

The action takes place in/at/on:

New York 1925:

The Ritz is a State of Mind

Lorelei Lee Frank Smith
Dorothy Dempsey Joe Sanguinetti
Lulu H. Gilbertson Montrose
Gus Eisman

On the S S Majestic:

Fate Keeps on Happening

Major Falcon Mr Bartlett
Fred (the steward) Harry (the waiter)

London is Really Nothing

Lady Shelton Sir Francis Beekman
Countess of Arbroath Laura Corrigan
Gloria Schwartz

But Paris is Devine

Leon (the bell-hop) Louie
Lady Beekman Robber

The Central of Europe

Mr Henry Spoffard III Waiter
Mrs Henry Spoffard II Sigmund Freud
Miss Chapman

Intermezzo:

The Return of the Majestic

Back in the USA:

Brains are Really Everything

Miss Amy Spoffard

Gentlemen Prefer Blondes was freely adapted by the Company from the book by Anita Loos first published in 1925

Directed by	Susan Todd
Music by	Josefina Cupido
Designed by	Andrea Montag
Costumes	Hilary Lewis
Props	Jessica Higgs
Production and	Meri Jenkins and
Technical Management	Veronica Wood
Administrator	Gus Garside
Poster/Programme	Jeff Jones of
Design	The Drawing Room

Our grateful thanks to:

GLC Parks Department (deck chairs and crash barriers), Moet and Chandon, Carreras Rothmans Limited, Harrods Limited, BAT (UK and Export) Limited, T. Hawkesley Limited, Lindt.

The Life and Times:

"We have had booms and collapses in the past. But now we have no boom. Our progress is rapid — but sure. Buying is now larger than it ever was — but it is not frenzied. The kind of emotion which brings on a boom is absent."

Samuel Crowther *Collier's Magazine, 1926*

"Everybody calls me a racketeer. I call myself a businessman. When I sell liquor, it's bootlegging. When my patrons serve it on a silver tray on Lake Shore Drive, it's hospitality."

Al Capone

"From early colonial days, sex life in America had been based on the custom of men supporting women. The situation reached it's heyday in the 20's, when it was easy for any dabbler in stocks to flaunt his manhood by lavishing an unearned income on girls."

Anita Loos *Kiss Hollywood Goodbye*

"My candle burns at both ends;
It will not last the night;
But ah, my foes, and oh, my friends —
It gives a lovely light."

Edna St Vincent Millay *First Fig*

What they thought of Lorelei:

"In fact, if one examines the plot of **Gentlemen Prefer Blondes**, it is almost as gloomy as a novel by Dostoevski. When the book reached Russia, this was recognized, and it was embraced by Soviet authorities as evidence of the exploitation of helpless female blondes by predatory magnates of the Capitalistic System. The Russians, with their native love of grief, stripped **Gentlemen Prefer Blondes** of all its fun and the plot which they uncovered was dire."
Anita Loos *Introduction to 1963 edition of GPB*

"I reclined on a sofa reading **Gentlemen Prefer Blondes** for three days. I am putting the piece in place of honour."
James Joyce

"Without hesitation, the best book on philosophy written by an American."
George Santayana

"The great American novel."
Edith Wharton

P.S.

"Last summer she shared a party for Andy Warhol. 'I looked round the room and everybody there was so beautiful. The girls, I always have pretty girls, nice girls not hustling types because they're decorative like flowers but since it was summer they looked particularly. . . you know, and the men were so good looking that night. I said to my co-host "We really should have asked just one ugly person. Just one."'"
Lady Rothermere *The Guardian, 11 May 1979*

"Vogue model Jo Perque from Paris cleared the floor with an interpretive dance, which involved being whirled round by Prince Kiko Hohenlohe while gripping his waist with her bronzed legs. Alas, he let go prematurely, catapulting her into the food tables and causing messy havoc."
The Daily Mail, 9 May 1979
(Report of a party held by President Marcos)

"Gentlemen Prefer Blondes" was first performed by the Monstrous Regiment at the University of Warwick Studio Theatre June 21st 1979 with the following cast:

Lorelei Lee LINDA BROUGHTON
Dorothy Dempsey GILLIAN HANNA
Lulu CHRIS BOWLER

Gus Eisman

H. Gilbertson Montrose

Lady Shelton

The Countess of Arbroath

Louis Broussard, 'Louie'

Mrs. Henry Spoffard II IAIN GLASS

Singer

Fred

Harry

Leon

Waiter JOSEFINA CUPIDO

Frank Smith

Mr. Bartlett

Sir Francis Beekman, 'Piggy'

Lady Beekman

Henry Spoffard III STEPHEN LEY

Major Falcon

Gloria Schwartz

Laura Corrigan

Robert Broussard, 'Robber'

Miss Chapman

Sigmund Freud

Amy Spoffard MARY McCUSKER

Directed by SUSAN TODD

Designed by ANDREA MONTAG

Music by JOSEFINA CUPIDO

Costumes by HILARY LEWIS