

# San Gabriel Valley Examiner

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STRIVING FOR JOURNALISM EXCELLENCE

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## 'Joseph The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat' Is Highly Exciting

The Covina Valley Playhouse has done it again! This time the featured show is the highly exciting "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat". I must admit I had never seen the show before; I even missed the highly anticipated performance on television; you know, the one that starred Donnie Osmond. Okay, so the question is: Where do I begin when talking about this play? Do I begin by mentioning the country and western song, the calypso number or the outstanding cast? I'll begin with the plot.

"Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" is based on the biblical story of Jacob's favorite son Joseph. The story begins with Joseph being sold into slavery by his eleven jealous brothers, and proceeds with Joseph's discovery of his talent for predicting forthcoming events. All the while the audience is treated to the songs such as "One More Angel in Heaven" and "Go, Go, Go Joseph". Watching this play from the beginning to the end is wildly entertaining with a cast like the Covina Valley Playhouse has comprised for "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat".



By **KELLEY VANCE**

The handsome David Farkas plays the title role of Joseph. David is exceptional in his first performance for the playhouse. He plays Joseph with a childish innocence in the beginning, and with a determination for revenge (towards his brothers) at the show's conclusion. With his talent and good voice I can only hope to see him in more productions at the playhouse.

Acting as the narrator is Heather Schulz. Heather is in nearly every scene explaining to eighteen schoolchildren who Joseph is. Like David, this production also marks Heather's debut at the Covina Valley Playhouse, and like David I hope to see her in other performances. Just an added note, the narrator plays the part of a teacher and no characters in the play are supposed to see her, but in one scene she's noticed. I love when plays and movies do that!

Okay now for the comic relief. I have to tell you that the actors playing



**spotlight on  
entertainment**

Joseph's brothers are just outlandishly hysterical. I could barely keep myself from laughing out loud as Levi, the other brothers, and Jacob (Curtis Taylor) sang "One More Angel in Heaven". Then as if they couldn't get any funnier they break into "Benjamin Calypso". The cast of the brothers were so wonderful I would feel guilty if I didn't mention all their names so here they are: Patrick Hill, Kelly Baldwin, Luke MacCloskey, Jeremy Butcher, Peter Miller, Eric Cajuat, Ryan Soteres, Kevin Szolga, Michael Gruden, Arthur D. Kwan, and Danvin Ruangchan. Of course, there's also David Farkas (Joseph), but I've spoken about him already!

Kudos to the cast! They are all just so amazing! I really can't say enough about them. I also have to give the Production Staff their highly due praise. If it wasn't for Director/Choreographer Allison Bibicoff none of this could have come into

being. On a stage where so much is happening at any one time Allison managed to create a gloriously entertaining production. Musical Director Antonio Mojica would have made lyricist Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber proud (Music). A round of applause also to costume designer Liz Driesbach, Henry Sume for lighting design and producer Phil Miller.

The Covina Valley Playhouse is presenting "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" beginning June 29<sup>th</sup> through August the 11<sup>th</sup>. For ticket prices and performance dates call (626) 339-5135 or (909) 384-1084.

Movie Pick of the Week: Here's a surprise. I'm not going to add one this week so you'll go see "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" this weekend. Trust me on this! I wouldn't lie to you!!!

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