

DUT stages Evita musical, Evita and Che Guevara

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FIRST, second and third year drama students from Durban University of Technology (DUT) are featuring in a musical that will run at the Playhouse Drama from August 24 to 31.

Evita is the name of the show that was first produced by Tim Rice and Andre Lloyd Webber in the 1970s. The show is directed by Professor Debbie Lutge, with costume design and co-ordination by Nellie Ngcongco and Debbie Webster.

Set design is by Derek O'Toole, choreography by Mdu Mtshali and music direction by Madlen Tzankova.

Traditionally a stage-musical, the film version, a musical featuring Madonna, Antonio Banderas and Jonathan Pryce, was equally riveting.

Show publicist Illa Thompson said: "The story looks at the life of Eva



LIGHTS CAMERA ACTION: The costume designer and co-ordinator of the major DUT musical, Nellie Ngcongco, considers the costume options for the classic Evita show.

Peron, known fondly as Evita, an extravagant and outspoken public figure who was a political leader in

her own right, married to Argentine President Juan Peron.

"The musical follows her life

from a restless teenager, who after a series of strategic love affairs, eventually became one of the most watched global icons by her death in 1952."

The musical also follows a historically inaccurate connection between Evita and Che Guevara – known as "Che" – who plays the role of commentator and narrator in the production.

"The musical has enjoyed lengthy seasons on London's West End and Broadway since the late '70s, and it was the first British musical to receive the Tony Award for Best Musical," said Thompson.

The musical will feature the popular songs Oh What a Circus, On This Night of a Thousand Stars, and Don't Cry for Me Argentina. Booking is through Computicket.

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