

MONDAY night I am sitting in the Civic Theatre seeing these guys and dolls telling the story of Sky the Gambler and Miss Sarah the mission doll, and also the tale of Miss Adelaide and her everloving Nathan.

Well, the truth of it is the audience whistled and cheered at the end when everybody ended up happily married.

A plausible conman is Peter Sherlock as Sky, and Debbie Gifford as his neat, determined little heroine, Sarah.

Now, being Nathan is Patrick Tucker, with a voice that would shame Schnozzle Durante. Rachel Parsons, as

GUYS AND DOLLS
CHELMSFORD AMATEUR
OPERATIC AND
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SOCIETY
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Adelaide, proves yet again what a show stopper she is, of that there is no doubt.

Furthermore, John Courtnighes his way through his part of Harry the Horse and Les Cooper is really big as Big Jule. Andrew Jeffers gives a good version of Sit Down You're Rocking the Boat and the hoodlums of the chorus are very powerful in The Oldest Established and Luck Be a Lady Tonight.

Robin Sampson is Sarah's Grandfather Arvide, and the Hot Box Girls in the night club are wonderfully racous.

Costumes are brightly colourful and the final wedding scene with silver costumes is something quite spectacular. Lighting, designed by Robert Warner, contributes to the atmosphere, particularly in Havana.

Ray Jeffrey directs this musical fable of Broadway with his usual eye for the visual, most evident in the production numbers.

Anyway, that is about all there is to this story — apologies to Damon Runyon, his style is infectious.

Mary Redman