William Finn was forty years old, had just won a Tony Award for the score of Falsettos, and was starting to think: “what next?” When he wrote the songs you are about to hear, he had just recovered from a near-fatal stroke of AVM, or Arteriovenous Malformation, a congenital disorder affecting the brain. After facing the possibility of never being able to write music again, he sat down at a piano and these songs “came pouring out of his fingers”: songs of passion, of friendship, of romance, of living and dying. They are a gift to musical theatre, paying homage to works and talents who have gone before Finn, and anticipating with joy the talents of those who will come after him. Since writing this love letter to musical theatre, Finn has gone on to write the celebratory memorial song cycle Elegies, and his most commercially successful show to date, The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee.

Exploring the resurrection of an artist may seem like a difficult thing to do with a group of actors who have yet to embark on a life in theatre. In a way, though, the journey through theatre school requires the rediscovery of the love of the craft by the beginning of the final year, at which point you are so emotionally wrung-out that you begin to question your own talent. Then you start rehearsing a show with your classmates, you see how much they have all matured into their own talent since that first year, and you start to realize that maybe you have made this leap yourself.

Making that leap is the crux of this piece, finding the time to grow into your talents instead of rushing the process of discovering the artist within. My sincere hope is that as an artistic team we have nurtured the value of the process as much as the finished product.

My great fortune is that this cast reaffirmed my belief in the process every single day.

Tricia Lackey

DIRECTOR’S NOTES

TECHNICAL CREW

Stage Manager................................. Jeanette Bell
Assistant Stage Manager .............. Keely Welsh
Audio Crew................................. Catherine Smulders
Carpentry Crew............................ Carolyn Borre, Jeff Bornstein, Sean Free,
                                 Russell Joyce, Michael Lonsdale, Stacey
                                 Ingham, Daniel Van Amelvo, Lucas
                                 Wilson, Derek Wray
Head Electrician.......................... Han Won Kyoon
Lighting Crew .............................. Melissa Cameron, Lucas Park, Caitlyn
                                 Quanannie
Production Assistants ................... Ethan Millard, Kevin Reynolds
Properties Crew ......................... Amelia berzins, Carla Emmaneul, Chris
                                 Fox, Alison Hillier, Katherine Theriault,
                                 Kim Tick, Josh Van Dijk, Lisa Young
Scenic Paint Crew ......................... Andrew Brauven, David Butler, Casey
                                 Crawford, Danielle Demeny, Laura
                                 grandfield, Skylar Hillier, Rhiannon
                                 Jones, Jordon Rutherford, Natalie Tsang
Wardrobe Crew ............................. Jessica Bishop, Danielle Couture,
                                 Daniellle Marentette, Nicholas Milanoff,
                                 Justina Pulfritsyte, Dana Paul, Katerina
                                 Sokyho, Johnny Wew
Technical Assistants ................. Ryan Holliday, Virginia Morrow

RUNNING CREW

Crew Chief .................................. Josh Van Dijk
Lighting Board Operator ................ Melissa Cameron
Audio Playback ............................ Catherine Smulders
Stage Hands ................... Eric Sibley, Lucas Park
Dressers .............................. Jessica Bishop, Danielle Couture

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Canadian Actors’ Equity Association.

Music & Lyrics by
William Finn
Book by
James Lapine & William Finn

Musician
Adam White Piano
Scott Metcalfe Keyboard
Jeff Hallischuk Percussion

November 27 – December 6, 2008
CAST (in order of appearance)

GORDON SCHWINN ......................................... Thomas Alderson
LISA, A HOMELESS LADY .............................. Paige Robson-Cramer
RHODA ........................................................ Jennifer Shaw
WAITRESS / NANCY D ............................. Tess Benger
CHEF / RICHARD ........................................ Cody Lancaster
MISTER BUNGEE ........................................... Alex Fiddes
DR. JAFAR BERENSTEINER ........................... Jason Clarke
MINISTER .................................................... Daniel Greenberg
MIMI SCHWINN ........................................ Jacquesyn French
ROGER VELLI BOVI ....................................... David Cotton

MUSICAL NUMBERS

Prologue:
Frogs Have So Much Spring ....................... Gordon
Specials ..................................................... Gordon, Homeless Lady, Rhoda,
Waitress, Cook, Bungee
911 Emergency/I Have So Many Songs ........ Gordon, Richard, Doctor, Rhoda,
Heart and Music ......................................... Minister, Gordon, Ensemble

ACT I
Trouble In His Brain ..................................... Doctor, Mimi, Rhoda
Mother's Gonna Make Things Fine ............ Mimi, Gordon
Be Polite to Everyone ................................. Bungee, Gordon, Mimi
I'd Rather Be Sailing ..................................... Roger, Gordon
Family History .......................................... Nancy D, Richard, Mimi, Gordon
Gordo's Law of Genetics ......................... Minister, Doctor, Richard, Nancy D,
Rhoda, Homeless Lady
And They're Off ........................................... Gordon, Ensemble
Roger Arrives ........................................... Rhoda, Mimi, Roger, Gordon
Just Go ...................................................... Gordon, Roger
Poor, Unsuccessful and Fat ...................... Richard, Gordon, Bungee
Sitting Becalmed in the Lee of Cuttyhunk ... Gordon, Roger, Ensemble
Craniotomy .............................................. Doctor, Nancy D, Minister
An Invitation to Sleep In My Arms .......... Gordon, Roger, Rhoda, Mimi
Change ................................................... Homeless Lady

MUSICAL NUMBERS (CONT'D)

ACT II
Yes .......................................................... Gordon, Bungee, Nancy D, Doctor,
Minister
In the Middle of the Room (Part 1) ........... Gordon, Mimi
Throw It Out .............................................. Mimi
In the Middle of the Room (Part 2) ............ Gordon
A Really Lousy Day in the Universe ........... Roger, Homeless Lady
Brain Dead .............................................. Gordon, Roger
Whenever I Dream ..................................... Rhoda
Eating Myself Up Alive ......................... Richard, Nancy D, Homeless Lady,
Minister, Doctor
The Music Still Plays On ............................. Mimi
Don't Give In ............................................. Bungee, Gordon, Mimi, Rhoda, Roger
You Boys Are Gonna Get Me In Such ...
Trouble/I'd Rather Be Sailing (Reprise) ...... Richard, Roger, Gordon
The Homeless Lady's Revenge ................. Homeless Lady, Gordon, Roger
Time / I Feel So Much Spring ................. Company