



PROGRAMME

The *Legend* of
Grimm's
Tales



A NEW PLAY BY
BRADLEY BARLOW

9 - 19 JUNE 2022

A Note from the Writer/Director



How would you begin to write a new take on the famous Grimm's tales? Would you take one well known character and expand upon their story? Would you take a few of the tales and weave them together? Or would you rip up the rulebook and start somewhere completely different?

Well, when I started work on this production, I had a completely blank canvas and all of the above were competing for my attention and we've ended up with a blend of them all, in particular the less well-known tale 'Brother and Sister', which I've drawn heavily upon - among others...

The Brothers Grimm themselves would often rewrite their stories, adapting them from the original tales they were told and refining them over time. It's in this spirit that I decided to approach this play, seeking out characters and scenarios that were less well known to blend with the ones most people are already familiar with. This is my first family-friendly play and I wanted to include important messages for the children coming to watch, including my own - hopefully, they'll see something of themselves in this.

It's been an absolute honour to work with such a talented cast and crew, all of whom have been willing to experiment with ideas and entertain fanciful notions, which I hope you'll agree has created something a little magical on stage. It's been an honour collaborating with you all over an intense rehearsal period - I hope you're all as proud of yourselves as I am of you. Thank you.

Bradley Barlow trained at University of Chichester and is the former Artistic Director of Sussex-based Pitchy Breath Theatre Company (2016-2020). Previous writing and directing credits include *143 Seconds* (2011), *Dead Leaves* (2014), *The Last Time We Saw You* (2017) and *Monsters: A Modern Frankenstein Story* (2018), all for Pitchy Breath. His debut play *The Family* (2009) won a NODA Accolade of Excellence and was described by Surrey Mirror as "a gripping portrait of Britain".

Theatre performance credits include the Cheshire Cat in *Wonderland* (2021, Groundlings), *The Flats* (2019, Pitchy Breath), *Julius Caesar* (2017, Pitchy Breath), Trinculo in *The Tempest* (2015, Polesden Lacey Shakespeare), *Inheritance* (2015, Pitchy Breath), *Mokita* (2011, Pitchy Breath). bradleybarlow.com

for Lily and Holly

Cast

Lucy Edge as Grace Grimes
Ryan Moss as Max Grimes
Suzanne Ball as Katherine
Jordan Hiscott as Prince

Lynda Saunders as Raven Ash
Elizabeth Rands as Raven Dave
Killian Wheeler as Raven Shylar / Head Courtier
Dean Barlow as Will Grimes / King

Christine Allison as Ruby
Maddy Storm-Hall as Rapunzel

Millie Hayman as Cinderella
Helen Gibbs as Rumpelstiltskin

Alana Chivers - Ensemble
Allanah Barlow - Ensemble

Georgie Gibbons - Ensemble

Arthur Armstrong, James Watson and Max Dungworth as Hansel
Eleanor Shepperd and Orla Neill as Gretel

Creative

Written and directed by Bradley Barlow

Lighting design and technical by Iain Banachowicz

Set design by Colin Burton

Puppets designed and crafted by Penny Verity

Costumes by Elizabeth Rands

Poster and programme design by Bradley Barlow

Produced by The Groundlings Theatre Trust

With many thanks to the team of Groundlings volunteers

Lucy Edge as Grace Grimes



Training: Mountview Academy of Theatre Arts

Theatre: Guest Entertainer (P&O Cruises), Princess Amelia in *Jack & the Beanstalk* (Harlequin Theatre), Princess Amelia in *Jack & the Beanstalk* (Bridlington Spa), Libby/Zsa Zsa/Dolly/Tarzan/Puppetier in *David Baddiel's AniMalcolm* (UK Tour) Wendy in *Peter Pan* (Pomegranate Theatre), Sleeping Beauty in *Sleeping Beauty* (Epstein Theatre), Soloist in *West End Story* (Hope Mill Theatre), Anna in *Santa Claus the Musical* (New Theatre Royal, Portsmouth), Mouse in *Americana* (Theatre Royal, Stratford East), Emily in *Separate Ways* (The Criterion Theatre), Slave of the Ring in *Aladdin* (The Stiwit Theatre), Wendy/Slightly

in *The Return of Neverland* (Lancaster Grand Theatre), Beauty in *Beauty & the Beast* (Camberley Theatre), Vocalist in *The Squarenote Showcase: Contemporary Edition* (Union Theatre), Vocalist in *Alison!* (Royal Court Theatre), Little Red in *Little Red Riding Hood* (Trinity Theatre), Stiffy Byng in *By Jeeves* (Trinity Theatre), Alison in *Alison! A Rock Opera* (Spread Eagle Theatre), Martha Cratchit in *A Christmas Carol* (Tabard Theatre), Soloist in *An Evening with Mark Halliday & Friends* (Leicester Square Theatre), Big Love in *Schumpeter's Gale* (Ross Theatre).

Film: Girl in *An Actors Guide To Resting* (feature)

Ryan Moss as Max Grimes



Ryan trained at the Academy of Performance Training and since then has been lucky enough to appear in numerous theatrical productions. With stage being his passion, Ryan is a big supporter of community theatre, so this collaboration has been a wonderful experience for him.

This is Ryan's first performance at Groundlings and his first time working with Bradley Barlow, and it hopefully won't be his last!

Previous credits include: Charlie Chaplin in *Tonight at the Museum*, Charlie Chaplin, Raleigh in *Journeys End*, Ben in *The Dumb Waiter*, Freddy in *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, and Joe Casey in *Our House*.

Suzanne Ball as Katherine



Suzanne Ball has been working as a professional actor since 2008. Her TV and film credits include Tim Burton's *Sweeney Todd, Gods and Monsters*, Tony Robinson's *Superstitions* history series, *Tess of the d'Urbervilles* and *Britain's Most Evil Killers*.

Her theatre credits include *The Railway Children, Twelfth Night, The Importance of Being Earnest, Peter Pan, The Nutcracker* and *Wonderland*. She has also worked teaching drama in schools across the country, and has performed in various pieces of musical theatre across Europe.

She enjoys working for Groundlings Theatre to support the arts scene in Portsmouth.

Jordan Hiscott as Prince



Jordan trained at Guildford School of Acting, graduating in 2015 (MA) in Acting.

He is an actor and presenter who has appeared in a number of theatrical productions and on-screen performances, most notably known for being 4 Kingdoms Live presenter over the last year.

Credits in the last year include: *The Magical Christmas Adventure* (2021) as Captain Darling, *Marengo* (feature film) as a Sailor, *Whose Choice* (short film) as Moderator, *Thrill Seekers* (short film) as Alex and the role of Dad at MAST Southampton in *Giggle Wiggle Plop*.

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The History of Grimm's Tales



Jacob (1785–1863) and Wilhelm (1786–1859) Grimm were German academics and authors who together collected and published tales from German folklore. They're among the best-known storytellers of folk tales in the world and popularised many well known stories such as *Cinderella*, *Hansel and Gretel*, *Little Red Riding Hood*, *Rapunzel*, *Snow White*, *Sleeping Beauty*, and *Rumpelstiltskin*.

Their first collection of folk tales *Children's and Household Tales* was published in 1812. Between then and 1857, this first collection was revised and republished many times, growing from 86 stories to over 200. In addition to writing and modifying folk tales, the brothers wrote collections of well-respected German and Scandinavian mythologies and in 1838 began writing a definitive German dictionary, which they were unable to finish during their lifetimes. By the 1870s, the tales had become incredibly popular and in the 20th century it maintained its status as second only to the Bible as the most popular book in Germany.

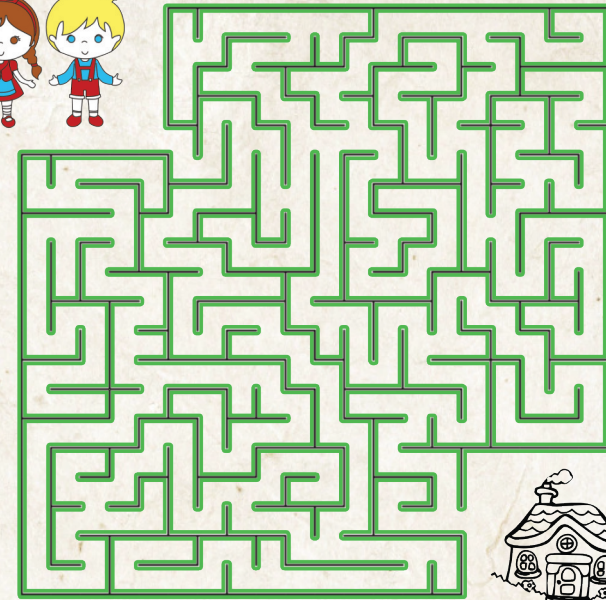
The 1937 release of Walt Disney's *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* brought the tales to an even wider audience, showing the triumph of good over evil, and innocence over oppression. Since then, the Grimms' tales have provided much of the early foundation on which Disney built an empire, turning tales such as *Cinderella* (1950) and *Sleeping Beauty* (1959) into much-loved classics. Disney has carried this tradition into the 21st century with Rapunzel receiving the Disney treatment in *Tangled* in 2010 and remains the most expensive animated movie ever made. The popular *Shrek* (2001–2010) series of films have also used many of Grimms' characters.

The tales remain popular for adaptations in TV and film, such as American detective series *Grimm* (2011–2017) and fantasy drama *Once Upon a Time* (2011–2018). More widely, the Cinderella motif of a poor girl finding love and success has been repeated in many movies such as *Pretty Woman* (1990), *Maid in Manhattan* (2002), and *Ella Enchanted* (2004).



For *The Legend of Grimm's Tales*, the lesser known story of *Brother and Sister* is brought to life, intertwined with the other tales mentioned above, and contains references to a variety of others.

Help Hansel and Gretel find their way home



How many characters can you find?

G	R	L	N	A	E	R	A	G	A	T	G	R	E
A	D	E	E	L	R	N	V	R	H	R	R	A	H
A	L	S	L	L	C	G	V	L	A	P	L	V	P
E	G	N	G	E	A	R	I	C	S	A	U	E	R
K	E	A	A	R	N	E	E	R	G	R	E	N	I
A	C	H	C	E	R	N	E	K	I	N	G	D	N
R	T	E	E	D	I	E	E	N	E	E	V	A	C
R	A	V	E	N	S	H	Y	L	A	R	E	V	E
A	I	U	R	I	X	V	H	G	R	E	T	E	L
M	Z	A	V	C	L	E	Z	N	U	P	A	R	A
A	R	A	M	A	X	N	E	A	N	R	A	N	R
R	U	M	P	L	E	S	T	I	L	S	K	I	N
G	R	A	V	E	N	A	S	H	R	I	V	L	K
Y	K	A	T	H	E	R	I	N	E	I	M	M	R

GROUNDLINGS CHRISTMAS PANTO 2022

ROBIN HOOD

The title 'ROBIN HOOD' is rendered in a large, gold, serif font with a textured, metallic appearance. The letter 'O' in the second word is replaced by a graphic of a target with a yellow bullseye, a red ring, and a blue outer ring. A wooden arrow with a red fletching is shown hitting the bullseye from the left.

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