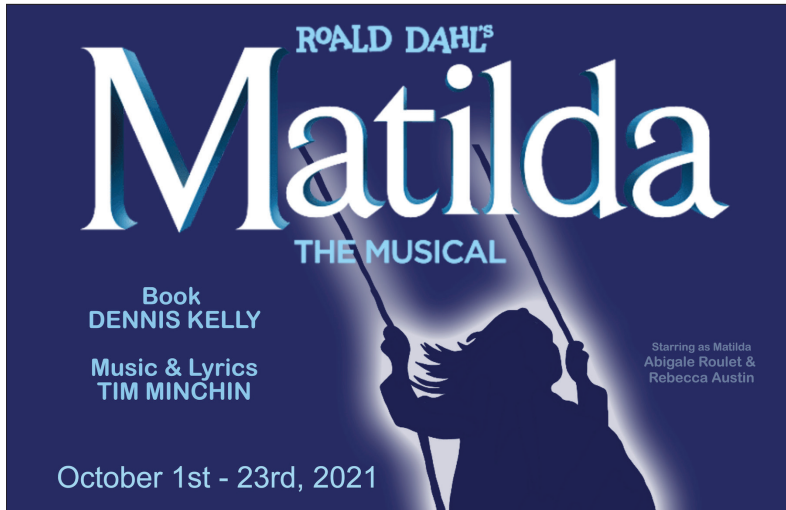


Returning to the stage



Elgin Opera House/Contributed image

By Lisa Britton
Go! Magazine

ELGIN — After nearly two years of no main stage shows, the Elgin Opera House has three musicals scheduled through the end of 2021.

"It's a little busy, but it's awesome. We're ramping things up," said Terry Hale, artistic director.

"Matilda" opens Oct. 1 for four weekends of performances. (Look for a feature in the Sept. 23 issue of Go!) This show was originally cast and scheduled for early 2020. Much of the cast is the same — except older.

"When I cast it, I had a bunch of little kids," Hale said.

"Tuck Everlasting" opens Nov. 19 with performances through Dec. 11.

"We've started rehearsing 'Tuck' a bit," Hale said. "The cast I have is phenomenal. 'Tuck' is a labor of love. It's something I've wanted to do for a long time. It will make you laugh, make you

cry, make you think. You'll leave feeling inspired."

In December, "A Christmas Carol" begins Dec. 10 for three weekends of shows.

Some cast members are in both "Matilda" and "Tuck." However, due to overlapping schedules, "Tuck" and "A Christmas Carol" don't share any actors.

Tickets are on sale now for "Matilda." The role of Matilda is so large, Hale has cast two actors to share it. When purchasing tickets, it is specified which actor is starring in a particular production.

Hale said each actor — veteran Abigale Roulet and newcomer Rebecca Austin — brings her own spin to the role.

"I'd recommend people buy two tickets," Hale said. "They would find it intriguing to see the two Matildas perform."

Tickets are \$18 for the orchestra level and lower balcony. Upper balcony seats at \$8. Purchase tickets at www.elgin-operahouse.com.

The Elgin Opera House, Hale said, is aiming to provide live theater and musicals throughout the year. And it's becoming a regional troupe, with actors from at least four Eastern Oregon counties.

"Our goal is to be doing theater all the time," Hale said.

For those who are uncomfortable attending a show but still want to support the theater, an option is to buy a "Wish I Could Make It" ticket.

"They basically make a donation in the amount of a ticket price," Hale said.

'MATILDA' AT THE ELGIN OPERA HOUSE

"Matilda" opens Oct. 1 and runs Fridays and Saturdays through Oct. 23
100 N. Eighth St., Elgin
Buy tickets at www.elgin-operahouse.com

To donate, go to www.elgin-operahouse.com and click on "Giving."

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