

March 2011



Music Theatre done the Prairie way

Dry Cold Productions &
The Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra
Present

Send in the Clowns
An Evening with
Stephen Sondheim & Len Cariou

November 4, 5 & 6
Centennial Concert Hall.

Music from
Sweeney Todd;
the Demon Barber of Fleet Street

A Little Night Music

Follies

***A Funny Thing Happened
on the Way to the Forum.***

Donna Fletcher & Reid Harrison
Directors

Richard Lee
Conductor

Featuring
Kevin Aichele Lara Ciekiewicz
Donna Fletcher Peter Huck
Aaron Hutton
The University of Manitoba
Musical Theatre Ensemble

W.S.O. season tickets now on sale.
Single tickets available in the fall.

A Musical Thriller



Sweeney Todd
the Demon Barber
of Fleet Street

music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim
book by Hugh Wheeler

Artistic and Production Staff

Director	Donna Fletcher
Music Director	Reid Harrison
Set Design	Brian Perchaluk
Lighting Design	Scott Henderson
Harlequin Costumes of Winnipeg	
Stage Manager	Evan Klassen
Production Manager	Sheldon Johnson
Apprentice Stage Manager	Ayden Buss

Cast

Peter Huck	Sweeney Todd
Mariam Bernstein	Mrs. Lovett
Tim Gledhill	Anthony Hope
Cait Wood	Johanna
Brenda Gorlick	Beggar Woman
Steven Ratzlaff	Judge Turpin
Wayne Buss!	The Beadle
Aaron Hutton	Tobias Ragg
Rob Herriot	Pirelli
Tim Bandfield	Ensemble
Katie German	Ensemble
Darren Martens	Ensemble

May 13 - 8:00 May 14 - 2:00 & 8:00 May 15 - 2:00
CanWest Performing Arts Centre (at The Forks)

Tickets Now on Sale
Adults - \$35 Students - \$20

In person: CanWest Performing Arts Centre &
McNally Robinson Booksellers
By phone: 942-8898 (M.T.Y.P.) & 414-2680 (Dry Cold)
On-line: www.mtyp.ca

The Dry Cold *Sweeney Todd* Company



Tim Bandfield



Mariam Bernstein



Wayne Buss!



Tim Gledhill

Guiteau (*Assassins*) and Harry (*Company*.) **Donna Fletcher** (Director) continues her busy schedule at U. of M. and U. of W. and will be appearing in Rainbow Stage's production of *Cats* this summer. Having completed her training in musical theatre at Grant McEwan College, **Katie German** (Ensemble) is the Assistant to the Artistic Director of MTYP. **Tim Gledhill** (Anthony Hope) was recently seen in MTC's *White Christmas* and last year appeared in Vancouver, Ottawa, Calgary and Winnipeg in *The Drowsy Chaperone*. This will be Tim's 4th Dry Cold show, having appeared in *Into the Woods* (Jack), *The Secret Garden* (Dickens) and *Assassins* (The Balladeer.) **Brenda Gorlick** (The Beggar Woman) appeared as Claudia Nardi in Dry Cold's *Nine* and more recently was choreographer for *Urinetown*. **Scott Henderson** has designed the lighting for nine Dry Cold shows. Most recently, his magic was on display in *White Christmas* and *After Miss Julie* (MTC). **Reid Harrison** (Music Director) is currently directing *H.M.S. Pinafore* for the G&S Society. **Rob Herriot** (Pirelli) directed *Carmen* for the MOA a year ago and his *Tosca* will be seen in Edmonton prior to his returning home for *Sweeney Todd*. **Peter Huck** (*Sweeney Todd*) has been choreographing numerous Musical Theatre numbers for his studio, Winnipeg Dance Force, and for the Royal Winnipeg Ballet for upcoming festivals in May and he teaches at both facilities weekly. He recently made two



Peter Huck



Brenda Gorlick

appearances in the local television production "Less Than Kind". Many will remember him as Gaston in Rainbow's 2009 production of *Beauty and the Beast*. In April **Aaron Hutton** (Tobias Ragg) will be graduating with a Bachelor's Degree in Music Performance from the Marcel A. Desautels Faculty of Music. After *Sweeney Todd* closes, he will be reprising the role of Fabrizio in *The Light in the Piazza* with Opera Nuova, a young artists opera program in Edmonton. (Although not a member of the *Sweeney* cast, **Samantha Hill** will also be reprising her role of Clara for Patrick Street Productions in Vancouver next fall.) **Evan Klassen** (Stage Manager) has worked for many Winnipeg theatre companies, including M.T.C., Rainbow Stage, P.T.E. and the Manitoba Opera. Recently, he was SM for *Much Ado About Nothing* and *The Drowsy Chaperone* at Theatre Calgary. A vocal performance student at U. of M., **Darren Martens** (Ensemble) is appearing as Ralph Rackstraw in the upcoming G&S production of *H.M.S. Pinafore*. **Brian Perchaluk** (Lighting Design) returns for his fifth Dry Cold show, having most recently designed *The Light in the Piazza*. Much sought after by theatres across Canada, he has recently designed *Burnin' Love* (PTE) and *After Miss Julie* (MTC.) **Stephen Ratzlaff** (Judge Turpin) has appeared as Mr. Cladwell in *Urinetown* and Signor Nacarelli in *The Light in the Piazza*. This past summer he was part of *Strike!*, appeared in the fall in *Lenin's Embalmers* for WJT and the Harold Green Theatre and recently has been working on a full length version of his play *Dionysus in Stony Mountain*. **Cait Wood** (Johanna) is a recent graduate of the Marcel A. Desautels Faculty of Music. She has been seen as Mabel in *The Pirates of Penzance* and in the titular role of *Patience*, both for the G&S Society, and was the soprano soloist in the University Singers' *Messiah* in December.



Aaron Hutton, Stephen Ratzlaff



Cait Wood

Sweeney Todd: the Demon Barber of Fleet Street - a brief history

Sweeney Todd first saw the light of day in *The String of Pearls*, a 'penny dreadful' written in 1847. In the original version of the tale, Todd is a barber who dispatches his victims by pulling a lever while they are in his barber chair, which makes them fall backward down a revolving trapdoor into the basement of his shop, generally causing them to break their necks or skulls. He then goes to the basement and "polishes them off" with his razor. In some adaptations, including the musical, the murdering process is reversed, with Todd slitting the throats of his customers before they are dispatched into the basement. Mrs. Lovett then assists him in disposing of the bodies by baking their flesh into meat pies, and selling them to the unsuspecting customers of her pie shop. The story has been rewritten constantly over the past 160 years in a variety of forms. Indeed, before the serial was even completed, *The String of Pearls* was adapted by George Dibden Pitt for the Britannia Theatre in Hoxton, claiming to be based on fact (a claim refuted by most researchers.) In 1865, Frederick Hazleton's adaptation, now titled *Sweeney Todd, the Barber of Fleet Street, or the String of Pearls* premiered at the Old Bower Saloon in Lambeth. There have been film versions in 1926, 1928 and 1936 and in 1947 a CBC radio production of Pitt's play aired, starring Mavor Moore and Jane Mallett. The Royal Ballet mounted the story in 1959 with music by Malcolm Arnold and in 1973 a CBC television drama of Pitt's play was aired, starring Barry Morse (aka *The Fugitive's* Lt. Gerard). Often performed in the provinces in England, it had never been seen on a London stage until Christopher Bond's play was mounted in 1973 at the Stratford East Theatre. That year Sondheim was in London while the new production of *Gypsy* starring Angela Lansbury was in rehearsal and he went to see the play with the actress Sheila Reid (the Beggar Woman in the London musical production.) It was Bond's play that would provide the basis for the musical although it would be 1977 before Sondheim began working on the score. Both *A Little Night Music* and *Pacific Overtures* as well as the film version of *A Little Night Music* would be created before he and producer Hal Prince turned their attentions to producing Sweeney which would open in March, 1979, six years after Sondheim first saw Bond's play.

Volunteers Needed

If you'd like to help out in a more hands-on way, let us know. We need set painters in the week or so leading up to the show, and ushers and box office help during the performances. If you'd like to be involved, give us a call.

The Dry Cold Brrr...unch - November 21, 2010

Fabulous food by the staff of the Inn at the Forks. (A special thanks to Ariel Alcantara for all his help.)
Wonderful performances by Lara Ciekiewicz, Donna Fletcher, Tim Gledhill, Aaron Hutton and Melanie Whyte.

We'd also like to thank the following who were good enough to supply items for the silent auction.

Andrew Stelmack * Birchwood Gallery * Breezy Bend Golf & Country Club * Cal-Law Jewellers
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Any comments? Suggestions? Concerns?
Please let us know.

414-2680 or 489-9095 info@drycoldproductions.ca
www.drycoldproductions.ca

Upcoming Local Musical Theatre and Opera

H.M.S. Pinafore - Gilbert & Sullivan Society
March 30 - April 2 Pantages Playhouse Theatre

A Dinner Engagement - Little Opera Company
April 8 - 9 Salle Martial Caron Theatre

The Magic Flute - Manitoba Opera Association
April 9, 12 & 15 Centennial Concert Hall

Cats - Rainbow Stage
June 21 - July 10

Hairspray - Rainbow Stage
August 4 - 21

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Save a few trees and get the photos in color. Email us - info@drycoldproductions.ca .

Help Keep the **Dry Cold Snowbank High!**

Thankfully the cold winds and snow of winter have passed but spring brings our production and the Snowbank will melt away. Musical theatre is the most expensive form of live theatre. While Dry Cold is rightfully proud of what we produce with so little and how little of our budget goes into administration, costs are always increasing. Over 80% of our budget goes into production costs: the artists - the actors, directors, designers, musicians and stage managers; the set and lighting; the costumes. A little goes a long way. Help us to continue to mount wonderful contemporary music theatre and thrive in this our 10th Anniversary Season. The **Dry Cold Snowbank** categories:

Wind-Chill	\$15 to \$49	Blizzard	\$50 to \$99	Sun Dog	\$100 to \$149
Snow Angel	\$150 to \$199			Northern Lights	\$200 or more

Dry Cold Productions 39 Exbury Place Winnipeg MB R3Y 2C3.

If you prefer donating by credit card, visit our website - www.drycoldproductions.ca - and give through CanadaHelps.org. Dry Cold is a registered charity. Tax receipts will be issued for all donations.

We hope that you enjoy hearing about Dry Cold's activities but if you wish to be removed from our mailing list, please email or phone us (info@drycoldproductions.ca / 414-2680) and let us know. We will remove you from the list immediately.