

# SHOW TIME

MUSICAL THEATRE DUBAI PRODUCTIONS



X



# BEHIND THE RED CURTAIN



Journey beyond the stage and discover  
the magic of the musicals in 360°

## 1 - 2 December 2023

### Theatre of Digital Art, Souk Madinat

featuring songs from

Hairspray • Chicago • Oklahoma • Hamilton • Aladdin • Six • The Little Mermaid

Little Shop of Horrors • Dear Evan Hansen • Grease • Buggy Malone & more



M U S I C A L T H E A T R E D U B A I

PRESENTS

# BEHIND THE RED CURTAIN

Look out for  
interactive links & icons  
throughout this programme



THEATRE OF DIGITAL ART

MUSICAL THEATRE DUBAI

1 - 2 December 2023

## featuring

Sara Al Hashimi  
Glenn Atkinson  
Claire Bennett  
Alice Bidder  
Laura Suzanne Bock  
Mark Botros  
Rachel Cahill  
Kerrie Campbell  
Rayvan Chad Zealand  
Claire Clarke  
Olivia Coleman  
Lizzy Cuthbertson  
Sarah Debono  
Rhiannon Downie-Hurst  
Kirstie Edwards

Brian Fletcher  
Karla Geekie  
Stuart Gibson  
Mohamed Gouda  
Emma Henderson  
Raychel Holt  
Joana Karla Secillano  
Katie Keyes  
Adam Laird  
Chloe Leather  
Jessica Leigh  
Wajd Mansour  
Laura Marino  
Talya Mitchell  
Bryn Mitchell  
Bethanie Mitchinson

James Mitchinson  
Giselle Monkhouse  
Kristina Novykova  
Dave Quinn  
Peter Ragai  
Ann-Katrin Reusch  
Stephen Rixon  
Megan Rowley  
Ruth Sanders  
Victor Sant'Annah  
Louise Shufflebotham  
Alexandra White  
Nickie Willoughby  
Shona Wills  
Sophie Worrell

### The MTDXB Dancers

Rachel Cahill, Olivia Coleman, Carla Geekie, Chloe Leather, Katie Keyes, Laura Marino, Bethanie Mitchinson, Giselle Monkhouse, Ruth Sanders, Victor Sant'Annah, Shona Wills, Rayvan Chad Zealand

### Musical Director

Adam Laird

### Director

James Mitchinson

### Choreographer

Bethanie Mitchinson

### Costume Mistress

Claire Bennett

### Vocal Coach

Laura Suzanne Bock

### Dance Captain

Shona Wills

# A NOTE FROM OUR FOUNDERS

Having arrived in Dubai amidst the pandemic, one of the things we missed most about home was the social aspect of rehearsing at our local musical theatre society; lots of people with similar interests in the same room, working towards a common goal – to put on a great show! It was through our love of musical theatre that we met back in 2011, and performing has always been an important part of our lives! So when we discovered that Dubai – with a population of over 3 million people – didn't already have an active musical theatre group for adults, we were both shocked, and disappointed! And so MTDXB was born...

Within 6 short weeks of our initial meeting in 2021 (thanks to a Facebook post on Brits in Dubai) MTDXB staged its first musical cabaret show and since then has continued to grow from strength to strength. With 5 sell-out productions under our belt, including our first full scale stage musical, *The Addams Family – A New Musical* back in June this year, we are excited to take on yet another exciting venture here at TODA. Prepare to be taken on a journey of musical discovery by almost 50 incredible performers, perfectly complimented by TODA's state of the art, immersive 360° digital visuals.

We both want to give a huge, heart-felt thank you to everyone who has given up their time to help put this production together, both on and off-stage. Without your passion, talent, commitment and insane energy MTDXB would not have become what is it today!

If you enjoy the performance, please consider giving our socials a like and a follow; leave us a comment, or a review on our website – [mtdxb.com](http://mtdxb.com) – and share your thoughts and our pages with others! Keep an eye on [linktr.ee/mtdxb](http://linktr.ee/mtdxb) to stay up to date, or even better, come along and join us!

We have recently announced that our summer '24 production will be the ever-popular *Grease The Musical*. Whether your talents lie in performing, or any other area of theatre which are needed to stage a great show (backstage help, lighting, sound, props, costumes, web development etc) we would love to hear from you! Similarly, if your business can help or would like to sponsor or collaborate with MTDXB for future shows please get in touch at [mtdxb.com/contact](http://mtdxb.com/contact)

Thank you for supporting our well deserving, local performers and we're looking forward to seeing you at our next performance!

**James (Mitch), Bethanie (& Ralph) Mitchinson**



# WHAT IS BEHIND THE RED CURTAIN?

Experience the magic of musical theatre like never before, as MTDXB joins forces with TODA for the first time!

Journey with us behind the red curtain to discover the essence of what makes musical theatre so entertaining through a specially curated selection of songs from smash-hit West End and Broadway shows Hamilton, Chicago, The Little Mermaid, Aladdin and more - chosen to give our audiences a taster of some new, some classic, some familiar and some relatively unknown stage musical shows in a 360° performance by MTDXB accompanied by stunning immersive visuals as part of TODA's NeoTheater cultural initiative, promoting arts and culture.

*Behind the Red Curtain* is a musical theatre love letter, not just to the shows that have graced stages all over the world, but to the genre itself - where song becomes a storytelling art form that makes us smile, laugh and cry and where the passion of the performance can truly capture the imagination.



# BEHIND THE RED CURTAIN

**Have you ever wondered what makes a musical so ... well,  
entertaining?**

## ACT I

**A Musical** from *Something Rotten*.....Glenn Atkinson, Brian Fletcher  
& Adam Laird plus Ensemble

**Welcome to the Rock** from *Come From Away*.....Ensemble

**Waving through a Window** from *Dear Evan Hansen*.....Stephen Rixon

**Breathe** from *In The Heights*.....Ruth Sanders

**Bad Guys** from *Bugsy Malone*.....The Men of MTDXB

**Ex Wives** from *Six*.....Rachel Cahill, Olivia Coleman, Katie Keyes, Bethanie  
Mitchinson, Ruth Sanders & Sophie Worrell

**First Date/Last Night** from *Dog Fight*.....Laura Suzanne Bock & David Quinn

**In His Eyes** from *Jekyll & Hyde*.....Louise Shufflebotham & Alexandra White

**I Can Hear The Bells** from *Hairspray*.....Kirstie Edwards

**Fugue Of The Tinhorns** from *Guy and Dolls*.....Glenn Atkinson, Bryn Mitchell  
& James Mitchinson

**We Go Together** from *Grease*.....Ensemble

# BEHIND THE RED CURTAIN

**It's apparently a play where the dialogue stops and the plot is conveyed through song**

## ACT 2

**Oklahoma** from *Oklahoma*.....Ensemble

**Dentist** from *Little Shop of Horrors*.....Bryn Mitchell with Sarah Debono,  
Rhiannon Downie-Hurst & Megan Rowley

**Poor Unfortunate Souls** from *The Little Mermaid*.....Claire Bennett

**Agony** from *Into the Woods*.....Adam Laird & Stephen Rixon

**Burn** from *Hamilton*.....Sara Al Hashimi

**Chicago Medley** from *Chicago*.....The MTDXB Dancers

**Friend Like Me** from *Aladdin*.....Brian Fletcher with Wajd Mansour

**You Can't Stop the Beat** from *Hairspray*.....Ensemble

**White Christmas** from *White Christmas*.....Alice Bidder & Ensemble

**Christmas (Baby, Please Come Home)**.....Sophie Worrell

**You Will Be Found** from *Dear Evan Hansen*.....Ensemble  
featuring Stephen Rixon, Ruth Sanders, Laura Suzanne Bock & Dave Quinn

*Arrangement by Anisa Bharmal*

# PRODUCTION TEAM



Musical Director.....Adam Laird  
Director & Producer.....James Mitchinson  
Choreographer.....Bethanie Mitchinson  
Costume Mistress.....Claire Bennett  
Vocal Coach.....Laura Suzanne Bock  
Dance Captain.....Shona Wills  
Website, poster & programme design .....Brian Fletcher



Managing Director.....Daria Prodaevich  
Executive Producer.....Nina Arutyunyan  
Creative Producer.....Kate Erharde  
Art Manager.....Evgeniya Romanidi  
Head of Marketing.....Daria Klimova  
Artistic Consultant for NeoTheatre.....Alex Broun  
Technical Director.....Mikhail Gerasimchuk  
Sound & Lighting.....Yancy Yves  
Photographer & Videographer.....Allen Tibayan



# WHO'S WHO



**Sara Al Hashimi**  
*@saraalhashimimusic*



**Glenn Atkinson**  
*@aglenn1982*



**Claire Bennett**



**Alice Bidder**



**Laura Suzanne Bock**



**Mark Botros**



**Rachel Cahill**  
*@rachcahill*



**Kerrie Campbell**



**Claire Clarke**



# WHO'S WHO



**Olivia Coleman**  
*@livvcoleman*



**Lizzy Cuthbertson**



**Sarah Debono**  
*@sarahdebono95*



**Rhiannon Downie-Hurst**  
*@riocaptures*



**Kirstie Edwards**



**Brian Fletcher**  
*@brifletch78*



**Karla Geekie**



**Stuart Gibson**



**Mohamed Gouda**  
*@mxgouda*

# WHO'S WHO



**Emma Henderson**



**Raychel Holt**



**Katie Keyes**



**Adam Laird**



**Chloe Leather**



**Jessica Leigh**



**Wajd Mansour**



**Laura Marino**



**Talya Mitchell**  
*@talyamitchell*

# WHO'S WHO



**Bryn Mitchell**



**Bethanie Mitchinson**  
*@bethaniem89*



**James Mitchinson**  
*@mitch7181*



**Giselle Monkhouse**  
*@giselle.monkhouse*



**Kristina Novykova**  
*@kristinasinger\_dxb*



**Dave Quinn**



**Peter Ragai**  
*@peterragai*



**Ann-Katrin Reusch**  
*@ak\_1191*



**Stephen Rixon**  
*@rixy10*

# WHO'S WHO



**Megan Rowley**



**Ruth Sanders**



**Victor Sant'Annah**  
*@victorsantannah*



**Karla Secillano**  
*@iamkarlsy*



**Louise Shufflebotham**  
*@louise\_esther\_vocalist*



**Alexandra White**



**Nickie Willoughby**



**Shona Wills**



**Sophie Worrell**  
*@sophsia*

# WHO'S WHO



**Rayvan Chad Zealand**  
*@rayvanczealand*

# PRODUCTION TEAM



**Adam Laird**  
*Musical Director*



**James Mitchinson**  
*Director & Producer*



**Bethanie Mitchinson**  
*Choreographer*



**Claire Bennett**  
*Costume Mistress*



**Laura Suzanne Bock**  
*Vocal Coach*



**Shona Wills**  
*Dance Captain*

# MTDXB COMMITTEE



**Bethanie Mitchinson**  
Founder & Co-Chairperson



**James Mitchinson**  
Founder & Co-Chairperson



**Talya Mitchell**  
Secretary



**Glenn Atkinson**  
Treasurer



**Brian Fletcher**  
Digital & Media Officer



**Rio Downie-Hurst**  
Marketing & PR Officer



**Sophie Worrell**  
Social Media & Events Officer



**Claire Bennett**  
General Member



**Jessica Leigh**  
General Member



**Bryn Mitchell**  
General Member



**Delyse Mitchell**  
General Member



**Gina Daly**  
Events Team



**Kehkashan Anand**  
Marketing Team

# BEHIND THE RED CURTAIN




Journey beyond the stage and discover  
the magic of the musicals in 360°

**1 - 2 December 2023**  
**Theatre of Digital Art, Souk Madinat**

featuring songs from

Hairspray • Chicago • Oklahoma • Hamilton • Aladdin • Six • The Little Mermaid  
Little Shop of Horrors • Dear Evan Hansen • Grease • Buzzy Malone & more

**Tickets on sale NOW at [mtdxb.com/tickets](https://mtdxb.com/tickets)**

Find us on  [facebook.com/groups/mtdxb](https://facebook.com/groups/mtdxb) [mtdxb.com](https://mtdxb.com)



@MTDXB\_





# is the word!!!

Are you *The One that We Want*?

MTDXB will stage ***GREASE THE MUSICAL*** in summer 2024

Audition details will be released in December, with auditions taking place in January '24.

Keep an eye on our socials, [linktr.ee/mtdxb](https://linktr.ee/mtdxb) and [mtdxb.com](https://mtdxb.com) to get involved!



# WIN TICKETS



To be in with a chance to WIN one of 2 pairs of tickets to see GREASE THE MUSICAL in June 2024 simply answer the following question:

***What is the name of the famous car that features in GREASE?***

Send us an email with the subject line 'Grease Competition' and your answer to **[musicalsdx@gmail.com](mailto:musicalsdx@gmail.com)**

Winners will be selected at random, competition closes on Sunday 10 December

# About



Founded in 2021, MTDXB is Dubai's first and only musical theatre group for adults.

A non-profit community theatre company, MTDXB offers like-minded people with a passion for musical theatre the chance to come together, forge new friendships and creates an environment to have fun, both on and off-stage, while bringing professional-standard performances to audiences in Dubai.

With 5 sell-out productions to date, and the most recent *The Addams Family - A New Musical* having achieved the incredible accolade of being the first community theatre group in Dubai to have ever staged a full scale musical production, MTDXB continues to grow in scale and in popularity with an increasing number of volunteer performers and production team members joining the team for each successive show.



# MTDWR

MUSICAL THEATRE DUBAI

in the media

## MotherBaby&Child

MTDXB and TODA Dubai collaborate for 'Behind The Red Curtain' musical extravaganza

Mark your calendars for 'Behind The Red Curtain,' a spellbinding collaboration between MTDXB and TODA Dubai. On December 1st and 2nd at Souk Madinat's Theatre Of Digital Art, witness a dazzling showcase of nearly 50 performers, captivating choreography, a medley of Broadway and West End hits, promising an evening of world-class entertainment.



Experience the enchantment of musical theatre this December at MTDXB (MTDXB) and Theatre Of Digital Art (TODA) Dubai come together to present 'Behind The Red Curtain' - This captivating production, a highlight of TODA's Neowebster initiative, promises to be a must-see event for theatre enthusiasts and musical lovers alike, supporting Dubai's growing performing arts community.

## WHAT'S ON

Watch a live Broadway musical medley at TODA this December



## Yalla

DUBAI LIFE

'Behind The Red Curtain' set for theatre production in Dubai



Team Yalla speaks to the musical director of the new show who reveals his own love for theatre in Dubai

November 29, 2023  
9:36 am  
By Share  
Share  
DATE & TIME  
01-Dec-2023 - 02-Dec-2023  
Dubai



## magzoid

MAGAZINE

Experience Musical Theatre Magic: Behind The Red Curtain in Dubai



[Dubai, UAE] - Get ready to be swept away by the magic of musical theatre this December at MTDXB (Musical Theatre Dubai) and TODA (Theatre Of Digital Art) Dubai joint forces to present 'Behind The Red Curtain,' a captivating and enchanting production that promises to be a must-see event for theatre enthusiasts and musical lovers alike. Presented as part of TODA's Neowebster initiative, a seasonal pre- and post-event programme that aims to support Dubai's growing performing arts community.

The beat of the UAE  
**CHANNEL 4**  
104.8 FM



## DXB TODAY



## DUBAI one



## dubaieye

103.8



# MTDWR

MUSICAL THEATRE DUBAI



MTDXB  
MUSICAL THEATRE DUBAI  
would like to thank

A huge thanks to **Adam Laird**, once again, for driving the quality, energy and enthusiasm of the singing in this production, whilst at the same time taking on the role as the host of the show AND participating as a performer himself! He is a fully integrated member of the MTDXB family now and can never leave!

Our resident choreographer and co-founder **Bethanie Mitchinson** has once again whipped our cast into shape to make their dancing look incredible and give that Broadway feel to the show! She's worked tirelessly and passionately as always and the results show in each number. As well as this, Beth has practiced what she preaches and has shared her talents on-stage in this show. Her performances are top-notch and we hope to see her tread the boards again and again for MTDXB!

**Mitch (James Mitchinson)** has worked tirelessly behind the scenes to prepare for a show at a unique venue like TODA. It presents different challenges compared to a 'regular' theatre, but equally the opportunity to perform here allows for creativity which Mitch hopes shines through in the visuals and staging. He is very proud of the talent and enthusiasm the cast has brought to this show and can't wait to show it off!

**Claire Bennett** has a great deal of experience both on stage and in directing and producing shows and her eye for detail when dealing with costumes in particular rivals any professional Wardrobe Mistress! We have been extremely lucky to draw upon her knowledge and talent for *Behind the Red Curtain* and we wish to extend our heartfelt gratitude for the time and energy she has given to both costumes and the advice with direction.

**Laura Suzanne Bock** is sadly leaving Dubai soon which will be an incredible loss to MTDXB. Her depth of vocal knowledge and clarity of explanation has assisted the group immensely in the time she has been involved. A talented performer herself, she has in this show once again demonstrated her beautiful singing voice and sincerity in delivery. It is safe to say that we will all miss her hugely and we wish her the best of luck for the future!

**Brian Fletcher** has been involved in this project from the start and helped develop the concept as well as produce the marketing collaterals for the show. He has worked with Mitch to help smooth the transition from rehearsal room to stage and has been valuable counsel in all matters related to the show. In addition, his recent TV performance demonstrated his talent and nerve to deliver the goods on cue! Thank you Brian!



would like to thank

**The Cast of *Behind the Red Curtain*** for their dedication and commitment to MTDXB, both on and off-stage

**The MTDXB Committee** for their never-ending support to the Production Team

**Alex Broun** ([alexbroun.com](http://alexbroun.com)) for his creative support of MTDXB and the Neotheater initiative

**The Team at TODA** ([toda.ae](http://toda.ae)) for partnering with MTDXB to stage *Behind the Red Curtain*

**h2 Productions** & **Yulia at Host Theatre** for the kind loan of microphones

**Delyse Mitchell & Felicia Ham** for operating our follow-spots

**Dean Bratley** on the sound-desk

**James Deacon** for his technical support

**Ahmed Wael** for supporting us backstage and at rehearsals

**Kathleen Bell** at **Sharjah Performing Arts Academy** for supporting her students in joining us at MTDXB

**Ievgen Necheporenko** ([@inphotoua](https://www.instagram.com/inphotoua)) for his photography skills

**Sunmarke School** for their rehearsal spaces and loan of benches

**Jebel Ali School** for the loan of bleachers

**Tracey Bishop** at **Sunmarke School** for everything she does in support of the growth of MTDXB

**Anisa Bharmal** for the use of her beautiful arrangement of *You Will Be Found*

**Tregoning Maintenance** ([tregoningmaintenance.com](http://tregoningmaintenance.com)) for going the extra mile with some last-minute staging decoration at the theatre





**T D A**  
THEATRE OF DIGITAL ART

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**MTDVR**  
MUSICAL THEATRE DUBAI

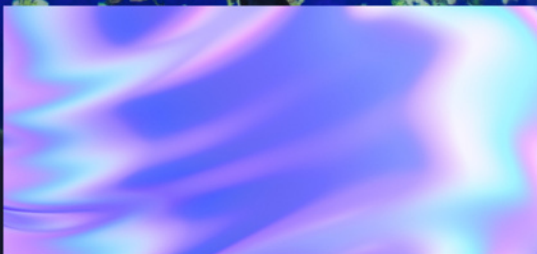
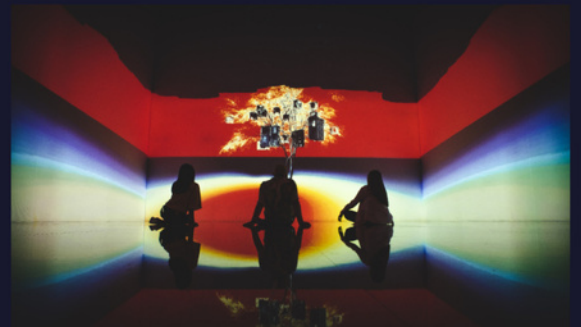


# Real place for unreal experience



TODA is the UAE's first 360° hub that strives to enrich the cultural landscape, combining art & technology.

We've revolutionized the way of appreciating art in all of its manifestations — from classical masterpieces to NFT & new media, from music to theater.



Digital shows, live music nights or wellness sessions — everything we do is always a candy for an eye.

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CODE: MUSICAL20

# MTDXB

MUSICAL THEATRE DUBAI

Thank you for supporting community theatre. We hope you enjoyed the show and we'd love to hear your feedback at [facebook.com/MTDXB](https://facebook.com/MTDXB)

To find out more about MTDXB, to find all our socials, or to join us in our next show, scan the QR code



or visit our website

**MTDXB.COM**