



## OVERVIEW

CHIPPENDALES all-male American entertainment "for ladies only" is a timeless concept. Although its been envied and imitated worldwide, CHIPPENDALES has maintained its reputation throughout the years for its unique style, professionalism and success as a performing act.

CHIPPENDALES was created in 1979 as a novel type of ladies entertainment, with the sexy, male dancers performing cabaret-style shows one night a week at an L.A. nightclub. The moniker CHIPPENDALES was borrowed from the 18th century furniture-maker Thomas Chippendale, whose classy, beautifully-curved designs they sought to emulate. From the start, the show received rave reviews. It became so popular that a nightclub, also named CHIPPENDALES, was acquired for the company to perform at nightly. And so the legend of CHIPPENDALES began as the first, all-male dance revue catering to women.

By the mid 1980's CHIPPENDALES had two separate troupes bringing their exclusive show to women all over the United States. At the same time, a second CHIPPENDALES nightclub was established in New York. The CHIPPENDALES shows quickly gained a reputation for stimulating performances with their cabaret-style show which included daring jaunts into the audience to personally greet their women fans. Combining larger-than-life fantasies of dream men with the down-to-earth accessibility of the boy-next-door, the CHIPPENDALES men started a new trend in appreciation of the male physique. Though many other groups have tried to compete with CHIPPENDALES image, none have managed to maintain the success and credibility that CHIPPENDALES has established through the years.

With women of all ages and backgrounds packing the clubs night after night in the U.S., CHIPPENDALES started branching out, worldwide, touring Hong Kong, the Philippines, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and Guam. Later, Scandinavia and Europe were added to the tour with an initial six week engagement in the United Kingdom at a 500-seat venue. Due to the enormous success of those dates, the CHIPPENDALES show was moved to 2,000-seat arenas and continued for forty-weeks straight in Britain. With semi-permanent sets, props and staging the production took on a life of its own.

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CHIPPENDALES

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Graduating to the scale of a Broadway-style, full-blown, theatre-revue in the 1990's, CHIPPENDALES made a break from its previous club/cabaret setting and image. In January 1991, CHIPPENDALES opened its first season on London's prestigious West End with a cast of eighteen singers and dancers accompanied by a live orchestra; the production costs: one million dollars. To all involved, this indicated a "coming of age" for CHIPPENDALES.

Since their initial opening in the United Kingdom CHIPPENDALES has become somewhat a household word, due to the tremendous popularity of the shows. CHIPPEN-DALES now maintains a European tour for forty-weeks each year, with the regular appearances in the West End of London for enthusiastic audiences of one thousand to two thousand ladies.

Due to their universal appeal to women audiences, two companies are always touring worldwide with shows in Holland, Belgium, Scandinavia, the Baltic states and France, where they have continuously sold-out performances in both Paris's Montmartre district and the Cote d'Azur. Historically, they were the first performing act to enter the eastern block country of Estonia, after the fall of The Wall.

Now, the U.S. is about to get a taste of CHIPPENDALES: A NEW EXPERIENCE. The North American tour begins in late September and will run through the end of 1995 with a longstanding Las Vegas engagement expected to open in the fall.

Despite the fact that American audiences haven't seen CHIPPENDALES' shows in a few years, references are continuously made to CHIPPENDALES with many celebrities singing their praises. Dr. Ruth called the CHIPPENDALES experience "A marvelous fantasy and the safest sex anyone could have," actress Brooke Shields celebrated her 21st birthday at a CHIPPENDALES performance, singer Dolly Parton taped a TV special with them and the primetime TV show "Married With Children" did a segment on "Girls night out," featuring CHIPPENDALES. In addition, CHIPPENDALES has made regular appearances on Entertainment Tonight, Extra, E-Entertainment, Donahue, Lisa Gibbons and the Shirley Show.

Vice President Marc Pakin, previously the longtime General Manager for CHIPPENDALES, runs the day-to-day affairs for the company. He's been with the show through its transformation from club act to its current Broadway-style performance. His goal, is to take CHIPPENDALES one step further - to the big stage as an off-Broadway show in the United States.

No longer are the men of CHIPPENDALES the sum total of their well-toned physiques. With Executive Producer Bob Talmage and Gloria Estevan's accomplished choreographer Liz Imperio, training cast members, CHIPPENDALES: A New Experience features noteworthy song and dance performances during its provocative two-hour show. Sixteen cast members make up each company, performing twenty to



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thirty choreographed stage numbers that revolve around central themes in musical history. CHIPPENDALES: A NEW EXPERIENCE recreates classic songs from the 50's and 60's with rousing performances, vibrant sets and colorful costumes. Whether it's a fast-paced number from "Dirty Dancing," the Linda Ronstadt/Aaron Neville love ballad "Don't Know Much," compositions of David Hamilton or Phyllis Nelson's torch song "Move Closer," audiences are treated to an intoxicating evening of CHIPPENDALES extravaganza.

In addition to the time-honored classics, the musical score in CHIPPENDALES: A NEW EXPERIENCE features original compositions written exclusively for CHIPPENDALES. The singing is all live but due to the space limitations and the logistics of touring, a live orchestra is only featured at London's West End seasons.

Despite the rigors of touring such a large show, the production quality of CHIPPENDALES is never compromised; it has been applauded by critics wherever the show has played. The two and a-half tons of equipment includes computerized moving light systems, pyrotechnics, flying scenery, forty costume changes and catering equipment, all of which is toured in two, 45-foot trucks from city to city. Attending to each show are ten or eleven full-time crew and a tour manager. Average set-up time is eight hours; average break-down time is about two hours. With many dates scheduled as one-night performances the crew's work is cut out for them!

With a cast of 70, the magic of CHIPPENDALES is that it is always changing, always delivering something new and exciting to women wherever they go. Each show features a cast of sixteen performers incorporating eight CHIPPENDALES principles, four trained dancers, three professional singers, and many who have worked on large tours for professional acts. Credits of CHIPPENDALES cast include the shows "Cats," "Dream Girls," "Starlight Express," "Sunset Boulevard" and "Tommy." Other cast members have performed with singers Madonna, Whitney Houston, Reba McEntire and Gloria Estefan. One cast member has even gone on to become a film star, opposite Christopher Reeve in Superman 2.

With the sculptured looks that many of the CHIPPENDALES exhibit the cast is handpicked for their looks, having to pass rigorous requirements to join the company. The physical requirements include a height of 6' or more, attractive faces, ability to project personality on stage, individuality and talent as a performer with experience in the theatre as well as in singing. CHIPPENDALES men must be able to keep up with invigorating dance routines, night after night, week after week, working six days a week. Their reward is in being part of the most imitated all-male performing act, in history!

With CHIPPENDALES' shows selling out all over the world, women of all ages, income brackets and cultural backgrounds make up the audiences. A typical audience consists of mothers, daughters, grandmothers, friends, co-workers and bosses, alike!