

# Broadway star in Regent's Miss Saigon



Melinda Chua (front right) is featured from the New York Broadway production of Miss Saigon.

*The story of a conflict where New Zealand lives were lost is the basis of an international hit musical that will be staged in the Regent On Broadway from August 14-29.*

The Regent, in association with The Abbey Musical Theatre, is presenting the 20th anniversary performance of Miss Saigon which opened at London's Theatre Royal Drury Lane in 1989.

The Tony Award winning musical is the story of a romance between Chris, an American Marine, serving as an Embassy Guard in the days before the American evacuation of Saigon and Kim a young Vietnamese woman, orphaned by the war and forced to work in a Saigon night club.

In this modern adaptation of Puccini's opera, Madame Butterfly, Kim and Chris have a brief but passionate affair and he vows to take her out of Saigon. But, on the eve of the largest helicopter evacuation in history, the two are separated and Chris is forced to leave Vietnam without her.

Three years later they struggle to deal with the emotional aftermath of their affair while moving on with their lives. Chris, now married, discovers he has a young son with Kim and she clings to the hope they'll be reunited and raise their son together as an American boy.

Featuring a memorable score Miss Saigon includes the songs The Heat Is On In Saigon, Why God Why, Sun And Moon and The American Dream.

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The musical, written by the duo who created Les Miserables, features Melinda Chua who has starred as Kim on Broadway, New York, Bradford Meurk, Karl Perigo, Scott Andrew and Carrie Green together with a talented ensemble of Manawatu based Chinese, Japanese and Asian singers and dancers, accompanied by a full pit orchestra conducted by Barry Jones.

Miss Saigon is directed by one of New Zealand's top directors, Stephen Robertson, who received his musical start with the Palmerston North Operatic Society.

Bookings for the 12 performances have opened at the Regent On Broadway 0800 4ticket.

## **Miss Saigon**

August 14-29  
Regent On Broadway