

## Auckland Music Theatre Newsletter

### 42nd Street

July 2010



Photographs from previous production courtesy of UK Productions Ltd

Broadway's song and dance extravaganza, **42nd Street**, promises toe-tapping excitement as it struts into The Civic, THE EDGE on Saturday 2 October for a strictly limited season.

This spectacular stage classic features dazzling set, costumes and choreography direct from the latest Tony Award winning Broadway revival. With a full live orchestra and an all-singing, all-dancing New Zealand cast, 42nd Street will make you want to get up and dance! Those memories will come flooding back with its hit show tunes including You're Getting to Be a Habit with Me, Dames, Only Have Eyes

for You, Lullaby of Broadway, Shuffle Off to Buffalo, Forty-Second Street and We're In the Money - lucky for many Kiwis as Lotto's original jingle!

The stellar cast line up includes New Zealand-born star of international stage and television Derek Metzger, together with Suzanne Lee, Grant Bridger, Laura O'Sullivan and Melbourne based young heart-throb Lyndon Keenan.

42nd Street is a big, bold musical set in 1933 that celebrates the stuff that dreams are made of. It's a story of hard work, being in the right place at the right time, talent and love - the timeless, inspiring

tale of small town Peggy Sawyer's rise from chorus girl to Broadway star.

Don't miss this high-kicking, high-energy musical masterpiece priced for all the family to enjoy.

## WIN A TRIP FOR TWO TO NEW YORK WITH 42ND STREET AND QANTAS!

Simply purchase tickets to the Auckland Season of 42nd Street by 30 September and you and a friend could be winging your way to New York with Qantas, staying five nights at The Crowne Plaza.

Every ticket purchased goes into the draw!

For full competition details, terms and conditions go to:  
[www.42ndStreet.co.nz](http://www.42ndStreet.co.nz)

### Ticketing information

Concession tickets available for Seniors and students

Child tickets available for 15 years and under

ID may be required

Save with groups of 10 or more: call  
09 357 3354

Bookings now open -  
[www.42ndstreet.co.nz](http://www.42ndstreet.co.nz)  
for full details

## Rehearsals are about to kick off with the cast of 42nd St.

The cast are as follows:

Julian Marsh—Derek Metzger  
Dorothy Brock—Suzanne Lee  
Maggie Jones—Lynn Webster  
Bert Barry—Grant Bridger  
Peggy Sawyer—Laura O’Sullivan  
Billy Lawlor—Lyndon Keenan  
Pat Denning—John Hellyer  
Abner Dillon—Craig Rodgers  
Andy Lee—Clayton Curnow  
Anytime Annie—Sarah Kent  
Mac—Vaughan Meneses  
Oscar—Edwin Randall

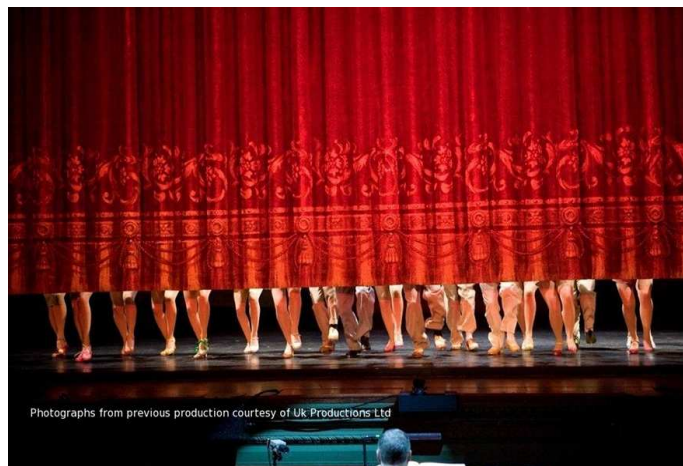
### Girls Ensemble

Shanelle Borlase  
Camille Boyte  
Hannah Burrige  
Melinda Christensen  
Alexa Downey  
Siobhan Dixon  
Kelly Iliohan  
Amber McAlpine  
Lisa McNeill  
Moya Mathias  
Laura Patterson  
Marissa Prescott  
TeAwatea Ranguiaia  
Cathy Rood  
Rebekkah Schoonbeek-  
Berridge  
Ellen - Moana Smith  
Zoe Stewart

### Boys Ensemble

Matthew Hadley  
Kieran Jacobson  
Travis McWalter  
Travis MacLennan  
Hamish Mouat  
Clay Roberts  
Nicholas Tredrea  
Jason Yang - Westland  
Tim White

With such an exciting line up we expect the rehearsal period to be a lot of hard work but tremendous fun, and we look forward to seeing you all at The Civic during the season.



## WANT TO SHARE THE 42ND STREET EXPERIENCE?

We have vacancies on our volunteers list. Want to come down to the theatre and help? There are roles for rehearsal hosting

Don't want to tied down to coming in but can help in our flyer delivery? We need teams of people delivering all over Auckland. Just slip the flyers in the letter boxes when you are on your constitutional walk.

Good for you - good for us.

We will need Dressers and Programme sellers at The Civic.

Please contact our Volunteer Manager Melissa Mazur if you can help in anyway -

[Melissa.mazur@amt.org.nz](mailto:Melissa.mazur@amt.org.nz)





## WHILE WE WERE PLAYING AT THE CIVIC - meanwhile - back in The Tin Shed

There has been tremendous work going on in The Wardrobe and Props Departments. Under the leadership of John Fausett, hardy teams of workers have braved the cold and sheer scope of the projects to completely revamp both rooms. If I had not seen all the stuff removed from The Props room I would not have believed that it all fit. We have called the Prop Room "The Tardis" as we do not believe it all could go back there.

Here is a report on The Wardrobe Project by John Fausett

### This is a call for assistance.

The Wardrobe department has been going great guns sorting out our amazing collection of costumes and accessories. We can now pretty much tell you if we have "it", where "it" is stored, and if "it" is available or out on hire. We have managed to catch the tail of the School Show season as well as other societies' productions, and they have all been delighted with what AMT has provided.

This is a resource which has been built up by generations of Auckland Music Theatre and Auckland Operatic Society people, and shows from 45+ years ago (that's half our existence, folks!) are still providing a healthy revenue for us. Thank you Judith Mitchener, Joan Thompson, Shirley Culpán, Jan Cleary, Joan Maynard, Claire Gallagher, Ethel Shute, Gaye Manning, Mardie Simms, Maddie McConnell (yes, 2 different people) and Yvonne Dinnage, who have created costumes for shows lead by Maggie Wright, Brian O'Connor, Bobbie Alderton, Sherrin Scelly, Me (hey, people have turned out amazing stuff for me over the years) and all the others both living and dead for their contribution. A special mention for Nicola Tresidder, designer extraordinaire who is well represented in Wardrobe. These of course are the tip of the iceberg when it comes to the talent pool (have a mixed metaphor), but their work lives on.

To extend my metaphor, the pool needs maintenance or it ends up smelling, and let me tell you, a bath tub full of musty costumes soaking in Napisan tests your nasal resilience. Now although I can manage this part of things, I am inept in the sewing and dyeing department, and I have a rack and a half of clothes that need refurbishment, as I see no logic in putting damaged stock back in the racks and storage crates.

My "cri de couer" is for anyone who can assist us at any level. There is everything from sewing identity labels to costume collars, spraying wayward fibres on elaborate religious costumes (I'm good at that), reinserting sleeves in dresses and tailored coats, patching holes in embarrassing places, repairing split seams in crinolines, dyeing costumes hit by the dreaded sun fade etc etc. You can even design &/or make some complete costumes of a usable style using our materials to add to our stock. I'm sourcing crinoline steels at the moment. There is a wide range of tasks requiring a varied skill base. If anyone can help, please get in touch by email (the best way) [chookas@ihug.co.nz](mailto:chookas@ihug.co.nz) or phone (09) 8466 776. I don't have a cell phone – I'm a Luddite.

Our basic Wardrobe team features very few sewing types – but we know how to lift, sort, hang, reject ("John, you can't want to keep that" – B O'Connor), identify ("what on earth is this?"), tidy, record, staple, vacuum and other such tasks. If you are interested in joining to help out from time to time or long term, contact me and I'm sure I will find you a job. For a couple of nights, the odd Saturday or Sunday, or as a semi permanent member of the group, all assistance is appreciated. Of course, the more skilled you are, the smaller the repair pile.

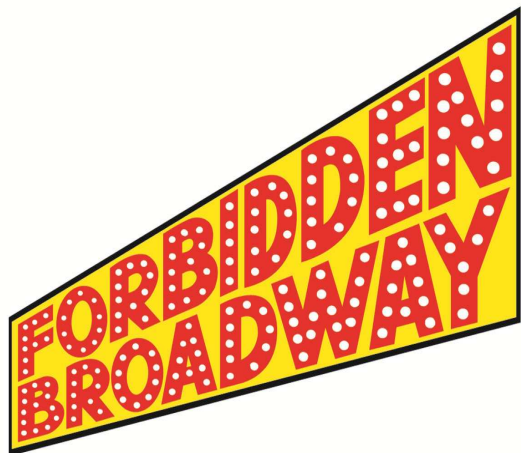
The committee is also planning a Props Room sort out in the near future, and this will follow a similar format to that for wardrobe, so in this year when we have no major in-house shows, this is a fantastic time to refurbish and regroup. If you are interested in Props but not Wardrobe, that's great – let me or a committee member know.

Cheers

John Fausett And the wardrobe team:- Ian Gardiner, Brian O'Connor, Anthony Carroll, Noelene Jones and Yvonne Dinnage PS Thanks a lot guys

**AMT owes special thanks:** To the entire Wardrobe Project People and The Props Teams - may I extend the thanks of the Management Team and the members. We will be having a small celebration for these teams in the near future.

## AT AMT IN 2011



Forbidden Broadway  
Greatest Hits—Volume 1

Created and Written By Gerard Alessandini  
By Arrangement with ORiGiN Theatrical  
On Behalf of Theatrical Rights Worldwide,  
New York

Next year's planning is under way and our first show for the year will be a small revue chosen to fit in around the Auckland Fringe Festival. It is the smash Off Broadway hit **Forbidden Broadway Greatest Hits- Volume 1** which is the Auckland Premiere of the world's longest running revue.

FORBIDDEN BROADWAY, The World's longest running revue at AMT Feb/March 2011. The show is a cabaret revue that sharply, yet affectionately, satires show tunes, characters and plots of contemporary and current Broadway musicals. Shows like *The Phantom of the Opera*, *Wicked*, *Les Misérables*, *Hairspray*, *Into The Woods*, *Chicago*, *Hello Dolly*, *Rent*, to name a few. It also targets famous Broadway actors, writers, composers, directors, choreographers and producers, including Carol Channing, Idina Menzel, Ethel Merman, Mandy Patinkin, Stephen Sondheim, Harvey Fierstein, Barbra Streisand, Liza Minnelli. *Forbidden Broadway* is an Off Broadway four-person show, with two men and two women that has run for over 25 years.

More details to follow, but we need a cast of 4, 2 Women, 2 Men, who are great actor/singers and can play a myriad of Broadway Stars in a huge number of Broadway hits.

Director **Pauline Vella** will be joined by MD **Eddie Giffney** and Choreographer **Clayton Curnow**.

**Director – Pauline Vella** is an Auckland actress/singer/director who is currently the Chairperson of the AMT Management Team. Over the past eight years Pauline has played some wonderful roles Auckland wide and Pauline has spent most of 2010 working closely with our joint venture partners AMICI Productions on bringing RENT and 42<sup>nd</sup> Street to The Civic. 2009 saw Pauline accepted into the New Zealand Opera chorus but alas she did not take the stage in either of the operas staged that year. Pauline has directed many concerts in the last few years since she last directed at AMT with the NAPTA award nominated Babes In Arms in 2006.

**Musical Director - Eddie Giffney** is a first year student at The University of Auckland studying for a BMus., majoring in performance piano, with piano accordion as his second instrument study.

A versatile musician in 2009 he gained a distinction in his Licentiate of the Royal Schools of Music (performance piano) making him one of the youngest New Zealand students to hold this level of qualification. He has been a finalist in the Mazda Young Performer of the Year and a prize winner at many NZ competitions.

In addition Eddie is currently the South Pacific Open Accordion champion, the NZ Open Piano Accordion champion and last year won 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the Junior Virtuoso section of the Accordion World championships – the first time in 9 yrs a competitor from outside of France, Italy or Russia has been placed.

On stage, Eddie has performed in both professional and amateur theatre, musical theatre and operatic productions and is a past winner of the Trinity College Speech and Drama award for NZ.

Over the past six years Eddie has played in many stage bands alongside professional musicians (Peter Pan, High School Musical, Batboy and Annie to name a few). He regularly accompanies singers and other instrumentalists as well as enjoying playing in his own band and chamber music groups.



### **Choreographer - Clayton Curnow**

A busy 2010 for Clayton as he no sooner ended a brilliant season of RENT at THE CIVIC , to be cast as Andy Lee in the upcoming 42<sup>nd</sup> Street. A true "triple threat" Clayton graduated from the National Academy of Singing and Dramatic Arts (NASDA) in 2008. He has a long list of theatre credits including FAME, West Side Story and just prior to RENT the New Zealand tour of Starlight Express.

When not performing, Clayton teaches jazz, tap and Broadway at City Dance and Dance Pro as well as teaching children's drama classes. He has had previous choreographic experience and has been a featured dancer in music videos both locally and in Australia. Clayton has also done some television work for Television New Zealand.

The rest of the FORBIDDEN team will be:

Production Manager – Kelly Otter

Set Design and Sound Design – John Michie

Lighting Design – Ian Wiley

Costume Design – Vaughan Meneses

Marketing – Gordon Rushton

Hair/ Make-up—Grace McMillan-Caires

## **So to sum up for July - Don't forget**

Bookings for 42nd Street open July 7th—[www.42ndStreet.co.nz](http://www.42ndStreet.co.nz)

Come help and enjoy the experience of working on a huge show—[Melissa.mazur@amt.org.nz](mailto:Melissa.mazur@amt.org.nz)

Sewing help to restore and protect our wonderful heritage of costumes—[chookas@ihug.co.nz](mailto:chookas@ihug.co.nz)

Come and visit and admire John Fausetts wonderful wardrobe and props initiatives.

**Coming Up:** In August - Outstanding opportunity for a Costume Workshop with **Alf Weston** - Keep the 29th of August free for this amazing workshop by a master of the art of Theatre costume design. More details will follow. But pencil in that date as there are limited places available and we will be opening this up to all the Community Theatres in Auckland.

### **AMT – New Website will be launched by July 12th**

Hope to see lots of you down at the Theatre over the next couple of months

**Pauline Vella – CHAIR**

**Contact us / Follow us:**

Email: [management@amt.org.nz](mailto:management@amt.org.nz) or the Website: [www.aucklandmusictheatre.org.nz](http://www.aucklandmusictheatre.org.nz)

We are also on Facebook or follow us on Twitter