

# The Producers

DATE	18th May 2024
SOCIETY	Penarth Operatic & Dramatic Society
VENUE	Paget Rooms, Penarth
TYPE OF PRODUCTION	Musical
DIRECTOR	Fiona Porter-Smith assisted by Julia Dyke
MUSICAL DIRECTOR	Ben Davies
CHOREOGRAPHER	Ceri Wheatley

## Report

**Author: Allan Mears**

The Producers is a musical about two producers discovering that they can make bigger profits by producing a flop from a box office point of view than have a big hit on their hands.

Leading the cast are Neil Parker as Max Bialystock and Paul Mellin as Leo Bloom. An excellent choice for these roles, with the relationship between Bialystock and Bloom played out beautifully by these two actors.

The team work between these two actors needs applauding; they complemented each other and were a superb team.

The love interest was provided by Chloe Welsh, as Ulla the Swedish blonde bombshell. She danced and sang well, held the Swedish accent and oozed the appropriate sex appeal to build a great character.

A strong chorus complimented some excellent performances from Jon Barnes [Roger De Bris, Rhys Jenkins [Carmen Ghia] and Lauren Farnham [Hold me, Touch me], however I have to give special mention to Andrew Carr on his portrayal of Franz Liebkind, perfect casting.

Director Fiona Porter-Smith had created a genuinely 'feel good' show and huge congratulations are in order. Choreography was appropriate for the company and cleverly executed so that everyone appeared to achieve what they set out to do.

The music was balanced, the coordination between the pit and the stage was very much together with an excellent balance of sound. The set, props and lighting design by Lightsource Production Services complimented this production excellently.

This isn't an easy show to stage with its large set and this was an even bigger challenge because of the small stage at this venue. The company, however, managed admirably. A worthy production for your 100th year.

This was my final official visit as NODA Rep to PODS, therefore I want to take this opportunity to thank you all for your hospitality over the years.