



STAGERAGE

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Thank you to everyone who celebrated our 125th Anniversary with us on 15 November 2025 at the Regent on Broadway. Oh, what a night! It was great to join our members, some old and some new, to celebrate 125 years of productions staged by the Palmerston North Operatic Society Inc. We celebrated with some wonderful performances and video messages from past and current members and enjoyed some delicious food from The Boatshed Caterers. Our thanks are extended to Lorna Stanley for ensuring this celebration was as well organised as it could be. We also thank the Regent on Broadway for their assistance and for providing the pre-dinner drinks in the foyer. Here's to 125 more!!!



Board Update

As there was a vacancy, Dayle Campbell was recently seconded to the ACT THREE PRODUCTIONS Board until the AGM next year. Therefore, your Board is currently; Allan Nagy (President), Samantha Peters, Jessie Feyen, Jon Samia, Adie Johnsen, Lorna Stanley, Dayle Campbell and Milana Mariu-Reade (Youth Representative). Our Administrator is Jen Lambert and the Board Secretary is Kay Nagy.



The **CR** Law Season Cast of
Cooper Rapley Lawyers

CHICAGO

ROXIE HART *Tamzin Price*

VELMA KELLY *Alexandra Hughes*

BILLY FLYNN *Lindsay Yes*

AMOS *Ben Pryor*

MAMA MORTON *Clare Lees-Galloway*

MARY SUNSHINE *Laura Signal*

FRED CASELY *Andrew Jamieson*

MERRY MURDERESSES

Anna Krakosky, Jessie Feyen, Ruby Porter, Paula Fredericks, Cara Hesselin

ENSEMBLE

*Melana Maru-Reade, Amy Hunt, Caitlyn Mohi, Charlotte Hemmingsen
Emily Sutherland, Julliette Little, Cal Eagle, Bradley Forsyth, Caleb Thomas
Elijah Hobbs, Finn Davidson, Matthew Lyne, Louis Barnes*

BVS

*David Chisholm, Erin Torrington, Ethan Maxwell, Greg Dow, Terry Stewart
Vanessa Stephens, Emilia Vbart, Lu Robinson, Rhiannon Galpin
Andrea Maxwell*

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CHICAGO

17 APRIL - 2 MAY 2026

REGENT ON BROADWAY

\$450 SPONSORSHIP

- ★ 2x premium tickets to opening night
- ★ 1x complimentary programme
- ★ 2x drinks on arrival
- ★ After show cast meet and greet with cash bar
- ★ Your logo in our show programme
- ★ Promotion on our social media platforms
- ★ The satisfaction of supporting your local arts community

We also have larger sponsorship deals available. Please get in touch to see what we can offer your business!

Contact Jen Lambert at admin@actthree.co.nz for further details.

To secure your sponsorship, please email admin@actthree.co.nz

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ACT THREE
PRODUCTIONS

The Arts Group Foundation



CHICAGO
APR 17 - MAY 2

"They had it coming..."

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GET YOUR TICKETS NOW AT **TICKETEK**

MEMBERS' PRESALE ON SALE NOW

- Members' discount available by using the code **CHICAGOM25**. This will continue until 2 May 2026.

EARLYBIRD SALES

- A promotion to all theatregoers for Christmas whereby Premier Reserve tickets can be purchased at the A Reserve price from 1 December 2025 to 24 December 2025 at 12 p.m. by quoting the code **CHICAGOE25**. So tell your friends and whānau to take advantage of this promotion.

PLEASE NOTE: Only one discount will apply to all ticket sales – Members' or Earlybird.

GENERAL PUBLIC SALES

General public sales will open on Monday, 1 December 2025, at 9.00 a.m.



Registrations open for MTNZ 2026 Training Weekend



Announcing MTNZ Connecting Communities Creatively – Ka hui tahi

We're thrilled to launch our National Training & Networking Weekend – Connecting Communities Creatively – Ka hui tahi, happening 13–15 March 2026 in Ōamaru.

Hosted by Musical Theatre Ōamaru, this inspiring weekend brings together theatre-makers from across Aotearoa to share ideas, develop skills, and celebrate the magic of musical theatre. Across three dynamic streams – Performance, Behind the Scenes, and Technical – you'll learn from some of the country's best theatre minds, while making new connections and strengthening our creative community.

We're also excited to introduce MTNZ Juniors, a dedicated programme for performers 18 and under, running alongside the main weekend. Juniors will learn singing, dance and acting, guided by professional tutors, and perform on stage at the Saturday evening showcase.

The weekend also features the MTNZ AGM, a themed Gala Dinner and Awards Ceremony on Saturday, and a Networking Night on Friday – the perfect chance to celebrate, connect and be inspired. Ōamaru is the perfect backdrop for this special weekend of learning, networking, and creativity.

Save the date: 13–15 March 2026

Registrations now open – secure your spot today! <https://www.mtnz.org.nz/trainina/connectina>



Musical Theatre New Zealand
02102797798 | office@mtnz.co.nz



OPEN ADULT BALLET CLASSES

Join us on Wednesday nights for Adult Ballet with the lovely Chantelle – a warm, welcoming class open to all experience levels. Whether you're brand new or returning to the barre, this is your space to stretch, move, and enjoy the joy of ballet in a relaxed and supportive environment. No bookings needed – just come as you are to ACT THREE PRODUCTIONS, 75 The Square. E-mail for more information if needed to jessie@actthree.co.nz – **\$10 for members | \$15 for non-members (pay per class)**. The perfect way to welcome spring, move your body, and lift your spirits – we can't wait to dance with you!



Paid Actors Wanted: Samuel Scully is on the hunt for a few actors (preferably male and between the ages of 18 and 30) to help out by acting in some scenes that he would like to photograph.

This is part of ongoing work towards Samuel's masters of Fine Art degree. Samuel was born and raised in the Manawatū and is looking for actors local to the area. His interest is in how the veil between fiction and reality can be stretched through photography, specifically how it relates to local histories and cultural mythologies.

If you have acting experience and are interested in this project, please contact Samuel via the details below.

Samuel Scully
0274281492
samuelscully3@gmail.com | <https://samuelscully.net>





Just In Time, Buena Vista Social Club, Maybe Happy Ending & More Score 2026 Grammy Nominations

by Alexandra Pierson

It's too soon to say who will win big at the 2026 Grammy Awards, but at least one thing is certain – there will be showtunes. Five Broadway cast albums received nominations for Best Musical Theater Album, as announced on 7 November. The full nominations are as follows;

Buena Vista Social Club

Marco Paguia, Dean Sharenow and David Yazbek, producers (Original Broadway Cast)

Death Becomes Her

Taurean Everett, Megan Hilty, Josh Lamon, Christopher Sieber, Jennifer Simard and Michelle Willioiams, principal vocalists; Noel Carey, Sean Patrick Flahaven, Julia Mattison and Scott M. Riesett, producers; Noel Carey and Julia Mattison, composers/lyricists (Original Broadway Cast)

Gypsy

Danny Bursteinh, Kevin Csolak, Audra McDonald, Jordan Tyson and Joy Woods, principal vocalists; David Caddick, Andy Einhorn, David Lai and George C. Wolfe, producers (Jule Styne, composer; Stephen Sondheim, lyricist) (2024 Broadway Cast)

Just In Time

Emily Bergl, Jonathan Groff, Erika Henningsen, Gracie Lawrence and Michele Pawk, principal vocalists; Derik Lee, Andrew Resnick and Bill Sherman, producers (Bobby Darin, composer and lyricist) (Original Broadway Cast)

Maybe Happy Ending

Marcus Choi, Darren Criss, Dez Duron and Helen J Shen, principal vocalists; Deborah Abramson, Will Aronson, Ian Kagey and Hue Park, producers; Hue Park, lyricist; Will Aronson, composer and lyricist (Original Broadway Cast)

The *WICKED* movie also received two nominations: Composers John Powell and Stephen Schwartz for Best Score Soundtrack for Visual Media, and Best Compilation Soundtrack for Visual Media (various artists). Leading ladies Cynthia Erivo and Ariana Grande are also up for Best Pop Duo/Group Performance for their rendition of "Defying Gravity". It's a good day to be green.

The 68th Annual Grammy Awards will air on 1 February 2026.

Wanna Be Startin' Somethin'? Get a First Look at the New Michael Jackson Biopic in Teaser Trailer

by Alexandra Pierson

Can't get enough MJ? Lionsgate released the first teaser trailer for the upcoming Michael Jackson biopic about the King of Pop. *Michael* promises to tell the story of Jackson's life up close, while featuring many of his greatest hits. Jaafar Jackson, Michael's nephew, stars in his film debut alongside actors Colman Domingo, Miles Teller, Nia Long, Jessica Sula, Larenz Tate, Laura Harrier and Kat Graham. The film is directed by Antoine Fuqua with a screenplay written by John Logan. In the trailer, Michael sings in a recording studio with producer Quincy Jones, played by Kendrick Sampson. The film is set to be released in theatres on 24 April 2026. John Branca, Graham King and John McClain serve as producers. David B. Householter serves as executive producer. The film and the stage musical have producers in common – Branca and McClain are the co-executors of the Michael Jackson estate. Rich and Tone Talauega served as "Michael Jackson movement specialists" on *MJ* and provided choreography for the film. The biopic is not otherwise connected to *MJ*, the Michael Jackson jukebox musical written by Lynn Nottage and currently running on Broadway, touring North America and playing in London's West End, Hamburg, Germany and Melbourne, Australia. In 2026, *MJ* kicks off its Asian tour.

ROYAL VARIETY PERFORMANCE 2025 - WHAT WE KNOW SO FAR

Held every November at the spectacular Royal Albert Hall in London, the Royal Variety Performance is one of the theatrical highlights of the year, showcasing a number of big West End musicals. The Royal Variety Charity announced on 27 February 2025 that this year's 2025 Royal Variety Performance will be held on Wednesday, 19 November 2025. This year's hosting duties have gone to acclaimed comedian and actor Jason Manford (*Something Rotten*). Performers have now been announced for this year's 2025 show, with some big name music stars, comedians, and the casts of some of London's biggest West End shows – *Les Misérables*, *Paddington the Musical*, Stephen Fry and more.

Les Misérables is the biggest show to play the Royal Variety Performance this year, and it's a special year for the show as it celebrates its 40th anniversary in London. *Les Misérables* will be the finale act of the whole performance, as 400 performers will take to the vast stage of the Royal Albert Hall, including *Les Mis* stars from across the 40 years including Michael Ball, Matt Lucas, Katy Secombe, Bradley Jaden and Killian Donnelly. The casts of the West End and Paris shows will also perform, alongside amateur companies from all over the UK, singing a medley of the show's hits.

New shows making their debut at the Royal Variety Performance include *Paddington the Musical*, the hugely anticipated new West End musical which opened at the Savoy Theatre in London on 1 November. The show will be introduced by its composer and lyricist, McFly's Tom Fletcher. More West End fun will come from *Strictly Come Dancing*'s Johannes Radebe, who is set to star in a revival of award-winning show *Kinky Boots the Musical*. Johannes plays drag queen Lola in the musical, and will perform a scene-stealing number, ahead of the show returning to the West End's Coliseum Theatre next year. Other musicals performing on the night include *Just For One Day – The Live Aid Musical*, with a special introduction from pop stars Sir Bob Geldof and Midge Ure, plus some very special guests. The joyous West End is now in its final months at the Shaftesbury Theatre in London. Finally, Sir Stephen Fry is making a guest appearance at the Royal Variety Performance as Lady Bracknell! Stephen Fry is currently starring in a glittering new production of Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest* at the Noel Coward Theatre in London.

Singers and musicians;

- Opera star Katherine Jenkins will lead the National Anthem at the event
- Jessie J, who will be performing 'I'll Never Know Why' from her upcoming album
- Much-loved band Madness will perform at this year's Royal Variety Performance
- Grammy award-winning Laufey brings her music to the Royal Albert Hall

Magicians

Magical illusions will come from Britain's Got Talent winner Harry Moulding.

Stand-up & Comedy

- Comedy from Tom Davis and Mick Miller
- The cast of hit BBC series *Dead Ringers*
- America's Got Talent winners Adrian Stoica and his border collie, Hurricane

The Lion King extends in London to November 2026

Disney's *The Lion King* has extended its record-breaking West End run at the Lyceum Theatre in London to November 2026. Since opening at the Lyceum Theatre in 1999, *The Lion King* has welcomed over 20 million theatregoers, enchanting audiences of all ages with its breathtaking puppetry, timeless score, and powerful storytelling. Featuring music by Elton John, lyrics by Tim Rice, and direction by Julie Taymor, the show remains one of the most visually and musically stunning productions ever staged. Globally, more than 110 million people have experienced *The Lion King* since its Broadway premiere in 1997. The musical has won over 70 major awards, including six Tony Awards, and holds the title of the most successful stage production of all time, having surpassed *The Phantom of the Opera* in worldwide box office revenue.

Recent Milestones for *The Lion King* in London

The latest extension follows a series of landmark achievements that cement *The Lion King's* place in West End history;

- On **8 March 2025**, following the evening performance, *The Lion King* officially **overtook *Blood Brothers*** to become the sixth longest running show in West End history – a landmark moment in the show's ongoing legacy.
- On **25 February 2025**, the production celebrated its **10,000th performance**, a rare achievement in West End theatre.
- In **February 2025**, the show also welcomed its 20 millionth guest, joining the ranks of the most attended productions in UK theatre history.
- On **Saturday, 19 October 2024**, *The Lion King* marked its 25th anniversary in the West End with a gala performance at the Lyceum Theatre
- In April 2024, the show surpassed *CATS* to become the fifth longest running musical ever.
- *Globally*, Disney's *The Lion King* has made history as the most successful show of all time, surpassing even *The Phantom of the Opera*.

In August 2014, the musical overtook *Phantom's* \$6 billion record, going on to gross over \$6.2 billion worldwide, making it the highest-grossing box office blockbuster in history – across all entertainment media.

*Sting to star in *The Last Ship* as full cast revealed for 2026 international tour*

The crew is assembled. International music icon Sting will once again take the helm of his acclaimed musical *The Last Ship*, which sets sail on a major international tour in 2026. Full casting has now been revealed for the production, which will visit Amsterdam, Paris and Brisbane next year. Sting reprises his leading role as shipyard foreman Jackie White, joined by Declan Bennett (*Natasha, Pierre and The Great Comet of 1812, Jesus Christ Superstar*) as Gideon, Lauren Samuels (*Grease, WICKED, US Tour*) as Meg, and Annette McLaughlin (*Harry Potter and the Cursed Child, Natasha, Pierre and The Great Comet of 1812*) as Peggy White. Inspired by Sting's own childhood in the shipbuilding town of Wallsend, *The Last Ship* charts the lives of a proud community facing the closure of its shipyard – the beating heart of their existence. It's a story about identity, resilience and belonging, underscored by Sting's rich, folk-infused score. "I literally grew up in the shadow of the yard," Sting has said. "I dreamed of escaping – and I succeeded. But later I realised I had to give something back. *The Last Ship* is my tribute to the people and the place that shaped me." Featuring songs including "Island of Souls," "All This Time," and "When We Dance," the musical blends powerful ballads and rousing ensemble numbers to tell a story of love, loss and hope that continues to resonate worldwide.

***Les Misérables The Arena Concert Spectacular* extends New York run at Radio City Music Hall**

Les Misérables The Arena Concert Spectacular has announced more dates for its run at Radio City Music Hall in New York. Cameron Mackintosh's large-scale arena tour of *Les Mis* was due to play New York's Radio City Music Hall for a strictly limited run of 14 shows from 23 July to 2 August 2026. Due to demand, that has now been extended by a week to 9 August 2026. Boublil and Schönberg's epic musical celebrated its 40th anniversary last month in London, having opened at the Barbican Theatre in London on 8 October 1985. *Les Misérables* is the world's longest running musical. As previously announced, the *Les Misérables The Arena Concert Spectacular* will continue its world tour through 2026, including Dublin's 3Arena (Friday 29 May – Saturday 6 June 2026), Birmingham's Utilita Arena (Thursday 11 – Sunday 14 June 2026), and London's iconic Royal Albert Hall (Thursday 18 – Sunday 21 June 2026).

Les Misérables The Arena Concert Spectacular world tour is an expanded version of the *Les Mis* Staged Concert, with a company of over 110 actors, musicians and crew. The major world tour of this Arena version began performances at SSE Arena Belfast on 19 September 2024, and then travelled around the UK, Europe, Australia, and now Asia. *Les Misérables* is written by Alain Boublil and Claude-Michel Schönberg and is based on the novel by Victor Hugo, with music by Claude-Michel Schönberg, lyrics by Herbert Kretzmer and original French text by Alain Boublil and Jean-Marc Natel, additional material by James Fenton and adaptation by Trevor Nunn and John Caird. Orchestrations are by Stephen Metcalfe, Christopher Jahnke and Stephen Brooker, with original orchestrations by John Cameron. The production is directed by James Powell and Jean-Pierre Van Der Spuy.

Toby Marlow and Lucy Moss movie musical *Bad Fairies* casts Ncuti Gatwa to join Cynthia Erivo

Further casting has been announced for the new animated movie musical *Bad Fairies*, featuring songs by *SIX The Musical* writers Toby Marlow and Lucy Moss. Produced by Warner Bros. Pictures Animation and Locksmith Animation, *Bad Fairies* is set in contemporary London and follows a subversive gang of fairies as they shake up their magical world by breaking every rule in the book. Already announced to star in the film is *WICKED: FOR GOOD*'s Cynthia Erivo. She will be joined by Ncuti Gatwa (*Born with Teeth*, *Doctor Who*). The movie is directed by Megan Nicole Dong (Centaurworld) from an original screenplay by Deborah Frances-White (*Say My Name*). First announced in 2024, Marlow and Moss have written original songs for the film, with Isabella "Machine" Summers (Florence + The Machine) composing the score and also contributing to the songs. Ian Eisendrath (KPop Demon Hunters) serves as executive music producer. The film is currently in production in London, and will be out in cinemas in the UK and US on 21 May 2027.

Ncuti Gatwa recently completed a run in the RSC's production of *Born with Teeth* in the West End. Last year he starred in the National Theatre's revival of *The Importance of Being Earnest*, which is now playing (without Ncuti, but with Olly Alexander and Stephen Fry) at the Noel Coward Theatre in London. He is best known for roles in TV hits *Sex Education* and *Doctor Who*. Cynthia Erivo appeared last night at the UK premiere of *WICKED: FOR GOOD*, which opens in cinemas worldwide on 21 November. Olivier and Tony Award-winner Erivo (*The Color Purple*) is set to return to the West End stage next year, in Kip Williams' acclaimed reworking of *Dracula*. She will play the Noel Coward Theatre from 4 February to 31 May 2026. Tony and Olivier Award-winners Toby Marlow and Lucy Moss wrote West End and worldwide hit show *SIX The Musical* which continues to play at the Vaudeville Theatre in London.

***WICKED* SETS NEW WEST END MILESTONE**

Alex Wood, London – 3 November 2025

WICKED has become the ninth longest-running production in West End history, following the completion of Saturday's matinee performance at the Apollo Victoria Theatre. The musical has also overtaken *STARLIGHT EXPRESS* to become the longest-running show in the history of the Apollo Victoria. Andrew Lloyd Webber's production previously held the record with 7,406 performances between March 1984 and January 2002.

The occasion was marked with the presentation of a commemorative plaque to representatives of ATG Entertainment, including Ross Verity-Williams, Kamaal Hussain, and company members Abbie Quinnen and Iroy Abesamis. Copies of the plaque will be displayed backstage and in the theatre's front-of-house Ambassador Lounges. Producer David Stone said, "We are thrilled that *WICKED* has become the ninth longest-running production in West End history and the longest-running production in the history of the Apollo Victoria Theatre, surpassing *STARLIGHT EXPRESS*. This milestone is a testament to the extraordinary talent and dedication of the many performers, musicians, backstage teams and theatre staff who have sustained the production with such care and commitment. We offer our heartfelt thanks to the millions of audience members whose continued enthusiasm and support have made this remarkable achievement possible." The 10 longest-running West End productions are now *The Mousetrap*, *Les Misérables*, *The PHANTOM of the OPERA*, *THE WOMAN IN BLACK*, *MAMMA MIA!*, *BLOOD Brothers*, *THE LION KING*, *CATS*, *WICKED* and *STARLIGHT EXPRESS*.

BOB FOSSE, MARTHA GRAHAM AND JEROME ROBBINS AMONG INAUGURAL INDUCTEES OF NEW DANCE HALL OF FAME

Michael Abourizk – 30 October 2025

The choreography legends will be celebrated at a December ceremony in Los Angeles. A new Dance Hall of Fame has been established to honour the significant contributions to the discipline of dance. Included in the freshman class of inductees are Alvin Ailey, Mikhail Baryshnikov, Stephen "tWitch" Boss, Misty Copeland, Bob Fosse, Martha Graham, Gene Kelly, Kenny Ortega, Jerome Robbins and Twyla Tharp. The group will be feted at a ceremony on 3 December at Los Angeles' Gloria Kaufman Performing Arts Center. The honourees were selected by a board comprising Adele Yoshioka, Christopher d'Amboise, Jeff Thacker, Jody Gottfried Arnhold, Julia Strickland, Lawrence Jackson, Melinda Soderling, Renae Williams Niles, Stuart K. Robinson, Susan Shields, Terry Lindholm and Wendy Whelan. The board was chosen by Emmy Award-winning director Louis J. Horvitz and Emmy-nominated director-choreographer Anita Mann. Horvitz, Mann and Thacker will serve as executive producers of the ceremony; Horvitz will also take on directing duties for the event. District 78 will serve as music directors of the ceremony which will feature a performance by the Martha Graham Dance Company, a hip-hop routine celebrating "tWitch" featuring the "So You Think You Can Dance AllStars," a performance honouring Fosse's signature style of dance, a tap dance segment and a salute to Ortega's work on the film "Dirty Dancing". Ailey founded the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre, known for nurturing Black dancers for decades. Baryshnikov is a former principal dancer with both the New York City Ballet and the American Ballet Theatre, the latter for which he later served as artistic director. "tWitch" was a dancer-choreographer known for competing on "So You Think You Can Dance." In 2015, Copeland became the first Black principal dancer with American Ballet Theatre. The same year, she replaced in the role of Ivy in the Broadway revival of "On the Town." Fosse holds the record for winning the most Tony Awards (eight) for choreography, having won for shows such as *The Pajama Game*, *"DAMN Yankees*, *SWEET CHARITY*, *PIPPIN* and *Dancin'*. His body of work was celebrated in the 1999 Best Musical Tony Award winner *FOSSE*. Graham was a pioneer in modern dance, and established the Martha Graham School, the oldest dance school in the United States. Graham and her company performed multiple engagements on Broadway. Kelly is known for his work dancing in the Golden Age of Hollywood films, such as *An American in Paris*, *SINGIN' IN THE RAIN* and *Anchors Aweigh*. Kelly originated the role of Joey Evans in the 1940 Broadway production of *PAL JOEY*. Ortega is known for his film choreography, having created the dances for *XANADU*, *Dirty Dancing*, *NEWSIES* and *HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL 3*. Robbins won Tony Awards for choreographing the original Broadway productions of *WEST SIDE STORY* and *Fiddler on the Roof*. Robbins' resume also includes the original mountings of *ON THE TOWN*, *PETER PAN*, *The King and I* and *GYPSY*. Tharp founded Twyla Tharp Dance in 1965, which features work using her signature blend of styles (jazz, ballet and contemporary). The company performed several times on Broadway, before Tharp turned to directing and choreographing musical theatre productions such as *SINGIN' IN THE RAIN*, *The Times They Are a-Changing'*, *Come Fly Away* and *MOVIN' OUT*, the latter of which earned her a Tony for Best Choreography. "For decades, music and film have had institutions honour their greatest contributors; now, dance will finally have its Hall of Fame," Mann said in a statement. "This ceremony will serve as a long-overdue celebration of the brilliance and impact these individuals have made. It's a privilege to honour this class of inductees who have pushed boundaries, redefined the art and embodied the spirit of creativity and courage that inspires dancers and audiences across the globe."

LUKE EVANS STEPS INTO FISHNETS FOR THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW ON BROADWAY

Beth Stevens for Broadway.com – 29 October 2025

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST and *THE HOBBIT* star Luke Evans will make his Broadway debut as Frank-N-Furter in Richard O'Brien's *THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW*. Directed by *OH, MARY!* Tony winner Sam Pinkleton, the production begins previews on 26 March 2026 and opens 23 April 23 at Studio 54. Evans, a Welsh actor and singer, is known for playing Gaston in Disney's *BEAUTY AND THE BEAST*, Bard the Bowman in *THE HOBBIT* trilogy and Owen Shaw in *Fast & Furious 6*. Evans began his career on the London stage in *RENT*, *Miss Saigon*, *PIAF* and more. Last year he returned to the West End in *Backstairs Billy* opposite Penelope Wilton. As a recording artist, Evans has released two albums, "At Last" and "A Song for You," both of which reached the top five on the U.K. charts. The new version of the cult favourite musical will feature choreography by Ani Taj, music direction and orchestrations by Kris Kukul, set design by dots, costume design by David I. Reynoso, lighting design by Jane Cox, sound design by Brian Ronan and hair and makeup design by Alberto "Albee" Alvarado. "It is music to my ears to hear that a cast of very fine actors is on its way to NYC in order to play let's dress-up and make-believe, sing and dance and uplift the hearts of all those who enjoy the gift of free-thinking and the pleasure of love," O'Brien, who wrote the book, music and lyrics for the show said in a statement. "Break out the fishnets and let's have a party." Pinkleton added, "I'm giddy to crack this untamable classic open with the razor sharp Luke Evans at the centre. *ROCKY HORROR* is a sublime, ridiculous, giant hearted act of love, a trashy little musical that means so many things to generations of tender weirdos with mascara streaming down their faces. I hope we can make something joyous, unfathomable, straight from outer space and I can't wait to welcome you into the slimy tentacles of Studio 54." The musical features iconic songs including "Dammit Janet," "Touch-a Touch-a Touch-a Touch Me," "Hot Patootie" and "Time Warp." The limited engagement is set to play through 26 June.



YOUR NEWSLETTER

This newsletter is compiled bi-monthly in January, March, May, July, September and November each year. If you would like to request that a notice be included in the next **STAGE RAGE**, please e-mail admin@actthree.co.nz and your request will be passed on to the newsletter team.



From everyone at ACT THREE PRODUCTIONS to everyone wherever you are – we take this opportunity to wish you and yours a holiday season that is full of wonderful surprises, treats and non-stop laughter.

The festival of Christmas is about spending time with whānau and friends and creating beautiful and everlasting memories. Whatever your holiday plans may be, we wish you all a safe and relaxing time spent with those nearest and dearest to you.



An Irish Christmas Blessing

May you be blessed with
the spirit of the Season which
is peace. The gladness of
the Season, which is hope. And
the heart of the Season
which is Love.

-author unknown.

MERI KIRIHIMETE