

LEND ME A TENOR

An hilarious comedy
By Ken Ludwig



Directed by Jan Pearce

9th - 12th OCTOBER 2002
8.15 p.m.

This night in September of 1934 is the biggest in the history of the Cleveland Grand Opera Company world famous tenor Tito Morelli is to perform Otello, his greatest role, at the gala season opener. Saunders, the General Manager, hopes this will put Cleveland on the operatic map. Morelli is late; when he finally sweeps in it is too late to rehearse with the company. Through a hilarious series of mishaps, Il Stupendo is given a double dose of tranquilizers which mix with the booze he has consumed and he passes out. His pulse is so low that Saunders and his assistant Max believe he is dead. What to do? Max is an aspiring singer and Saunders persuades him to get into Morelli's Otello costume and try to fool the audience into thinking he's Il Stupendo. Max succeeds admirably, but Morelli comes to and gets into his other costume. Now two Otellos are running around in costume and two women are running around in lingerie, each thinking she is with Il Stupendo!

CAST

Max	Nicholas Pearce
Maggie Saunders	Jules McColl
Henry Saunders	Norman Pearce
Tito Merelli	Charlie Crowther-Smith
Maria Merelli	Jill Davis
Diana	Sue Floyd
Julia	Anthea Wright
Bellhop	Julian Pindar

The setting is an elegant suite in a first-rate, old-world hotel in Cleveland, Ohio. The time is September 1934

Act I	Scene 1	Early afternoon
	Scene 2	Four hours later, about 6.30 p.m.

INTERVAL

Act II	Scene 1	Later that night, about 11 p.m.
	Scene 2	Fifteen minutes later

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director	Jan Pearce
Stage Manager	Jo Reid
Assistant Stage Manager	Patricia Davis
Set Design	Peter Davis
Producer	Elaine Elliott
Wardrobe	Jacky Walster
Props	Connie Biewer & Jeanne Nightingale
Lighting	John & Robert Guthrie
Sound	Gareth Burt
Prompt	Fran King
Programme Design and Setting	Sue Floyd
Front of House	June Wisden
Advance Box Office	Anthea Wright
Public Box Office	Courtesy of Wills & Smerdon
Publicity	Elaine Elliott & Helen Griffith
Poster	Sue Floyd

YOU ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SMOKE IN THE HALL