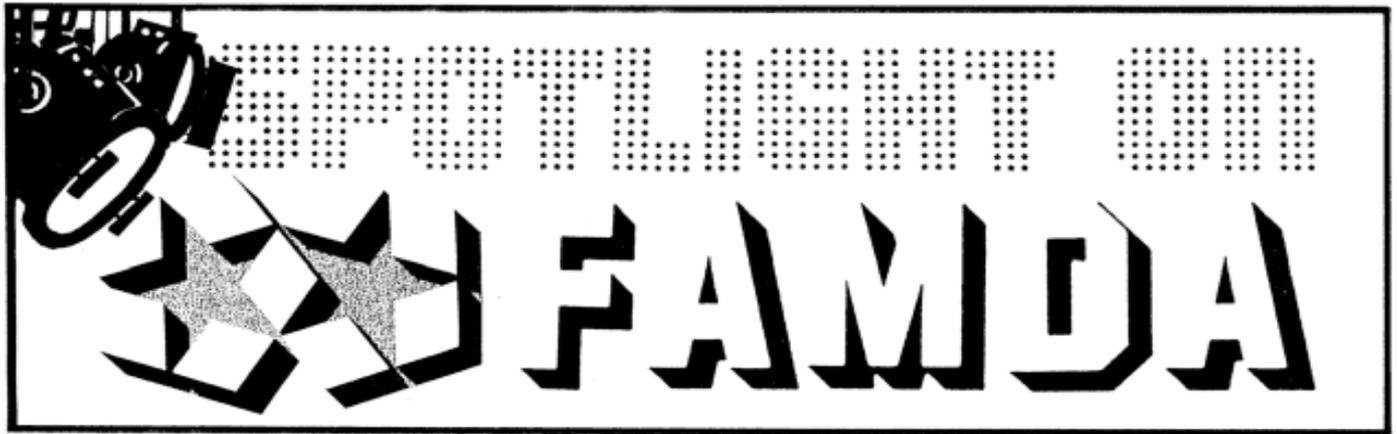


Foster Amateur Music & Drama Association Inc.



October 2009



Performances

- **Gala opening**
8:00 Friday 2 October
- 8:00 Saturday 3 Oct
- 2:00 Sunday 4 Oct
- 8:00 Thursday 8 Oct
- 8:00 Friday 9 October
- 8:00 Saturday 10 Oct
- 2:00 Sunday 11 Oct
- 8:00 Thursday 15 Oct
- 8:00 Friday 16 Oct
- 8:00 Saturday 17 Oct

Wonthaggi Theatrical Group

Razzle Dazzle

Ruby Show

20 & 21 November

AWARDS EVENTS

Music Theatre Guild

Saturday 5 December
Frankston Cultural Centre

Victorian Drama League

Sunday 6 December
Merrimu Receptions
Chadstone

**Gippsland
Associated Theatre**

Saturday 12 December
Foster War Memorial
Arts Centre

Presented by **FAMDA**
Foster War Memorial Arts Centre
2—17 October 2009
BOOK TICKETS NOW

Gala opening - 2 Oct All tickets: \$38

Other shows: Adult: \$30

Conc. / Group (10+): \$25

Student / Child: \$20

Choose your seats, buy your tickets at

Main Street Revelations, 31 Main St., Foster
0400 867 872 Credit card facilities

One of the most frequent images in folk literature is of a character travelling through a forest to reach a goal. In his book, *The Uses of Enchantment*, the noted child psychologist, Bruno Bettelheim, explains the symbolism of the woods in these fairy tales as "the place in which inner darkness is confronted and worked through; where uncertainty is resolved about who one is; and where one begins to understand who one wants to be."

In *Into the Woods* Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine lead a conglomeration of new and old storybook characters on such a journey of growth and self discovery. This adult fairy tale brings together Cinderella, Little Red Riding Hood, Jack (of Beanstalk fame) and Rapunzel, cleverly interweaving their familiar sagas in the light-hearted first act, then taking them on a far more pressing and sobering adventure in the second.

The show's initial concept had been for Lapine to devise an entirely original story. Sondheim was intrigued with the idea of doing a 'quest' fairy tale, and Lapine tried to write one but, as he worked, he realised that there were already so many existing tales his was unnecessary so he decided to use characters from familiar folk literature.

The musical's catalyst is Lapine's invention., a Baker and his Wife unable to have children as the result of a witch's spell. As they roam the woods in an attempt to "have the curse reversed", their quest has a ripple effect on all the other characters. Sondheim explains the childless couple are designed to 'go in and mess up everyone else's fairy story' in their efforts to obtain Little Red Ridinghood's cape, Cinderella's slipper, Jack's cow and Rapunzel's hair, in their quest to reverse the Witch's curse.



Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

Book by James Lapine

Into the Woods is constructed as a chamber-music piece and has many 16-and-32-bar song forms, befitting its uncomplicated characters. Various moments in the show are reinforced and commented upon with brief musical passages in the manner of a Disney movie, and the catchy, recurring title song is a gloss on countless Disney songs.

Unlike those cartoons, which invariably sanitised many of the violent and brutal aspects of fairy tales, Lapine and Sondheim reacquaint us with the crueler elements of these stories. The more gruesome moments in the show, such as the blinding of Rapunzel's Prince and Cinderella's stepsisters, are taken straight from the original stories.

Into the Woods is the second collaboration for the Pulitzer Prize winning authors of *Sunday in the Park with George*, and grapples with many of the traditional concerns of folk tales. The show deals with growing up; with the relationship between parents and children; taking responsibility; developing a code of morality with wish fulfillment and its consequences. The play's basic insight is that, at heart, most fairy tales are about the loving yet embattled relationship between parents and children. Almost everything that goes wrong in the story arises from a failure of parental or filial duty, despite the best intentions.

Sondheim drew on parts of his own troubled childhood when writing the show. In 1987, he told TIME magazine that the father uncomfortable with babies was his father, and the mother who regrets having had children was his mother. He also included ideas of child psychologist, Bruno Bettelheim, from his 1976 book *The Uses of Enchantment*, plus theories of the psychiatrists, Sigmund Freud and Carl Jung.

It's not too late to join the FAMDA team

Front of house manager, Catherine McGlead, is seeking volunteers to help out at the ten performances of 'Into the Woods'.

Eight people are needed each evening (or matinée).

If you are able to do any of the listed tasks please contact Catherine to let her know for which performances you are available and which duties you would like.

The tasks: Ticket desk manager, programme selling, raffle desk, bar staff for both pre-show and interval, usher, supper room attendant.

MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK

Catherine's contact details: catmcglead@dcsi.net.au or 5683 2313

Spread the word - *Into the Woods* will be fantastic.



FAMDA is fortunate to have two local musicians on the directorial team with John Laurie as director and Paddy Broberg as his assistant plus Pamela Coad as MD.

John says, "My first experience of Sondheim's work was seeing the film of *West Side Story* as an 11 year old. I was completely captivated and in those two hours, it changed my childlike view of musicals from 'daggy' to 'groovy'.

Like many of my generation, I also grew up loving cartoons and the classic 2D animation of fairy stories such as *Snow White* and *Sleeping Beauty*. When I was given the chance to direct *Into the Woods* my first thought about the style for the show was to create a cartoon look. I approached fellow musician, Gavin van Eede from the band Psycho Wombat and, with Gavin's wife, Sindy Virtue, and our amazing set people we have created a fresh and vibrantly colourful look for the show."

The vivid colours and cartoon style follow through to Anda Banikos' costumes making FAMDA's *Into the Woods* a visual, as well as a musical, feast.

FAMDA president, Max Adam, has been on the sick list recently. He went to hospital for a hip replacement, returned home, suffered a setback and found himself back in hospital. We hope he is well on the road to recovery and will be home soon.

Congratulations to Leongatha Lyric Theatre on their most enjoyable production of *A Little Hotel on the Side* directed by Raymond Dunstan.

It provoked lots of laughter and fun. It was good to see so many FAMDA and Foster people in the audience to enjoy the hilarity and the excellent acting.

WANTED

We are seeking expressions of interest from anyone who would like to direct a FAMDA production in 2010 or 2011.

Please contact the FAMDA Secretary before 9 October with suggestions of any projects you might like to propose.

Raymond Dunstan
FAMDA Secretary 5682 1567
chris.freeman3@bigpond.com

Spotlight on FAMDA
is proudly sponsored by

FOSTER

FOODWORKS

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58 Main St., Foster 5682 2495



FAMDA CAST LIST

(In order of appearance)

Narrator – Charles Gruen
Milky White – Louise Dower
Cinderella – Tamika Ball
Jack – Josh Gardiner
Baker – Andrew Oldroyd
Baker's Wife – Fiona Watts
Stepmother – Dianne Paragreen
Florinda – Lee-Anne Mitchell
Lucinda – Kerrie Giles
Jack's Mother – Hilary Stuchbery
Little Red Ridinghood – Katelyn Ardley
Witch – Nicole Cooper
Cinderella's Father – Ashley Stuchbery
Cinderella's Mother – Barbara Colbran
Wolf / Cinderella's Prince – Tim Gesell
Rapunzel – Bindi Dunstan
Rapunzel's Prince – Antony Norden
Granny / Giant's Wife – Barbara Colbran
Steward – James McIntyre
Sleeping Beauty – Rhiarna Ball
Snow White – Kim Sharpley

Dining in Foster before the show?

For promptly served, delicious meals

FAMDA recommends:

mezzatt

Modern Australian Cuisine @ Foster Golf Club

Lunch/Brunch: Thursday - Sunday
11:am - 2:30pm

Dinner: Tuesday - Sunday
6:00pm - 9:30pm

Group Bookings Welcome:
5682 2986

Local Gourmet Cuisine



Dinner from 6:00pm

Bookings essential

36 Main St, Foster 5682 2110

BYO licence

Purchase your wine at:

IGA Foster, 37 Main Street

Foster FoodWorks, 58 Main Street



P. O. Box 186
Foster 3960
0400 867 872

www.famda.org.au

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2009—2010

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