



'Girls' aloud Michael Ball and Leanne Jones in 'Hairspray'



Daniel Boys sings 'Close Every Door to Me' and 'Any Dream Will Do' from 'Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat'

THE SHOW Andrew Lloyd-Webber and Tim Rice's breakthrough hit is one of the all-time classic British musicals, an adaptation of the Biblical story of Joseph that was written as jolly entertainment and went on to become one of the biggest shows in history. Its last West End outing was a storming smash thanks to its star, Lee Meads, being selected via the hit TV show 'Any Dream Will Do'.

THE SONG Whatever diabolical deals have been struck behind doors to get two songs from 'Joseph' performed, they are its two biggest choons, so fair enough. This does presumably make it 11 rather than 10 songs, but hey-ho.

THE SINGER West End veteran Boys shouldn't have a problem remembering the words: he was a finalist for 'Any Dream Will Do'.

Leanne Jones sings 'Good Morning Baltimore' from 'Hairspray'

THE SHOW Mark Shaiman's cheeky adaptation of John Waters' cult romcom about a plump teenager with dreams of the big time was one of

the biggest new musicals of last decade, bagging four Olivier awards and a two-and-a-half-year stint at the Shaftesbury Theatre.

THE SONG Musical theatre isn't exactly short of feel-good numbers, but this pathologically chip paean to the grim American city is just plum irresistible.

THE SINGER Leanne Jones won an Olivier for her breakthrough performance as overweight dreamer Tracy Turnblad, and she'll be reprising that role here.



Delicious divas Above centre, 'Priscilla Queen of the Desert'. Above right, 'Chicago'. This picture, 'Avenue Q'

HIT PARADES

Finally, what could be more fun than rounding it all off with a good old-fashioned medley? Nothing, that's what.

'Chicago'

The great Kander and Ebb's biggest hit was this seedy satirical epic, which is set in a crime-lashed Windy City during Prohibition days. Both the original 1979 production and the 1997 revival were terrifically successful, the latter boosted by the Oscar-winning film that was made in 2002.

'Priscilla Queen of the Desert'

The hen parties of London have been left bereft ever since this bawdy jukebox adaptation of the hit Aussie film about a trio of road-tripping drag queens flounced out of town in 2011.

'Avenue Q'

One of the great original musicals of recent times, Robert Lopez's 'Avenue Q' was a rude, irreverent riff on 'Sesame Street' set in a grimy neighbourhood in which bad humans and bad puppets scrape out a living side by side.