

PEACE CHILD

Order Form

Study Guide \$26.00

Includes the script, score and libretto for Peace Child plus a series of lesson guides and background reading designed to encourage discussion about the scientific, industrial, military and ethical issues involved in the arms race. The authors hope that teachers and students will use the results of class discussion to rewrite sections of the script. A bibliography is included for those teachers and students who want to do further reading on the subject.

Audio Cassette \$10.00

A tape of the complete sound track of Peace Child to help students learn the songs.

Video \$30.00

*Introducing Peace Child
Length of video - 15 minutes*

Postage and Packaging \$5.60

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Please return complete form with payment to:
Peace Child Australia
c/United Nations Association of Australia (Vic),
2nd Floor, 328 Flinders Street,
Melbourne, 3000

Peace Child Australia

The Disarmament and Peace Committee of the United Nations Association of Australia (Vic) has, during I.Y.P., successfully encouraged many Victorian schools to stage *Peace Child*. Now, with funds from the I.Y.P. Secretariat, it has set up **Peace Child Australia** to extend its work to other states and perhaps later, to adjacent countries.

Peace Child, with its powerful message of world peace, was the brainchild of a United Nations group. It was based on Bernard Benson's *Peace Book* and came to life in a memorable performance at London's Royal Albert Hall in October 1981 with a cast of more than 300 young people. A year later it was performed at the Kennedy Centre, Washington D.C.. It has since been performed by many schools, churches, community theatre groups and peace organisations throughout Britain, U.S.A., Belgium, the Soviet, and now Australian and New Zealand.

Recently a combined cast of Soviet and American children toured the Soviet Union and the U.S.A. presenting *Peace Child* in major cities. The musical has also been performed at Peace festivals and conferences.

*Peace Child engenders joy, it engenders
generosity of spirit - it engenders above all the will
to do something more positive for the cause
of peace and love.*

Actress Susannah York
who performed in the Royal Albert Hall production.

For further information please contact:
The Project Officer,
Peace Child Australia,
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2nd Floor, 328 Flinders Street,
Melbourne, 3000
Phone: (03) 621 781

PEACE CHILD



What will our world be like
fifty years from now?

How can we stop the arms race?
Can nations with fundamentally opposed political
philosophies ever be genuinely at peace?

What can ordinary people do to make any difference?

Peace Child,
a children's musical celebration of peace,
presents an opportunity for adults and children
to address such questions through the enjoyably
challenging process of putting on a play.

*If we wish to create lasting peace,
if we want to fight a war against war,
we have to begin with the children.*
Mahatma Gandhi

The Future Created by Children

Peace Child is set in the world of the 21st Century that today's generation of school children will have helped to create. The play encourages young people to imagine the kind of world they'd like to live in and challenges them to find ways of bringing it about.

Sixteen powerful songs contribute great energy and emotion to the story. The overall result is a moving, empowering celebration of friendship - a glimpse of what we, the people of the world, could accomplish in partnership.

Peace Child takes place on Peace Day, the universal holiday which commemorates the day back in the 1980s when the nations of the world declared Peace. As part of the holiday festivities, the local children enact the play within a play which tells how Peace Day was proclaimed after a Russian girl and an American boy became friends and shared their dream of peace.

In Papua New Guinea, when certain warring tribes make peace, they exchange a child. While growing up with the other tribe, the child keeps in touch with his own people and thus ensures against future conflict.

Such a child is called the Peace Child.

Peace Child is a skilful child's view of the world. Its strength lies in the honesty of the children's approach to world leaders Major changes have come from even stranger and smaller beginnings.

The Guardian
London

Replacing Fear with Hope and a Sense of Responsibility



I don't want to die. I want to live! I want to grow up, have a full life, a job, family, children of my own.

Children are far more aware and concerned about the nuclear threat than most adults suspect. *They are growing up with a pervasive sense of unease, a feeling that nuclear war is inevitable and that their parents and their leaders are helpless to prevent it.*

There is evidence that these feelings lead to a general sense of powerlessness, cynical resignation, impulsive behavior and anger at adults, and, when compounded by other worries, even to suicide.

Peace Child is a powerful antidote to this. In a multitude of letters, children who have performed in or seen *Peace Child* have reported that it has helped give them a new sense of hope and enthusiasm for what lies ahead and a conviction that the new generation can make this a better world.

Peace Child is one of the few messages being sent from the adult's world to the children's world that we are not helpless before global fear and nuclear death. Every audience that has seen the play has leapt to its feet in applause and gratefulness - and the highest leapers may well be children.

Colman McCarthy
Washington Post

The play may be performed as written, but an accompanying Study Guide is designed to encourage students and teachers to rewrite the dialogue and alter the story to reflect their own ideas.

The Study Guide also contains background notes, discussion points and suggested further reading which will help students understand the scientific, military and industrial realities of the present nuclear madness.

The scale of production is very flexible, extending from a cast of twelve to hundreds. General production notes and suggested alterations for different age groups are also contained in the Study Guide.

The Bishop's Pastoral spoke of 'disarming the heart'. That is exactly what Peace Child does.

I knew that this show would be the most effective way to spread the message of peace throughout Wisconsin.

Jack Calareso
Director of Religious Education
Greenbay Catholic Diocese, U.S.A.

There is only one word to describe the presentation of Peace Child - the children's musical celebration for peace which was recently staged at the J.B. Osborne Theatre at Kangaroo Flat and that word is magnificent.

Bendigo Advertiser
Saturday Sept. 27, 1986

Photo Captions:

Front: Elizabeth South as the Soviet President in St Kilda Park Primary School's production of *Peace Child*.

Inside: Merrin Cutts as Katya and Dean McDonnell as Bobby in the Maroondah Youth Theatre's production.

Photos by Merrill Findlay