

IT'S CRAZY, IT'S FUN, IT'S..

CLASS ACT OPERA

BRINGING OPERA TO NEW ZEALAND SCHOOLS SINCE 1990

NORTH ISLAND REGIONS TOUR TERM 2 & AUCKLAND REGIONS TOUR TERM 3 FOR 2009

CLASS ACT OPERA IS PROUD TO PRESENT



DONIZETTI'S ROMANTIC COMEDY
THE ELIXIR OF LOVE

Donizetti's bubbly, comic opera is brought to life in our updated version specially adapted for schools. The opera is set in a New Zealand caravan park, where Justin Timberlake, Katie Holmes and Tom Cruise (sort of) influence the outcome of this delightful love story and the geek triumphs over all and gets the girl!

Excellent idea – the professionalism was fantastic and their relationship with the children was great. Strong role models – involving the children was very good. Great way to demonstrate this art form to the whole of New Zealand. Awesome, thanks.”

(Ormond School)

“On behalf of our students, I would like to thank you for your professional and hugely entertaining production of “The Magic Flute”. Students have been heard singing the tunes in the corridors!”

(Music staff, St Cuthbert's College)

It's Opera but not as you know it!

“It gave our children an experience they had never had before – so different”.

(Papamoa School)

“The whole performance was stunning! The children from Year 1-6 were enthralled. They easily followed the storyline due to facial expressions and actions if not the singing!

Great costumes.

Very memorable – children talked about it to their parents.”

(Tirimoana Primary, Auckland)

BOOKING NOW

Manager: Lynette Martin

Phone: 09 522 0645

Fax: 09 523 0211

Email: classactopera@operatunity.co.nz

IT'S CRAZY, IT'S FUN, IT'S..

CLASS ACT OPERA

BRINGING OPERA TO NEW
ZEALAND SCHOOLS SINCE 1990

Dd Ee Ff Gg Hh Ii Jj Kk Ll Mm Nn Oo Pp Qq Rr Ss Tt Uu Vv Ww Xx

WHO IS CLASS ACT OPERA

Class Act Opera began in 1990 and since its inception has presented opera to over 1000 schools from Kaitaia to Stewart Island. In this time it has earned an unprecedented reputation at schools for its professionalism, accessibility, fun and commitment to opera.

In 2007, Operatunity Class Act Opera was formed by Class Act Opera's founder Susan Boland. For improved management and logistical support Susan has decided to take Class Act Opera under the umbrella of her very successful "Operatunity Entertainment Company".

Accordingly Lynette Martin, a well known Auckland singer, has been appointed as Class Act Opera Manager. With her knowledge of the arts and our commitment to presenting the best possible opera performances to schools, the future of Class Act Opera is ensured.



OUR STYLE

- We perform at your school or join us at a central venue with other schools.
- We employ only professional singers and pianists.
- A 45 minute opera, fully staged and costumed.
- 15 minute question time following the performance.
- One hour pack in and half hour breakdown of set, all we need is clear space to set up.
- Education teaching pack is sent to schools prior to performance.

TICKET PRICE

Fee is **\$1400 plus GST** per performance but remember if you cannot afford us we do offer a subsidy scheme for low decile, small role and remote schools.

You may also be eligible for a Creative Community Grant from your local council which we will coordinate.

Please feel free to ring us to discuss this.



IT'S CRAZY, IT'S FUN, IT'S..

CLASS ACT OPERA

BRINGING OPERA TO NEW
ZEALAND SCHOOLS SINCE 1990

Dd Ee Ff Gg Hh Ii Jj Kk Ll Mm Nn Oo Pp Qq Rr Ss Tt Uu Vv Ww Xx

FEEDBACK FROM EVALUATION FORMS OF SCHOOL PERFORMANCES

"Excellent concept – we really appreciate the 'bringing to life' of opera, and the exposure to it that Class Act Opera gives".

(Pukekohe Hill School)

"Reinforced the fact that opera was a story - that music was language and user-friendly. Gave an insight into a new genre."

(Hastings Intermediate)

"The students were a captivated audience from the year 0's to the year 8's. A fantastic way to introduce opera to young New Zealanders".

(Whakarongo School)

"Length of the performance was just right. Most positive feedback from children and staff more than any other visiting performers we've ever had at school."

(Hillcrest Normal, Hamilton)

"The pupils, staff and parents of the school, thoroughly enjoyed your modern approach to the opera. Allowing them to become involved, while at the same time giving them an appreciation of opera at a level at which they could understand proved most enjoyable".

(Putorino School)

"Your presentation was superb and thoroughly enjoyed by students and staff. Excellent use of humour, story line combined with top musicians and accompanist. Your introduction of what opera is and answers to questions very valuable."

(Murrays Bay Intermediate School)

"Particularly good for performance students to be present while singers were warming up, stretching, etc. Also seeing the stage set up. The students who learn singing were *'blown away!* Invaluable from a cultural awareness stance. The comment "I thought opera was boring until I saw Amelia" has been heard often since then. The presentation before the performance worked like magic holding the students' attention. A thoroughly enjoyable professionally produced morning. We would support any future performances. Thank you for coming"

(Hamilton Girls High School)

"We really appreciate the effort you went to in bringing the show to our school. Discussion amongst the children after the show, and in the classroom, shows how powerful the medium is."

(Glen Innes Primary School)

The children found it funny and very entertaining. Excellent performance. Our children probably haven't heard Opera before, a good opportunity to experience it. Teachers enjoyed themselves too! A most enjoyable experience for us all. Thank you. Involving the children made it more accessible to them - great idea. (Note: At each school the artists made up on stage two students - one male to resemble an old man and one female to resemble a typical lady of the era of THE IMPRESARIO - this was done using make-up and wigs). Overall a real treat for this small school and well worth the money.

(Matakana Primary School)"

"Your explanations were clear and very helpful and your timing was very good. I feel sure you have ignited an interest in opera for many. We look forward to seeing your next show."

(Blockhouse Bay Primary School)

Able to see opera 'in the flesh' and find it enjoyable. Plot construction was so hilarious all the classes enjoyed it. "*Choice - come again soon*"

(John Paul College, Rotorua)

Comments from students include: "*We thoroughly enjoyed it.*" "They (Class Act Opera) achieved what would have previously been described as the impossible - they 'sold' opera to the school". "There was explanation, humour - we need more of this kind of thing."

(Gisborne Boys High)

"It was a wonderful and extremely enriching and enjoyable hour, a fantastic and memorable performance. The children's response was amazing, the follow up discussions, written work and artwork was great. A very good initial experience of opera and for both staff and children."

(Riverdale School)

"Excellent. Well worth it, definitely widened outlooks and cultural experiences for students of Waihi."

(Waihi College)

"Bring us more. We were all enthralled. I think the little girl said it all when she thanked you for your happiness. You made us all happy and that's when learning happens."

(Central Primary)

IT'S CRAZY, IT'S FUN, IT'S..

CLASS ACT OPERA

BRINGING OPERA TO NEW
ZEALAND SCHOOLS SINCE 1990

Dd Ee Ff Gg Hh Ii Jj Kk Ll Mm Nn Oo Pp Qq Rr Ss Tt Uu Vv Ww Xx

SYNOPSIS FOR THE ELIXIR OF LOVE



It is a gloriously sunny day at an idyllic New Zealand beach, our heroine, Adina, saunters across stage and settles herself into her beach chair to read and soak up some sun. Our eventually to be hero, Nemorino, spots her coming and hides so as to admire Adina anonymously. He tells us how lovely she is and she shares what she has been reading with us. It appears from Adina's magazine that Katie Holmes received a little help from an elixir of love when she snared Tom Cruise.

This fascinates Nemorino as he needs Adina to love him the way he has loved her for the many years her parents have owned the camping ground our opera is set in. As Nemorino ponders all this and psyches himself up to approach Adina, Justin Timberlake, the rock star bursts on stage with air guitar and sweeps Adina off her feet right under Nemorino's prominent nose. Justin suggests a dinner and leaves to find a restaurant. Nemorino asks Adina not to meet Justin but she informs him that she wants to have a little fun and she couldn't possibly find Nemorino attractive so he should go to the city to look after his sick, rich uncle. She then leaves to meet Justin but keeps missing him as he chases every other woman he sees. Meanwhile Dr Dulcamara arrives, selling lotions and potions. Dear gullible Nemorino assumes this man will have the potion Katie used to catch Tom and of course the conman sells him a bottle of cheap wine which he tells Nemorino will do the trick.

Justin and Adina find each other on stage and Justin then spices it all up with a hint of a proposal of marriage which, of course, blows Nemorino's mind. Justin suggests marriage in one week, then being the showman he is offers today as a better plan. Nemorino completely flips out and begs for a delay, but won't explain why. Justin tries to solve the problem with violence and Adina stops him. A desperate Nemorino buys another bottle from Dulcamara and waits optimistically for it to work.

In the meantime, the wily old Dulcamara has spread the word that Nemorino has inherited millions of dollars from his uncle and so naturally our unlikely hero becomes the most popular man in the village. This combined with his drunken belief that the elixir is working give him an air of confidence that causes Adina to take a closer look at her childhood friend and realise that he is the man of her dreams. Dulcamara takes the credit and they all celebrate the moment in song.

(By Class Act Opera)

