

RiverCity

TV Listings
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SECTION B | Friday, July 23, 2010



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

My Fair Lady

L&CTC Presents
Classic Musical At
Dakota Theatre

BY EMILY NOHR
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After a seven-year hiatus, director Andy Henrickson is back at the Dakota Theatre for "My Fair Lady," the Lewis and Clark Theatre Company's summer musical feature for its 49th season.

"I haven't done a musical here since 'The Music Man,'" he said. "There's still some good folks who live it up and show up. They do the work. They build a show here."

Set in 1912 London, "My Fair Lady" is about underclass citizen Eliza Doolittle, whose cockney accent and flower-selling street job leads her to Henry Higgins, a professor of speech and dialect. Upon meeting her, Higgins makes it his duty to make her into a true lady.

"It's almost a bet between the two," Henrickson said. "He decides to take her on as a project, and the beautiful part of the show is that the two take



The Lewis & Clark Theatre Co. brings the classic Lerner and Loewe musical "My Fair Lady" to the Dakota Theatre stage this summer. LEFT: The story features Eliza Doolittle (Elle Tieszen), a scruffy cockney girl who becomes a social experiment for Professor Henry Higgins (Jake Christensen). RIGHT: Alfred P. Doolittle

liking to each other. ... It's not necessarily romantic, but there's a kinship."

The musical is based on "Pygmalion," a play written in 1913 by George Bernard Shaw. Lyrics and music were later added by Alan Jay Lerner and Frederick Loewe. Lerner and Loewe also

teamed up for the familiar Broadway hits, "Brigadoon" and "Camelot." "My Fair Lady" debuted in 1956 on Broadway with Julie Andrews as Eliza Doolittle and Rex Harrison as Henry Higgins. The musical ran a record-breaking 2,717 performances on Broadway.



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

(Bob Bryan, left, and Harry (Gene Johnson) dance to their brightening prospects in "With a Little Bit of Luck," one of several popular songs performed in the show. TOP: Eliza lets her lady-like guard down at the horse races while Freddie (Matthew Black, left) and Higgins react in a scene from "My Fair Lady."

Equally as popular was the 1964 movie adaptation, starring Audrey Hepburn and, again, Harrison in the lead roles.

The show features famous tunes such as "Just You Wait" and "I Could Have Danced All Night."

"There's been revivals and tours all

over the world, and that doesn't happen with a lot of musicals," Henrickson said. "It's one of the few (musicals) that has stood the test of time."

Henrickson said Elle Tieszen, who

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