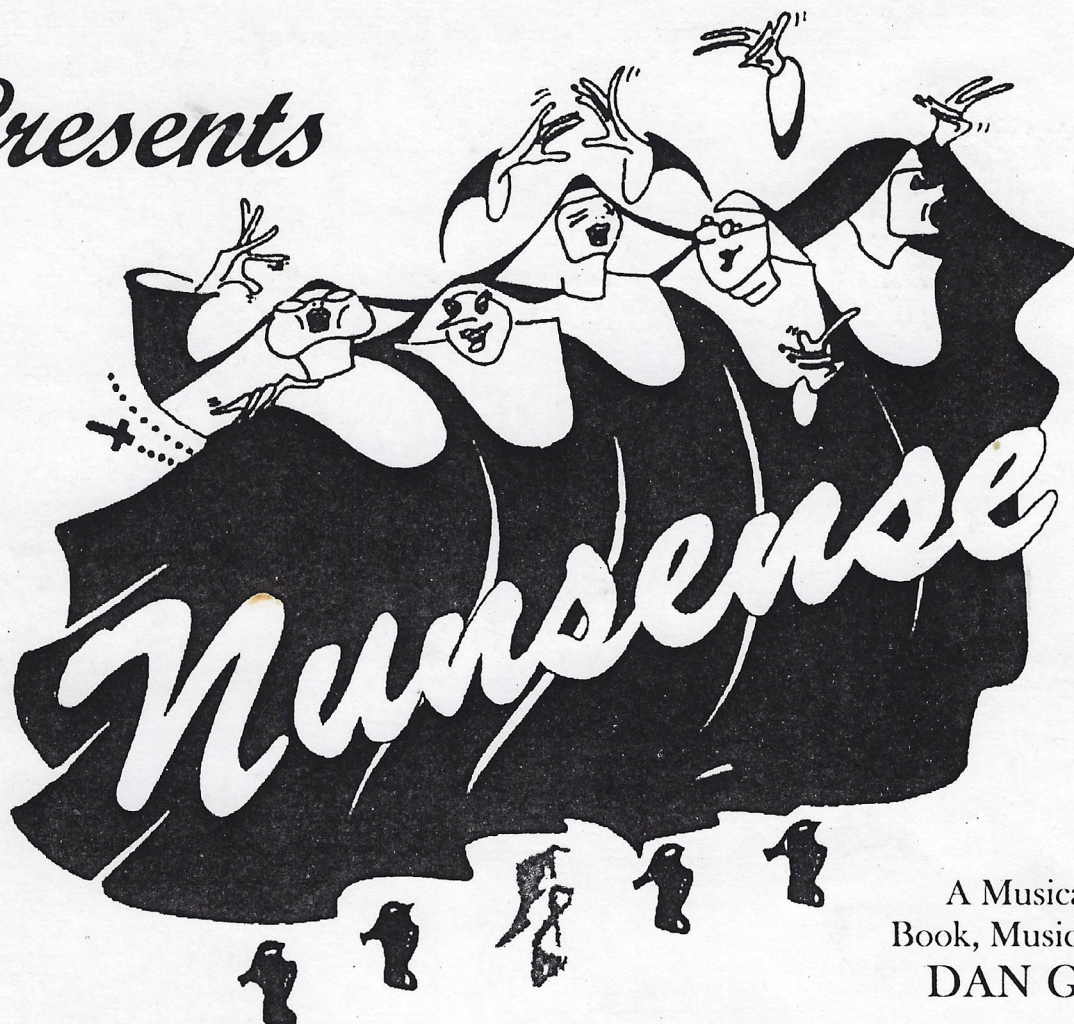


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Presents



A Musical Comedy
Book, Music and Lyrics by
DAN GOGGIN

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Sunday 25 July

REDCLIFFE ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE

Saturday 31 July 1999

LAIDLEY CULTURAL CENTRE

Saturday 14 August 1999

Production Team

Artistic Director	Stephen Daniels
Musical Director	Janette Lock-Kircher
Executive Producer	Jo Toia
Choreographers	Anthea Daniels/Desney Toia
Stage Manager	Robin Kircher
Wardrobe	Members of the Cast
Properties	Annette Hoffman
Set Design/Construction	Terri Quinn/Robin Kircher/ Annette Hoffman and Cast
Stage Crew	Robin Kircher/Annette Hoffman
Lighting	Alan Nutley Peter Rabe David Sowden Barry Henzell
Publicity	Jan Raymond Terri Quinn Kaye Nutley
Ticket Sales	Kay Nutley
Front of House	Doris Nutley
Photography	Reg Nutley
Programme	Terri Quinn/Barry Henzell

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From the Director's Mouth

I first encountered *Nunsense* many years ago, while working in Darwin. The local theatre group were planning to put it on, and the director asked me if I would assist her. Unfortunately, soon after casting was completed, I left for an extended overseas trip, and so missed out on seeing it come to fruition. I was given my chance to direct this wonderful show in 1995. It was my first attempt to direct a musical, and luckily I chose the perfect cast.

When Sava offered me another bite of the cherry, I said yes without hesitation, and then was assailed by dreadful qualms - "How could I risk my precious memory of the first show?"

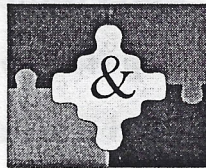
I resolved to treat this production on its own merits, trying hard not to compare. The audition process was as hard as ever, everyone who knows me knows I hate auditioning people, mostly because the casting decisions are at least 90% of good directing (*it's like cooking - get the best raw ingredients and try not to bugger them up*). In the end Janette and I wound up with three actors for three parts and **four** for the last **two!!**. The decision to alternate the roles of Mother Superior and Sister Hubert is immediately understood by everyone who gets to see both sets of actors in action. So different, yet both pairings work so well. I am profoundly grateful to the cast who have worked very hard. This production has proved every bit as wonderful as any show I have done, and just as much fun.

In the last few weeks of rehearsals we have had cast members stand in for each other on occasions. This has revealed the fantastic depth of talent which these people possess - any one of them could play any of the roles, if she had to (*although I doubt anyone could do the splits as well as Desney*). If that isn't an indication of real ability then I don't know what is.

The cast are beyond needing much more instruction from me, but to you - the audience - my advice to you is to sit up straight and pay attention. Get into the spirit of this warm and affectionate send-up of religion and laugh along.

And remember - if you don't know the answer to life, the universe and everything raise your hand.

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Introducing our Cast



Liz Quinn

Alternating
as
Mother Superior



Tracey Rowland

SISTER MARY REGINA, the beloved Mother Superior of the Little Sisters of Hoboken, is originally from a small county in Ireland called Kilquirky. She headed the pioneering group of religious who established a leper colony in the Mediterranean and later returned to Hoboken as Superior General of the Order. After *Nunsense*, Mother Superior says she has no desire to continue in the theatre. But rumour has it that she would consider doing national commercials or a television series to raise money for the Order. Prior to taking their vows, Liz Quinn directed numerous musicals and plays. This is Liz's first role with Savoyards. Tracey Rowland appeared in *The Merry Widow*, *Annie Get Your Gun* and *Post Horn Gallop*.



Jo Toia

Alternating
as
Sister Hubert
(Mistress of Novices)



Terri Quinn

SISTER MARY HUBERT entered the Little Sisters of Hoboken upon graduation from the Precious Blood Elementary School. Sister currently serves the Order as Mistress of Novices, training new recruits. Her position is not unlike a drill sergeant, however, she is the first to point out that her approach is more "gentle - but firm". Sister is a little "off-the-wall" at times but this has been attributed to the fact that she was trampled by a camel that went berserk during the annual nativity pageant held in the leper colony where she was portraying one of the Three Wise Men. Before getting "the call", Jo Toia starred in many Savoyard and Mercury productions including; *The Merry Widow*, *Showboat* and *Noises Off*. Terri Quinn has appeared in *Macbeth*, *Noises Off*, *Carousel* and *Fiddler on the Roof*. This is Terri's first major singing role.



Jan Raymond

SISTER ROBERT ANNE was a child of a disadvantaged Brooklyn family. After dropping out of Verna's Cashier School, Reverend Mother took pity on poor little Jan and accepted her into The Little Sisters of Hoboken. Today she is one of the most popular sisters with New Jersey kids because she speaks their language. Reverend Mother regrets the fact that a lot of this language is unprintable. Sister had a very checkered career prior to entering the convent, including acting roles in *Bye Bye Birdie* and *Oklahoma*.

SISTER MARY AMNESIA is truly a lost soul. She arrived at the convent in her habit without a clue as to her identity recalling only that a crucifix fell on her head. It has been said she resembles Kate Ellis, who learned ventriloquism when she became a "Little Hobo" and was previously seen starring as Tracey in *High Society* and bears an uncanny resemblance to the actress who played Sister Amnesia in Savoyards previous production of *Nunsense*.



Kate Ellis



Desney Toia

SISTER MARY LEO came to the Order from an Illinois farm. She entered the convent to dedicate her life to God through the dance. Many people think that she took her name from the famous "leotard" but that is not true. She is named after her Uncle Leo, a notorious gangster. Sister thought that by taking his name, the Lord would go easy on him, but as she is a novice she still has a lot to learn. Before converting, Sister was known as Desney Toia who tested her dancing ability by appearing in *Dames at Sea*, *The Merry Widow* and *Carousel*.

and our hard-working Production Team

STEPHEN DANIELS (Director) was released from his vows as Brother Futon Fouette. This occurred after the Bishop discovered that Brother Futon had used his habit as a parachute to jump from a jetliner onto a burning building, where he single-handedly rescued 300pounds of uncut cocaine from the flames, giving rise to his famous expression: "Come fly with me!". Since then Stephen has directed several productions including a previous *Nunsense* and *Macbeth*. He also appeared as Max in *Sound of Music*.

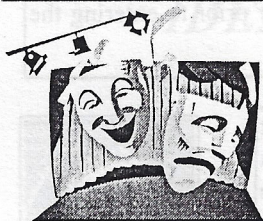
SISTER STEINWAY (Musical Director) is our convent musician. She achieved much notoriety when she published her first book, *Two Part Inventions for the Fingerless*, which she dedicated to the lepers helped by the Order in the "good old days". Sister helped the Order enormously by taking her talent outside the convent walls and starting her own singing and piano school under the name of Janette Lock. Janette has written an original musical "Rick's Cafe" and was musical director for *Sound of Music*.

ROBIN KIRCHER (Stage Manager) was the assistant pastor at Mount Saint Helen's. He was originally a monk in the Cistercian Abbey of Our Lady of Dallas, but was asked to leave after shouting "places please!" during Grand Silence. Robin was given the job of supervising *Nunsense* as a penance for past sins committed as stage manager of *Sound of Music*. He is no longer assistant pastor since his marriage to Janette (Musical Director), but says he is truly blessed because they are together.

ALLAN NUTLEY (Lighting Design) is an "altar person" at Mount Saint Helen's. Although his main experience is in lighting candles, Reverend Mother feels the "Light is Light" and therefore requested that Allan design the lighting for *Nunsense*. In all fairness we must add that Allan has designed the lighting for Savoyard shows for more years than he cares to remember.

about the Author

DAN GOGGIN conceived the idea for the musical *Nunsense* after the phenomenal success of the *Nunsense* greeting card line, which he created with Marilyn Farina. Dan has also written scores for the off-broadway musical *Hark*; the Broadway production of *Legend*, starring Elizabeth Ashley and F. Murray Abraham, *Seven*, *A One-Way Ticket to Broadway* and two revues *Because We're Decadent and Something for Everybody's Mother*. More recently Dan has modified *Nunsense* to be played by an all male cast - "*Nunsense A-Men*". Dan has applied for admission to the Little Order of Hoboken, but Reverend Mother says she is much too busy with *Nunsense* to answer any letters at the moment.



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Story Line

The Little Sisters of Hoboken operate Mount Saint Helen's School in Hoboken, New Jersey. Originally founded as a missionary order, they started out running a leper colony on an island South of France. Forced to leave the island when they lost control to a group of Protestants, they returned to Hoboken. Their lives were quite ordered and serene until one day their cook, Sister Julia - Child of God, unwittingly served some tainted vichyssoise soup, killing 52 of the Order with botulism. Fortunately a few were off playing bingo and were spared. After praying for guidance as to how to raise the money to bury the 52, Mother Superior had a vision in which she was told to start a greeting card company. The cards were so successful that Mother Superior, thinking there was plenty of money, bought a VCR for the convent. When she realized, to her horror, there was only enough money left to bury 48 of the 52 nuns, she placed the remaining four nuns in the kitchen deep freeze and decided to stage a benefit talent show to raise the rest of the money. It is a race against time as the Board of Health are in pursuit.

SYNOPSIS OF MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT 1

1. Prayer/Nonsense is Habit-Forming
2. A Difficult Transition
3. Benedicite/Biggest Ain't The Best
4. Playing Second Fiddle
5. So You Want To Be A Nun
6. Turn Up The Spotlight
7. Lilacs Bring Back Memories
8. Tackle The Temptation/Finale

The Cast
The Cast
Sr. Leo & Sr. Hubert
Sr. Robert Anne
Sr. Amnesia
Rev. Mother
The Cast
Sr. Hubert & Cast

ACT 2

1. Growing Up Catholic
2. We've Got To Clean Out The Freezer
3. Just A Coupl'a Sisters
4. I Just Want To Be A Star
5. The Drive-In
6. I Could've Gone To Nashville
7. Holier Than Thou
8. Finale

Sr. Robert Anne & Cast
The Cast
Rev. Mother & Sr. Hubert
Sr. Robert Anne
St. Andrews Sisters
Sr. Amnesia
Sr. Hubert & Cast
The Cast

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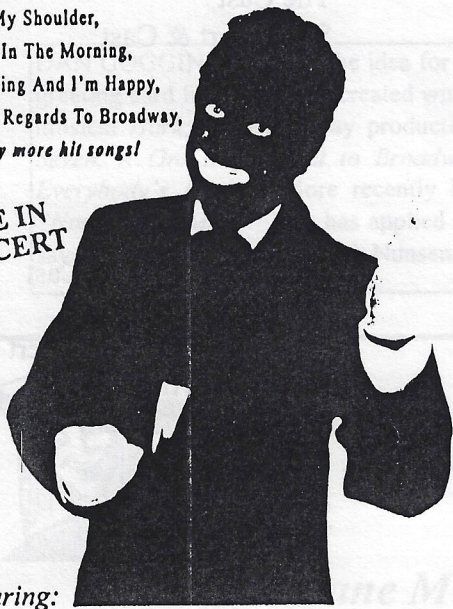
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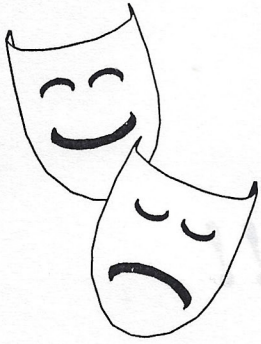
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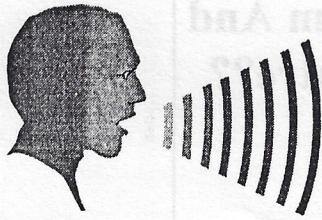
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