



SERVING AMATEUR THEATRE SINCE 1899

CHELTENHAM OPERATIC & DRAMATIC SOCIETY

'CRAZY FOR YOU'

THE EVERYMAN THEATRE

JUNE 07

Director: SUE BENNETT

Musical Director: ALLAN GILLESPIE

Choreographer: ANTONIA COLES

This company is rich with an extremely talented membership of all ages and skills. They are forever pushing themselves to meet new challenges, expand their boundaries and strive for an even higher quality of production. Alongside this, of course, comes the higher expectation of their audiences. So when I say that this production did not have the 'must see' factor, I think it was more the show rather than what they did with it. That said it had a very strong set of principals, pace and polish. The costumes, from Triple C Costumes, were vibrant and rich where needed, and comfortably simple for the Nevada scenes. The sets were excellent and the back stage crew are to be congratulated on the smooth, quiet changing of them. Director, SUE BENNETT, brought the best out of the show, drawing out all the humour possible whilst still creating some lovely gentle moments when called for. I do think that the 'mirror' scene with Bobby and Zangler works better when they actually face each other, though. ANTONIA COLES' choreography was slick and imaginative in the company and dance numbers, although it was a shame that too much smoke in 'I can't be bothered now' hid the dancers from the waist down. The orchestra, under the leadership of ALLAN GILLESPIE, was superb. This was confirmed by the amount of audience who stayed to listen to the play out music. ANTHONY KING (Bobby Child) and NICKY BISSET (Polly Baker) gave confident, all round performances, and were supported by a lively and enthusiastic company.

CHARACTERS

BOBBY CHILD

A superb performance. Although not the strongest dancer in the cast, he put over all his numbers with style. A lovely voice and excellent facial expressions.

POLLY BAKER

This actress fitted this role like a glove. She was obviously very comfortable in the part and the style of music really agreed with her.

IRENE ROTH

Suitably acid and beautifully underplayed. 'Naughty Baby' was a highlight of the evening.

BELLA ZANGLER

A good accent and well thought out characterisation.

National Operatic and Dramatic Association

Patron: The Lord Lloyd-Webber

Registered as a charity number 254640 VAT registration number 232 5945 62

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LANK HAWKINS	Good presence and a consistent characterisation.
MRS LOTTIE CHILD	This actress was every inch a lady of social standing. She knew how to wear her fabulous costumes, too.
EVERETT BAKER	A lovely portrayal of a very gentle man.
EUGENE FODOR	A nicely played cameo role and worked well with his stage partner.
PATRICIA FODOR	Again, worked well with Eugene. A lovely controlled portrayal of a character that could so easily have been played over the top.

An enthusiastic company supported the principals that were obviously enjoying themselves. Congratulations to the Cowboy Trio for some tremendous harmony singing. Good lighting and sound enhanced the whole production. Thankyou, C.O.D.S for a very enjoyable evening.

Kindest regards.
Malcolm

