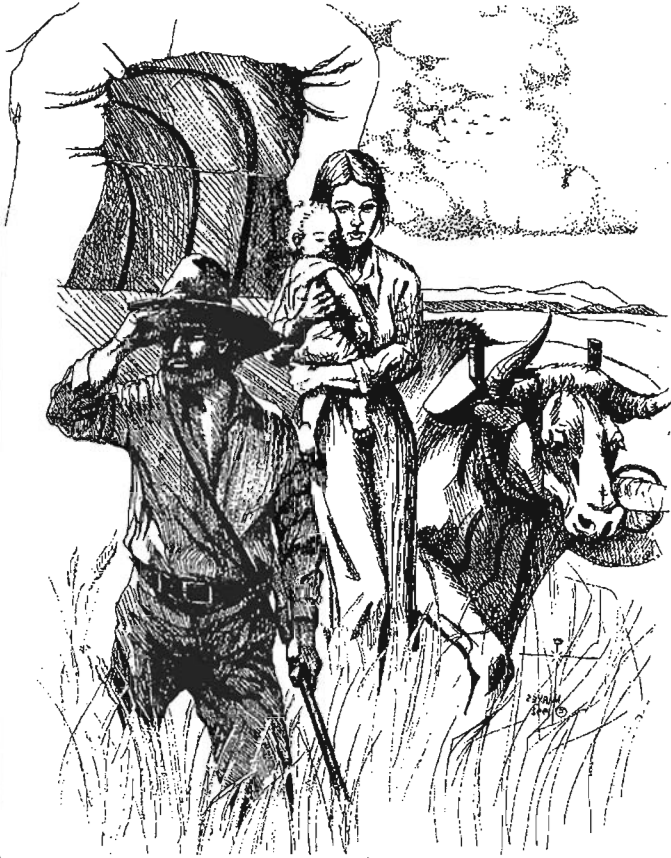




Beyond The Blue Horizon

*A Musical Idea by
Kevin Koch and Elaine Schreiber*



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*26th May – 4th June
2005*

Oregon Trail History

The Oregon Trail became a passage to the "Land of Plenty" for many of the emigrants who travelled it. They hoped it would lead them to a better life, more fertile land, and dreams fulfilled, but for some the dream died. Though many found adventure and success on their journey, the trail was full of tragic encounters and testing times.

From 1843 the Oregon Trail saw hundreds of thousands of travellers until the late 1860's, when a transcontinental railroad offered new ways to reach the West.

Independence and St. Joseph, Missouri were common "jumping off" places. Large numbers of emigrants gathered there before heading towards the West. This was the place to make sure your "outfit" was fully assembled and equipped. A wagon, draft animals, food, tools and clothing were gathered together to sustain a family for up to five or six months of trail travel and camping out.

Provisions were of vital importance. The most important factor in selecting food was to determine if it preserved well and would not spoil along the trail.

Bread, bacon and coffee were the staple diet during the entire trip west. Dried beans, rice, dried fruit, tea, vinegar, pickles, ginger, mustard and saleratus (baking soda) were often included. The food supply was the heaviest and most essential part of the covered wagon cargo.

Different historians have estimated between 200,000 and 500,000 people crossed the overland trail, and 20,000 to 30,000 deaths occurred along the 2,000 mile trail, averaging ten or more graves per mile. Often the deaths occurred from poor sanitation practices in cooking and food storage, bad water, and bad living conditions. Pneumonia, whooping cough, measles, smallpox and various other sicknesses also caused many deaths. Cholera, a contagious bacterial disease, was the greatest killer on the trail.

Finally, the Valley of the Willamette!! Located here was the land office where you could file your land claim. Here, hopes and dreams either blossomed and bore fruit or died. Those who had endured the incredible hardships of the journey, now behind them, came to this valley to seize the land, settle it, come to terms with it and to call it home

Production Personnel

Director	Kevin Koch
Musical Director	Elaine Schreiber
Choreographer	Wendy Smith
Stage Manager	Barry Boekman
Orchestra	Elaine Schreiber, Eris Speak, Mark Corbett, Des Schreiber
Lighting	Derek Treeby Terry Dombroski Andrew Priest
Sound	Christine King Alex Fuller
Set Design	Alan Stevenson
Set Construction	Des Schreiber Jon Ertel Bert Squire, Tom Blundell
Set Decorating	Alan Stevenson Mary Boekman, Barry Boekman, Jon Ertel, Tom Blundell
Properties	Laureen Marriner
Wardrobe	Valda Hinz, Maureen Martin Susie Rosser, Robyn Butler
Hairdressing	Lesley Koch, Mal Koch
Make-up	Marie Pearce, Margaret Green, Nicola Smith, Vida Henry
Lounge Artwork	Alan and Margaret Stevenson
Lounge Decoration	Marie Pearce
Front of House	Marie Pearce, Karyn Gwerder and Assistants
Publicity	Christine King
Cast Communications	Joan Ertel
Program	FINTAX Chartered Accountants
Promotional Artwork	Marge Mayes - USA



ACT ONE

The Oregon Trail

Scene I – Meeting at Missouri

Nil Desperandum

Long, Long Trail

Scene II – A Camp on the Trail

640 Acres

I was Dreaming

Village Blacksmith

Blue Shadows on the Trail

Golden Slumbers Kiss Your Eyes

The Prairie is a Lonesome Place at Night

Scene III – Crossing the Desert

Cool Water

Shall We Gather At The River

Scene IV – The End of the Trail

Marriage Bells

Wedding March

I Love You Truly

Marriage Bells

You'll Never Walk Alone





ACT ONE - CAST

Captain	John Hosie
Blacksmith	Joe Hignett
Mother	Mary Hobby
Father	Paul Hobby
Young Child	Maxine Smith
Lonesome Cowboy	Bryce Allan
Angel	Rochelle Bennett
Groom	Andrew Judd
Bride	Maree Spurdle
Pioneer Men	Donald Campbell Antony Jones Jim Williamson
Pioneer Women	Sheryl Hamilton Vida Henry Pauline Hitchcock Jeanette Morrison Krystal Tofts Judy Williamson
Girls	Jamie Fenton Kelsey McEwan
Narrator	Kevin Koch





ACT TWO

Kitty's Saloon

Happy

Cigarettes Whusky and Wild Wild Women

Just a Little Fond Affection

Seven Card Stud

Rawhide

Don't Fence Me In

The Man I Love

Temperance Bells

Wandering Star

My Old Flame

Over on the Sunny Side

The Wabash Cannonball

Beyond the Blue Horizon





ACT TWO - CAST

Bartender	Donald Campbell
Gambler	Michael Williams
Sheriff	Paul Hobby
Kitty	Krystal Tofts
Old Gold-Miner	John Hosie
Saloon Girls	Rochelle Bennett Mal Koch Donna Rawlinson Kandice Rosser Maree Spurdle
Ranch Hands	Bryce Allan Joe Hignett Antony Jones Andrew Judd Jim Williamson
Temperance Ladies	Mary Gyde Sheryl Hamilton Vida Henry Pauline Hitchcock Mary Hobby Jeanette Morrison Judy Williamson
Narrator	Kevin Koch



Acknowledgements

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New Plymouth Horticultural Society
New Plymouth Operatic Costume Hire
NZ Colonial Antiques
Shoprite
Small Brothers Joinery
Stan's New & Used Furniture
Stoney Oaks Wildlife Park
Stratford On Stage Theatre
Stratford Press
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Taranaki Newspapers
Taranaki Pioneer Village
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