

BROS

THEATRE
COMPANY

an amateur production

by arrangement with

ACCESS ARTISTE
MANAGEMENT LTD



Book & Lyrics by

Kevin Hammonds

Music by

Charles Miller

When Midnight Strikes

Originally produced by
Fenton Gray & Guy James
for Strike Up The Band Ltd.

Tuesday 11th to
Saturday 15th
October 2011
at 7.45pm

Hampton Hill Playhouse 90 High Street Hampton Hill TW12 1NY

Programme £1



Kevin Hammonds - Book writer and Lyricist

Originally from Texas, Kevin, a published playwright, has had a remarkable fifty-four productions in New York, London and around the world.

Together, he and Charles Miller have collaborated on numerous shows in addition to When Midnight Strikes. Other shows written with Charles Miller include their highly successful musical mystery spoof Brenda Bly: Teen Detective which received rave reviews opening at London's Bridewell Theatre, and was hailed "as purely entertaining an evening as you will get in a theatre this year" by Time Out London. Samuel French has published the hit musical for worldwide performance rights, and it is currently being performed around the world. Other musicals produced in London include R.S.V.P.A.S.A.P., Hope, Fabula and No One In The World.

In New York, his musical Kiss and Make Up sold to packed houses at Off-Broadway's Lucille Lortel Theatre. Other musicals include Mr. Christmas (music by Charles Miller) which won Best Musical by The North Eastern Pennsylvania Theatre Alliance, Men: The Musical! (New York and Edinburgh Festival), Write For Me and Castles.

In addition, his continuous comedy soap opera Crescendo Falls completed a successful year's run at Seattle's Theatre Schmeater. Previous productions of this cult phenomenon include three productions in New York (including NBC's comedy showcase PSNBC), Houston, and Chicago.

Plays include Heads Up (New York and London productions), December Moon, Piece of Cake (New York and London productions), Game Night, The Man On Her Arm and Board Stiff.

Other recordings of his lyrics with Charles' music can be found on Julie Atherton's first solo CD A Girl of Few Words, Mark Joseph's CD Clear Blue Sky, Gemma Atkins CD Yesterday Today Tomorrow, and the original London cast recording of When Midnight Strikes.

Charles Miller – Composer

Over the last decade, Charles Miller has composed of a number of musicals, many in collaboration with New York lyricist Kevin Hammonds. These include the highly acclaimed Brenda Bly: Teen Detective which opened at the Bridewell Theatre, London, and has since been published by Samuel French for worldwide production. Also, No One In The World, which has played three seasons at the Cochrane Theatre, London, as well as a successful run Off-Broadway at The Producers Club. Other titles include When Midnight Strikes which had a hugely successful run at The Finborough Theatre, London and most recently Hope at The Bridewell Theatre, London.

Charles' songs are regularly performed on the cabaret circuit in both London & New York. A revue of Miller and Hammonds songs, entitled Build Me A Bridge has played at various venues, including The Battersea Barge & Bridewell Theatre in London, and Don't Tell Mama in New York, where Broadway veteran Mary Stout performed a one-woman show entitled Mary Sings Miller to great acclaim.

With Adam Bard, Charles has written numerous stand-alone songs, which have formed a number of revues, including Anthology at The Bridewell and Living On An Island at The Talk Of London. An album called We Define Each Other - The Songs of Miller & Bard featuring West End leading lady Lindsey Danvers is currently available, as is The Charles Miller Songbook published by Strike Up The Band Ltd.

Charles' songs are featured on a number of recordings including the best selling album A Girl Of Few Words by Julie Atherton. Charles wrote all the songs on the album and Julie is one of the hottest stars in the West End, currently Julie is appearing as Kate Monster in Avenue Q. West End star Marc Joseph also recorded an album featuring songs by Charles called Clear Blue Sky and a full cast album of When Midnight Strikes is also available on the MaKiNG Records label. Other composing credits include the incidental music for The Borrowers at Birmingham Old Rep, Clive Francis' adaptation of Three Men In A Boat, and a musical version of The Canterville Ghost which toured the UK starring Ron Moody.

It's my absolute pleasure to welcome you to the latest BROS production – *When Midnight Strikes*. Everyone remembers where they were and what they were doing on the Millennial Eve and for the small group of friends celebrating with Christopher and Jennifer West it was certainly a night they'd never forget. I am delighted that we at BROS are able to recapture that eventful evening here at the Hampton Hill Playhouse this week.

BROS is an extremely versatile company and I never cease to be amazed at the breadth of material we cover. This year we have produced the evergreen, large scale, *Guys and Dolls* and will be presenting *Dick Whittington*, a traditional pantomime in December. In between we have this evening's production – a true ensemble piece that gives each one of our talented cast a real moment to shine and is both funny and moving in equal measure.

When Midnight Strikes, as a relatively unknown show is a bold and unusual choice for an amateur company to take on. It is also just the sort of show that appeals hugely to BROS members and we had no worries about casting – other than the perennial problem of having too much choice! It is so important with smaller, ensemble pieces that the actors are not only individually good at what they do but are also able to work closely as a team. Andy, Dave and Diego have put together just such a company and I would like to say a big thank you to all of them as well as the unseen army of technical experts and our front of house volunteers who have all contributed to this evening's performance.

I think all that remains for me to say is have a wonderful evening and - "Let's party like it's 1999"!

Charlotte Walker – BROS Chairman

Let's all meet up!



I bought the sound recording of *When Midnight Strikes* when I knew nothing about the work as a whole. However, I did know that many who audition for Musicals seemed to choose songs by Charles Miller and Kevin Hammond for the power, range and intimacy that the songs support. I was hooked after listening. I went on and on about the careful stories told within the various numbers and encouraged friends and others to listen.

Then one day, Wesley Henderson Roe called my bluff. "If you enjoy it so much, why not direct it for BROS?" That was the start. It is to the credit of the company that BROS is willing to support experimentation with the new and the less known. It is an even greater credit that the company can call on so many talents to ensure that a show such as this reaches the stage.

I hope that, after seeing the show, you will join those who know and spread the word about *When Midnight Strikes*. It includes characters with whom everyone can associate at some level. We all have some good times and some bad. This is a show that covers both, and allows the audience to leave with their own resolutions about the future.

Andy Yeates – Director

in the year 2000...

The action takes place over one evening from December 31st 1999 to January 1st 2000 in a New York apartment belonging to Christopher & Jennifer West.



Act One

Prologue

Little Miss Perfect – pre-reprise

Jennifer

Resolutions

Greg, Christopher, Nicole, Edward, Josephina & Zoe

We're Here

Bradley & Twyla

Shut Up

Twyla, Zoe, Nicole & Company

What You See

Nicole

Let Me Inside

Alex & Jennifer

A Jerk Like Me

Greg

Smoke 'em If You Got 'em

Bradley & Company

Party of Parties

Christopher & Company

Little Miss Perfect

Jennifer

--- Interval of 20 minutes ---

Act Two

Entr'acte & When Midnight Strikes

Company

Like Father, Like Son

Christopher

Too Little, Too Late

Rachel with Nicole & Twyla

Never Learned to Type

Josephina

I Never

Company

Party Conversation

Murial & Edward

You Know How to Love Me

Twyla with Nicole & Rachel

It's Not a Party 'til Something Gets Broken

Jennifer & Christopher

Up in Smoke

Zoe & Company

When Midnight Strikes Reprise

Jennifer



Production Team

Director	Andy Yeates
Musical Director	Dave Roberts
Choreographer	Diego Avila
Producer	Wesley Henderson Roe
Lighting Design	Ed Pagett
Lighting Operation	Mike Bradbury & Andy Collier
Sound Design	Stuart Vaughan
Set Design	Wesley Henderson Roe
Stage Manager	Jade Hamilton
Technical & Stage Team	Drew Barnes, Berni Messenger & Ian Nethersell
Props	Sian Walters
Costumer Co-ordinator	Terrie Creswell
Hair & Make-up	Louise Turnbull
Rehearsal Pianists	Carole Smith & Alex Parker
FOH Manager	Clare Henderson Roe
Box Office	Peter Ward
Programme	Chris Morris
Flier Design	Ian Ferguson www.pro-creations.co.uk
Artwork	Jim Sitch jimsitch@banksian23.demon.co.uk



Band

Keyboard	Dave Roberts
Cello & Bass	Dan Tigg

Acknowledgements

Debbie Goldberg at St Michael's Church Hall, Barnes &
Andrew Hunter at Vernon Hall, East Sheen



Bonnie Allen - Twyla

Bonnie trained at St Mary's University College gaining a joint honours degree in Drama with Physical Theatre. For BROS she has appeared as a Follies Girl in *Crazy For You* (Richmond Theatre). She has also played Josie in *Iron* for Richmond Shakespeare Society - (the Mary Wallace Theatre), and as Joanna in *Home Free* for St Mary's University College.

Lizzie Brignall - Zoe

Lizzie has been a member of BROS for 15 years, roles include Dolly Levi in *Hello Dolly* and Dora Bailey in *Singin' in the Rain* (Richmond Theatre); Reno Sweeney in *Anything Goes* and Helen Walsingham in *Half a Sixpence* (Minack Theatre); Charlotte in *Flora the Red Menace*, various characters in *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* and Dulcie in *Divorce Me Darling* (Hampton Hill Playhouse). With Songtime Theatre Arts Lizzie played Conchita in *Copacabana* and Muzzy Van Hossmere in *Thoroughly Modern Millie*. Other roles include Sonia in *Godspell* and Leanne in *Are you Lonesome Tonight*.

Bryan Cardus - Bradley

Brian trained at the Arts Educational Schools completing the 3 year musical theatre course in 1991.

Rolls for BROS include - Fred Graham in *Kiss Me, Kate* (Polesden Lacey 1995 & Minack Theatre 2005); Don Quixote in *Man of La Mancha*, *Evita* (both Minack Theatre); Freddy in *My Fair Lady*, Bill Snibson in *Me and My Girl*, Don Lockwood in *Singin' in the Rain*, Bella Zangler in *Crazy for You*, *Hello Dolly!* (all Richmond Theatre); Billy Flynn in *Chicago* (Edmund Kean Theatre); Sylvia in *Ruthless*, *A Little Night Music* (Parkshot Studio); Bobby Van Heusen in *Divorce Me Darling!*, Vittorio Vidal in *Sweet Charity*, the American in *Chess*, Harry in *Flora the Red Menace*, *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* (all Hampton Hill Playhouse); Cat in *Honk!* (Arthur Cotterell Theatre).

Bryan won the Artsrichmond Swan Award for Best Actor in a Musical for *Honk!*, and *Flora the Red Menace*. He also won Best Supporting Actor in a Musical 2011 for Bella Zangler in *Crazy for You*.

Andy Clarke - Alex

Andy trained with Northavon Youth Theatre Company and at Royal Holloway University of London. After performing at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival for many years Andy joined BROS in 2004 playing Bobby in Stephen Sondheim's *Company* (Parkshot Studio) winning a RUTAC award for Best Actor. Since then Andy has played Nanki Poo in *Hot Mikado* (Hampton Hill Playhouse), Ugly in *Honk* (Arthur Cotterell Theatre), and Sancho in *Man of La Mancha* (Minack) and appeared in many other shows such as *Flora, the Red Menace* and *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* (Hampton Hill Playhouse) and *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (Richmond Theatre).

Ben Hughes - Greg

This is Ben's third appearance with BROS having previously performed as Joe in *What You Will* (Hampton Hill Playhouse) and Junior in *Crazy For You* (Richmond Theatre). Ben is currently studying medicine at Barts where he recently played Doody in the student drama society's production of *Grease* and looks forward to acting with BCP in their upcoming production of *Guys and Dolls*.

Nikki Gerrard - Jennifer

Nikki trained at Sylvia Young Theatre School and The Guildford School of Acting and has recently returned from sailing the world as Principal Vocalist onboard the six star yacht; Seabourn Odyssey.

Prior to that she appeared with Tommy Steele in the National Tours of *Dr Doolittle & Scrooge* and with Shane Richie & Michael Barrymore in the National Tours of *Scrooge* for Bill Kenwright.

Nikki played Eva Peron in *EVITA* for Bros at The Minack Theatre, has worked extensively with Gloc Musical Theatre & Triffid Productions and created the role of Jackie Kennedy in *Kennedy* for 1000 Day Productions.

Nikki's album "This Time Around" is produced on the Dress Circle Label. www.nikkigerrard.com

Kerry Magee - Rachel

Kerry joined BROS four years ago to be a dancer in *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (Richmond Theatre) and has thoroughly enjoyed performing in a variety of shows since.

Favourite roles include, most recently Miss Adelaide - *Guys 'n Dolls* (The Minack), Patsy - *Crazy for You* (Richmond Theatre), and Soloist - *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* (Hampton Hill Playhouse). Other roles played include Eliza - *My Fair Lady*, Charity - *Sweet Charity*, Audrey - *Little Shop of Horrors*. Outside of BROS Kerry enjoys teaching Music/Performing Arts and sharing her passion for performance. Kerry has really enjoyed being part of the cast of *When Midnight Strikes*.

Chris Morris - Edward

This is Chris' 14th show with BROS Theatre Company since joining in 2003 and he's very much looking forward to returning to the Hampton Hill Playhouse stage for *When Midnight Strikes*. Recent performances have included Benny Southstreet in *Guys & Dolls* and the Innkeeper from *Man of La Mancha* and *Evita* (Minack Theatre), Sebastian in *What You Will* and Mr. Stanley in *Flora the Red Menace* (Hampton Hill Playhouse). Other shows include *BROS Centenary Gala* and *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (Richmond Theatre).

Tracy Sorgiovanni - Nicole

Tracy trained in Acting Musical Theatre at Central School of Speech and Drama.

Prior to joining BROS, she performed in various plays and musicals, including *Carousel* (Rhoda McGaw Theatre), *Pippin* (Union Theatre), *Private Lives* (Hampton Hill Playhouse), *Blue Remembered Hills* (Questors Theatre), *Fox of Life* (Greenwich Playhouse), *Little Shop of Horrors* (Lost Theatre), *Black Comedy* (Theatro Technis), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Edinburgh Festival), *Oliver* (Lost Theatre), *Beauty & the Beast* (Tour) and *Sleeping Beauty* (Colourhouse Theatre). Since joining BROS she has enjoyed being in *Cinderella* and most recently *Guys and Dolls* (Minack Theatre). She also recently performed in the Flanders & Swann revue *Transport of Delight* (Hampton Hill Playhouse).

Louise Turnbull - Josephina

Louise joined BROS in 1996 where she took her first, not so tentative steps as a cell block girl in *Chicago*. Other favourites since then include *Hello Dolly* and *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (Richmond Theatre), *Anything Goes* and *Half a Sixpence* (Minack Theatre), *Tomfoolery* (Parkshot Studio), and *Mr Cinder* and *I Love You, Your Perfect, Now Change* (Hampton Hill Playhouse). Louise also lends her hair and make up design skills to the society and has created looks for shows such as *Sweet Charity*, *Crazy for You*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *Half a Sixpence* and *Guys and Dolls*.

Martin Wilcox - Christopher

Martin's association with BROS started 25 years ago playing for four shows in the pit, before jumping on stage between 1989 & 1993 in *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*, *Cabaret*, *HMS Pinafore* (Ralph), *Mr Cinders*, *Annie Get Your Gun*, *A Chorus of Disapproval* (Crispin), & *Oliver!* Martin returned to BROS in 2003 playing in *Calamity Jane* (Wild Bill), *Company* (Harry) and *Hot Mikado* (Mikado). He has also been MD for *Chess* ('04), *Kiss Me, Kate!* ('05), *Guys and Dolls* ('11).

Outside BROS, Martin has been an active member of Gloc Musical Theatre for 19 years working as performer, Musical Director and Directing his first full-scale musical, *Hello Dolly!* in 2009. Martin has also worked with Triffid Productions, 1000 Days Productions, Black Horse Productions, Songtime, The Young Savoyards and Vamp 'til Ready.

Heather Mathew - Murial

This is Heather's first show with BROS. She has previously appeared in the chorus of several Twickenham Operatic Society shows at Richmond Theatre, and as Mrs Josephs in Zodiac Theatre's production of *Blitz*.

Heather is a member of Kingston Choral Society and recently performed with London Community Gospel Choir at Cadogan Hall.

BROS Theatre Company - A potted history

In 1908 a group of like-minded singers met in Barnes at the invitation of a Mr. Leopold Glasspoole to discuss the possibility of forming an Operatic Society. As a result the Barnes Operatic & Dramatic Society, or BODS for short, was duly formed, and the rest as they say is history!

Their first production, *The Mikado* was successfully staged in February 1909 at the Byfield Hall, Barnes, and throughout the 1910s, 20s & 30s the works of Gilbert & Sullivan held a dominant place in the BODS repertoire.

In 1966 the company renamed to become the Barnes & Richmond Operatic Society in honour of staging its first musical *Carousel* at Richmond Theatre, where it continues to stage major shows to this day.

In the 1990s BROS began its other long standing touring relationship with The Minack Open Air Theatre in Cornwall, and in 1999 adopted its current name. Productions here at Hampton Hill Playhouse began in 2000 and in 2008 the Company celebrated its Centenary.

For more information please visit our website:
www.brostheatrecompany.org

Our next production will be ***Dick Whittington*** at The Arthur Cotterell Theatre, Kingston College, Kingston Hall Road, Kingston upon Thames, KT1 2AQ from Tuesday 13th to Saturday 17th December 2011

Followed by:

Into the Woods – May 2012

Curtains – October 2012

BROS
THEATRE COMPANY