



Cayman Drama Society

Presents

Miriamy



Directed by
Bill and Wendy Bewley

A West Indian Comedy by
Frank Pilgrim

PROSPECT PLAYHOUSE

September 6th to 22nd 2007

Thursday, Friday and Saturday

Honorary Patron—Mrs. Mariko Jack

Sharing The Show

On behalf of the Cayman Drama Society I am very pleased to welcome you to the Prospect Playhouse for our 4th production of 2007. For those of you who are visiting us for the first time, we hope that this will encourage you to include regular trips to the theatre as part of your future social activities, and if you would like to find out more about events taking place, you can do so by becoming a CDS member, by completing an application form in the foyer, which will ensure that you receive our monthly newsletter and other e-mail alerts, or by logging on to our website at www.caymandrama.org.ky

When Bill and Wendy Bewley first expressed an interest in directing another production this year, their first choice was *Juno and the Paycock*, an Irish drama by Sean O'Casey. However, they were quickly persuaded to consider *Miriamy*, a Caribbean comedy/drama suggested to the CDS by Paul de Freitas, in order to follow up on the 2006 success of *Elmina's Kitchen*, a play based upon the lives of London's West Indian community, which was also directed by Bill.

The Cayman Drama Society is committed to preserving and expanding its role as a community theatre, which means presenting all aspects of performing art by and for all sectors of the widely diverse Cayman community. We are therefore particularly excited that *Miriamy* has attracted so many talented new actors to the stage of the Prospect Playhouse from all parts of the Caribbean, which is especially appropriate for a play which was written to portray typical West Indian lifestyles and attitudes whilst being based on a fictional island.

We would be very happy to include other local and regional plays in our calendar of productions for future years, but unfortunately few of them ever reach the catalogues of major publishers. If you have a favourite Caribbean play which you would like to see, I would be delighted if you could send details to me at alanhall@candw.ky.

Alan Hall
Chairman - Cayman Drama Society

MIRIAMY

Directed by

Bill and Wendy Bewley

Act One - Dr. Singer's Living Room

15 Minute Intermission

Act Two - Selina Village

15 Minute Intermission

Act Three - Dr. Singer's Living Room

Program

The setting

Although written by Frank Pilgrim, a Guyanese playwright, the setting for Miriamy is the small, imaginary island of St. Midas—typical of so many of those little islands that make up the Caribbean. Written in the 60's, the play presents a valid and timeless picture of Caribbean morality—in which although “watless” behavior abounds, anything which brings discredit on a community is frowned on.

And so, Miriamy's pregnancy with quins is viewed as an event which will bring great fame to St. Midas, but will also bring infamy when the international press discover that she is unmarried. The hawks gather to solve the problem, each in his or her own way, but all intent on snaring a responsible father and marching him to the altar.

But, as so often in the wonderful Caribbean, “tings nah wah dey seem at fuss”. And in the climax of Act 3, the adversaries are confronted with the truth in true Caribbean style.



We encourage you to support the Arts and welcome
you to the Cayman Drama Society's production of

MIRIAMY



FOSTER'S
FOOD FAIR IGA.
We Care We Care We Care We Care
SUPERMARKETS ESTABLISHED 1968



The Cast

Dr. Edwin Singer	Owen Henry
Mrs. Stella Singer The doctor's wife	Cyndy Ebanks
Miss Maude Bygham The doctor's cousin	Adrienn Abranko
Bob Stevens A reporter	Vincent Francis
Norah Miriamy's sister	Gwyneth Hamilton
Mr. Chambers Village Chairman	Gerald Watts
Desmond Victoire Village clerk	Neil Hamaty
Timothy A lorry driver	Damian Dilbert
Garcia	Dennis Hue
Henry Billings A young Englishman	Andy Harrison
Dulcibelle The doctor's maid	Nadine Gordon





Adrienn Abranko arrived in Cayman four years ago from Toronto, Canada, and works as a travel agent. She previously appeared in the "Judith Code" at St. George's, as 'Rosie King' alongside Dennis Hue 'Achior' and , and Bill Bewley who played 'Uzziah'. The experience had such a positive impact on her, and the cast was so wonderful that she jumped at the opportunity to be part of this hilariously entertaining comedy.



Damian Dilbert is a very talented newcomer to the stage. His only contact with direction or choreography to date was when he choreographed a sword fight for Pirate's Week in 2002. Damien is the Managing Director of Big Daddy's.



Cyndy Ebanks is a nurse at the George Town Hospital. Miriamy is her first role in a comedy and if Stella Singer bears any resemblance to Hyacinth Bucket or Sybil Fawcety, then it is purely intentional. She has enjoyed being directed again by Bill and Wendy Bewley. Cyndy's other interests when not on stage include reading, genealogy and fine dining.



Vincent Francis—His first CDS role was his appearance in Elmina's Kitchen as the male lead, Deli. Vincent also appeared as Band Leader/Porter in Annie Get Your Gun



Nadine "Megan" Gordon was born in Manchester—Jamaica, Megan to family and friends and a welder by profession. . Megan is the proud mother of two beautiful daughters. She makes her stage debut in Miriamy as Dulcibelle.



Neil Hamaty has always loved theatre and the stage. Performed in several plays in Jamaica and is a member of the LTM National Pantomime theatre co.. Was in the chorus of "Anansi Web" in 1994. In 2002, was casted in "Bubbling Brown Sugar" performed by the Jamaica Musical Theatre Company" and has other amateur performance credits over the years.

Gwynneth Hamilton is a newcomer to the stage, who made her debut performance as Eagle Feather in the recent musical production of 'Annie Get Your Gun' . Although a novice, she is familiar with the acting profession as her 15 year old son is a professional actor, who has been working since the age of 6.



Andy Harrison—Although he prefers writing to performing, Andy gained some acting experience back in the UK, both on stage and on film, before moving to Grand Cayman. This is Andy's second appearance at the Prospect Playhouse, having previously appeared as Fred, nephew to Ebenezer Scrooge in last year's CDS production of A Christmas Carol.



Owen Henry is a newcomer to the theatre scene in the Cayman Islands. In fact, apart from few lines in Fr. Holung's Jesus 2000 performance in Grand Cayman, he has not really graced the stage since studying High School drama many years ago in his native country, Jamaica. A lover of the performing arts, he is also member of the Cayman National Choir



Dennis Hue grew up in Jamaica and received many national titles for singing, speech and drama. Since arriving in Cayman in 1975 he has been involved in set construction and painting for many CDS productions including The Burning Man, Magna Carta, Peter Pan, Elmina's Kitchen and the Judith Code. He recently enjoyed principal roles in Elmina's Kitchen and both productions of the Judith Code.



Athelston "Gerald" Watts is from the beautiful Clarendon area of Jamaica. He attended all age school and was always involved in plays, skits and drama. Continuing at high school and in Kingston, he continued small performances at church and various functions. His first real experience came when he played a role in The Judith Code in October 2006. This was an eye opener for him and the urge is now there to continue to develop and perform on stage.



Cast Biographies

Ivan—some years on

Our patrons and members are all aware that in the aftermath of hurricane Ivan, a group of volunteers kept theatre going in Cayman, constructing a temporary enclosed stage which served successfully for a number of productions. In rebuilding, our stage was enlarged for better storage of large scenery for major productions and the loft height was increased so that we can fly sets in and cut time and costs for building sets and doing scene changes. We encourage more patrons to become members and more members to learn how to use the theatre to its fullest potential. Amateur theatre is volunteerism and many hands really do make light work and light work schedules. Regardless of your skill or knowledge level, your theatre can use your help and at the same time, teach you one or more of the rewarding aspects of staging amateur theatre. So join up, sign up and dive in to help the Cayman Drama Society remain the premiere presenter of popular culture in our Cayman Islands. You will find a membership form in the lobby and a Skills Register on our website. Welcome!

Peter Phillips
Theatre Manager - Cayman Drama Society

The Crew

Directors	Bill and Wendy Bewley
Producer	Kasey Mullins
Stage Managers	Paul de Freitas / Pat Steward
Set	Paul de Freitas / Peter Phillips
Set decoration	Bill and Wendy Bewley Dennis Hue
Properties	Richard Johnson / Niamh Hutchinson
Sound	Lisa Stasiuk
Lighting design	Paul de Freitas / Peter Phillips
Lights	Shiona Gale
Make-up	Collette and Blaze of Sameena's Beauty Centre
Programme	Paul de Freitas Megasol Technologies KB
Front of House	CDS members
Bar	Phil Pace
Tickets	Penny Phillips
Box office	Omeria Gordon
Helpers	Phil Pace (Photos) Kasey Mullins (Foyer décor)

Anatomy of a CDS production

Here's a look at just how a production such as MIRIAMY gets off the ground and finally is presented on stage. Of course, this varies with every production but will give you some idea of how much effort goes into a CDS event, whether a play or a social night for the members.

1. Someone hears of or sees a play which would be great for presentation in Cayman.
2. The CDS Board is contacted for permission to present the play. Not all plays are judged suitable or cost-effective, although CDS will present "loss-leaders" for plays with a significant and positive message for our Cayman Islands. A date for the presentation is agreed.
3. A Director and Producer are identified. The Director will cast the play and guide its progress to stage. The Producer will obtain a Stage Manager and crew for properties, lighting, sound, set design, set construction, special effects, make-up and front of house. Already, some twenty people, not including cast, are committed to the production.
4. Auditions are advertised and held and a cast selected. Only in exceptional circumstances is pre-casting of roles permitted.
5. Rehearsals begin in the upper area of the theatre if there is a current production on stage. However, as soon as possible, rehearsals are moved to the stage.
6. As soon as the prior production has closed and the stage is vacant, set construction begins for the design agreed by the set designer and Director.
7. Set decoration including taping, painting and hanging adornments are completed.
8. Rehearsals continue with actual furniture and props in the final two weeks.
9. A technical rehearsal occurs a few days before opening to iron out any technical difficulties and ensure that the Stage Manager and Director are on the same page. Technicals are stop-and-start affairs and really fine tune the production.
10. A dress rehearsal is held to ensure that the play is ready for an audience and any final problems are ironed out. The press is normally invited to the "dress".
11. The play opens and the front-of-house crew begin audience management duties—ticket collection, bar and the like. And behind the scenes, the production crew works hard along with the actors—props, lighting, sound and special effects.

Theatre is fun—that's why we do it. So sign up to become a member of the Cayman Drama Society and follow your dream—either to "tread the boards" or to get constructive or supportive behind the scenes.

CDS and our schools

Did you know that CDS welcomes visits from school drama classes and clubs? This year, a number of schools have brought students to see a working theatre from behind the scenes. Students were from a wide variety of age groups.

CDS and our wonderful volunteer members can work with schools to:

- Introduce students visually to the terminology of theatre through escorted visits to the Prospect Playhouse.
- Devise workshops in conjunction with school drama or dance teachers to give students practical, hands-on experience in:
 - Set construction
 - Lighting
 - Sound
 - Special effects
- Host productions which require sophisticated facilities which are not available in school halls.

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Next production



31st October to 17th November 2007

