

## **PRESS PACK**

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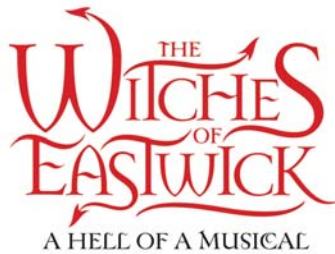
*Marti Pellow*  
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For further information, interviews and review tickets please contact LEEP marketing+pr on 020 7439 9777. Photographs can be downloaded at [www.leep.biz/witches](http://www.leep.biz/witches)





## BIOGRAPHIES

### **Marti Pellow**

Daryl Van Horne

Marti Pellow is the lead singer of the enormously successful 'Wet, Wet, Wet'. The band was formed in 1983 and soon became one of the most successful groups of the 80's and 90's, and still continues to have top 10 records today.

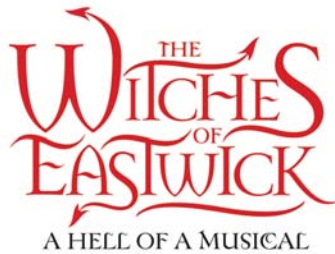
Marti and the group have sold over 15 million albums and garnered 26 UK top singles, 10 of which went Top 10, and 3 to number one, including the biggest selling single in UK history, *Love Is All Around* which featured in the film *Four Weddings And A Funeral*, and stayed at number 1 in the UK charts for an incredible 16 weeks, and the US charts for 11 weeks. They have also enjoyed incredible live success playing to over a million people worldwide.

As a solo artist, Marti has completed a number of sell out tours playing all over the world. His first solo album went straight into the Top 10 and since then all of his albums have achieved platinum status.

His most recent album, *Sentimental Me* inspired by playing at the famous Ronnie Scott's Jazz Club, was released under the Rhino label in April this year, and he has just completed a sell out tour.

Marti played Billy Flynn in the hit musical *Chicago* both in the West End and on Broadway, and in May this year played the lead role of the Arbiter in Sir Tim Rice's musical *Chess* at the Royal Albert Hall.

Marti is delighted to have been asked to play Daryl Van Horne in *The Witches of Eastwick*. What a little devil he is!!



## BIOGRAPHIES

### Ria Jones

Alexandra Spofford

Ria is originally from Swansea in Wales.

Most recently Ria starred as Mrs Overall in the UK tour of *Acorn Antiques: The Musical* directed by Victoria Wood.

Her West End credits include Liz Imbrie in *High Society* (Shaftesbury Theatre and national tour), Necrophorous and Carla in *Nine* (Donmar Warehouse), Svetlana and Florence in *Chess* (Prince Edward Theatre), Fantine in *Les Miserables* (London, national tour), Narrator in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat* (London, national tour) and Grizabella in *Cats* (New London Theatre, Oslo and Helsinki).

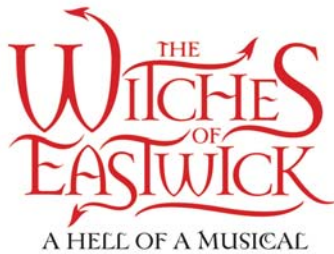
Additional theatre credits include Eva Peron in *Evita* (Manchester Opera House), Josephine and Monica in *Romance Romance* (Bridewell Theatre), Kim in *Personals* (New End Theatre), Petra in *A Little Night Music* (Leicester Haymarket), Emma West in *A Twist of Fate* (Jubilee Theatre, Singapore), Ida Down in Honk, (Victoria Theatre, Singapore), Norma Desmond in *Sunset Boulevard* (Sydmonton Festival), the title role in *Victor Victoria* (Bridewell Theatre) and Reno Sweeney in *Anything Goes* (national tour) receiving a nomination for the TMA Award for Best Performance in a Musical.

Television and film credits include *For One Night Only With Ria Jones* (BBC Wales), Soloist at three *Royal Variety Shows* (BBC 1), *A Night Under the Stars with Bryn Terfel* (BBC Wales) and *Showstoppers* (BBC 1).

Concert credits include Mary Magdalene in *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Barbican), Eva Peron in *Evita* (Highlands Park, Chelmsford), Anita in *West Side Story* (Copenhagen), Fantine in *Les Miserables* (Cardiff Castle), Soloist in *Sondheim – A Celebration* (St David's Hall, Cardiff), Soloist in *The Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber* (Prince Edward Theatre), Soloist in *Voices of a Nation* (Opening of Welsh Assembly, Cardiff Bay), Soloist in *Best of Broadway* (Royal Albert Hall) and Soloist in *Children Will Listen* (Theatre Royal Drury Lane).

Recording credits include Kim in *Personals*, Emma West in *A Twist of Fate*, the live cast recording of *A Tribute to Hal Prince* and Guest Soloist in *My Way with Pier Nelson* (Platinum album).

Radio credits include Soloist in *Friday Night is Music Night* (BBC Radio 4) and Soloist in *Magic of the Musicals* (BBC Wales).



## BIOGRAPHIES

### Rebecca Thornhill

Sukie Rougemont

Rebecca most recently starred as Mrs Banks in *Mary Poppins* at the Prince Edward Theatre in the West End.

Rebecca was born in Dartford. She started her dance training at the young age of three in Brussels then continued in England at the Woodland House School in Erith at age seven. She then went on to train at the Arts Educational Schools where she received the Musical Theatre Award as well as her diploma.

Rebecca was nominated for an Olivier Award in 2001 for her portrayal of Lina Lamont in the West Yorkshire Production of *Singin' in the Rain* (Royal National Theatre)

Her West End credits include Julie in *Showboat* (Royal Albert Hall), Elisabeth Doubleday in *Playing Away* (Lillian Bayliss), Roxie Hart in *Chicago* (Adelphi), Evelyn Nesbit in *Ragtime* (Piccadilly), Vicki Nichols in *The Full Monty* (Prince of Wales), Sukie Rougemont in *The Witches of Eastwick* (Prince of Wales), Fantine in *Les Miserables* (Palace), Gertie Cummins in *Oklahoma!* (Royal National Theatre and Lyceum), Babette in the original company of *Beauty and The Beast* (Dominion), Demeter in *Cats* (New London), Principle in *Sophisticated Ladies* (Geilgud), *Me and My Girl* (Adelphi) and *She Loves Me* (Savoy).

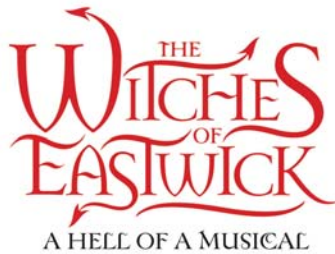
Regional credits: Carole James in *Showstopper*, a one woman show, Annie in *Annie Get Your Gun* (national tour) Woman One in *Putting it Together* (Harrogate), Fantine in a new production of *Les Miserables* directed by Matt Ryan (Denmark), Sally in *Me and My Girl* (national tour & Zimbabwe), Cosette in *Les Miserables* (Edinburgh), Rose in *Aspects of Love* (Ipswich), Katherine in *Jekyll* (Bromley), Brook in *Noises Off* (Westcliff), Crystal in *Doctor Who* (national tour); Diane in *Pal Joey* (Bristol), Hotbox Girl in *Guys and Dolls* (Leicester), the title role in *Cinderella* (Westcliff), the title role in *Dick Whittington* (Guildford) and *Alice* (Windsor).

Concert credits include Evelyn Nesbitt in *Ragtime* (Cardiff Music Festival), numerous concerts with the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra in association with Earl Carpenter Concerts Ltd, Fantine in *Les Miserables* (BIC, Powderham castle, Broadlands), Florence in *Chess* (BIC), *Les Miserables* (10<sup>th</sup> anniversary at the Albert Hall and Chelmsford), *Songs of Jason Robert Brown* (Players Theatre), *Notes from New York* (Trafalgar Studios), *A Night of a Thousand Voices* (Albert Hall), *West End at Home* (various schools), *Beyond the Barricade* (touring), numerous concerts for West End International, *West End Gala* (Glasgow), *The Musical world of Bond...James Bond* (Sweden) and *The World of Rodgers and Hammerstein* (Sweden).

Workshops include Lady Hamilton in *Nelson* (Soho Theatre); Catalina in *Zorro* (The Venue); Mary in *Tonight's the Night* written by Ben Elton, Gilda in *Alfie* (Jermyn Street); Bridget Reilly in *The Famished Land* (Her Majesty's), Amy in *Dearly Beloved* (Vivian Ellis, Drury Lane), Tess in *Falls* (Mercury Workshop), Lulabelle in *Yee Haw* (Jermyn Street), Aphrodite in *Helen of Troy* (Prince Edward), *The Life and Death of the Little Prince* (Highgate); *Nine Lives of Cat Women*, *Colette* (Ambassadors); Crystal in a reading of *The Women* (Old Vic).

Rebecca has appeared in *The Bill* (BBC) and *Eastenders* (BBC) and can be seen as Gertie Cummins in the Royal National Theatre's production of *Oklahoma!* on video and DVD.

She recently performed her cabaret at Lauderdale House.



## BIOGRAPHIES

### Poppy Tierney

Jane Smart

Poppy trained at Italia Conti, London & TVI Studios, Los Angeles.

She is currently playing Giulietta in the UK national tour of Andrew Lloyd-Webber's *Aspects of Love*, prior to which she played Eliza Doolittle in *My Fair Lady* for Bronowski Productions in Kuala Lumpur after playing the role on a major Scandinavian tour for Mikkel Ronnow.

Theatre credits include Mina Westerman in *Dracula* (Derby Playhouse), Aseason at the Pavilion Theatre, Dublin where she played Juliet in *Romeo and Juliet*, Felice in *Letters To Felice* and The Banshee in *The Quest*.

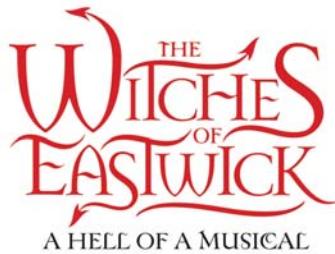
Musical Theatre credits include Alternate Mary Poppins in *Mary Poppins* (Prince Edward Theatre), Leading Lady in *Oh What A Lovely War!* (Derby Playhouse), Tess in *Tess of the D'urbervilles* (Savoy Theatre), Cosette in *Les Miserables* (national tour), Philia in *A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum* (York Theatre Royal), Mary in *Sunset Boulevard* (Adelphi Theatre), Giulietta Trapani in *Aspects of Love* (Lincoln Theatre Royal), The Mistress in *Evita* (national tour), Jemima, Jellylorum & Gumbie in *Cats* (national tour); Ellen in *Miss Saigon* (Theatre Royal Drury Lane), Kat in *Oh! What a Night* (Blackpool Opera House), Bridget in *A Slice of Saturday Night* (Liverpool Empire), Snow White in *Lilly Savage's Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* (Manchester Opera House and Bristol Hippodrome), Sheherazade in *Sheherazade* (Royal Academy) and Claudine in *Bernadette* (Dominion Theatre).

Television credits include *Jackanory*, *The Bill*, Sarah in *Agony*, Charlie in *Hooked on Books*, as well as several commercials, most recently as the Kellogg's Special K girl.

Film credits include Margarita in *Batman: The Intimidation Game* (Warner Brothers).

Concert credits include *South Pacific* at the Birmingham Symphony Hall (BBC Radio), *Sunset Boulevard* at the Cork Opera House (BBC Radio 2) and *Poppy Tierney's Music for a Summers Evening* at the Pavilion Theatre (Dublin).

Poppy is currently working on her self-penned debut album.



## BIOGRAPHIES

### Rachel Izen

Felicia Gabriel

Rachel Izen has appeared in numerous musicals and plays. Recent credits include the national tour of *Hot Flush* starring alongside Sheila Ferguson, Rula Lenska and Marti Webb and Mamma Rose in *Gypsy* at The Wales Millennium Centre, Cardiff.

She first appeared on the West End stage at just eighteen in the ground breaking show *A Chorus Line* at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane. This was immediately followed by the role of June in the original cast of *Chicago* at the Cambridge Theatre.

Other theatre appearances include Electra in *Gypsy* (Belgrade Theatre, Coventry), Agatha in *Guys and Dolls* (RNT), Mrs Vixen in *The Beggars Opera* (RNT), Blondette in *Blondel* (Aldwych), Lottie in *Mack and Mabel* (Aldwych Theatre), Gladys in *The Pajama Game* (Leicester Haymarket Theatre and national tour), Suzanne in *Bless the Bride* (Sadler's Wells), Gussie in *Bitter Sweet* (New Sadler's Wells Opera), Mona in *Dames at Sea* (Mill at Sonning), Dora Bailey in *Singin' in the Rain* (Palladium), Miss Gibson in *Daisy Pulls it Off* (Theatr Clwyd), Lucy in *Sweeney Todd* (Oldham Coliseum), Lowbut in *The Ugly Duckling* (Watermill, Newbury), Mrs Potts/Eggtimer in *Beauty and the Beast* (Dominion Theatre), Miss Hannigan/Mrs Pugh in *Annie* (Victoria Palace), Suzette in *Bless the Bride* (Kings Head), Yvette Gilbert in *Lautrec* (Shaftesbury Theatre), Miss Barnes in *The Winslow Boy* (Chichester Festival Theatre and tour), Madame Dubonnet in *The Boyfriend* (50th Anniversary tour), Elsie in *Meet Mr Future!*, Sylvia Silver in *Insomnia* (Chapter Arts Theatre), Miss Flannery in *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (Shaftesbury Theatre), Cpl. Jenkins in *Into Thin Air* (New Players Theatre), Sylvia 'Bodybag' Hollamby in *Bad Girls The Musical* (West Yorkshire Playhouse) and Hattie in *Follies* (Landor). Rachel has just finished playing Mrs Cox, a role specially written for her in *Ripper the Musical* about the infamous Jack the Ripper.

Television credits include *The Beggars Opera* (C4), *Clem* (HTV), *Smith and Jones* (BBC), *The Queen's Nose* (BBC), *The Bill* (ITV), *Big Women* (C4), *Where There's Smoke* (ITV), *The Good Old Days* (BBC), *Daylight Robbery Series 1 & 2* (ITV) *Holby City* (BBC) and *Casualty* (BBC).

Films include *Jack Brown and the Curse of the Crown*, *Beg*, *Endgame* and *Evita* (with Madonna).



## BIOGRAPHIES

### **Nikolai Foster**

Director

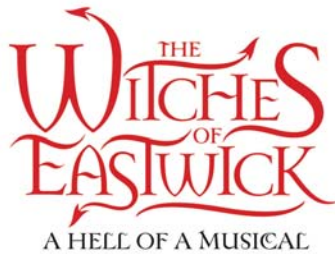
Nikolai Foster was born in Copenhagen, Denmark and grew up in North Yorkshire. He trained at Drama Centre London and at the Crucible, Sheffield.

Nikolai's production of Peter Shaffer's *Amadeus* was the final production to be staged at Sheffield's Crucible before it closed for refurbishment at the end of 2007. He has directed the new production of Andrew Lloyd Webber, Charles Hart and Don Black's *Aspects of Love*, which is currently enjoying a hugely successful national tour, Boucicault's *London Assurance* (Watermill Theatre, Newbury and tour), Louise Page's *Salonika* and Amanda Whittington's *Bollywood Jane* (West Yorkshire Playhouse), Terry Johnson's *Dead Funny* (Oldham Coliseum and national tour – Manchester Evening News award nomination for Best Visiting Production 2007), Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Mercury Theatre, Colchester), Leoncavallo's *Pagliacci* (Pegasus Opera and English Theatre Opera – national tour), the Sondheim and Weidman musical *Assasins* (Crucible Sheffield – TMA Award nomination 2006), Acykbour's *Season's Greetings* (Liverpool Playhouse), John Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men* (Mercury Theatre, Colchester), William's *A Streetcar Named Desire* (Clwyd Theatr Cymru), Corneille's *The Liar* translated and adapted by Ranjit Bolt (Cochrane Theatre, London) and *A Chorus Line* (Crucible Sheffield).

He has been director on attachment at the Sheffield Crucible, Royal Court Theatre and Royal National Theatre Studio.

Other projects include Bryony Lavery's *Bourbon – The Hour Plays 2006* (The Old Vic, London), Coleman, Zippel and Gelbart's *City of Angels* (English Speaking Theatre, Frankfurt), Learner and Loewe's *My Fair Lady* (Larnaca International Festival, Cyprus in 2006; Esplanade Theatre, Singapore and Plenary Hall, Kuala Lumpur in 2007), community productions of Comden and Green's *Singin' in the Rain* and Lionel Bart's *Oliver!* (Courtyard Theatre, Hereford) and Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice's *Evita* (Zouk Amphitheatre, Beirut).

Current projects include the brand new production of *The Witches of Eastwick* (national tour), David Essex's new musical *All the Fun of the Fair* (national tour) and George Orwell's *Animal Farm* (West Yorkshire Playhouse).



## BIOGRAPHIES

### **Michael Harrison**

Producer

Current and recent co productions include *Shout!* starring Claire Sweeney, *Aspects of Love* starring David Essex, *The Wedding Singer* and *Hot Flush The Musical*.

Other productions and co productions include *Debbie Does Dallas The Musical*, *Art*, *The Play What I Wrote*, *Stuart Little*, *Elaine Paige In Concert*, *Marti Pellow In Concert*; Scottish productions of *The Woman Who Cooked Her Husband*, *Two* and *The Rise And Fall Of Little Voice* all starring Elaine C Smith and Andy Gray; *Stones In His Pockets* starring Andy Gray and Allan Stewart; *The Vagina Monologues* starring Carole Smillie; *On Our Way To Lisbon* and *Dirty Dusting* which also played two seasons in Dublin.

Michael Harrison is also Managing Director of Qdos Pantomimes Limited. This year the company will present 21 major productions nationwide.





## BIOGRAPHIES

### **Kenneth Wax**

Producer

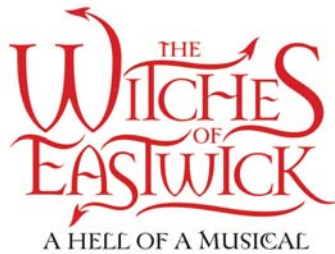
For Imagination Entertainments, Kenny Produced *Once On This Island* at the Birmingham Repertory Theatre and in the West End where it won the Laurence Olivier Award for Best Musical. He left Imagination in 1995 to form his own production company and produced *Maddie*, a new musical at the Salisbury Playhouse which transferred to the Lyric Theatre. He has gone on to produce national tours of the Royal National Theatre's production of Stiles and Drewe's Olivier Award winning musical *Honk!* directed by Julia Mckenzie and *An Inspector Calls* (co-production with PW Productions), Ben Elton's *Gaspig* starring David Haig, Gerald Moon's *Corpse* starring Mark Mcgann, Colin Baker and Louise Jameson, *Something Wonderful*, a tribute to Rodgers & Hammerstein, Rosamunde Pilcher's *The Shell Seekers* starring Stephanie Cole, a second tour with Rosemary Leach and a third tour with Susannah York, *My Boy Jack* starring David Haig and Belinda Lang, *Arsenic and Old Lace* with Angela Thorne, Brigit Forsyth and Sylvester McCoy, *Marrying the Mistress* adapted from the Joanna Trollope novel of the same name, *The Shape of Things* by Neil Labute at the New Ambassadors Theatre and last year tours of *Hobson's Choice* starring John Savident (co-production with Chichester Festival Theatre) and *Aspects of Love* starring David Essex.

He has also produced the children's musicals *The Gruffalo* and *The Gruffalo's Child* (on tour and in the West End), *Stuart Little* and this year he is producing new productions of *The Tiger Who Came To Tea* and *We're Going On A Bearhunt*. He has also General Managed *Chess in Concert* at the Royal Albert Hall for Sir Tim Rice and *Time Of My Life* at the Bristol Old Vic for Sir Cameron Mackintosh.

Kenny is delighted to be producing *The Witches of Eastwick* starring Marti Pellow.

[www.kennywax.com](http://www.kennywax.com)





## TOUR SCHEDULE

<i>Saturday 23 August – Saturday 5 September</i>	Theatre Royal Theatre Street NORWICH Box Office 01603 630000 <a href="http://www.theatreroyalnorwich.co.uk">www.theatreroyalnorwich.co.uk</a>
<i>Tuesday 9 – Saturday 13 September</i>	Marlowe Theatre The Friars CANTERBURY Box Office 01227 787787 <a href="http://www.marlowetheatre.com">www.marlowetheatre.com</a>
<i>Tuesday 16 – Saturday 20 September</i>	The Derngate NORTHAMPTON Box Office 01604 624811 <a href="http://www.royalandderngate.co.uk">www.royalandderngate.co.uk</a>
<i>Tuesday 23 – Saturday 27 September</i>	Alhambra Theatre Morley Street BRADFORD Box Office 01274 432000 <a href="http://www.bradford-theatres.co.uk">www.bradford-theatres.co.uk</a>
<i>Tuesday September – Saturday 4 October</i>	New Wimbledon Theatre The Broadway WIMBLEDON Box Office 0870 060 6646 <a href="http://www.newwimbledontheatre.co.uk">www.newwimbledontheatre.co.uk</a>
<i>Tuesday – Saturday 11 October</i>	Regent Theatre Piccadilly STOKE ON TRENT Box Office 0870 060 6649 <a href="http://www.regenttheatre.co.uk">www.regenttheatre.co.uk</a>
<i>Monday 13 – Saturday 18 October</i>	Opera House Quay Street MANCHESTER Box Office 0844 847 2295 <a href="http://www.palacetheatreandoperahouse.org.uk">www.palacetheatreandoperahouse.org.uk</a>
<i>Monday 20 – Saturday 25 October</i>	Theatre Royal Royal Parade PLYMOUTH Box Office 01752 267222 <a href="http://www.theatreroyal.com">www.theatreroyal.com</a>

THE  
WITCHES  
OF  
EASTWICK  
A HELL OF A MUSICAL

*Tuesday 28 October – Saturday 1 November*

New Victoria Theatre  
The Ambassadors WOKING  
Box Office 0870 060 6645  
[www.theambassadors.com/woking](http://www.theambassadors.com/woking)

*Tuesday 4 – Saturday 8 November*

Wycombe Swan  
St Mary Street HIGH WYCOMBE  
Box Office 01494 412000  
[www.wycombeswan.co.uk](http://www.wycombeswan.co.uk)

*Tuesday 11 – Saturday 15 November*

Ipswich Regent  
3 St Helen's Street IPSWICH  
Box Office 01473 433100  
[www.ipswichregent.com](http://www.ipswichregent.com)

*Monday 17 – Saturday 22 November*

The Mayflower  
Commercial Road SOUTHAMPTON  
Box Office 023 80 711811  
[www.mayflower.org.uk](http://www.mayflower.org.uk)

*Tuesday 25 – Saturday 29 November*

Grand Theatre  
Lichfield Street, WOLVERHAMPTON  
Box Office 01902 429212  
[www.grandtheatre.co.uk](http://www.grandtheatre.co.uk)

*Tuesday 2 – Saturday 6 December*

Lyceum Theatre  
Tudor Square SHEFFIELD  
Box Office 0114 249 6000  
[www.sheffieldtheatres.co.uk](http://www.sheffieldtheatres.co.uk)

*Wednesday 10 December – Saturday 3 January*

Edinburgh Playhouse  
18 – 22 Greenside Place EDINBURGH  
Box Office 0844 847 1660  
[www.edinburghplayhouse.org.uk](http://www.edinburghplayhouse.org.uk)

**Further dates in 2009 to be announced**