Student from Melbourne Girls’ College will come out of their shells to operate a giant Turtle puppet whose vibrant scales are made up of colourful umbrellas. Picture: TIM CARRAFA

DRESSED TO IMPRESS

COSTUMES are a hallmark of the State Schools Spectacular — and the Shine On 2010 performance is no different. Costume designer and co-ordinator Isaac Lummis has made a career from eye-catching stage costumes, and is familiar with the large-scale work needed when about 2500 performers are involved. He has also designed and co-ordinated costumes for the 2008 State Schools Spectacular: Made in Australia as well as the government schools production of Barnum.

Lummis says the scale of the performance and the number of students on stage give great scope for trying different things in the costume department, and his inspiration is broad.

“Inspiration comes from all over the place,” he says. “Depending on what the song is and what the director wants, I might look at the song or old video clips or album covers. I get ideas from favourite paintings or objects and pretty much pull inspiration from everywhere.”

As well as the massed School Spectaculars, Lummis has designed costumes for many professional productions, the Absolute Kylie tribute show, and the 2008 Australia’s Got Talent. Many Circus Joseph Ashton performers also wear his creations. He also assisted designer Zoe Atkinson on The Odyssey which won the 2006 Helpmann Award for Costume.

TUNE IN TO

POPULAR MUSIC

SHINE On 2010: Victorian State Schools Spectacular features almost 40 songs ranging from classical music to rock legends and everything in between. The song list includes: Symphony No.9 Movement 2, Don’t Give Up, We are Family, Nine to Five, You’ll Never Walk Alone, Can You Feel It, Bitter Sweet Symphony, Somewhere Over the Rainbow, Thunderbirds, When You Wish Upon a Star, Gliese in the Sky, Superman, Respect Yourself, B.E.S.P.I.C.E., Rhythm of Life, Get the Party Started, Let’s Get Loud, Time to Say Goodbye and more.