

IMMEDIATE RELEASE:



CATS “Jellicle Cats Come One Come All”

Aug 18-26th 8PM Aug 20 & 26th 2PM Kelowna Community Theatre

Tickets: www.ticketmaster.ca Charge by phone: 860-1470 or 717-5304

Info: www.vivamusica.ca Viva Music - Live Music Theatre....with Attitude!

1) CATS has been cast!

Featuring a full orchestra as well as over 30 cast members. Neal Facey, artistic director for Viva Musica, says “This society is well known for the quality of their productions, combining high quality musical delivery and artistic staging, sets and costumes. We are happy to welcome back so many talented Viva Musica members into the cast as well as:

- David Mann, Sunshine Theatre's creative director, as "Old Deuteronomy."
- Steve Maddock-Vancouver- "Gaston" in Disney's Beauty & the Beast 2005- will join CATS as "Bustopher Jones/Asparagus/Growltiger"
- Ben Van Exan -"Lefou" in Disney's Beauty & the Beast 2005, in CATS as "Skimbleshanks"

Vancouver has produced other talented actors for the following roles:

- Danny Balkwill- last seen as the elephant in Seussical the Musical, will star as "Rum Tum Tugger"
- Andy Fosmark- will star as "Munkestrap"
- Jyla Robinson- will show us her dance skills as "Demeter"
- Katie Murphy- becomes "Jellylorum/Griddlebone"

2) The Production

- It's going to be an extravaganza like Kelowna has never seen before!
- **You can enjoy nine performances, featuring some of the best dancers/singers/actors in our city as well as some professionals from Vancouver.**
- Based on the T.S. Elliot novel, Andrew Lloyd Webber's CATS tells the story, in song and dance, of the annual gathering of Jellicle cats at which time one special cat is selected to ascend to the Heaviside layer.

3) The Production Team

Award Winning Music Director -NEAL FACEY

2006 Honour in the Arts Award

Award Winning Music Director-ROSLYN FRANTZ

2004 KADAK “Honor in the Arts Award” –

2005 Westbank Chamber of Commerce “Angel Award”

Choreographer with Viva for the 4th year- ROBB CARD

4) Community Partnerships 2006 season

- **Gorman Bros. Lumber-** The 11th year as our Title sponsor! CEO Bill Reedy is a Board Member
- **Hawkeye Holdings-** Building warehouse for one of our largest sets!
- **Landmark Cinemas-**
- **RBC Financial Group**
- **Capital News-**Season Media Sponsor
- **Okanagan Life Magazine-** Pre-Show Performance Sponsored Event on Aug 26th
- **Okanagan Mainline Real Estate Board**
- **Summerhill Pyramid Winery-**Official Wine Supplier
- **Cottages @ Secret Point**
- **Perry & Co**
- **Chatsworth Retirement**
- **MacKay & Co**
- **Sun Life Financial-** Pre-Show Performance Sponsored Event on Aug 23rd
- **General Paint-** Official Paint supplier
- **Home Hardware-**Official Lumber supplier
- **Lights Plus-**Official Lighting Supplier
- **Cream Hair & Makeup Lounge-** Official Wigs/Makeup
- **Enterprise Flowers-**Official Florist
- **Tree Fort Studios-Vytas Sinkevicious-** Sound Designer
- **SPL Sound**
- **Livessence-** Pre-Show Arts Show Event on Aug 19th

5) The Theatre Company

- Viva Musica is a registered non-profit society, established in 1991 by Music Director, Roslyn Frantz and Artistic Director, Neal Facey to provide a performance venue, primarily for Okanagan singers and musicians, both professional and non-professional.
- In the past 16 years we have staged highly acclaimed productions of such world famous operas as *The Magic Flute*, *The Marriage Of Figaro*, *La Boheme*, *The Pirates Of Penzance*. We have also very successfully performed the musicals, *Show Boat*, *West Side Story*, *Cabaret*, *Evita* & *Disney's Beauty & the Beast* and look forward to presenting *CATS*, in August of 2006.
- Each year, we provide employment and work experience for local students and emerging professional singers and artists as well as over 70 production volunteers. We provide technical training and summer work opportunities that are unavailable anywhere else in the province. We also provide employment for over a dozen symphony musicians.

6) Raffle to benefit SPCA

- Viva Musica is proud to collaborate performance arts and visual arts with an original piece of art being raffled to benefit and raise awareness for the Kelowna SPCA.
- Julia Trops, a member of the Livessence Society for Figurative Artists & Models, has painted an original art piece called "Memories"

7) The Viva Chorus

- Viva Musica Chorus will perform at the Mayor's Summer Dreams Breakfast at the Rotary Centre For The Arts 7AM June 27th in support of Arts Education.
- The Viva Musica Chorus was recently formed to present some of the beautiful music performed over the past 16 years of musical theatre.

Thanks to our Granting Organizations: City of Kelowna Arts Foundation, Province of BC & KADAC