

books & lyrics by
HOWARD ASHMAN
based on the film by Roger Corman

music by
ALAN MENKEN
screenplay by Charles Griffith

LITTLE
SHOP
OF
HORRORS



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WELCOME

It's not hard to see why LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS remains one of New York City's longest-running cult musicals. The infectious, toe-tapping tunes, the goofy characters and the sublimely funny bite of its story-line have been delighting audiences since 1982.

Now those masters of music theatre, director Simon Coleman and musical director Jason Te Mete – together with their supremely talented cast and creative team, bring you a refreshingly new '80s take on this old favourite.

Love and thanks to them all.

Thanks too, to you, our audience, for your support of Auckland Theatre Company throughout the year.

Our 2013 season is about to be launched and there are plenty of goodies on offer so check out a brochure or visit our website www.atc.co.nz from mid November.

Remember a subscription to ATC might be the ideal Christmas present for that hard-to-buy-for friend or relative.

On behalf of us all at ATC, very best wishes to you and your loved ones for the forthcoming festive season.

Enjoy your time on Skid Row! We look forward to seeing you at the theatre in 2013.

Regards,

Colin McColl

Artistic Director, Auckland Theatre Company



LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

CAST

Tim Carlsen — Seymour Krelborn | **Colleen Davis** — Audrey
Andrew Grainger — Orin Scrivello / Ensemble | **Paul Barrett** — Mr Mushnik
Bronwyn Turei — Ronnette | **Rosita Vai** — Chiffon
Bella Kalolo — Crystal | **Rima Te Wiata** — Audrey II (voice) / Ensemble
Kyle Chuen — Audrey II (puppeteer) / Ensemble

CREATIVE

Simon Coleman — Direction | **Jason Te Mete** — Musical Direction
Howard Ashman — Book and lyrics | **Alan Menken** — Music
Tracey Collins — Set Design | **Elizabeth Whiting** — Costume Design
Brad Gledhill — Lighting Design | **Rachel Marlow** — Lighting Design (Assistant)
Sandra Rasmussen — Choreography

PRODUCTION

Paul Towson — Production Manager | **Paul Nicoll** — Technical Manager
Fern Christie — Senior Stage Manager
Stacey Donaldson — Assistant Stage Manager | **Gabrielle Rhodes** — Stage Hand
Rochelle Houghton — Lighting Operator | **Rory Maguire** — Sound Engineer
Sophie Ham — Wardrobe Technician | **Diana Kovacs** — Props Master
2Construct — Set Construction

BAND

Jason Te Mete — Keyboard | **Robert Drage** — Bass
Tyson Smith — Guitarist | **Andrew Rooney** — Drums

AUCKLAND THEATRE COMPANY WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING FOR THEIR HELP WITH THIS PRODUCTION:

Alex Oldham, Jo Kilgour, Andre Omundsen, Bernie Brown, Gunner Ashford, Paul Ny.

LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS is the eighth Auckland Theatre Company production for 2012 and opened on November 3. LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS is approximately 2 hours 20 minutes with an interval.
Please remember to switch off all mobile phones, pagers and watch alarms.

Sir George Fistonich, Auckland, New Zealand circa 1960



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FROM THE DIRECTORS

LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS is a comedy horror rock musical that has been performed around the world for over 30 years. The success of its longevity is simple – it is an extremely well constructed piece of theatre, with an excellent script, and a fantastic collection of memorable tunes. Even the stage directions are clear, precise and work just as effectively now as they did in 1982.

In saying this, we wanted to re-imagine the design of the setting, and more importantly, Audrey II (the plant).

Firstly, we wanted to honour the sci-fi element from the original 1960 film and explore where this 'strange and interesting plant' may have come from. Aliens, spaceships and laser beams were discussed in great depths during production meetings, and there was regular reference to **MARS ATTACKS**, **THE JETSONS** and **STAR TREK**. All of this aided the development of our design, and we were confident that our ideas were heading in the right direction.

Secondly, we were intrigued by the darker and dirtier portrayal of the New York streets circa 1980 by all genres of artists – particularly street art, graffiti, pop music and television/film. This

in turn led us down a more dangerous and edgy path, and away from the traditional '60s environment. Here, the characters seemed to develop spunk and attitude, and the design of Audrey II in particular, gradually grew into a nasty piece of work.

Musically, it is the simplicity of the score that makes this show so dynamic. Clearly inspired by '60s doo-wop, the melodies are strong and the harmonies rich. Although revivals of this show (including the 1986 film) have filled out the orchestrations with horns and reeds, we feel the traditional 4-piece band is perfectly adequate, especially having the ability to add extra colour utilising the versatile voices of our fabulous cast.

Every member of this dream cast has brought such immense talent and creativity into the rehearsal space. Fostering their collective energy and willingness to explore the world of the play has been a privilege and an honour.

Thank you to Colin McColl and Auckland Theatre Company for giving us this opportunity to present such a vibrant and outrageous show.

*Simon Coleman, Jason Te Mete
and Sandra Rasmussen*

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SYNOPSIS

Seymour Krelborn is a poor young man, an orphan living in urban Skid Row who works tirelessly for Mr Mushnik in his failing flower shop. In love with his co-worker Audrey, he dreams of another life far away from the urban decay of Skid Row, but knows it will never happen. Until, that is, he happens across a strange looking plant during a total eclipse of the sun, which changes his life and those he loves forever.



“ SUDDENLY SEYMOUR
Is standin'
Beside me,
He don't
Give me
Orders,
He don't condescend ”

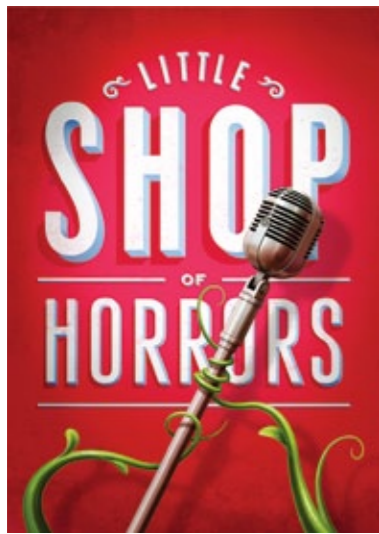
SONG LIST

Act I

- Prologue (Little Shop of Horrors)** — Chiffon, Crystal and Ronnette
- Skid Row (Downtown)** — Crystal and Company
- Da-Doo** — Seymour, Chiffon, Crystal and Ronnette
- Grow for Me** — Seymour
- Ya Never Know** — Mushnik, Chiffon, Crystal, Ronnette and Seymour
- Somewhere That's Green** — Audrey
- Closed for Renovation** — Seymour, Audrey and Mushnik
- Dentist!** — Orin, Chiffon, Crystal and Ronnette
- Mushnik and Son** — Mushnik and Seymour
- Sudden Changes** — Seymour
- Feed Me (Git It)** — Audrey II, Seymour, Chiffon, Crystal and Ronnette
- Now (It's Just the Gas)** — Orin and Seymour
- Coda** — Chiffon, Crystal, Ronnette and Audrey II

Act II

- Call Back in the Morning** — Seymour and Audrey
- Suddenly, Seymour** — Seymour, Audrey and Company
- Suppertime** — Audrey II, Chiffon, Crystal and Ronnette
- The Meek Shall Inherit** — Company
- Sominex/Suppertime (reprise)** — Audrey and Audrey II
- Somewhere That's Green (reprise)** — Audrey and Company
- Finale Ultimo (Don't Feed the Plants)** — Company



History of LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

by James Wenley

"On the twenty-first day of the month of September, in an early year of a decade not too long before our own, the human race suddenly encountered a deadly threat to its very existence. And this terrifying enemy surfaced – as such enemies often do – in the seemingly most innocent and unlikely of places..."

This enemy – a giant, carnivorous, talking alien plant – first surfaced in the black and white 1960 B-Movie THE LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS, a horror-comedy directed by B-Movie King Roger Corman. It was legendary for being shot in only two days and one night, reusing set from his previous film A BUCKET OF BLOOD. Seymour's new unusual plant 'Audrey Junior' convinces him to kill people to feed it, leading to his own downfall though Mushnik and Audrey survive. Film characters not in the stage musical include Seymour's hypochondriac mother, two investigating policeman, and a masochistic dental patient (Jack Nicholson in an early film appearance).

The film doesn't instantly lend itself to a musical imagining, for that it took the talents of composer Alan Menken and writer/lyricist Howard Ashman.

Ashman first saw LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS on TV as a child in his hometown of Baltimore, USA.

"It was way past my bedtime on a school night and the beat-up black and white TV was working overtime in my teenaged den of iniquity, the pine-panelled clubroom of our split-level home in Baltimore. The plant monster, Audrey Junior, made a deep and lasting impression. 'Feed me, Krelborn, feed me now!' The words were never to leave my adolescent consciousness. Here, at last, was a monster I could quote! I mean, can you remember any of Godzilla's snappy one-liners?" – Ashman

The film would have a formative experience on Ashman, who had never seen a satire before. "It was fun to see something that didn't take its genre seriously". Ashman wrote a number of musicals between the ages of 12-16, including musical versions of To Kill a Mockingbird and the life of Charlie Chaplin. One of them was THE CANDY SHOP, about a man who falls in love with an "evil talking plant".

Alan Menken doesn't recall the first time Ashman broached him about making a musical out of the film. He remembers his reaction –

"fear" and "concern". But he was quickly inspired by his vision. The writer and composer team set to work on acquiring the rights and bringing the idea to life.

"A musical about a man-eating plant?" said Ashman's agent, "Producers are going to laugh me right out of their offices." Luckily, they wouldn't need a producer, not yet anyway. Ashman had a tiny 98 seat theatre Off-Off Broadway called the WPA (some said the initials stood for 'We'll Produce Anything'), ideal for alternative fringe productions.

The show was rehearsed in four weeks, "on love and creativity and no money" according to actress Ellen Greene who played Audrey. It opened in 1982 to critical acclaim and full houses; it was moved to the Orpheum Theatre and became the highest grossing Off-Broadway show of all time. Despite its success, it never transferred to Broadway during its original run; Ashman felt the show would lose its effect in a big Broadway theatre. According to Menken, "What burst at the seams in tiny, funky theatre like the Orpheum would get lost in a larger theatre at a higher ticket price; our tiny band and tacky look might just seem a little tacky, not smart and fun". The show finally reached Broadway proper in 2003, with an \$8 million revival that expanded the orchestrations and featured a plant that extended over the audience.

The musical as opposed to the film concentrated on a core cast of characters, expanding their characterisations through song. They found their own sound by introducing the girl group 'doo wop' sound of the '50s and '60s – each of the characters – Crystal, Ronnette and Chiffon are named after a girl group of that era. One of the biggest draw cards of the production was the Audrey II plant, created and operated by puppeteer Martin P. Robinson (famous as Snuffleupagus on SESAME STREET) which dominated the stage and snapped at the audience when fully grown.

"...From the time that Howard and I started working on Little Shop I felt it was the most compelling idea for a show because of the outrageousness of the story, because of the fun of the Roger Corman B-Movie aspect, and because of the heart of the story – this nerdy guy in the florist shop and this trampy girl, and this man eating plant..." - Alan Menken

Little Shop was adapted into a musical film directed by Frank Oz and released in 1986. It starred Rick Moranis, Ellen Greene (who had originated the role of Audrey Off-Off Broadway), Steve Martin and Bill Murray. It featured a new song from Menken and Ashman – 'Mean Green Mother from Outerspace' – and was largely faithful to the stage version. The film's original ending had Audrey II destroying the city after eating Seymour and Audrey. During test screenings

the audiences loved the film's humour, but the reaction to the ending was overwhelmingly negative. Reluctantly, the filmmakers reshot a happy ending where Audrey and Seymour didn't die, though an Audrey II plant is shown growing in the garden of their new white picket fenced house.

An unusual adaption of the story followed in 1991: Little Shop, an animated cartoon inspired by the film that cast Seymour and Audrey as kids and Audrey II (Junior) as a friendly, rapping plant.

THE CAST



Tim Carlsen *(Seymour Krelborn)*

Tim Carlsen is a graduate of Toi Whakaari: NZ Drama School (2009). He has performed lead roles in: I LOVE YOU BRO, TARTUFFE (The Silo), END OF THE GOLDEN WEATHER (Auckland Theatre Company) and EVERYTHING IS OK (STAB).

Tim recently toured his solo show, ONE DAY MOKO, to Wellington's BATS Theatre, which received critical acclaim. In 2009, Tim completed an internship with renowned theatre company THE WOOSTER GROUP, in New York City, that fostered his interest and development in making theatre. In 2011, Tim won 'Best Newcomer' at the Hackman Theatre Awards.



Colleen Davis *(Audrey)*

Colleen last appeared for Auckland Theatre Company as Fraulein Kost in Michael Hurst's CABARET. In 2010, she produced and performed the rare Sam Shepard musical, THE SAD LAMENT OF PECOS BILL ON THE EVE OF KILLING HIS WIFE, as Slue-Foot Sue at the Basement Theatre Studio, touring the show to the Nelson and Tauranga Arts Festivals in 2011.

Davis appears regularly with Eve Gordon's cirque burlesque outfit Dust Palace, most recently singing from Nina Simone's songbook as Venus at the opening of Q Theatre's Loft Space and at Taupo's Erupt Festival.

Her TV appearances include guest roles on SHORTLAND STREET and SPARTACUS.

She also sings with antique blues outfit Storehouse, in New Zealand and Europe and will be releasing her debut album as Coco Davis on Fireplace Records in early 2013.

Paul Barrett *(Mr Mushnik)*

Paul is an actor, musical director, vocal coach and voice artist. He obtained a Bachelor of Music (Hons) from Victoria University and made his professional debut as an actor in 1980 at Circa Theatre, Wellington.

Paul's productions for Auckland Theatre Company include: CABARET, SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER, FORESKIN'S LAMENT, ART, MUM'S CHOIR, SPREADING OUT, END OF THE RAINBOW and WAITING FOR GODOT. Highlights from other theatres include: THE GOAT, TAKE ME OUT and UNDER MILKWOOD (Silo Theatre), LONG DAY'S JOURNEY INTO NIGHT, THE MERCHANT OF VENICE and SHADOWLANDS (Court Theatre, Christchurch), CHINCHILLA and AS YOU LIKE IT (Fortune Theatre, Dunedin), HAMLET and THE THREEPENNY OPERA (The Large Group). He co-starred with George Henare in the hit Court Theatre production of the musical LA CAGE AUX FOLLES.

As a musical director, Paul has worked on JACQUES BREL IS ALIVE AND WELL AND LIVING IN PARIS and BERLIN, CABARET OF DESIRE (Silo Theatre), GYPSY, SHE LOVES ME and BIG RIVER (Court Theatre), as well as touring productions of SWEENEY TODD and CHICAGO.

Paul has directed GIANNI SCHICCHI, RITA and AMELIA GOES TO THE BALL for Auckland's Opera Factory and sang in Canterbury Opera's production of THE MERRY WIDOW. He has narrated the Auckland Philharmonia's ROME -- THE ETERNAL CITY and THE SOLDIER'S TALE and also Christchurch City Choir's AROUND THE CURVE OF THE WORLD.

He has narrated dozens of talking books for The Blind Foundation and was voted Narrator Of The Year in 2004.

This year Paul has been musical director for the world premieres of two shows, YOU CAN ALWAYS HAND THEM BACK and DAY AFTER NIGHT, and has continued to tour his acclaimed solo show TIC TIC, about his life and work.





Andrew Grainger (Orin Scrivello/Ensemble)

Andrew's career as an actor began in the 1980's and was born out of a love of musicals. The much celebrated shows SOUTH PACIFIC, SEVEN BRIDES FOR SEVEN BROTHERS and LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS, all performed on London's West End, were amongst his first professional productions. For Auckland Theatre Company, he appeared in THE TWITS, CALENDAR GIRLS, MARY STUART, POOR BOY, AUGUST: OSAGE COUNTY, OLIVER! and LE SUD.

Originally from Britain, Andrew immigrated to New Zealand and has rapidly built up an impressive collection of credits, having appeared in local television programmes SHORTLAND STREET, OUTRAGEOUS FORTUNE, THE MILLION DOLLAR CON MAN, LIFE'S A RIOT and THE CULT. Highlights from the UK include roles in THE BILL, ROSEMARY AND THYME, HEARTBEAT, BAD GIRLS and EASTENDERS; appearing with footballer Vinnie Jones in the feature film MEAN MACHINE and working alongside Robert Redford in SPY GAME.

Andrew featured in Silo Theatre's 2009 production RUBEN GUTHRIE and had a cameo role in THE LOVELY BONES, directed by Peter Jackson.



Rosita Vai (Chiffon)

Pacific Diva Rosita Vai rose to prominence as the winner of NZ IDOL, 2005. Her debut album Golden was a top 20 success, with her single *All I Ask* winning a Tui award for Best Selling Single in 2006.

Rosita has enjoyed singing alongside the very talented Dame Malvina Major, Ben Makisi, Sir Howard Morrison, Bella Kalolo, Che Fu and Scribe.

She was the voice of the 2007 South Pacific Games, performed for Style Pasifika (2008), and graced the stage with the Auckland Philharmonic Orchestra singing power house ballads. In 2009, she mesmerised audiences with her band at the Botanical Gardens in Wellington, as part of the ASB Magic Concert series.

Recently, Rosita was part of the Samoan Jazz Divas, and made her acting debut as an ugly stepsister in the Auckland Theatre Company and PIPA collaboration, SINARELLA.

Bronwyn Turei (Ronnette)

Bronwyn hails from sunny Gisborne and from a young age knew she wanted to tell stories, good stories, either through music or a long-winded yarn over a hot cuppa. With a love of the arts and the help of a passionate high school drama teacher she got to perform Shakespeare at the Globe Theatre in London, study at Unitec School of Performing & Screen Arts majoring in Acting, and take an adaptation of a Maori Myth to the Victoria Arts Centre in Melbourne and to the Sydney Opera House.

Since then she has toured Auckland primary schools performing in educational musicals and starred in the premiere of RAISING THE TITANICS produced by Smack Bang Theatre Company, directed by Raymond Hawthorne.

Bronwyn is also a well loved television actress, having played the core cast role, Cody Latimer, in the hit NZ show GO GIRLS for four seasons.

She has recently released an EP with her band 'Katie Scott & the Miss T's' who have filmed their first music video with NZ On Air funding. She loves working with youth and is excited for this next great adventure!



Bella Kalolo (Crystal)

Recently awarded Best Female Artist at the Pacific Music awards, Bella Kalolo is rare gem in the New Zealand music scene. Her independent debut album - Without The Paper was released in September 2011.

Bella has performed in London, Brighton, New York, Boston, Rarotonga and at one of the worlds largest outdoor festivals - Glastonbury.

Her television credits include: resident vocalist for DANCING WITH THE STARS, TV2's JANDALS AWAY, a voice coach on HUSTLE IT FRESH - FRESH TV, and judging two seasons of FIND A STAR on GOOD MORNING.

Musical theatre credits include: HAIR and THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW for Auckland Theatre Company and Disney's THE LION KING in Sydney. This season will be the fourth time Bella has played Crystal in LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS. The first and second seasons were in Dunedin and Auckland respectively, with direction from Mark Hadlow. Then a season at Downstage Theatre, directed by Murray Lynch, where she met her Husband (Alistair Isdale) who was playing in the band.

Bella's film credits include: SIONE'S WEDDING (2006), MATARIKI (2009) and THE ORATOR (O LE TULAFALFA, 2011).





Rima Te Wiata
(Audrey II (Voice)/Ensemble)

Rima began her career as an intern at Auckland's Mercury Theatre, led by Jonathan Hardy in 1980. She then attended Toi Whakaari, graduating in 1983.

A 30 year career has seen her appear in hundreds of plays throughout NZ as well as long-running roles for Australian television, totaling five years. She has also appeared in long-term NZ television roles, and a variety of NZ short films and features.

Rima has worked with the NZSO many times, most recently with Gareth Farr and Kristian Lavercombe in a devised piece linking together a selection of Shakespeare's sonnets.

Rima's other interests include visual arts, politics and psychology.

Kyle Chuen
(Audrey II (Puppeteer)/Ensemble)

Originally from Foxton, Kyle graduated from NASDA with a BPA in Musical Theatre. He made his professional theatre debut for a Different Light Theatre Company's production of POND LIFE ANGELS, performed in Court 2, in Christchurch. For Court Theatre Kyle has featured in GUYS AND DOLLS, THE COUNTRY WIFE, THE PRODUCERS, THE HISTORY BOYS, LA CAGE AUX FOLLES, ANYTHING GOES, CABARET and most recently, as Claudio in MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING.

Other highlights include AVENUE Q (Fortune Theatre), ASSASSINS (Silo), SWEENEY TODD (Peach Theatre Company), 1931 (Blue Baths), the role of Thuy in MISS SAIGON (Abbey Musical Theatre & Dunedin Operatic), LA TRAVIATA (Southern Opera), and FREE UPS! (L.N.A.W. productions).

This is Kyle's debut for Auckland Theatre Company, and he would one day like to host his own fishing show.



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BEHIND THE SCENES...



CREATIVE TEAM



Simon Coleman – *Direction*

Simon Coleman has directed countless musical productions for theatre companies throughout New Zealand. Recent awards include: FITZ BUNNY: LUST FOR GLORY, which was voted by the New Zealand Herald as one of the top five Auckland productions of 2010, and in 2011 his production of CHICAGO for ACG Senior College won the Outstanding Musical Award at the AMI Showdown Awards, making it the third year in a row a production Simon directed was honoured with this accolade.

Directing projects in 2012 have included Monty Python's SPAMALOT for Blenheim Musical Theatre, CHECKOUT CHICKS – THE MUSICAL for Auckland Theatre Company's Next Big Thing festival, HAIRSPRAY for Wellington Musical Theatre, and RUSH for Alexandra Musical Theatre.

After LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS, Simon finishes 2012 directing MEGA CHRISTMAS for The Basement and starts work on K'ROAD STRIP, a new work with Taane Mete and Tairoa Royal of Okareka Dance Company.



Howard Ashman – *Books & Lyrics*

Howard Ashman was an American playwright and lyricist. Ashman studied at Boston University, Goddard College and Indiana University. His plays include CAUSE MAGGIE'S AFRAID OF THE DARK, DREAMSTUFF and CONFIRMATION. He collaborated with Alan Menken on several films, notably animated features for Disney, Ashman writing the lyrics and Menken composing the music. Ashton died in New York in 1991.

Jason Te Mete

– *Musical Director, Ngati Ranginui*

Originally from Tauranga, Jason comes from a musical family where he was encouraged to learn classical piano from an early age. He enhanced his musicianship through studying at Victoria University of Wellington before moving to Auckland in 2002 where now works as a freelance actor/singer, director, vocal coach, musical director and pianist.

He has performed in STEPPING OUT (Auckland Theatre Company), ANYTHING GOES and LA CAGE AUX FOLLES (The Court Theatre), Raymond Hawthorne's acclaimed production of THE CONSUL (Opera Factory), KING & COUNTRY (Howick Little Theatre), RENT, RAGTIME, THE SECRET GARDEN and LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS. On film, Jason played the Waka Ama Coach in KAITANGATA TWITCH, a NZ television series based on the novel by Margaret Mahy.

Jason has directed NZ playwright Carl Nixon's THE RAFT for Howick Little Theatre, CHICAGO, GODSPELL, SEUSSICAL THE MUSICAL, GREASE, and LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS. He has musically directed BLOOD BROTHERS (with Annie Whittle & Ray Woolf), WEST SIDE STORY, CABARET, HAIR, BYE BYE BIRDIE, HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL, THE WIZ, and of course, LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS.

It is Jason's dream to one day perform LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS, The One Man Musical. Watch this space.



Alan Menken – *Music*

Alan Menken is an American musical theatre and film composer and pianist.

Menken is best known for his scores for films produced by Walt Disney Animation Studios. His scores for THE LITTLE MERMAID, BEAUTY AND THE BEAST, ALADDIN and POCAHONTAS have each won him two Academy Awards. He also composed the scores for THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME, HERCULES, PIPPI LONGSTOCKING, HOME ON THE RANGE, THE SHAGGY DOG, ENCHANTED, and most recently, TANGLED.

Menken has collaborated on several occasions with lyricists including Howard Ashman, Tim Rice, Glenn Slater, Judy Rothman, and Stephen Schwartz. With eight Academy Award wins (four each for Best Original Score and Best Original Song), Menken is the second most Oscarised winner in a music category after Alfred Newman, who has nine Oscars.





Elizabeth Whiting

– Costume Design

Elizabeth has designed costumes for The NBR New Zealand Opera, Auckland Theatre Company, The Silo, Court Theatre, Red Leap and Okareka, Black Grace, Douglas Wright Dance, Michael Parmenter, Atimira and Shona McCullagh, and the Royal New Zealand Ballet. She designed a play for Pop-Up Theatre in London, which was performed at the Edinburgh Festival.

Opera design credits include FAUST, CARMEN, LA BOHÈME (twice), FALSTAFF, BARBER OF SEVILLE THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO (twice), COSÌ FAN TUTTE (NZO) and she designed CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA and PAGLIACCI for the Opera 2011 winter season.

Theatre design credits include IN THE NEXT ROOM (OR THE VIBRATOR PLAY), MARY STUART, WELL HUNG, EQUUS, CABARET, INTO THE WOODS, SWEET CHARITY, HAIR, THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW, THE DUCHESS OF MALFI, PILLOW MAN, MY NAME IS GARY COOPER, and THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST (ATC); THE COUNTRY WIFE, LA CAGE AUX FOLLES, THE GREAT GATSBY, and CABARET (Court Theatre); THREE DAYS OF RAIN, IRMA VEP, THE SCENE, HOLDING THE MAN, WHEN THE RAIN STOPS FALLING, ASSASSINS, and TARTUFFE (The Silo)

Elizabeth designed the World of Wearable Art core show for Wellington 2011 and 2012.

In 2010 she won the Chapman Tripp Costume Design Award for THE ARRIVAL (Red Leap). She represented New Zealand at the Prague Design Quadrennial in 2003 with her costumes for FALSTAFF, and again in 2007 with a team of designers who created the exhibition Blow.



Tracey Collins – Set design

Tracey designs for theatre, live event, film and TV, designing over 200 productions for theatre. Some favourite productions include: for Inside Out Productions; THE HOLY SINNER, THIS IS IT, SPECTACLE OF ONE, Louis Vuitton Cup Party Events. For the NZ Actors Company; MIDSUMMER NIGHTS DREAM, A WAY OF LIFE, and LEAH. VIVA VERDI for NBR NZ Opera, ASSASSINS THE MUSICAL, INTO THE WOODS, THE HUNGRY CITY, PINOCCHIO for the Watershed Company. For Massive Company, ALICE IN CYBERSPACE, STILL SPEEDING, and SONS OF CHARLIE PAORA, and ALICE IN WONDERLAND for the Aotea Centre. For Auckland Theatre Company she has designed HORSEPLAY and THE TWITS.

Design for film and TV include: costume design for MADDIGAN'S QUEST, production design for PIECE OF MY HEART, DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY, BLISS - THE BEGINNINGS OF KATHERINE MANSFIELD, THIS IS NOT MY LIFE, BILLY, WAITANGI - WHAT REALLY HAPPENED, MEDICINE WOMAN, and SIONE'S 2: UNFINISHED BUSINESS. Tracey created set decorations for The Narnia Chronicles features THE LION, THE WITCH, AND THE WARDROBE, and PRINCE CASPIAN, working in Prague and Usti in the Czech Republic and Slovenia, for six months for PRINCE CASPIAN. Tracey received NZ Screen Awards for her designs for MADDIGAN'S QUEST 2007, PIECE OF MY HEART 2009, and THIS IS NOT MY LIFE 2011.

Tracey has been a co-curator and designer for NZ Exhibits at the Prague Quadrennial of Scenography. In 2003 PART the exhibit received a Special Honorary Award. In 2007 the BLOW installation featured the work of 13 prominent NZ performance designers, and also received the award for audience popularity. The 2011 FLY TOWER installation expanded to feature live performance within the design installation.

Elizabeth's Design Notes:

"LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS is truly a collaboration of very strong creative minds. Tracey Collins has produced a set, which is extremely graphic in style. In order for the actors to work within this world, I felt they needed a strong silhouette and colour to highlight them in their environment.

The director, Simon Coleman, was interested in the performers being slightly cartoon-like in their approach to the acting style. He has used Batman and early Sci-Fi comics as one of his inspirational tools. This gave me permission to stylise the clothing for each of the characters.

On the rehearsal floor the actors play with a variety of different ideas for each of their characters. I work with them to make sure the costume matches the direction the character has taken on the floor, making sure the overall design remains cohesive. In Andy Grainger's case he has many different characters to play, with sometimes as little as 60 seconds between each change. We work together to make the changes as simple and effective as possible while keeping these characters as distinct as possible.

Brad Gledhill, the lighting designer, is also interested in the extreme colour washes you find in comic illustrations. He and I have worked together to create vignettes, which have the same quality of costume and colour as the comics we have been studying.

It has been exciting to work with this amazing team of performers and creatives alongside the technical expertise of the ATC team."

Sandra Rasmussen – Choreographer

Born in Christchurch Sandra trained in ballet, tap and jazz - she precociously directed and choreographed her first musical at age eight in the school playground. Always a passionate devotee of the joyous mash-up that is musical theatre, she has gone on to direct and choreograph many of the sell-out summer musicals for Christchurch's Court Theatre, including THE PRODUCERS, LA CAGE AUX FOLLES, I LOVE YOU YOU'RE PERFECT NOW CHANGE, GUYS AND DOLLS, ANYTHING GOES and CABARET.

Sandra began her theatre training as an intern at the Court under the artistic directorship of Elric Hooper, subsequently performing in over 100 plays throughout New Zealand, choreographing countless others and directing many more. Sandra last appeared for ATC as Mabel in STEPPING OUT and was also the show's choreographer.

Sandra is one of New Zealand's leading dance educators training young people in jazz, tap and musical theatre. Her students have had much success internationally and on the local competition scene.





Brad Gledhill – *Lighting design*

Brad designs and creates lighting and video imagery for theatre and events with the likes of Rugby World Cup, Auckland Theatre Company, Nightsong Productions and Theatre Stampede, Silo Theatre, TAPAC, Tempo and Spotlight Systems.

Auckland Theatre Company production designs include: THE MOTOR CAMP, RED, WELL HUNG, STEPPING OUT, THE WIFE WHO SPOKE JAPANESE IN HER SLEEP, THE THIRTY-NINE STEPS, YOUNG & HUNGRY FESTIVAL 09, WHO NEEDS SLEEP ANYWAY?, THE FEMALE OF THE SPECIES, DESIGN FOR LIVING, MY NAME IS GARY COOPER, THE TUTOR, THE SHAPE OF THINGS, THE TALENTED MR RIPLEY, PLAY 2 and PLAY 2.03.

Other designs include 360 for the Wellington International Arts Festival, THE LOVER, SEXY RECESSION CABERET (TAPAC), PRIME CUTS 09 (Tempo), THE CUT (Silo), HEAD (AK07 + Wellington Season), ALADDIN (AK03), MEASURE FOR MEASURE (Unitec), MINIATURES (Malia Johnston), LASHINGS OF WHIPPED CREAM, KNOCK KNOCK TURN (Chris Jannides) and CORAM BOY (Unitec).

His works for the theatre/dance genre include creating work for UNITEC with Shona McCullough, Michael Parmenter, Michael Hurst, Leo Gene Peters, Cathy Downes, Malia Johnston, Simon Ellis, Daniel Belton, Raewyn Hill, Katie Burton and Chris Jannides.



Tyson Smith – *Band (Guitarist)*

Tyson Smith is a guitarist/singer/songwriter originally hailing from Manuka Bay in North Canterbury though his last decade of musical meanderings has taken him from Christchurch to the Caribbean, Central America, New York, Europe and most recently Wellington where he's currently based.

Initially starting out on homemade polystyrene guitars and miming along with Money For Nothing for unsuspecting family friends he began learning on the real thing at age nine. It wasn't long before he was regularly making the journey to Christchurch for lessons and later relocated there for his final high school years and to attend the CPIT Jazz School. For some of this time he lived with a Peruvian family, learning Spanish and intensifying his interest in ethnic music.

In 2003, after performing around Christchurch in various ensembles ranging from pseudo-flamenco duos to funks bands, Tyson decided it would be a good idea to invest in a cheap tuxedo and fly to New Orleans. Over the next three years he could be found performing in show bands afloat the Caribbean or Mediterranean, or soaking up influences in Central America, Cuba or the States. During a few months in New York he took lessons from some of the city's top jazz musicians and funded nightly pilgrimages through the snowy streets to various music venues by busking in the subway.

Since relocating to Wellington in 2006 he has been busy working on his own original music as well performing with a range of other acts. He has been guitarist with singer Hollie Smith for the last few years, banjoist in Mundi - a world music group lead by his sister Tamara and also played for various productions including CATS and STARLIGHT EXPRESS. He is currently working on material for a forthcoming album.

Andrew Rooney – *Band (Drums)*

Andrew began playing drums at high school, having fun with friends in original rock, funk and rap bands playing at house parties, school concerts and competitions. He always had an interest in many different types of music such as, jazz and Latin and had some fantastic teachers over the years help him out in those areas.

After school he started doing a lot of jazz and top 40 covers gigs around NZ, with many different line-ups. He graduated from the University of Auckland jazz programme in 2009, with a BMus in Jazz Performance.

Andrew has been lucky enough to play the drums for many shows including FOOTLOOSE, SONGS FOR A NEW WORLD, WEST SIDE STORY, CHESS and THOROUGHLY MODERN MILLIE, to name a few!

He teaches drums by day and plays at night, and says it's the best job in the world.

Andrew is thrilled to be a part of such an immensely fun show full of witty dialogue, hilarious characters, and KILLER songs!



Robert Drage – *Band (Bass)*

Robert Drage is currently studying for his BMus at the University of Auckland, majoring in cello performance. This year he has won prizes in the Auckland Chamber Music Society Competition with his group ETACETI, and for his performance in the Douglas Lilburn Composition Prize.

He has musical theatre experience on both bass and cello. Past productions include: JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT, A CHRISTMAS CAROL, THE WIZARD OF OZ, INTO THE WOODS, SPAMALOT, URINETOWN, BAT BOY, SPELLING BEE, and BLOOD BROTHERS. This is his third production of his favourite show, LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS.





Creative New Zealand Pledges Support For Auckland Waterfront Theatre

Creative New Zealand is joining other investors to realise a new centre for the performing arts in central Auckland by agreeing to invest \$3 million over two years in The Waterfront Theatre Project.

An exceptional opportunity

“It is very unusual for Creative New Zealand to invest in a capital project but we see this as an exceptional opportunity to help fill a large gap in Auckland’s arts infrastructure,” says Arts Council Chair Alastair Carruthers.

“It would be considerably more expensive to create a similar integrated venue without the sizeable support being provided by ASB Bank Ltd, Auckland Council, ASB Community Trust and other partners. Hopefully our commitment will encourage others to step forward too.”

A demonstrated need

A mid-sized venue for performing arts companies has been identified by Auckland Council as the single highest priority for the performing arts in Auckland. The Waterfront Theatre Project includes a 600-seat theatre, designed specifically for drama and dance, access to a 200-seat auditorium within the ASB head office development, a shared courtyard and other facilities.

“There has been significant growth in the number and quality of theatre and dance organisations in Auckland but many companies, particularly in dance, are hampered by lack of mid-sized venues in which to perform,” Mr Carruthers said.

The project would allow Auckland Theatre Company to reach larger audiences and have more control over programming. It would also allow a wider range of local and touring performing arts events to be seen by Auckland audiences than is currently possible.

Gordon Moller, Chair of Auckland Theatre Company says, “Creative New Zealand’s support is a tremendous boost to our fundraising campaign for this nationally significant project.”

“We have secured over 70% of the funds needed for the new theatre in less than two years, which shows just how excited people are about the idea of a theatre on Auckland’s waterfront, recognising the important role that arts and culture can play in the waterfront development.”

Creative New Zealand is funded by the Government through the Ministry for Culture and Heritage and by the New Zealand Lottery Grants Board.

Auckland: Becoming A Leader In Performing Arts

Auckland is New Zealand’s largest and most vibrant city. We are growing, diversifying and maturing in every way, including our performing arts sector. We have many great venues, each suited to its specified purpose. What we don’t currently have is a 600-seat theatre purpose-built for spoken word and dance. This is the optimum size for professional companies and was identified as the number one priority for the sector in the Horwarth report commissioned by Auckland Council in 2011. So, let’s build one!

Not only will this be a huge benefit for Auckland Theatre Company, allowing us to develop and build on our reputation for creating great quality productions, it will also attract other leading New Zealand and international companies. We want Auckland audiences to be able to experience the very best of all the performing arts and are delighted to be the driving force behind this exciting project.

Over the past 20 months, we have secured support totaling \$25 million of the \$35.1 million fundraising target. This includes a \$10 million commitment from Auckland Council which is included in the Long-Term Plan budget, a \$5 million commitment from ASB Community Trust, a \$3 million pledge from Creative New Zealand, \$1 million from The Lion Foundation towards the design work and over \$2.2 million from private giving. We are incredibly grateful to everyone who has joined us so far to help make this project a reality.

As part of our remaining fundraising, we have a target to raise a further \$1.5 million from private individuals. We are asking you, the theatre-loving community of Auckland, to help us achieve this.

Join the new theatre’s Founders Club

The Founders Club is a group of highly committed people who are passionate about securing this new theatre for Auckland. In recognition of their investment in this visionary project, they are afforded a number of benefits, including:

- Name recognition in the new theatre in perpetuity
- Invitations to the Gala Opening Night and Champagne Reception
- Invitations to special events
- Premier subscriber benefits developed for the new theatre

Joining the Founders Club offers you a unique opportunity to be involved with creating this world-class performing arts venue as a legacy for Auckland. The levels of investment for this exclusive membership are as follows:

| FOUNDERS CLUB | |
|-----------------|------------|
| RECOGNITION | INVESTMENT |
| Platinum Member | \$50,000 + |
| Gold Member | \$25,000 + |
| Silver Member | \$10,000 + |
| Bronze Member | \$5,000 + |

We would be delighted to welcome you into this select group of supporters playing a vital role in ensuring the success of this project. If you are interested, please contact Linden Tierney on 09 309 0390 ext. 272, linden@atc.co.nz.

The Waterfront Theatre Trust is a registered charity and donations are eligible for a tax rebate. Donations can be paid in installments over a period of time to assist financial management or to maximise tax effectiveness.

For more information on the project, or to make a one-off donation, please visit www.waterfronttheatre.co.nz

SUPPORTERS OF THE NEW THEATRE PROJECT



FOUNDING BENEFACTORS, PATRONS AND DONORS



What a difference a year makes...



WHAT'S ON IN THEATRES AROUND THE COUNTRY?



AUCKLAND THEATRE COMPANY

AUCKLAND THEATRE COMPANY

Maidment Theatre

KINGS OF THE GYM

By Dave Armstrong

07 February – 02 March

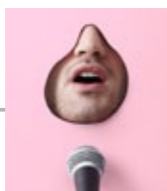
From the writer who brought you LE SUD, THE TUTOR, THE MOTOR CAMP, NUI SILA, and SEVEN PERIODS WITH MR GORMSBY comes the outrageously funny new comedy, KINGS OF THE GYM.

It's the new school term and Hautapu High is set to rocket up Metro's Best Schools ranking. The only thing standing in the way is a rearguard action led by the old-school, politically-incorrect but hugely popular head of the PE department, Laurie O'Connor.

Laurie's on a collision course with the new ambitious principal, Viv. She can't stand his work methods or his opinions on education; heaven forbid, he still believes kids should learn that sport is about winning!

SILO

Auckland



BREL

Concert Chamber,
Auckland Town Hall, Auckland

01 – 24 November

Jacques Brel wrote music rich with a mid-20th century European sensibility that still manages to be timeless. He wrote over 300 songs in his lifetime; dark, sardonic, passionate, witty, and revolutionary – his musical narrative forms a life-affirming take on the human condition.

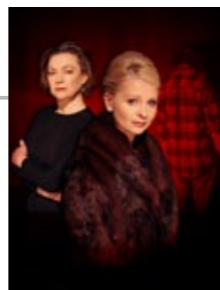
ASTON PRODUCTIONS

Auckland - The Basement

WHERE ARE YOU MY ONLY ONE

By Vanessa Rhodes

27 November – 8 December



An unconventional love story that tells of how Bob, a lonely Waikato dairy farmer, and Yulia, a solo mother from Moscow who lives with her mother Ludmila, meet on the internet and develop a relationship across the cultural and physical divide. Despite the odds, love grows.

Starring Elena Stejko, Elizabeth Hawthorne and David Aston.
Designed by John Verryt. Directed by Cameron Rhodes

CENTREPOINT THEATRE

Palmerston North

THE MOTOR CAMP

By Dave Armstrong. Based on a story by Danny Mulheron

03 November – 15 December

Two families arrive at a motor camp and have to park their caravans next to each other. The Windmill campground seems to be run along strict, almost military lines by an unseen Dutch tyrant. As both families try to enjoy their holiday and keep their hormonal teenagers apart, an hilarious series of events unfolds...

THE MOTOR CAMP is a glorious celebration of our annual Kiwi rituals!



CIRCA THEATRE

Wellington

TIGERS OF WRATH

By Dean Parker

03 November – 01 December



THE TIGERS OF WRATH is an intriguing play about the strange twists of life, about hopes and dreams, about a developing and then disintegrating relationship. About how one comes to terms with life. In the background run two astonishing political trajectories: The People's Republic of China and The New Zealand Labour Party.

DOWNSTAGE THEATRE

Wellington

PAPER SKY

By Red Leap Theatre

02 – 17 November



Henry is a writer and a recluse. When his heroine Lumina bursts from her papery world into his, fantasy blurs with reality and both their lives are changed forever. Lumina is on a quest to protect her light from a dark and threatening force. Is this Henry's chance to find the courage he needs to re-connect with the outside world?

COURT THEATRE

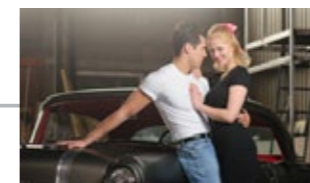
Christchurch

GREASE

Book, music and lyrics by Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey

01 December 2012 – 26 January 2013

Join Rydell High School's class of 1959 on a joyride of cars, drive-ins and love. Filled with unforgettable songs, GREASE is one of the longest-running musicals of all time.



FORTUNE THEATRE

Dunedin

CALENDAR GIRLS

By Tim Firth

10 November – 08 December

A group of extraordinary women, members of a very ordinary Yorkshire Women's Institute, have plans to raise funds for charity: a calendar. They go "all out" in their fundraising efforts and expose more than they'd ever planned.



To find out what else is going on in Auckland be sure to read the latest copy of



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The Auckland Arts Festival is Auckland's premier festival of New Zealand and international arts. Presented biennially, the globally-recognised event celebrates people and culture, and showcases the unrivalled location and landscape, cultural diversity and vibrant energy of New Zealand's largest city.

www.aucklandfestival.co.nz

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AUCKLAND THEATRE COMPANY

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YOUTH ARTS CO-ORDINATOR – **Whetu Silver**
PARTICIPATION CO-ORDINATOR – **Amo Ieriko**

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TECHNICAL MANAGER – **Paul Nicoll**

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DEVELOPMENT CO-ORDINATOR – **Sarah Nutbrown**

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RECEPTIONIST – **Sue East**

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THEATRE
COMPANY**

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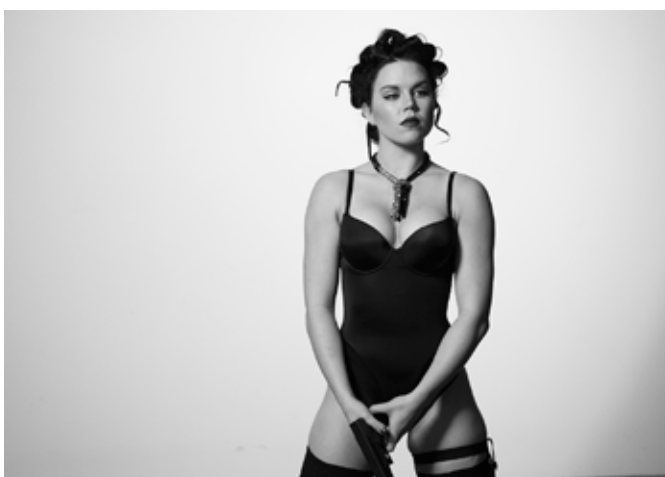
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For more information about how you can support Auckland Theatre Company visit www.atc.co.nz/Partnerships or call Linden Tierney 09 309 0390 ext. 272



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2013 SEASON**

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