



UPCOMING FLOT PRODUCTION:

A cast of marvelous singing actors is deep in rehearsals for FLOT’s spring production of “The Secret Garden”. This beautiful retelling of the classic children’s novel has been reworked by librettist Marsha Norman to create a story of interest to adults as well as children. She has taken various characters in Mary’s past and developed them into a “Greek chorus” who comment on the action and sometimes influence it. They are free to come and go without the restrictions of time and space. The hauntingly beautiful and sometimes exotic music composed by Lucy Simon sweeps the story along to its heartwarming conclusion.

A young English girl, Mary Lennox, whose family is stationed in India grows up as a spoiled, unruly child. When her parents, Rose and Albert, die in a cholera outbreak in 1906, Mary is sent to England to live with her wealthy uncle, Archibald Craven, husband of Rose’s deceased sister, Lily. Archie is so distraught by his wife’s death that he is not even interested in his own son, Colin, much less an ill-tempered girl he

doesn’t even know. At the huge, ugly estate Mary is ignored and alone until she is befriended the Yorkshire maid Martha and her outgoing nature loving brother, Dickon.

Mary discovers a long-neglected garden and her equally neglected cousin Colin, who is confined to his bed through misdiagnosis on the part of his uncle, Dr. Neville Craven. Archie and Neville were both in love with Lily. Neither man can come to terms with his feeling of loss. Mary concentrates on reviving the garden and in the process helps Colin become strong and active. The blooming of boy and garden helps Archie accept his role as father and come to terms with his wife’s death. Mary is home at last.

Directing the show are Jim Bicigo (music) and Theresa Reed (stage). Morgan Eisenmayer is designing the set and costumes will be created by Rose Meier.

Continued on page 3

Inside this issue:

Contact Us	2
Upcoming Productions (Cont.)	3
Word from our President	4
Volunteer Spotlight	5
Into the Woods	6-7
FLOT 4 LIFE	8
FLOT Trivia	9
FLOT Contributors	10
FLOT Contributor Form	11

Want more info? LOOK inside.....

FLOT Board of Directors

Executive Committee

President:
Kurt Newman
Vice President:
Amanda Hanson
Recording Secretary:
Lisa Newman
Treasurer:
Jason Taylor

ALSO:

Francis Lupton
Nola Hunter
Theresa Reed
Gloria Davis
Bryn McElroy
Jennifer Taylor
Gwen Brazier
Morgan Eisenmayer
JB Brainerd

Contact FLOT

Mailing Address:

**FLOT
PO Box 72787
Fairbanks, Alaska
99707**

Phone:

(907) 456-FLOT (3568)

Email:

flotinfo@gmail.com

Continued: Upcoming FLOT production: Secret Garden

Here is our fine cast:

Mary- Emma Stone
Archie- Sylvain Demers
Lily – Sarah Hoover
Colin – Jake Stone
Neville – Joe Sullivan
Martha – Stephanie Rozell
Dickon – Rick Brainard
Mrs. Medlock – Marcia Holt
The Fakir – Alex Ramos
The Ayah – Samantha Gomez
Rose - Amy Mahoney
Albert ---Karl Olson
Ben – Bill Reed
Mrs. Winthrop - Janice Ott



The Dreamers

Chuck Machetta, Terry McCarthy, Adam Kohl, Jim Fitts, Roscoe Beadles, Jennifer Taylor, Francis Lupton, Julie Benson, Kaylee Luskleet, Kathy Taylor Yokel, Katie Sousa Delvaux

People are always needed to help with set building and painting, costume construction, running crew, props gathering plus numerous other jobs. So there is still time for you to be part of the show. If you want to help you can call 456-FLOT and leave a message or contact one of the directors -Theresa 687-6930 or Jim 479-2637.

The Secret Garden plays Feb 25, 26, 27 and Mar 4,5,6 at West Valley Performing Arts Center.



Word from our President

Dear patrons,

I am happy to say our 2010 – 2011 season is underway with our first show —Into the Woods completed and our next show —The Secret Garden cast and ready to begin rehearsal.

Into the Woods was an artistic success once again bringing together a diverse cast of local talent that is as good as you might experience at a professionally produced show! I traveled to Anchorage the week after our closing to watch the touring company of Mamma Mia and, although it was a good show, felt our productions rivaled it in most aspects. The noticeable differences were in the technical places where we are limited only by funding and the amount of people in attendance. They were all sold out (1200 seat) shows in the Anchorage Performing Arts Center main stage. I realize Anchorage has more folks than we do, however the largest audience we have had for a show in the last few years was 525 for one showing of High School Musical.

This brings me to my message for this quarter. We have experienced a significant decline in attendance over the past few years, while our quality of production and community outreach has grown. Currently our shows do not pay for themselves and the Board is hesitant to raise ticket prices to offset this. We are very conservative in our show budgeting; but I fear without increased attendance and contributions we will soon start a trend that will force us reduce the quality of our shows.



My new year's wish is that you all not only take the time to come see — The Secret Garden opening on February 25th; but also bring a friend that may have not been to one of our productions. You as regular patrons know and appreciate the fantastic experience a FLOT show can be, and I strongly feel few can deny the power of a show with a live orchestra! Once someone has had the chance to experience this they will likely become one of our regular attendees, joining the rest of us in enjoyment of these wonderful local artists. So let's all bring a friend and share the experience, what a great way to start a new year!

See you there,
Kurt Newman
President
FLOT Board of Directors



Volunteer Spotlight

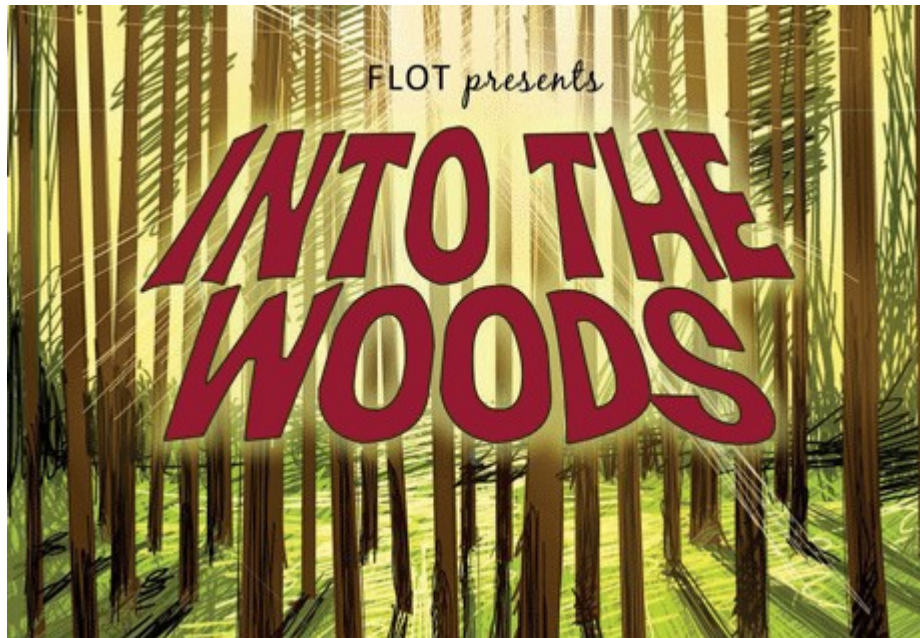
Spotlight: on Shirley Hughes

Where would Fairbanks Light Opera Theatre be without volunteers? According to Kurt Newman, President of Fairbanks Light Opera Theater, “We are very fortunate to have a strong and dedicated group of volunteers who have given FLOT over 5,000 hours during 2010. Based on the latest national value, this translates into nearly \$125,000. Our volunteers are one of the largest contributors to FLOT and are the basis of all our programs.”

“People are passionate about things they love” Kurt said; “Who doesn’t love playing music, painting, building things with their hands, planning and acting up?”

This quarters spotlight is on Shirley Hughes as volunteer of the quarter. Shirley is one of those people who has a passion for music, doesn’t matter if she is singing or playing piano, she puts all of herself into the job. Volunteers with Shirley’s passion and dedication are so hard to come by. “It is one thing for people to give money, but to give so selflessly of your time speaks volumes,” says Kurt. Shirley was involved in two shows for us this year. She stepped into a main role of Mrs. Lovett in ‘*Sweeney Todd*’ when another cast member was unable to complete the show. Shirley worked overtime to learn the part and performed each show with all her heart. The outcome was phenomenal. Most people would be wiped out tired after the powerful role of Mrs. Lovett, but Shirley stepped up again to assist with the next show, ‘*Into the Woods*’ as the rehearsal accompanist. Beginning with auditions and never missing a rehearsal, even pulling extra rehearsals for cast members to work through their music, Shirley donated her time totally for this show. That is a true volunteer. Fairbanks Light Opera Theatre creates better shows each time because of people like Shirley Hughes and we thank you, Shirley for giving your time and talents to enrich our group and community.





Into the Woods, Is Happily Ever After

By: Lisa Newman

Happily Ever After was never so lined with danger, twists of fate, cranky giants, philandering princes and incredible songs as it was in FLOT's presentation of Stephen Sondheim's *Into the Woods*. Our presentation of this musical was astonishing and full of fabulous singers.

The story follows a fleet of familiar fairy tale characters, including Little Red Ridinghood, Jack of beanstalk fame, the wicked witch, Rapunzel, a baker and his wife, Cinderella and a couple of charming princes. Only in this kingdom far, far away all of their stories are interconnected, and conflicts aren't as easily resolved as they are in the Grimm or Disney versions of the tales.

While all the characters struggle to deal with the consequences of their wishes, or with making life or death decisions, or with ticking off a lady giant for killing her husband, playing out in the background are issues that are deeper and more complex than first blush would have you think.

The cast was very strong and their enthusiasm infectious, Darrell Clark stood out as the Baker. He brought many to tears with his powerful heartfelt vocals. Playing the baker's wife, Christina Welch's lovely tones added peace to each scene. Sarah Hoover, shared her consistently strong and rich vocals, and her endearing character work as Cinderella. Emma Boone and Lindsey Saunders created fun loving mean step sisters. Ciara Newman provided an angelic ahh-ahh as Rapunzel until her character goes crazy and the ahh's turn into screeches! Rick Brainard displayed firm presence and strong vocals as Rapunzel's Prince. Jill Rosholt portrayed various rolls, as an animated and humorous granny voice, a powerful giant presence, to her endearing vocals as mother to Cinderella.

Mariella Collinsworth's wonderfully layered Witch and Chris Mertes' flighty but likeable Jack lit the stage, between an intensely wordy opening number and several ballads throughout, Collinsworth's displayed powerful and impressive vocal chops. And Mertes' Jack had refreshingly subtle comic timing for a part that could all too easily be overlooked.

(Continued: Into the Woods, is Happily Ever After: page 6)

Amelia Segler was entertaining as Little Red Riding Hood, she hit the cuteness note hard while transforming to the more adult subtext. In “Hello, Little Girl,” she’d be helped by the more wily wolf, Sabmit Misra, who turns into a foppish, heedlessly egomaniacal turn as Cinderella’s Prince.

Rounding out the cast, Jeff Powell did double duty as the narrator and the mysterious man with ease. Shauna Gloria as Jack’s mother displayed a mother’s love with grace. Deborah Rinio as the wicked step mother, Alex Ramos as the page boy, Andrew Graham as the steward and Ashlyn McCain as Snow White keep all the scenes moving with strong enthusiasm.

Stage Director Gwendolyn Brazier tapped the accomplished Josh Bennett for sound design, who miced up each singer, a first for FLOT; the sound was so clear and crisp, one could hear the soft lines equally as they could hear the vocals of the strongest voice. First time Music Director Lucas Clooten brought the cast and orchestra together in one of the best balanced efforts in recent memory; with great power as well as delicate interplay where called for. Kelly Stables experience in lighting design was the consistent that made the beautiful of the woods open up and fold in darkness. Equal kudos should go to set designer Thomas Creek for putting together a marvelous fable forest. The costumes were well conceived and assembled by Bethany Marx, each fit its character, their situation and were often good enough to make a statement on their own.

Overall, though, director Gwendolyn Brazier has adeptly taken a notoriously unwieldy show and created an almost perfectly synchronized puzzle. Every piece -- from the superb orchestra, sound, lights, costumes, set, to actors – all fit well with the next and became a highly entertaining night of theater. Those in attendance were quite vocal in appreciation afterward with many repeat viewers.

If you were unable to attend take note; our standards have risen and we may be one of the best entertainment values in Fairbanks! Plan now to attend our next show “The Secret Garden” coming in February.





Greetings to all our FLOT Fans,

Our committee is very excited about FLOT's new Sustaining Sponsor Program – FLOT for Life. FLOT for Life is a great way to help Fairbanks Light Opera Theater by providing steady, reliable funding through a monthly gift.

During a recent committee meeting, we discussed how life gets busy and how we often put off to tomorrow what we would prefer to address today. This topic evolved into a discussion about how a busy life impacts charitable giving. We felt that for FLOT to continue to produce and promote musical theater in our community it was necessary that we provide a simple yet steady way for our sponsors to contribute to FLOT. Our solution: FLOT for Life!

Here's how it works:

- You determine which level of contribution fits your budget.
- We will charge your gift to your credit card at the predetermined interval (charges are made on or around the same date each period).
- We will send you an e-mail confirming the charge.
- Annually, we will send you a statement that can be used for tax purposes.
- Your gift amount will continue monthly unless you opt to suspend your giving.
- It's simple, secure and one of the best ways that you can support FLOT for LIFE!

Here are its benefits:

- Easier to budget and easier on your wallet.
- You have control over your giving.
- Your gift renews automatically.
- It's paperless, so it's easier on the environment

We encourage you to visit our website (www.flot.org), read more about FLOT for Life and sign up today! And as always, thank you for your continued support.

Happy New Year,

JB Brainerd, Fundraising Chair



Visit us online at www.FLOT.org

FLOT



Show Trivia

1. How many times has FLOT taken the show on the road to Delta Jct.?

- A) 3
- B) 5
- C) 10

2. What was the first year FLOT produced Oliver Twist?

- A) 1986
- B) 1993
- C) 2000

3. What show was Patti Gallagher the Music Director in 2003?

- A) Fame
- B) Beauty and the Beast
- C) The King and I

4. Has FLOT produced —The Student Prince yet?

- A) yes
- B) no

5. What show did FLOT take to Nome?

- A) Yeoman of the Guard
- B) Brigadoon
- C) Gypsy Baron

ANSWERS TO LAST QUARTERS TRIVIA:

1. C) 22 2. B) 1970 3. A) Secret Garden 4. A) yes 5. B) Show Boat

2009-2010 FLOT Contributors

Thank You!!!

Archangel (\$2500-\$5000 plus)

Marion Stroeker Weeks
Charitable Foundation

Star Angels (\$1000-\$2000)

James & Sandra Haselberger

Platinum Angels (\$500-\$750)

Patti Gallagher
Patricia Turner
Chick & Jean Hartman

Gold Angels (\$200-\$499)

Arlayne D. Knox
Gayle L. Miller
Dennis & Lori Learned
Design Alaska
Don & Tracie Pendergrast
Dorothy Corbett
Eugene Therriault
Jim & Sue Culley
Ken & Cynthia Henry
Louise & Bob Anderl
Marcel & Doug Colp
Richard & Phyllis
Lundhagen
Ron & Lou Davis
Ronnie O'Connor
Timothy Quintal

Silver Angels (\$100-\$199)

Alfred & Erna Sturmman
Atta-Boy Awards
Barbara & Clif Lando
Catherine Walling
Cathi Massay
Cole & Ruth Carson
Diane Coughlin
Diane McClure
Dick & Jo Scott
Don Hampton &
Anne Ruggles
Doug & Katie Shira
Edith Hall
Helen L. Atkinson
Jack Randolph
James & Barbara Desinger
Katherine Shira
Lisa & Kurt Newman
Mary Ann Borchert
Mary M. Mitchell
Mary & Bruce Vogel
Mark Simon
Natural Land Use
Research Inc.
Peggy & Mike Fergesun
Theresa Tomczak
Vilma M. Grassi
W. G. Stroeker
The Yokel Family

Cherubs (\$25-\$99)

Brandon Michael
Charles Cannon
Cindy Lou &
Whit Aillaud
Cindy Stragier
Corrine Leistikow &
Eric Troyer
Evan Harris
Jill Rosholt
Jim & Barb Hameister
Laurel & Ed McLaughlin
Marcia Holt
Margaret Randell-Green
Mary Ann Nickles
Mary Lou Kramer-Bickner
Mary Zalar &
Ken Whittier
Rosalie L'Ecuyer
Vicky Jaynes



CONSIDER BECOMING A FLOT CONTRIBUTOR

FLOT is a 501(c)3 nonprofit — your contribution and support in conjunction with strong tickets sales is what keeps us successful year after year. Every additional dollar you contribute is essential for us to continue producing top quality musicals.

- Cherub (\$25, \$50, \$75) = _____
- Silver Angel (\$100, \$150) = _____
- Gold Angel (\$200, \$250, \$300, \$400) = _____
- Platinum Angel (\$500, \$750) = _____
- Star Angel(\$1,000, \$1500, \$2000) = _____
- Archangel(\$2,500, \$4000, \$5000 plus) = _____

Please write the name you would like to appear in our programs for recognition of your donation _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail address: _____

Day Phone: _____

_____ Check Enclosed _____ Charge my Card: Visa / MC

Card Number: _____

Exp Date: _____

Signature: _____

**MAIL THIS FORM TO:
FLOT
P.O. Box 72787
Fairbanks, AK 99707**

