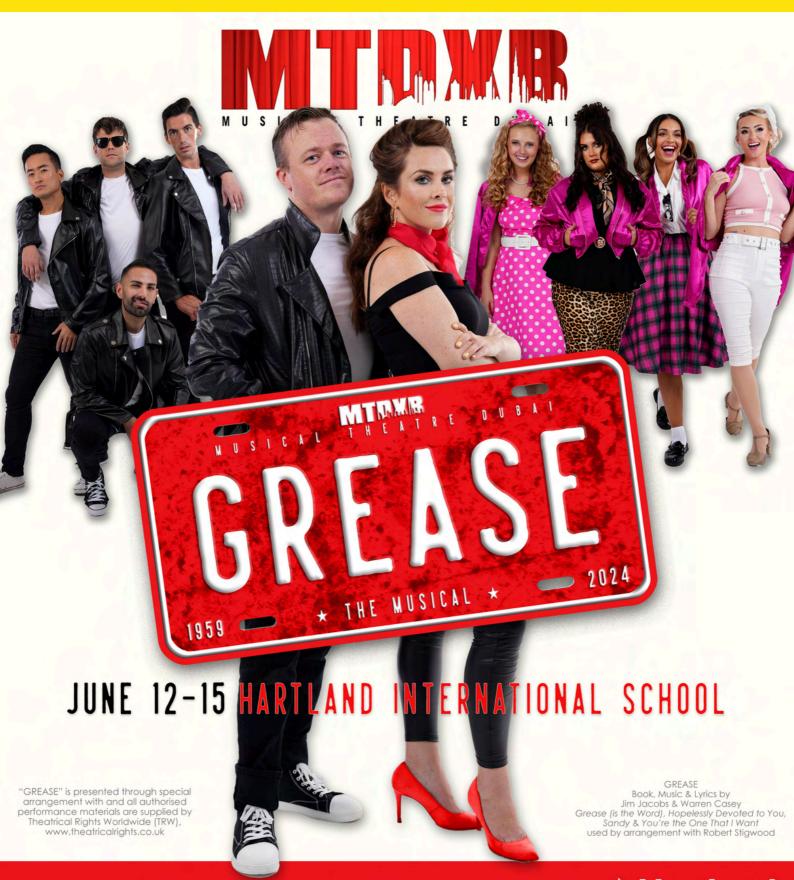
SHOWTIME

THEATRE





THE MUSICAL

12 - 15 JUNE 2024

featuring

Sara Al Hashimi Angela Annese Glenn Atkinson Amy Brown Hayley Sophia Button Rachel Cahill Kerrie Campbell Natasha Emma Catchpole Claire Clarke Matthew T Corbett Gina Daly Sarah Debono Helen Dent Luciano Di Marca Emma Jane Dunne

Brian Fletcher Aidan Godwin Marianne Hughes Lana Lewinsky Aysha Khan Lindsey Larkin **Britt Mayers** Rachel McDaid Bryn Mitchell Kirsty Mitchell Bethanie Mitchinson James Mitchinson Nicoletta Modelli Giselle Monkhouse

David Moore Niamh Moore levgen Necheporenko Kerry-Lee Jeffrey Ann-Katrin Reusch Fadi Rifaai Stephen Rixon **Emilie Rochford** Danielle Romero Jennifer Schmidt Sattawat Sonsin Ivana Vajman Jackson Alexandra White Shona Wills Sophie Worrell Rayvan Chad Zealand

Musical Director

Kirstie Edwards

Adam Laird

Director

Choreographer

Julia Farren Granaderos Bethanie Mitchinson

Production Manager

Brian Fletcher

Assistant Director

Claire Bennett

Asst. Choreographer

Jordan Dodd

Producer

James Mitchinson

GREASE

Book, Music, and Lyrics by Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey

GREASE (is the Word), Hopelessly Devoted to You, Sandy & You're the One That I Want used by arrangement with Robert Stigwood

"GREASE" is presented through special arrangement with and all authorised performance materials are supplied by Theatrical Rights Worldwide (TRW), www.theatricalrights.co.uk

A NOTE FROM OUR FOUNDERS

Over the past 12 months, our little musical theatre group has grown enormously in both scale and ambition. We have expanded our Committee and taken on a more professional approach in all areas in order to help deliver a truly wonderful musical experience for you the audience. There have been huge demands on the time of the volunteers of MTDXB – both those on and off stage – to help deliver a show of high standards and we would like to thank them all from the bottom of our hearts. It means so much to us both to see the community aspect of the group thriving – the camaraderie, the creativity, the friendships, and of course the talent and dedication to musical theatre.

A massive thank you must once again go to <u>KPS Interior Fitout</u> for their continued support of our group and for gifting us an absolutely fabulous set design which lifts the aesthetic quality of the production to that of a professional show.

Thanks also, to <u>Sunmarke School</u> who, when we began looking for a 'home', were the only school of numerous other schools and auditoriums in Dubai who understood what we were trying to achieve and gave us the level of assistance required to help stage MTDXB's first ever full-scale musical! We continue to be championed by Deputy Head Tracey Hargreaves and for this we will always be eternally grateful. Despite being unable to perform GREASE at Sunmarke as originally planned, we continue to appreciate the support shown to us by the school.

A massive thank you to <u>Hartland International School</u>, in particular Fiona Cottam and Lynsay Ansell for coming to our rescue when we needed it and providing us with a beautiful auditorium in which to present GREASE.

There are so many others to thank, without whom we wouldn't have a show at all! Please do check out the Thank You pages at the back of this programme!

After the sell-out success of 'The Addams Family - A New Musical' in June 2023, which saw MTDXB become the first community theatre group to ever stage a musical in Dubai, and which was recently nominated for 'Best Community Event' at the <u>Middle East Event Awards 2024</u>, we knew we had to come back with a classic, and what better musical than GREASE, a high energy show which brings the 1950s alive in spectacular fashion with iconic characters, superb choreography and unforgettable songs that will hopefully have you leaving the auditorium with a smile on your face and hand jiving all the way home!

If you enjoyed the performance, please tell everyone about us and maybe even leave us a comment on either the <u>website</u> or any of our social channels; I know the cast would be thrilled to hear about how their hard work has been received. Similarly, if you don't already, follow us on <u>Instagram</u> or <u>Facebook</u> to keep up to date with what we are getting up to!

If you are keen on joining our group, in any aspect (performing, backstage, lighting, sound, web design, production etc) please <u>contact us</u> and look out for our audition opportunities!

If your business would be interested in sponsoring our group or assisting with future shows in any way please also get in touch. We have only got to where we are today through volunteers and generous donations of time, expertise, and resources from others.

The cultural landscape in Dubai is changing for the better, especially in regards to musical theatre, which until recently was vastly under-represented. So, finally, thank YOU the audience for parting with your hard-earned cash to come and watch GREASE and support local theatre. We thoroughly appreciate it and we hope that you feel you get good value for your ticket price. It is only through your support that we can plan and organise future opportunities for musical theatre in the region and we hope to see you return for many more shows in the future!



James & Beth Mitchinson x



GREASE ISTHE WORD!

GREASE The Musical is a vibrant and timeless production that captures the spirit and energy of the 1950s. Since its Broadway debut in 1972, GREASE has become a beloved classic, enchanting audiences worldwide with its nostalgic charm, unforgettable characters, and electrifying musical numbers. Set in 1959 at the fictional Rydell High School, GREASE tells the story of teenage love, rebellion, and the complexities of growing up.

THE STORY

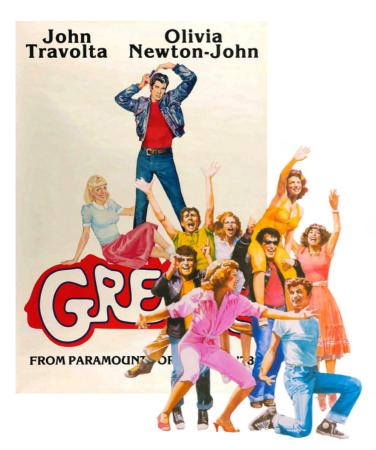
The musical follows the summer romance of Danny Zuko and Sandy Dumbrowski. After a whirlwind summer fling, Danny and Sandy are surprised to find themselves attending the same high school. Danny, the cool leader of the T-Birds, and Sandy, the sweet and innocent new girl, must navigate the pressures of peer groups and their own identities. As they try to rekindle their romance, they encounter challenges and triumphs that resonate with audiences of all ages.

ICONIC CHARACTERS

GREASE is populated with a cast of colourful characters that have become cultural icons. From the tough-talking Rizzo and the quirky Frenchy to the suave Kenickie and the heartthrob Danny, each character brings a unique flavour to the story. Their interactions and relationships create a dynamic and entertaining narrative that is both humorous and heartwarming.



GREASE IS THE WORD!



MUSIC AND DANCE

One of the standout features of GREASE is its unforgettable soundtrack. The musical numbers are a delightful mix of rock'n'roll, doo-wop, and ballads that capture the essence of the 1950s. Hits like 'Summer Nights', 'Greased Lightnin'' and 'You're the One That I Want' have transcended the stage to become timeless anthems. The highenergy dance routines and catchy tunes keep audiences tapping their feet and singing along from start to finish.

CULTURAL IMPACT

Since its inception, GREASE has left an indelible mark on popular culture. The 1978 film adaptation, starring John Travolta and Olivia Newton-John, propelled the musical to even greater heights, cementing its place in entertainment history. The themes of young love, identity, and the excitement of youth continue to resonate, making GREASE a favourite across generations. The musical's enduring popularity has led to numerous revivals, tours, and adaptations, each bringing a fresh perspective while honouring the original spirit.

LEGACY AND REVIVAL

The enduring appeal of GREASE lies in its ability to evoke nostalgia while remaining relevant to contemporary audiences. Its celebration of youth, music, and the exuberance of life ensures that it remains a staple in the world of musical theater. Each revival brings new energy and interpretations, keeping the story and its characters alive and vibrant for new generations of fans.



GREASE IS THE WORD!



CREATIVE TEAM

GREASE was created by Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey, whose collaboration brought the world of Rydell High to life. Their writing captures the zeitgeist of the 1950s while exploring universal themes that continue to resonate today. The success of GREASE can also be attributed to its talented directors, choreographers, and performers who bring their own artistry and vision to each production.

ARE YOU READY FOR DUBAI'S VERY OWN GREASE?

Whether you are a long-time fan or experiencing GREASE for the first time, tonight's musical promises a night of entertainment filled with laughter, romance, and toe-tapping tunes performed by a 50+ strong cast of local UAE-based talent. We invite you to sit back, relax, and let the magic of GREASE transport you to a world where poodle skirts twirl, leather jackets rule, and love is always in the air. Thank you for joining us and enjoy the show!



CAST LIST

Sandy Dumbrowski	
BIRDS Kenickie Murdoch Sonny LaTierri	
Anthony "Doody" DelFuego	
Roger "Putzie" Jacobs	
Betty Rizzo. Martina "Marty" Maraschino. Francesca "Frenchy" Facciano.	Bethanie Mitchinson
Janice "Jan" Fellopa	
(in order of appearance)	
Miss Lynch	
Patricia "Patty" Simcox Eugene Florczyk	
Vince Fontaine	
Johnny Casino	
Cha-Cha Degregorio	
Teen Angel	



ENSEMBLE

Sara Al Hashimi
Angela Annese
Amy Brown
Hayley Sophia Button
Rachel Cahill
Kerrie Campbell
Natasha Emma Catchpole
Claire Clarke
Gina Daly
Sarah Debono
Helen Dent
Luciano Di Marca
Emma Jane Dunne
Aidan Godwin
Marianne Hughes

Lana Lewinsky
Aysha Khan
Lindsey Larkin
Rachel McDaid
Kirsty Mitchell
Nicoletta Modelli
Giselle Monkhouse
levgen Necheporenko
Kerry-Lee Jeffrey
Ann-Katrin Reusch
Emilie Rochford
Jennifer Schmidt
Ivana Vajman Jackson
Rayvan Chad Zealand



GREASE * THE MUSICAL *

"Wait till I give it a paint job and soup up the engine-she'll work like a champ!"

ACT I

GREASE (is the Word) - Company

Alma Mater - Miss Lynch, Patty, Eugene and Company

Alma Mater (Parody) – Pink Ladies and 'T'-Birds

Summer Nights – Sandy, Danny, Pink Ladies and 'T'-Birds

Those Magic Changes – Doody, Pink Ladies and 'T'-Birds

Freddy, My Love - Marty and Pink Ladies

Greased Lightnin' - Kenickie and 'T'-Birds

Rydell Fight Song – Sandy and Patty

Mooning - Roger and Jan

Look at Me, I'm Sandra Dee - Pink Ladies and Rizzo

We Go Together - Company





GREASE * THE MUSICAL *

"It doesn't matter if you win or lose, it's what you do with your dancin' shoes!"

ACT 2

Shakin' at the High School Hop - Company

Born to Hand Jive - Johnny Casino and Company

Hopelessly Devoted to You - Sandy

Beauty School Dropout - Teen Angel, Frenchy, and Angels

Sandy - Danny

Rock 'N' Roll Party Queen - Doody and Roger

There Are Worse Things I Could Do - Rizzo

Look at Me, I'm Sandra Dee (Reprise) - Sandy

You're the One That I Want - Sandy, Danny, Pink Ladies and 'T'-Birds





PRODUCTION CREDITS



Musical Director	Adam Laird
Director	Julia Farren Granaderos
Choreographer	Bethanie Mitchinson
Assistant Director	Claire Bennett
Assistant Choreographer	Jordan Dodd
Production Manager	Brian Fletcher
Producer	James Mitchinson

Dance Captain

Shona Wills

Costumes & Props

Claire Bennett, Delyse Mitchell, Talya Mitchell, Meryl Bunce & Lauren Bunce

Stage Manager

Talya Mitchell

Stage Team

Ahmed Wael & Martin Louka

Front of House Manager

Delyse Mitchell

Front of House Team

Kehkashan Anand, Meryl Bunce, James Casaki, Maria Jose Salvador Calvo, Olivia Coleman, Peter Coleman, Elizabeth Cuthbertson, Rhiannon Downie-Hurst, Rachel Jackson, Mirko Jeck, Nicola Willoughby

Marketing & PR

Rhiannon Downie-Hurst

Website & Digital Marketing

Brian Fletcher & Emilie Rochford

Social Media

Sophie Worrell & Emilie Rochford

Marketing Support

Kehkashan Anand

Lighting Design

Jonny Shaw

Lighting Team

Kevin Parreno, Arman Gharavi

Sound Team

Dean Bratley, Sean Alozo

Set Design & Construction

KPS Interior Design & Construction

Additional Sound & Lights Support

Snap Events

MTDXB Branding, Poster Design, Marketing Materials & Programme Design

Brian Fletcher

Photography

levgen Necheporenko (<u>@inphotoua</u>)

THE GREASE BAND

Musical Director	Adam Laird
Keys 1	Adam Burgess
Bass	Sarah Kiliar
Guitar 1	Evan Mamba
Guitar 2	Andy Lynn
Drums	Ali Al Hashimi
Reed 1	Adam MacCloy
Reed 2	David Conway
Trumpet	Dan Walton
Trombone	Jorge Chinchilla

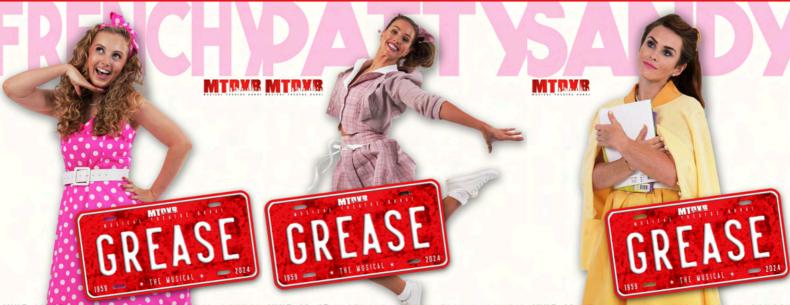












JUNE 12-15 HARTLAND INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL JUNE 12-15 HARTLAND INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL JUNE 12-15 HARTLAND INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL









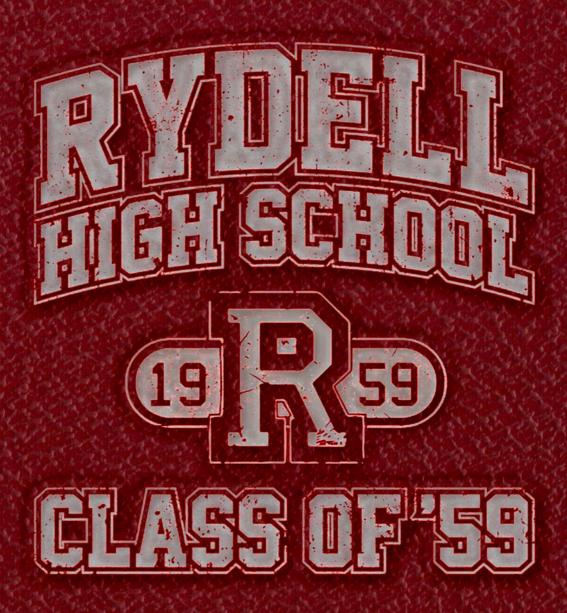












MUSICAL THEATRE DUBAL GREASE THE MUSICAL 12-15 JUNE 2024 HARTLAND INTL SCHOOL



Making her debut as Cosette in Les Misérables (Mullingar Student Players, 2004), Niamh has since appeared in numerous productions across the midlands of Ireland. Favourite roles to date have been Jane Smart - The Witches of Eastwick with Tullamore Musical Society (winner of AIMS Best Overall Show, 2016) & CATS with Clara Musical Society (winner of AIMS Best Overall Show, 2017) where she received a nomination for her portrayal of Rumpleteaser. Since moving to Dubai, Niamh has been part of a number of productions with Abu Dhabi Choral Group & is an OG MTDXBer. She is 'hopelessly devoted' to GREASE having played Sandy back in 2014 & MD'd the production in 2016! She would like to wish all of the cast and crew broken legs on the Rydell adventure!



DANNY ZUKO David Moore

edaithimooreofficial

David, or Daithi, is making a return to the stage after a 12 year break. Between the ages of 6 and 22, he was involved in pantomimes and musicals with his hometown musical society Gorey MS, Maynooth University MS and Avonmore MS. David's notable roles include: Ugly Duckling (Honk), Chad(High School Musical), Simon (Godspell), Joe Vegas (Fame!) Artful Dodger (Oliver!) and Angel (Rent) which he won the Best Male Performance at the Waterford International Festival of Light Opera. David is excited to be a part of MTDXB and bringing whatever "cool" he has left to the role of Danny Zuko





Bryn graduated from East 15 drama school in 2017. Classically trained Bryn went on to perform in many productions across the UK including Breakdown of Communication (Camden People Theatre) 2015, Like The Others (Courtyard Theatre) 2016, Comedy of Errors (RSC, The Dell) 2017, To Finally Feel (Lion and Unicorn Theatre) 2018 and Andrea Chenier (Royal Opera House), 2019. Bryn has also appeared in film and TV including playing Buddy Light in an advert for Bud Light in 2018. Since arriving in Dubai he has been continuing his stage & film performances. Credits include: Gomez in The Addams Family, The Odd Couple - The Junction, Les Misérables 2020- The Junction, Bull - The Courtyard, Everyone's Talking about MTDXB - The Junction, and Winning Best Actor award at the Paramount Short Film Festival Competition 2022 in DIVA. Bryn is well-chuffed to be being all geezer-ish as Kenickie in MTDXB's production of GREASE.

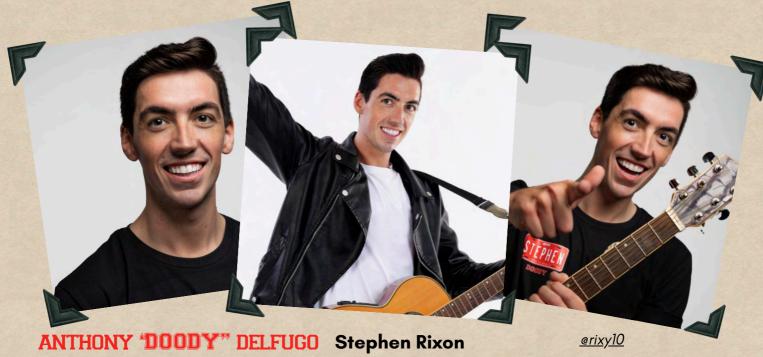


SONNY LATIERRI Fadi Rifaai

<u>efadirifaai</u>

Fadi Rifaai is a Dubai-based actor, singer, and songwriter, with over 10 years of artistic experience in film, TV, and musical theater. His leading role in the blockbuster "From A to B" paved the way for a successful career, playing the lead in international musical productions like "Blood Brothers" and "Summer 840", as well as complex characters in TV shows like "Justice" written by Emmy award winner William M. Finkelstein. Fadi's art is inspired by breaking boundaries, creating beyond inhibitions, fusing art forms, and bridging the gap between alternative and mainstream art. He was academically trained in theater, choral performance, and musical theory at the American University of Sharjah.





Stephen is delighted to be returning to the stage with MTDXB, having joined them when he moved to Dubai in August 2022 and playing the role of 'Lucas' in last year's production of the Addams Family Musical. He has been performing on stage for many years, playing a variety of roles in musicals, plays, and pantomimes at home in Ireland. Previous theatre credits include: Lucas (The Addams Family), Ren (Footloose), Daddy Brubeck (Sweet Charity), Pablo (Sister Act), George (The Wedding Singer), Mr. Myers (Fame), Dame Naan Bread (Aladdin), Prince Harry (Snow White), Joe Fell (I Do Not Like Thee Dr. Fel), Fred (A Christmas Carol), Leo (The Drowning Room), Marston (And Then There Were None). With a huge passion for theatre, his proudest achievement to date is going to New York for a 10-day trip and seeing a total of 14 shows. Stephen is thrilled to be playing the role of Doody and wishes many broken legs for all of the cast!



ROGER 'PUTZIE" JACOBS Sattawat Sonsin

esatson25

Maths Teacher by day, Sattawat has always had a passion for the stage. With roots in contemporary dance, his 2006 school production of GREASE as Teen Angel was the beginning of his love of performance. Sattawat went on to perform in West Side Story and Beauty and the Beast. Since moving to the UAE, Sattawat found more opportunities to perform with ADCG in Anything Goes and 9 to 5: The Musical. More recently, since moving to Dubai he was also in last year's production of The Addams Family Musical. Sattawat has had the honor of singing in the choir for legendary tenor Andrea Bocelli, in an unforgettable performance in Al Ula, Saudi Arabia. As Sattawat prepares to take the stage once again in the electrifying production of GREASE as Roger, he brings with him a wealth of experience, passion, and talent. Sattawat cannot wait to share his love for Musical Theatre to the Dubai audiences and continues to inspire his students outside of his classroom.





Kirstie is delighted to bring the iconic character Betty Rizzo to life in MTDXB's performance of GREASE (her dream role). Starting her performance journey at stage school in the UK, she developed her skill set as a triple-threat performer and transitioned to the professional industry at 18. Kirstie's performance background includes roles as a lead vocalist in the UK's largest holiday resort, Tribute Bands, Pantomime, Showcase, and Speciality events, representing a range of well-known household names and brands. Since relocating to Dubai, Kirstie has performed at some world-renowned venues such as

Caesars Palace, Global Village, and Five Palm. After recently finding the MTDXB community and performing in the last showcase singing 'I can hear the bells', she is ecstatic to be back performing musical theatre alongside such talented



MARTINA MARTY" MARASCHINO Bethanie Mitchinson @bethaniem89

Beth lives for the stage! A seasoned performer, her biggest passion is Musical Theatre and she is so proud of how successful MTDXB has become in such a short space of time. Having performed with a number of companies back home in the North East of the UK, her favourite roles to date include Charity (Sweet Charity), Elle Woods (Legally Blonde) Roxie Hart (Chicago) and, in quite the contrast, Anybodys (West Side Story)! She is thrilled to be back on-stage 'properly', as well as choreographing GREASE, after working mainly behind the scenes to help MTDXD get off the ground. In her spare time (IoI) Beth is a Performing Arts teacher at Sunmarke School! She wants to thank everyone involved, in particular her husband Mitch, for all of their hard work and dedication to make GREASE the 'electrifying' phenomenon that it is! Go Rydell!



Joining MTDXB in 2023 for their sold-out show, Behind The Red Curtain, Alexandra returns to this incredible theatre troupe to play Frenchy in GREASE. Alexandra has been an avid theatre fan since childhood, and performed at the likes of the Emirates Literature Festival, Dubai Christmas Variety Shows, and regularly sings at one of Dubai's most renowned hotels. Having grown up in Dubai, Alexandra returned to the UK for a short while, and was truly swept away by the dazzling lights of the West End. Alexandra was well-known in the UK theatre scene for her TikTok pursuits, putting a spotlight on accessibility theatre, ensuring no one is excluded from engaging with this art form. She is delighted to have found that same showbiz high in MTDXB, and is beyond thrilled to be a part of the group for a second show.



JANICE "JAN" FELLOPA Sophie Worrell

esophslia

After years of vocal training and study of theatre, MTDXB Committee member Sophie transferred her skills to her career in education, teaching Drama and Musical Theatre to children aged 7-11 right here in Dubai. She is also a professional singer and has sung in a variety of locations in Dubai. Sophie's last acting role came as a small part in The Taming Of The Shrew for the BBC's Night of Shakespeare in London when she was a teenager. Having been with MTDXB since its inception, she has performed in all six of MTDXB's sell-out shows in roles such as Catherine Howard and Catherine of Aragon (SIX), Scaramouche (We Will Rock You), Maureen (Rent), and Liz in Chicago's Cell Block Tango, as well as taking part in MTDXB's collaborative projects with Mawaheb and Collab Company. Sophie is ecstatic to be bringing the comedic role of Jan to life in this adaptation of GREASE!



Britt fell in love with musical theatre after seeing the 25th-anniversary production of Les Miserables in London. Since then, she has been a part of every amateur production she could find every time she moved to a new country, including Fiddler on the Roof and West Side Story. Britt graduated from the University of Cambridge where she was lucky enough to be a part of the thriving theatre scene, performing in Garcia Lorca's play, House of Bernarda Alba, and starring in the musical, Funny Girl. Britt moved to Dubai in September 2023 and was so happy to find a like-minded community like MTDXB. Alongside her work as a consultant, Britt is thrilled to be making her MTDXB debut in GREASE as Miss Lynch - don't worry, she will make sure the ruckus is kept to a minimum!



PATRICIA 'PATTY' SIMCOX Shona Wills @shonasarah

After being marooned in the desert sands of Dubai for what feels like an eternity, Shona is downright ecstatic to welcome musical theatre back into her life! Shona graduated from Gloucestershire University with a Performing Arts degree in 2014. After this, she performed at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival and has since undertaken various acting, stage manager, and directing roles. Now, she's traded in her spotlight for a classroom, but don't be fooled—this Primary School Teacher is more than ready to dust off her jazz hands and share her passion with the younger generation. With a heart bursting full of pride, Shona is over the moon to snag the role of Patty Simcox, and, once again, assume the duties of Dance Captain in this musical extravaganza!



EUGENE FLORCZYK

Matthew T Corbett

<u>ematthewtcorbett</u>

Matthew is a versatile actor and performing arts lecturer with training from the prestigious East 15 Acting School, UK. Since returning to Dubai three years ago, he has made a significant impact on the city's entertainment scene, showcasing his talents across stage, screen, and commercials, and most recently, he completed his Dubai directorial debut with the hugely successful run of "The Ice Hole." His diverse stage credits include roles such as Camillo in "The Winter's Tale" directed by Ben Crystal, Peaseblossom in "A Midsummer Night's Dream," Yasha in "The Cherry Orchard," Jim in "The Glass Menagerie," Richard Hannay in "The 39 Steps" and most recently Tony in Mike Bartletts "BULL". Matthew has also brought beloved characters to life at major theme parks, playing a variety of roles including Hiccup from "How to Train Your Dragon" and Charlie Chaplin at Motiongate Dubai and Universal Studios Singapore. In addition to his acting career, Matthew is dedicated to nurturing the next generation of Actors as a Performing Arts lecturer at Raindance Film School Dubai. This is his first production with MTDXB and is embracing every minute of it.





VINCE FONTAINE James Mitchinson

emitch7181

James, or 'Mitch', has been involved in both plays and musicals back home in Newcastle Upon Tyne for about 15 years before setting up MTDXB with his wife Beth. Since arriving in Dubai, he has performed in plays for Dubai Drama Group and H72 Productions as well as appearing in a couple of cameo roles in MTDXB's previous productions. Mitch has performed in GREASE twice before, once as a teenager back in 1998 playing the role of Eugene, and another at the Theatre Royal, Newcastle in 2014. He is looking forward to playing the role of 'Vince Fontaine' this time around and flirting with his wife Beth, who is playing the role of Marty! He has been practicing the hair flip and finger guns in the mirror for weeks in preparation for this role! As well as this, Mitch has been part of the production team for GREASE and has enjoyed his small part in putting together the show which he hopes will delight the audiences; and remember, "It doesn't matter if you win or lose, it's what you do with those dancin' shoes!".



JOHNNY CASINO Brian Fletcher

ebrifletch78

When MTDXB first got together in 2021, Brian was excited to finally find a company in Dubai that enjoyed staging high quality musical theatre productions and is very proud to be part of the team consistently producing sell-out show after sell-out show. With over 25 productions under his musical theatre belt over the past 30-odd years in the UK, Kuwait and now Dubai, Brian has taken on many iconic character roles such as Uncle Fester (The Addams Family), Danny and Roger (GREASE), Pharoah (Joseph), Frank N Furter (Rocky Horror Show), Audrey II (Little Shop of Horrors), Sweeney Todd and Lady Bracknell (The Importance of Being Earnest). This is his third time appearing in GREASE (finally ticking off 'Johnny Casino' from his bucket list) and it's his first time as an official member of the Production Team, having been heavily involved behind the scenes of most of MTDXB's shows to date. When not on stage, in production meetings, designing posters and programmes, or building websites for MTDXB, Brian is Dad to Georgia (8) and Noah (5), and somehow he also finds the time to fit in a full-time job managing eCommerce and IT platforms for brands like Nespresso, Bath and Body Works and Victoria's Secret.



CHA-CHA DEGREGORIO Danielle Romero

<u>edanielle</u> romeroll

Danielle is a professional performer from Melbourne, Australia. After training at one of Melbourne's prestigious dance institutions, she recognized her passion for performing, hoping to one day grace the stage professionally. Upon completing her high school education, Danielle pursued her love for musical theatre, earning her diploma and launching into a career that has taken her across the globe. Her adventures led her to join a renowned children's entertainment company, where she traveled throughout Australia and Singapore. In 2016, she moved to Dubai, joining the opening cast for Dubai Parks and Resorts, where she was a swing and dance captain. She spent five years performing there and was lucky enough to meet and perform with Alan Menken, which was definitely a career highlight. Following her time at Dubai Parks, she went on to perform at Expo 2020 and currently is working as a freelance performer throughout Dubai. Danielle is excited to make her debut in MTDXB, playing the role of Cha-Cha.



TEEN ANGEL Glenn Atkinson

eaglenn1982

Glenn discovered a love for performance later than most, when 'dragged along' by a member of staff at his school, but he was quickly bitten by the bug, and has been performing on-stage for many years since. He is a founding member of MTDXB, having performed in every single show with them to date. He has proudly achieved Grade 8 in Voice and Musical Theatre from the London College of Music and has performed in many enjoyable roles in the UK in both musicals and pantomime. Favourite roles include Scarecrow (Wizard of Oz), Curly (Oklahoma, Ugly (Honk!), Franklin Hart (9 to 5), and Corny Collins (Hairspray). Since moving to Dubai in 2018, Glenn has also performed in several plays with H2 Productions, including 'The 39 Steps', 'The Odd Couple' and 'Almost, Maine'. His most recent role in Dubai was as Mr. Mushnik (Little Shop of Horrors) with Sunmarke School, which was great fun. When not performing on stage, Glenn is an executive senior school leader and is also treasurer and sometimes social secretary for MTDXB. He enjoys the company of his two cats Tutti and Bear, extensive traveling, reading, singing in the car, Lego building, and eating out











Sara Al Hashimi @saraalhashimimusic

Angela Annese









Amy Brown

Hayley Sophia Button









Rachel Cahill
@rachcahill

Kerrie Campbell









Natasha Emma Catchpole

Claire Clarke









Gina Daly

Sarah Debono @sarahdebono95











Helen Dent

Luciano Di Marca









Emma Jane Dunne @emmajanesinger

Aidan Godwin









Marianne Hughes

Lana Lewinsky
@lana_lewinsky









Aysha Khan

Lindsey Larkin









Rachel McDaid

Kirsty Mitchell







Nicoletta Modelli @ nicolettamodelli











levgen Necheporenko @inphotoua

Kerry-Lee Jeffrey @beatgirl749









Ann-Katrin Reusch @ak_1191

Emilie Rochford

@emilie_rochford









Jennifer Schmidt @moehrenkuchen

Ivana Vajman Jackson





Rayvan Chad Zealand @rayvanczealand





ADAM LAIRD

Musical Director

Born at an early age in Dover, UK, Adam has been working in music education for over 2 decades and is currently a busy Head of Music in Dubai. Theatre credits include performing, (Joseph and his Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat, Godspell, Jesus Christ Superstar, Wizard of Oz, Beauty and the Beast, Fiddler on the Roof, The Mikado, Iolanthe, The Gondoliers, I Paglacci, Cavallera Rusticana, The Addams Family) and selected shows as a baton waving musical director include (A Little Night Music, Fame, The Wiz, GREASE, Bugsy Malone, West Side Story, Fiddler on the Roof, Gypsy, Into the Woods, Footloose, Our House, Little Shop of Horrors, Oliver!, White Christmas) Adam is enjoying seeing the love of musical theatre alive and well in Dubai and is thrilled to be working again with with the MTDXB family.

JULIA FARREN GRANADEROS

Director

<u>ejuliafarrengranaderos</u>



Julia began dancing and singing at a young age in community theater productions with her family back home in New Jersey, USA. Some of her fondest childhood memories include performing in her school productions, attending Rockette Summer Intensive training camp, and dancing the opening number in the Macys Thanksgiving Day Parade. Musical theater has always held a special place in her heart. After high school, Julia went on to study dance at Pace University in NYC before leaving school early to work professionally as a Singer & Dancer at Universal Studios Singapore. Although she intended to return back to NYC to finish her degree, Julia ended up meeting the love of her life, Jonathan, and traveling the world working in the entertainment industry together. Julia moved to Dubai in 2016 to work as a performer at Motiongate Dubai and now works as a full-time Show Director, creating a variety of original mainstage shows, parades, and special events. Although most of Julia's professional career has taken place working in theme parks, her passion lies in musical theater. GREASE is the first full-length musical Julia has ever directed and she is so grateful to the MTDXB community for giving her this opportunity and trusting her with this iconic show. She wants to thank the entire MTDXB Production Team, especially Claire and Bethanie, for their extended support over the past few months.



BETHANIE MITCHINSON

Choreographer

ebethaniem89

Beth is incredibly grateful to have had such a strong team working alongside her for this production! Their passion and creativity have made GREASE the incredible phenomenon you're about to watch. Special thanks must go to Assistant Choreographer Jordan, and Dance Captain Shona, for their invaluable support throughout the process. They definitely made the balancing act of a production role, principal part, and having a two year old possible for me!

CLAIRE BENNETT

Assistant Director & Costume Mistress



After graduating in London with a degree in Theatre, Claire's performing and directorial skills have informed and enhanced her twenty-year teaching career. She has led on Drama and Performing Arts, staging ambitious Musical Theatre productions in London and Dubai to great acclaim.

Claire has sung in soul bands, and Gospel choirs and has been a voice-over artist in her native London. She was also a member of Europe's largest community Theatre, Questors, where she has performed in numerous productions.

Claire has been delighted to be involved with Musical Theatre Dubai as a performer since it was founded and latterly as a committee member. In 2023 she was particularly honoured to direct MTDXB's first full-scale Musical Theatre production, The Addams Family Musical, and is relishing assisting Julia Farren Granaderos and the Production Team with staging GREASE!





JORDAN DODD

Assistant Choreographer

<u>eflyhighfitnessdanceacademy</u>

Jordan has been a Singer, dancer, and performer all her life. Trained at the prestigious Jill Stew School of Arts from the age of 5, before successfully granting early admission and part scholarship for Performing Arts College at the age of 15. She graduated from the Performance Preparation Academy (PPA) in Surrey, England in 2014 with a Diploma in Musical Theatre. Jordan has performed in London pantomimes, 5-star Hotels in Ibiza, and high-end events and shows across Dubai for clients such as Sobha Realty, Porsche, and the Dubai Rugby 7's. She is also the Head of Dance at Fly High Fitness Dance Academy where she has been running her school for the last 4 years training students aged 3-18yrs. This is Jordan's first Production with MTDXB and has loved every moment with her cast and team!

BRIAN FLETCHER

Production Manager

ebrifletch78



What started with a tongue-in-cheek Photoshop-job of a cast photo ended up with Brian designing the poster for MTDXB's second show, and being shoe-horned into a specially created role on the MTDXB Committee. He's since gone on to take charge of all things design & digital, including the MTDXB brand identity, posters, programmes, and creatives for 6 more shows, video production, social media, email marketing, website design & maintenance, sound effects, voice-overs, set concepts, and T-Shirt designs. And he not only somehow finds the time to appear on-stage (and on TV and radio, promoting MTDXB) but this time round he's stepped into the shoes of GREASE Production Manager, too! This is Brian's first time as an official member of the Production Team, and he's never been more proud to share his

time and skill with such a wonderful, talented group of people, whom he's honoured to call his friends



JAMES MITCHINSON

Producer
emitch7181

Mitch has been involved with the production side of all of MTDXB's shows and has been impressed with the rate of growth in the production element and is thankful for the support others have given who have expertise and experience in the areas of audio and lighting in particular! He has enjoyed working with the committed and talented production team on GREASE. Every member has worked their socks off for 6 months to prepare for the show, and most importantly, they have done so with a positive attitude and a sense of humour. In a slight change in direction, after the summer, Mitch will be directing the classic British sitcom 'Blackadder Goes Forth' for Dubai Drama Group!

DELYSE MITCHELL

Props Mistress

<u>edelysemitchell</u>



Delyse comes from a background of running her own Entertainment Management Agency in the UK for 30 years and brings vast knowledge and experience to the MTDXB family. Having supported with props and costumes plus running front of house for The Addams Family show she is taking the reigns for GREASE as Props Mistress, costume support, and Front of House Manager.

Delyse is actually mum to Bryn, who's playing Kenickie, and Talya, our Stage Manager, but she's also "adopted" mum to everyone in MTDXB and an active committee member.





MERYL BUNCE
Costume & Props
Assistant



LAUREN BUNCE
Costume & Props
Assistant



TALYA MITCHELL
Stage Manager



RHIANNON DOWNIE-HURST
Marketing & PR Manager



MTDXB COMMITTEE



Bethanie MitchinsonFounder & Co-Chairperson



James Mitchinson Founder & Co-Chairperson



Talya Mitchell Secretary



Glenn Atkinson
Treasurer



Brian FletcherDigital & Media Officer



Rio Downie-Hurst Marketing & PR Officer



Sophie Worrell Social Media & Events Officer



Claire Bennett General Member



Bryn Mitchell General Member



Delyse Mitchell General Member



Emily Rochford
Marketing Team



Kehkashan Anand Marketing Team

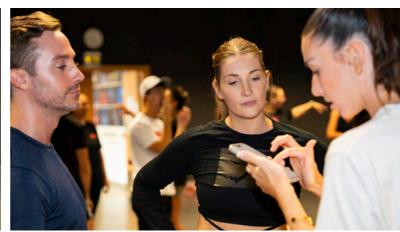














































































































































































Founded in 2021, MTDXB is Dubai's first and only musical theatre group for adults.

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 6 sell-out productions to date, and 2023's <u>The Addams</u> <u>Family - A New Musical</u> having achieved the incredible accolade of being the first community theatre group in Dubai to have ever staged a full-scale musical production, and recently nominated for 'Best Community Event' at The Middle East Event Awards 2024, MTDXB continues to grow in scale and popularity with an increasing number of volunteer performers and production team members joining the team for each successive show.







MUSICAL THEATRE DIIRAI







Adam Laird (Musical Director) – Since Adam's arrival at MTDXB in 2023, he has encouraged us to take risks and has pushed us out of our collective comfort zone, and as a result we have grown as a community. He is incredibly supportive of what we are trying to achieve and brings his energy and humour to every rehearsal! In addition to his role as Musical Director, Adam has been amazing in supporting the technical side of the show and, without him, the show would not look or sound as fantastic as it does. THANK YOU Adam!

Julia Farren Granaderos (Director) – For her talent, passion, energy, and attention to detail directing scenes which have resulted in a refreshing and dynamic take on one of musical theatre's most popular shows. A newbie to MTDXB, Julia has fitted in perfectly and is an all-round amazing person who exudes warmth and kindness in all that she asks of the cast. She has done all of this with a young baby and we have all enjoyed Houston's presence and smiley face at rehearsals!

Bethanie Mitchinson (Choreographer) – Beth has been the constant on our MTDXB Production Team since our inception. She demands excellence and commitment from the cast and leads by example. She has loved the opportunity to perform this time round and has shone as 'Marty' on stage, while raising the bar with the standard of her choreography. She has done all of this whilst working full-time and being a mother to Ralph. In short, she's superhuman! Thank you Beth!

Claire Bennett (Assistant Director) – Claire's experience and knowledge of theatre is second to none and when Claire speaks, we listen. She has worked wonders with characterisation and it has been wonderful to see the development during rehearsals between the T-Birds and Pink Ladies in particular. In addition to all of this, Claire has organised the costumes for the show (over 150 of them!) with the help of her team (see below). Thank you Claire once again for helping steer MTDXB towards such a successful production!

Jordan Dodd (Assistant Choreographer) – Jordan has been a fabulous addition to the MTDXB family this year. Her input and assistance with choreographing the dance routines has been hugely beneficial. 'Greased Lightnin' is Jordan's handiwork and she certainly put the fellas through their paces with lots of aches and bruises along the way! We hope she sticks around for future shows!

Shona Wills (Dance Captain) – For her ongoing support with the choreography and assistance to both Beth and Jordan. Every group needs a Shona – a ray of sunshine and positivity! She IS Patty and we are so glad she decided to audition for the role and show Dubai how fabulous she is!

Brian Fletcher (Production Manager) – Brian has been with MTDXB from the start and with each passing show his dedication, passion (and list of jobs) has grown and grown! Cut Brian open and he bleeds MTDXB. Normally a prominent feature on stage, Brian took on the huge task of Production Manager this year in addition to his cameo role as the fabulous Johnny Casino! What a terrific job he has done with both roles. It cannot be underestimated the number of hours that Brian puts in behind the scenes; without his expertise with all things digital and his commitment to the show in so many different ways, we simply wouldn't have a show. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you Brian for all that you do for us!





WOULD LIKE TO THANK

James Mitchinson (Producer) - Mitch's role seems to vary with every show, but what does not change is his desire to help and assist in any way possible to ensure the group has a show to be really proud of. Mitch can often be found messaging and emailing into the early hours of the morning (usually to Brian!) asking or answering questions about the show! Like Brian, Mitch has taken on a small role in GREASE, playing *Vince Fontaine* which he has enjoyed immensely.

Production & Backstage Teams Thank you all for dedicating your time and energy to help make our biggest production to date special, it has not gone unnoticed! We see you and appreciate each and every one of you, including:

Talya Mitchell - Stage Manager

Delyse Mitchell - Front of House Manager, Props Mistress, Assistant Wardrobe Mistress

Meryl Bunce - All round Costume and prop Legend!

Lauren Bunce - see above!

Tracey Hargreaves - Costume and props assistance

Kehkashan Anand – FOH, help with marketing and the very many useful contacts she has shared! James Casaki, Maria Jose Salvador Calvo, Olivia Coleman, Peter Coleman, Elizabeth Cuthbertson, Rhiannon Downie-Hurst, Rachel Jackson, Mirko Jeck and Nicola Willoughby – Front of House Support

Ahmed Wael - Backstage help

Martin Louka – Backstage help

Technical Sound and Lighting Teams – This has been our most challenging show to date for the amount of equipment we have had to bring in and manage. We thank the following for your support and expertise in making this show memorable for both our cast and our audience.

Dean Bratley - Audio tech

Sean Alozo - Audio tech

Edilbert Minor - Audio tech

Jonny Shaw - Lighting design and programming

Kevin Parreno - Lighting tech

Arman Gharavi - Follow Spot

Akshay Valsalan - Hartland Auditorium Manager





The MTDXB Committee
Bethanie Mitchinson (Co-Chairman)
James Mitchinson (Co-Chairman)
Brian Fletcher (Digital & Media Officer)

Glenn Atkinson (Treasurer) – Thank you for being an amazing treasurer for our group, with each show the accounts get more and more complex and we appreciate your diligence and accurate records! Also, you make a wonderful sparkly Teen Angel!

Talya Mitchell (Secretary/Social Events Officer) Thank you for agreeing to be Stage Manager and using your organisational skills to dissect the show and direct support where needed to enable it to run smoothly!

Sophie Worrell (Social Media Manager) – Thank you for all your expert input into our Instagram and helping us look amazing to the outside world.

Rhiannon Downie-Hurst (Marketing and PR Officer) – As always, you have schmoozed and used contacts and your affable charm to make as many people aware of this show as possible! The promotion has been amazing! We couldn't have asked any more from you in this regard. Thank you for your continued support!

Delyse Mitchell - (General Committee Member) - You have been amazing in finding and securing props for the show which we know has not been easy! Moreover, you have also assisted with costumes and taken on the role of Front of House Manager superbly! We love that you're willing to muck in where needed to support the group and we appreciate everything you do!

Bryn Mitchell - (General Committee Member) - Thank you for utilising your contacts and pulling in favours to help with set design, delivering furniture, and general graft with this production, all while taking on a principal part!

Claire Bennett – (General Committee Member) – Aside from being our Assistant Director, Costume Mistress, and general stage-style guru, thank you for your continued input and advice regarding all things MTDXB and musical theatre!





KPS Interior Fitout (particularly Stephen Taylor) - THANK YOU from the bottom of our hearts! Yet again, you have created a set worthy of Dubai Opera and I know our cast who have worked hard for 6 months will delight in performing on it! Your company's passion for the arts and support of our community is clear to see and is so refreshing for Dubai. The tech support given also has been phenomenal! The hours of set design and tweaks made based on our requests have been much appreciated and we hope we make you proud.

Tracey Hargreaves and <u>Sunmarke School</u> – For your continuous championing of our group. Your support has been invaluable over the past 12 months or so. Thank you!

Hartland International School – As already mentioned, a massive thanks for accommodating us and answering the many questions we kept asking. Special thanks go to Lynsay Ansell, Fiona Cottam, and Akshay Valsalan for your support with the show. We hope GREASE allows many more people to see and enjoy your beautiful auditorium.

<u>Snap Events</u> - for your help in making our show look and sound great!

Emilie Rochford – for your expertise and support with updating the website and the digital marketing side of things. We've found a diamond in you and we hope that you stick around!

levgen Necheporenko (<u>@inphotoua</u>) – For assisting with our photo shoot and headshots, in addition to taking photos/videos during rehearsals that we could use! All of this at the same time as having a pregnant wife and being involved onstage in the show itself!

Catherine Broad (<u>Dubai Drama Group</u>) – For supporting by helping us navigate some of the DTCM paperwork and generally supporting our group through sharing promotional materials. Jebel Ali School – for the kind loan of some lighting to help our cast shine bright!







MTDXB would like to thank everyone who's supported us along the way, especially our show sponsor, **KPS** for building us the most amazing set and car for GREASE, **Hartland International School**, for providing us with this wonderful space in which to perform, and **Sunmarke School** who continue to support MTDXB in any way they can, including hosting us throughout our rehearsal sessions.

All of the ads that follow are for companies that have shown us support during pre-production for GREASE - we wouldn't have a show without their kindness and help, and we are extremely grateful for their generosities.







Spaces of Opportunities

KPS has been working tirelessly for the past month to design and build an amazing set for MTDXB's production of Grease the Musical. With a brief from the show's director and stage managers, the Design team at KPS used 3D modelling techniques to refine the initial designs.











The final output then served as the foundation for manufacturing blueprints.

The final challenge — KPS only had twenty-four hours to construct the set on stage at Hartland International School and bring the vision to life.

For their untiring support with building the set for Grease the Musical, KPS wants to say a huge thank you to its partners and subcontractors:

- Al Saba for graphics and backdrop printing
- Kandas for joinery
- Extreme for scaffolding
- Elite Express for manpower support
- Team Visual Solutions for the classic car
- · And SNAP Events for lighting and rigging











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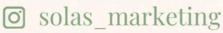


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