

# INTO THE WOODS



ST PETER'S · CAMBRIDGE

2016





An ambivalent Cinderella?

A blood-thirsty Little Red Riding Hood?

A Prince Charming with a roving eye?

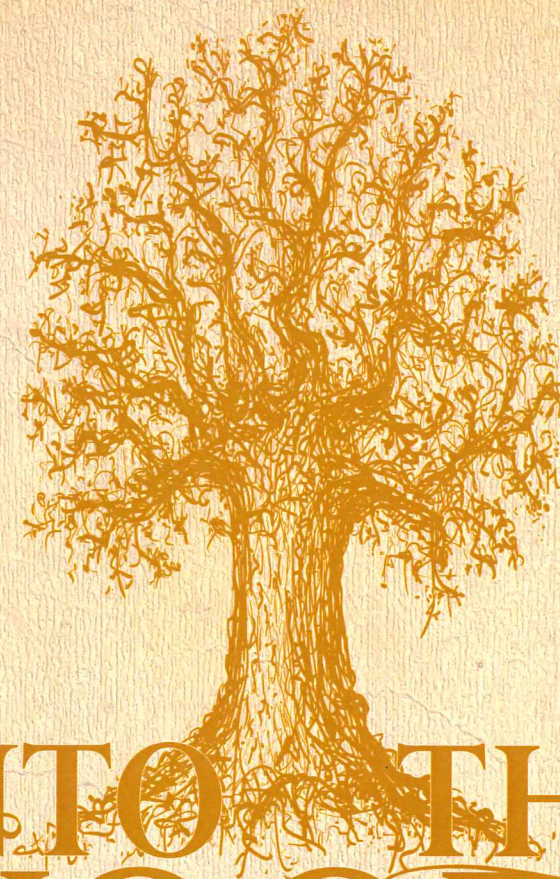
A Witch ... who raps?

They're all among the cockeyed characters  
in James Lapine and Stephen Sondheim's  
fractured fairy tale.

When a Baker and his Wife learn they've been  
cursed with childlessness by the Witch next  
door, they embark on a quest for the special  
objects (a cow as white as milk... a cape as  
red as blood... hair as yellow as corn... a  
slipper as pure as gold...) required to break  
the spell, swindling, lying to and stealing from  
Cinderella (with the slipper as pure as gold),  
Little Red Riding Hood (with a cape as red  
as blood), Rapunzel (with the hair as yellow  
as corn) and Jack (the one who climbed the  
beanstalk - with the cow as white as milk).

Everyone's wish is granted at the end of Act  
One but the consequences of their actions  
return to haunt them later,  
with disastrous results.

A Giant (a female Giant, that is) steps down  
from the heavens and straight upon some  
beloved characters. It takes a few lives before  
the survivors realize that they have to act  
all together in order to succeed. Thus, what  
begins a lively irreverent fantasy becomes a  
moving lesson about community responsibility  
and the stories we tell our children.



# INTO THE WOODS

## INTO THE WOODS

Music and Lyrics by STEPHEN SONDHEIM

Book by JAMES LAPINE

Director – DAVID SIDWELL

Musical Director – VICTORIA TRENWITH

Original Broadway Production by

Heidi Landesman  
M. Anthony Fisher

Rocco Landesman  
Frederic H. Mayerson

Rick Steiner  
Jujamcyn Theaters

Originally Directed on Broadway by James Lapine  
Licensed exclusively by Music Theatre International (Australasia).  
All performance materials supplied by Hal Leonard Australia.

Originally produced by The Old Globe Theatre, San Diego, Ca.





### **Principal** Dale Burden

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to our 2016 School Production *Into The Woods*.

*Into the Woods* is a musical intertwining the plots of several Brothers Grimm and Charles Perrault fairy tales, exploring the consequences of the characters' wishes and quests. The main characters are taken from the likes of Little Red Riding Hood, Jack and the Beanstalk, Rapunzel and Cinderella. It is tied together by an original story involving a childless baker and his wife and their quest to begin a family, their interaction with a witch, who has placed a curse on them, and their interaction with other storybook characters during their journey.

Mr David Sidwell and our own Mrs Victoria Trenwith combine their talents once again to produce this memorable show.

Congratulations to everyone involved.

*Enjoy the show!*



### **Director** David Sidwell

Stephen Sondheim's *Into the Woods* is a fairy tale like no other! It sets a tale that allows us to discover what we are really looking for and need in life and love. Is a Prince all that a young maiden needs to be happy? Are there better ways to protect a child from the outside world? Why is it that you do not realize how much you need someone until they are lost? And... are all witches really what you think they are? This brilliant Sondheim musical is a challenge to bring to the stage but a challenge that is so rewarding. Being able to direct this production and work with this dedicated cast of such talented young actors, singers and technical personnel has been a pleasure and a joy.

Director...musical director...composer...orchestrator/arranger ...pianist ...David has 40 years involvement in music and theatre under his belt. He was recently honoured with the prestigious 'Freedom of the City' award, an accolade bestowed by Hamilton City recognising David's services to the arts and culture in the city over the past thirty years.

He has worked professionally with music and theatre groups both in New Zealand, Australia and as far afield as Russia. He has just finished an enormously successful concert production of his own original musical based on a collection of short stories by the Russian writer Nikolai Gogol. Further projects this year include *Hairspray* and Richard O'Brien's *The Rocky Horror Show*.

David manages Postgraduate study and Music within the School of Media Arts at Wintec.



### **Musical Director** Victoria Trenwith

Victoria is Director of Music & Performing Arts at St Peter's School.

*Into The Woods* is Victoria's twelfth production at St Peter's School – the eleventh for her as a musical director here. Victoria has been consistently impressed with the enthusiasm, discipline and dedication of all of those involved in the annual school productions, from those on stage, to the orchestra, to the hard-working crew found behind the scenes.

After beginning her musical career as a 7 year old classical violinist in Hamilton, Victoria's love of musical theatre began and has grown from a role in Hamilton Operatic Society's *Man Of Steel* 22 years ago, to Musical Director for some of Hamilton Operatic Society's most successful productions, including *Hairspray!*, *Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Oliver!* featuring Richard O'Brien, and *EVITA*.

Victoria's violin playing roots have also seen her play in various acoustic music circles, including a long stint as the fiddle player for Hamilton Irish band Reelmen. In more recent times Victoria has had the immense pleasure of taking up a spot as the fiddle player with the Hamilton County Bluegrass Band, and this has seen her perform as part of the Dame Malvina Major Diamond Jubilee Tour in 2014, and the NZ Gold Guitar Awards in 2015.

*Into The Woods* is a unique show. The score is true to Stephen Sondheim's characteristic style, with every lyric being carefully crafted to support the well-known fairy tales which are woven together to create an intricate and thought-provoking plot. Sondheim is indeed a master! Our students have worked hard to become proficient in delivering his unique melodic and lyric writing, and their ensemble singing is a highlight of this show. Our stage is graced with a stunning set and spectacular costumes, and without a doubt you will leave this evening enchanted and entertained by the humorous and charismatic performances shared by our students.

Congratulations are extended to all of the students, staff and parent helpers who have worked tirelessly, and given up so much time to make this a truly memorable show. It is a pleasure to work with you all to create something magical year after year, right here in our School Auditorium.

Huge thanks must go to my colleagues, and particularly our director David Sidwell for his constant vision and endless creativity.

Let the show begin – *Into the Woods*, without delay!