

**LITTLE  
MATCH**  
PRODUCTIONS



# — ONCE UPON A TIME — **THE MAGIC FLUTE**

Adapted by Ana Seara, Heather Fairbairn and Sophie van der Stegen  
Composed by Ana Seara and W. A. Mozart

Once Upon A Time..

# The Magic Flute

## SYNOPSIS

In a creaky attic, four friends discover an ancient book: an opera score. From its dusty pages, music pours out as if by magic. What other mysteries hide within its pages? The friends are drawn into playing out the story they find inside: a tale of lost princes and adventurous princesses, sun gods and queens of the night, friendly bird watchers and enchanted instruments. After searching the attic for the costumes and props to enact the story, Felix, Thomas, Juliet and Sarah begin an exciting musical journey. Along the way, they call on the “birds of the forest” – the audience – for help, and discover the joy of music, friendship and imagination.

It is a delightful 50-minute acoustic musical production for children aged 3- 8 years, offering a high-quality and intimate theatrical experience for young audiences. Originally created for the EU and following European success, Little Match is proud to bring this work to Queensland and help tune in little ears to quality music.

## MUSIC

This re-imagining is an innovative combination of newly-composed music and Mozart’s original exquisite score. Directed by Heather Fairbairn, the three singers and pianist engage the audience in participatory, accessible and kinesthetic means.

## SETTING

An immersive and participatory, the magic of Mozart meets the thrill of Jumanji in this enchanting musical adventure for the whole family.

Set in the round, any space (10m x 10m min) is suitable.  
Please see tech rider for full details.

This production requires a rebuild of a simple set, props and costumes for Australian audiences.



# Once Upon A Time..The Magic Flute

## **ABOUT [HEATHER FAIRBAIRN](#) - DIRECTOR / CREATOR**

Heather Fairbairn is a British-Australian theatre and opera director.

Heather has worked with companies including Sydney Theatre Company, Schaubühne Berlin, Royal Opera House, Festival d'Aix-en-Provence, La Boite Theatre Company, and Opera Australia. Her popular staging of Mozart's **THE MAGIC FLUTE** is regularly revived in theatres around Europe, including Queen Elisabeth Music Chapel (Belgium), Grande Théâtre de la Ville (Luxembourg), Gulbenkian Foundation (Lisbon), and Escuela de Música Reina Sofía (Madrid). Upcoming engagements include: Director of **SILK MOTH** by Bushra El-Turk (Arcola Theatre, London); Associate Director on **ORPHEUS & EURYDICE** (Opera Queensland); Director of **THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR** (Queensland Conservatorium, Brisbane); and, on-going engagement as Revival Director of Katie Mitchell's **ARIADNE AUF NAXOS** (Finnish National Opera, Helsinki; Royal Danish Opera, Copenhagen; Grande Théâtre de la Ville, Luxembourg).

Little Match Productions (recent Queensland tours include The Owl & The Pussycat, Babushka, Belladiva) will be working with Heather and Opera Queensland to help bring her acclaimed production on tour in Australia.

## **TOUR HISTORY**

**Ferme du Biéreau** (Belgium, August 2017), **Queen Elisabeth Music Chapel** (Belgium, September 2017), **Grand Théâtre de la Ville** (Luxembourg, December 2017), **Fundación Albéniz-Escuela Superior de Música Reina Sofía** (Madrid, November 2018), **Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation** (Lisbon, December 2018).



# Once Upon A Time..The Magic Flute

## ENGAGEMENT

There is a pre-show 30 min mask making in foyer. The mask made is included in the performance. This could be a pre-incursion activity

## TRAILER

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qXeEzMVaCk8>

## REVIEWS

“The imagination of 150 wondering eyes are filled with wonder, as the energy of storytelling and music flows naturally. As the conclusion of the show says: Music, love, friendship and imagination. This is great opera for children.” **Arts et Lettres**

“My kids would sing for weeks after the show the notes that they were taught: sol-la-si-do-ré’ (Parent of two children)

“All the girls in the class want to become Queens of the Night now – seriously, they all want to become opera singers” (Primary School Teacher)

“We felt so lucky to be able to sit in the room and be surrounded by such talented singers” (Grandparent)

“We loved Papageno the most; he was so funny!” (Young audience member)

## MARKETING TAGS

An immersive and participatory, multi-lingual adaptation of Mozart’s The Magic Flute for children and their families.

The magic of Mozart meets the thrill of Jumanji in this enchanting musical adventure.

The audience’s imaginations go wild as the classic story of Mozart’s Magic Flute unfolds around them, sometimes from unexpected angles.

An enchanting new story introducing the sublime music of Mozart to children.

## LEARN ABOUT THE CREATION OF THE WORK

<https://www.enoa-community.com/creation/il-etait-une-fois-la-flute-enchantee/lab--la-petite-flute-enchantee#1>

# Once Upon A Time..The Magic Flute

## AUDIENCE

Primary Schools, Families  
Children 3-8

## CREATIVES

Adapted by : Ana Seara, Heather Fairbairn and  
Sophie van der Stegen

Composer : Ana Seara and W. A. Mozart

Libretto : Sophie van der Stegen and Emanuel  
Schikaneder

Director : Heather Fairbairn

Creative Producer: Alicia Cush

Production Manager / Associate Designer:  
Penny Challen

## CASTING

3 x Singers  
1 x Pianist

## TOURING PARTY

4 x Performers  
1 x Tour / Stage Manager

## AVAILABLE TO TOUR

From 15/03 2021 Until 24/12 2021

**MAXIMUM 2 SHOWS A DAY:** due to voice  
maintenance requirements. We can facilitate  
workshops along side the shows.

**MAX SHOWS PER WEEK:** 10

**DURATION:** 50mins no interval

**BUMP IN:** Same day open

**COST RANGE:** \$2,500 - \$5,000  
Approximate cost per performance includes  
show fees, remount and royalties split over a  
number of venues.

**FEE:** \$9,885 per week

**REMOUNT:** \$12,000

**ROYALTIES:** 8%



**At Little Match Productions we tune in little ears to quality music.**

We tell great stories - both re-imagined classics and completely new - with integrity & contemporary relevance for communities across Queensland and Australia.

Our children's works are created with our "Hidden Vegetable Art" philosophy which has a focus on agency for new audiences in their first experiences opera and classical music.

If you would like to know more, we'd love to hear from you. Please contact us directly or visit our website [littlematchproductions.com](http://littlematchproductions.com).



**To discuss this production further please contact:**

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