

Sleeping Beauty

book by Charles Way, music by Chad Henry

NORTHWEST CHILDRENS THEATER and SCHOOL

NW Neighborhood
Cultural Center
1819 NW Everett Street
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Portland, OR 97209-2189

phone: 503-222-2190
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www.nwcts.org

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

Managing Director
Judy Kafoury

Artistic Director
Sarah Jane Hardy

Education Director
Carolyn Newsom

Volunteer Director
Diane Carlson

Everyone knows that when a princess pricks her finger and falls into an enchanted sleep, it's up to a handsome prince to save her with a kiss, right? Well, is HE in for a surprise in this musical retelling of *Sleeping Beauty*, the classic fairy tale filled with song, dance, and a spirited princess with a will of her own!

Set amid the beauty and myth of an ancient Celtic world, this tale is retold with a modern touch of humor and style. Two magical sisters, Branwen (a white witch) and Modron (a dark witch), vie for the life of an innocent child found in the woods. As a kindness, Branwen gives the baby to a childless King and Queen. But the jealous Modron dooms the child to prick her finger on a spindle and die. Branwen grants a reprieve; instead of death, the child, Briar Rose, falls into a hundred-year slumber, and only true love's kiss can break the spell.

As protection, the child receives Gryff, a half-boy-half-dragon, as a companion. But despite all precautions, the headstrong Briar Rose falls prey to the curse, with only the hapless Prince Owain to save her. Embarking on a quest to battle the Spider King and enchanted fairies, does Owain have the courage to vanquish evil and save the princess?

Directed by NWCT Artistic Director Sarah Jane Hardy, and music directed by Ezra Weiss, this adaptation by Charles Way and Chad Henry is filled with quirky characters. Camille Trinka plays willful Briar Rose, with Jason Means as the charmingly ineffectual Prince Owain (both of whom were last seen at NWCT in *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*).

King Peredur and Queen Guinevere (played by perennial NWCT favorite Erik James (*The Devil*

and *Daniel Webster*) and Phyllis Lang (*The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet*)) play the dotting royal parents, with Grover Hollway (*Go, Dog. Go!*) as the sardonically witty half-dragon, Gryff.

Melody Bridges (*The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet*) as the beneficent Branwen and Tiffany Rowland Morris (*The Witches*) as the malevolent Modron are supported by a chorus of magical fairies (Leona Kindermann*, Andi Sturtevant*, Tiffany Kornberg, Annie Leonard, Lila Neiswanger*, Rachel Sanders**, Charlotte Spangler* and Julia Staben).

Stunning scenic design by John Anderberg sweeps audiences from an enchanted forest to a Celtic castle with lights by Alexandria Eccles and spectacular costumes by Mary Rochon, creating a world where royalty, witches, fairies, and spider kings dwell (and duel!).

Sleeping Beauty awakens May 2-25. For tickets, call 503-222-4480 or visit nwcts.org.

Join NWCT for special events! May 3 is Grandparents' Day, where grandparents receive \$2 off tickets and a special reception when attending the show with their grandchildren. May 9 is Family Date Night, with a delicious family-style dinner catered by Elephants Deli. Visit nwcts.org for more information.

Sleeping Beauty is presented through special arrangement with Plays for Young Audiences. The NWCT 2007-08 season is sponsored by The Collins Foundation, K103, and the Regional Arts and Culture Council Work for Art.

Some play description content courtesy of Plays for Young Audiences.

* Member of NWCT's Interns NW 2007-08

** Member of NWCT's KidsPro NW 2007-08

When: May 2-25, 2008: Fri. 7 p.m., Sat. 2 p.m. and Sun. 2 p.m. & 6 p.m.

Where: NW Neighborhood Cultural Center
1819 NW Everett Street, Portland, OR 97209

Tickets: 503-222-4480 or WWW.NWCTS.ORG

Age Range: Most enjoyed by ages 5 and up

Prices: \$15-20 adults, \$10-16 youth (14 & under)

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**FOR IMMEDIATE
RELEASE**

Release Date
April 17, 2008

Kill Date
May 26, 2008

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high resolution photos online at: <http://nwcts.org/html/press.html>

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Left to right: Tiffany Rowland Morris (Modron) and Melody Bridges (Branwen) in Northwest Children's Theater and School's *Sleeping Beauty*.

32, 38, 41

Camille Trinka (Briar Rose) in Northwest Children's Theater and School's *Sleeping Beauty*.

43 & 93

Jason Means (Prince Owain) and Camille Trinka (Briar Rose) in Northwest Children's Theater and School's *Sleeping Beauty*.

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Tiffany Rowland Morris (Modron) and Camille Trinka (Briar Rose) in Northwest Children's Theater and School's *Sleeping Beauty*.

56, 62, 64, 73

Phyllis Lang (Queen Guinevere), Erik James (King Peredur) and Camille Trinka (Briar Rose) in Northwest Children's Theater and School's *Sleeping Beauty*.

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