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National Theatre Live

A production from

National Theatre

FOLLIES

book by James Goldman
music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

Cast, in order of speaking

Dimitri Weismann.....Gary Raymond
Kevin.....Jordan Shaw

Sally Durant Plummer.....Imelda Staunton
Phyllis Rogers Stone.....Janie Dee
Benjamin Stone.....Philip Quast
Young Buddy.....Fred Haig
Buddy Plummer.....Peter Forbes
Heidi Schiller.....Josephine Barstow
Roscoe.....Bruce Graham

Stella Deems.....Dawn Hope
Sam Deems.....Adrian Grove
Hattie Walker.....Di Botcher
Solange Lafitte.....Geraldine Fitzgerald
Young Phyllis.....Zizi Strallen
Young Sally.....Alex Young
Young Ben.....Adam Rhys-Charles
Carlotta Campion.....Tracie Bennett
Theodore Whitman.....Billy Boyle
Emily Whitman.....Norma Atallah
Deedee West.....Liz Izen
Christine Donovan.....Julie Armstrong
Sandra Crane.....Gemma Page
Young Heidi.....Alison Langer
Young Hattie.....Aimee Hodnett
Young Solange.....Sarah-Marie Maxwell
Young Sandra.....Kate Parr
Young Deedee.....Christine Tucker
Young Stella.....Leisha Mollyneaux

Young Carlotta.....Emily Langham
Young Emily.....Anouska Eaton
Young Theodore.....Barnaby Thompson
Young Christine.....Emily Goodenough
Cameraman.....Edwin Ray
TV Interviewer.....Jan McLarnon
Weismann's PA.....Liz Ewing
Ensemble.....Jeremy Batt
Michael Vinsen

Production Team

Director.....Dominic Cooke
Designer.....Vicki Mortimer
Choreographer.....Bill Deamer
Music Supervisor.....Nicholas Skilbeck
Orchestrations.....Jonathan Tunick
with Josh Clayton
Music Director.....Nigel Lilley
Lighting Designer.....Paule Constable
Sound Designer.....Paul Groothuis
Company Voice Work.....Jeannette Nelson
Company Dialect Work.....Penny Dyer
Associate Designer.....Matt Hellyer
Associate Choreographer.....Kylie Anne
Cruikshanks
Associate Music Director.....Jennifer Whyte
Associate Lighting Designer.....Rob Casey
Staff Director.....Josh Seymour



Running time: 2 hours and 30 minutes. There is no interval.
Please note that the performance of *Follies* includes strobe lighting.



Sondheim, the Musical Dramatist

Extract from an article by Gary Yershon in the National Theatre's programme for *Follies*.

The *Follies* score plays out in two distinct musical idioms. There are book songs (Stephen Sondheim refers to them as character songs), sung by the protagonists Ben, Phyllis, Buddy and Sally; and there are the pastiches, affectionate tributes to American popular song between the two World Wars. The book songs were, in the context of 1970s Broadway, highly innovative. Nobody else was writing anything like them for musical theatre: conversational vocal lines poised between recitative and aria, with inventive accompaniments instead of humdrum oom-pahs and oom-pah-pahs.

Sondheim's songs pointed to a new direction for young composers who,

if they'd wanted to try their hand in commercial theatre, had hitherto found themselves hemmed in by nostalgic Broadway traditionalism, visceral rock, or short-breathed pop. Here instead was a way forward which offered musical intelligence and artistic ambition. Sondheim had hinted at what he could do in earlier shows such as *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *Anyone Can Whistle* and *Company*, but the book songs of *Follies* — 'Don't Look At Me', 'In Buddy's Eyes', 'Waiting for the Girls Upstairs', 'Too Many Mornings', 'The Right Girl', 'Could I Leave You?' — were something else again. They were sung monologues, dialogues and sometimes whole scenes, stuff for actors to get their teeth into.

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National Theatre

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