

Operation Adelmo - The Penn & Teller/Blue Man Group Connection

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First came The 3 Tenors, then The Sopranos, now... Operation Adelmo, the award winning one-man show which has played Off-Broadway at The York Theatre in New York, is coming to the 2011 Edinburgh Festival Fringe this August.

Operation Adelmo began its life in 2006 when a noted operatic baritone, Adelmo Guidarelli, from New York was offered a booking at the Darien Arts Center in Connecticut before he actually had an act to perform. So, as luck would have it, through a friend-of-a-friend he was introduced to someone who had worked with Penn & Teller and Blue Man Group, Michael Mackenzie Wills. During that first meeting, the opera singer inspired the director into wanting to write his act for the Darien Arts Center gig. That original show has developed into the current show now titled Operation Adelmo.

"Not since Bill McCue has Scotland heard such a rich and powerful river-rumbling voice," says director/writer Wills. "It's a completely acoustic presentation of opera, rock, country, and pop performed with piano, accordion, ukulele, banjo, guitar, trombone, kazoo and a variety of percussive instruments. There's also a magic trick and some puppets thrown in for good measure."

In this classic Music Hall style show of irony and arias, The Clown Prince of Opera-Adelmo Guidarelli, takes the audience on a song-filled journey that New York critics likened to the work of Victor Borge and Anna Russell.

"If Anna Russell and Bill McCue had a love child it would be Adelmo Guidarelli," jests producer Amber L. Spradlin. "Guidarelli entertains both die-hard opera lovers and self-avowed haters of the art by weaving well-known arias with their pop culture counterparts and using baseball as a platform to explain the elements of opera."

Winner of the 2011 MAC Award for Best Comedy/Musical Comedy Performer.

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The Clown Prince of Opera

“If Anna Russell and Bill McCue had a love child it would be Adelmo Guidarelli.”

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