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Arts Around Town: Jackie Evancho returns to State Theatre in Easton



Pilgrims wash ashore in Massachusetts in 1620, turning North American life on its ear, in the world-premiere production of the new musical comedy, "The New World," currently running through December 2 at Bucks County Playhouse in New Hope.

The work received its first reading at the Playhouse's Oscar Hammerstein Festival in 2014. Book is by Regina DeCicco and L.F. Turner, music by Gary Adler ("Altar Boyz"), and lyrics by Phoebe Kreutz. Stafford Arima (Broadway's "Allegiance") is director, with choreography by Bucks County Playhouse Artistic Associate, Lorin Latarro ("Waitress").

"The New World" re-imagines the myth of the first meeting of the Pilgrims and Native Americans, with the latter enjoying a gluten-free, low-carb, artisanally happy life when they are invaded by the nation's first immigrants – Pilgrims! There goes the neighborhood, but in the tradition of all musical comedies, love wins!

The cast includes a mix of Broadway veterans and newcomers: Ann Harada ("Avenue Q" and "Rodgers & Hammerstein's Cinderella") as Chief Hyannis; Jillian Gottlieb (Theater under the Stars "Into the Woods" and "The Golden Bride" off-Broadway) as Susanna Standish, and Jennifer Perry (Broadway's "Kinky Boots" and "Mamma Mia!") as Joan.

Theater and recording star, Justin Guarini, has been temporarily stepping in for Julius Thomas III as Santuit while Thomas recovers from a minor injury, according to a news release.

For further info: bcptheater.org