

# **Aladdin**

**A pantomime written by**

**Ron Nicol**

**Spotlight Publications**

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Email: **[enquiries@spotlightpublications.com](mailto:enquiries@spotlightpublications.com)**

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# **Aladdin**

CAST (in order of appearance)

**Wishee Washee**

**Widow Twankey**

**Aladdin**

**Ho Hum**, the Vizier

**Sultana of China**

**Princess Badroulboudour**

**Abanazer**

**See Yu**

**Hu Mee**

**Mee Tu**

**So Shy**

**Hi Ho**, the executioner

**The Genie of the Lamp**

**The Slave of the Ring**

**Nelly the Elephant**

**Courtiers, Slaves etc.**

See Yu, Hu Mee and Mee Tu appear in Act I only; the Genie, the Slave and Nelly the Elephant in Act II only.

Time: The distant past

Place: China and Africa

## **SYNOPSIS OF SCENES**

### **Act 1**

Scene 1 - A street in Peking

Scene 2 - Princess Badroulboudour's boudoir

Scene 3 - Inside Widow Twankey's Chinese laundry

Scene 4 - Outside Widow Twankey's Chinese laundry

Scene 5 - The Sultana's palace

Scene 6 - The Palace gardens

Scene 7 - An orchard on the outskirts of Peking

Scene 8 - Inside the cave

Scene 9 - The entrance to the cave

### **Act 2**

Scene 1 - Inside the cave

Scene 2 - Widow Twankey's Chinese laundry

Scene 3 - The Sultana's palace

Scene 4 - Aladdin's palace

Scene 5 - Abanazer's hideout, somewhere in Africa

'Aladdin' was first produced by Glenrothes Theatre Company in Newcastle Primary and Community School in December 2002 with the following cast:

<b>Wishee Washee</b>	Lee Mitchell
<b>Widow Twankey</b>	Audrey Stevenson
<b>Aladdin</b>	Olivia Little
<b>Vizier</b>	Kirsty Douglas
<b>Hi Ho</b>	Aileen Henderson
<b>Sultana of China</b>	Norma Nicol
<b>Princess Badroulboudour</b>	Lauren Baillie
<b>Abanazer</b>	Scott Fraser
<b>See Yu</b>	Jaclyn Ramsay
<b>Hu Mee</b>	Cara Swain
<b>Mee Tu</b>	Clare Sinclair
<b>So Shy</b>	Stephanie Mitchell
<b>The Slave of the Ring</b>	Clare Sinclair
<b>The Genie of the Lamp</b>	Andrew Miller
<b>Nelly the Elephant</b>	Mary Brownlee & Shirley Puddifoot

Directed by Ron Nicol

#### **MUSICAL NUMBERS**

Several opportunities for inserting musical numbers have been indicated, but actual song titles have not been suggested and there may be appropriate additional spots.

Application for permission to perform songs should be made to The Performing Rights Society.

## ACT 1

### Scene 1

*A street in Peking*

#### Song 1 - Opening Chorus Number

*The Villagers are going about their business when Wishee Washee enters, pushing a pram piled with washing*

**Wishee** Hello everybody!

**Chorus** Hi, Wishee!

**Wishee** How are you?

**Chorus** We're fine, Wishee!

**Wishee** *(to the audience)* It's great to see so many people here. Could all the girls put up their hands? And all the boys? How about the Mums? And the Dads? Aunts? Uncles? Grannies? Great-grannies? Ladies and Gents? Ooh, that doesn't sound right, does it! You know, some people haven't put up their hands at all. I wonder what *they* are! Anyway, I'm Wishee Washee – but you can call me Wishee. I'm Widow Twankey's assistant. Have you met her yet? You haven't? She's *awful!* Absolutely *awful!*

**Twankey** *(off)* Wishee! Wishee Washee! Wisheeee!

**Wishee** Oh help! That's her! Don't tell her where I am!

*She hides behind her pram as Widow Twankey enters*

**Twankey** Drat that girl! Never here when she's wanted. I bet she's hiding somewhere. Have you seen her?

**Chorus** No, Widow Twankey!

*They laugh as Wishee peers out from behind the pram*

**Twankey** Are you sure?

**Chorus** Yes, Widow Twankey!

**Twankey** What are you laughing at?

**Chorus** Nothing, Widow Twankey!

*They drift away, laughing*

**Twankey** Just wait till I catch her. She's useless! Absolutely useless! Doesn't know a washing machine from a pillar box. I wouldn't mind, but have *you* tried reading a letter when it's soaking wet? By the way, I'm Widow Twankey – High Class Laundry, Washing by Appointment, Specialist in Extra-Large Articles of Apparel. *(She produces an enormous pair of underpants)* Since my husband died I've had to take in washing. I've got to make ends meet, you know.

*Wishee appears from behind the pram, crawling across the stage*

Well, I can't stand about nattering. Wisheeeeeee!

*Wishee freezes right behind Twankey*

Dearie me, I'm tired out with all this rushing about. I'll just have to have a seat.

*She sits on Wishee, who groans*

Oh dear, that's my corset creaking.

*Wishee collapses. Twankey remains sitting*

Wishee! What are you doing?  
**Wishee** I'm just going to the laundry...  
**Twankey** You're late. You should've been there ages ago.  
**Wishee** I couldn't help it. I got held up. You see, there's exterminating circumstances...  
**Twankey** Yes – and I'm going to exterminate you!  
**Wishee** Not if I can help it!

*She exits*

**Twankey** Wishee! Come back here! Oh well, I'll have to take the pram to the laundry myself.

*Aladdin enters*

**Aladdin** Mother!  
**Twankey** Aladdin! Where have you been? I need help with the washing.  
**Aladdin** Oh Mother, not just now.  
**Twankey** It's always the same with you. I need help *now*!  
**Aladdin** I want to see the procession – it'll be along in a minute...  
**Twankey** I thought so! You're wanting to see the Princess. Well, I need you at home!  
**Aladdin** Please, Mother.  
**Twankey** What makes you think she'd even look at you?  
**Aladdin** Please.  
**Twankey** Well, all right. But come straight home as soon as the procession passes.  
**Aladdin** Right, Mother.  
**Twankey** Don't forget now.

*She exits with the pram. The Vizier enters followed by the Citizens*

**Vizier** Make way for the Grand Sultana of all China, Ruler of Half the Earth. Make way for her Illustrious and Industrious daughter Princess Badroulboudour. Bow down before them, you common smelly people, and avert your eyes, for you are not worthy to look upon such Glorious Personages. (*Aside.*) Autographs and signed photographs of their Supremely Exalted Highnesses will be on sale at exorbitant prices at branches of the Sultana's White Elephant Emporium later today.  
**Voice** (*off*) Look out! Here they come!

*The Citizens bow low as the Sultana and Princess Badroulboudour enter with Hi Ho and the bodyguards*

**Vizier** Harken all ye commoners. Listen to the unbelievably poetic and elevated words of your own, your very own Sultana of China!  
**Sultana** That's enough, Vizier.  
**Vizier** Unblock your lug-holes and listen!  
**Sultana** That's enough. We are not amused! *I* make the jokes round here, Vizier.  
**Vizier** (*bowing low*) Your Supreme Elevation.  
**Sultana** That's better. I'm the Sultana and must be obeyed. My worthless subjects, who worship the ground I tread, bow down before me in abject fear and dread; and do not gaze so rudely at the sight of my dear daughter, here upon my right. Her lovely face is veiled from your rude stare, for if at all her beauty anyone should dare to look too closely, and should her affright, that person's eye put out shall be, and darkest night descend upon that rude and worthless slave who doth offend my daughter with his gaze.  
**Princess** Mother dear...  
**Sultana** Daughter, remember that your voice should not be heard. You've been brought up to know a Princess does not speak a word. My daughter should be kept away from common smelly people like them what's here today.  
**Princess** But Mother...  
**Sultana** Enough! You speak too much I hear. You should not be a chatterbox, my dear. I'm the Sultana and must be obeyed. That's all! Move on! Chop, chop!

**Vizier** Make way! Make way! Grovel before Her Opulence! Grovel, everybody! Grovel!

*The Vizier, Sultana, Princess, Hi Ho and the bodyguards exit, followed by the Citizens. Wishee enters*

**Wishee** Master! There you are!

**Aladdin** Oh Wishee, did you see the Princess? She must be the most beautiful girl in the world.

**Wishee** You can't tell when she's wearing that veil. If she's anything like her mother she'll have a face like the back of a rickshaw.

**Aladdin** How can you say that!

**Wishee** Oh, I just open my mouth and the words come out.

**Aladdin** I mean, how can you say she's ugly? Anyone can see she's beautiful.

**Wishee** You'd better watch nobody sees you looking at her - you'll have your eye put out.

**Aladdin** Even that couldn't prevent me looking at her.

**Wishee** No, you'd need *both* eyes put out for that. Just watch it, though. I mean, *don't* watch it, watch out. I mean, if you don't watch out and you're caught watching you'll catch it and then you won't be able to watch out, so watch it, OK?

**Aladdin** Say that again.

**Wishee** I don't think I can! Just look out, that's all. But don't look out at the Princess or the look-out might look out and catch you watching, and then you won't be able to look out any more...

**Aladdin** I think you'd better stop before you confuse everybody...

**Wishee** That's exactly what I mean - stop it!

**Aladdin** I'll be careful.

**Wishee** Your mother's waiting for you in the laundry. She sent me to find you.

**Aladdin** All right. Tell her I'm coming.

**Wishee** Righto!

*Wishee exits*

**Aladdin** I know I'm only a washerwoman's son, but that doesn't mean I can't have my dreams...

## Song 2 - Aladdin

*Sinister music plays and Abanazer enters*

**Abanazer** One moment, young sir. I need some help. I'm searching for the home of Mustapha, the tailor.

**Aladdin** Mustapha the tailor? He was my father - but he died.

**Abanazer** How unfortunate. Mustapha was my brother.

**Aladdin** Then you must be my Uncle. But I didn't know my father had a brother...

**Abanazer** I left home when I was very young. I went to Africa to make my fortune. Now I've returned to seek my brother - but, dead you say?

**Aladdin** Yes sir, he died several years ago.

**Abanazer** But you're his son. Yes, I see the resemblance. Are there any others in the family?

**Aladdin** Only my mother, sir. You must come and meet her.

**Abanazer** Ah yes, please run home and tell her I'll come and see her this evening. It'll be delightful to meet my brother's wife, your mother - my sister-in-law. Tell her I'll come tonight.

**Aladdin** I will - Uncle.

**Abanazer** Farewell, my boy.

**Aladdin** Farewell.

*He exits*

**Abanazer** Aha! The boy believes I am his uncle. I've only to make his mother believe it too and nothing will stand in my way. The treasure shall be mine! *(To audience)* I don't mind telling you, because you can't do a thing to stop me. I'm a magician, and I plan to use that boy for my own evil ends. His father owned an orchard where a black stone guards a fabulous treasure. I plan to buy that land, move that stone, and get that treasure! Ha, ha, ha! But wait, who comes here?

*See Yu, Hu Mee, and Mee Tu enter*

**See Yu** Are you Mr Avabanana?

**Abanazer** A word of warning before we start. I do not wish to have jokes made about my name. I have no sense of humour. I do not make jokes. I do not like jokes. Bear that in mind, and we may be of mutual benefit to each other. Forget it at your peril!

**See Yu** Oooo! Hark at him!

**Hu Mee** What was all that about?

**Mee Tu** Search me!

**Abanazer** My name is Abanazer. A-ba-na-zer! Got it?

**All** Yessir.

**Abanazer** Good. Now, who are you.

**See Yu** I don't think that's a good idea, Mr Abanazer, sir...

**Abanazer** When I need your advice I'll ask for it. Understand?

**See Yu** Yes, Mr Abanazer, sir.

**Abanazer** Right then. (*To Hu Mee.*) What's *your* name?

**Hu Mee** Hu Mee.

**Abanazer** Yes, you.

**Hu Mee** No. Hu Mee.

**Abanazer** I asked you your name. You!

**Hu Mee** Not Yu. Mee. Hu Mee. My name's Hu Mee.

**Abanazer** Hu Mee. I see.

**Hu Mee** Not I See – Hu Mee.

**Abanazer** Very well. (*To Mee Tu*) What about you?

**Mee Tu** Mee Tu.

**Abanazer** Yes, you too...

**Mee Tu** Not Yu Tu - *Mee Tu*.

**Abanazer** You're also called Hu Mee?

**Hu Mee** No – *I* am.

**Abanazer** I know *you* are – but is *he*?

**Hu Mee** Is he what?

**Abanazer** Hu Mee?

**Hu Mee** No.

**Abanazer** Are you?

**Mee Tu** Am I what?

**Abanazer** Hu Mee.

**Mee Tu** You're Abanazer...

**Abanazer** I *know* I'm Abanazer. Who are you?

**Mee Tu** Mee Tu.

**Abanazer** Your name's Abanazer too?

**Mee Tu** Me Tu! My name's Mee Tu.

**See Yu** I *told* you it wasn't a good idea.

**Abanazer** And who are you?

**See Yu** See Yu.

**Abanazer** Yes?

**See Yu** See Yu.

**Abanazer** See me what?

**See Yu** Not See Me What – See Yu. It's my name. I'm See Yu. He's Hu Mee. And he's Mee Tu.

**Mee Tu** I can't be *you*. I'm *me*.

**Abanazer** Don't start that again! So...

**See Yu** Oh, nobody's So!

**Abanazer** I *know*! You're See Yu. You're Hu Mee. And you're Mee Tu. Is that right?

**All** Yes.

**Abanazer** Good! Now, you read my little advertisement in the ..... (*insert local paper*). "Devious devil-may-care desperadoes required for daring undertaking. No experience required. Good pay to right

applicants.”

**See Yu** I think we fit the bill. We’re the most various desperajimjams you’ll ever find.

**Abanazer** I’m not so sure, but never mind. Now, here’s what I want you to do. You must ingratiate yourselves with Aladdin and his mother and acquaint yourselves with their comings and their goings...

**Mee Tu** Inwhat and ackwitch?

**Abanazer** Find out all you can about them.

**Mee Tu** Oh. I thought you were wanting us to do something naughty.

**Hu Mee** Like spy on them.

**Abanazer** See here...

**See Yu** No. See Yu.

**Mee Tu** Mee Tu.

**Hu Mee** Hu Mee.

**Abanazer** I give up! Just do it!

*He exits*

**See Yu** Right, you heard him. Let’s do it.

**Hu Mee** What are we doing?

**Mee Tu** Where are we going?

**See Yu** See you! You’re hopeless!

**Hu Mee** *You’re* See Yu.

**See Yu** I didn’t mean that, I meant – oh, shut up and come on.

**Mee Tu** Me too?

**See Yu** Yes! You too.

**Hu Mee** Who? Me?

**See Yu** Both of you! Come on!

*They exit. Fade to Blackout*

## **Aladdin**

### **Plot Summary**

A fun-filled version of the well-loved tale. Aladdin falls in love with Princess Badroulboudour, the beautiful daughter of the Sultana of China, but he’s the son of Widow Twankey, a poor washerwoman, so his dreams of marrying the Princess seem hopeless. Then he meets the magician Abanazer, who asks him to obtain a lamp from a subterranean cavern, but leaves him trapped underground. Aladdin discovers the power of the Lamp, escapes from the cave, and acquires great wealth. He marries the Princess, but Abanazer steals the Lamp and carries Badroulboudour off to Africa. All ends happily, of course, when Aladdin regains the Lamp and his lovely Princess.

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