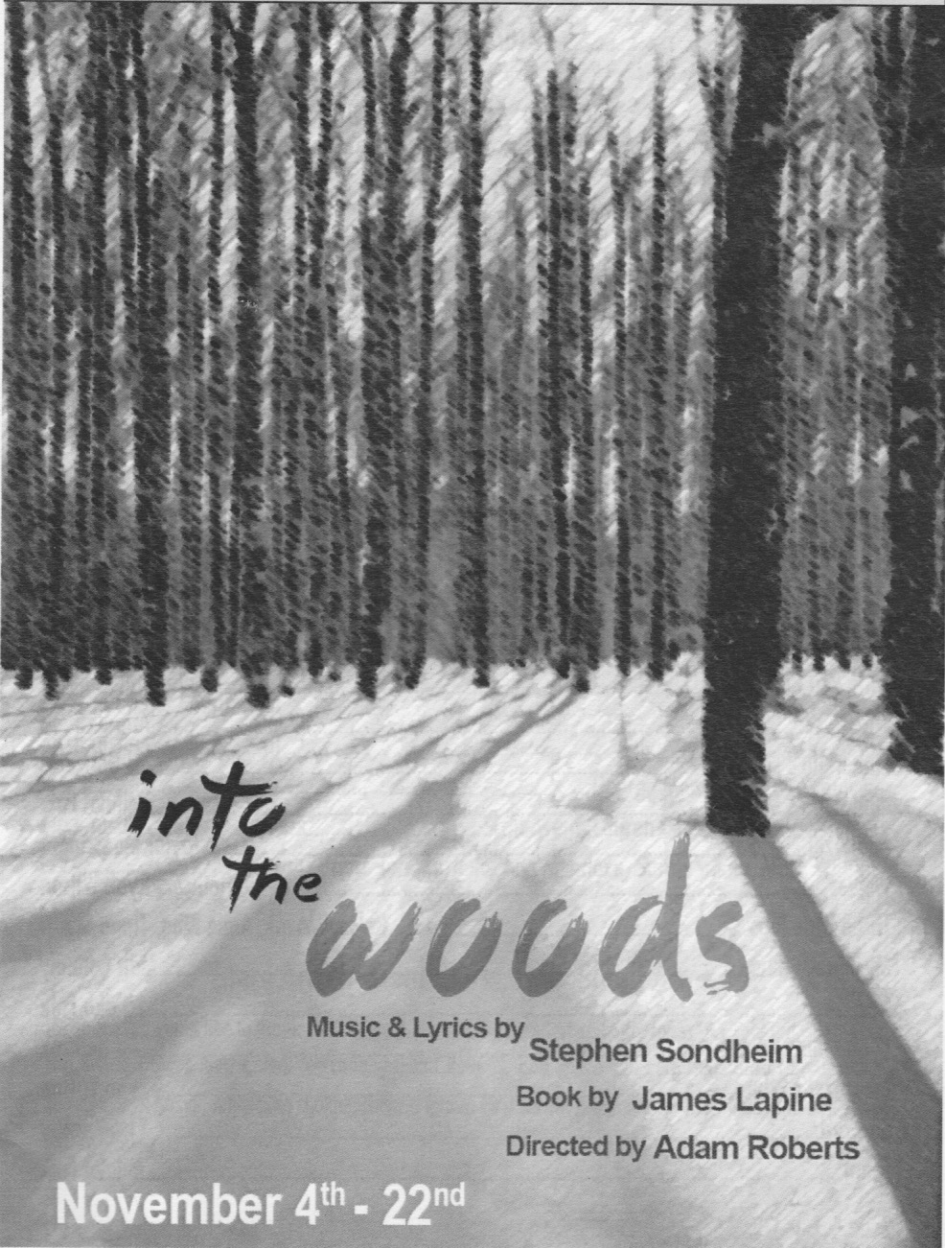


PLAYBILL

Trinity Street Players
present



*into
the
woods*

Music & Lyrics by **Stephen Sondheim**

Book by **James Lapine**

Directed by **Adam Roberts**

November 4th - 22nd

Into the Woods

Written by Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine

Directed by Adam Roberts

Assistant Directed by Amy Downing

Act One: Happy Ever After

Setting: the woods of your favorite fairytale, in Winter.

Intermission

Act Two: To Be Continued

Setting: the woods of your favorite fairytale, in Spring.

Cast

(in order of appearance)

Narrator.....	Matt Connely
Cinderella.....	Sarah Zeringue
Jack.....	Keith Gruber
Milky White.....	Sue Billich
Baker.....	Michael Ferstenfeld
Baker's Wife.....	Ryan Smith
Stepmother.....	Amie King
Florinda.....	Kelsey Smith
Lucinda.....	Tiana Stuart
Jack's Mother.....	Ginger Young
Little Red Riding Hood.....	Samantha Bagdon
Witch.....	Ann Pittman
Cinderella's Father.....	Carl Gonzales
Cinderella's Mother.....	Milaka Falk
Rapunzel.....	Taylor Moessinger
Wolves.....	Leslie Hethcox, Ryan Wilson
Three Little Pigs.....	Kelsey Mazak, Amie King, Tiana Stuart
Mysterious Man.....	Matt Connely
Granny.....	Milaka Falk
Cinderella's Prince.....	Leslie Hethcox
Rapunzel's Prince.....	Ryan Wilson
Steward.....	Clay Cooper
Giant.....	Milaka Falk

CREW

Director.....	Adam Roberts
Assistant Director.....	Amy Downing
Stage Manager.....	Jeff Miller
Set Designer.....	Scott Ferguson
Costume Designer.....	Debra Watkins
Sound Designer.....	Jeff Mille
Light Designer.....	David Weaver
Properties Manager.....	April Hudson
Properties Design.....	Teresa Carson
Costume Team.....	Deb Keenan, Murphy McBride, Cathy Jones
Construction Team.....	David Weaver, Manuel Zarate, Scott Ferguson

STAFF

AJRT Artistic Director.....	Adam Roberts
TSP Artistic Director.....	Ann Pittman
AJRT Technical Director.....	Jeff Miller
First Austin Graphic Designer.....	Danielle Mederios
First Austin Liaison to TSP.....	Jared Slack
First Austin Business Manager.....	Marshall Smith
AJRT Volunteer Coordinator.....	Jenny Lavery
First Austin Custodial Team.....	Willard Crayton, Leticia Roque, George Mercado, Lupe Sepulveda
First Austin Childcare Workers.....	Scott Avant, Lauren Cordova, Jeanie Escalona, Elizabeth O'Brian, Tori Martello, Ada Mendoza, Sarah Snider, Mark Williams

"There Are No Small Parts, Only Small Actors"

TSP and AJRT would like to thank First Austin's Discipleship Committee, Cathy Jones, JCC cooking volunteers, Sue Billich, Ginger Morris, Joel Mercado-See, Hal Roberts, Bob and Sandi Ferguson, Jarrott Productions, Summerstock Austin, Amie King cooking team... and to First Austin members for their help with box office and concessions!

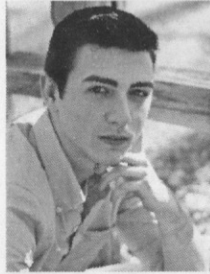
Cast



Samantha Bagdon (Little Red Ridinghood) is thrilled to be making her TSP debut, as well as performing in her first ever Sondheim show! She was raised in NH, where she received a BA in Musical Theatre Performance from Plymouth State University. Favorite roles include: Tracy Turnblad in *Hairspray* (Zilker), Dragon/Humpty Dumpty in *Shrek* (Georgetown Palace) and Diana Bingley in *I Love You Because* (Manchester Community Theatre Players). Next up for Samantha is *Parade* at Ground Floor Theatre in December! Thanks to Craig for being supportive and awesome, even when she's skipping around the apartment like a crazy person! And to Mom and Sky for making the trip to see her (again)!! Enjoy the woods, just be prepared!



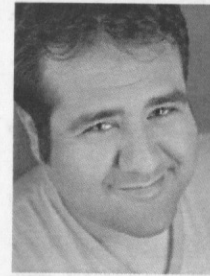
Sue Bilich (Milky White) has appeared on Austin stages in human form since the 1980s including in a children's cabaret show (ZACH), *Carousel*, *The Music Man* and *Big River* (TexArts), *Love Letters* (Paradox Players), as Freu Schneider in *Cabaret* (AJRT) Yente in *Fiddler on the Roof* (AJRT/TSP), and with the JCC's reader's theater productions. She has appeared with Austin Cabaret Theater, National Audio Theater Festivals, and Frontera Fest performing one woman comedy shows. Sue sings in the choir at Congregation Beth Israel, she's a volunteer audiobook narrator at Texas Talking Books, and she teaches Reader's Theater classes. Sue wants to thank her family, dog Josie, and AJRT/TSP.



Clay Cooper (Steward) performed in TSP & AJRT's award winning *Fiddler on the Roof* last year and is thankful to Ann and Adam for the opportunity to go into the woods this winter! He would also like to thank his friends and family for their love and support.



Matt Connelly (Narrator/Mysterious Man) is thrilled to be part of the cast of *Into the Woods*. Recently, Matt has been seen as Jake in *Evil Dead: The Musical*, Papa Starling and Multiple Miggs in *Silence: The Musical*, and Ram's Dad and JD's Dad in *Heathers*. Matt is also active in the local film scene and can be seen in a number of film and television projects. He would like to thank the incredibly talented cast and crew of *Into the Woods* and his friends and family.



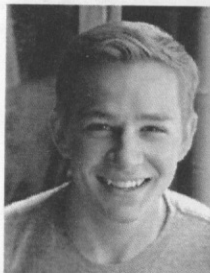
Carl Gonzales (Cinderella's Father) is thrilled to be venturing Into The Woods! Acting Credits include The Daily Show with John Stewart, Jarritos! short film for Cannes film Festival, and Chevy Spark. Theatre credits include A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum (Senex), Stalking John Barrowman (director) Die Already!, The Normal Heart (Ben Weeks), , and Backyard Story (Spivak). Carl is represented by Collier Talent Agency and is Artistic Director for Oh Dragon Theater Ohdragontheatre.org. Carl would like to thank his wife, Lacey, for she is proof of heaven; Mom for always telling him to open doors; and his friends and family for always keeping him company! Next up, Carl will direct City Theatre's production of The Boys Next Door!



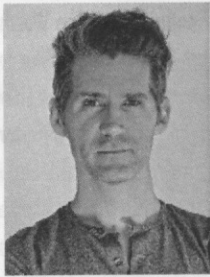
Milaka Falk (Cinderella's Mother, Granny, Giant) is first and foremost wife to Gordon and mom to Lisette and Asher. With their love and support, Milaka is excited to be back in the same corner of the stage where she made her TSP/AJRT debut as Fruma Sarah in last year's *Fiddler on the Roof*. She also performed with AJRT in *Stars of David*. Before taking a 14 year maternity leave from performing, she appeared with the bands Ro-Tel and the Hot Tomatoes and Blue Millennium and wrote and performed with Funny Bizness and Esther's Traveling Follies. She teaches 8th grade drama at Veritas Academy, sits on the board for the kidsActing Foundation and serves on the executive committee for AJRT. She occasionally sleeps.



Michael Ferstenfeld (Baker) debuts with TSP and AJRT in his first Sondheim musical! Michael is Artistic Director of Dystheatre, teacher of talking/singing improv at MerlinWorks School of Improvisation, Digital Media Specialist at ZACH, and card-carrying member of Confidence Men: Improvised Mame. B. Iden Payne award-winning performances include Albert Einstein in Picasso at the Lapin Agile (Present Company) "Outstanding Lead Actor in a Comedy" and Now Then Again (Penfold) "Featured Musical Performance." Other productions include Waiting for Lefty (Street Corner Arts), Hamlet (Something for Nothing), In the Next Room (ZACH), Tragedy: A Tragedy (Hyde Park), and Not This American Life (Dystheatre).



Keith Gruber (Jack) is thrilled to be making his debut with Trinity Street Players production of *Into the Woods*! Local credits include *Heather the Musical* and *The Rocky Horror Show* with Doctuh Mistuh Productions. Keith was also Link in McNeil High Schools production of *Hairspray* earning him a Greater Austin High School Musical Theater nomination for best actor in a leading role. Keith would like to thank his parents for helping him through this crazy season of college applications and allergies. Keith can next be seen in his bed recovering from a Tonsillectomy with his dog and new one eyed kitten.



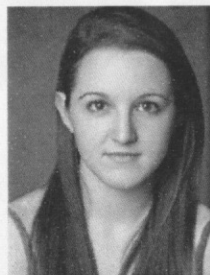
Leslie R. Hethcox (Wolf /Cinderella's Prince) performed last month in TSP's *Heralding the Holidays Cabaret Fundraiser*. Regional credits include *A Chorus Line*, *All the Way*, *An Inspector Calls*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Blood Brothers*, *Cabaret*, *Carousel*, *CATS*, *Chicago*, *Damn Yankees*, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Follies*, *Footloose*, *The Full Monty*, *Grand Hotel*, *H2S*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Man of la Mancha*, *The Music Man*, *Oklahoma! Pageant*, *Peter & the Starcatcher*, *Peter Pan*, *Ragtime*, *Singin' in the Rain*, *Sophisticated Ladies*, *The Sound of Music*, *South Pacific*, *The Tempest*, *T*E*X*A*S*, *White Christmas*, *Will Rogers Follies*. Leslie has toured with *Fame* (European), *MS Asuka*, *HMS Queen Elizabeth II*, *MS Seaward*. Leslie can also be seen in Richard Linklater's *Bernie*.



Amie King (Stepmother) is delighted to be on the TSP stage again! Past works include, *Inherit the Wind* and, *Best Christmas Pageant Ever* (Trinity Street Players), *A Little Princess* (Vagabond Productions, Austin) and *The Life of David Gale* (Universal). Amie owns Making A Scene, Social Media Marketing and is the Media Coordinator for First Austin, where she is a member and deacon. She holds a BFA from the University of Texas at Austin department of Theatre and Dance and an MA in Art Museum Education. Amie is the mother of two very dramatic children who spends January and February selling inordinate amounts of Girl Scout cookies.



Kelsey Mazak (Florinda) is so excited to be returning to the TSP stage after playing Emily in their Spring production of *Our Town*. Other Austin credits include: Nora Manning in *House on Haunted Hill* (Weird City Theatre) and Portia in *Julius Caesar* (City Theatre). She would like to thank her friends, family, and boyfriend for all their support and still remembering she existed as she navigated 3 months of very little free time.



Taylor Moessinger (Rapunzel) is stoked to be working with Trinity and JRC for the first time! She is a recent graduate of UT and has been a part of the theatre community for 6 years. While she can mostly be found working backstage, she has been seen on stage in *Great American Trailer Park*, *Company*, *Edges* (Austin Theatre Project), *Footloose* (Zilker), and *Evita* (Georgetown Palace). She would like to thank Adam and Ann for affording her this opportunity.!



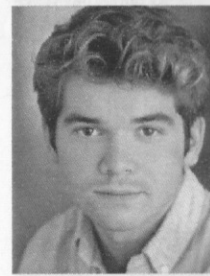
Ryan Smith is delighted to be prancing about the woods! Regional theatre credits include: *Les Miserables*, *RENT* and *Jesus Christ Superstar/Jesucristo Superestrella* (ZACH), *City of Angels* (The Colony Theatre - LA), *Peter Pan*, *The Sounds of Music* and *Oliver!* (Theatre Under the Stars -Houston). A few other favorites include: *S'Gershwyn,Baby, Hello, Dolly!*, *A Chorus Line*, *Once Upon a Mattress* and *Guys & Dolls*. Alongside her piano man father, Ryan also performs in concert *The Art of the American Song* throughout the Austin and Fayetteville counties. She is a graduate of the American Musical and Dramatic Academy in NYC.



Tiana Stuart (Lucinda) has taken up acting again and is a Drama Major at ACC, She is delighted to be part of *Into the Woods*. In Austin, Tiana played Rachel in *Reckless*, and performed in *Antigone* and *Lady Windermere's Fan*. Film credits include *Trippin' to the Altar*, *The Man Who Loved Flowers* and she can be seen in a Chevy commercial this month! Tiana enjoys acting background on the sets of HBO and ABC and is looking forward to what else Austin has in store for her. Tiana lives in North Austin with her husband Ben and is the proud Nanny of three wonderful boys.



Ginger Young (Jack's Mother) is excited to return to the black box after several years break. Past TSP performances include *Essie* in *You Can't Take It with You*, *Davenport* in *Inherit the Wind*, and one of those gossiping mothers in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*. Other favorite roles include *Chick Boyle* in *Crimes of the Heart* and *Lorraine* in *A Lie of the Mind*. Ginger is an elementary school librarian for Round Rock ISD and lives in Austin with her husband, daughter, dog and cat.



Ryan Wilson (Rapunzel's Prince) is looking forward to another successful production with Trinity Street Players after this spring's production of *Our Town*. Ryan has recently been seen as *Lucio* in *Measure for Measure* (B. Iden Payne nominated) and *Bobby* in *Love! Valour! Compassion!* Ryan can be seen this holiday season in *Debbie Does Dallas, the Musical*. Ryan would like to his friends and family for their ongoing love and support.



Sarah Zeringue (Cinderella) returns to the TSP stage for the fifth time, having previously performed in *Amahl and the Night Visitors* (FBC Music Ministry), *Haunted Songs*, *Fiddler on the Roof* (Chava), *Blood Brothers* (Linda), and *Heralding the Holidays* (cameo). She has also performed with Doctuh Mistuh Productions (*The Rocky Horror Show*), Different Stages (*Charley's Aunt*), Austin Playhouse (*Triumph of Love* and *Chess*), Zach (*White Christmas*), Summerstock Austin (*West Side Story*), as well as other theaters throughout Texas, Oklahoma, and New York. Sarah would like to thank her friends, family, co-workers, and cast mates/crew/volunteers for all of their support, especially Ann, Adam, Amy, and Jared.

Crew

Theresa Carson has a BFA from Baylor. She is prop master for St. Edwards University has worked 7 seasons with Summer Stock Austin. Over 10 years designing sets, costumes, and props for Dripping Springs High School and Middle School, TexArts Professional & Children's Theatre, Zilker's *Hairspray*, as well as *Heathers*, *Rocky Horror Picture Show*, and *Silence! The Musical* for Doctuh Mistuh Productions. She credits her husband for giving her the time, freedom, and encouragement to foster her creativity!

Scott Ferguson (Set Designer) enjoys theatre both on and off, focusing equally on performing and set design/construction. Scott designed Leander High School's set for *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*. His next performances will be as Leo Frank in Ground Floor Theater's concert production of *Parade*, and in *AJRT Sings!* at JCC. Scott's experience extends to the administrative side of theatre as well, including a position this past summer as Residential Director for Texas Arts Project.

April Hudson (Props Manager) is no stranger to TSP or AJRT. She was a backstage props mistress for last year's award winning *Fiddler on the Roof* and served as Stage Manager and Light Board operator for TSP's *Our Town*. She proved invaluable to TSP's recent fundraiser *Heralding the Holidays* volunteering food, auction baskets, and her darling daughter who starred in the cabaret! April loves technology and the arts and enjoys the freedom to volunteer with TSP and AJRT.

Jeff Miller (Sound Designer) has served as Sound Engineer on Broadway and National Tours of *A Chorus Line*, *South Pacific*, *Zorba*, *Singin' in the Rain* and *The Mystery Of Edwin Drood* as well as numerous films, videos, and commercials. Local credits include Sound Design for over 100 productions at ZACH, Capitol City Playhouse, Austin Theatre for Youth, Second Youth Theatre, Different Stages, Summer Stock Austin, UT, TAP, Abby Productions, Trinity Episcopal School, St. Andrews Episcopal School, Leander High School, McCallum High School, Tilt, Austin Jewish Repertory Theatre and Aguddas Arts.

Debra Watkins (Costume Designer) has worked behind the scenes on several TSP/FBC Music Ministry productions including *Amahl and the Night Visitor* and *The Defeat of Grandfather Devil*. Debra is both a CPA and owner of Link and Pin Art Gallery. She's a choir member and deacon of First Austin.

David Weaver (Technical Director) works for Austin Energy by day and volunteers at the theatre by night! David worked many years at Austin Playhouse, but has spent the last year volunteering for TSP with *Our Town* and now *Into the Woods!* David remembers being brought to First Austin as a child to sing in the Downer's choir! He would like to thank his lovely wife for sharing him with the arts community!

Directors



Ann Pittman is thrilled to reprise her role as the Witch 13 years after 3/5 of her family did the show at RRT where Ann's sister (Milky White) received a standing ovation every night. Ann founded TSP in 2007 and previously served as Artistic Director. She returns to Trinity Street Players this year to serve as Interim Artistic Director. With TSP she has performed in *The Diaries of Adam and Eve*, *Steel Magnolias*, *The Fantasticks*, *Blood Brothers*, *Haunted Songs* and *Heralding the Holidays*. In addition Ann has performed with Creede Repertory Theatre, ZACH, Austin Playhouse, UT Dept. of Theatre and Dance, HBMG Foundation, St. Joseph Symphony, Soubrette Productions, Georgetown Palace, Waco Civic Theatre, and Robidoux Resident Theatre. Ann studied vocal performance with Betty Buckley and once upon a time, she danced under the tutelage of Paul Chambers. This winter, Ann will host an international playwrights retreat through the Human Stage. Ann is a member of First Austin who lives part time in Austin with her fiancée, two dogs, two cats, and 27 fish, and part time in Colorado with the same fiancée, two dogs and an occasional bear or two... annpittman.com



Adam Roberts is an award winning director and choreographer for companies, productions, and initiatives with choreography credits including two European concert tours. His students have appeared on Broadway, off-Broadway, in regional theatre, been nominated for a Tony Award, appeared in film, national tours, and on network television. Adam's Austin production/faculty credits include: Austin Jewish Repertory Theater (Artistic Director), Long Center for the Performing Arts (Resident Musical Director), TILT Performance Group (Co-Artistic Director), Austin Conservatory of Theatre, Austin Shakespeare, Ballet Austin, Ground Floor, Paramount, The State Theatre School of Acting, TSP, Texas Arts Project, ZACH, Zilker, and more. Adam is musical director of Music Theatre Online and Libretto with the NY Public Library for the Performing Arts, and was a writer for the Austin Chronicle. Adam serves as music director at St. Luke United Methodist Church, and is artistic director of The Final Acts Project, a national initiative employing the creative arts to facilitate end-of-life discussion. He holds a Master's degree in Music from Florida State University and received undergraduate degrees from Kent State University and Youngstown State University's Dana School of Music. In 2015, Adam received the Shalom Austin Staff Exemplar of Excellence Award for the creation and development of the AJRT.



Amy Downing is a member of First Austin and one of the founding dreamers of Trinity Street Players where she has performed in *Aria Da Capo*, *Inherit the Wind*, *Haunted Songs*, *Heralding the Holidays* in addition to directing *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*, and now happily assistant directing *Into the Woods* with her own "listening children" in tow! Amy is an equity member who has received B. Iden Payne awards for her roles in *High School Musical* (ZACH), *Silence: The Musical* (Doctuhmistah), and an Austin Critics Table Award for her role in *In the Next Room* (ZACH). Here in Austin, she has also performed with Austin Playhouse, Penfold, Paper Chairs, Salvage Vanguard, The Mary Moody Northern theatre, and Austin Shakespeare. She also played Sally Bowles in the national tour of *Cabaret*. However, her most cherished roles are mother to Ariana and Rebekah and wife to Grant.

From the Directors

Austinites have ventured Into the Woods several times over the past few years, in addition to 2014's Disney film adaptation of the now-classic musical.

It was while directing a previous production of Into the Woods that I (Adam) decided to try a new concept for the show should I direct it again: winter woods as a charcoal painting might suggest with black stick trees and frozen snowdrifts. So when Cathy Jones invited the AJRT to partner with TSP on *Into the Woods* following last summer's award-winning collaborative production of *Fiddler on the Roof*, I knew it was time to revisit the Woods... this time in winter.

It wasn't just the visual appeal of the seasonal shift that birthed this blustery reimagining. As I explored the themes of the show, I wondered what might happen if the foliage of the traditional setting were removed, leaving the characters with little to conceal themselves - physically or emotionally. Numerous times I found hiding or make one's presence known integral as a thread of characterization and storytelling. As Keith Gruber (Jack) pointed out during a cast character analysis discussion, defense mechanisms abound with the characters of *Into the Woods* - and, indeed, lay the framework for Sondheim and Lapine's Freudian approach to the writing of the musical. When Rapunzel desires to see the world, the Witch rebukes her, "Someone has to shield you from the world!" When defenses run high and resources low, how do we shield ourselves from the proverbial world of which the Witch speaks? Can our psyche become our own worst enemy, much like the wolves of the story?

Additionally, I (Ann) wanted to play further with the idea of identity. With "foliage" stripped away, who are we, really? "What if I am what a prince would envision?" Cinderella wonders - is it the dress, the dancing? What makes "bad guys" bad and "good guys" good? Could it be that how we see ourselves and the stories we tell about one another are merely narratives we hide behind?

If so many theatre companies mount *Into the Woods* (a typically expensive, large-scale endeavor), it stands to reason that the Brothers Grimm stories, and the particular lens through which Sondheim/Lapine tell them, must continue to hold significance in today's world. The questions posed by the musical are timeless: "Do you know what you wish?" "Are you certain what you wish is what you want?" In the end, we are reminded: "Careful the things you wish and do... and careful the tale you tell." A traditional end to a cautionary tale, but through the synthesis of music, text and circumstance, this piece retains a special magic for us today!

Adam Roberts and Ann Pittman

A Black Box Theatre in a Church? A theatre troupe for a Synagogue?

Trinity Street Players is a nonprofit, community theater committed to providing professional, thought-provoking, and entertaining live theatre. This Black Box was built by First Austin in 2007 with the dream of bringing accessible, relevant art to downtown Austin. We welcome all who share a passion for creating and experiencing the transformative power of the theater. Join us for great art in the heart of Austin. AJRT offers theatre productions and programming for adults and children through the Jewish Community Center.

How can I contribute?

Trinity Street Players is completely supported by donations from people like you. These gifts are used only for production expenses such as royalties for the author, set construction, costumes, props, publicity, electricity, air-conditioning, printing, etc. And they are tax-deductible! Give yourself the thrill of knowing you helped provide high-quality live theater accessible to everyone. Use your phone to donate with the QR code, or drop cash or a check in one of the donation jars strategically located all around you! For information on other ways to volunteer, check out our website: trinitystreetplayers.com.



Helpful Hints!

- There will be one fifteen-minute intermission.
- Snacks and beverages will be sold in the hallway during intermission. Please don't bring the food and drink into the theatre with you.
- We are a downtown venue which means our doors are locked after the show starts. So don't sneak outside during intermission - you can't get back in!



• Like and follow us on Facebook and Instagram: #TSPIntoTheWoods and #HaveYouSeenOurSign. If you check in or add a photo, use our hashtag or tag us! Just remember to keep your phone dark & silent once the show starts!

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