DIRECTOR NOTES

When I was asked to come to Sheridan and direct Grease, images of the well known movie and many stage productions flashed through my head, and I thought it would be easy work to throw up another version of this perhaps overly familiar musical. Then I learned that we were to mount the original, Broadway version of the play, without any of the added stuff from the movie – stuff that often is added to stage productions these days. I wondered what there actually was in the original. Why was the play rarely done in its original form? After all, it was a hit when it made its debut.

Well, once I studied the script with a fresh eye, I recognized that what we had to work with was not only a genuine tribute to 1959, but also a sweet story about a group of fast friends coming of age, and that the only honest way to approach the work was without the added layers of nostalgia that it has collected since it was first produced in 1972. In consultation with the Designers, the Choreographer and Musical Director, we decided to “go hard” for the period and the style. You’ll see that approach in the colours and shapes on stage, the unabashed period style dance, the singing in the style of the popular music of the day, and, I hope, in an honest, heartfelt story told on stage without the cynicism of our current age.

One of the greatest pleasures of working on this project has been to watch these young, talented musical theatre actors leave their very modern selves behind and lose themselves in a time before iPods, Facebook, cell phones and (can you believe it?) colour tv! For them, this show is not about nostalgia – they have no experience of the 1950’s – but simply the story of the kids of Rydell High.

- Geoffrey Whynot

The services of Geoffrey Whynot and Liz Gilroy by special permission of Canadian Actors’ Equity Association.

TECHNICAL CREW

Stage Manager ......................................................... Dana Paul
Assistant Stage Managers ........................................... Lucas Park, Keeley Welch
Audio Crew ............................................................... Jennifer Bell, Jeff Bornstein, Bill Chabassol
Carpentry Crew ......................................................... Brett Brooy, Chris Fox, Han Won Eysen, Kerry Mountfield
Head Electrician .......................................................... James Arkins
Lighting Crew .............................................................. Laura Grandfield, Skylar Hiller, Stacey Ingham, Nick Mitianoff, Virginia Marone, Sabrina Pawling, Katharina Sokyko, Mike Vaner, Lucas Wilson
Properties Crew .......................................................... Rebecca Berg, David Butler, Casey Crawford, Russell Joyce, Mitchell Lonsdale, Chelsea Marnik, Diana Stephens, Daniel Van Ameroscow
Scenic Paint Crew ....................................................... Amelia Barr, Jennifer Bishop, Carolyn Bore, Danielle Couture, Catherine Smule, Josh Van Dijk, Lisa Young
Wardrobe Crew ........................................................... Andrew Braunstein, Melissa Cameron, Carla Emmanuele, Alyson Hiler, Rhian Jones, Cathlyn Quammie, Jordan Rutherford, Katherine Theriault
Technical Assistants .................................................... Kevin Barlet, Sean Free

RUNNING CREW

Crew Chief ................................................................. Natalie Tsang
Live Mix ....................................................................... Jeff Bornstein
Lighting Board Operator ............................................. Mike Venner
Audio Playback ........................................................... Bill Chabassol
Stage Hands ............................................................... Skylar Hiller, Mitchell Lonsdale, Derek Way
Deck Audio ............................................................... Ethan Millard, Lisa Young
Wardrobe ................................................................. Laura Grandfield, Lucas Wilson
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Book, Music and Lyrics by Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey

April 14 – 25, 2009

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CAST

Dance Captain: Al Braatz
Assistant Director: Annie O'Brien

CAST (CONT'D)

Pink Ladies
Jan .................................................. Kelly Boaz
Betty Rizzo ................................. Rebecca Peters
Frenchy ....................................... Shannon Coulter
Marty ........................................ Marie-Claude Sarault

Burger Palace Boys
Kenickie .................................... Alex Fiddes
Doody ........................................ Pako Arizmendi
Sandy Dumbrowski .................. Daniel Birnbaum

Miss Lynch ................................ Esther Huh
Patty Simcox ............................. Christa Clahane
Vincent Fontaine ....................... Jon Cullen
Cha-Cha Di Gregorio & Radio Voice  Lili Connor
Teen Angel ................................... Oliver Bailey
Johnny Casino ............................ Oliver Bailey
Eugene Florczyk ........................ Jeremy Wells
Janitor ......................................... Al Braatz
Male Film Voice .......................... Aaron Sax
Female Film Voice ...................... Linnea Currie-Roberts
Scientist Film Voice ..................... Geoff Whynot

Lynch Clones
Linnea Currie-Roberts, Janelle Gallant, Jen Shaw

Angelettes
Miranda Jary, Judy Kovacs, Andrea O'Brien, Nicole Power

Ensemble
Al Braatz, Miranda Jary, Judy Kovacs, Andrea O'Brien, Nicole Power, Aaron Sax, Iain Stewart

Musicians
Andy Ballantyne .......................... Alto Flute
Al Cross ...................................... Bass
Russ Boswell ................................ Bass
John MacMurchy ......................... Horns
David Gray ................................... Guitar

Scenes and Musical Numbers

ACT ONE

Reunion
"Alma Mater" ................................. Miss Lynch, Patty, Eugene & Company
"Alma Mater" ................................ Burger Palace Boys

Cafeteria and School Steps
"Summer Nights" .................. Sandy and Danny, Pink Ladies, Burger Palace Boys and Pappy
"Those Magic Changes" ............. Doody, Burger Palace Boys

Pajama Party
"Freddy, My Love" .................. Marty, and Pink Ladies

Street Corner
"Greased Lightnin'" ................ Kenickie, and Burger Palace Boys

Schoolyard Park
"Moaning" ................................. Roger and Jan
"Look at Me, I'm Sandra Dee" ...... Rizzo
"We Go Together" .................... Pink Ladies and Burger Palace Boys

ACT TWO

School Gym
"Shakin' at the High School Hop" .... Entire Company
"It's Raining on Prom Night" ....... Sandy and Radio Voice
"Born to Hand-Jive" ................. Johnny Casino and Company

Burger Palace
"Beauty School Dropout" .......... Teen Angel, Frenchy and Angelettes

Drive-in Movie
"Alone at a Drive-in Movie" ........ Danny and Burger Palace Boys

Jan's Party
"Rock 'N' Roll Party Queen" ......... Doody, Roger and Sonny
"There Are Worse Things I Could Do" Rizzo
"Look at Me, I'm Sandra Dee" Reprise Sandy

Inside Burger Palace
"All Shook Up" ............................... Sandy and Danny, Pink Ladies, Burger Palace Boys, Eugene and Pappy

Finale
"We Go Together" Reprise .......... Entire Company