

Press Release: April 1, 2016



SNOW WHITE

Anime-Inspired Adaptation Returns to NWCT Stage

1819 NW Everett Street
Portland, OR 97209-2189

Phone: 503-222-4480
Fax: 503-222-4130
www.nwcts.org

*Our mission—
to educate, entertain
and enrich the lives
of young audiences*

Managing Director
Judy Kafoury

Artistic Director
Sarah Jane Hardy

Associate Artistic Director
John Ellingson

Education Director
Leigh Mallonee

Who's afraid of a poison apple? When a jealous queen's rule is threatened by the "fairest of them all", the seven spirits must be united to liberate a kingdom. NW Children's Theater presents *Snow White*, a fast-paced, award-winning original that reimagines the classic fairytale as an epic, anime-inspired adventure featuring thrilling martial arts sequences and live Taiko-inspired drumming.

Everyone in the kingdom agrees that the queen (Deirdre Atkinson) is fairest in the land. For years, the kingdom has enjoyed prosperity and peace under her rule, with her two step-daughters Snow White (Sophie Mackay) and Rose Red (Kaylee Bair) at her side. This peace is shattered when the queen's faithful Mirror (Kevin-Michael Moore) names Snow White as fairest in the land. Desperate to protect the status and power that beauty has granted her, the Queen resorts to deception, treachery, and dark magic, turning sister against sister and forcing Snow White to flee the kingdom. Her journey leads her to the land of spirits where she discovers the truth of the Queen's beauty, her own family, and the foundation of the kingdom itself.

The award-winning creative team of Milo Mowery and Rody Ortega have collaborated to write and compose five NWCT original productions, including the award-winning steampunk *Pinocchio* (2010), *El Zorrillo* (2012), *Peter Pan* (2013), and last season's high-flying aerial and clowning spectacular, *The Little Mermaid*. In adapting *Snow White* they were interested in moving away from a love story in which Snow White is a passive protagonist in her own story. To that end, this re-telling casts Snow White as a warrior and adventurer forced to confront the power that beauty has bestowed upon her and the responsibility that comes with that power.

In order to reset the audience's relationship to this very familiar story the creative team sought a frame that would match the epic nature of the adaptation. This production draws heavily on the visual styles present in anime

and manga, with bold, dramatic use of color and design choices intended to make the characters and settings appear more "animated." Actors transform themselves onstage through the fantastically imaginative costume designs of Mary Rochon (five-time Drammy Award Winner).

Snow White is the final production in NWCT's 23rd Season of Plays, and will feature the final Sensory Friendly performance of the season. Featuring shorter run-times, no intermission, reduced or removed lighting and sound cues, and the constant presence of house lights, these performances are specifically designed for children on the autism spectrum or with other sensory sensitivities. These performances are accompanied by a unique Social Story to help guide families through the entire theater experience from parking lot to the final bows. NWCT's 2015-16 Season featured four Sensory Friendly performances free of charge thanks to generous funding from Pacific Power Foundation, Umpqua Bank, and The Jackson Foundation. NWCT will also offer an ASL-interpreted performance on Saturday, May 7 at noon.

Snow White is produced in part through the support of the Collins Foundation, Regional Arts and Culture Council and Work for Art, Kafoury & McDougal, Schwabe, Williamson & Wyatt, the Oregon Arts Commission, and NWCT Donor Circle Members. More than 5,000 school children will travel to the land of the Seven Spirits during twelve student matinee performances.

Noon & 4pm Shows:
APRIL 23, 24, 30, MAY 1, 7, 8, 14, 15, 21

7pm Shows: May 6, 13, 20
Noon Show only: May 22

MAY 7 at Noon:
ASL Interpreted Show

TICKETS & INFORMATION
503-222-4480 • NWCTS.ORG
SEASON SUBSCRIBER DISCOUNTS

Release Date

April 1, 2016

End Date

May 22, 2016

Media Contact

To set up interviews or discuss other possibilities for stories, please contact:

Marri-Beth Serritella
Sucha Production
503-528-1370
mb@suchaproduction.com