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## COMPANY NEWSLETTER ISSUE #17: MARCH 2013

### A HAPPY ENDING FOR TALES

Merlyn Productions Theatre Company enjoyed a stellar close to its 2012 Season with *"Wind of a Thousand Tales"* in December, as spotlighted by reporter Matt Preprost in his article *"Tales blow into Ellice Theatre"* for *The Metro*.



This family holiday special featured the largest single cast ever staged by the company, led by 12-year-old Winnipeg Theatre School student JORDAN HRYNKIW as Kimberly-Kay. In total, the eighteen-performer ensemble also featured Merlyn mainstage regulars LUCY BARBARA, TIM BEAUDRY, BRIAN DOUGHERTY, DEAN DUNCAN, YVONNE GRENIER, MITCH KROHN, KEN STONE, and ANNA WOODWARD, performing alongside nine new company members (see Page 2).

Offstage, unfailingly-good houses of friends and supporters combined with the showing of a sizeable Brownie group at the final performance to set a new record for the company's highest-attended non-festival production to date!



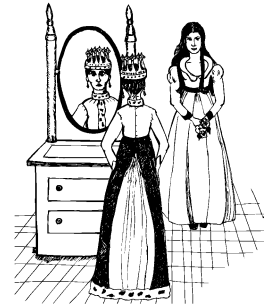
### ARTISTIC DIRECTOR HITS ONE HUNDRED

Congratulations to Merlyn Productions founder and Artistic Director JOHN CHASE, who recently celebrated a personal milestone with *"Wind of a Thousand Tales"* marking his 100<sup>th</sup> production after 22 years of involvement in the local arts scene as an actor, director, producer, and stage manager.

Mr Chase is already looking forward to what the next one hundred will bring!

### SNOW WHITE AND THE SEVEN DWARFS FOR SPRING BREAK!

March 22 to 26 at the Ellice Theatre, Merlyn Productions will open its 2013 Season with *"SNOW WHITE AND THE SEVEN DWARFS"*, as adapted by MAURICE BERGER for a cast of just three performers. Impossible? Not with this enchanting play, filled with humour and AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION!



For over 30 years, countless children have enjoyed this faithful rendition of the classic fairy tale, featuring Snow White, the wicked Queen, and a storyteller who becomes the huntsman and the handsome young prince, among others.

This play is a true children's theatre experience: every young member of the audience becomes involved in the action, a few lucky children may be invited onstage as dwarfs, and you can meet the characters after a happy ending!

Directing the play is Merlyn Productions Artistic Director JOHN CHASE.

Featured in the cast of three local performers are MYLÈNE CHICOINE as Snow White, HEATHER FORGIE as the Queen, and SCOTT AUSTIN as a "Stage Manager" who portrays five key characters.

Stage managed by DEAN DUNCAN, DAVID KING, and SAM KOWALUK, with original scenic and costume design by FANTASY THEATRE FOR CHILDREN.

Individual tickets start at just \$7 for children 12 & under, with group rates available for 10 or more.

**For further information and reservations,  
visit MERLYN.BIZ or call 204-415-2714.**

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*"Committed to staging quality theatrical entertainment at an affordable price."*



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#### MERLYN MEMBER NEWS

Many members of *Merlyn Productions* fill diverse roles in the local arts community. We are pleased to highlight the following recent, newsworthy items:

- From our December production cast of *“Wind of a Thousand Tales”*, we welcome new Core Members **HARMONY LIGHT** and **JAZMYN SHELL** from the *Winnipeg Theatre School*, as well as **HOPE FIGUEROA**, **HEATHER FORGIE**, **RACHEL HIEBERT**, **KAI JOLLEY**, **EDWING JUAREZ**, **ISABELLE MAE**, and **TONY PORTEOUS** through public General Auditions.
- Welcome to new company Core Member **SCOTT AUSTIN** from the *Winnipeg Theatre School*, who will be playing a multitude of roles in our March production of *“Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs”*.
- Welcome to new company Supporting Member **WENDY HRYNKIW**, Box Office Manager for *“The Wrath of Wrath”* and *“Wind of a Thousand Tales”*.
- In this January's Master Playwright Festival (SondheimFest 2013), **HEATHER FORGIE** played Alice and **EDWING JUAREZ** played Clinton in *“The Last of Sheila”* with *Resonator Theatrical*, while **MYLÈNE CHICOINE** stage managed *“A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum”* for *Kiss The Giraffe Productions*.
- **CHRIS REID** – also also well-known as a broadcaster for Power 97 – held a spell-bound (and gagged?) audience as a celebrity reader for the Manitoba Writers' Guild *“Words In The Flesh”* fund-raising event in February. His text? *“Fifty Shades of Grey.”*
- Also in February, **JUDY ARNASON** co-starred in the two-handed Norm Foster comedy *“Wrong for Each Other”* with the *Churchill Park Players*.
- March 28 to 31, **KEN STONE**, **KAI JOLLEY**, and **TONY PORTEOUS** will perform with *Anonymous Voice Productions* in the play *“My Vision by Night”* by Leighton Knapp at the Frame Arts Warehouse.

#### COMPANY STAFF

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR  
JOHN CHASE

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR  
KEVIN HAMILL

WARDROBE MISTRESS  
JENN HARDER

#### SCHOOL INSTRUCTORS

YOUTH THEATRE INSTRUCTOR  
TONY FROST

ADULT THEATRE INSTRUCTOR  
JOHN CHASE

#### FAMOUS THEATRE QUOTE

*“So it isn't really true, right?”*

*“Only your heart can tell you that, Kim-Kay. If the story made you feel something . . . then it has truth.”*

– KIMBERLY-KAY & NUSHI,

*“WIND OF A THOUSAND TALES”*



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