

Major New Musical Announcement Broadway hit musical ANASTASIA to Premiere in Australia in 2025

"A monster hit!" - The New York Times

"A SERIOUS HIT! Broadway's got a bright new star – its name is ANASTASIA." – NBC TV

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 2 APRIL 2025 — John Frost for Crossroads Live and Opera Australia today announced that the Broadway hit musical **ANASTASIA**, will have its Australian premiere at the Regent Theatre in Melbourne in December 2025 before touring to Perth and Sydney in 2026.

Inspired by the mysterious tale of Grand Duchess Anastasia Romanov's rumoured escape in the dawning days of the Russian Revolution, and the 20th Century Fox animated fairytale of the same name, **ANASTASIA** has been brought to life on the stage by the Tony Award-winning creative team of Terrence McNally, Stephen Flaherty and Lynn Ahrens.

ANASTASIA is a lavish musical for the whole family, transporting audiences from the twilight years of the Imperial rule to the euphoria and exuberance of Paris in the 1920s, as a brave young woman named Anya sets out to discover the mystery of her past. She enlists the aid of a dashing conman and a lovable ex-aristocrat. Together, they embark on an epic adventure to help her find home, love, and family.

"The legend of Anastasia has intrigued the world for many years and I've been wanting to bring this musical to Australia since it premiered on Broadway in 2017. It's a story full of mystery and romance with a magnificent score that I know Australia is going to fall in love with," said Producer John Frost AM.

"Opera Australia is thrilled to be once again partnering with John Frost to bring another world class musical to Australian theatres. We expect the glorious music, spectacle and intrigue of *Anastasia* will captivate audiences around the country," said Opera Australia's Acting CEO Simon Militano.

With its opulent settings, dazzling costumes, and a soaring score including musical highlights from the 1997 animated hit film, *Journey to the Past* and *Once Upon a*



December, **ANASTASIA** is the spectacular Broadway musical about discovering who you are and defining who you're meant to be.

There have been two films telling the captivating story of Anastasia including the 1956 film with Ingrid Bergman, Helen Hayes, and Yul Brynner and the 1997 20th Century Fox animated film, which featured a score by the musical's creators, Ahrens and Flaherty.

Directed by Tony Award winning director Darko Tresnjak, **ANASTASIA** premiered on Broadway in March 2017 and played to sold out audiences for three years before productions in Germany, Spain, The Netherlands, Brazil, Mexico and Japan as well as two North American tours. It also received a Tony Award nomination for Best Costume Design in a Musical and won more than 15 major international awards including Best Musical awards in Germany, the Netherlands and Spain.

The book for **ANASTASIA** was written by the late five time Tony Award winning writer Terrence McNally, whose credits include *Love! Valour! Compassion!*, *Master Class, Kiss of the Spider Woman* and *Ragtime*.

Music and lyrics for **ANASTASIA** were written by the renowned writing team of Stephen Flaherty and Lynn Ahrens who have been referred to as "one of the greatest songwriting teams in Broadway history" (*Chicago Tribune*).

They have received theatre, film and music's highest honours including the Tony Award, Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle and Olivier Awards for *Ragtime*, as well as nominations for two Academy Awards, two Golden Globes and four Grammys. In 2014 they received the Oscar Hammerstein Award for Lifetime Achievement and in 2015 they were inducted into the Theatre Hall of Fame.

Casting details will be announced in the coming months.

"Fantastical, intelligent, well-crafted, and exhilarating, **ANASTASIA** deserves a coronation!" – *The Wall Street Journal*

"Captivating, beautifully staged and emotionally vital. **ANASTASIA** hits the sweet spot!" – *The Hollywood Reporter*

"One of the most gorgeous shows in years! Luscious, lavish, and a joy that leaves you cheering. This is a grandiloquent feast for the senses you won't soon forget." –

The New York Observer



ANASTASIA - THE BROADWAY MUSICAL

Produced by John Frost for Crossroads Live and Opera Australia in special collaboration with Stage Entertainment Productions, Tom Kirdahy, Hunter Arnold and Dan Hinde.

Regent Theatre, Melbourne from December 2025 Crown Theatre Perth from March 2026 Lyric Theatre, Sydney from April 2026

For further information and to sign up to the waitlist to be the first to find out when tickets go on sale, please visit www.anastasiathemusical.com.au or follow us on socials via @anastasiathemusicalau #AnastasiaAU

US tour production images and vision – https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/ajcv6y2gercq81ailzzfg/ANIDn4A6HWyhjqS8bEXDiS 0?rlkey=5uqirff0ysb5o6mtqnq718edc&st=2jycfihl&dl=0

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