

Priscilla Queen of the Desert, the musical

Act 2 programme notes

Saturday May 14th 2016 @ 2.30p.m.

Welcome back to Act 2 of Priscilla Queen of the Desert, which will run for approximately 65 minutes. My name is Pauline, your describer for the final scenes.

I will briefly outline each scene, characters and costumes and keep you informed of the action as it takes place.

The deep blue curtain with pulsating pale stars is in place adorned with the roughly drawn pink outline map of Australia with the route marked by pink dots from Sydney to Alice Springs across it. There is an arrow top left off the map saying 'you are here.'

We left Adam, Tick, and Bernadette with Bob the mechanic... now the action moves to Woop Woop

We join a skiffle band atop a centrally placed trestle table, in front of draped curtains, hosting a barn dance with members of the audience participating. The predominate costume is checked shirts, waistcoats and jeans with the occasional bush hat.

In Bob's kitchen is a central table in front of pink sheer curtains. Adam in flowery cropped shorts and shirt is sitting on a washing machine on the right and there is a battered old cooker on the left of the table. Sitting around the table are Bob in a blue boiler suit, Bernadette in a calf length floral full skirted dress, Tick in a floral shirt and jeans and we meet Cynthia, Bob's tiny buxom Asian wife cheekily played by Julie Yammanee; she wears a blue apron over a cerise bikini. We then meet the young Bernadette, (Martin Harding,) in a flashback sequence of her Vaudeville days with 'Les Girls.' She is dressed in a yellow leotard under a high collared cloak attended by 6 girls in similar pink costumes.

Later, three of the country band re appear to reprise 'Thank God I'm a Country Boy'

Tick, Bernadette and Adam are changing in the Woop Woop Hotel dressing room and are using oil drums as dressing tables set before a red backdrop. They are in short cheer leader blue and white striped style costumes with matching knee length socks and platform shoes. Silver pom poms form their wigs which are then used in their act.

They perform on a small stage at the back of the Bar with the 'hicks' looking on- they are not impressed until Cynthia appears attired in a black basque and stockings clutching her music player and she captures the men's attention. She performs an erotic dance and so usurps the trio.

We are back at the bus and Bob, dressed as before decides to travel on with the girls to Cooper Pedy and the bus is ready. Tick is in jeans and shirt, Adam in a vest and blue y fronts with Bernadette in a cream palazzo pant suit with a flowing jacket.

They arrive at a forbidding yellow dusty landscape. Predominantly peopled by hard bitten drovers. Bob decides to catch up with some friends while Bernadette and Tick explore. Adam is hyper and wants to have fun. He snorts coke from a mirror held by one of the Divas, then changes into pink sequinned underwear and black stockings with a matching tiny sequinned

strappy dress and blonde wig.

He strolls nonchalantly into the evening barbecue, which is set out with oil drums as tables and tree trunks for seats against a deep blue starry sky. Bob is there but ignores him. Adam flirts with the drovers but gets more than he has bargained for.

Bernadette is back leaning on the bus wearing her cream palazzo suit with wedge sandals. Adam is crouching on the right by the camp fire, minus his wig and draped in a towel and he looks dejected and despondent. Bob is there in a blue fringed jacket and carries his bush hat. Tick looks on and returns later in a bright purple dressing gown over green sequined jamas. He is joined by the green frocked Divas then 6 male dancers in green cup cake outfits with silver candles on their heads holding silver brollies adorned with silver streamers.

In the casino are 4 coin machines placed side on across the room against a red sparkly background and 3 men and women are playing them with waiters in white shorts and flowery tops serving them. We meet Marion again in a flowery dress and jacket. Benji, Tick's son is introduced played by James Ferrier/Brandon Tayler-Young, he wears white cropped shorts and a coloured shirt.

Adam, Tick and Bernadette are in the smart dressing room with mirrored and lit dressing tables ranged across the room. They are donning yellow shoe flippers and wear flowery swim caps and remove their dressing gowns to reveal yellow one piece swimsuits.

The show is viewed from the back. The performance is played at breakneck speed with a curtain whisked across the space to reveal the three in different costumes performing different numbers. These are the Gumbie costumes, baby dolls, mintie sweets and finally they turn to face us in sequined split front long blue dresses. Benji is waiting in the dressing room.

Tick and Benji are sitting on a bed made of giant lego bricks placed in the centre of the darkened room. Tick is now in shirt and jeans, Benji in his jamas.

The sky is a mix of beautiful pinks and blues above Ayres Rock and Adam is central wearing a silver sequined gladiator costume with huge tail feathers and large headdress. He is bare chested. He is joined by a breathless Bernadette in a long floaty leopard print coat over a matching leotard with an elaborate black feather confection protruding from a sequined cap. Tick wears blue and yellow shorts with a gold cod piece, matching tail feathers and headdress.

The divas float above the bus dressed as white cockatoos with feathered arms. The company then appear in twos and threes. First are 3 red birds, followed by 3 long necked emus, blue, red and pink. Next are 2 kimono lizards. Marion and Cynthia are koalas, Benji and Bob, kangaroos and finally Adam, Tick and Bernadette appear in blue/grey crinolines and bouffant wigs. They strike a pose using the crinolines to imitate the Sydney Opera House.

The next audio performance will be described by Sylvia and Denise and it will be Guys and Dolls on Thursday June 2nd @2.30 p.m.