

the **MAGIC** **FLUTE**

BY WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART



THE CIRCUS OF THE SEVENFOLD SEAL OF THE SUN

"Sometimes you have to run away to the circus to find who you truly are..."

Media release

August 24, 2011

Mozart classic has a new look for Tutti, State Opera and Cirkidz

South Australia's leading community arts organisation, the award winning **Tutti Inc.**, will embark on one of its most ambitious collaborations to date with **State Opera of South Australia (SOSA)** and **Cirkidz** to present a new adaptation of **Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's** *The Magic Flute*.

The season of ten performances (previewing 22 September opening 23rd and concluding on 2 October) will be held in the **State Opera Studio** 216 Marion Road Netley. Bookings may be made through Bass 131 246 and online www.bass.net.au

The production, which is set in the colourful world of the *Circus of the Sevenfold Seal of the Sun*, marks the second collaboration between **Tutti** and **SOSA** Director **Cheryl Pickering** is devising a new version of this enchanting story for a kaleidoscope of performers, including the Tutti performing arts ensemble, forty Tutti choir members and the Livewirez troupe from Cirkidz together with opera singers from SOSA. The production's music director **Richard Chew** is reorchestrating the music for a theatre band and has written a fresh contemporary translation especially for this production. The show will feature designs by **Bec Francis** and lighting by **Nic Mollison**.

The cast will include two husband and wife teams of opera singers - **Joanna McWaters** and **Andrew Turner**, and **Robbie McFarlane** and **Kate Wyatt**, as well as **Naomi Hede**, **Deborah Caddy**, **Jayne Hewetson** and **Alistair Brasted**. Naomi is this year's winner of the State Opera Aria Competition, in which Kate Wyatt also featured as a finalist.



Producer **Pat Rix** said, 'The topsy turvy world of the circus offers a fabulous opportunity for *Tutti*, Cirkidz and State Opera to create a whole new Flute hallucination in which age, gender and (dis) ability are up for grabs and Tutti's most experienced soloists have their day! It's wonderful to see the faces of *Tutti* performers discovering they can leap and balance, catch hoops and even plate twirl.'



Tutti's mission is 'unlocking creativity' and discovering and building human potential in people marginalised through disability, mental health problems and other illnesses. More than 60% of people involved with Tutti identify with a disability. Tutti is widely regarded as an important cultural catalyst in the lives of around 230 South Australians aged 2–84, including 80 in regional SA who form the Big Country Choir.

In 2007 State Opera and Tutti Inc. formed a new partnership called **OperaTu** with the aim of jointly creating productions involving young professional opera singers and musicians in partnership with emerging performers, with and without disabilities, from *Tutti*.

Tutti has successfully bridged the gap between mainstream and community arts practice and is nationally recognised for its high quality productions and events and is a Key Producer with the Australia Council for the Arts.

In 2008 Tutti won the inaugural National Music in Communities Award for Best Program for marginalized people. Scott Hicks is Tutti's patron.

Magic Flute performance times State Opera Studio

Thursday 22nd September 7.30pm (preview); Friday September 23rd 7.30pm; Saturday 24th September 3pm and 7.30pm; Sunday 25th September 3pm; Thursday 29th September 7.30pm

Friday 30th Sept 7.30pm; Saturday 1st October 3pm and 7.30pm and Sunday 2nd October 3pm.

For further information: **Neil Ward Publicity 0438 095 580** neil@neilwardpublicity.com.au