



Diamond Valley Singers
production of
Disney



Music by
Alan Menken

Lyrics by
**Howard Ashman &
Tim Rice**

Book by
Linda Woolverton

with the



**ELTHAM
ORCHESTRAS**

JULY 1-9 2022

www.dvsingers.org



**Music by
Alan Menken**

**Lyrics by
Howard Ashman & Tim Rice**

**Book
Linda Woolverton**

**Originally Directed by
Robert Jess Roth**

**Originally Produced by
Disney Theatrical Productions**

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TDImages

We thank Trevor D'Ambrosio from TDImages for his beautiful photographs used in the foyer display and this program, and urge you to consider using his services.

**Email: trevor@tdimages.com.au
Mob: 0400 161 862
www.tdimages.com.au**

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

After the last couple of years returning to theatre means so much. Returning to Diamond Valley Singers, has felt in many ways like coming back home. But returning to theatre, with this company and with this show, I'm kind of lost for words.

I'm a child of the renaissance era of Disney, Aladdin, Little Mermaid, The Lion King and of course the one we are all here today to see. These stories, the music, the magic of Disney is such an important part of my childhood. Getting to see my favorite characters brought to life with the Australian 1995 cast, Hugh Jackman, Rachel Beck and the late Bert Newton, helped cement my love of theatre and the magic it brings.

This production, like all community and amateur theatre is only here, because a group of people who share a passion have all come to work together to achieve the same goal. That goal is what you are getting to see tonight, and it's something pretty special.

To all that have come on board and been a part of this team, this community, this village, thank you. From the bottom of my heart, thank you. For your trust, for your support when needed and your commitment to this project. Your efforts to create this show, have made a dream come true for me.

Tamblyn



Open House
Christian Involvement Centres
Somewhere to Belong...

Helping bridge the gap since 1971 by providing Friendship and Support for Children, youths and adults through positive and creative programs.

The team at Open House is deeply and proudly committed to a friendship based model, with outreach to old, young, disadvantaged, disabled and lonely people left behind, unwanted, unloved, or forgotten by society. We serve people of all ages from babies or young children and their caregivers, through to older Australians. Open House receives some funding from the government but our work is really made possible by donations from generous individuals, organisations and sponsors. They are our lifeline.

(03) 9450 7600

office@openhousecic.org.au

www.openhousecic.org.au

IN THE PIT

Conductor Marie-Louise Wright

Violin 1

Eugenie Lyons

Clarinet

Derek Wright

Cello

Ruth Vandersman, Lyn Frazer

Bass

Richard Phillips

Keyboard 1

Paul Coles

Keyboard 2

Katy Neesham

Keyboard 3

James Boon

Reed 1

Alistair Lever

Reed 2

Charlotte Chidell, Leigh Ackland

Reed 3

Tony Robinson

Trumpet

Rachael Bean

Trombone

David Wheeler

Percussion

Liam Walker-Greenough

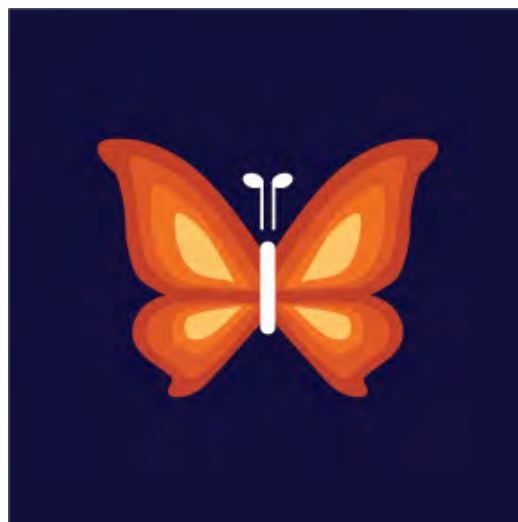
Rehearsal Pianists

Gerard Banner

Timothy Wilson

Paul Coles

We also thank Dr Ian Lowe for stepping in as our emergency conductor for some rehearsals for this production.



ELTHAM ORCHESTRAS INC.

The Eltham Orchestra was established in 1975 and has been going from strength to strength since.

Today the Orchestra consists of 3 levels. A beginner string group, and extension string group for players who are between beginner strings and the orchestra standard, and of course, the Eltham Orchestra itself.

The Orchestra rehearses every Wednesday from 7.00 – 9.00 p.m. for Strings and 8.00 – 10.00 p.m. for Woodwinds with a full Orchestra overlap from 8.00 p.m. to 9.00 p.m.

The Orchestra currently is in need of brass, double bass, violas, percussion and as many string players as we can get.

In 2018 Eltham Orchestra, together with Surrey Hills Orchestra had the privilege to play at the Sydney Opera House.

Look us up at
www.elthamorchestras.com.

ON STAGE TALENT

Director/Choreographer Tamblyn Smith
Assistant Director/Choreographer Charli Lewis
Musical Director Bec Muratore

PRINCIPALS

<i>Belle</i>	Kristina Lang
<i>Beast / Prince</i>	Nathan Michael Wright
<i>Gaston</i>	Lachlan Alexander
<i>Lefou</i>	Lexi Patman
<i>Maurice</i>	Darren Rosenfeld
<i>Lumiere</i>	Jack Maher
<i>Cogsworth</i>	Malcolm Wilton
<i>Mrs Potts</i>	Bernadette Sheedy
<i>Madame de la Grande Bouche</i>	Jennifer Wakefield
<i>Chip</i>	Sienna Iaria
<i>Babette / Swing</i>	Sophia Bubner
<i>Monsieur D'Arque / Swing</i>	Mark Clark

ENSEMBLE

Les Filles De La Ville

Macie Daly	Andrea Houchen	Dance Captain
Choe McMillin	Lucas Ioppolo	Swing
Phoebe Waddell	Frank Meerbach	
	Nadia Migliardi	Swing
Kathryn Adams	Charlotte Moore	
Bridget Bast	Scott Patton	Swing
Helen Berger	Evie Patton	
Ebony Brello	Zoe Petropoulos	
Kia Brello	Mitchell Portarianos	Narrator
Ben Crowe	Barbara Skewes	
Maddy Crowe	Hannah Sleeth	Swing
Annette Dick	Stephen Smith	
Marlene Di Battista	Neil Spitzer	Pit Singer
Alan Flint	Gabrielle Tucker	Swing
Jeanette Flint	Hannah Wade	
Bek Goldsmith	Izi Wright	
Megan Hacker	Horatio Yen	

THE STORY...

Once upon a time, in a faraway land, an Enchantress turns a cruel, unfeeling Prince into a hideous Beast. To break the spell, the Beast must learn to love another and earn her love in return before the last petal falls from an enchanted rose.

In a small village far below the Beast's castle, a beautiful and intelligent young woman, Belle, yearns for adventure. On the way to show his invention at a fair, Belle's father, Maurice, is attacked by wolves and seeks shelter in the Beast's castle. Enchanted servants — Cogsworth, Lumiere, Babette, Mrs. Potts and Chip — try to make Maurice comfortable, but the Beast imprisons the intruder.

Meanwhile, back in town, Gaston, the village brute, proposes to Belle, but to the dismay of Les Filles La Village, who fawn over him, Belle turns Gaston down. When Belle notices Gaston's sidekick Lefou wearing her father's scarf, Belle runs off to search for him. Belle finds her missing father at the castle and offers herself in exchange for his freedom. The Beast agrees sending Maurice back to the village, and then escorts Belle to her bedroom where she considers what she has done. Seeing their guest forlorn, Mrs. Potts and Madame de la Grande Bouche comfort Belle.

In the village tavern Lefou and the Villagers try to lift Gaston's spirits. When "crazy old" Maurice barges in, claiming that he has seen a Beast Gaston and Lefou form a plan to win Belle.

At the castle, the servants coach the Beast on how to act like a gentleman. When Belle refuses to accept the Beast's invitation to dinner he loses his temper and tells her to starve. However, Lumiere and the servants offer Belle an extravagant feast anyway. Cogsworth gives Belle a tour of the castle and she wanders off into the forbidden west wing. The Beast discovers her there and loses his temper.

In the forest Belle is attacked by wolves. The Beast comes to her rescue but is injured in the process. Having a change of heart, Belle helps the Beast back to the castle and dresses his wound. The servants recognise something different between Belle and the Beast and express their hope that the spell may soon be broken. The Beast asks Belle to have dinner with him, and they share a romantic evening together.

Despite this new friendship Belle longs to see her father. Using the Beast's magic mirror, Belle sees that Maurice is in trouble, so the Beast frees her. Belle proves that her father is not crazy by showing the Beast in the magic mirror. Jealous of Belle's affection for someone else Gaston whips the villagers into a frenzy. Gaston confronts and stabs the Beast and the Beast, while still much stronger than Gaston, refuses to kill him. Belle arrives and tells the dying beast that she loves him, which breaks the spell. The Beast transforms back into the Prince, the servants become human again, and they all live happily ever after.

SONG LIST

ACT 1

Overture

Prologue

Belle

No Matter What

Me

Belle (Reprise)

Home

Home (Tag)

Gaston

Gaston (Reprise)

How Long Must This Go On?

Be Our Guest

If I Can't Love Her

Narrator

Belle, Villagers

Maurice, Belle

Gaston, Belle

Belle

Belle

Mrs Potts, Madame De La Bouche

Gaston, Lefou, Villagers

Gaston, Lefou

Beast

Lumiere, Chip, Mrs Potts, Castle Staff

Beast

ACT 2

Entr'acte

Something There

Human Again

Beauty and the Beast

If I Can't Love Her (Reprise)

A Change in Me

The Mob Song

Home (Reprise)

Transformation/Finale Ultimo

Lumiere, Cogsworth, Mrs Potts, Chip, Babette

Madame de La Bouche, Staff

Castle Staff

Mrs Potts

Beast

Belle

Gaston, D'Arque, Villagers

Belle

Belle, Prince, Ensemble



**For all your lighting and musical needs contact
Michael Gerrish 0419 388 054**

**Email: Starmiststudio@yahoo.com
www.starmiststudio.com.au**

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director & Choreographer	Tamblyn Smith
Assistant Director/Choreographer	Charli Lewis
Musical Director	Bec Muratore
Conductor	Marie-Louise Wright
Stage Manager	Anita Wilton, ASM David Edmonds
Stage Crew	Jenny Edmonds, Naomi Robertson, Rhiannon Kelly, Leigh Patton, Rhonda Cadman, Freya Oretti
Special Effects	Mark Clark, Steve Wilkie, Gary Richter
Costumes	Robyn & Steve Mulder, Dianne & Gary Richter, Sophia & Virginia Bubner, Barbara Skewes, Ruth Richter, Windmill Theatre, Babirra, Fabnobs
Beast Prosthetic Mask, Wig & Makeup Design	Kirsty Nisbet
Beast mask 3D Horns	Matthew Bearup
Hair and Make up/Quick Change	Charli Lewis, Tobi Rose, Pearl Dann
Wigs	Bek Goldsmith
Set Design	Tamblyn Smith & Mark Clark
Set Construction	Mark Clark, Steve Wilkie & volunteers
Lights & Technical Advice	Michael Gerrish
Lighting Design	Tamblyn Smith
Lighting Operators	Tamblyn Smith, John Keys & Mark Oretti
Sound	Robyn Mulder, Dianne Richter, Gary Richter & Mark Oretti
Props	Mark Clark, Steve Wilkie, Charli Lewis & cast
Repetiteurs	Gerard Banner, Timothy Wilson & Paul Coles
Publicity	Malcolm Wilton & cast
Front of House	Jennie Barnett, Kristen Barnett, Mary McDonald, Keryn Patman, Freya Oretti & volunteers
Parking	John Keys & volunteers
Programme & Ticketing	Angela Hennel
Poster & Artwork	Elise Andrews
Photographer	Trevor D'Ambrosio
Videographer	Bod
Foyer Display	Charli Lewis & cast
Production Assistant	Keryn Patman
Production Manager	Angela Hennel

MEET THE TEAM



Tamblyn Smith
Director & Choreographer

Tamblyn Smith - Director & Choreographer

Tamblyn has been around performing arts for as long as he can remember. Working in every area from backstage to onstage, theatre is his thing (when he's not being a nerd and playing D&D or Board games).

With his more recent theatre involvements directing Ensomblah : a second serve 2019, a variety show which earned two Lyrebirds including best director. Highlights include Directing Fab Nobs Once on this Island 2015, DVS's Mikado 2017, Cinderella 2018 along with many more.

tsa



Charli Lewis
Assistant Director & Choreographer

Charli Lewis - Assistant Director & Assistant Choreographer

Charli (her/she) is thrilled to have taken on the role of Assistant Director and Assistant Choreographer as her second time on a production team with DVS, having previously co-directed and choreographed The Addams Family in 2021.

She has performed roles such as Ariel Moore in Footloose, Winnie Tate in Annie Get Your Gun, Sally Perks in Puffs, Ruth in Così, Rachel in BlackRock and Wednesday Addams in The Addams Family, and is looking forward to portraying Grace in Annie next.

She is so proud of what this group have achieved despite the various challenges they have faced. The amount of effort and camaraderie shown by the cast, crew and their families has been truly heartwarming to see, and is a testament to the DVS spirit.

Beauty and the Beast is a magical show, and she hopes you enjoy it!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Diamond Valley Singers acknowledges the Traditional Owners of this country, pays tribute to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Nillumbik, and gives respect to Elders past, present, and emerging, and their integral part in our region's history.

We respect their enduring strength and acknowledge that sovereignty was never ceded.

Bec Muratore - Musical Director

Beauty and the Beast is Bec's (her/she) 3rd show with DVS, having joined the company in 2016 to play Queen Aggravain in Once Upon a Mattress, followed by The Mikado (2017) as one of the Musical Directors.

Bec has been fortunate enough to be involved both on stage and on creative teams throughout Melbourne's vibrant musical theatre scene and in addition to musically directing for DVS, Bec has MD'd the Pirates of Penzance (Waterdate), Warped (Creative for a Cause), High School Musical Junior (Western Arts) and most recently, Hairspray Junior (Western Arts) where she received a MTV Guild nomination.



Bec Muratore
Musical Director

This is Bec's second production of Beauty and the Beast, having played Madame de la Grande Bouche in Waterdale's production way back in 2011. She is grateful for her fellow creatives who have enabled her to play a part in bringing this show to life and is very proud of her amazing cast for their passion, good humour and commitment to the show.

Marie-Louise Wright - Conductor

Born in Graz Austria and at one year old Marie-Louise moved to Switzerland. At age 11 Marie-Louise came to Australia, where Marie-Louise was introduced to the Violin via the free in-schools music programme which allowed all state school students to learn an instrument. During her time at Preston Technical School she was able to conduct the House Choir for an inter House Choir Competition. This fleeting moment of conducting whetted her appetite for conducting, but it was many years before it came to fruition.



Marie Louise Wright
Conductor

Marie-Louise studied Violin with Tim Wachtel, Zefferino Mendes and Warwick Stengards and conducting with Robert Rosen and Peter Clinch. She has attended International Conducting Workshops in Brisbane with Marvin Rabin, and Robert Culver as well as attending Symphony Australia workshops as an observer in Melbourne and Tasmania, taking part in The Beat Starts Here in Adelaide and a conducting workshop with the Royal Australian Navy Band.

Marie-Louise currently conducts U3A Hawthorn Orchestra, Surrey Hills Orchestra, Eltham Orchestra and its two string ensembles and has set up and taught the strings programme at Briar Hill Primary School for 16 years. She was past conductor of Henry Touzeau Strings for Melbourne Youth Music, Preston Junior Strings and Victorian Concert Orchestra. Marie-Louise has conducted many operettas by Gilbert & Sullivan and Johann Strauss. She has conducted many musical theatre productions including her favourites Oklahoma and The Pirates of Penzance. Marie-Louise has also been privileged to conduct 8 out of the 9 Beethoven Symphonies. Her favourite music is Ballet especially that of the Romantic Era and her long term ambition is to conduct Ballet and Operetta.



Kristina Lang
Belle

Kristina Lang - Belle

Kristina Lang (she/her) is a performer, originally from Perth, now based in Melbourne. Kristina is thrilled to be involved in her first DVS production playing Belle in Beauty and the Beast.

Kristina has a Bachelor of Music in Classical Voice from the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts and a Diploma in Musical Theatre from Associated Studios Australia. She has sung with many professional choirs alongside performing regularly in operas, musicals, concerts, and private events.

She currently sings with the Australian Chamber Choir and at St Patrick's Cathedral. She is also passionate about teaching singing and conducting choirs. She has loved getting to know everyone at DVS and hopes to remain involved in future productions.

Nathan Michael Wright - Beast/Prince

Nathan is delighted to return to the music theatre stage with Diamond Valley Singers. Nathan has spent the last six years completing his Bachelor of Music specialising in voice (first class honours) as well as his Masters of Music (first class honours) at the University of Melbourne.

Nathan was the recipient of a Bachelor of Music scholarship from the University of Melbourne in 2017, and the Murray Ormond Vagg scholarship in 2019.

Nathan was named as the Maroondah Singers vocal scholar in 2019 and is currently studying a Masters of Secondary teaching.

Nathan would like to extend a special thanks to his dearest friends Ian and Kirsty Nisbet for helping him yell, for designing his mask, and for continuing to allow him to third wheel their marriage.



Nathan Michael Wright
Beast / Prince

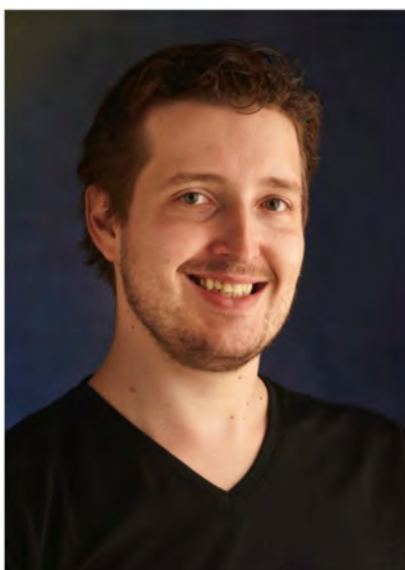
Lachlan Alexander - Gaston

This is Lachlan's first time performing with DVS and he's very pleased to be working with such a talented group of people.

Gaston has always been a bucket-list role for Lachlan and exploring the character with so many fun people to bounce ideas off, really brings Gaston to life.

Lachlan has previously performed with multiple companies around Victoria, in shows such as: 'Chitty Chitty Bang Bang', 'The Sound of Music', 'Ladies in Black', 'Singing in the Rain' and recently, 'A Gentlemen's Guide to Love and Murder'.

Outside the theatre, Lachlan's work life has him repairing computers throughout the day, and role play games being crammed into any available leisure time.



Lachlan Alexander
Gaston

Lexi Patman – Lefou

Lexi is a 20-year-old drama queen born for the stage. If she's not performing, she's writing, directing, and filming. From a young age, Lexi stepped onto the stage, growing her passion with every performance. After completion of her high school journey, Lexi started her career in film with a Bachelor of Creative Arts in Film and Television at JMC Academy. She completed this at the end of 2021 and began her Master of Education. It is a dream of hers to spread the wonders of performance to young Australian minds. Her most treasured and memorable roles include Ado Annie, Oklahoma, Dorothy, Wizard of Oz, Justice, Rock of Ages, Cha-Cha, Grease and Queen Titania, A Kidsummer Nights Dream (with DVS).



Lexi Patman
Lefou

Darren Rosenfeld – Maurice

Darren has been performing for so many years that he's now doing the role of Belle's father. He has been in more than 150 musicals, operas, operettas, oratorios and concerts as either principal, ensemble, soloist or chorus member, with groups including DVS, Babirra, G & S Society, Catchment, Ashton Smith Singers and Trek, and is a member of Savoy Singers traveling show "100 years of Musical Comedy".

He has played many roles in Gilbert and Sullivan operettas, Alfredo, Die Fledermaus, Camille and St Brioche, Merry Widow, Charlie, Brigadoon, Prez, Pyjama Game, and Sam, Mama Mia! He's written, co-directed, co-choreographed and performed in four shows including an operetta called "A nice Dilemma". Highlights have been performing at the International G & S festival, Buxton, England and backing Andrea Bocelli and Delta Goodrem in Melbourne. Darren welcomes you to sit back, "Be Our Guest" and enjoy our performance of Beauty and the beast.



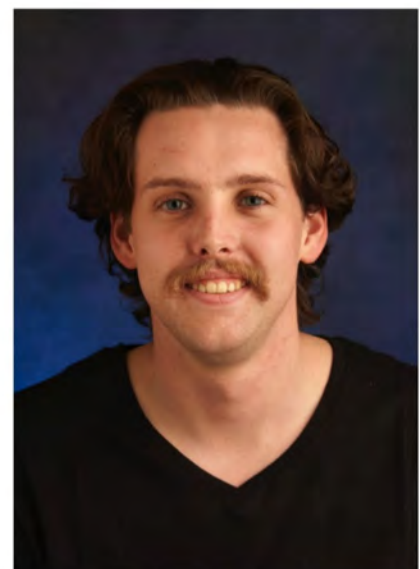
Darren Rosenfeld
Maurice

Jack Maher - Lumiere

Jack Maher is playing Lumiere, the fancy flamboyant candlestick.

This is Jack's 2nd show with Diamond Valley Singers after performing as Lucas Beineke in 2021's production of The Addams Family and he has loved every moment this year. Jack is no stranger to Beauty and the Beast, having performed as Gaston in his high school production which he thoroughly enjoyed.

Jack has performed in multiple shows over the years. These include: Willard Hewitt in Footloose (Georgy award nominated for Best Supporting Actor), Roger in Grease, both with Seymour Performers Workshop, as well as being cast as Rooster in their upcoming production of Annie. Jack is excited for you all to see the show, and would like you all to sit back, relax and "Be our Guest"



Jack Maher
Lumiere



Malcom Wilton
Cogsworth

Malcolm Wilton - Cogsworth

Malcolm first took to the musical theatre stage with the Sandringham Light Opera Company with Showboat in 1987. His first appearance with Diamond Valley Singers was as a chorus member in Patience.

In 2017 it was wonderful to return to a role he loves as Pooh Bah in the Mikado. In 2019 he played Charlie Davenport, in Annie Get Your Gun. In Annie Get Your Gun there is that wonderful song “There’s no business-like show business” which sums up the wonderful world of theatre! A great song to perform.

Now, in Beauty and the Beast he plays Cogsworth, a role made famous by Bert Newton. He hopes you enjoy the show and Cogsy!

Bernadette Sheedy - Mrs Potts

Bernadette’s roles have included the Stepmother in Into the Woods (FabNobs), Miss Sherman in Fame (Lumina), Emma Goldman in Ragtime (Waterdale), Madame Morrible in Wicked (NOVA) and the Adult Female in Spring Awakening (PEP Productions). She also played Lady Catherine De Bourgh in Pride and Prejudice (BustCo) Queen Gertrude in Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead (OXAGEN) and Leonata in Much Ado About Nothing (BustCo).

In 2018 Bernadette directed Next to Normal for OXAGEN productions. She was most recently seen as Lady Capulet in Fresh Theatre’s production Romeo and Juliet and Titania in A Midsummer Night’s Dream (BustCo).

For Jessica and Antony x



Bernadette Sheedy
Mrs. Potts

Jennifer Wakefield - Madame de la Grande Bouche

Since graduating from the Victoria College of the Arts Jennifer has sung with The Victoria State Opera, Australian Opera, the State Opera of South Australia, Royal Philharmonic Society and Brisbane City Opera. She sang with Opera Queensland understudying Marte in Faust and Mistress Quickly in Falstaff.

Jennifer’s principal roles include Ulrica in Un Ballo de Maschere, Sorceress in Dido and Aeneas, Marcellina in The Marriage of Figaro, The Mother in The Consul, Florence Pike in Albert Herring, Aunt March in Little Women, Miss Todd in The Old Maid and the Thief, and Ma Moss in the Australian Premier on Aaron Copeland’s The Tender Land for which she received a Green Room Nomination.

Jennifer’s Gilbert and Sullivan repertoire includes Buttercup in HMS Pinafore, Duchess of Plaza Toro in The Gondoliers, Fairy Queen in Iolanthe and Lady Jane in Patience.



Jenny Wakefield
Madame De La Grande Bouche

Sienna Iaria - Chip

This performance of *Beauty and the Beast* is Sienna's first performance with DVS and she is overjoyed to be a part of it. Sienna has been rehearsing with the Young Australian Broadway Chorus (YABC) for their yearly performances since she was 7 years old. In 2019, she was a part of their production of *The Wizard of Oz* playing several ensemble roles.

Sienna has been playing the classical piano since she was 4 and is now practicing for her grade 5 AMEB exam. Her piano skills came in handy in 2016 when she played a piano solo of *Beauty and the Beast* for her primary school production! Sienna is hoping to be a part of many more DVS productions.



Sienna Iaria
Chip



Sofia Bubner
Babette / Swing

Sophia Bubner - Babette/Swing

For more than 10 years, Sophia has enjoyed performing in amateur theatre. Originally from Adelaide, she was involved in her first show - *Calamity Jane* - in 2009, where she first learnt how to cancan. This would lead to more than a decade of performing. Her favourite roles have included Millie in *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers*, Serena in *Legally Blonde the Musical*, Sarah Brown in *Guys and Dolls* and Nessarose in *Wicked*. In Melbourne, Sophia has had a small case of multiple personalities while working with DVS, playing both the upbeat Annie Oakley in *Annie Get Your Gun*, before taking on the seductive Morticia in *The Addams Family*. Now, as the flirtatious Babette, she feels it necessary to remind everyone the dusting backstage is everyone's responsibility. When not on stage, Sophia spends her time cleaning glitter and paint from her finger nails in her Prep classroom, a role she chose due to the increased likelihood that the opportunity to break into song will present itself at any moment in her day.

Mark Clark - Monsieur D'Arque

Growing up in a Theatre family, Mark returned to musical theatre with DVS in 2016 with *Once Upon a Mattress*. He then took on Pish Tush in the 2017 DVS version of *The Mikado*, followed up with an ensemble part in *Cinderella* in 2018. Mark has also been involved, in various aspects with, Western Arts Theatre for *Annie*, *Into the Woods*, *Shrek*, *A to Z*, *Hairspray Jr* and *Little Shop of Horrors*.

For *Beauty and the Beast* Mark took on the co set design (with Tam) and construction, along with several smaller character parts and Ensemble. *Beauty and the Beast* has been a lot of fun so far. Building the set, from an idea of the Director Tam, pitched to Mark in the Network Bar Southern Cross station in 2021, has been a challenging, but rewarding experience. Mark keeps reminding Tam that he said his concept for the B&B set was something simple though that's not quite how it turned out, although Mark may have added to his original concept and made it a little more complex.



Mark Clark
Monsieur D'Arque / Swing



Macie Hacker
La Fille De La Ville

Macie Daly - La Fille De La Ville

Macie has performed in a few shows and this is her 3rd with DVS. Previously she appeared in DVS's performance of Hello Dolly back in 2014 in the ensemble, this being her first show. As well as the 2018 performance of Cinderella where she was seen in the ensemble as well as the cat.

She has also been in the Wizard Of Oz with Players Theatre company in 2015. She played a jitterbug, munchkin and also joined the ensemble.

Now that Macie has finished school she is excited to get into the swing of things and do as much performing without limitation. She's super stoked to perform with such a talented team of directors and cast.

Chloe McMillin - La Fille De La Ville

Chloe has performed in many various productions, in which DVS' Beauty and the Beast will be carrying her legacy of a dumb blonde typecast. Most recently, Chloe has been cast as Dorothy in Believe Studios' Wizard of Oz. Furthermore, some of Chloe's past roles include Glinda in Wantirna College's Wicked and Brenda in Wantirna College's Catch Me If You Can (Ruined by COVID). Chloe has been part of the ensemble for shows, like Stage Left School's The Little Mermaid and Masquerade Youth Productions' Wicked. Chloe is extremely excited to see where her future lies in the world of Performing Arts, surrounded by work, friends, family and peers. Chloe hopes you enjoy her bold and blonde performance in Beauty and the Beast!



Chloe Mcmillin
La Fille De La Ville



Phoebe Waddell
La Fille De La Ville

Phoebe Waddell - La Fille De La Ville

Phoebe (she/her) is currently studying her third and final year of her Bachelors Degree of Music (Music Theatre) at the Australian Institute of Music. Phoebe has been performing and singing from a very early age, fostering her love for all things Musical Theatre. Phoebe has done numerous projects with the Australian Institute of Music, her most recent being a student devised musical Chasing Yesterday where she originated the role of Anne.

Phoebe is excited for her first performance with Diamond Valley Singers and her second performance of Beauty and the Beast which is one of her favourite musicals. Phoebe can't wait to be back on stage after the virus that shall not be named.

Kathryn Adams - Ensemble/Swing

Kathryn has an adequate collection of cutlery which rarely sing to her. She is excited to use her cutlery ownership experience to inspire a thoughtful interpretation of a spoon in addition to various other ensemble roles.

More formally, she has been involved in productions across Melbourne such as performing in "100 Reasons for War" with La Trobe Student Theatre and Film. Kathryn has also directed with The Real Inspector Hound for the same group. She is excited to be returning to musical theatre with her first production with DVS. Kathryn is excited to be joining her local company for this production of Beauty and the Beast.



Kathryn Adams
Ensemble / Swing



Bridget Bast
Ensemble

Bridget Bast - Ensemble

This is Bridget's first show with the Diamond Valley Singers and she is excited for the opportunity to get back into performing musical theatre.

She has some experience performing in high school as part of the ensemble for Cats (2015) as well as Back to the 80s (2018) and has been looking for a production to get her back on the stage since. Luckily enough the 2022 DVS rendition of Beauty and the Beast proved to be a wonderful opportunity to seize these desires!



Helen Berger - Ensemble

Performing in Beauty and the Beast is a childhood dream come true for Helen. In her musical comeback, having last performed as a church mouse 'just a few years ago' during primary school, Helen is keeping the animal vibe going, enjoying showing her range of characters moving seamlessly from a wolf to a napkin.

She is dedicating her performances to her G'ma, who was heavily involved in musicals, put up with her watching the original Disney movie of Beauty and the Beast weekly at her house as a child, and encouraged her to join this show.



Helen Berger
Ensemble



Ebony Brello
Enchantress / Ensemble

Ebony - Enchantress

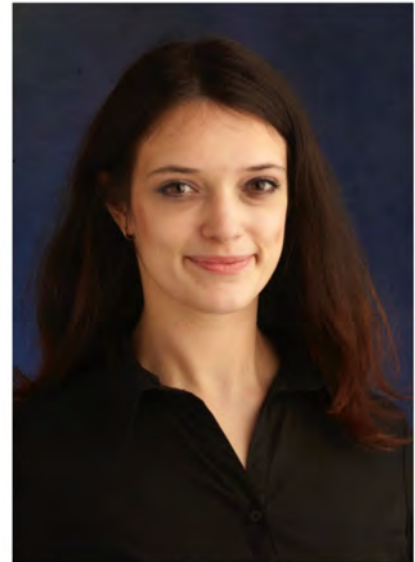
Ebony has been a theatre-goer since she was five years old. Recently having moved to Melbourne from Hobart, *Beauty & The Beast* marks Ebony's first production with DVS. She has previously performed in *Grease* as Rizzo and on stage with a septet Acapella group at Hobart's Wrest Point Casino. Other past performances include *Cinderella*, a farcical *Little Red Riding Hood* production as Little Red and ensemble in the classic musical, *Oliver*. Ebony has also dabbled in co-directing in a few Hobart plays and has worked in children's entertainment. When not performing onstage, Ebony can be found practising Australian Sign Language and singing to her two Chihuahuas, Chilli and Buddha.

Nikkisha Brello - Ensemble

Nikkisha is excited to return to the stage with Diamond Valley Singers production of *Beauty and The Beast*. Nikkisha has a Diploma in TV Acting & Drama and is currently working in children's entertainment as a performer for parties and events.

Some of her favourite past performances include *Les Miserables* as the starry eyed Eponine, the milkmaid in *Oliver* and a Munchkin in the classic musical *Wizard of Oz*.

Nikkisha is thankful for the opportunity to be a part of this year's production and hopes to be a part of another DVS show in the future.



Nikkisha Brello
Ensemble

Benjamin Crowe - Ensemble/Swing

Ben Crowe, a member of the ensemble (and a surprise for later) is greatly enjoying working with the like-minded, talented people of the DVS.

Having achieved his goal to participate in every school production and fervently advancing through the classes of his now more than decade-long run with his acting school Action Drama Studios and the countless performances he has had the chance to partake in with his fellow actors, it's easy to see Ben is a Dramaholic.

Diving into whatever challenge he can find and taking any opportunity to expand on and improve his skills in theatre, Ben is eager to please and to put on the best show that he knows we can do.



Ben Crowe
Ensemble / Swing

Maddy Crowe - Ensemble/Swing

Maddy is a 20 year old performing artist who adores everything musical theatre related. With 15 years of classical training from Melbourne Dance Theatre, Maddy is very excited by the opportunity to work with Diamond Valley Singers again.

Aside from being featured dancer in the 2021 DVS production of 'The Addams Family', Maddy has also recently played Brooke in Waterdale's 'Be More Chill', Leanne in ADS Industry's 'PUFFS' and many other varying roles. Maddy hopes you enjoy the show a little bit.



Maddy Crowe
Ensemble / Swing



Marlene di Battista
Ensemble

Marlene Di Battista - Ensemble

Marlene was a Calisthenic girl for many years but after having children who were involved in theatre and dance she decided to join them.

This is Marlene's 13th production with DVS and she is appearing as the Liquor Seller in this year's production of Beauty and the Beast. She has performed Barnum with Dandenong Theatre Group, Dinkum Assorted with Essendon Theatre Group, Mama Mia with Michelle Slater Performing Arts Group plus Stepping Out and several Music Halls with Eltham Little Theatre.

She was part of the Mahler 8 at the Melbourne Town Hall and is an active member of the Heidelberg Allstars.

Annette Dick - Ensemble

Welcome to Beauty and the Beast. I have been performing with DVS for the past 20 years. This year, I am part of the ensemble and enjoying the very exciting singing and dancing with the rest of the cast. I am a knife in some scenes which you will have to wait and see how that is going to look with the rest of the singing cutlery. I love performing on stage and this show brings so much entertainment with wonderful singers and cast members who are amazing.

I also perform with Melbourne Opera, G&S and sing on Channel 9 Carols by Candlelight every Christmas Eve. I work in health care and I love animals. I hope you enjoy the show and leave feeling happy and entertained. Best Wishes Annette xxx



Annette Dick
Ensemble



Alan Flint
Ensemble

Alan Flint - Ensemble

Alan has been a Diamond Valley Singers member for over 20 years. In that time he has played a number of roles in the productions including Fred in Kiss Me, Kate. He also wrote the musical, based on the life of Ned Kelly called Such Is Life which DVS presented in 2008.



Jeanette Flint - Ensemble

Jeanette's first theatre experience was in "South Pacific" playing a native child complete with a liberal coating of make-up, with Regent Dramatic Society. They even took the show on the road for one night in Yea and were billeted at local homes, a memorable experience.

Jeanette has enjoyed returning to the theatre by joining DVS and been involved in many shows over the last 17 years and for the last five years joining Trek musicals as well.



Jeanette Flint
Ensemble



Bek Goldsmith
Ensemble

Bek Goldsmith - Ensemble

Bek (she-her) is so excited to be performing in her second show with Diamond Valley Singers, her first being in the ensemble in The Addams Family (2021). Bek has performed with Adlib Entertainment in Cinderella (2017) as the Fairy Godmother's Assistant, Wind in the Willows (2016) as Wilbur Weasel, and Formal (2015) as Nancy. She has also performed with KidzAct in Hairspray Jr and The Wizard of Oz (2014). Bek is a regular backstage, having done 9 shows with CLOC Musical Theatre on their Wig & Make-Up team, most recently Priscilla (2021) and Jersey Boys (2022).

In 2019 Bek wrote, directed, and starred in ACE: The Musical, a half hour musical about living with chronic illnesses.

Megan Hacker - Ensemble

Beauty and the Beast is Megan's second show with DVS after playing Queen Constantina in Cinderella in 2018. Traditionally an 80's band singer Megan couldn't resist the challenge of joining the ensemble and being part of another classic with DVS and sharing the stage alongside her daughter again.



Megan Hacker
Ensemble



Andrea Houchen
Ensemble / Dance Captain

Andrea Houchen - Ensemble/Dance Captain

Andrea Houchen is an accomplished director, choreographer, educator, performer and entrepreneur concentrating on dance training. Her love of teaching led to a Diploma of Dance Teaching and Management, and she has a decade of directing her own dance school. As a performer Andrea has worked for a number of production companies, and performed in various other shows across Australia with The Wiggles, Mark Wilson, Sonia Kruger, John Forman, Anthony Callea and Grant Denyer. Andrea teaches with "Healthy Harold" for Life Education Victoria and dedicates her time to the Heidelberg Allstars Theatre Performance Group and proudly celebrates her 8th year as Choreographer. Andrea's free time is spent with her biggest fans, her family, friends and two beautiful children. This is Andrea's debut with Diamond Valley Singers and will certainly not be her last!

Lucas Ioppolo - Ensemble/Swing

Lucas is 25 years old and has proudly been a part of Melbourne's amateur theatre circuit for nearly ten years. After appearing in his first play/musical at 16, he has gone on to study both musical theatre and theatre arts at two separate universities. After many successful shows in the western suburbs, including lead roles in Groovyman, Happy Days, Frankenstein, Peter Pantomime, Hairspray and Seussical, Lucas ventured into the eastern suburbs in 2019. Beauty and the Beast is his second show with Diamond Valley Singers after performing in The Addams Family last year and his nineteenth show overall. He's really excited to perform in one of his dream musicals and hopes you be our guest and enjoy this tale as old as time as much as he's loved being a part of it.



Lucas Ioppolo
Ensemble / Swing



Frank Meerbach
Ensemble

Frank Meerbach - Ensemble

This is Frank's fifth show with the Diamond Valley Singers as a member of the ensemble.

Frank's love of sudoku puzzles during downtime in rehearsals might have been noticed by director Tam when he got Frank to walk in a figure eight pattern during the Be Our Guest number.

Frank hopes you enjoy the show.



Nadia Migliardi - Ensemble/Swing

Nadia is classically trained, proficient in singing in four languages and is currently working on completing her Associate in Music.

Soloist for the Maroondah Singers Organisation, she has performed principal and minor principal roles including Iolanthe, A Song to sing O, Die fledermaus, HMS Pinafore, Gondoliers, including roles in various musicals including Sound of Music and Wizard of Oz and ensemble for various shows for Melbourne Opera, Millenium Opera and Melbourne Citi Opera.

Nadia performs in concerts in and around country Victoria with Cordelia Potted Operas.



Nadia Migliardi
Ensemble / Swing



Charlotte Moore
Ensemble

Charlotte Moore - Ensemble

Charlotte has always been interested in singing and theatre, and her first show was her school production of Shrek Junior in 2017. Since then she has performed in ensemble roles for Nillumbik Youth Theatre (All Shook Up in 2019 and cast in We Will Rock You in 2020).

Beauty and the Beast is her first all age production and will be her fourth show with DVS. She performed in the ensemble of Kidsummer Nights Dream and The Lion King Junior, and as the Ugly Duckling in the 2022 production of Shrek Junior. She is very excited to be a part of the Beauty and the Beast cast.

Evie Patton - Ensemble

Evie has been involved in musical theatre since 2017. She has been in several DVS Youth Productions – Aladdin Jr., A Kidsummer Night's Dream, Shrek The Musical Jr., and she played Young Nala in The Lion King Jr. Evie has been thrilled to be involved in this adult production of Beauty and the Beast and has enjoyed sharing the stage with her Dad – even if it meant putting up with his Dad jokes during rehearsals! Evie is also a soloist in her upcoming school production, The Show Must Go On. When she's not on stage, Evie enjoys guitar and singing lessons and takes every opportunity to perform through her school and music school.



Evie Patton
Ensemble



Scott Patton
Ensemble / Swing

Scott Patton - Ensemble/Swing

Scott is becoming an annual performer at DVS, he is now in his third show. In all of his shows with DVS he has appeared in multiple roles and thoroughly enjoys the experience. Scott is also heavily involved in the set building side of shows where he has the opportunity to reenergise skills he thought he had forgotten.

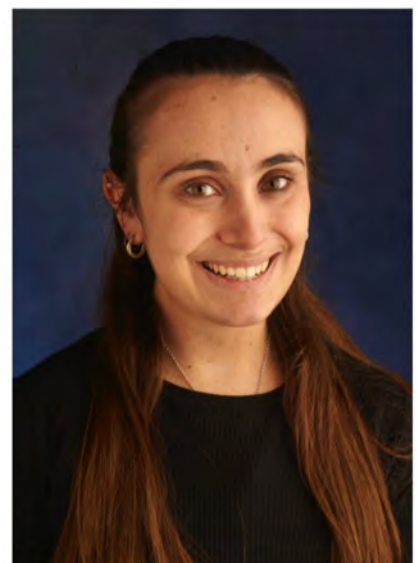
Scott has enjoyed Disney's Beauty and the Beast since it first released in 1991, he was also lucky enough to see the first Broadway production in Melbourne when it released a few years later. The opportunity to perform in this show is exceptionally exciting and a challenge he revels in. The fact that he gets to perform with his daughter, Evie, has increased his enjoyment of the show; although she is very much over the Dad jokes! Of course, it is expected that Evie's performance will far outshine Scott's.

Zoe Petropoulos - Ensemble

Zoe has had a very keen interest in performing on stage and all things drama and theatre related since 2007. She has participated in a large number of school productions from 2012-2019 with her favourite being Legally Blonde performed in 2018.

This is Zoe's second show performing with DVS, following their run of The Addams Family in 2021. Zoe had the amazing opportunity to do her year 10 work experience and again when she was in year 12 back stage with The Marriner Group where she got to witness professional productions from behind the scenes.

Out of these 'Harry Potter and the Cursed Child' was her favourite and the experience made her love of theatre grow.



Zoe Petropoulos
Ensemble



Mitchell Portarianos
Narrator / Ensemble

Mitchell Portarianos - Narrator/Ensemble

Cashing in on his legendary ability to talk non-stop, Mitchell joins the cast as that voice in the sky known as the Narrator, as well as in the ensemble playing an unscrupulous village scoundrel willing to do anything for a quick profit. This is only Mitchell's second time on stage, the first being his breakout role as the doorman in *The Mikado* with DVS in 2017.

Excited to take the stage again after 5 years and with plans to not wait as long before the next one, Mitchell hopes everyone enjoys this tale as old as time.

Barbara Skewes - Ensemble

Barbara started dancing at the age of two, then at twelve hit the London stage where she performed *Tea House Of The August Moon*. Recently was in the series *How To Stay Married*.

Barbara loves to entertain and does over 50 concerts a year at nursing homes and retirement homes. Also appearing in the Princess theatre, the Comedy theatre.

National theatre, Crown, Darebin Arts etc. She loves to be part of DVS and also attends the Michelle Slater Performing Arts Studio, Heidelberg Allstars, Ros Henry Dancers, Sisters and Mistresses. Barb has to thank her amazing teachers all who have made her life amazing.



Barbara Skewes
Ensemble

Stephen Smith - Ensemble

In the past Stephen was involved in the amateur theatre world performing with the Maroondah Theatre Company, where he took part in productions such as *By the Skin of our Teeth*, *Rape of the Belt* and *A Man for all Seasons* in which he played the part of Walter. He had some experience with Ballet Victoria studying dance under the tuition of Garth Welch. While he thoroughly enjoyed performing he dropped out as work and family commitments took hold. But the Theatre Bug has always been with him.

In recent years he joined DVS for their production of *Pirates of Penzance* then came *Once Upon A Mattress* in which he played the Wizard, followed by *Cinderella* making Beauty and the Beast his fourth production with DVS and he is very proud to be a part of for he has enjoyed every moment.



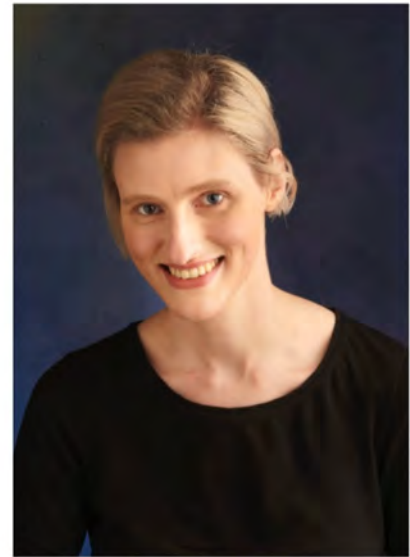
Stephen Smith
Ensemble

Hannah Sleeth - Ensemble/Swing

This is Hannah's third production with DVS, having previously been a member of the ensemble in *Annie Get Your Gun* (2019) and *The Addams Family* (2021). Prior to these performances, she had not done any theatre since high school.

She has now, however, caught the acting bug and has since taken up lessons with ADS Industry.

Hannah has loved the true community spirit and camaraderie fostered at DVS. She is looking forward to her cutting edge performance as a knife and the friendly rivalry with the spoons!



Hannah Sleeth
Ensemble / Swing



Neil Spitzer
Pit Singer

Neil Spitzer - Pit Singer

Neil has been in music theatre for over 30 years, the last 10 of which have been with Diamond Valley Singers.

He has mainly been in the ensemble but has had a couple of roles including Crompton in *The Merry Widow From Bluegum Creek*.

This year he will singing from the pit.



Gabrielle Tucker - Ensemble/Swing

Gabrielle has come back for her second show at DVS. She was in last year's performance of *The Addams Family*, although affected by Covid, she was fortunate enough to perform a couple of shows.

She started her love for theatre in high school as Bird girl in *Seussical jr*, Nanna in *Peter Pan jr* and ensemble for *Honk jr*. This year she is in our ensemble as well as being an understudy for multiple roles.

Gabrielle hopes you enjoy our performance of *Beauty and the Beast* and cannot wait for you to see what we have created over the past few months.



Gabrielle Tucker
Ensemble / Swing



Hannah Wade
Ensemble

Hannah Wade - Ensemble

Hannah is excited to be the flower seller and a napkin in Beauty and the Beast in 2022. She has been performing with DVS for 5 years now, having also been a part of The Addams Family (2021), Annie Get Your Gun (2019) and Aladdin Jr (2018).

Hannah has also been involved in several of Eltham Little Theatre's junior productions including Oliver!, The Little Mermaid Jr, Annie and Beauty and the Beast Jr. Hannah has studied classical ballet, singing and gymnastics and has been involved in a number of other productions and choirs. Hannah has loved working with the cast and crew involved in Beauty and the Beast and hopes you enjoy the show!

Izi Wright - Ensemble

Izi is 19 years old and loves being involved with productions whether it be onstage or behind the scenes.

She has previously performed on stage in DVS productions of Aladdin Jr (2018); and in Eltham Little Theatre's productions of Beauty and the Beast (2017) and The Little Mermaid Jr (2015). Izi is ecstatic to return to the stage as a napkin in Beauty and the Beast in 2022 after taking a break from performing to work backstage in her school's productions. Izi has worked on Alice in Wonderland (2018); School of Rock (2019); We Will Rock You (2020) and has come back to OLMC after graduating last year to stage manage their senior production of Matilda this year.



Izi Wright
Ensemble

Horatio Yen - Ensemble

Horatio has been in numerous productions; his most recent production was The Adams Family with DVS in 2021.

Some of Horatio's musical theatre highlights have been Footloose, UrineTown, Wild Swans and Matilda.

He has also performed in a number of plays including Lord of the Flies, Animal Farm and Taming of the Shrew. Some of his favourite moments have been playing James in Wild Swans and learning all the dancing for Footloose.

Horatio was a member of multiple choirs during his schooling and is currently taking weekly singing lessons.



Horatio Yen
Ensemble



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Angela Hennel - Production Manager

This is Angela's 12th show as production manager and she's thrown her hat in the ring for 2023 again, despite the new and ever-changing challenges thrown up by COVID for the last two productions. With a PR and administrative background, predominately in equestrian sports, Angela found her project management and communication skills a good fit when it came to running a production.

Her own creative outlet is singing as part of Melbourne Opera's chorus which she finds challenging, and is currently rehearsing her 16th opera - Lucrezia Borgia - with the company.

She enjoys getting to know a new cast with each production every year, and finds watching the group develop through the rehearsal process an interesting process. Seeing the end result of the many hours spent on the myriad of tasks when the audience sees the show, and enjoys it, is highly rewarding. She doesn't need to be on stage to feel that buzz.



Angela Hennel
Production Manager

Production Manager's Note

In these strange times it's no small effort, and it indeed requires some bravery, to get productions onto the stage. I thank the creative team, and every member of the cast for their efforts to keep both COVID and flu, of various strains, at bay during our rehearsal process. The fact that we managed to avoid any spread within the group is testament to how effective simple practices can be.

It's also been essential to remain flexible, and to compromise at times and the cast has coped with this in their stride. It's such a relief after the last two years to know this show will go on, and it mitigates, to a small degree, the sadness when we had to cancel half of our performances last year.

Please allow yourself to be transported to a magical place, enjoy the dancing and the beautiful singing that may just tug at your emotions, the gorgeous costumes, and the attention to detail that makes Beauty and the Beast one of the most enduring stories and one of Disney's favourite musicals.



Keryn Patman – Assistant to the Production Manager

Keryn (Kez) is one of DVS' theatre mums and a current committee member. Although not a performer, she does play the flute, and many years ago, the piano. Kez has previously been part of choirs, and her high school concert band. In 2021-2022 she took on the role of assistant to the director in DVS' production of Shrek the Musical Junior. This time Kez is assisting our wonderful production manager, Angela.

In her spare time, Kez can usually be found at musical theatre shows playing around town or in the local community. She is so proud of this show, the cast and the crew and can't wait for you to see what 'beauty' has been created for the audience.

TECHS



SOUND CREW



Mark, Gary, Robyn, Dianne
Bio Box



Anita Wilton
Stage Manager





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Diamond Valley Singers thank

**Our creative team, Tam, Charli and Bec for their vision,
skills, determination, resilience and leadership**

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Kirsty Nisbet - Beast Prosthetics, Hair and Make-up,

Matthew Bearup (3D horns - printing and painting)

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**All those who have spent seemingly endless hours working on the set, lights,
costumes, special effects.**

**Ian, Kirsty and Piper Nisbet for jumping in and helping without hesitation
when it was needed.**

Marie-Louise Wright and The Eltham Orchestras

Dr Ian Lowe - back-up conductor

Accompanists Gerard Banner, Tim Wilson and Paul Coles

Alan and Jeanette Flint for the use of their property

The Diamond Valley Uniting Church for our rehearsal venue

All our volunteers assisting with Front-of-House and parking

Crew, technicians, photographers, and videographers

For their assistance with, and work on, this production.





ABOUT DIAMOND VALLEY SINGERS INC

Since its formation in 1985 Diamond Valley Singers has earned a fine reputation for raising money for local and international charities while giving local performers the opportunity to participate in productions.

DVS has members of all ages, from primary school upwards. We have people from all walks of life, each bringing their own areas of expertise into the organisation and generously donating their skills when needed. We are one of the few companies in Melbourne who do not audition our chorus for musicals or our choir for oratorio. Members do not need to be able to read music to be involved.

Diamond Valley Singers Committee 2022

President... Malcolm Wilton

Vice President... Steve Wilkie

Secretary... Naomi Robertson

Treasurer... Ian Lowe

Committee Members: Angela Hennel, Charli Lewis, Ivy Liew, Hannah Wade, Andrea Houchen, Amanda Middleditch, Keryn Patman

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