



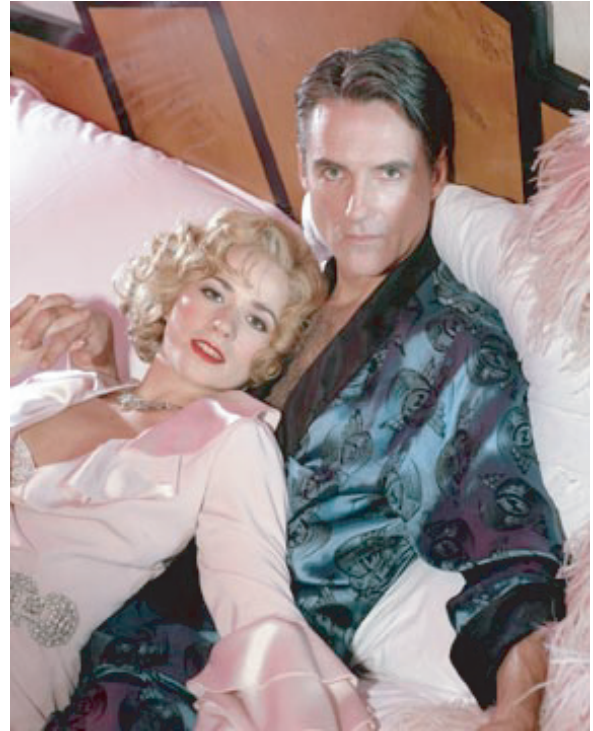
London Sounds Beautiful With Autograph and LDS

Leading theatre sound design and rental specialist Autograph Sound Recording has supplied a complete audio and communications system for the West End musical premier of *Beautiful & Damned*, based on the extraordinary life of Scott Fitzgerald, the 1920s novelist and his extravagant wife Zelda.

On designing the show, Autograph's Nick Lidster chose to use only LDS Loudspeakers; LDS800s together with LDS700s make up the main vocal and orchestral system, with additional ribbons from both cabinets discreetly installed around the theatre for fill and delay. Further LDS700s are used as foldback, providing the cast with the same sound as the audience.

As the set design covers the original orchestra pit, Lidster had the challenging task of making a remote band sound live. An acoustically treated, sub-stage room was built to accommodate the orchestra. Nick worked hard to make the instruments sound as bright and as natural as possible. For an additional aid to the musicians, a microphone and TV link was installed between the auditorium and orchestra booth to relay the audience's reactions, giving them crucial live feedback.

A Cadac F-Type mixing console and 28 channels of Sennheiser 1046 and SK5012s are in use along with on-stage float mics for the tabletop tap dancing sequence.



Helen Anker and Michael Praed as Zelda and Scott Fitzgerald

Sound effects are played back via Akai's S6000 sampler. Nick composed the effects in Autograph's new studio facility, but thanks to remote access to their new in-house online sound effects library, he was able to make changes and additions on site during rehearsals.

This brand new musical is playing to an enthusiastic London audience at the Lyric Theatre