

tick,  
tick....

**BOOM!**

A musical by Jonathan Larson  
the creator of RENT

Fab  
Nobs



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tick...

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20 - 28 July 2007

## Welcome to Fab Nobs!

Thank you for coming along this evening to see **tick, tick... BOOM!**

Co-directors Erin McMahon and Andrew Johnson along with musical director Phil Haeusler have worked extremely hard in a very short rehearsal period to bring you this wonderful musical. They have cast three very talented performers who play several roles each and sing so beautifully together. This show has been set in the round and I am sure you will agree that it brings another dimension to the factory.

What a clever group of people with brilliant insight and compassion bringing this compelling story to life. Thank you.

Due to our impending move in August we have had to cancel our planned November show but we have replaced it with **The First 5 Years**, a concert to celebrate Fab Nobs' first five years. This concert will have excerpts from all of our previous Musicals and Fabarets. **The First 5 Years** will be held at Billanook College, Mooroolbark on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> November. Look forward to seeing many of your favourite performers singing highlights from **Slice of Saturday Night**, **A Funny thing happened on the way to the Forum**, **Nonsense**, **Is there life... after High School?**, **Baby**, **Clue: The Musical**, **Little Shop of Horrors**, **honk!**, **Return to the Forbidden Planet**, **tick, tick... BOOM!** and a sneak peak at our two musicals which we have planned for 2008 - **Disco Inferno** in April and **Zombie Prom** in November.

We will be moving to a new factory very soon. Look out for news regarding moving days, building days because we will need your support. Fab Nobs are committed to retaining our factory atmosphere and to bringing you the shows you've come to love.

Once again I would like to thank the Fab Nobs Committee for their hard work over the past few months.

I look forward to seeing you at the bar for a drink after the show.

**Leane Gooding**  
President



## From the Directors

For the final production at The Fab Factory, we wanted to take advantage of this unique space. Without the restrictions of a proscenium arch we have surrounded our cast of characters with the audience. This is an exciting opportunity for us and a challenge for the cast and audience alike. We hope it brings you closer to the characters and what they are feeling. Based on a series of autobiographical monologues and music from a number of sources, **tick, tick... BOOM!** is the Larson family's homage to their son through his own words and music. So sit back, relax and enjoy the music and lyrics of  
Jonathan Larson.

Andrew Johnson & Erin McMahon

## Sunday

"Sunday", Jon's song at the diner, is based heavily on the Act I Finale from the Stephen Sondheim musical **Sunday in the Park with George**. Georges begins to control the subjects of his painting, moving them gracefully into their positions for the painting, replacing their disagreements with beautiful harmony. Georges freezes the scene in its perfect position, in a tableau of the characters which perfectly mimics his painting. Larson conceived his "Sunday" as a humorous homage to Sondheim, one of his largest influences.



"Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte" 1884-1886 (Chicago Institute of Art)

## Synopsis

Before the revolutionary rock musical **Rent**, Jonathan Larson had another story to tell, his own. **tick, tick... BOOM!** is a pop rock musical about facing crossroads in life and holding onto your dreams.

It tells the story of Jonathan, a promising young composer on the eve of his 30th birthday. His girlfriend, Susan, wants to move out of the city, his best friend, Michael, is making big bucks in Marketing and Jonathan's still waiting tables and trying to write the great American musical before life passes him by.

## Musical Numbers

30/90	Jon, Michael & Susan
<b>Green Green Dress</b>	Jon, Susan
<b>Johnny Can't Decide</b>	Jon, Susan & Michael
<b>No More</b>	Michael, Jon
<b>Therapy</b>	Jon, Susan
<b>Sunday</b>	Jon, Michael & Susan
Intermission	
<b>Real Life</b>	Michael
<b>Sugar</b>	Jon, Karessa & Counter Guy
<b>See Her Smile</b>	Jon, Susan & Michael
<b>Superbia Intro</b>	Band
<b>Come to Your Senses</b>	Karessa
<b>Why</b>	Jon
<b>30/90 Reprise</b>	Jon
<b>Louder Than Words</b>	Jon, Michael & Susan

## Band

<b>Keyboard</b>	Phil Haeusler
<b>Guitar</b>	Aaron Marshall
<b>Bass</b>	Mark George
<b>Drums / Percussion</b>	Adam Bradley



## Cast of Characters

### Jon

Jon is a 29-year-old (nearly 30) composer of musical theatre living in Soho in Manhattan in 1990. He has been writing his rock musical **Superbia** for the last five years. However as the seconds tick by, he is running out of time to make his mark on the world. He thought he would have had a hit show by now. Jon regards turning 30 as the end of youth but doesn't want to sell out, settle down (afraid of intimacy or at least co-dependency) or compromise his ideals...yet.

*I want to write music...a song that people  
will listen to and remember...*

### Susan

Susan is Jon's girlfriend of two years who lives in an illegal sublet on the 96<sup>th</sup> and York. She is a dancer who teaches ballet to rich girls to pay the bills. She wants to move out of New York and live by the sea at Cape Cod. She is through with competition and wants to settle down and have a family.

### Michael

Michael is Jon's best friend since they were eight when they met at Camp Shawanga. Michael is Jon's roommate and is moving out. Michael was an actor, or at least wanted to be an actor, but is now a market research executive and the proud owner of a BMW. He travels a lot for business and has just bought an apartment - with a bathtub. Michael wants Jon to consider working for his firm. Michael is happy with his choices and doesn't see himself as having sold out, but part of real life.

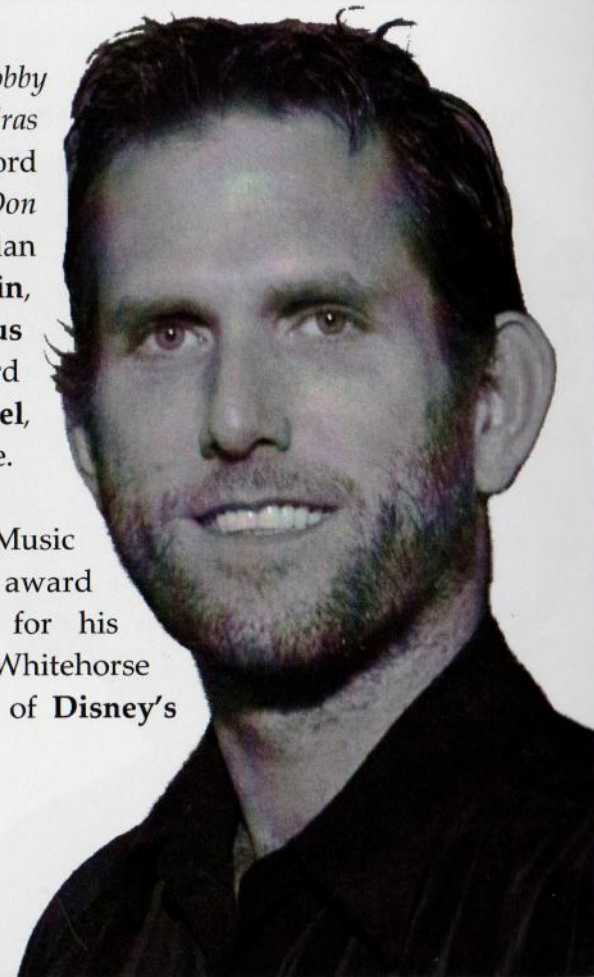
## Jonathon Sebastian as Jon

Jonathon was most recently on stage with Fab Nobs as *Captain Tempest* in the highly acclaimed **Return to the Forbidden Planet**.

He has been working on and off stage for the last 18 years, performing in a wide range of productions in Queensland, NSW and Victoria. His performance highlights to date are creating the role of *Patroclus* in the world premiere of the Jon English/David Mackay rock opera **PARIS** in 2003, followed by the Australian premiere of **Tapestry, a Musical Revue** featuring the songs of Carole King, both at Laycock Street Theatre.

Other roles of note include *Bobby Child* in **Crazy For You**, *Enjolras* in **Les Misérables** with Gosford Musical Society and *Don Lockwood* in the Australian premiere of **Singin' In The Rain**, *Gregory Gardiner* in **A Chorus Line**, *Farleigh* in the award winning **The Scarlet Pimpernel**, all with CLOC Musical Theatre.

He was nominated for both a Music Theatre Guild and Lyrebird award for Best Supporting Actor for his portrayal of *Lumiere* in Whitehorse Musical Theatre's production of **Disney's Beauty and the Beast**.





## Hannah Free as Susan

Hannah enjoyed many years of singing in bands, choirs, church and other events before she discovered a love for theatre, jumping head first into playing the lead role of *Marguerite* in the Australian premiere of **The Scarlet Pimpernel** in Sydney.

She received Lyrebird awards for her reprised performance of *Marguerite* in the Victorian premiere of **The Scarlet Pimpernel** (Nova) and as a soloist in the concert **Thoroughly Modern Musicals** (MDMS), and has also been nominated for Guild awards for her roles as *Irene* in **Hello Dolly!** (Fabulous Nobodys), *Emma* in **Jekyll & Hyde** (Nova), and *Fantine* in **Les Misérables** (PRTC).

Hannah had a busy year in 2006, appearing in the Victorian premiere of **Rent** (Stella Entertainment) at the National Theatre, as *Ronnette* in **Little Shop of Horrors** (Fab Nobs), as a soloist in **The World Goes Round** (Shoosh Productions), and as *Janet* in **Boeing Boeing** (Lilydale Athenaeum) – and has enjoyed a well-earned rest since then!



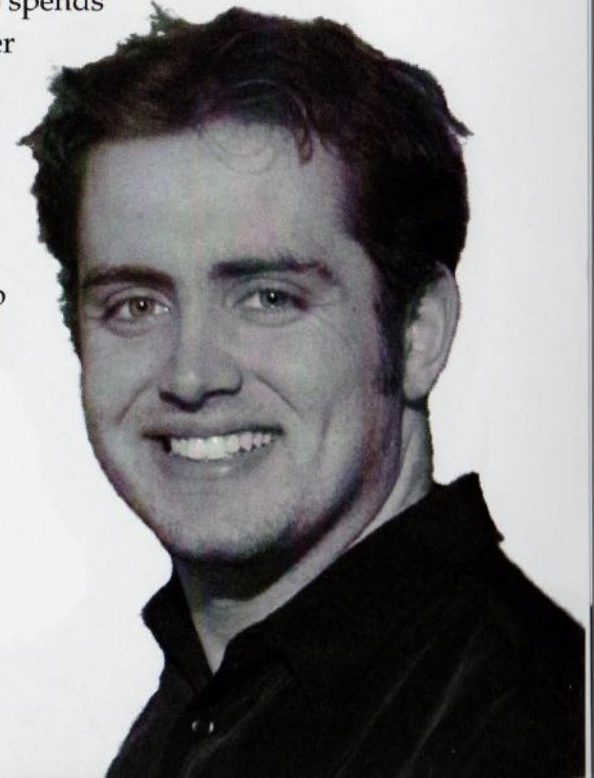
## Michael Butler as Michael

Although he assures us he is not stalking Jonathon, Michael happens to again find himself alongside him, fresh from their performances in Fab Nobs' **Return to the Forbidden Planet** earlier this year and **Disney's Beauty and the Beast** (Whitehorse) and **The Scarlet Pimpernel** (CLOC) last year.

Shows that have not included Jonathon include his Guild-commended roles of *Drake/Greylag* in Fab Nobs' **honk!**, **Les Misérables**, **West Side Story** and **Joseph and the Technicolor Dreamcoat** with Whitehorse and most recently as *The Mikado* in MDMS's **Hot Mikado**.

Michael has also spent time on artistic teams as Assistant Director on **The Witches of Eastwick** (ARC) and directing Whitehorse's pantomime **Cinderella**. He also spends time as a feature writer/reviewer for Theatre People.

Later this year, Michael will be appearing in **Carousel** at Brisbane's Twelfth Night Theatre followed by a quick trip back to Melbourne to appear in our **The First 5 Years** concert before embarking on a long working holiday in Canada.





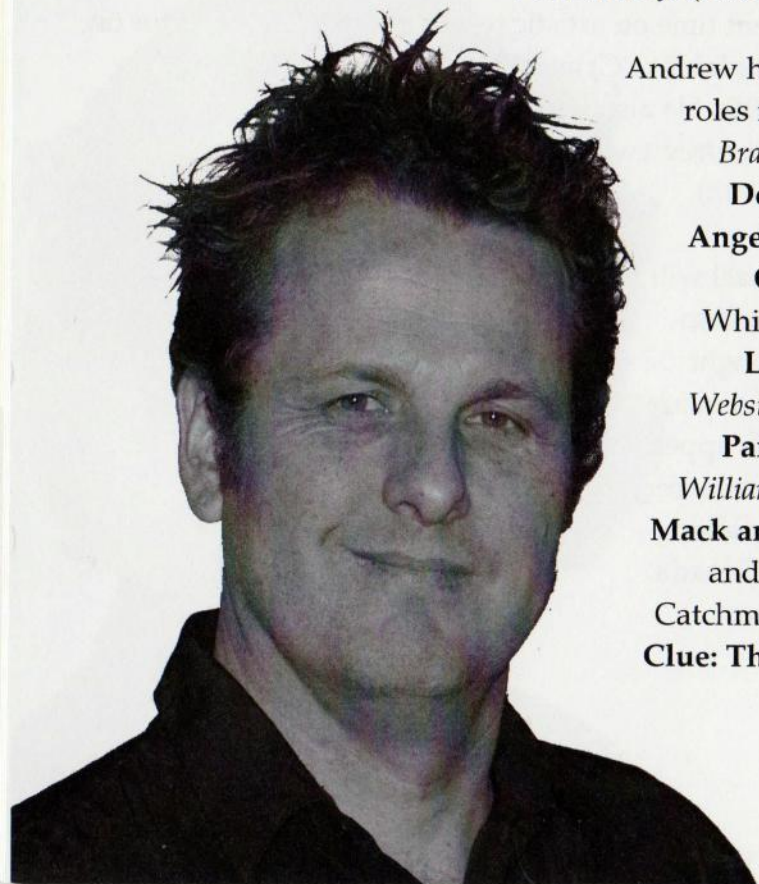
## Andrew Johnson

*Co-Director*

Andrew's directing credits include two original plays at the Carlton Courthouse Theatre, for which he received a Victorian Drama League Silver award for Direction.

Andrew has directed **A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum** (Willamstown Light Opera), **Bye Bye Birdie** (Fabulous Nobodys), **You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown** (Altona City Theatre), **Kismet** (Babirra), **Fiddler on the Roof** and **The Sound of Music** (Whitehorse) and **The Mystery of Edwin Drood** (Heidelberg Theatre Company), **Little Shop of Horrors** (Fab Nobs) plus recently **Pirates of Penzance Jr** (Lauriston Girls' School).

Andrew has performed many roles including *Lieutenant Brannigan* in **Guys and Dolls**, *Stone* in **City of Angels**, *Caiaphas* in **Jesus Christ Superstar** for Whitehorse, *Grantaire* in **Les Miserables**, *Billy Webster* in **Sunday in the Park with George** and *William Desmond Taylor* in **Mack and Mabel** for CLOC and *Fagin* in **Oliver!** for Catchment and *Mr Green* in **Clue: The Musical** with Fab Nobs.

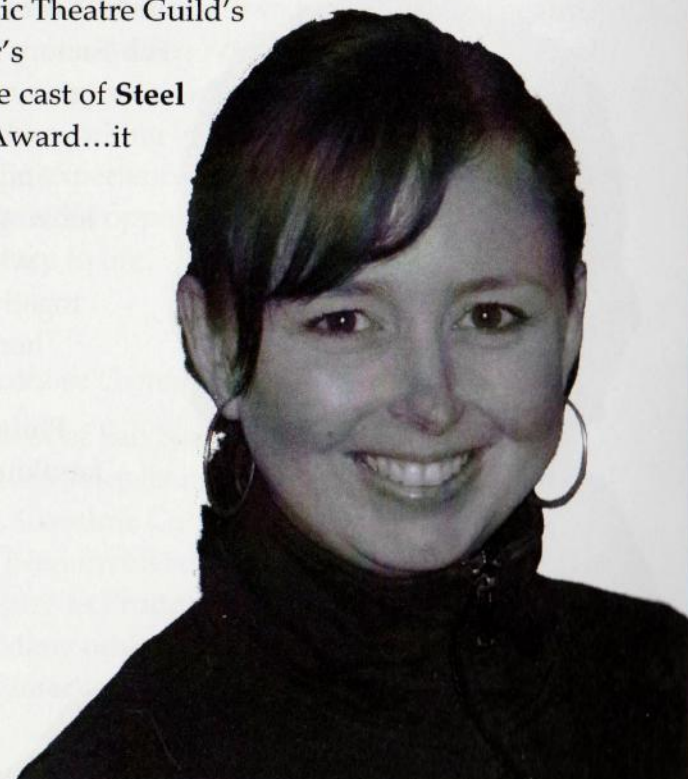


## Erin McMahan

*Co-Director*

Erin's Directing and Choreography credits include **A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum** (Willamstown Light Opera), **Bye Bye Birdie** (Fabulous Nobodys), **You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown** (Altona City Theatre), **The Music Man**, **Fiddler on the Roof** and **The Sound of Music** (Whitehorse Musical Theatre) and **The Mystery of Edwin Drood** (Heidelberg Theatre Company) plus **Annie Jr**, **Aladdin Jr**, **Godspell** and **Pirates of Penzance Jr** (Lauriston Girls' School) and **Little Shop of Horrors** with Fab Nobs last year.

As a performer Erin has appeared in numerous productions including **My One and Only**, **Little Me**, **On the Town**, **Anything Goes**, **Brigadoon**, **Jesus Christ Superstar**, **Hello Dolly** (Whitehorse), **42nd Street**, **Crazy for You**, **Mack and Mabel** and **Steel Pier** (CLOC) for which she won the Music Theatre Guild's Tony McShanag Dancer's Award...well, the whole cast of **Steel Pier** won the Dancer's Award...it still counts, doesn't it?





## Phil Haeusler

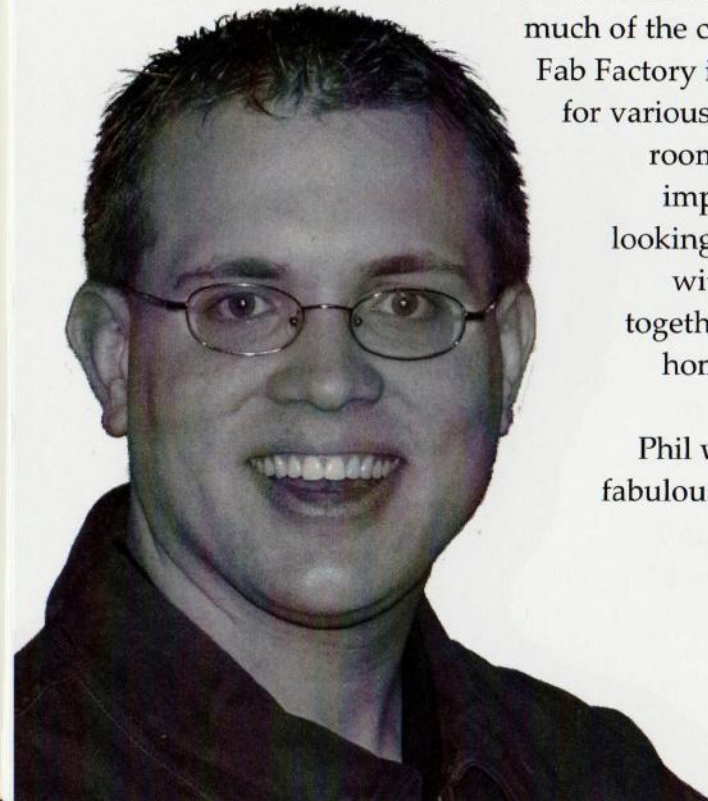
*Musical Director*

Phil is involved with many aspects of Fab Nobs and is thrilled to be again musically directing another favourite show of his.

**tick, tick... BOOM!** marks Phil's tenth musical outing with Fab Nobs – not bad going in a little under five years. He is also regularly seen behind the piano at many rehearsals and in the orchestra, he has been part of many productions for a number of companies in and around Melbourne over the last decade including Whitehorse, CLOC, Catchment, MDMS, Limelight, Loyola and the Fabulous Nobodys.

Phil musically directed **Fabaret** and **Little Shop of Horrors** with Fab Nobs in 2006. He has also been involved with much of the construction around The Fab Factory including the stage, sets for various productions, the music room out the back and most importantly, the bar! He is looking forward to the helping with challenge of bringing together the set up of the new home of Fab Nobs Theatre.

Phil wants to thank the three fabulous girls in his life, Alexis, Claire and Felicity.



## Deryk Hartwick

*Lighting Design*

Deryk has been working in theatre for over 20 years in the lighting field, generally for play companies including Peridot, Malvern, Heidelberg, Waverley, Mitcham, to name a few. His first ventured into the world of Musical Theatre by lighting our production of **Little Shop of Horrors**.

Professionally, Deryk designed the launch of **Disney's Monsters' Inc** and he works at the Victorian Arts Centre as the lighting supervisor. He also runs a theatrical lighting hire business, Wick Lighting.

## Neale Folwell

*Sound Design*

Over the past 17 years Neale has worked in partnership with John Nolan on many musical and dramatic shows for Fab Nobs Theatre, Whitehorse Musical Theatre and Glen Waverley Secondary School, to name a few. With John away on a well-earned holiday, Neale is continuing the tradition by working with John's son, Marcus Nolan, who has a wealth of audio experience in his own right. Neale and Marcus are pleased to have the opportunity to help bring this, amusing and touching story to life.

## Leane Gooding

*Production Coordinator/Costume Coordinator*

Leane is currently President of Fab Nobs and has been involved in each one of our productions since its inception in many areas - Production Coordinator, Costume Coordinator, Props Coordinator or Dresser. Leane has also been involved with Whitehorse Musical Theatre as Production Coordinator and Costume Designer/Coordinator. Many other duties include crewing, set painting and advertising/marketing just to name a few - and she loves every minute of it!



## Jonathan Larson 1960-1996



In 1978 Jonathan entered the acting conservatory at Adelphi University with a four-year, full tuition merit scholarship.

The writer he admired most was Stephen Sondheim, to whom he wrote during his last year in college. The distinguished composer-lyricist answered him and

became an advisor to the young songwriter. After graduation, Jonathan moved to Manhattan. In 1982, he adapted George Orwell's 1984, completing the book, music, lyrics and a demo tape which he sent to director Hal Prince and Orwell's Estate – the rights were not available! Larson said "*All the work that I had done on that transmogrified into **Superbia** which was my own dystopia.*"

During the **Superbia** years, 1985-1991, Larson lived on the edge of poverty, preferring to work as a waiter rather than divide his concentration with jingle or copywriting. Organised and disciplined, he revised draft after draft of **Superbia** and eventually won a Richard Rodgers Development Grant which funded a staged reading of **Superbia**. Jonathan's belief in his work was as large as his talent. He often said "*I am the future of the American Musical.*" All this persistence could not secure a full-scale production of the show. Jon addressed his disappointment with an autobiographical rock monologue in 1990. This would become **tick, tick... BOOM!**

In 1989 Jonathan started to work on **Rent**. By 1995 the New York Theatre Workshop agreed to mount a studio production. Jonathan resigned from his job as a waiter to work full time on **Rent**. On January 24, 1996 Jonathan attended the only full dress rehearsal for **Rent**. Later that night, alone in his apartment, Jonathan put on a kettle to make tea and died from an undiagnosed aortic aneurysm. **Rent** opened to rave reviews.

In 2001 the Larson family asked a director and playwright to take Jonathan's rock monologue to help tell Jonathan's personal story in Jonathan's own words. **tick, tick... BOOM!** was born.

## Tickspeak

**Napoleon** At the age of 20 Napoleon rose to prominence as a general of the French Revolution, leading several successful campaigns against the First Coalition and the Second Coalition.

**Newark Airport** Newark International Airport is about 15 miles south west of New York City. While it is a bit further from the city than the other two airports, it is normally less crowded and has more modern facilities.

**George Bush** Republican and Vice President in the Reagan Administration, George Bush (born June 12, 1924) became the forty-first President of the United States, serving from 1989 to 1993.

**Cape Cod** Cape Cod became a summer haven for harried urbanites beginning at the end of the nineteenth century.

**Bob and Ray** Bob Elliott and Ray Goulding were an American comedy team whose career spanned five decades. They would always end the show with Ray saying, "Write if you get work..." and Bob replying with "And hang by your thumbs."

**East Village** Over the last 100 years, the East Village/Lower East Side neighbourhood has been considered one of the strongest contributors to American arts and culture in New York.

**Reaganomics** Ronald Reagan served as President of the US from 1981 to 1989. Reaganomics is a term that has been used to both describe and decry free market advocacy economic policies of U.S.

**Twinkie** A Twinkie is a "Golden Sponge Cake with Creamy Filling". In the United States, the Twinkie is commonly regarded as the quintessential junk food.

**'Mad' Avenue** The term "Madison Avenue" is often used metonymously for advertising, and became identified with the advertising industry in the 1920s.

**Captain Kangaroo** Captain Kangaroo was a children's television series which aired weekday mornings CBS from 1955 until 1984.

**Parnassus** The home of the Muses, Parnassus became known as the home of poetry, music, and learning.



## **tick, tick... BOOM!**

**Book, Music and Lyrics by Jonathan Larson**

**David Auburn, Script Consultant**

**Vocal Arrangements and Orchestrations**

**by Stephen Oremus**

Andrew Johnson & Erin McMahon **Direction, Set and  
Costume Design**

Phil Haeusler **Musical Director**

Deryk Hartwick **Lighting Design**

Neale Folwell **Sound Design**

Leane Gooding **Production Coordinator**

Ian Puckey **Set Coordinator**

Leane Gooding **Costume Coordinator**

Leane Gooding **Properties**

Christine McBride **Lighting Operation**

Neale Folwell & Marcus Nolan **Sound Operation**

Ian Puckey, Christine McBride, Tony Lander,  
Patrick Matthews, Danny Matthews **Set Construction**

Gillian Goodall, Sabine Haeusler **Costume Construction**  
and Leane Gooding

Phil Haeusler **Flyer/Program**

Anne King **Ticket Secretary**

Kerryn Puckey **Front of House Manager**

Phil Haeusler **Bar Manager**

Friends and **Front of House and**  
Committee of Fab Nobs Theatre **Bar Staff**

**tick, tick...BOOM! Was originally produced  
off-Broadway in June, 2001 by  
Victoria Leacock Robyn Goodman  
Dede Harris Lorie Cowen Beth Smith**

by arrangement with Hal Leonard Australia Pty Ltd Exclusive agent for Music Theatre  
International (NY)

## **Fab Nobs Theatre Committee**

**President** Leane Gooding

**Treasurer** Phil Haeusler

**Secretary** John Nolan

**General Committee** Sarah Cliff  
Kerryn Puckey  
Christine McBride  
David Sly  
Trent Bockman  
Graham Andrews  
Jason Bovaird

## **Patrons of Fab Nobs Theatre**

Tony Lander  
Melissa Ryan  
Leane & Terry Gooding  
Tony & Megan Shute

## **Thanks To**

Tony Lander  
Whitehorse Musical Theatre  
Theatrepeople  
Gavin Andrew  
Adrian and the staff of Zoom Digital Printing  
Tony and the staff of Mayerling Cellars, Ringwood



## 2008 Productions

### Disco Inferno

April 2008

Get, ready to hit that floor and burn, baby, burn... in **Disco Inferno**.



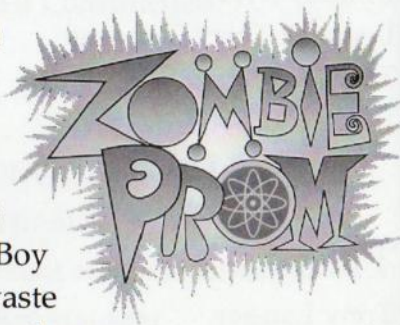
It's the summer of 1976. Outside, the weather is as hot as the fashion and passion are on the dance floor and Jack is about to celebrate a 21<sup>st</sup> birthday he'll never forget.

**Disco Inferno** is a high energy musical guaranteed to warm hearts, get feet tapping and audiences leaving the auditorium with a daft grin of pleasure and the fondest memories of a sensational era.

### Zombie Prom

November 2008

A story as old as time itself. Boy meets Girl. Boy falls in love with Girl. Girl's parents forbid her from seeing Boy. Boy hurls himself headlong into the waste treatment silo at the local nuclear power plant.



Boy comes back from the dead as a Zombie determined to take Girl to the senior prom.

A twisted take on the standard rebellious bad-boy and the good-girl who loves him storyline of 1950 high-school musicals and films, Fab Nobs are sure **Zombie Prom** will delight all audiences.

Keep up to date with the latest news of Fab Nobs Theatre's move to our new home by signing up to our mailing list and visiting our website.

**Fab Nobs**

[WWW.FABNOBSTHEATRE.COM.AU](http://WWW.FABNOBSTHEATRE.COM.AU)



# Fab Nobs

# THE FIRST 5 YEARS

A CELEBRATION OF THE FIRST 5 FAB YEARS

## November 22, 23 & 24 2007

The Shed, Billanook College, Cardigan Rd, Mooroolbark

**A SLICE**  
of  
**SATURDAY NIGHT**



**FABARET 2004**



*Is There Life...*

*After High School?*

**CLUE**  
The Musical

**GOSI BABY**



**LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS**

**the CASTLE honk!**



tick, tick...  
**BOOM!**