



HORSHAM ARTS COUNCIL INC

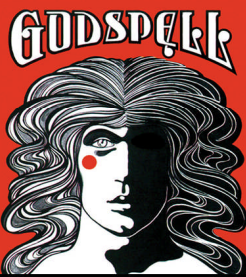
PRODUCTION

OF

“GODSPELL”

INFORMATION BOOKLET

APRIL / MAY 2012



The Horsham Arts Council Inc.

The Horsham Arts Council (HAC) has been providing high quality theatre performances for over 50 years, entertaining audiences from all over the Wimmera region. Many former HAC members have gone on to forge careers in professional theatre all over the world which is something the HAC is intensely proud of.

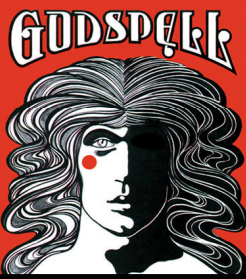
The HAC provides opportunities for people of all ages to foster a passion for theatre, including musical theatre, comedies and dramas. It allows people to grow not only as performers but also as people. The HAC community is full of wonderful people from all walks of life who indulge their passion for theatre, both on stage and behind the curtain.

The HAC is managed by a group of passionate and hardworking volunteers. The current committee is as follows;

President	Jack Janetzki
Vice President	Belinda Elliott
Secretary	Jess Robarts
Treasurer	Colin Kreymborg
Public Officer	Debbie Boutcher
Costumes	Samantha Prollius
Properties	Don Mitchell
Lighting & Website	Andrew Janetzki
Committee Member	Luke Mitton
Committee Member	Jan Morris
Committee Member	Brandi Galpin
Committee Member	Sandy Wills

The Production Team

Producer	To Be Advised
Director	Simon Dandy
Advisers to the Director	Howard Dandy, Libby Brennan & Jan Morris
Choreographer	Amy Anselmi & Jess Robarts
Musical Director	Jono Martin
Vocal Director	Lisa Thomas
Set Design & Construction	Jack Janetzki & Damien Muller
Sound & Lighting Design	Ron Thomas
Costume Design	Samantha Prollius



About "Godspell"

"Godspell" was written by Stephen Schwarz ("Wicked") and John-Michael Tebelak and was first performed in May 1971.

The production is structured around a series of parables based on the Gospel of Matthew interspersed with a variety of modern music. Its presentational, comically improvisational style appeals to just about everyone. Perhaps the greatest tribute to the show's popularity is the fact that its unabashedly religious subject matter has not prevented it from receiving countless stagings in every conceivable venue.

The show is one of the biggest off-Broadway and Broadway successes of all time. "Godspell" will return to the Broadway stage in October 2011 with 2011 being the 40th anniversary of the show. The cast includes some of today's must up and coming performers and is sure to be a hit for theatre goers. For more information on the Broadway production, please visit www.godspell.com.

Despite the fact that the show is religious-based, it is most important that it is fast moving, entertaining and not preached. If it was solely portrayed with the purpose of preaching, it would not have lasted for 40 years. People from all walks of life should be able to come to the show and be thoroughly entertained.

- People with religious faith will gain from it.
- People without a religious background can enjoy it from the entertainment factor
- Other may learn and understand more from seeing the parables being explained and portrayed in a different way.

Cast Requirements

There will be a small cast of 10 on-stage performers (5 males and 5 females). For on-stage performers, it will be a true test of your performing abilities as each cast member will be on stage singing, dancing and acting for almost the entire production.

This is really a rather unique challenge and opportunity for the production team and the cast as each performer will be required to take on a wide range of characters throughout the production. This will demand a great deal of creativity, improvisation and, above all, energy from each performer.

Each character inherits the first name of the performer. Every character is different within the show. Also, due to the uniqueness of each character, every production of "Godspell" should be different.



The main requirement is ENERGY!!!! Each character is given the authority to act with “child-like innocence” as they learn throughout the show. This gives you the license to really give your all to the part.

We will also be having a choir of backing singers to enhance the singing. This will consist of between 5 to 10 singers with a mixture of both male and females. This may suit people who love to sing but do not want to be on stage or who are not able to fully commit to an on-stage full rehearsal schedule.

Performance Dates

“Godspell” is fast moving, entertaining, funny, dramatic and full of opportunities to engage the audience. Due to these factors, the production team decided that the production will be best presented at the Wesley Performing Arts Centre in Horsham.

DAY	DATE	TIME
Friday	20 th April 2012	8pm
Saturday	21 st April 2012	8pm
Sunday	22 nd April 2012	2pm
Thursday	26 th April 2012	8pm
Friday	27 th April 2012	8pm
Saturday	28 th April 2012	8pm
Sunday	29 th April 2012	2pm
Friday	4 th May 2012	8pm
Saturday	5 th May 2012	8pm
Sunday	6 th May 2012	2pm

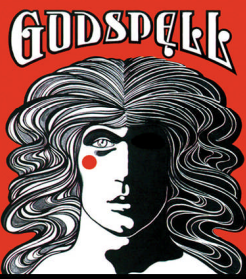
Audition Age

All auditionees for Godspell must be 16 years of age or older by 1 April 2012 – no exceptions.

Audition Dates

Auditions will be held at the following venue;

Horsham Music Academy
6 McLachlan Street
HORSHAM VIC 3400



Vocal Auditions

Sunday 6th November 2011 from 12 noon onwards

Tuesday 8th November 2011 from 7pm onwards

(NB: Other dates will be arranged by appointment or to meet demand.)

Audition time slots will be 15 minutes. Please contact Simon Dandy on 0404 092 407 or simon.dandy@capitis.com.au to book in an audition time.

Call Backs & Dance Auditions

Sunday 13th November 2011 from 12 noon onwards

Audition Preparation

Vocal audition

For your vocal audition, you will be required to perform a song from a Broadway musical that best shows off your vocal range as well as your acting skills. The success of Godspell relies heavily on the performers being able to sell not only their lines but the songs. We want you to sell the song. Do not hold back at all.

To assist you, we have selected a comprehensive list of audition songs for you (see below). These suggestions were made as they meet the vocal range of Godspell numbers and are also good character songs that will allow you to show off your acting and performance skills at the same time.

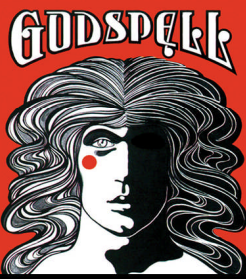
Please email Simon at simon.dandy@capitis.com.au or Lisa at s.o.m@bigpond.com.au for a list of the audition songs.

Karen Gebert will be available as a pianist for all auditions. We will also have the backing tracks for the songs identified on the list on the day of the audition. If you obtain a backing track for the songs we do not have one for, please make sure the CD plays correctly and it is in the stated keys listed below.

Singing unaccompanied is not an option.

Acting audition

We will also be providing you with a piece of dialogue from the Godspell script in advance which we may require you to perform at the audition. You do not have to memorise this by heart. However, we would like you to deliver it in a way that shows of your acting ability, performance skills, use of voice and interpretation of lines.



Special Skills & Talents

We also encourage you to advise us of any special talents that you may have. These may include (but are not limited to);

- Impersonating famous people (actors, singers, politicians, etc)
- Magic tricks
- Circus tricks
- Juggling
- Aerobic or physical acts

Godspell is a unique production in that we can use so many forms of performance acting throughout the show. Consequently, if you have any of the above or other talents, please let us know and be prepared to provide a demonstration at your audition.

Who knows, something small might end up being in the production!!!!

Notification of Audition Results

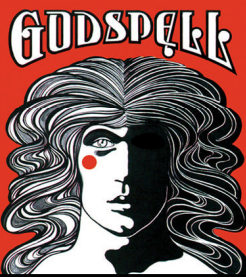
When we have cast the show, we will be contacting the 10 on-stage performers and the backing singers to offer them a role in the show to ensure that they will accept the role.

Upon acceptance of the roles, everyone who auditioned for “Godspell” will be notified in writing as to whether they were successful or unsuccessful in gaining a role in the show.

Two days after mailing the letters, we will update the HAC website and facebook page to advise the general public of the cast.

Obviously, with there being only 10 performers on stage, there will be some disappointed people. Some very talented people may miss out on a role for various reasons. We acknowledge this. Please understand and respect that the production team will base their decisions on the people whom we believe will be most suited to the role both individually and within the cast.

Please know and have faith in the fact that we have not pre-cast this show in any way, shape or form. All roles are up for grabs and are there for the taking. On this basis, come to the audition ready to give it your best shot.



Rehearsals

Prior to Christmas, rehearsals will be focused solely on vocals going through each song and parts for individuals. Rehearsals will be as follows (subject to change as advised);

- Thursday 1 December 2011 at 7.30pm.
- Tuesday 6 December 2011 at 7.30pm.
- Thursday 8 December 2011 at 7.30pm.
- Tuesday 13 December 2011 at 7.30pm.
- Thursday 15 December 2011 at 7.30pm.

As a cast, we will decide on when rehearsals will commence in 2012 but we are envisaging that it will be mid to late January 2012.

All rehearsals will be at the HAC House in Old Hamilton Road/Henty Highway unless advised in advance.

Fees

The current membership fee for the HAC is as follows;

- Single Membership \$50
- Family Membership \$100

All cast members must pay the membership fee to the HAC treasurer, Colin Kreymborg, at the first rehearsal. If there is any difficulty in paying the membership in full, a repayment plan can be arranged with Colin on the first rehearsal.

There will be no show fee for "Godspell". Instead, cast members will rotate bringing supper and refreshments to rehearsals. Coffee and tea will be provided by the HAC.

We will be organising a "Godspell" t-shirt, the cost of which will be quoted to you when it is available.

Contact Details

Simon Dandy	0404 092 407	simon.dandy@capitis.com.au
Lisa Thomas	0419 989 120	s.o.m@bigpond.com.au
Amy Anselmi	03 5382 3230	anselmi.amy.a@edumail.vic.gov.au
Jack Janetzki	0418 555 706	jackjan@janetzki.com.au
Jono Martin	0418 396 295	jonomusic@hotmail.com