

CREW



Director
David
Coddington



Producer
Echo
Zeanah-Janman



**Choreographic
Director &
Costume
Designer**
Cat
Ruka



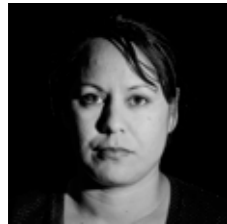
**Musical
Arrangement**
Jason
Te Mete



Set Designer
Becky
Ehlers



Lighting Designer
Ambrose
Hills-Simonsen



Stage Manager
Melanie
Himiona

Photography: Mark McClean

Orchestra: Andrew Rooney, Guy van der Zeyden & Pene Ueta

Assistant Sound Manager: Cat Sanders

Sound: Magness Sound

Lighting Operator: Ambrose Hills-Simonsen

Set Painting: T.K. Hards, Ian Leaupepe, Gerard Muller & Roy Dormer

Assistant Stage Manager: Tui Tupai

Hair Styling Jets: Awahi Hika, Kristin Patumaka, Charmaine Mana, Keilah Haimona

Hair Styling Sharks: Joash Togia, Laurel Kim, Rosie Russel, Sepora Evalu

CAST

This production is a collaboration between experienced industry professionals and actors in training. The cast of *West Side Story* are first year Performing Arts students at Manukau Institute of Technology's Faculty of Creative Arts. The students are working on three disciplines on their programme: Acting, Singing and Dance. They will complete a Diploma in Performing Arts this year, which is the first year of a 3 year Bachelor of Creative Arts degree. This degree will provide the opportunity for students to pursue a Creative Arts Degree specialising in either Performing Arts, Creative Writing, or Visual Arts.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

What happens on the streets of New York one year is here on the streets of Auckland the next. Whether the gangs are Sharks and Jets or Crips and Bloods or Killer Bees they arise from the same basic mix of poverty, low self esteem and a need to belong. Cliques or gangs form, often of the same ethnicity, where the bond within the gang is stronger than family and there is a belief that it is them against the world.

West Side Story involves two gangs of different ethnicities, the Puerto Rican and the working class European. Hip-Hop, Rap and a particular street vernacular are straight from the streets of New York where distinctive clothing and colours are claimed fiercely by each gang. In this production we have simply lifted the scene from the back streets of New York and shifted it to Auckland. Although the dialogue remains exactly as scripted, there is no attempt to adopt Puerto Rican or American accents.

At heart this production is a South Auckland story. When the Shark girls talk of Puerto Rico, we can imagine the islands of Polynesia. The passion the Jets have to protect their territory can also be seen in South Auckland. The bigotry and put-downs in *West Side Story* are the same the world over. To us the biggest message of *West Side Story* is how lack of tolerance and understanding between different ethnicities clashing within the same environment can lead to catastrophic outcomes.

WEST SIDE STORY

Based on a conception of **JEROME ROBBINS**



Book
by **ARTHUR LAURENTS**
Music
by **LEONARD BERNSTEIN**
Lyrics
by **STEPHEN SONDHEIM**

Entire Original Production Directed And Choreographed by

JEROME ROBBINS

Originally produced on Broadway by **Robert E. Griffith** and **Harold S. Prince**
By Arrangement with **Roger L. Stevens**
by arrangement with Hal Leonard Australia Pty Ltd Exclusive agent for Music Theatre International (NY)

Directed
by **DAVID CODDINGTON**
Presented by **The Real Theatre Co.**

The Real Theatre Co. would like to thank the generous support from the following sponsors.



PROGRAMME

Act 1

Two teenage gangs, the Jets and the Sharks, struggle for control of the neighborhood. The Jets plan how they can assure their continued dominance of the street. Their leader, Riff, suggests setting up a rumble with the Sharks. Riff wants to convince his friend and former member of the Jets, Tony, to meet the Jets at the dance where he plans to challenge Bernardo, the Sharks' leader. Loyal to Riff, Tony agrees but he wants no further part of gang life and imagines a better future.

Maria works in a bridal shop with Anita, the girlfriend of her brother Bernardo. Maria has just arrived from Puerto Rico and her family has selected Chino, a member of the Sharks, to be her future husband.

At the dance, the teenagers begin to dance and soon a challenge dance is called during which Tony and Maria see each other across the room and are drawn to each other. They dance together, fall in love and try to kiss, but Bernardo pulls his sister from Tony. Riff and Bernardo agree to meet for a War Council at Doc's. The Sharks arrive to discuss weapons to use in the rumble. Meanwhile, Tony tells Doc about Maria. Doc is worried for them while Tony is convinced that nothing can go wrong; he is in love.

Tony meets Maria at the bridal shop the next day where she asks Tony to stop the fight, which he agrees to do. The gangs meet each other under the highway and as the fight is just beginning, Tony arrives and tries to stop the rumble. When Bernardo pushes Tony, Riff punches him in Tony's defense. The two draw their switchblades and Riff is accidentally stabbed and killed by Bernardo. In a fit of rage, Tony then takes Riff's knife and kills Bernardo. Tony stands in shock at what he has done then flees from the scene at the last moment. Only the bodies of Riff and Bernardo remain.

Act 2

Maria daydreams happily about seeing Tony with her friends when Chino bursts in bringing news that Tony has killed Bernardo. Tony later comes to Maria's room, calms her down and they plan to run away together. Meanwhile, the Jets make Action leader of the gang and Anybodys brings news that she overheard Chino planning to hunt down Tony and kill him with a gun.

A grieving Anita arrives at Maria's apartment and sees that Tony has been with Maria. She asks in horror how Maria can love the man who killed her brother. Anita comes to understand that Maria loves Tony as much as she had loved Bernardo. Anita admits to Maria that Chino has a gun and is looking for Tony then reluctantly agrees to go to Doc's to tell Tony to wait.

When Anita arrives at Doc's, the Jets attack her only to be saved by Doc when he bursts in. In her anger Anita tells them that Chino has killed Maria in jealousy. Doc relates the news to Tony, who feeling there is no longer anything to live for, leaves to find Chino. Just as Tony sees Maria alive, Chino arrives and shoots Tony.

Maria holds Tony in her arms as he dies. Maria then takes Chino's gun and tells everyone that hatred is what killed Tony and the others. Gradually, all the members of both gangs assemble on either side of Tony's body. The Jets and Sharks form a procession and together they carry Tony away with Maria being the last one in the procession.

SONGS

Act 1

Prologue (Instrumental) – Jets and Sharks

Jet Song – Riff, Action, Baby John, A-rab and Jets

Something's Coming – Tony

Dance At The Gym (Instrumental) – Jets and Sharks

Maria – Tony

Tonight – Tony and Maria

America – Anita, Rosalia and Shark Girls

Cool – Riff and Jets

One Hand, One Heart – Tony and Maria

Tonight Quintet and Chorus – Anita, Tony, Maria, Bernardo, Riff, Jets and Sharks

The Rumble (Dance) – Jets and Sharks

INTERMISSION - 20 minutes

Act 2

I Feel Pretty – Maria, Consuelo, Rosalia, Teresita, Francisca and Shark Girls

Somewhere (Song and Dance) – Company

Gee, Officer Krupke – Action, A-rab, Diesel, Baby John and Jets

A Boy Like That – Anita and Maria

Taunting Scene (Instrumental) – Anita and Jets

Finale – Tony and Maria

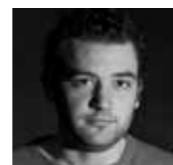
ADULTS



Officer Krupke
Pene
Ueta



Doc
Lilo
Asiata



Lt. Scrank
Russell
Wills



Glad Hands
Apelu
Ifopo

SHARKS



Maria
Milly
Grant



Bernardo
Lole
Kata



Chino
Isaac
Nonu



Anita
Caleigh
Winiata



Anita
Monica
Cheung



Consuelo
Moni
Samson



Rosalia
Valerie
Perese



Margarita
Ann Marie
Perese



Pepe
Hiram
Tufuga



Francisca
Anika
Perese



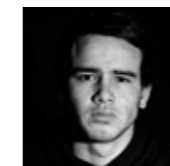
Teresita
Mosiana
Webster



Estella
Ala
Tupai

Shark Boys not pictured: Ezera Ate and Tama Siaosi

JETS



Tony
Benjamin
Channing



Riff
Bradley
Busby



Anybodys
Grace
Nesbitt



Action
Tim
Mitipelo



Snowboy
David
Bristow



Baby John
Haydon
Timoko



A-rab
Jepheta
Coe



Diesel
Alistair
Salavao



Velma
Stephanie
Mofitt



Graziella
Jasmine
Donald



Minnie
Mikaela
Hemara



Clarice
Sharn
Pune