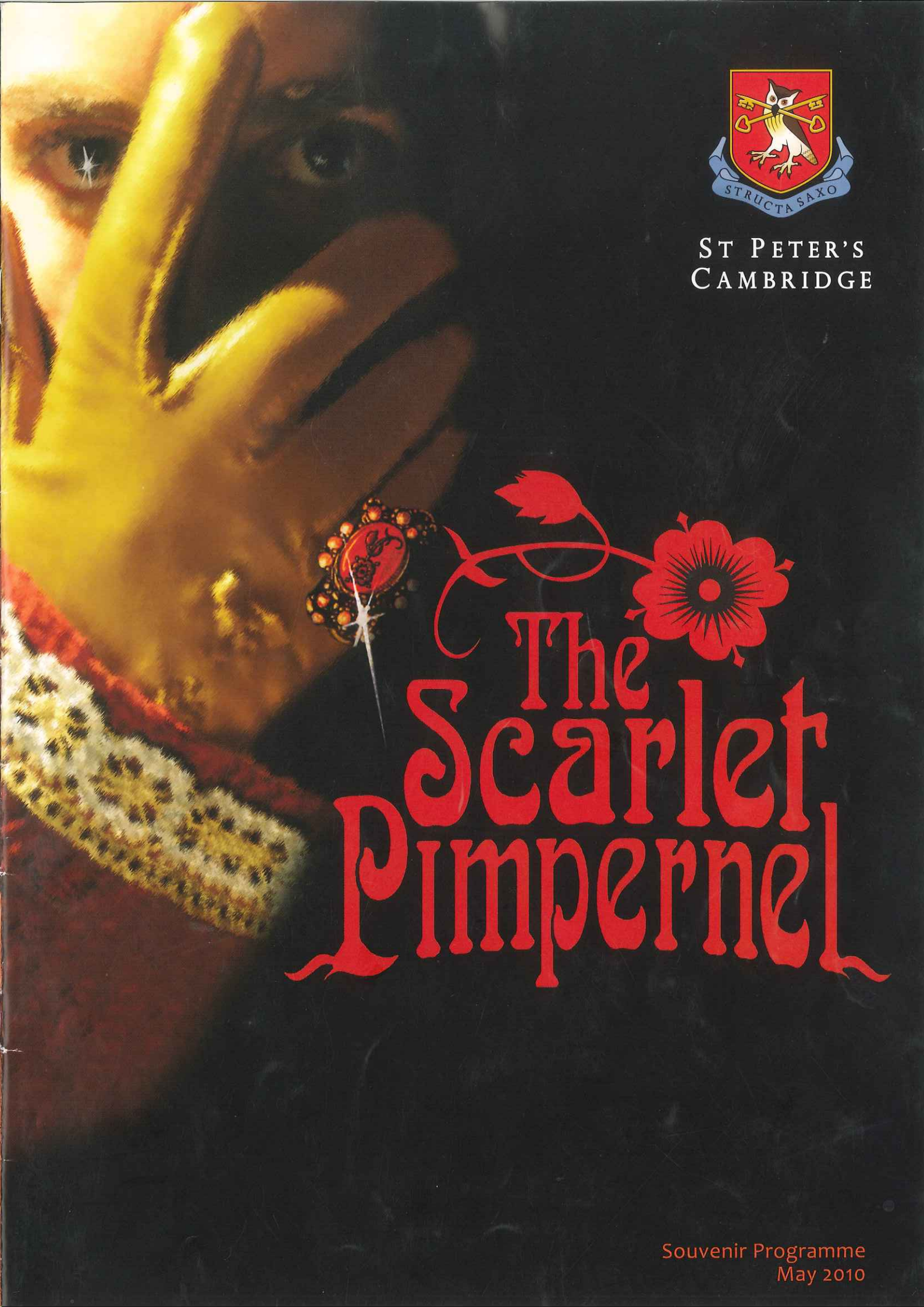




ST PETER'S  
CAMBRIDGE



# The Scarlet Pimpernel

Souvenir Programme  
May 2010



# The Scarlet Pimpernel

Book and Lyrics by  
Nan Knighton

Music by  
Frank Wildhorn

Director  
David Sidwell

Musical Director – Orchestra  
Victoria Brown

Musical Director – Vocal  
David Hall

Choreographer  
Caroline Gill

Technical Director  
Bruce Richards

Lighting Designer  
Aaron Chesham

Set Designer  
Simon Boyer-Willisson

Costume Designer  
Kathie Young

Hair, Wigs & Makeup Designer  
Jocelyn Kerr

Cue Caller  
Debbie Ussher

Stage Manager  
Mike Demler

Producer  
Julia McIntyre

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### Principal Steve Robb

We are delighted to welcome you to our 2010 School Production *The Scarlet Pimpernel*.

The story of the French Revolution holds an important place in the history of France, and indeed of the world. The intense battle for modern democracy came at great human cost.

This production brings to life the bravery of a hero who made a stand against the overwhelming odds of people power. It is done with humour, flair and drama. All aspects to behold and draw us, the audience, into the exciting, stimulating and dangerous world of this special moment in time.

We are grateful to our director Mr David Sidwell, and his great team of staff, students, parents and supporters, who have ensured that our Principals and Company shine in this stunning extravaganza.

Thank you all for your wonderful support.

Enjoy the show!



### Director David Sidwell

*Nothing is as it seems. Deadly, dangerous deeds wrapped in a crimson and purple bow. A tale of masked intrigue, courage, betrayal, lust and love, sprinkled with outlandish amusement. This is The Scarlet Pimpernel- the musical. The goal: seamlessly blend fiction and moments of heightened theatricality into an honest, emotionally driven, quick paced entertainment with a nod to historical perspective.*

*Three people of passion, who once had glistening dreams, now face a tarnished reality in a lethal labyrinth of suspicion, betrayal and loss. Where in that labyrinth love is found, love abandoned, lust tempted, lust recanted and love reborn...*

David had the luxury of seeing the original Pimpernel cast on Broadway... this is his second opportunity to direct the musical gem and he still loves it!

This period piece is a romantic adventure with a wonderful pop score and the creative team and students have had a great deal of fun bringing it to the stage. We hope you enjoy it as much as we do!

Director... musical director... composer... orchestrator/arranger ... pianist ... David has 40 years involvement in music and theatre under his belt.

He works professionally with theatre groups both in New Zealand and Australia. 2010 is another busy year and sees him directing productions of *The Secret Garden*, *The Scarlet Pimpernel* and *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*.

He also lectures in music and manages the Music Department of the School of Media Arts at Wintec.

### Producer Julia McIntyre

Julia is HOD of Music at St Peter's School. Since arriving at St Peter's in 2006 Julia has enjoyed being involved in many Performing Arts activities such as Stage Challenge, Jazz Band, Prep Choir, Senior School Choir and Prep Production. This year is her second year as Producer, the first being *Thoroughly Modern Millie* in 2009. It takes a lot of work to put a show together however there are some very talented staff members at St Peter's and within the community.

There is so much more to a show than the music, dancing, singing and acting. The cast, crew and musicians this year have been outstanding and these students show so much enthusiasm and dedication for musical theatre. This is an incredible journey and the students experience many great life skills. A special mention and thank you must go to the Set and Costume Designers as they have given this show the 'X' factor. *The Scarlet Pimpernel* could very well be the best show yet!



### Choreographer Caroline Gill

Caroline is the Teacher in Charge of Dance at St Peter's School. Her love of musical theatre began as a young girl when her mother took her to see a Taumarunui repertory production of *Annie*, followed by *Oliver* and she couldn't wait to be up there on the stage herself.

Caroline began studying Australasia Ballet and American Jazz while in primary school in Cambridge and then went on to study contemporary dance and various cultural dance forms as a tertiary student.

Being actively involved in the musical theatre scene in Hamilton over the years, she has taken on roles as *Liesl* in *The Sound of Music*, *Sheila* in *Hair*, *Eliza* in *My Fair Lady*, *Nancy* in *Oliver*, and *Rumpleteazer* in *CATS*.

As part of *The Scarlet Pimpernel* she took on the challenge of learning Baroque dance which added yet another string to her bow. This fantastic young cast demonstrate exceptional skill and huge commitment to the elegant and regal dance form that is Baroque.



### Musical Director - Orchestra

#### Victoria Brown

Victoria is Director of Music & Performing Arts at St Peter's School. Since arriving at St Peter's in 2004 Victoria has thoroughly enjoyed the dedication, enthusiasm and talent amongst the staff and students at the School. The yearly musicals at St Peter's are a real highlight for Victoria, with *The Scarlet Pimpernel* being her seventh show here, following *Oliver!*, *Jekyll and Hyde*, *FAME*, *GODSPELL*, *Crazy for You* and *Thoroughly Modern Millie*.

*The Scarlet Pimpernel* is a great production for St Peter's. It is a brilliant show filled with humour, wit, passion and poignancy – not to mention a phenomenal musical score, stunning dancing and spectacular costumes. The cast, crew and orchestra have put together something which they can be totally proud of.

Victoria would like to congratulate students, staff and parent helpers who have worked tirelessly, and given up so much time to make this a truly memorable show.

*Sing! Swing! Savour the sting...*

*As she severs you, Madame Guillotine!*

Let the show begin!

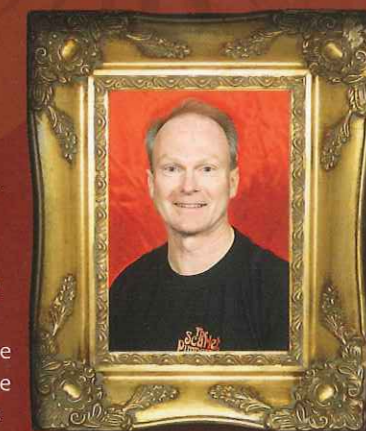


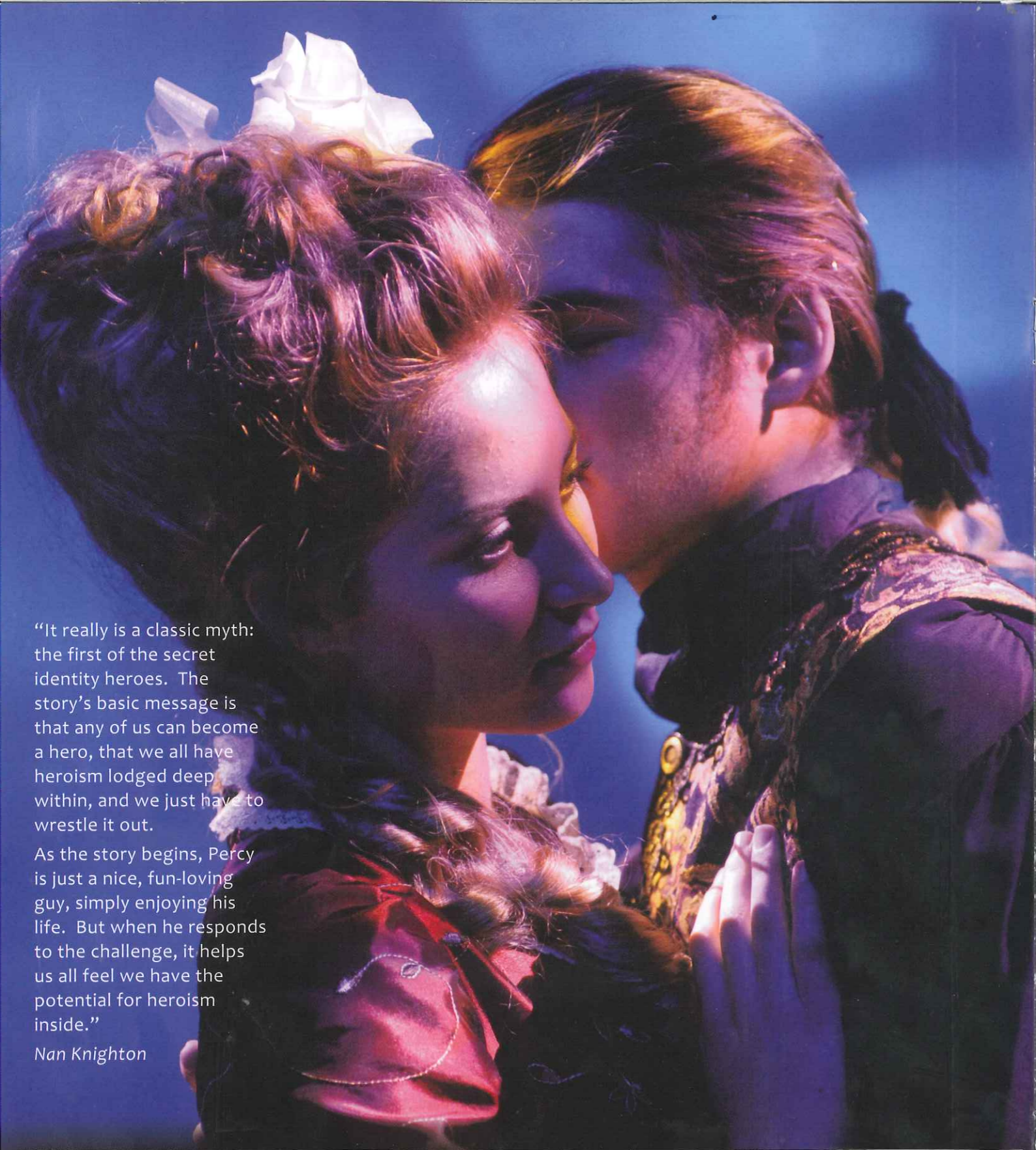
### Musical Director - Vocals

#### David Hall

After eight successive St Peter's musical productions, my enthusiasm for being involved in the music for *The Scarlet Pimpernel* has not waned. I am always very proud of the work that the St Peter's students put in and of the result they achieve. In the fine tradition of previous St Peter's shows like *Les Misérables* and *Jekyll & Hyde*, this show is certainly going to be a spectacle worth experiencing. Wildhorn's haunting melodies, spine-tingling harmonies and compelling rhythms are powerfully evocative.

Congratulations to all involved in *The Scarlet Pimpernel*. Without a doubt it will be an exciting and rewarding experience for performers and audiences alike.

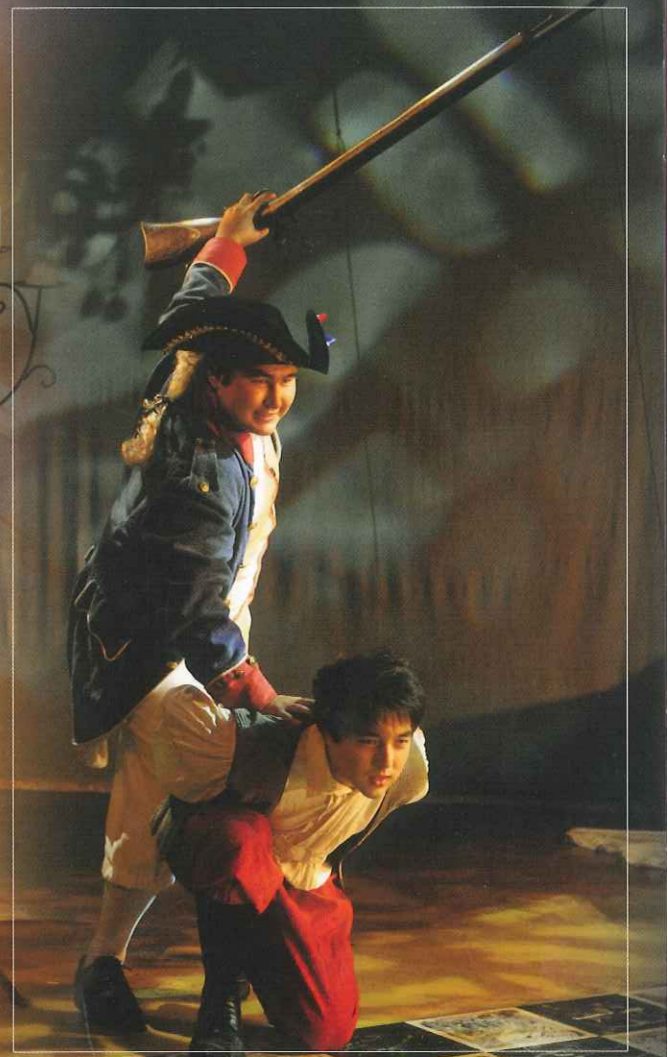




"It really is a classic myth: the first of the secret identity heroes. The story's basic message is that any of us can become a hero, that we all have heroism lodged deep within, and we just have to wrestle it out.

As the story begins, Percy is just a nice, fun-loving guy, simply enjoying his life. But when he responds to the challenge, it helps us all feel we have the potential for heroism inside."

Nan Knighton





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