

# WELCOME YULE

## A NORSE MIDWINTER CELEBRATION

MUSIC, DANCE, SONGS, AND  
STORIES TO DRIVE  
THE DARK AWAY



DECEMBER 12TH, 13TH, AND 14TH, 2008  
THE SHEA THEATER, TURNERS FALLS

## CHORUS

F. Blithe Archbald  
Hattie Love Archbald  
Montserrat Archbald  
Bart Bales  
Liz Castro  
Jocelyn Castro-Santos  
Margaret Christie  
Louise Doud  
Bob Drinkwater  
Dan Frank  
D.J. Jackson

Julie Jonassen  
Anastasia LePouttre  
SaraLinda Lobrose  
Fred Momaney  
David Nixon  
Rick Rabe  
Andrea Rogers  
Rachel Roy  
Tom Shattuck  
Ed Smith  
Liz Smith  
Anne Thomas

## CHILDREN'S CHORUS

Celia Bales  
Anna Cabré  
Sílvia Cabré  
Chloe Castro-Santos  
Larkin Christie  
Benjamin Coan-Nixon  
Brendan Drinkwater  
Galen Frank-Bishop

Elijah Jackson  
Rose Jackson  
Calla Jones  
Elihu Christie Jones  
Lucia Mason  
Fiona Rogers  
Granger Smith-Massa  
Clara Swartzentruber

## MUSICIANS

F. Blithe Archbald  
Celia Bales  
Elihu Christie Jones  
Rose Jackson  
Lucia Mason  
Angus Rogers  
Geoffrey Rogers  
Jeanne Weintraub

## OTHER PERFORMERS

Juggler Meadow Morris Men  
The Blue Willies

## STAFF

Creative Director – Bart Bales  
Producer – Fred Momaney  
Stage Director – Rachel Roy  
Choral Music Director – Julie Jonassen  
Assistant Choral Music Director – Bill Venman  
Children's Chorus Director – Louise Doud  
Mummers Play – Bart Bales  
Story Adaptation – Fred Momaney  
Stage Manager – Alan McArdle  
Lighting Design – Rachel Roy  
Dance Choreography – Bart Bales  
Publicity – Montserrat Archbald, Margaret Christie  
Light Board Operator – Phyllis Roy  
Costume Crew – Rachel Roy, Anne Thomas, Sally Shaw  
Puppet Creation – Montserrat Archbald  
Props – Tom Shattuck, Anne Thomas  
Rehearsal Accompanist – Julie Jonassen  
House Managers – Marie Paquette, Jinny Mason  
Ushers/Front of house – Patrick Momaney, Tom Massa  
Set Construction – David Nixon, Rick Rabe, Alex Rabe,  
Liz Smith, Tom Shattuck  
Child Care – Joli Lobrose  
Poster Design – Andy Tarr  
Program Design – Liz Castro  
Poster and Program Illustration – F. Blithe Archbald  
Lighting Crew – Phyllis Roy, David Nixon, Rick Rabe,  
Alex Rabe, Liz Smith

Produced by – Welcome Yule, Inc. and the Shea Theater

Special thanks to Rick Roy, Bay State Perennial Farm,  
Arena Civic Theatre

Visit us on the Web at: [www.welcomeyule.org](http://www.welcomeyule.org)

# WELCOME YULE: A NORSE ADVENTURE

## ACT 1

### THE CREATION OF THE NINE WORLDS:

- 1 Hail Smiling Morn (Solo calls: Montserrat, Rachel, then adult chorus; by Reginald Spofforth)
- 2 Declamation on the World Tree (written and presented by Bart)
- 3 World Tree, Yggdrasil (Jocelyn, Liz S., Julie, Louise, DJ, Ed, Rick, Tom, and chorus; adapted shape note hymn, "Ocean", by Isaac Watts & Supply Belcher, new verse by B. Bales)

### LIFE IN MIDGARD: MIDWINTER CELEBRATION

- 4 The Day the Light Returns (Saralinda and David; poem by B. Bales)
- 5 Furry Day Carol (Cast, Band; traditional with Yule log) Audience invited to join in on choruses, see inside back cover for words
- 6 Schottisches (Cast and Band)
- 7 Soulcake (Kids)
- 8 Story – "How a Clever Frost Giant Tricked Thor, the God of Thunder" (adapted from a traditional Norse myth), and "The Fiddler of the Northern Lights", adapted from a story by Natalie Kinsey-Warnock (Fred, Kids, and Jeanne)
- 9 Children Fiddling Around (Kids' fiddle chorus: Celia, Lucia, Rose, Elihu)
- 10 Norwegian Polkas (Cast and Band)

- 11 Norse Come and I Will Sing You (Cast; traditional tune, new words by B. Bales) Audience invited to join in on responses and choruses, see inside back cover for words
- 12 Over Midgard So Wide (Kids Quintet: Rose, Clara, Celia, Anna, Chloe; rest of kids, and chorus; by Michaela Macha, arranged by J. Jonassen)
- 13 Mummer's Play: "Ye-Gods, How Do You Like Them Apples? Or Will Someone Please Call for A Norse?" by B. Bales (Players in order of appearance: Rick, Liz S., Fred, David, Bart, Jocelyn; Sleipnir, the 8-legged horse: Bob, Galen, Brendan, Granger; dragon head by Cynthia McLaughlin, Cheli Mennella, and Dave Noonan)
- 14 Sword dance (Juggler Meadow Men)
- 15 Gloucester Wassail (Cast; traditional, kids' Sleipnir verse by B. Bales) Audience invited to join in on choruses, see inside back cover for words

### THE GODS RETURN TO ASGARD VIA BIFROST, THE RAINBOW BRIDGE INTERMISSION

## ACT 2

### LIFE IN ASGARD, HOME OF THE GODS

- 1 Golden Apple Tree Wassail (Anastasia, Rachel, Andrea, Liz C., Bob, DJ, Fred, Tom, with chorus)

### STORY OF IDUN AND THE GOLDEN APPLES, PROLOGUE WHERE IDUN IS STOLEN AWAY BY THE GIANTS

- 2 Narrator: Ed; Idun: Jocelyn, Giant Puppet: Montserrat, Margaret, and Liz C.; puppet created by M. Archbald After an opening narration by Ed, the story continues in action and song through to the end of the show.



### THE JOTUN (GIANTS) AND GODS BATTLE

- 3 Longest Night (Jotuns: Blythe, Hattie, Rachel, Andrea, Louise, Liz C., Margaret, Bob, DJ, David, Tom; tune by Lorraine Lee, new words by B. Bales)
- 4 Hunting the Jotun (Gods: Liz S., Rick, Fred, Bart, Anastasia, Montserrat, Anne, Julie, Saralinda, Ed, Dan; traditional tune, new words by B. Bales)

### THE GODLINGS TRACK THE GIANTS AND RESCUE IDUN

- 5 Whose Woods These Are (Godlings: Celia, Anna, Silvia, Chloe, Larkin, Benjamin, Elijah, Rose, Calla, Elihu, Lucia, Fiona, Clara; words by Robert Frost, sung to "Greensleaves")
- 6 Abbots Bromley Horn Dance (Juggler Meadow Men, traditional)
- 7 Tracking the Giant (Godlings and Bart; traditional tune, "Wren Boys", new words by B. Bales)

### THE GODS ARE SAVED AND REVIVED WITH THE GOLDEN APPLES - AND HOW THE DAYS OF THE WEEK GOT THEIR NAMES

- 8 The Knights of the Mighty (Godlings, Gods and Goddesses)
- 9 Exultation Reborn (Liz S., Montserrat, Anne, Saralinda, Bart, Ed, Rick, Dan, with adult chorus; Tune: "Exultation" from Southern Harmony, words adapted by B. Bales)
- 10 Rolling Downward (Adult chorus; song by Robert Lowry, new verses by B. Bales)
- 11 Asgard's Hall (Adult chorus; adapted from song "New Jerusalem" by Isaac Watts and Jeremiah Ingalls, words adapted by B. Bales)

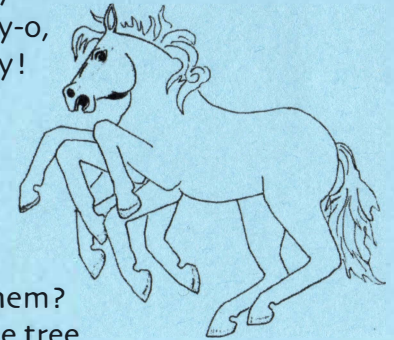
### YULETIDE BLESSING

- 12 Yuletide Blessing (Entire Cast; song by Michaela Macha, Audience invited to join in, see inside back cover for words)

### WORDS TO SONGS

#### FURRY DAY CAROL CHORUS

With hal and toe, sing merry-o,  
With hal and toe, sing merry!  
With hal and toe, sing merry-o,  
With hal and toe, sing merry!



#### COME AND I WILL SING YOU

Come and I will sing you  
What shall I sing you?  
I will sing you nine of them  
What shall be the nine of them?  
Nine are the words upon the tree  
Eight the legs of Odin's steed  
Seven the rays of Bifrost be  
Six fetters did old Fenrir bind  
Five the trees of power find  
Four are the deer and the winds are four  
Three for the wells and three the Norns  
Two for Ask and Embla  
One is the World Tree all alone  
Come to me dilly come, dally come, dilly alone  
and ever shall remain so.

#### GLOUCESTERSHIRE WASSAIL CHORUS

Drink to thee, Drink to thee  
With the wassailing bowl, we'll drink to thee.

#### YULETIDE BLESSING

The brightness of the Yulefire for you,  
the warmth of home and hearth for you,  
the cheer and joy of your friends for you,  
your family's love and peace for you,  
hope and strength of the heart for you,  
the Aesir and Vanir's blessings for you.

## A NOTE FROM CREATIVE DIRECTOR, BART BALES:

This year's Welcome Yule incorporates many elements of Norse mythology, a rich cultural heritage with significant and sometimes surprising connections to British and American customs and practices. Their connection to the earth and to nature was very important to the Norse. Their view of the universe was that of nine worlds connected to each other by a giant ash tree, the World Tree, Yggdrasil. The gods lived in the boughs; mortals at ground level; underworlders near the roots. A great serpent constantly gnawed at the roots of the tree; and the Fire and Frost Giants, the Jotun, the embodiment of chaos and disorder, sought to overturn the order that the gods and the World Tree represented.

Renewal of life (and hope) at the darkest time of the year is an important aspect of mid-winter observances. In this year's celebration, the myth of Idun and the golden apples is a central theme. The gods remain vigorous and immortal only if they eat of the golden apples that Idun can provide from her special tree. But here today, the giants will steal Idun away and it is up to the Asgardians to retrieve the apples in time.

For me, my many years with Welcome Yule have been a rich and rewarding opportunity to experience the many ways that different cultures celebrate the passing of the seasons and, in particular, mid-winter.

Beginning at the summer solstice, the days begin to shorten and the nights to lengthen, and one can at times wonder, "Will the light e'er return again?" Ancient cultures followed the ebb and flow of the seasons and were heartened to know in the cold of the mid-winter solstice that the light begins its slow return.

" And in an act of celebration and of hope  
Fires, the people kindled and holding candles bright  
Gathered all together, to revel, dance, and sing  
Making that night blaze bright  
And calling out to the sleeping earth  
"Stir for a moment... and remember that you but sleep

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Yes, on this very day, the light...., in the midst of darkness  
Begins its glad return, and with it growing brightness  
The new year's promise beckons to one and all  
"Greet this day, and warmly.... Welcome Yule!

