



HAMILTON  
OPERATIC  
SOCIETY

[www.hamiltonoperatic.co.nz](http://www.hamiltonoperatic.co.nz)

January  
2008

# HOStage

## 2008 Shows

### Announced

Following on from the artistic successes of **THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW** and **BLOOD BROTHERS**, Hamilton Operatic is excited to announce its lineup of forthcoming productions. The next two years bring a medley of shows for all tastes.

June 2008 will see the dawning of the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary production of **HAIR** - the tribal love rock musical which became the defining point of a generation and introduced the Rock Musical to theatre audiences.

This cult rock musical includes hits songs such as *Aquarius*, *Hair*, *Good Morning Star Shine* and *Let The Sunshine In* plus many more brilliant folk-rock anthems. Artistic Director David Sidwell says "this all new production of *Hair* will sweep you along, march you 'round, and set you down, dazed and amazed!"

September 2008 is the *purrfect* month to stage the multi award winning Andrew Lloyd Webber mega-hit musical **CATS**. A true musical theatre phenomenon, **CATS** opened at London's New London Theatre on May 11, 1981 and ran for a record-setting 21 years. **CATS'** London success was nearly matched on Broadway where it ran for just over 18 years. **CATS** is based on the universally popular poetry of T.S. Eliot.

This production will see the stunning original set and costumes from the Australian touring production.

In June/July 2009 the stage will be transformed into the enchanted world of Broadway's modern classic, Disney's **BEAUTY AND THE BEAST**. Based on the Academy Award winning animated feature, the stage version of Disney's **BEAUTY AND THE BEAST** includes all of the wonderful songs from the film, written by Alan Menken and the late Howard Ashman, (the team responsible for **LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS**), plus new songs written especially for the Broadway version by Mr. Menken and Tim Rice (**ALADDIN**, **AIDA**).

Operatic Board chairman, Dave Smith is thrilled to have the opportunity to stage this magnificent, internationally renowned production for Hamilton audiences. The production has all the magical characters from the movie with costumes specially designed and built by Peter Jackson's WETA Workshops in Wellington.



## HOS Board Changes

The HOS Annual General Meeting was held on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2007. For those of you who weren't present, the following positions were confirmed:

Ed Turner (Patron), Michael Easther (Vice President) and Paul Mitchell (Vice President)

The Board of Management comprises: David Smith (Chairperson), Tania Burkhart (Secretary), Lauren Bruce (Treasurer) Shirley Buchanan (Continuing Board Member) Phillipa Johnson (Co-opted Board Member) Yvonne Milroy (Elected Board Member) Chris Sidwell (Continuing Board Member), Marwyn Staples (Co-opted Board Member) and Kingsley Turner (Elected Board Member).

A big welcome to our new board members. We look forward to a great line-up of shows in 2008!



# Great deals with **book**

HOS is selling **The Entertainment™ Book** for 2008/2009 to raise funds for the society.

The Entertainment™ Book is a restaurant and activity guide that provides special 25% to 50% off and 2-for-1 offers from hundreds of the best restaurants, cinemas, hotels and attractions throughout Waikato and the Bay of Plenty/Rotorua. The

featured restaurants and other businesses do not pay to be included, they are selected based on awards, reviews and personal recommendations. The books are only available through fundraising groups and organisations such as HOS.

The Entertainment Book costs only \$50 - with \$10 going to HOS. Anyone interested can pre-order one from

Tania Burkhart - contact Tania by email [tburkhart@hotmail.com](mailto:tburkhart@hotmail.com). If you pre-order you'll receive an extra six vouchers with every pre-order. The books are due out on 27th March. For more info contact Tania or leave a message with Costume Hire and Tania will contact you.



## Farewell Sandra!

The annual closure of our Costume Hire department for the holidays saw the departure of long-serving staff member **Sandra Herbert**. Sandra and husband Leon are currently building a new home in Waihi and plan to move in shortly. Sandra has worked in costume hire for 24 years, and has seen many changes to the Society including the fundraising and construction of the community theatre as well as the comings and goings of various production and management personnel -

not to forget contributing to over 100 shows for the society during this time! So a huge THANK-YOU to Sandra and we wish her and Leon all the best for the future.

**Joy Wright** and **Tracey Keast** have joined Costume Hire on a part time basis. We're also looking for volunteers to help with Saturday mornings - contact Kathie at Costume hire if you're able to help (doesn't have to be every Saturday).

### Membership Renewal!

It's that time of year to renew your membership of the Hamilton Operatic Society - a 2008 membership form is enclosed. Help support the society by continuing your membership or getting friends, family members or colleagues to join. The more the merrier!

### Our Wishlist

Santa didn't visit Hamilton Operatic at Christmas (OK we were closed) so you may be able to help with some of these:

- Glass Front counter (for Costume Hire)
- A warehouse or barn for storage of old sets
- Printer, copier, fax machine, scanner...any computer equipment from this millennium would be fantastic
- Dressmakers dolls
- Any old nursery rhyme or poetry books that have colourful pictures of the characters within (these are incredibly helpful when we get a request from left-field for a particular theme - "what colour is Dick Whittington's cat?")

If you can help, please call Costume Hire on 07 839 3082.

#### New Costume Hire Hours:

Mondays	10am - 6pm	Fridays	12pm - 6pm
Tuesdays	Closed	Saturdays	10am - 1pm
Wednesdays	Closed	Sundays	Closed
Thursdays	12pm - 6pm	We now accept EFTPOS!	



## Kirsty Otto Update

Kirsty has just started her fourth round of Chemotherapy following an operation by Dr Teo in Sydney to remove a brain tumour several months ago. Kirsty is scheduled to visit Dr Teo again in March 2008, and at that point, she will have a more definite prognosis. Like the theatrical professional that she is, Kirsty is the epitome of "the show will go on". She is still the vivacious, positive and bubbly Kirsty that we've always known. Upon seeing her, you would never

know that she was inflicted with an "inoperable brain tumour" just a few months ago. Not only has Kirsty followed her Doctor's advice, but she has overhauled her diet completely - no salt, no red meat and she won't eat anything that's been cooked in a microwave. Kirsty wishes to pass on her heartfelt thanks to all the people who made donations to the operation fund, and for all the support she has received in the last six months.