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### **Limerick Panto Society's Aladdin at the University Concert Hall**

Limerick Panto Society was founded in 1985 with the purpose of creating and keeping Panto tradition alive in Limerick. The group is busy preparing for this year's production *Aladdin*, which will be staged, at the **University Concert Hall** from **December 28<sup>th</sup> 2011 to January 8<sup>th</sup> 2012**.

This season's offering will be the society's 27<sup>th</sup> annual production having commenced in January 1986 with Cinderella. **Tim Cusack** will again play the Dame and this year his character is the most famous of all Panto characters "**The Widow Twankey**". Tim promises to enthrall both young and old with his comic antics in what promises to be an outstanding production. **John Finn** has penned the original script – John is widely known for his appearances with many of the local dramatic groups and has written many pantomimes for the Society. The story will as usual contain many surprises and promises many a twist and turn along the way. **John** will also take to the boards as the evil **Abanazer**.

The society is delighted to announce that this year's show will once again be in association with the **Crescent Shopping Centre**. The Crescent has always supported the group and the **Traders Association** will be the main sponsors of the production this year. The society have also secured Corporate Sponsors **Mr Binman, Jury's Inn, Shannon Airport, Sisk, Abhann Logistics** and **McDonalds** and indeed the group are delighted and grateful to all their **Sponsors, Patrons and Supporters**.

The Society continues its policy of supporting children's charities and this year the Charity Night is in aid of **Cystic Fibrosis**. The Society has raised thousands of euros over the years in support of local charities and is delighted to be associated with **Cystic Fibrosis**.

The Panto Society has had the support of local Stage and Dance Schools all through the years. Performing the children's chorus in *Aladdin* will be **Spotlight Stage School** under the direction of **Judy O'Connor** and **Margaret Hough and Expressive Arts** under the direction of **Pearl Kiely, May O'Halloran** and **Geri O'Sullivan** It is wonderful to see the talent being produced by all these hard working Stage Schools.

This year will see **Nigel Dugdale** return in the title role of **Aladdin** – Nigel is a very talented young man and has appeared on stage both across this country and abroad. **Charlene Hurley** will be his **Princess Sukiyaiki**. Charlene although young in years is at this stage a Panto veteran as she has been appearing in Panto for many years. The Society is delighted to welcome back **Nastasia Vashko** – Nasta starred as **Annie** in the Irish Tour of the musical. She was successful from thousands of girls that auditioned for the part and made a special appearance on the **Late, Late Show**. She will play the role of **Genie of the Bottle**.



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Panto veteran **Damian Shaw** will play **Hector** and Damien as always will bring his unique sense of comedy to the role while Damian's assistants will be **Mykeala Tomlinson and Laura Hunt**. **Keith McGuane** will re-create the role of **Emperor Confucius**. **The Empress** will be played by **Sarah Allen** who starred as **Snow White** in last year's production and **Caoimhe Jordan**. **Emma Cusack** who previously starred as **Cinderella** will play **Mitsubishi** and her fellow Ladies in Waiting with the interesting names of **Chop Suey and Noodles** will be played by the following on a shared basis **Aisling Cusack, Niamh Cusack, Emily Byrne and Lauren O'Brien**.

The **Genie of the Lamp** will be **Andrew Crowley** and **Evan Corr** while the lively and zany roles of **John and Edward Chang** will be played by newcomers **Stuart Mackey and Eoin Kelly**.

**Tony Cusack** who has vast experience in the Light Entertainment field will lead the production team for **Aladdin**. Tony has assembled a talented and experienced group to ensure that this year's production will maintain the standards of past performances. Choreography of the Limerick Panto Chorus is in the capable hands of **Carol Cusack**. **Morgan Roughan** is the **Chorus Master** with Musical Direction in the hands of **Michael Hinchy**. The Costumes will be co-ordinated by Wardrobe Mistress, **Sandra Finn**. The **Stage Manager** is **Malachy Cusack** while **John Corr and Bart Kiely** are the **Production Managers**.

This year's Panto experience at the **University Concert Hall** with all your friends in the **Limerick Panto Society** promises fabulous **Entertainment for all the Family**. Don't miss this wonderful production. Group Bookings are available with tickets from as little as €15 and booking is open at the **University Concert Hall**.

Telephone 061 – 331549 or Book on-line at [uch.ie](http://uch.ie)



Check out the Panto Web-site [limerickpanto.com](http://limerickpanto.com) also on Facebook

**Dates/Times for this season's Panto are as follows:**

- **Wednesday December 28<sup>th</sup> 2011 3pm**
- **Thursday December 29<sup>th</sup> 2011 3pm**
- **Thursday December 29<sup>th</sup> 2011 7:30pm**
- **Friday December 30<sup>th</sup> 2011 3pm**
- **Friday December 30<sup>th</sup> 2011 7:30pm**
- **Sun January 1<sup>st</sup> 2012 3pm**
- **Monday January 2<sup>nd</sup> 2012 3pm**
  
- **Friday January 6<sup>th</sup> 2012 7:30pm**
- **Saturday January 7<sup>th</sup> 2012 3pm**
- **Sunday January 8<sup>th</sup> 2012 3pm**