

The Little Theatre—On The Square

"Central Illinois' Only Star Music and Drama Theatre"

Established 1957

Guy S. Little, Jr. Presents the 22nd Season

Sullivan, Illinois



Guy S. Little, Jr.

presents

Peter and Aniko Palmer

in

♫ I DO! I DO! ♫

April 25 - May 21, 1978

Who's Who in the Cast

PETER PALMER (Michael) returns to Sullivan for his 13th appearance after appearing on television on CHARLIE'S ANGELS, THREE'S COMPANY, and KALLIKATS and a leading role in the movie, THE HOSTAGE HEART. The former University of Illinois football star who gained fame in central Illinois by singing The Star Spangled Banner at all home games, obtained instant Broadway and Hollywood fame as the star of LI'L ABNER. While in the service, Mr. Palmer was the recipient of the All Army Entertainment Contest, earning an appearance on the Ed Sullivan Show, which ultimately led to his starring role in ABNER. Since then, he has starred in Broadway revivals of BRIGADOON and OKLAHOMA! and toured in nine South American countries in SHOW BOAT and CAROUSEL as part of the U.S. State Department's cultural exchange program. Palmer recently co-starred with Carol Channing in LORELEI for two years on Broadway and on the road. In addition, he is often seen doing commercials for Taco Bell, Olympia Gold and Manhandler soups.

Peter has the distinction of being probably the only performer who has sung for four presidents . . . Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy and Johnson. He has appeared in most of the major supper clubs through the U.S. and has made many television appearances including LOVE, AMERICAN STYLE and a featured role in the western series, CUSTER. And he has made more appearances at The Little Theatre-On The Square than any other male star beginning with OKLAHOMA! in 1962 and followed by THE TENDER TRAP, THE PAJAMA GAME, THE MUSIC MAN, CAROUSEL, 110 IN THE SHADE, THE STUDENT PRINCE, BRIGADOON, LI'L ABNER, PROMISES, PROMISES and THE SOUND OF MUSIC in 1975. He has succeeded in setting box-office records at each and every appearance.

Following their four weeks of I DO! I DO! in Sullivan, the Palmers will open immediately in the same musical at the new Fiesta Dinner Theatre in San Diego for an extended engagement.

ANIKO FARRELL PALMER (Agnes) is a former Miss Canada and Miss Newfoundland, titles which won her the honor of first runner-up in the Miss World contest. While competing in the Miss International Contest in California, she was offered a contract with Lawrence Welk and starred in MY FAIR LADY, OLIVER! THE UNSINKABLE MOLLY BROWN and GUYS AND DOLLS at the Melodyland Theatre. It was in California that she met Peter Palmer and they announced their engagement when Peter was appearing in Sullivan in CAROUSEL in 1966. The following year they returned as husband and wife to star in THE STUDENT PRINCE and since then have been seen together on the Sullivan stage in THE MUSIC MAN, LI'L ABNER, BRIGADOON, OKLAHOMA! and THE SOUND OF MUSIC. Mrs. Palmer has appeared with her husband in LORELEI for twenty months on the road and on Broadway.

Recently she starred in I DO! I DO! and THE SOUND OF MUSIC in San Diego, and in the title role in ANNIE GET YOUR GUN in San Francisco. Last spring Ms. Palmer returned to the Showboat Dinner Theatre in Tampa, Florida, where she and her husband had starred a few months earlier in OKLAHOMA! She was to star in THE SOUND OF MUSIC for four weeks, but the production was such a hit that it ran for seven months and was forced to close then, be-

cause Mrs. Palmer 'fell off the mountain' on stage and broke her ankle.

When not on the road, the Palmers are at home in Woodland Hills, a suburb of Los Angeles.

JOHN BOWAB (Director) — This is director Bowab's sixth production of "I DO, I DO." He recently directed Carol Lawrence and Ross Martin in a West Coast production and a few years ago directed Aniko Farrell Palmer in her first production of the show. Last season he directed and produced the innovative BROADWAY IN CONCERT series in New York, opening with SHE LOVES ME starring Madeline Kahn, Rita Moreno and Barry Boswick, and Richard Kiley in KNICKERBOCKER HOLIDAY.

He has directed countless 'star' productions of MAME including the 1972 and 1976 versions starring Angela Lansbury and SWEET CHARITY with Juliet Prowse. SWEET CHARITY and MAME were his first producing efforts in their original New York presentations starring Gwen Verdon and Angela Lansbury respectively. His other MAMES include Susan Hayward, Janis Paige, Edie Adams, Patrice Munsel, Celeste Holmes, and Ann Miller in productions from New York to Los Angeles. He directed Lana Turner in her stage debut in FORTY CARATS and again with Louis Jourdan in THE PLEASURE OF HIS COMPANY. He also directed local Sullivan favorites Rosemary Prinz and Aviva Crane in FORTY CARATS in New York and St. Louis.

He staged AN EVENING WITH GEORGE BURNS and CAROL CHANNING, Dean Jones and Patricia Morison in PAL JOEY, two productions of THE SUBJECT WAS ROSES (Ralph Meeker and Don Defore), A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC starring Julie Wilson, and other productions as producer or director starring Shirley Booth, Ginger Rogers, Dorothy Loudon, Dorothy Lamour, Shirley Jones, and Lois Nettleton.

He has also directed at most of the major stock houses, but is equally proud of his many 'non-star' productions at theatres throughout the country. He currently resides in Los Angeles and New York and is a native of New England.

MAUREEN F. GIBSON (Stage Manager) is marking her first season at The Little Theatre-On The Square after a busy winter season at Trinity Square Repertory Company working on productions of RICH AND FAMOUS, THE SHOW-OFF, BOSEMAN AND LENA, VANITIES, AMERICAN BUFFALO and SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE. For the Chateau de Ville Theatres, she has stage managed THE BEST OF BURLESQUE, SPICE ON ICE, FOLLIES DE PARIS, BOEING, BOEING, CACTUS FLOWER and THE MUSIC MAN. She served as Production Supervisor for MOONCHILDREN in New York, Boston, Philadelphia and Baltimore and was Production Manager for the Opera Company of Boston during the 1972-73 seasons.

STEPHEN J. BALTES (Musical Director), a native of Madison, Wisconsin, is making his debut at The Little Theatre-On The Square with this production of I DO! I DO! He first met Peter and Aniko Palmer at Melody Top Theatre in Milwaukee, Wisconsin in 1975 where Stephen has been pianist for the last three seasons. He will return to Melody Top this summer to conduct after going with the Palmers to San Diego to open I DO! I DO! following the four week run here. Stephen is currently living on the West Coast and is doing a new club act for Lucie Arnaz.

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