Theatre

Edward's at the cutting edge

MK THEATRE

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Choreographer Matthew Bourne is renowned for his cutting-edge productions and sharp wit so his adaptation of 'Edward Scissorhands' is sure to pierce hearts when it visits Milton Keynes Theatre from Tuesday.

The touching tale of the boy with a full set of paper-cutters on the end of each arm was first premiered by Bourne's company, New Adventures, in 2005.

Since then, the production has carved a place in the hearts of thousands across the world, enjoying sell-out performances in Europe, America, Asia and Australia.

This spectacular modern fairy tale has now returned to the UK in its first major revival and, after seasonal success at Sadler's Wells over Christmas, the show is stopping off in the new city to give theatregoers here a slice of the cleverly-choreographed action.

Blending contemporary dance with drama, Bourne's work has widespread appeal and Lez Brotherston's stunning sets always add to the theatrical magic.

Based on the classic Tim Burton film, the narrative of Edward Scissorhands tells the bittersweet story of a boy created by a solitary scientist who dies, leaving him alone and unfinished.

Edward has got a bit of everything – humour, romance, drama

Left with only scissors for hands, the vulnerable Edward must navigate his way in the strange suburban world of Hope Springs, where people struggle to see past his appearance and accept him as the gentle soul he truly is.

The title character will be played by admired New Adventures star Dominic North, returning to the role that won him a National Dance Award nomination as Best Male Dancer in 2009.

Also donning shears as hands will be Liam Mower (of Billy Elliot fame) who is making his debut as Edward this season, in his 5th production with New Adventures.

New Adventures dancer Tim Hodges began his dance training in Milton Keynes, before winning a place at Tring Park School for the Performing Arts.

He has previously danced in Matthew Bourne's Edward Scissorhands and toured withNA in the incredibly popular Swan Lake last year. Tim will play Kim's 'All-American' Jock boyfriend Jim Upton in some performances.

In others, he will play Bill Boggs, Kim's father.

Tim said: "Matthew's work is so well-received everywhere we go – especially stuff he has done before. He really makes accessible dance that has such a strong narrative and a lot of humour which everyone can understand. He puts elements in that anyone will find funny.

"Our 'Edward Scissorhands' has really got a bit of everything – humour, romance, drama. The romance between Edward and Kim starts off awkwardly but it is beautiful and the big overriding story is of acceptance and how we should not be too quick to judge," he added.

Matthew Bourne's 'Edward Scissorhands' opens on Tuesday and performances continue until Saturday.

Chop, chop – chase those winter blues away and get booking! Call MK box office on 0844 871 7652 or visit www.atgtickets.com/miltonkeynes.

Pig out with Peppa!

CINEWORLD MK

Puddles of Golden Peppa fun are promised at Cineworld from Saturday – Valentine's Day – with an hour long session of piggy delight!

Youngsters will be able to kick back in their chairs to watch the first ever Peppa special episode, The Golden Boots.

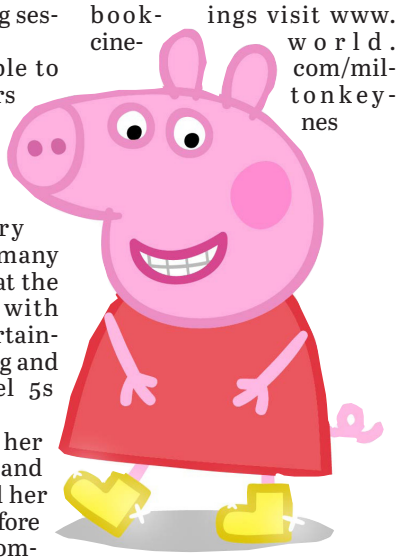
The favourite Peppasodes episode (try saying that after too many sweets!) will also air at the event, which comes with added on-screen entertainment, including singing and dancing from Channel 5s Milkshake!presenters.

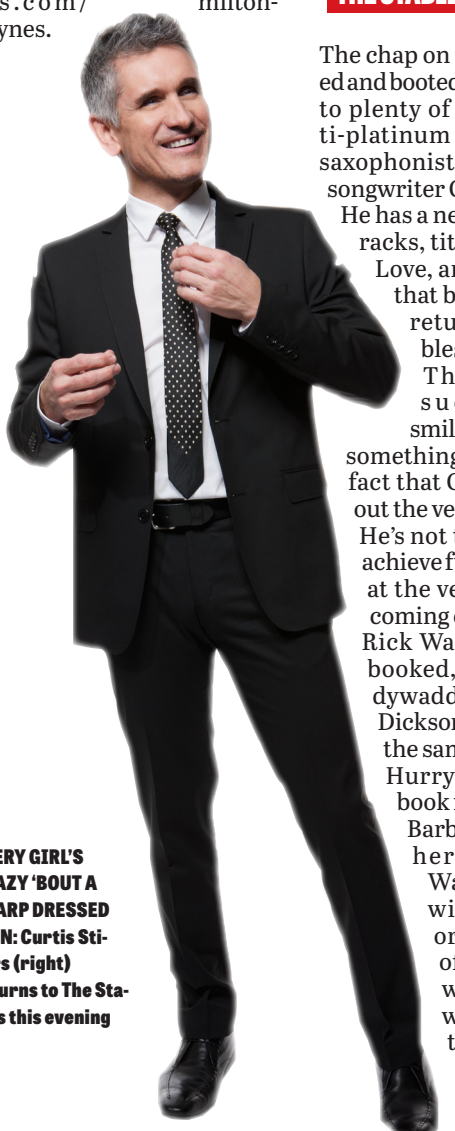
Join Peppa and follow her quest across land, sea, and even into space to find her missing golden boots before the big Puddle Jump competition.

Will she find them?

The Golden Boots will show at the multiplex this Half Term week – until February 19.

For ticket details and to make bookings visit www.cineworld.com/miltonkeynes





EVERY GIRL'S CRAZY 'BOUT A SHARP DRESSED MAN: Curtis Stigers (right) returns to The Stables this evening

Hooray for Curtis

THE STABLES

The chap on the left all suited and booted will be familiar to plenty of you – it's multi-platinum selling singer, saxophonist, producer and songwriter Curtis Stigers.

He has a new album in the racks, titled Hooray For Love, and it's that disc that brings about his return to The Stables this evening.

The reason for such a broad smile? It might have something to do with the fact that Curtis has sold-out the venue.

He's not the only one to achieve full house status at the venue this week coming either.

Rick Wakeman is fully booked, with Showaddywaddy and Barbara Dickson (right) headed the same way.

Hurry if you want to book for either date.

Barbara told us that her time on the Wavendon stage will involve "An organic mixture of folk and songwriter material with a dose of traditional music.

And...

"Songs from the new CD Winter, not previously heard, and a couple of old favourites!"

Shows still booking include Toploader who play tomorrow.

They made their name with their cover of the King Harvest track, Dancing In the Moonlight (which sat pretty in the official singles chart for just shy of a year).

On Stage 2 this Friday night, catch Patsy Reid and Friends.

The former Breabach fiddle player is on tour to bring you material from her new album The Brightest Path.

West My Friend do the Stage 2 thing on Saturday evening.

The genre-blending Canadian folk-roots quartet visit the venue for the penultimate date of their UK tour, which is in support of their second album When the Ink Dries.

Kathryn Tickell and The Side arrive on Sunday.

The world-renowned fiddler and vocalist will be joined at play by some distinguished musical sorts – the same names that collaborated for the eponymous debut album.

Fancy a laugh?

The Screaming Blue Murder Comedy Club will soon get you showing your gnashers in a cheerful manner when it returns on Wednesday evening.

Carl Donnelly is this week's headliner.

To make bookings, call 01908 280800 or visit www.stables.org