

Annie People



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'Annie 2' ends its workshop run



Lauren Gaffney

After bombing in Washington, D.C., "Annie 2" has been completely rewritten and has new songs and a new girl to play Annie and a new dog to play Sandy. The reworked musical has been in a workshop at the Goodspeed Opera House in Chester, Conn., and ends its run tonight.

"It should be called 'Annie 3' because that's how much it is different from the play that opened in Washington," said producer Lewis Allen.

The cast includes **Harve Presnell** as Daddy Warbucks, **Helen Gallagher** as Mrs. Riley and **Marian Seldes** as Children's Commissioner Stark. The new Annie is **Lauren Gaffney**, 10, of Summit, N.J. The play went into workshop on May 17. **Tom Meehan**, who wrote the original story, has been making daily revisions along with **Charles Strouse**, who wrote the music, and lyricist **Martin Charnin**.

"We've got the play done over and now we'll have to wait for the sets, which are elaborate, to be made. That should be around October," Allen said. Then "Annie 2" will play Boston, possibly Philadelphia and Florida, before coming to Broadway early next year.

New York Daily News, July 8, 1990



Submitted by Cynthia Moser

A close-up of the large Annie figure which sat on the roof of the Norma Terris Theatre at Goodspeed-At-Chester while Annie 2 was there

CHANGES, CHANGES, HAPPENING DAY AND NIGHT....

by Tricia Trozzi

These lyrics sung by Annie in Annie 2 could very well be the theme song for the entire production! So many revisions, rearrangements, deletions, and additions occurred during the seven-week run at Goodspeed-At-Chester that it is almost impossible to list them all. What follows reflects the eight performances Jon and I saw; probably there were lots more changes we were not aware of. All in all, the production has improved tremendously and bears only a slight resemblance to the original Annie 2: Miss Hannigan's Revenge.

Act I begins with Annie having a nightmare: "Daddy" (later changed to a nameless woman) is bringing Annie back to the Orphanage saying he doesn't want her anymore, that he's "too busy." By the final performance, the "nightmare" theme was used in two other places later in the show to underscore Annie's feelings....Sandy performs a trick as he selects the red dress from a rack of Annie's dresses. Grace is no longer in the opening scene at all; it is Mrs. Pugh who helps Annie get dressed ("Ah, I see you're wearing that pretty red dress again. What a surprise.")....At Warbucks' office Miss Stark comes in and presents the court order that Warbucks must get married before Warbucks, Annie, and the staff sing **WHEN YOU SMILE**....For a while **CHANGES** was moved to Scene 3 (The Orphanage Playroom) but it was moved back to Scene 2....Two more prospective wife candidates suggested by Miss Stark appear: Roberta Parnell ("who has a barely noticeable little tic in her left eye") who goes to lunch with Warbucks and Annie, and Amanda Van Cleef (later Amanda Beekman) who is a total snob and is in the movie house scene....Other possibilities are mentioned also, including "Dr. Patricia Tozzi, a practicing Larchmont pediatrician for the past 27 years"The "Leapin' lizards, ain't life something" beginning was put back into **CHANGES**....Annie is no longer bringing presents to the Orphans; she has come to "talk to somebody my own size"....Orphan Peaches is shown reading True Detective magazine and she wants to be a detective....Kate Maguire's smoking is no longer mentioned....Fred and Gert Bixby and **THE PERFECT KID** have been cut; instead, the Orphans look over the picture files that Miss Stark has given Annie ("This lady's chin has 4 chins") and they decide that maybe if Annie gets an ugly mom it would be better than if the mother is beautiful ("At least a kid has a chance with her daddy if her mom looks like Rin-Tin-Tin, because if she's hot stuff, watch out"). The Orphans then sing a brand-new song called **THE OTHER WOMAN** ("She's got the curves/you're like an arrow/she slinks around in silk/candle-light dinners/she has martinis/you order chocolate milk")....Scene 4 (The Atrium of the Mansion) begins with Grace receiving the phone call from Steve McCall offering the job in Washington. Annie overhears this and when she asks Grace if she will leave, Grace replies, "To your father I'm just the blonde secretary." For one performance, **HE DOESN'T KNOW I'M ALIVE** was here. Steve McCall and Grace now are "old friends from Harvard and Radcliffe." Warbucks no longer eats caviar with ketchup in this scene, so that bit later on with Frances Riley is also out....A lyric about Connecticut was added to **THAT'S THE KIND OF WOMAN** which went over well with local audiences....The Movie House in Manhattan scene was moved from Act II to Act I, the title of the song was changed from **I CAN DO NO WRONG** to **'CAUSE OF YOU** (essentially the same lyrics), the song was shortened, and Amanda Van Cleef/Beekman grows increasingly irritated while Warbucks and Annie lip-sync and tap dance sitting down....Grace is now in the room while Frances Riley (of Bridgeport, then Danbury, Connecticut) sings **BUT YOU GO ON** (previously she was out getting a fresh bottle of ketchup)....One of the biggest single changes of the while show is the real identity of Frances Riley--Miss Hannigan is out of the show entirely! Now it is Florence "Flo" Stark, sister of Commissioner Stark. Flo had already been in prison for trying to bump off an old millionaire she had married under fraudulent circumstances, and now Flo and Margie are working together to have Flo and Warbucks enjoy "five, six months of wedded bliss, then tragedy strikes--Warbucks gets a piano dropped on his head--

or whatever, and Annie takes a long walk off a short pier." Flo and Margie still sing **RICH GIRLS**. For a short time in the middle of the run, **RICH GIRLS** was in Act II and **ANYTHING FOR LOVE** was here....Without Miss Hannigan trying to be selected as Mrs. Warbucks, there is no need anymore to have a substitute Annie, so the whole "Annie too/two" business is out. The entire scene of fixing up Kate Maguire is out, the song **ANNIE TWO** is out, kidnapping and swapping Annies is out....Grace's song **HE DOESN'T KNOW I'M ALIVE** was cut from Act I Scene 7 and was tried in other places but was cut again....Warbucks is leaving on a business trip to London to try to save his industries, and Annie asks to go with him....After Grace quits, Annie says, "Don't you leave me too" and instead of singing **IF I WASN'T AROUND**, she sings a reprise of **CHANGES** ("Changes, changes/ here we go again/loving, leaving/now's much worse than then"). She decides to run away, now taking Sandy with her. Miss Stark barges in just as Warbucks hears from the Orphans that Annie has run away. "Are you crazy?" he yells, "The wedding is off until I find Annie!"

Act II opens with the White House communications room and a country road where Annie and Sandy are. The time Annie has been away went from six days to six weeks; at first she got as far as the Delaware Water Gap between New Jersey and Pennsylvania, but then it was changed: she hopped a freight train and ended up in Tennessee....Many versions of this opening of Act II were tried--Warbucks, Grace, Steve, etc., singing **SHE'LL BE THERE** in counterpoint to Annie singing **TRAVELIN' LIGHT** ("Green grass/blue skies/no strings/no ties/said my goodbyes/I'm travelin' light"), then the two songs done separately....Floyd T. Walker discovers Annie working at Harvey's hot dog stand and phones Warbucks to come and get her (Floyd gets a \$100,000 reward), then Warbucks and Annie sing a reprise of **CHANGES**....Then, it was changed to Floyd and his wife Lucy Walker bringing Annie from Tennessee to the White House; now we could see Grace's reunion with Annie as well as Warbucks'. President Roosevelt leads Annie, Grace, and his staff in a reprise of **WHEN YOU SMILE** before Warbucks comes back to the room and sees Annie. The **CHANGES** reprise was cut from here....The opening changed again with Annie singing **WHO NEEDS ME** (actually **TRAVELIN' LIGHT** retitled--the song changed title still one more time to **AIN'T LIFE GRAND**; Martin Charnin made that change during the intermission of the closing performance on July 8th!). She was joined by a nameless group of poor farmers in the song. In this version Floyd T. Walker was a widower with a daughter named C.G. who couldn't believe that Annie was running away because she was getting a mother. "Are y'all crazy up there in New York?" C.G. asks Annie, "I wish I had my momma again!" Annie realizes maybe getting a mother isn't so bad, and she sings **I GUESS THINGS HAPPEN FOR THE BEST** ("There's gonna be somebody else/somebody else is gonna need himshe'll love me if I let her/more love makes life much better"). (This is the third set of lyrics to this melody, which was **ALL I'VE GOT IS ME** in Washington and **MY DADDY** earlier at Goodspeed.) So Floyd and C.G. bring Annie up to the White House, still getting the reward, and still with the reprise of **WHEN YOU SMILE**....In the Brooklyn Academy of Beauty, the afternoon of the selection of a wife, Flo Stark and Commissioner Stark are preparing for the party. They sing a new song in which they observe that "a man'll do **ANYTHING FOR LOVE**/save a dime/spend a mill/change his ways/change his will."...The selection of a wife scene in the Atrium of the Mansion is essentially the same, but now there is no fake Annie. Phyllis Wardlow, Grace's mediocre replacement as Warbucks' secretary, has been cut entirely also. Frances Riley sings **THE TENEMENT LULLABY** to Annie ("Isn't she precious?--when she's asleep"), and Miss Stark subtly pressures Warbucks into selecting Mrs. Riley. Grace is somewhat suspicious seeing that Mrs. Riley happened to know Mr. Warbucks' favorite song, and she takes Frances' champagne glass to give to the FBI for a fingerprint check. Abigail Dabney is not in on the scheme, as she had been when Miss Hannigan was part of the show....The Servants sing a reprise of **THAT'S THE KIND OF WOMAN** about which of the contestants they thought would be selected. They are all disappointed at the selection of Frances Riley....This reprise was later dropped and instead the Orphans do a reprise of **THE OTHER WOMAN**....In the stateroom of the Warbucks yacht Warbucks is preparing for the wedding and both Drake and Annie are giving

him a hard time. The reprise of **CHANGES** was here as Warbucks tells Annie "I'm getting a wife and you're getting a mother and we're both going to have to live with it."...For almost the entire run it was Grace who discovered Frances Riley's true identity and warned Warbucks and Annie about it before the wedding ceremony began. She came into the stateroom and presented the evidence that it was really Flo Start waiting on the deck to be married. Warbucks notifies all the guests so that they know the schemer will be exposed. For a while, Warbucks was introduced to Mrs. Steve McCall while waiting for the wedding to begin. During the ceremony Warbucks feigns inattention, and Justice Brandeis pronounced them Man and Fraud! The two sisters attempt to jump overboard but are collared by Warbucks, and the parting line about "I've got something you don't have--Hair!" was here. "Did you see that?" exclaims Warbucks proudly. I'm not so old after all. You're as young as you feel, and I feel forty...two!" As he and Grace proclaim that each has secretly loved the other for years, they are oblivious to the fact that as they move closer to one another, all the Orphans are being squashed between them. When Warbucks says, "Grace, marry me!" and she pulls away a moment joking, "Gee, I don't know," all the Orphans go sprawling on the deck. Grace still just happens to have had a marriage blood test yesterday ("A girl's always got to be prepared") and the yacht's horn obscures the ceremony except for the words "I do." **WHEN YOU SMILE** is begun by the chorus as underscoring under the last few lines of dialogue....At the end of the run there were further big changes in the last two scenes: Peaches and Molly, playing hide-and-seek, happen to overhear the two Stark sisters discussing their plot right after Frances Riley has been selected. Since she has been reading detective magazines, Peaches investigates and takes the champagne glass, and it is she who notifies Annie and President Roosevelt. But nothing is revealed at this point, so when the wedding ceremony starts, everyone, including Warbucks, is still under the impression that Frances Riley is who she says she is. Grace attends, "for Annie's sake" only. The captain of the yacht interrupts the vows with a radiogram that says the London office is ruined and Warbucks is now broke. Of course, now Frances Riley no longer wants to marry him. So the President reads the FBI report exposing the two sisters. The same proposal scene follows, with the addition of Grace saying, "I don't care if we are poor; we can move to Hell's Kitchen and live on love!" Annie gives "Daddy" a wedding president--telling him the radiogram was a phony, cooked up by the President to trap Frances Riley. During the **WHEN YOU SMILE** reprise, Sandy stands on his hind legs and dances with Drake and Mrs. Pugh....



Submitted by Cynthia Moser

MORIAH "SHINING DOVE" SNYDER, 7, in her Annie 2 Orphan costume. She is here at Goodspeed all the way from Virginia and is a member of the Shoshone Indian tribe.



From left, BLAZE BERDAHL, LISA MOLINA, NATALIA HARRIS, JENNIFER BETH GLICK; Front, LAUREN GAFFNEY (Annie)



Submitted by Cynthia Moser

New Yorkers Lisa and Natalia, both 11, enjoy a breather between shows. Lisa has sung the National Anthem at several professional sporting events, and Natalia has a black belt in karate!



Lauren and Chelsea arrive together at the theater for a Saturday matinee.



Jennifer, 11, models the "2" T-shirt given to each member of the cast. She is from Boston and has played both Molly and Annie locally.



Submitted by Cynthia Moser

Although 10-year-old Lauren has played in many shows (Show Boat, Jesus Christ Superstar, Hello Dolly, Anything Goes, The Sound Of Music), this is her first time ever in any Annie show.



Submitted by Cynthia Moser

Many of you may have seen Blaze, 9, in the movie Pet Sematary. She is from NYC and has a twin sister, Beau.

CAST LIST - Annie 2 at Goodspeed-At-Chester

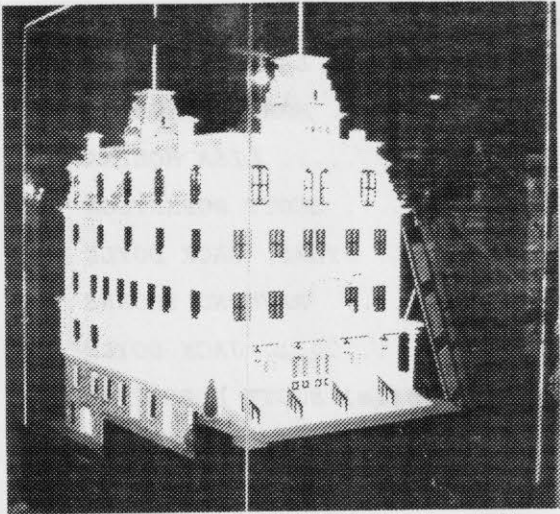
Sandy CHELSEA
 Annie LAUREN GAFFNEY
 Drake, Warbucks' Butler SCOTT ROBERTSON
 Marie, a Maid JULIE JIROUSEK
 Mrs. Pugh MARY-PAT GREEN
 Grace Farrell, Warbucks' Secretary SARAH KNAPP
 Oliver Warbucks HARVE PRESNELL
 Henry Drummond, Warbucks' Attorney
 (changed to Clarence Darrow, Jr.) LAURENT GIROUX
 Warbucks' Aide PAULA LEGGETT
 Miss Brody, Warbucks' Aide KAREN MURPHY
 Price, First Accountant ABE REYBOLD
 Waterhouse, Second Accountant JACK DOYLE
 Commissioner Margaret G. Stark MARIAN SELDES
 Miss Richards, Child Welfare Authority Official..... KAREN L. BYERS
 Molly MORIAH "SHINING DOVE" SNYDER
 Tessie LISA MOLINA
 Peaches Jones NATALIA HARRIS
 July JENNIFER BETH GLICK
 Kate Maguire (changed to Duffy for a while) BLAZE BERDAHL
 Miss Sherman, the Orphanage Matron KAREN MURPHY
 Roberta Parnell, Prospective Wife MARY-PAT GREEN
 Gert Bixby (cut) MARY-PAT GREEN
 Fred Bixby (cut) JACK DOYLE
 Cecille, a Maid PAULA LEGGETT
 Fletcher, the Chauffeur JACK DOYLE
 Laurence, Warbucks' Houseman LAURENT GIROUX
 Steve McCall ABE REYBOLD
 Amanda Van Cleef (changed to Beekman), Prospective Wife PAULA LEGGETT
 Abigail Dabney KAREN MURPHY
 Frances Riley
 (in reality Miss Agatha Hannigan, then Florence Stark).. HELEN GALLAGHER
 Charlie, the Janitor (cut) LAURENT GIROUX
 Mr. Markowitz (owner of Brooklyn Academy of Beauty) (cut) JACK DOYLE
 Flo Winkowski (in on the scheme) (cut) KAREN L. BYERS
 Mitzi, a Beautician (cut) MARY-PAT GREEN

Glenda, a Beautician (cut) PAULA LEGGETT
 Announcer's Voice D. RECTOR
 (that's what the program said!)
 Gabriel Heatter's Voice D. RECTOR
 Floyd T. Walker LAURENT GIROUX
 Lucy Walker (cut) MARY-PAT GREEN
 C.G. (Christine Grace) Walker LISA MOLINA
 Hobo SCOTT ROBERTSON
 Country People MARY-PAT GREEN, BLAZE BERDAHL, KAREN L. BYERS, JACK DOYLE
 Franklin D. Roosevelt RAYMOND THORNE
 White House Marine JACK DOYLE
 FBI Aides KAREN MURPHY, (for a while) SCOTT ROBERTSON
 Communications Aides PAULA LEGGETT, (for a while) LAURENT GIROUX
 Gladys (FDR Aide) JULIE JIROUSEK
 Phyllis Wardlow, Warbucks' New Secretary (cut) JULIE JIROUSEK
 Mitzi, a Beautician (reinstated) KAREN L. BYERS
 Tim's Voice (in the movie) RAYMOND THORNE
 Miranda's Voice (in the movie) JULIE JIROUSEK
 Priest's Voice (in the movie) D. RECTOR
 Harry Winkowski (in on the scheme) (cut) SCOTT ROBERTSON
 Party Guests KAREN L. BYERS, PAULA LEGGETT, JACK DOYLE, LAURENT GIROUX
 Pianist (named Eddy Duchin for a while) TODD ELLISON
 (Assistant Musical Director)
 Judge Brandeis LAURENT GIROUX
 Captain Markowitz of the S.S. Warbucks JACK DOYLE
 Wedding Guests KAREN L. BYERS, PAULA LEGGETT, KAREN MURPHY
 Mrs. Steve McCall JULIE JIROUSEK

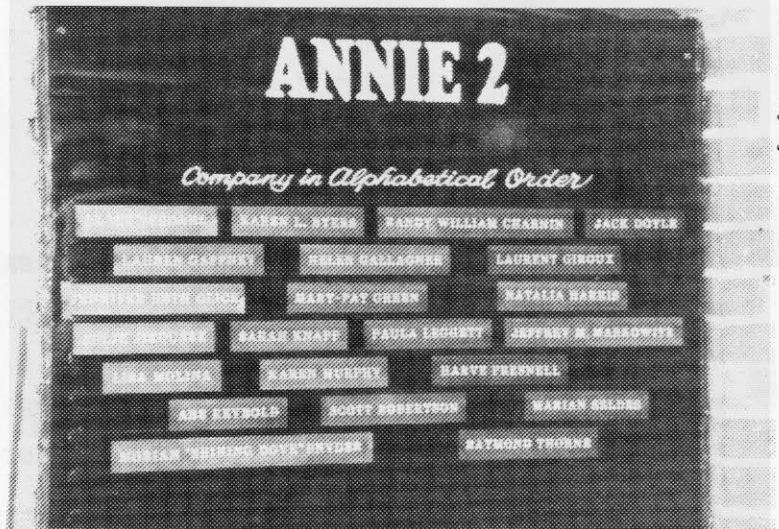


Submitted by Cynthia Moser

We're not sure what this thing is made of, but it had to be hoisted onto the top of the theater by a crane.



Model of the Goodspeed Opera House (in East Haddam, 5 miles away) in the lobby of the Chester theater. We drove to see the original Goodspeed, but it is currently undergoing renovation and was covered with scaffolding. By the way, this model is constructed entirely of Lego!



Cast board in the lobby. This is the same board that was used in Washington, and rumor has it that Martin Charnin himself was seen painting over the space under Annie 2 where it had read Miss Hannigan's Revenge.

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Little Orphan
Annie