

ACT THREE
PRODUCTIONS



STAGE RAGE

Issue 129 – July 2020



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Rebranding

Abbey Musical Theatre (formerly the Palmerston North Operatic Society Inc.) has a proud record of providing quality musical theatre to the people of the Manawatū for more than 100 years.

First named the Palmerston North Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society, our first production of “The Pirates of Penzance” in 1900 showcased the best of Manawatū’s performing talent while building a strong and enduring community of dedicated members.

In 1982 change came to the Society in the form of new premises and, later, a new trading name. In choosing the trading name of ‘Abbey Musical Theatre’, the Society invoked the imagery of its new premises – the old red brick Baptist Church on Church Street.

Under the name Abbey Musical Theatre, we have performed a large number of plays, musicals and revues, most of them at the beloved old Abbey building, before it was sold in 2016 and our Society relocated to the Wallace Development Company Theatre in Hokowhitu.

As we were no longer in the old church, our name and brand needed to represent who we had become. In 2018 we asked members to provide feedback about a rebrand and what Abbey Musical Theatre meant to them. There was overwhelming support to make a change and we used common themes in the feedback for our new name and logo. “ACT THREE” is about the act we don’t see on stage. It’s about a company of volunteers who contribute enormously behind the scenes to put on amazing live theatre in the Manawatū.

The newly designed logo has three components to represent ACT THREE. The line represents the onstage part of a production, while the two circles represent the mahi that goes in before and after. The symbol can also be viewed as an audio wave.

We are so excited about our rebrand and it was met with much enthusiasm at our recent Annual General Meeting where it was revealed to members.

So, so long Abbey Musical Theatre and welcome to ACT THREE PRODUCTIONS, He Whānau Tuatinitini – a family of many strands.

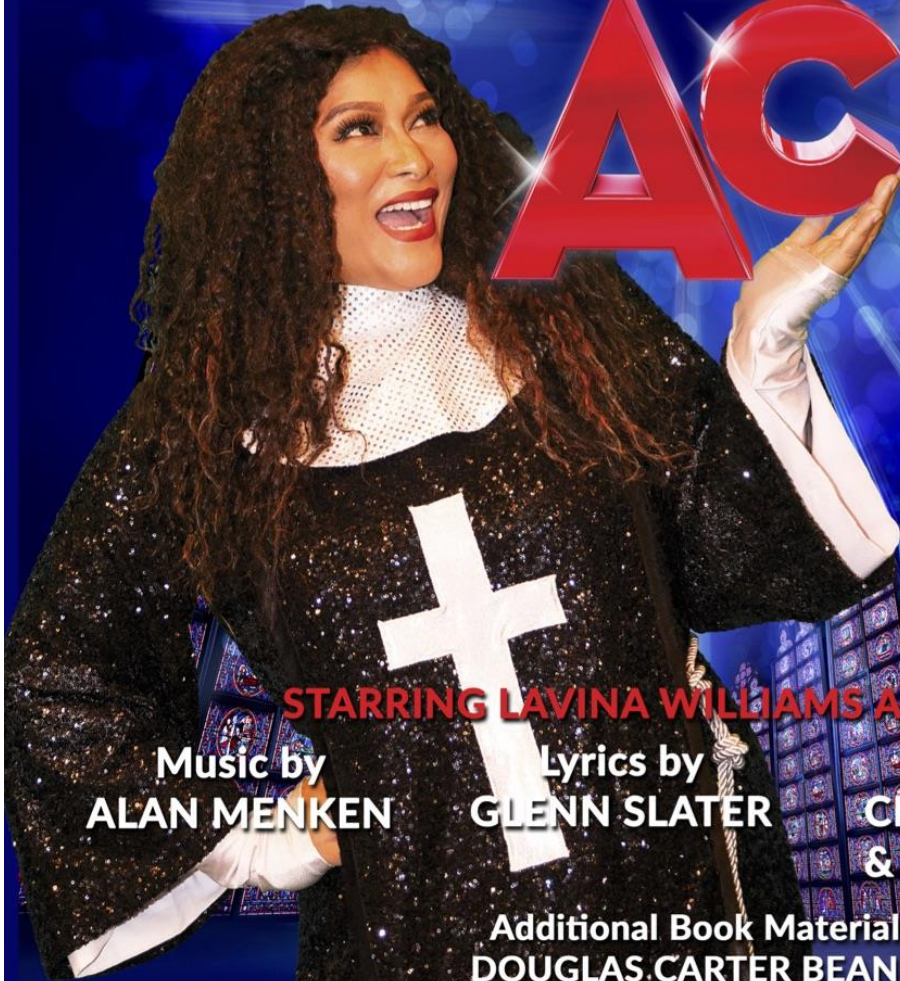


He Whānau Tuatinitini



ACT THREE PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

SISTER ACT™



STARRING LAVINA WILLIAMS AS DELORIS

Music by
ALAN MENKEN

Lyrics by
GLENN SLATER

Book by
**CHERI STEINKELLNER
& BILL STEINKELLNER**

Additional Book Material
DOUGLAS CARTER BEANE

PHOTO BY JOAN MARCUS

BASED ON THE TOUCHSTONE PICTURES MOTION PICTURE "SISTER ACT" WRITTEN BY JOSEPH HOWARD

REGENT ON BROADWAY | 7 - 22 AUGUST

Tickets available from **TICKETEK 0800 842 538**

**ACT THREE
PRODUCTIONS**

GO MEDIA

**REGENT on
BROADWAY**

TICKETEK

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SEATING

As you may or may not be aware (if you've been living under a rock), we have purchased some new seats for the auditorium at the Wallace Development Company Theatre. These seats are much, much, much more comfortable than the previous seats and will be an asset to our theatre and its audiences. We are in the process of installing these new seats but require a lot more assistance to do so. There are many jobs that require man, woman and perhaps child power, and there is more than just heavy lifting required. Therefore, if you are able to gift us some of your precious time (and to save the handful of people who have been religiously beavering away) to help out, please contact Kay Nagy (e-mail; aknagy@inspire.net.nz) who will be able to provide more information.



At the Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday, 23 June 2020, the following members were appointed to the ACT THREE PRODUCTIONS Board for 2020/21;

Merryn Osborne (President), Allan Nagy, Andrea Maxwell, Samantha Peters, Lorna Stanley, Paula Fredericks, Jacob McDonald, Jane Watson

Additionally, as our Treasurer had indicated that he was unable to continue in this role, we were able to take a nomination for the role of Treasurer from the floor at the AGM. We, therefore, welcome ***Phil Anstis*** as the new Treasurer for ACT THREE PRODUCTIONS.



Connecting communities creatively
Te huihuinga mai i ngā hapori wairua auaha

MTNZ ZONE 3 MEETING

8 August 2020

10.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.

at the Wallace Development Company Theatre
(Hosted by ACT THREE PRODUCTIONS)

All welcome to attend

MTNZ 60th NATIONAL CONFERENCE AGM & VOLUNTEER TRAINING WEEKEND

Due to COVID-19 and the restrictions imposed by this, the MTNZ Conference this year was postponed.

This will now be held in March 2021 in Napier.

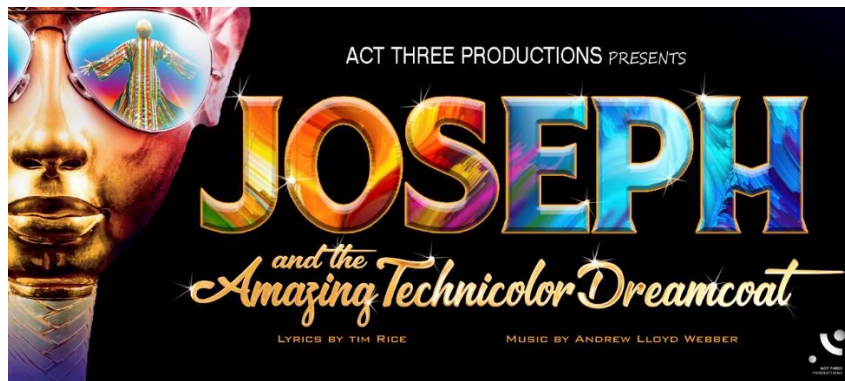
Details regarding the 2021 MTNZ Conference will be published in October 2020.

More information/details can be found at
<http://www.mtnz.org.nz/conference>





Due to COVID-19 and the restrictions imposed by this, the decision was made to postpone “WE WILL ROCK YOU”. This production will, therefore, now be held in August 2021 at the Regent on Broadway.



BY ARRANGEMENT WITH ORIGIN TM THEATRICAL on behalf of THE REALLY USEFUL GROUP LIMITED.

On stage
19 November – 5 December 2020
Wallace Development Company Theatre

Director – Steve Sayer
Choreographer – Alex Hughes
Musical Director – Sarah Judd

AUDITION INFORMATION

Dance Auditions
28 August 2020 starting from 6.30 p.m.

Singing Auditions
29 & 30 August 2020 starting from 10 a.m.

For further information regarding the auditions and roles available, please contact Kaydee Zabelin (Production Secretary) via e-mail: kaydee.zabelin@gmail.com

About the show

ACT THREE PRODUCTIONS is both excited and proud to be bringing back to the stage “Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat”. The biblical saga of Joseph and his coat of many colours comes to vibrant life in this delightful musical parable.

Joseph, his father's favourite of 12 sons, is a kind, strong man blessed with prophetic dreams. When he is sold into slavery by his jealous brothers and taken to Egypt, Joseph endures a series of adventures in which his spirit and humanity are continually challenged.

He is purchased by Potiphar where thwarting advances from Potiphar's wife lands him in jail – a dramatic haunting scene. When news of Joseph's gift to interpret dreams reaches the Pharaoh (wryly and riotously depicted as Elvis), Joseph is well on his way to becoming second in command. Eventually his brothers, having suffered greatly, unknowingly find themselves grovelling at the feet of the brother they betrayed but no longer recognise. After testing their integrity, Joseph reveals himself, leading to a heartfelt reconciliation of the sons of Jacob.

Set to an engaging cornucopia of musical styles, from country-western and calypso to eclectic pop and rock 'n' roll, this Old Testament tale emerges both timely and timeless.

This will be a high energy, high tech production for all ages – Jacob was “500 years” old after all.

What you need to know

- All roles are open to audition. Diversity and all mature age brackets are encouraged and all ethnic groups are welcome to audition.
- To book your audition time, please fill out the online booking form at www.actthree.co.nz. Please telephone 027 304 4020 if you cannot book online.
- All auditionees are required to attend the Dance Audition Workshop on 28 August 2020.
- Individual vocal auditions will be held in intervals of five minutes.
- Please arrive for your audition a minimum of 20 minutes prior to your booking for administration and to allow yourself adequate time for personal preparation.
- Once registered, auditionees will be sent sheet music and an MP3 file for their audition song.
- All roles available are on an unpaid basis.

IMPORTANT: Your participation in this production requires a huge commitment in both time and professionalism in order to ensure a production of the highest possible quality. Therefore, please do not audition if you are not in a position to commit fully to the rehearsal schedule. You cannot be involved in any other production during the rehearsal period. While talent is the primary consideration when casting, level of commitment will also be a consideration and final choices for principal and ensemble roles will be made with this in mind.

From the Director

I'm keen to audition a variety of people – all ethnicities, shapes and all ages (Jacob was 500 years old after all) We will pay homage to the original Andrew Lloyd Webber/Tim Rice production but with a modern twist and a bit of drama requiring good stage skills and strong characters. The set is from a recent professional touring set, as are the costumes. New technical aspects from a brilliant production crew will add to the excitement. I'm very excited about this production and look forward to seeing lots of people audition for this great opportunity.



ROLES AVAILABLE

Principal Roles

Narrator (Female | Stage age 25+)

Vocal range: Story teller; Soprano with extended mix/belt range
Choreography: Must be able to walk and sing confidently at the same time. Minimal movement required.
Description: A character not of the time or place. The Narrator needs to be able to tell the story through words and song, guiding the audience gently through the story of Joseph and his brothers. Usually gives meaning to the story with his/her words, so this person will need to have strong storytelling abilities.

Joseph (Male | Stage age 25+)

Vocal range: Charismatic – High tenor
Choreography: Needs to be fit, this role requires a good mover/dancer.
Description: Son of Jacob, and his father's favourite. Joseph shows early on a talent for interpreting dreams and telling the future. This gets him into trouble with his brothers (who are already jealous of Joseph because he is Jacob's favourite) who fake his death and place him into slavery. However, Joseph's special abilities save his life when he correctly predicts the future based on the Pharaoh's dreams.

Jacob (Male | Stage age 50-500 years)

Vocal range: Baritone – Strong speaking voice
Choreography: No movement required but needs good musical timing.
Description: The father of 12 sons, with Joseph his obvious favourite. At times, Jacob may appear to be unfair and shallow, but more importantly, he is the prophet who recognises the future and true calling of Joseph.

Potiphar (Male | Stage age 35-80)

Vocal range: Stern and warm – Baritone
Choreography: Minimal movement but needs to be an exceptional speaker.
Description: A powerful and rich Egyptian, Potiphar purchases Joseph and puts him to work in his household, where he soon realises that Joseph is honest, hardworking and a great addition to his pool of help. He grows suspicious of Mrs Potiphar and Joseph and eventually throws Joseph into prison after catching Mrs Potiphar making unwanted advances towards him.

Mrs Potiphar (Female | Stage age 25-35, dependent on the age of Potiphar)

Vocal range: Exceptional speaker
Choreography: This role requires a strong mover/dancer.
Description: Beautiful, self-indulgent and scheming, Mrs Potiphar tries to seduce Joseph but is unsuccessful. However, she manages to stage a compromising scene with an unwilling Joseph that Potiphar sees and misconstrues, leading him to condemn Joseph to prison. Mrs Potiphar is usually played by one of the wives in most productions.

Pharaoh (Male | Stage age 35-50)

Vocal range: Rock 'n' roll (in the style of Elvis Presley) – Baritone
Choreography: Must be able to move well and must be a performer with obvious stage presence and poise, beauty and strength.
Description: The most powerful man in Egypt, the Pharaoh is considered a god on earth. When Joseph interprets his dreams correctly, the Pharaoh promotes him to one of the highest positions in his government. One of the strongest, mystical characters on stage – a real show stopper!

Joseph's Brothers (Mixed Vocal Ranges)

Reuben (Male | Stage age 30-100)

Choreography: This role requires a mover/dancer and strong confident singer.
Description: Son of Jacob. He and his brothers are jealous of their father's obvious affection for Joseph. His character must command a presence on stage.

Simeon (Male | Stage age 20-100)

Vocal range: Strong flexible voice.
Choreography: This role requires a mover/dancer/singer.
Description: Second son of Jacob. He and his brothers are jealous of their father's obvious affection for Joseph. The character of Simeon usually takes the lead in "Those Canaan Days" (in a French accent).

Levi (Male | Stage age 25-100)

Choreography: This role requires a mover/dancer/singer.
Description: The third son of Jacob. He and his brothers are jealous of their father's obvious affection for Joseph.

Judah (Male | stage age 20-100)

Vocal range: Strong voice with clear diction and timing.
Choreography: This role requires a mover/dancer/singer.
Description: The fourth son of Jacob. He and his brothers are jealous of their father's obvious affection for Joseph. The character of Judah usually takes the lead in "Benjamin Calypso".

Dan (Male | Stage age 20-100)

Choreography: This role requires a mover/dancer/singer.
Description: The fifth son of Jacob. He and his brothers are jealous of their father's obvious affection for Joseph.

Naphtali (Male | Stage age 20-100)

Choreography: This role requires a mover/dancer/singer.
Description: The sixth son of Jacob. He and his brothers are jealous of their father's obvious affection for Joseph.

Gad (Male | Stage age 20-100)

Choreography: This role requires a mover/dancer/singer.
Description: The seventh son of Jacob. He and his brothers are jealous of their father's obvious affection for Joseph.

Asher (Male | Stage age 20-100)

Choreography: This role requires a mover/dancer/singer.
Description: The eighth son of Jacob. He and his brothers are jealous of their father's obvious affection for Joseph.

Issachar (Male | Stage age 20-100)

Choreography: This role requires a mover/dancer/singer.
Description: The ninth son of Jacob. He and his brothers are jealous of their father's obvious affection for Joseph.

Zebulun (Male | Stage age 20-100)

Choreography: This role requires a mover/dancer/singer.
Description: The tenth son of Jacob. He and his brothers are jealous of their father's obvious affection for Joseph.

Benjamin (male | stage age 18-100)

Choreography: This role requires a mover/dancer/singer.

Description: The twelfth son of Jacob. He is the youngest and most innocent of the brothers.

Supporting Roles

Baker (Male | Stage age 20-60)

Vocal range: Warm/storyteller – Tenor

Choreography: Movement required – strong character presence required.

Description: One of the Pharaoh's servants, the Baker is in prison at the same time as Joseph. Joseph interprets his dream, correctly predicting that the Baker will be put to death. This role can be played by one of the brothers.

Butler (Male | Stage age 20-60)

Vocal range: Warm/storyteller – Tenor

Choreography: Movement required – strong character presence required.

Description: Another one of the Pharaoh's servants, the Butler is also in prison with Joseph. From his dreams, Joseph correctly interprets that the Butler will be released and taken back into the Pharaoh's household. It is the Butler who tells the Pharaoh about Joseph and his uncanny dreams. This role can be played by one of the brothers.

The Wives (Female | Stage ages 21+)

Vocal range: Various

Choreography: These roles require movers/dancers/singers.

Description: The wives of Jacob (10-15 wives required). Wives will also double-up as Egyptians and the servants of Potiphar.

The Ishmaelites/Harem/Ensemble (Male/Female | No defined stage age but must be aged 13+)

Vocal range: Various characters – singing required

Choreography: Movement will be dependent on the ability of the individual.

Description: People of the desert, the Ishmaelites buy Joseph as a slave and then take him to Egypt to sell to Potiphar. This group will also be general ensemble for the show, portraying various characters as scenes require.

Backing Vocalists (Male/Female)

Vocal range: Various, but harmony work will be required.

Chorus (Male/Female | Ages 13-15)

Vocal range: Various, but harmony work will be required.

A chorus is required for backing vocals and some on stage cameo roles.



MUSICAL NUMBERS

Act 1

- Overture
- Prologue (Some Folks Dream) – Narrator
- Any Dream Will Do – Joseph, Children
- Jacob and Sons – Narrator, Wives, Brothers, Ensemble
- Joseph's Coat – Jacob, Narrator, Joseph, Brothers, Wives, Ensemble
- Joseph's Dreams – Narrator, Brothers, Joseph, Wives
- Poor, Poor Joseph – Narrator, Joseph, Brothers, Wives
- One More Angel in Heaven – Reuben, Reuben's Wife, Brothers, Wives, Jacob
- Potiphar – Narrator, Potiphar, Mrs Potiphar, Joseph, Ensemble
- Close Every Door – Joseph and Ensemble
- Go, Go, Go Joseph – Narrator, Joseph, Butler, Baker, Ensemble

Act 2

- Entr'acte – Ensemble
- Pharaoh's Story – Narrator, Ensemble
- Poor, Poor Pharaoh – Narrator, Butler, Pharaoh, Women
- Song of the King – Pharaoh, Ensemble
- Pharaoh's Dream Explained – Joseph, Ensemble
- Stone the Crows – Narrator, Pharaoh, Joseph, Female Ensemble
- King of My Heart – Pharaoh, Ensemble
- Stone the Crows [Part Two] – Narrator, Ensemble
- Those Canaan Days – Simeon, Jacob, Brothers, Women
- The Brothers Come to Egypt / Grovel, Grovel – Narrator, Brothers, Joseph, Female Ensemble
- Who's the Thief? – Narrator, Joseph, Ensemble
- Benjamin Calypso – Judah, Brothers, Ensemble
- Joseph All the Time – Narrator, Joseph, Brothers, Ensemble
- Jacob in Egypt – Ensemble
- Any Dream Will Do (Reprise) / Give Me My Coloured Coat – Joseph, Narrator, Ensemble
- Joseph Megamix – Full Company

AUDITION TIPS

On the day

- We need to see how well you can match pitch. You may sound great on your own, but you also need to sound great with others and, therefore, you may be required to sing with someone else at some time during the audition process.
- Know your song well. Just as it is important to have an understanding of a script, it is important to understand the meaning behind a song. Always have your song memorised.
- Actors are released from auditions in stages to keep people from waiting around. If you are asked to leave early, it does not mean you will not be cast – simply that the Directors have seen what they need to see.
- Arrive well in advance so that you can take time to warm up and fill out any forms.

General

- Check the show's rehearsal and production schedule - be quite certain you are available throughout. If you have conflicts, put them on your audition sheet.
- Don't worry about nerves – everyone gets nervous at auditions, even the old pros, and having a few butterflies can actually be a good thing. But it is best to avoid worrying excessively about messing up or about what the audition panel might think of you. If you do happen to mess up, don't get upset or walk off. Just keep on going until you've finished.
- Dress comfortably! Avoid costumes but don't dress completely out of character either. Avoid big clunky shoes or jewellery that may impede your movements. Choose clothing that is simple and comfortable.
- Warm up if this is a vocal musical audition. We want to hear your best voice. Take some time before you come into the audition to warm up your voice. Directors must be able to hear and understand you, so project your voice and enunciate well.

Not being cast

- If you don't get the part, it will be disappointing but it's not the end of the world and not the end of your acting career. It will not be a rejection of you, only an affirmation of someone else. You simply weren't exactly right for that part. Keep auditioning and don't give up.
- Being cast is only partly about how good you are – its also about whether or not you are appropriate for the roles we need to fill, or whether you match up with or look right in relation to one or more other auditionees. You might be the best actor and/or singer we've seen but if you're totally inappropriate for the characters we need, we can't cast you.
- Please respect the Directors' decisions.

