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Springer flies with ‘Mary Poppins’

The Springer reaches new heights — literally and figuratively — with its current Mainstage production. “Disney’s Mary Poppins: The Broadway Musical” will feature the most amazing onstage flying the State Theatre of Georgia has ever attempted.

In the famous scene where the magical nanny teaches the Banks children to fly, Mary Poppins flies around the young actors and somehow none of their cables become entangled.

In the rooftop scene where chimney sweep Bert dances on the rooftops of London while singing “Chim Chim Cher-ee,” he tap dances up the wall and ends up tap dancing upside down across the top of the stage.

“Mary Poppins: The Broadway Musical” is another example of the Springer being one of the first regional theatres anywhere to get the rights to a recent Broadway hit. The musical version of one of Walt Disney’s most successful films opened on Broadway in 2006 and ran for over six years. After its 2,619 performances it had become the 30th longest running show in Broadway history.

The movie version of the books by P.L. Travers was released by Walt Disney Productions in 1964. “Mary Poppins” beat out “The Sound of Music” and “Goldfinger” to be the most profitable film of the year and one of Disney’s most profitable ever. Disney used his profits from the film to buy 27,500 acres in Florida where he built Walt Disney World and to finance its construction.

The Springer’s version of “Disney’s Mary Poppins: The Broadway Musical” features Trish Epperson in the title role. This past spring, Epperson starred as Cossette in “Les Misérables,” which was the most elaborate and expensive show that the State Theatre of Georgia had produced — until “Mary Poppins: The Broadway Musical.”

Griffeth Whitehurst is making his Springer debut in the role of Bert, the chimney sweep with mad tap dancing skills.

Disney's Hairy Popkins: The Broadway Musical will play at 7:30 p.m.,
Thursdays-Saturdays, Dec. 4-6, Dec. 11-13 and Dec. 18-20, and at 2:30 p.m.,
Sundays, Dec. 14 and Dec. 21.

For tickets or more information please call 706-327-3688 or visit
springeroperahouse.org.