfather, wrongly thinking that he is the inventor, and take him to the distant and somewhat dreary land of Kitchnik.

With the help of their trusty automobile, Professor Potter, Peter, Penelope and, of course, Dame Vera Tastee, set off to rescue Grampa before he loses his head. Unfortunately things take a wrong turn when the Potter children catch the unwelcome eye of the sinister and evil Child Catcher.

Will good triumph over evil??

(Spoiler alert: Oh, yes it will)

Now sit back... fasten your seat-belts... and come fly with us.

SCENES

ACT ONE

Scene 1:	Crankshaft's Junk Yard
Scene 2:	Professor Potters Farm
Scene 3:	The Candy Factory

Scene 4: Professor Potters Farm - The Next Day Professor Potters Farm - Three Weeks Later Scene 5:

The Kingdom of Kitchnik

ACT TWO Scana 1.

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Scene 2:	The Grand Palace
Scene 3a:	The Town Square
Scene 3b:	Inside The Toy Shop
Scene 3c:	Outside the Toy Shop
Scene 4:	A Restaurant Someplace
Scene 5:	The Palace Sewers
	T



THE CAST



ALAN MONTANARODAME VERA TASTEE



ANTHONY EDRIDGEPROFESSOR POTTER



MICHAEL MANGION
CRANKSHAFT / THE CHILD CATCHER



JOHN MARINELLI THE TOY MAKER



FAYE MICALLEF GRIMAUD LES GALS



HARLEY MALLIA LES GALS



JAMES BORGGRAMPS



MARIA CASSAR LES GALS



MAYA D'UGO LES GALS



HANNAH SPITERI PENELOPE



ELLA MANDUCAPENELOPE



DAVID COPPINIPETER



SEAN AZZOPARDI PETER



RAMBERT ATTARD WHILHELM



ANTONELLA MIFSUD VILMA



MARTIN AZZOPARDI LORD TASTEE



RENATO DIMECHKING OF KITCHNIK



AUDREY SCERRIMISS BULLDYKE/ QUEEN OF KITCHNIK

CHORUS GIRLS



CARLY ZARB



CELINE ABELA



CHRISTINA DESPOTT



CHRISTY GALEA



CLARA AGIUS



COLLEEN GENOVESE



FRANCESCA KARLSSON



KATRINA DEMARCO



SVETLANA PANDOLFINO



TAMARA MICALLEF



CHRISTOPHER JAMES FRIGGIERI

CHORUS BOYS



DANIEL GALEA



GILBERT GAUCI



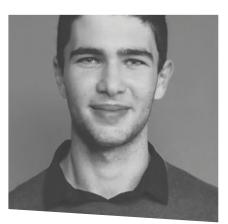
JACOB FARRUGIA



JEREMY GRECH



MYRON JOSE AGIUS



NEIL ZAHRA



STEPHEN GALEA



YANDRICK AGIUS



YENTEL G. TRIOSI DE MENVILLE





ALAN MONTANARO SCRIPTWRITER



MRO. PAUL ABELA
MUSICAL DIRECTOR



FRANCESCO NICODEME
CHOREOGRAPHER



ROGER TIRAZONA
VOCAL COACH

Dubbed as one of Malta's finest actors by Malta Today and as a "pantomime legend" by The Sunday Times, Alan's name has become synonymous with the genre and has earned him the nickname "Pantonaro" He graduated with honours from the Manoel Theatre Academy of Dramatic Arts (MTADA) and went on to become one of the country's theatrical stalwarts with strong leanings towards mainstream classical comedy, children's pantomime and musical theatre. Alan has written over 16 pantomimes for the MADC including standards like Alison Wonderland, Scrooge and The Wizard of Oz. With UN-BELIEVE IT! Alan is raising the bar once more by insisting on a car that flies – much to the delight of the director and stage manager. But he is convinced the audiences will love it. He was supposed to have hung his bra and wig up for a well-deserved break, but he's back by popular demand and screams for more! Alan is Principal of the international Helen O'Grady Drama Academy. In his own words, he asks audiences to sit back, fasten your seat belts.... and come fly with us.

Paul Abela is a graduate of Berklee College of Music. He is a very prolific composer/arranger/producer/conductor in various genres. He has composed songs for various music festivals in Poland, Prague, Bratislava, Turkey, Yugoslavia, Korea, Italy, Sweden. Norway, Denmark, Australia, Canada and other countries. He has also represented Malta at the Eurovision Song Contest four times both as composer and conductor. Paul was musical director and conductor for the Malta productions of various musicals such as The Sound Of Music, Jesus Christ Superstar, Evita, Fiddler On The Roof, Cabaret, Les Miserables In Concert, Joseph And The Technicolor Dreamcoat, South Pacific, Annie, Anything Goes, Kiss Me Kate, Seven Brides For Seven Brothers, Godspell, Nunsense, La Cage Aux Follies, Slice Of Saturday Night, Blood Brothers, Fame, Secret Garden, and various Pantomimes as well as composer of various original musicals and the Maltese Rock Opera Ġensna. He has composed music for television, television serials, film and theatre and has produced and conducted concerts for orchestra, big band and for television.

Francesco is currently reading his Master in Dance Research at University of Malta. After graduating from the Urdang Academy London with a major in Dance and a minor in Voice, Francesco had the exclusive opportunity to perform at Saint Paul's Cathedral, London for Her Majesty the Queen as well as working for Royal Caribbean as a production vocalist. Before moving to Malta, Francesco worked in Dubai where he toured a dance show with Millennium International Entertainment. In Malta, Francesco has performed in several shows such as 'Voices', '1565 in Concert', 'Simply Queen', 'A night at the Theatre' and 'Merry Poppins'. Francesco has worked with several local companies and choreographed many shows including 'A Step in Time', the TMYT Street performance at 'Notte Bianca', 'Romeo and Juliet' and 'Robin Hood and the Babes in the Wood'.

facebook: @rogertirazona

Roger trained at the Johann Strauss School of Music, Malta. Awards won include best singer and performer in Canzoni dal Mondo, Italy, and New Asian Singer in Beijing, China, together with awards won while part of the Pop Classical Crossover group Trilogy in Malta Eurovision. Theatrical credits include; Adam (7 Brides for 7 Brothers); Javert (Les Miserables in Concert); Georg Von Trapp (The Sound of Music), Callahan (Legally Blonde); Pilate (Jesus Christ Superstar); Horton (Seussical the Musical); Chauvelin (The Scarlet Pimpernel); Neville Craven (The Secret Garden); Lazar Wolf (Fiddler on the Roof); Benvolio (Romeo and Juliet); Theseus (A Midsummer Night's Dream); Alessandro and De Valette (1565 The Musical). Concert credits include Simply Webber (also vocal director), Simply Queen (also vocal director), A Night at the Theatre, Comedy Tonight, Gensna in Concert, Gensna History Rocks, 50 years of Maltese Music. TV credits include Triq Wahda, Il-Klikka, Lovers on Ice (La7 Sky Italia) Honour of Lithuania (Music Composer) Lithuania Channel TV3. Vocal Director credits include 13-The Musical, Rock of Ages and the last three Pantomimes for the MADC.

Scriptwriter
Director
Executive Producer
Stage Manager
Assistant Stage Manager
Musical Director
Choreographer
Vocal Coach
Dance Captain
Singing Captain
Set Designer
Set Construction & Painting

Car Flying Mechanism

Props Mistress

Props Construction,

Painting Assistants

& Backstage Crew

Alan Montanaro Nanette Brimmer Martin Azzopardi Rachel Galea Marvic Okoh Paul Abela Francesco Nicodeme Roger Tirazona

Carly Zarb Faye Micallef Grimaud Claudio Apap

Jason Apap Claudio Apap George Apap George Grech Mark Grech Ronnie Spiteri Joswa Borg

Antoine Curmi Diego Borg Carl Zerafa Natalino Xuereb Jeffrey Micallef Louise Bugeja Vanessa Bugeja

Vanessa Bugeja Rachel Galea Bernadette Vassallo Christina Ciappara

Damien Scerri Dylan Odom Glenn Attard Kenan Apap

Lee Jordan Busuttil Louise Azzopardi Luca Xerri

Marco Mallia Michela Spiteri Mira Vandeputte Stefan Karl Magri

Dame's Costumes Designed and Sewn by Costume Designer

Giulia Orsi Martin Azzopardi Nanette Brimmer **Heads of Wardrobe**

Seamstresses

Dressers

Make-Up

assisted by

Hairs and Wigs

Photography

Mark Bonnici Phyllis Apap Doris Mercieca Alex Spiteri Gaetano Deguara

Briana Apap Gail Camilleri Lea Apap Leanne Agius Malcolm Azzilla Margaret Hampton Mariella Azzopardi Martina Farrugia Ritianne Mallia Tabone

Sara Grech Steffi Thake Mandy Abela Jonathan Mallia Nicola Aquilina

Francesca Grech Emma Ripard Guy Galea Matthew Galea

of Michael & Guy Valletta

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Animations Ismael Portelli
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THE CREW

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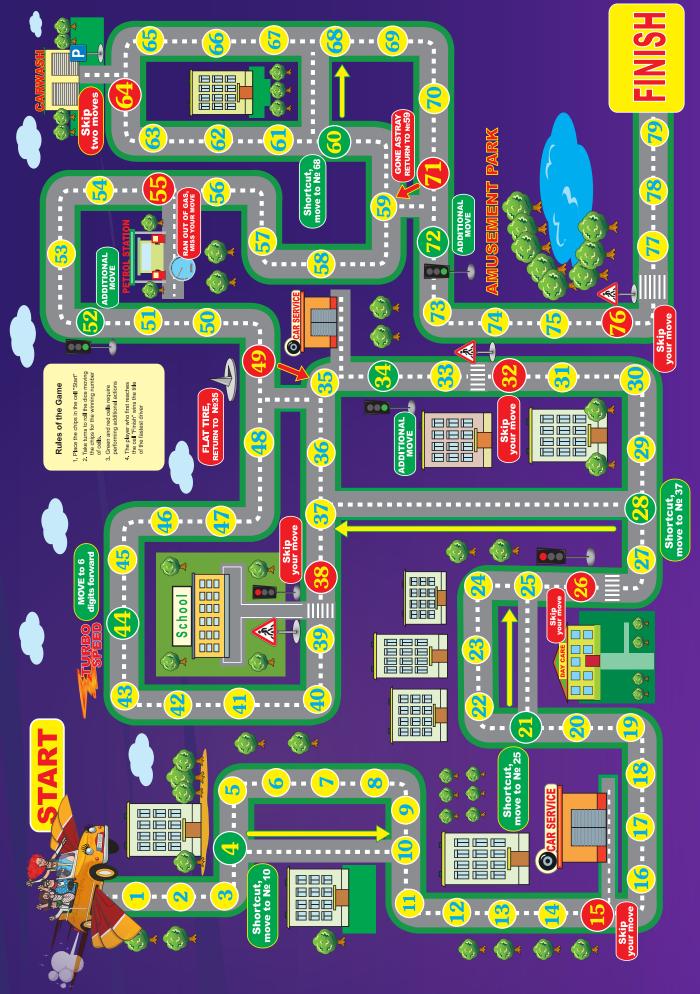












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