

# Theatre

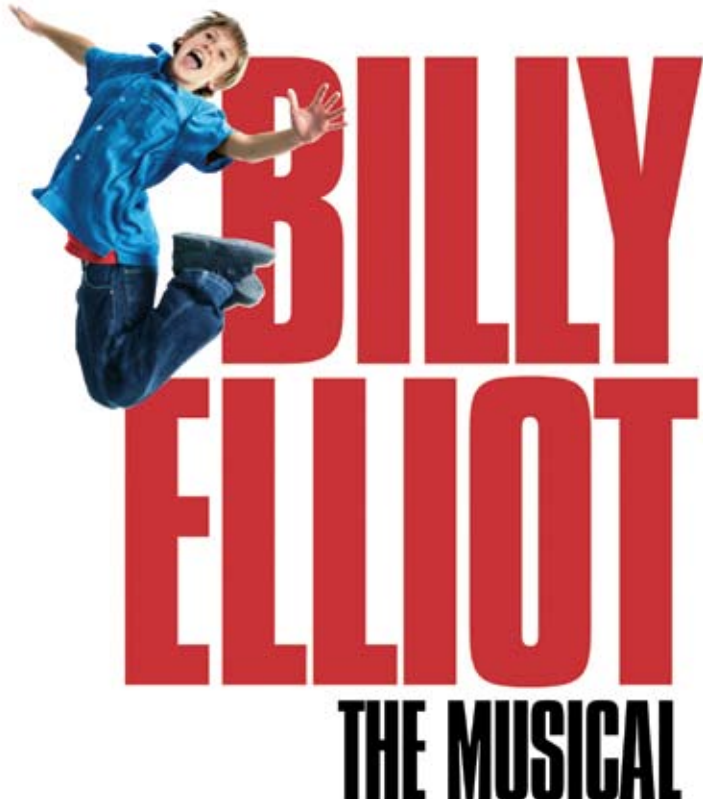


*“ ‘Incredibly knowledgeable and practical about theatre work’ ‘First class advice’ ”*

Chambers & Partners, 2005

## Our Theatre Group

Our Theatre Group is the longest established and widest ranging in the business. The firm advises clients throughout the performing arts, enabling us to continue to attract clients at the highest level.



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*‘Clients hailed Neil Adleman as “a tremendous soul to work with. He understands theatre and is incredibly helpful.” Colin Howes is “extremely good on the commercial sense of theatre and the broader business needs,” clients reported.’*

Chambers and Partners 2006

Our clients are producers, theatre owners, investors, funded companies, regional producing theatres, trade associations, drama schools, directors, designers, writers and composers. They are involved in a wide range of art forms including theatre, musical theatre, ballet, opera, dance and circus.

We are able to provide a uniquely commercial approach with in depth knowledge. This is built on the length of the firm’s involvement in the theatre business; our experience in acting for entrepreneurs in this sector; our expertise in the wider media and entertainment industries (film, television, music and online and digital media); and the personal involvement of individual lawyers in the theatre business, in particular through board memberships.

Ranked first in its category by The Legal 500, 2004, it is also described by Chambers & Partners, 2005 as being *‘large enough to handle corporate matters, but small enough to give real personal attention.’*



Fosse - Pofa Jones Associates  
Photography: Catherine Ashmore

## Rights and Content

We regularly advise on acquiring underlying rights for development as stage works, including books and films; commissioning agreements with writers and composers; copyright and moral rights issues; music and other rights clearances; defamation and obscenity; and the subsequent exploitation of theatre works in other media, such as film and television.

## Production Arrangements

Our involvement with many successful shows means that we have an innovative approach to structuring production arrangements, including co-productions; creative team arrangements with directors, choreographers, designers, arrangers and orchestrators; production finance, including the promotion of investment opportunities and related tax issues; theatre agreements; and the licensing of successful productions.

## Funded Sector

We understand the needs and financial constraints within which the funded sector works and advise on funded to commercial sector transfers; funding related issues; forming and operating theatre charities; issues related to theatre properties, including capital projects; and data protection and other marketing related issues.

## Owning and Operating Theatre Buildings

Assisting theatre owners and theatre companies with issues including acquiring, running, developing and selling theatres. The firm's expertise covers related planning issues and theatre, entertainment and liquor licensing.

## Employment and Immigration

We provide advice to theatre companies and individuals on how employment law affects the theatre industry, in particular with respect to the collectively negotiated arrangements between the theatre trade associations and trade unions; and on immigration issues, including obtaining work permits for artists.

## Advice to Individual Creative Contributors

We meet the professional legal requirements of writers, composers, directors, designers and other creative contributors.



The Big Life, written by Paul Joseph and Paul Sirett.  
Theatre Royal Stratford East | Photography: Johnny Munday

*‘Theatre Royal is renowned for its work developing new work by new writers, as well as for its extensive education programme. Our latest production The Big Life is set to transfer to the West End, and Harbottles has been invaluable.’*

**Kerry Michael**  
Artistic Director, Theatre Royal Stratford East.