Set of Snow White

When you are seated, before the panto begins, you will be facing the stage, lit by purple lights.

Centre stage is a rectangular picture frame, containing large, ornate letters spelling out SNOW WHITE, below which is the image of a turreted castle, and briar roses twining in each corner.

Thickets of bushes and trees, below four rows of arched stone pillars, are set on each side of the stage. Thick creepers hang from above the stage front.

The back of the stage is black, with layers of twinkling silver stars.

The orchestra plays in the orchestra pit, below the front of the stage.

THE ROYAL PALACE GROUNDS

Through the frame of four sets of arched, stone pillars, are the turreted towers of the castle walls, and entrance archway. Stone steps lead up to the ground outside the castle.

To the left, in front of the castle, is a wooden water-wheel with a low stone wall.

To the right is a timbered house, with a tiled porch.

On the ground is the pattern of an oval of oak leaves, surrounding a golden Royal crest.

A PALACE CORRIDOR

This has a backdrop of a wide stone staircase sweeping upwards between mullioned arched windows on the left, and a narrow dark corridor on the right.

THE GREAT HALL OF THE CASTLE

Through the four sets of high stone pillars each side, we see a ceiling festooned with brightly coloured banners, trimmed with wide bands of silver. The centre of the hall has a long rectangular wooden table, on which sits a silver candelabra. There are long benches in front and behind the table.

THE ROAD TO THE FORBIDDEN FOREST

There is a backdrop of trees with twisted trunks and branches surrounding a rocky river. A pattern of leaves is on the forest floor.

THE COTTAGE OF THE SEVEN DWARFS

This is to the rear of the stage, on two levels.

Downstairs from the right, are a dresser with crockery, centre a fireplace, to the left a wooden door, beside which are a broom and a bucket.

Stairs curve up to the bedroom which is split between the mezzanine and the second floor. In front of the white timbered walls, with curtained windows, are seven single beds, two on the mezzanine level, with white duvets, and wooden ends. The cottage has a red roof.

QUEEN LUCRETIA’S LAIR

The floor is covered by large circles, in which are magic pentangles. A black back-drop with silver stars makes up the back wall, and a large wooden chest, on wheels is placed at the right hand side.

CUP CAKE CAR

May arrives driving a small, pink, open-top car, with folded down pink roof. The sides of the car are decorated with a cup cake picture, and there is a model cupcake on the bonnet.

MAGIC MIRROR

The magic mirror is a rectangular screen about five feet by four feet, with a fluorescent red frame and blue light bulbs. The image of the genii appears on the screen which can be raised and lowered.

PRINCE CHICO’S CHARIOT

This is a small chariot, decorated with gold, and has two gold wheels. At the front is a black horse head. It is pulled on and off by two guards wearing blue and gold decorated uniforms.

The Cast

May Mc Fettridge plays the part of May the Cook

Of medium height, with a broad body and ample bosoms, May has a large face, rouged high cheeks, dark eyes, emphasised by blue eye shadow, a long nose, and a wide mouth, with a missing tooth at the front.

May’s first outfit is startling, like all of her clothes. Her hair is pink with ridged bun paper on top and a silver pink and cream bun. She wears a red top, encircled at the waist by a pink and white check band, with upside down v shaped edging, with balls at the points of the vs and a silver skirt. Her sleeves are frilled at the top and the shoulders are silver, with the same v trim. There are silver frill at her wrists. The outfit is completed by red shoes and white tights.

May’s Second outfit is also eye-catching. Under her very wide, hooped skirt, which is pale pink trimmed with darker pink, she wears pink pantaloons, trimmed with white. Her top is pink.

Her third outfit comprises a bouffant blonde wig, with circles of hair above each ear. Her top is multi-coloured , with wide puff sleeves and decorated with a pattern of small buns. She wears a wide skirt in the same pattern, with inset band of red with white spots, a white apron, trimmed with red rickrack, and one large bun appliquéd at bottom.

May’s fourth outfit is worn in the second act. It’s a blue PVC skirt, topped with a shiny short red jacket, over a gold/ leopard patterned top. She wears navy tights with this outfit. This time her hair is long and golden, restrained with a green hair band.

For the wedding her head-dress is a tall candelabra, with a candle centred on her head, attached to a fur coronet. Her body is invisible within a huge golden pudding shape with candles attached and sticking out all round it. Her arms are visible from time to time.

MUDDLES

Swings in on a rope. He has a large head, dark hair, gelled to stand up in a crest on his head. He has a big square face, thick dark eyebrows and dark eyes. His smile is a little embarrassed and uncomfortable. He wears a jester’s costume with a jacket of red and yellow, with a pointed trim around hem, and attached pom-poms. It has yellow buttons. His red boots, decorated with gold/ yellow lines he has red tights, and his red trousers are cut off above the ankles. Later he wears a white shiny leotard with white shiny tights an orange ballet skirt with pink shorts underneath and red trainers. A tiara adorns his long blonde wig. For the wedding he wears cream trousers with a blue jacket. Ricky K plays the part of Muddles.

SNOW WHITE

Snow White, played by Lauren Nevin, has a young face, framed with long brown hair, restrained by an orange hair-band, parted at the side. Her face is oval, with a wide smile, well-defined, dark eye-brows, and dark eyes. In the opening sequence she wears a peasant-style costume, comprising an orange flared skirt, with 3 rows of blue trim at hem, a short white apron, frilled at the hem, a blue bodice laced with orange, with a white blouse underneath it and a stand up collar round the neck-line. The outfit is completed with blue high heels, and flesh coloured tights.

Snow White also appears in a filmy pink dress, with a pink bodice and long sleeves, flared at the wrist. For the wedding she is resplendent in a long dress of white trimmed with gold.

CHAMBERS, the chamberlain, is of short stature. He has a small face, with a small mouth and long brown hair, hanging to his shoulders. His purple knickerbockers are blue at the knee. He wears a purple cloak, with a wide, silver-braid trim on the sleeves and round the hem, and gold reveres. He also sports a red shirt, spotted with white and white tights. This part is acted by Paddy Jenkins.

THE WICKED QUEEN is played by Rachel Stanley. She first appears in a long red satin dress, with a long train, and long wide, dangling sleeves, a large red collar trimmed with silver, and silver and gold jewellery at her neck. The bodice of the outfit is laced at the back with red. This dress is worn with with black shoes and long gloves and tones well with her crimson hair.

In the palace, she has a tall spiked golden crown, jewelled round her forehead. A tall medieval hat rises from the centre of this crown.

In Act 2 the Queen wears a dark black and gold brocade, long, sweeping gown, the long sleeves of which are lined with red. It has a v neck with a stand-up collar with fur round the shoulders. A silver pendant hangs round her neck and rests glittering on her bosom. Her crown is gold with high points and red sparkling jewels adorn it. Later she is transformed by a black cloak, hood and witch’s mask. For the wedding she is in blue and cream, trimmed with pink fur on the long cream sleeves, and she wears a silver crown.

PRINCE CHICO

The prince has an oval face, tanned skin, very dark hair, a long shapely nose, full lips, dark eyebrows and eyes. He is of medium height and slim. He wears a white shirt, with wide sleeves, a wine and gold waist-coat, fitted at the waist and flaring out over his hips, blue velvet trousers, gold knee length boots. Later he wears a blue and gold tunic, over a white long-sleeved shirt. His short cloak which reaches his thighs, is blue, trimmed with gold. For the wedding his outfit is white and gold. The part of Prince Chico is played by Chico.

The DWARFS are seven men who move on their knees, which are concealed by cloaks. The dwarfs have different outfits in purple, blue, green, pink, gold, red and turquoise They wear belted tunics and a variety of medieval style caps while each has a long cloak. What appears to be their legs dangle in front of them, stuffed in pale tights, with shoes to match colour of outfits. They enter carrying axes, and spades. One has a lantern, another dwarf has round spectacles, another a dark beard.

The chorus fulfils a number of roles and is dressed accordingly. As villagers the men wear maroon and blue jerkins, white shirts with full sleeves and maroon trousers with brown shoes. The women villagers wear swirly skirts in pink and blue with laced bodices over white blouses while the little girls wear blue skirts with white aprons, cream or blue bodices, blouses with white frilly sleeves and white puritan style bonnets. The little boys wear blue, long waistcoats over white blouses with three- quarter-length sleeves and blue or pink pantaloons. As the Prince’s attendants, four men wear blue and gold thigh-length waistcoats, over white blouses and with white stockings. The women courtiers wear pale blue filmy dresses with white chiffon over-dresses. There is a red trimming at the hips and their bodices are laced with red.

In act 2, the chorus wear straw boaters, white shirts with rolled up sleeves, with navy bow ties, black braces, blue pedal-pusher trousers, and black shoes. In Lucretia’s lair the evil creatures wear black leotards, long black tights, green masks with short green shiny beetle wings which rise from their shoulders or short black pants with cut away pieces which reveal the flesh, black sleeveless tops and black translucent tights.

4 female dancers, with feathers, carry pink and orange enormous feathered fans. They wear transparent body suits, pink bikini-like tops, and short skirt bottoms. Pink and orange feathered trains are attached on their bottoms at the back and they sport tall feather head dresses. In the final scene the women of the chorus are in long cream and gold dresses with tall veiled head-dresses, the men are in cream and gold tunics, while the girls wear long cream dresses and the boys are in short smocks with cream cloaks.

The audio-description will be delivered by Sara Duncan and Kate Ingram. Please be seated 10 minutes before the start of the show, if you wish to hear these programme notes read aloud.