



Dreamcoat Gets Green Stripe

By Robert Viagas
March 27, 1996

Brian Lane Green -- known for his role as the twice-married problem-solving college student Brian Bodine on TV's *All My Children* -- has succeeded Sam Harris in the title role of the *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* national tour. Brian Lane Green -- known for his role as the twice-married problem-solving college student Brian Bodine on TV's *All My Children* -- has succeeded Sam Harris in the title role of the *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* national tour.

Green was nominated for a Tony Award in the Broadway musical *Starmites* and replaced Dan Jenkins in the leading role of Huck Finn during the Broadway run of *Big River*.

His theatre work includes stints in *The Pirates of Penzance*, *La Cage Aux Folles* and *Follies* for Long Beach and San Jose Civic Light Opera. Other TV appearances include *Days of Our Lives*, *Matlock*, *Murder She Wrote* and *Another World*.

He also appeared in the Carnegie Hall tribute to Stephen Sondheim, singing "Good Thing Going" with the close-harmony group The Tonics.

A spokesperson for producer The Really Useful Company said Harris' contract had concluded.

Currently on layoff, the tour resumes in Milwaukee April 9-14 and moves on to Atlanta April 16-21.

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Starmites Tony Nominee to Debut New Musical July 16

By Andrew Gans
July 14, 2003

Brian Lane Green — a 1989 Tony nominee for his performance in *Starmites* — has penned a new musical entitled *Waiting for the Glaciers to Melt*. Produced by Manmade Productions, Inc., the musical will premiere July 16 at the Midtown International Theater Festival (MITF), which celebrates "diversity and operates under the mantra that 'good things come in small packages.'" Kristen Coury directs the musical, which plays the Festival through July 30.

Waiting for the Glaciers to Melt concerns a gay man in his forties who is struggling with depression. After a destructive period of partying hard, Garrett learns to cope with life's realities. Stephen Bienskie, whose theatre credits include *The Fix*, *Cats* and *The Who's Tommy*, heads the cast as Garrett; the company also includes Matt (*A Chorus Line*) Zarley, Eric (*Jesus Christ Superstar*) Millegan and Queen (*Rent*) Esther.

Playwright Brian Lane Green has appeared on "All My Children," "Another World" and "Days of Our Lives," and his theatrical credits include *Starmites*, *Big River* and *The Life*. He has also recorded a solo album, "Brian Lane Green."

Waiting for the Glaciers to Melt will play the Abingdon Theater Arts Complex (312 West 36th Street), July 16 (6 PM), July 18 (8:30 PM), July 19 (1:30 PM), July 26 (4 PM), July 27 (noon) and July 30 (4 PM). Tickets, priced \$12-\$15, are available by calling (212) 279-4200.

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THE LEADING MEN: Gavin's Havin' a Ball

By Wayman Wong

01 Jul 2003

GREEN PLAYS IT COOL WITH 'GLACIERS'

Brian Lane Green also first entered the Broadway mainstream in Roger Miller's *Big River*, but that was in 1986 with the original Tony-winning production. The 5-foot-11 actor became the king of the road as Huck in its first national tour, and later criss-crossed America starring in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. The Tony-nominated lead of *Starmites* (1989) also got fans worked up in a lather as a soap stud: Alan Brand in "Days of Our Lives" (1987-89), Sam Fowler in "Another World" (1991-93) and Brian Bodine in "All My Children" (1993-94).

And now the Broadway, cabaret and TV star is taking yet another course in his career. He's written and composed his first musical, *Waiting for the Glaciers to Melt*, and he's happy to go with the floe. Directed by Kirsten Coury, *Glaciers* is the story of Garrett (played by Stephen Bienskie), a gay man in his thirties recovering from the loss of his lover. He's dealing with depression and trying to find peace. As part of the Midtown International Theater Festival, it'll play July 16, 18, 19, 26, 27 and 30 at the Abington Theater Arts Complex, 312 W. 36th St., NYC; (212) 279-4200.

So is *Glaciers* autobiographical? Green, 41, says, "A lot of Garrett is me. The drinking, the drugs, the sex — I've definitely been guilty of that, and so is this character. But there are other people in it, too, and much of the show wrote itself. Matt Zarley plays Lucky, Garrett's lover; Queen Esther is Memaw, the caretaker of her grandson, Simon, who's in a wheelchair, and he's played by Eric Millegan. It's a dream cast."

Like Garrett, Green had a minister-father. He even got his start singing with Bebe and Cece Winans on Jim and Tammy Faye Bakker's "PTL Club." However, it wasn't easy growing up in a very religious home. Green says, "Organized religion has done nothing to help some of us 'come out,' so you have to redefine your own spirituality.

Fortunately, he found a safe haven in music. "How does a ten-year-old in Cleveland, Tenn., find JudyGarland? I remember being 16 and going to see Jane Olivor. That's scary." And in high school, he did musicals. At his website, there's a funny photo of this English-Irish kid dressed as Tevye in *Fiddler on the Roof*. "There were no Jews in my town, and I was the only one who knew who Barbra Streisand was."

But who knew Green would grow up to be a soap star? "When 'Another World' was No. 1 in Canada, I would go to malls and sign autographs. Up there, I could've done anything — and just about anybody — I wanted. But it was hard for me to enjoy a lot of it. I didn't lie about being gay then, but I was always afraid [people would find out]."

Now he's out and takes great pride in all his work. He sang at an all-star Sondheim gala at Carnegie Hall with the Tonics, an astonishing pop quartet he co-founded. He released one of the best male vocalist albums around called "Brian Lane Green," produced by John Bucchino (on LML Music), and the Olympic gold medalist Viktor Petrenko is skating to his soaring rendition of Craig Carnelia's "Flight." And he's in "Friends and Family," a cute comedy about the gay Mafia, directed by Coury, and it's opening in September in New York. "The movie is fun. It's a cross between 'La Cage Aux Folles' and 'The Sopranos,' and I'm Jean-Michel, marrying the mob boss' daughter."

Green doesn't take his talent or faith for granted. To quote the Bucchino song on his CD, he's happy "giving thanks for what I've got" and "truly blessed and duly grateful."