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G'LAMS is a musical project by Hanoi-Amsterdam High School Hamlet Association of Art. Under my leadership, four major clubs in our school, which are Glee Ams, Cheer Ams, Lamode and Ams Photography Club, have been working together for one year to organize our main project: the musical "Emily". The aims are to introduce musical performances to high school students in Vietnam and to affirm that students like us can carry out professional musical projects.





As the founder of G'LAMS, the president of Glee Ams and the production manager of "Emily", I had prepared for the play ever since January, 2014. I took charge of planning schedules, recruiting performers, selecting songs and props, delegating rehearsals for the performers. Moreover, I worked with my team to come up with the lighting and audio scripts. I made sure the progress went on the right track.

Based on "Corpse Bride", the well-known movie by Tim Burton, "Emily" is set in an European country in the Renaissance. The musical revolved around the love triangle between Victor – the prestigious son of a bourgeois family, Elizabeth – the lovely daughter of a noble clan and Emily – a corpse from Hell as well as the greedy and villainous schemes of Barkis, the antagonist.



From left to right: Elizabeth, Victor, Emily and Barkis



Victor met Elizabeth in a ball and they felt in love immediately. They later decided to get married after Victor got the acceptance from Elizabeth's parents





After his engagement to Elizabeth, Victor accidentally promises to love Emily, thus is thrown to Hell. There he met many funny zombies that later became his best friends and especially Emily, the corpse bride that was killed in her wedding. Emily made Victor promised to marry her, then Victor would be released to go back to reality.





Through many incidents, Victor found out his love for Emily. But after his proposal, Victor was sent back just as the deal. Back to the reality, he had to faced Barkis, who killed Emily, took all her family money and put her to Hell. Barkis were planning to do the same thing with Elizabeth and Victor. In the end, Victor is able to meet the true love of his life.







The musical was organized thoroughly by students during the period of 8 months. We took care of the procession of ideas, props and costumes for the performers, photos and video clips for the play. For the first time ever in Vietnam, a group of students organized a musical performance without the help of any professional director. The dances in the play were choreographed by Cheer Ams; the graphic materials were developed by APC; the costumes were designed by Lamode and especially, all the songs' lyrics were translated and rewritten by Glee Ams. The musical play was performed on August 21 & 23 at Lospace, one of the most luxurious stages in Hanoi.



The signature prop, "The Ball Mask", was handmade and contained of 100 paper boxes to create a 4m x 2m x 0.8m 3D model of a mask.









All the images, photos and trailers were shot in our self-made studio, which was the school's hall. We used boxes, curtains and umbrellas to block and adjust lights and to create backgrounds.



The performance was marvelous, attracting nearly 1000 audience after two showcases and 2500 followers on its facebook's fanpage. Many well-known newspapers also interviewed and posted articles about G'lams



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