

A Hand of Bridge / The Sands of Time / Le 66

Three comic operas by Samuel Barber, Peter Reynolds and Jacques Offenbach

Director Paula Chitty

Music Director Peter Jones

Irrational Theatre return to Grimeborn to present a winning trio of comic opera gems. See all three in one joyous evening.

A HAND OF BRIDGE

Music by Samuel Barber

Libretto by Gian Carlo Menotti

Two married couples play a game of bridge, during which their innermost desires are hilariously revealed.

Sung in English without surtitles.

Presented by permission of Chester Music / G Schumer

THE SANDS OF TIME

Music by Peter Reynolds

Libretto by Simon Rees

Receiving the Guinness World Record for World's Shortest Opera when it was composed in 1933, this 3.5-minute score follows married couple Stan and Flo, whose luck changes during the boiling of their breakfast egg.

Sung in English without subtitles

Presented by permissions with Banks Music

LE 66

Music by Jacques Offenbach

Libretto by Matthew Toogood and Ellen Leather, after Laurencin

When Frantz wins 100,000 florins in a lottery he discovers that good fortune can be a blessing in disguise in Jacques Offenbach's fun, tuneful tale, with a new English libretto.

Presented with permissions for libretto from Matthew Toogood

Sung in English without surtitles.

Praise for Irrational Theatre's previous work:

★★★★ "I'm really glad that Irrational Theatre decided to put on this triptych of rare comic operas, each is so different and funny with a trio of talented performers, wonderful production design and a lovely atmosphere, well worth seeing" – The Stuart Review

★★★★ "As I left the theatre I felt like yodelling along with the score, and I've not said that since I saw Frank Ifield live in 1984" – Pub Theatres

"Who said opera had to be stuffy, dense and obtuse? Irrational Theatre presented not one but three miniature one act operas full of frivolity, each as absurd as the last... its whimsy was infectious." – The Gizzle Review

Cast: Joao Valido Vaz, Alex Hall, Sophie Horrocks, Ellie Popham.

MD Peter Jones . Pianist Laurie O'Brien,

Stage Management Kate Reynolds.

Director/Designer Paula Chitty.

Lighting Bob Grover.

Irrational Theatre's productions are directed and designed by Paula Chitty- bringing you fascinating productions of entertaining plays and opera