

THE LION KING tells the epic adventures of a Young lion cub named Simba as he struggles to accept the responsibilities of adulthood and his destined role as king.

The performers utilize a wide array of masks and puppet techniques to portray the story's thirteen principle characters, as well as dozens of other animals. The audience is able to see the actor's face as well as the mask or puppet. The production has a wholly original design and is not an attempt to recreate the animated "look" of the feature film.

THE LION KING marks Disney's third venture into legitimate theatre (following "Beauty and the Beast" and the world premiere concert event "King David").

Julie Taymor recently directed the critically hailed Productions of *Juan Darien - A Carnival Mass* at Lincoln Center and *The Green Bird* at the New Victory Theatre. She is the recipient of a MacArthur "Genius" Fellowship, two OBIE awards, the first annual Dorothy B. Chandler award in theatre and the 1990 Brandeis Creative Arts Award.

THE LION KING features 13 songs - five of which were presented in the animated film. The score encompasses the sounds and rhythms of the African culture, along with the appeal of popular music.

THE LION KING is a musical story that appeals to audiences young and old - a tale of the responsibilities of growing up. As in the film, there are scenes dealing with Mufasa's (Simba's father) death, which parents might want to discuss with their younger children. However, this production does not fall in the category of "children's theatre".

The award-winning feature film THE LION KING is one of the highest grossing films in history (\$756,000 million worldwide)

THE LION KING video release is the highest selling home video, with 30 million copies sold to date in North America.