



CONTENTS

- Happy New Year
- Annual General Meeting
- Board Update
- Time to Renew – Membership
- Condolences
- Regional Theatre Awards
- Sponsorship
- Matilda Teaser
- MTNZ Conference 2024
- Expressions of Interest
- Top Musical Revivals



*May the coming year be a tapestry of success,
laughter and cherished moments,
weaving together the threads of
shared experiences and newfound aspirations*



Please note in your diaries that the ACT THREE PRODUCTIONS Annual General Meeting will be held this year on Tuesday, 23 April 2024.

Board Update

- Graham Johnston has resigned from the ACT THREE PRODUCTIONS Board.
- Jorgia Redfern has resigned from the position of Youth Representative for ACT THREE PRODUCTIONS.
- Leanora Potten has kindly agreed to cover the Youth Representative position for ACT THREE PRODUCTIONS until the AGM on 23 April 2024.

We thank Graham Johnston and Jorgia Redfern for their time and commitment to ACT THREE PRODUCTIONS.



Your ACT THREE PRODUCTIONS membership is due for renewal. The renewal fees for **current** financial members (i.e. your membership card expires on 31 January **2024**) are as follows;

- **Adult Membership – \$30.00**
 - This will include a free membership gift if paid before the AGM on 23 April 2024 (to be distributed at/after the AGM).
- **Child Membership (under 16) – \$15.00**
 - This will include a free membership gift if paid before the AGM on 23 April 2024 (to be distributed at/after the AGM).
- **Family Membership (2A & any children under 16) – \$60.00**
 - This will include two free membership gifts per family membership if paid before the AGM on 23 April 2024 (to be distributed at/after the AGM).

Membership renewal rates, if paid after the AGM on 23 April 2024, will be;

Adults – \$40.00

Child (under 16) – \$20.00

Family (2A + any) – \$80.00

Pro-forma invoices for membership will be sent to current members within the next couple of weeks. Membership fees can be paid to **PN Operatic Society: 06-0729-0024947-00**





We take this time to send our sincere condolences to those members who have lost loved ones recently, specifically Laura Hook whose brother passed away on 24 December 2023 and Ian Neal (past member) whose wife of 34 years, Bronnie Neal, passed away on 7 January 2024.

After the tears have dried and the goodbyes have been said, all we have to hold onto are the happy memories that we've shared with our loved ones who have passed – this is what keeps them alive in our hearts and in our minds and they will continue to live on through us.



Regional Theatre Awards

**The awards this year are scheduled for
Friday, 23 February 2024
7.30 p.m.**



ACT THREE PRODUCTIONS
*proudly invite you to sponsor
 a company member of*

RONALD DAHLG
Matilda
 THE MUSICAL

12 - 27 April 2024
 REGENT ON BROADWAY

For a sponsorship of \$450, we will provide you with:

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

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

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.

actthree.co.nz 06 355 0499



We thank the following sponsors who have already signed up for this excellent opportunity.



Matilda and cast provide a teaser for Act Three's next production

Janine Rankin, Jan 03 2024



JIM JEFFERIES

Isla Cabuay, Annie Bearsley, Tanzi Good, Scarlett Lees-Galloway, Sylvie Musso, Holly Huffer, Jackson Kingston from the cast of Matilda The Musical perform on New Year's Eve in Palmerston North

New Year's Eve partygoers in Palmerston North were treated to a sneak preview of Act Three Productions' production of **Matilda the Musical**, which opens at the Regent on Broadway in April. Production Manager Samantha Peters, working in partnership with Lorna Stanley, said the 36 children involved had been working incredibly hard at rehearsals. She said their efforts shone through in their performance of the songs Naughty, Bruce, and Revolting Children at the New Year's Eve concert held in Te Marae o Hine/The Square. **Matilda the Musical**, first staged by the Royal Shakespeare Company, is said to revel in the anarchy of childhood, the power of imagination and the inspiring story of a girl who dreams of a better life. With a book by Dennis Kelly and original songs by Tim Minchin, **Matilda** has won 47 international awards and continues to delight audiences around the world. All up, the Palmerston North production will have a cast of 50 people. Director Phil Anstis has been selected for the lead role of Miss Trunchbull, a tyrannical headmistress and bully who calls the children maggots and worms. The role is quite often played on stage by a male. Miss Trunchbull's opposite, the kindly Miss Honey, will be played by Danica Manson.



JIM JEFFERIES

Children from the cast of Matilda the Musical perform at the New Year's Eve concert held in Te Marae o Hine/The Square.

The character of Matilda is based on Roald Dahl's Matilda, a 1988 children's novel that has also been made into a movie. Matilda was born to parents, the Wormwoods, who really do not want her and who relentlessly mock and mistreat her. She nonetheless develops as a bright and clever child. These attributes are recognised by Miss Honey and Matilda discovers she has magical powers that help her to stand up for herself and also help the other children to overcome the bullying. Matilda will be played in rotation by Sylvie Musso, Lucy Bennett and Tanzi Good, with an alternating chorus of children supported by a choir of backing singers. The production runs for 12 performances from April 12 to 27 at the Regent on Broadway.



IT'S TIME TO REVIVE!!!

As MTNZ revives and grows after the past few years, we focus on remaining grounded in where we have come from.

What you need to know about the MTNZ Conference, AGM and Training Weekend 2024

MTNZ Conference 2024 is held on the third weekend of March, at the Distinction Hotel in Rotorua. Conference is a weekend for ALL involved in theatre in New Zealand. With a diverse portfolio of development opportunities (listed below) there is something for everyone. Complimenting our fab development line up, MTNZ Conferences boast networking opportunities, The MDR Lighting 'Costumes of Broadway' Annual Gala Ball, The iTICKET National Awards Dinner, The MTNZ Theatre EXPO, MTNZ's 64th AGM, followed by The G&T Productions AGM Lunch, keynote speakers ... and so much more. MTNZ Conference inspires, rejuvenates, upskills and connects New Zealand's theatre community - which, for the most part, is passionately run by volunteers.

- Don't miss our early bird registration special -

MTNZ CONFERENCE 2024

EARLY BIRD
DISCOUNT



UNTIL 31 JANUARY 2024

MTNZ 2024 | GROWING TOGETHER
CONFERENCE | GROUNDED IN OUR PAST
E TAU AE I MURI, E TIPU TAKITAHĪ TĀTOU

MTNZ Conference 2024 Workshops and Training



- Session 1F: Makeup for Drag - Facilitator: Donna Rae (sponsored by BodyFX)
- Session 2F: DIY - Make a Masquerade Mask - Facilitator: Fifi Colston
- Session 3F and 18S: Wellbeing in Creativity - Presenter: Nick Clothier
- Session 4F: Copyright Holders Forum - Panel of Rights Holders
- Session 5F: Caring for the Vocal Athlete - Facilitator: Kristina Hockey
- Session 6F and 15S: Making the most of Mentoring - Facilitator: Sonya Aifai
- Session 7F: Musical Theatre Foundation of Aotearoa - Progress and Update - Facilitator: MTTFAO Trustees
- MTNZ Conference 2024 Official Welcome, with Keynote Speaker and Life Members Panel
- Zone Time / NextGen Meeting - Facilitators: Zone Reps and NextGen Rep
- Session 8S: Office Bearer Fundamentals - Facilitator: Jenni Murphy-Scanlon
- Session 9S: Costuming Workshop - Heads and Feet - Facilitator: Fifi Colston
- Session 10S: Singing Sondheim - Everybody Says Don't!?! - Facilitator: Mark Dorrell
- Session 11S: A Practical Workshop on Neurodiversity in the Theatre Space - Facilitators: Kate Martin-Booker & Nick Bouchier
- Session 12S: Tech Talk Forum - Panel
- Session 13S: Set Design: Broadway Ambitions vs Amateur Budget - Facilitator: Ben Hambling
- Session 14S: Job Descriptions - Are the more than just a list of jobs? - Facilitator: Rachel Malaquin
- Session 16S: Understanding your Footprint - Engaging with Mana Whenua
Facilitators: Bobby Mihi Howard & Watchman Rivers
- Session 17S: How to get the most from your Ensemble - Facilitator: Elise Rohde
- Session 19S: Junior Theatre - Facilitators: Stuart Hendricks and Emma Bishop
- Session 20S: Fostering Phenomenal Team Cultures - Facilitator: Jenni Murphy-Scanlon

Find out more about seminars and training [HERE](#)

[Register HERE](#)

[Undecided? Follow our event on Facebook for updates HERE](#)

Thank you to our Conference Sponsors

MTNZ Conference couldn't offer the theatre community all it does without the support of these fantastic organisations

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MTNZ CONFERENCE 2024 | GROWING TOGETHER
GROUNDED IN OUR PAST
E TAU AE I MURI. E TIPU TAKITAHU TĀTOU
15-17 March 2024, Detention Hotel, Rotorua

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Are you ready for the Most Beautiful Thing in the World?



We are currently seeking Expressions of Interest for the following roles;



DIRECTOR



MUSICAL DIRECTOR



CHOREOGRAPHER

If you are interested in joining us on this exhilarating journey, please fill out the form linked below by 20 January 2024.

<https://docs.google.com/.../1FAIpQLScUrNrKy2XbMT.../viewform>



Top musical revivals to see in 2024

[Alex Wood](#)

[Nationwide](#)

29 December 2023

Some classics are coming back!

While a classic show is always a treat, sometimes it's nice to see a new creative team put their spin on material, shining new lights on what may be well-worn melodies and scripts. With that in mind, here are 12 musical revivals we're very excited to see in 2024! To clarify our criteria, we've only included brand-new revivals, rather than returning shows that are transferring to new locations (like *Standing at the Sky's Edge*).

1. ***Hello, Dolly!***



Imelda Staunton

© Dan Wooller for WhatsOnStage

One of the productions that seemed like it was never going to happen after lockdown disruption, the eagerly anticipated and Imelda Staunton-led *Hello, Dolly!* The classic musical about the New York matchmaker hasn't been seen on these shores for a while, so we're excited to see what director Dominic Cooke has in store (who reunites with Staunton after their work together on *Follies*). Oh, and as for venue, it's going to be staged at The London Palladium – they don't get much grander than that! The London Palladium, from 6 July.

2. ***My Fair Lady***

Opera North and Leeds Playhouse will collaborate once more following their most recent mounting of Sondheim's *A Little Night Music*. This time, they're tackling *My Fair Lady*, Lerner and Loewe's much-loved classic about a woman who has to put up with a know-it-all man trying to teach her how to speak the same way he does. Or perhaps that's the revisionist take the world needs! Leeds Playhouse, from 31 May.

3. ***The Sound of Music***



Artwork for *The Sound of Music*, © Fraser Band

The beautiful Pitlochry Festival Theatre will be bringing those hills to life with the sound of music next winter, with a new staging of the Rodgers and Hammerstein classic. In fact, the show is only one of three revivals the Scottish venue is offering, with *Beautiful – The Carole King Musical* [and](#) *Footloose* [featuring in their bountiful summer season](#). Pitlochry Festival Theatre, from 15 November.

4. ***Starlight Express***

Is it real, yes or no? That was the question on everyone's lips for months as rumours of *Starlight Express*' return rumbled along. Then came the major announcement – director extraordinaire Luke Sheppard (& *Juliet*, *My Son's A Queer*, *Rent*, *The Little Big Things*, *In the Heights*, and so many more) will be in the driving seat for this new take on Andrew Lloyd Webber and Richard Stilgoe's locomotive musical. Troubadour Wembley Park Theatre will be transformed for the experience, with the show extending after only one day of sales. This will really be a bit of a bonanza – with the skating stars orbiting audience members! Troubadour Wembley Park Theatre, from 8 June.

5. ***Little Shop of Horrors***



The artwork for *Little Shop of Horrors*, supplied by the production

Another fan fave back in a brand-new production, the sci-fi, comedy, horror musical from the minds of Alan Menken and Howard Ashman will be touring a variety of venues across the spring. If you want to know who's going to star, maybe check in with WhatsOnStage early next year. Lotte Wakeham directs. New Wolsey Theatre in Ipswich, from 1 March, before tour to Keswick, Bolton and Hull.

6. ***Kinky Boots***

Another fave, *Kinky Boots*, also returns in the new year, with a brand-new production at the Storyhouse in Chester, which is making great strides in hosting exciting and fan-favourite musical productions. The show's story of acceptance, pragmatism, friendship and love (as well as the perfect structure for a drag queen's shoes) will no doubt light up the location next summer. Storyhouse Chester, from 3 May.

7. ***Dear Evan Hansen***



The artwork for the new *Dear Evan Hansen* tour

It already feels like for forever since we waved goodbye to *Dear Evan Hansen* in the West End, but it hasn't disappeared for long – the show is already being remounted in a brand-new production directed by Nottingham Playhouse's Adam Penford. Seeing a UK creative team have their own take on the material is a very exciting prospect, and the show is embarking on a major tour into 2025. Nottingham Playhouse, from 9 September and then tour.

8. ***White Christmas***

Sheffield Theatres is currently staging a [five-star revival](#), but the Mill at Sonning will have its own stab at the production next winter. The venue has had a wonderful run of revivals in the last few years, including the UK Theatre Award-winning *Gypsy*, so this one will make a lovely addition to the collection. The Mill at Sonning, from 27 November.

9. ***Singin' in the Rain***



Artwork for *Singin' in the Rain*

The lovely outdoor theatre at Kilworth House in Leicestershire has been providing some stellar musical revivals in the past, and in 2024 they'll be bringing the musical adaptation of the classic film *Singin' in the Rain* to the stage. Expect some major choreography and don't worry about the actual rain because they've got a massive tarpaulin to keep punters dry! Kilworth House Theatre, from 18 June.

10. ***The Big Life***

The 2004 ska musical with book by Paul Sirett and Tameka Empson, lyrics by Sirett, and music by Paul Joseph made a huge splash when it first premiered at Theatre Royal Stratford East. It's now back where it all began in a new production to mark the show's 20th anniversary, with a lovely cast to boot. Theatre Royal Stratford East, from 16 February.

11. ***RENT***



Artwork for *RENT*, © production

Never away from UK stages for long, *RENT* is something of a fan fave and a big hit with audiences. We're especially excited to see this production arrive next summer, as it marks a new venture for Landmark Theatres in the south-west, with the revival being their first production. No casting as of yet, but could we see Peterborough North Devon becoming a hub for major musical stagings from 2024 onwards? Peterborough New Theatre, from 20 June, before Queen's Theatre, Barnstaple, from 3 July.

12. *A Christmas Carol*

The festive season hasn't really even finished and we're already thinking about the next one. Based on Charles Dickens' novella and featuring music by Alan Menken, lyrics by Lynn Ahrens, and a book by Mike Ockrent and Ahrens, expect a spirited staging of a hit show, produced by the Hope Mill Theatre at the larger-scale venue of the Lowry in Salford. All in all, something of an enticing way to spend next Christmas! The Lowry's Quays Theatre, from 6 December 2024.



ACT THREE PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS



SEASON OF

