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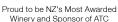




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MAIDMENT THEATRE / THE EDGE / Q

#### WELCOME to the disgusting, smelly world of THE TWITS.

Since 'The Gremlins' (1943) and throughout a life filled with adventure and personal tragedy, Roald Dahl created some of the best loved children's stories of the twentieth century, including 'Charlie and the



Chocolate Factory', 'Matilda', 'The BFG' and 'Fantastic Mr Fox'.

Roald Dahl also wrote dark, scary adult stories, and screenplays for both CHITTY CHITTY BANG BANG and the James Bond film YOU ONLY LIVE TWICE, but it is his children's novels for which he is best remembered. Dahl claimed that the genesis for his often ghastly, gruesome adults who harass his child characters lay in his ghastly experiences of boarding school.

This lively fresh new interpretation of THE TWITS is given a Pacific flavour by director Alison Quigan, musical director Jason Te Mete and designers Tracey Collins and Brad Gledhill. Huge thanks to them and our spirited cast led by Dave Fane and Te Radar. It's been a delight for us at ATC Homebase to spend the last month or so with those bundles of fun and energy, The Mugglewump Monkeys, the gorgeous Roly-Poly Bird and even stinky old Mr and Mrs Twit. Now its your turn to enjoy their antics.

From all of us here at Auckland Theatre Company may I offer best wishes for the festive season to you and your loved ones. Thank you for your patronage this year; we look forward to seeing you at the shows in 2012.

Colin McColl, Artistic Director



#### CAST

**Te Radar** — Mr Twit | **Dave Fane** — Mrs Twit

**Andrew Grainger** — Narrator | **Kip Chapman** — Mugglewump Boy

**Harry McNaughton** — Mugglewump Dad | **Sia Trokenheim** — Mugglewump Mum

Sarah Graham — Mugglewump Girl | Anna Jullienne — Roly-Poly Bird

Children's Chorus — Imogen Ashmore, Laura Bradley, Ronan Buckley,

Erin Cory-Wright, Hayley Coupe, Mea Grgec, Jack Henderson, Rowena Koonwaiyou, Freddy Rhodes, Madison Spear

#### CREATIVE

Director — Alison Quigan | Musical Director — Jason Te Mete
Set & Costume Designer — Tracey Collins | Lighting Designer — Brad Gledhill
Assistant Lighting Designer — Rachel Marlow | Choreographer — Jeremy Birchall
Musical Arrangements — Jason Te Mete and Ruth Spencer

#### PRODUCTION

Production Manager — Paul Towson | Technical Manager — Paul Nicoll
Stage Manager — Fern Christie | Assistant Stage Manager — Gabrielle Rhodes
Lighting Operator — Rochelle Houghton | Audio Operator — Rory Maguire
Properties Master — Diana Kovacs | Costume Supervisor — Kiri Rainey
Pattern Cutter — Mitch Andrews | Acrobatic Instructor — Beth Kayes

Tree Sculptor — Alastair Hopgood | ASB Community Trust Emerging Artist Apprentices:
Stage Management — Stacey Donaldson | Costume Design — Caitlin Brogan

AUCKLAND THEATRE COMPANY WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING FOR THEIR HELP WITH THIS PRODUCTION: Malcolm Milner and Balmoral School, and to the wonderfully supportive parents of our children's chorus: Alex Ashmore, Helen and John Buckley, Anna Connell, Robyn Cory-Wright, Steve and Caren Coupe, Debbie Grgec, Daivd Henderson and Helen White, Naomi Meleisea, Alex Oldham, Suzie Pannell, Jane Rhodes, Estelle Sarney, Lisa Sorensen, and Marise and Steve Spear.

THE TWITS is the eighth Auckland Theatre Company production for 2011 and opened on December 1st. THE TWITS is approximately 120 minutes long with an interval. Please remember to switch off all mobile phones, pagers and watch alarms.

## DIRECTOR'S NOTES

I love to read. I read just about any kind of fiction and I especially love children's books, Roald Dahl being one of my favourite writers. Since my children were small I have read aloud to them and enjoyed the fun we have had together. We used to get pretty loud and we all had our favourite parts of the stories. It was great to play all the characters and to relish the words that Roald Dahl put together.



I recently had the privilege of reading 'The Twits' to primary schools in the Auckland area for the Duffy Books in Homes school programme and was delighted by how much they enjoyed it. Reading aloud is one of life's pleasures and such a great thing to share with others.

The only thing that is more fun is lifting the words entirely off the page and giving them to a bunch of colourful, charismatic, cunningly contortionistic actors and the gracious, gregarious, and genuinely gorgeous Tracey Collins as designer.

I could not have hoped for a more inventive group of people. From the beginning, Tracey's stimulating designs have inspired us all and Jason Te Mete's magical music has driven the production to greater madness. We have thrown all kinds of ideas at him and he hasn't missed a beat. The wonderful Beth Kayes has literally lifted the actors off their feet and Dave and Radar have kept us all in stitches.

All of this fun is the result of a lot of hard work. It has been challenging for us all but more so for our incredible stage manager, Fern Christie. Every day we have come up with new requests for outrageous props and costumes and nothing has fazed her enthusiasm. She has been our rock and her attention to detail has been invaluable.

The pleasure for us is telling the story to the children. This is storytelling at its most vibrant and most fun. I hope you enjoy THE TWITS no matter what age you are. As Roald Dahl said, "A little nonsense now and then is relished by the wisest men".

- Alison Quigan, Director

## ABOUT THE PLAY

In a caravan by the sea live the disgusting Mr and Mrs Twit. They delight in playing disgraceful tricks on one another – from glass-eye cocktails to skillywiggler scares. One day, between picking old food out of his beard and being mean to his wife, Mr Twit decides he is going to train monkeys to perform in an upside-down monkey circus. The monkey family, the Mugglewumps, hate being locked in a cage, kept away from their best friend the Roly-Poly Bird, and made to perform undignified antics. Their only friends are the birds that flock to the dead tree nearby. Mr Twit, horrible as always, paints glue all over the tree to catch the birds so he can put them in a bird pie. However, the Mugglewumps manage to warn the birds, and the birds help the Mugglewumps to escape from the cage.

The Roly-Poly Bird arrives to check up on the Mugglewumps; she is horrified that they have been locked up, and that their friends the birds are in danger of being turned into bird pie. Together the monkeys and the Roly-Poly Bird come up with a plan to save the birds, free the Mugglewumps and turn the Twits upside-down. With a bit of help from their friends, they succeed in fooling the disgusting Twits, and everyone shouts "hooray!"



## REHEARSAL PHOTOS









# TAYLOR TALKS TO THE TWITS

Nine-year-old Taylor Malmo is an Auckland writer and illustrator. He illustrated 'Butt Out', a children's book by Vanya Lowry, published in 2011. This is his first foray into journalism, interviewing Te Radar (Mr Twit) and Dave Fane (Mrs Twit).



## Q: Are you able to make the characters less Twitish than they are in the book?

Te Radar: We're trying to make them as Twitish as we can, so that people are disgusted by them, because in the book they are very disgusting. I'm not as hairy as Mr Twit; I thought about rubbing hairgrowing stuff on my stomach and my ears,



but I thought that might be going a bit far. We try to make them so people will find them grotesque and horrible and you don't want them to come near you because they're too yuck.

**Dave:** The meaning of twitish is all in the play.

#### Q: Does Mrs Twit get stretched in the same way in the play as she does in the book?

Dave: That would be telling!

**Te Radar:** Yes, in the book she gets tied to balloons and in the play she gets tied to balloons as well, and then she sails off into the air. She doesn't go as high, obviously.

## Q: Does Mrs Twit have a walking stick that gets longer when she gets the shrinks?

Dave: Watch this space!

**Te Radar:** Yes, she does. Mr Twit has to rush off, and we're working on a nice sight gag so that when he goes off he gets these bigger and bigger pieces of wood and the last piece is ENORMOUS but when she comes on it has all been whittled down to be part of the stick.



#### Q: Why is Mrs Twit played by a man?

**Dave:** Because there is no woman ugly enough to do her justice.

**Te Radar:** There's a big history in pantomime of women being played by men. I was in a TV programme called B&B on Maori Television where I also had a man play my wife. We thought that would be a funny idea?

## Q: How many plays have you been in that have been based on books?

**Te Radar:** That's a good question. I think... None! I've converted some books into plays but I wasn't in them. '1984' by George Orwell was one – I did the script for that.

Dave: This would be a first.

## Q: What's the most fun thing about being an actor?

**Te Radar:** Working with other actors. You get to share ideas and play around with

things. I do a lot of work by myself, so it's good to work with other people.

Dave: The cups of tea and free biscuits.

## Q: What's the scariest thing about being an actor?

**Te Radar:** I think it would be forgetting your lines. That's why it's good to have other actors on stage, because they can remind you. If you're onstage by yourself and you forget your lines it can be a bit confusing!

Dave: Running out of tea and biscuits.



## Q: How is being in a play different from being on TV?

Te Radar: On TV you can do things 20 times to get it right, but in a play you've only got one shot, because the audience is right there. You can't go "cut" and do it all again. But the best thing about a play is that the audience is there, so you can work with the audience and it's different every night. On TV you can watch a programme more than once and it's always the same, but in the theatre it's always different. That's the great thing about it.

**Dave:** Nowhere to hide onstage.

## Q: What was your favourite book when you were a kid?

**Te Radar:** I liked cowboy books, and I liked "choose your own adventure" books, where you've got to go through and make decisions or roll a dice, and then go to page 63 or page 57. They're really expensive and hard to get now, those books.

**Dave:** 'The Mouse That Roared', by Leonard Wibberley

#### Q: What is your favourite book now?

Te Radar: 'Catch 22' by Joseph Heller.

Dave: The Bible.

#### Q: What/who was your favourite Roald Dahl book/character when you were a kid?

Dave: Willy Wonka 'to the max'.

**Te Radar:** Probably it was 'The Twits'. Actually, 'Charlie And The Chocolate Factory' – I liked the movie with Gene Wilder... But for the books, I'd say 'The Twits'.

## Q: If you could play ANY Roald Dahl character who would it be?

Te Radar: Willy Wonka.

Dave: Willy Wonka "chocolate for life".



## WRIGGLY WORM RECIPE

Follow Fern's recipe for a revolting way to trick your friends and family!

- » 2 packs Raspberry Jelly
- » 3/4 cup whipping cream
- » 3 cups boiling water
- » 15 drops green food colouring
- » 100 flexible straws (or enough to fill your container)
- » Tall container

#### **Directions**

- 1. Put jelly in bowl and add boiling water.
- 2. Let it cool to lukewarm, then add whipping cream and 15 drops green food colouring.
- 3. Gather your straws (don't forget to flex them out) and put them in the container. It's important the straws fit tight so the jelly stays in the straws.
- 4. Add the jelly mixture to the straw-filled container and let it set until firm.
- 5. To remove the worms from the straws, roll a rolling pin over the straws and squeeze them out or hold the straws over warm water.







## THE CAST

## What is your favourite Roald Dahl book, and why?

'Willy Wonka And The Chocolate Factory' - awesome x1000!

### What is the best thing about your character?

The cruel nature of her play, it's so evil.

### What is the worst thing about your character?

That she was once pretty.

**Dave Fane** has been working as a professional actor for nigh on 20 years. He has worked on stage, television and film over this period winning countless awards and accolades along the way as well as getting some nice compliments from old ladies at the supermarket. Stage credits include GOD OF CARNAGE, NIU SILA, FRESH OFF THE BOAT, LADIES NIGHT, A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE, SERIAL KILLERS, SONS and A FRIGATE BIRD SINGS (co-writer).

Dave is well known for his work as one of The

Naked Samoans, creating and performing several stage shows which have been a great success both here and overseas. This led to the animated series, BRO' TOWN which Dave co-wrote and played seven lead roles in. He also teamed up with many of the same team for the hit movie SIONE'S WEDDING, the sequel to which, SIONE'S WEDDING 2: UNFINISHED BUSINESS, will be released in Jan 2012. Dave has also appeared on the big screen in THE TATTOOIST, EAGLE VS SHARK, LOVE BIRDS and TONGAN NINJA.

Television work includes OUTRAGEOUS FORTUNE, DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY, THE MARKET, JANDALS AWAY, SKITZ and THE STRIP.

Dave juggles his acting commitments with his role as breakfast host on Hip Hop and R&B station FLAVA 95.8 FM.

Dave's kids are really looking forward to seeing him in THE TWITS - don't ask them though, they'll just deny it.

## What is your favourite Roald Dahl book, and why?

'The Witches', it's a great story with the perfect amount of evil!

What is the best thing about your character? Her glamour... and frequent "inspiration"!

What is the worst thing about your character?

Hmmm, she's fabulous, glamorous and she saves the day – nothing bad about that!

Anna Jullienne's wonderful career rolly pollys on with THE TWITS adding to a long list of shows such as THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES, VIEW FROM A BRIDGE, CHRIST ALMIGHTY and THE EIGHT: REINDEER MONOLOGUES. Interspersed amongst these shows she has found time to do screen and TV, for SHORTLAND STREET, AUCKLAND DAZE and movie SIONES WEDDING 2: UNFINISHED BUSINESS... Rolly polly on good times.





## What is your favourite Roald Dahl book, and why?

It's a compilation of short stories called 'Tales Of The Unexpected'. They really do encapsulate the unexpected. Dark, delightfully twisted, and succinct.

### What is the best thing about your character?

Twit's grotesqueness. I like to think of him as a demented George Roper.

### What is the worst thing about your character?

His grotesqueness... I suspect the beard will be a bit whiffy after a few shows... But nothing compared to the monkeys furry suits. It's just that the beard is situated right below my nose.

**Te Radar** (Andrew J Lumsden) bumbles along as satirist, documentary maker, writer, stage and screen director, and amateur historian.

He is best known to New Zealand audiences for his series of sustainability programmes, from OFF THE RADAR, where he was exiled to a paddock and surprised and disappointed many by not dying, to RADAR'S PATCH, and GLOBAL RADAR. He has just finished filming a series about the Pacific called RADAR'S PACIFIC.

Over the last few years Te Radar has also toured extensively throughout New Zealand with his acclaimed show EATING THE DOG, which celebrates his favourite New Zealanders past; the misfits, the failures, and those who died trying.

He enjoys craft beer and cooking meat.

Other than that he does very little.





## What is your favourite Roald Dahl book, and why?

'Charlie And The Chocolate Factory' evokes great memories of childhood.

#### What is the best thing about your character?

Being able to speak Dahl's wonderful descriptive words.

#### What is the worst thing about your character?

Being so close to the smelly Twits.

Andrew Grainger's career as an actor began in the 1980's. The much celebrated shows SOUTH PACIFIC, SEVEN BRIDES FOR SEVEN BROTHERS, all performed on London's West End, were amongst his first professional productions. For Auckland Theatre Company he appeared in CALENDAR GIRLS, MARY STUART, POOR BOY, AUGUST: OSAGE COUNTY, OLIVER! and LE SUD.

Originally from Britain, Andrew immigrated to New Zealand and has rapidly built up an impressive collection of credits, having appeared in local television programmes SHORTLAND STREET, OUTRAGEOUS FORTUNE, THE MILLION DOLLAR CON MAN, LIFE'S A RIOT and THE CULT. Highlights from the UK include roles in THE BILL, ROSEMARY AND THYME, HEARTBEAT, BAD GIRLS and EASTENDERS; appearing with footballer Vinnie Jones in the feature film MEAN MACHINE, and working alongside Robert Redford in SPY GAME.

Andrew has featured in Silo Theatre's productions of RUBEN GUTHRIE, THAT FACE and ASSASSINS.

## What is your favourite Roald Dahl book, and why?

I loved 'Danny, the Champion of the World'. We read it as a class when I was around seven by a substitute teacher, who I must have had a crush on. The pills in the raisins was genius!

#### What is the best thing about your character?

My Mugglewump's desire to jump high makes me very happy.

### What is the worst thing about your character?

Captivity. Anyone who believes The Sensible Sentencing Trust knows what's best for New Zealand should spend an hour in our cage.

Trained at UNITEC's School Of Performing and Screen Arts, **Kip Chapman**'s theatre work includes: ROMEO & JULIET, PLAY 2.03, THE TALENTED MR RIPLEY and EQUUS (Auckland Theatre Company), HAMLET (The Large Group), A CLOCKWORK ORANGE, THE GOAT OR WHO IS SYLVIA?, LOBBY HERO (Silo Theatre), THE LITTLE DOG LAUGHED and FLAGONS AND FOXTROTS (Downstage Theatre), THE AMERICAN PILOT (Circa Theatre) and THE GLASS MENAGERIE (Almost A Bird).

Kip is the co-creator of the award-winning APOLLO 13: MISSION CONTROL which has toured throughout New Zealand and Australia, including the Sydney Opera House. He co-wrote ADVANCE IN ORDER: THE AUCKLAND CITY COUNCIL FROM CENTENARY TO REORGANISATION 1971 - 1989 (which was workshopped by ATC in 2007).





## What is your favourite Roald Dahl book, and why?

Other than 'The Twits' (of course!), I think it would have to be 'The BFG'. I loved all the dream-stealing stuff and the chapter with the sleeping giants. His short stories are also amazing, and under-read. Oh, and of course 'George's Marvellous Medicine' was amazing. And 'The Witches'. And 'Boy / Going Solo' were awesome too... did I mention I'm a fan of Dahl?

### What is the best thing about your character?

Mister Mugglewump's absolute dedication to saving his family. It's a pretty admirable quality, I think!

## What is the worst thing about your character?

Well, he does get a little bit grumpy at times. I think it's a large primate thing, we're pretty quick to anger. And he's not happy about being in a cage and forced to do tricks.

#### Harry McNaughton last

appeared for Auckland Theatre Company in Tim Firth's CALENDAR GIRLS. Harry has been lucky enough to perform all over the place in a wide variety of roles. Highlights include THE GIANT FACE, HISTORY BOYS, BLACK ICE, TOYS, and an enjoyable if intense three years playing the beloved Gerald Tippett on SHORTLAND STREET. He has been particularly excited about the opportunity to don a monkey suit, even if it is going to be pretty smelly by the end of the season.



## What is your favourite Roald Dahl book, and why?

'The BFG'. Partly because it's my Dad's initials and because I really, really want to try frobscottle.

## What is the best thing about your character?

She is totally fearless.

#### What is the worst thing about your character?

She is hungry all the time which makes me hungry all the time.

A graduate of UNITEC School of Performing and Screen Arts, **Sarah** 

Graham last appeared for Auckland Theatre Company in Arthur Miller's THE CRUCIBLE. Since then, she has appeared in LADIES FOR HIRE (Centrepoint Theatre), THE SEX SHOW, THE SUBURBAN MURDER, LITTLE WHITE MEN, KING ARTHUR and THE K ROAD SHOW (The Outfit Theatre Company). Her film and television works include THANK GOD I'M AN ATHEIST, THE JONO PROJECT, and BLISS.

In preparation for this role Sarah watched as many YouTube videos of monkeys hanging out and doing tricks as possible, in between attempting hand stands against any wall available.

## What is your favourite Roald Dahl book, and why?

'The Witches'. Pretty scary, but yet oh so fascinating for a seven-year-old.

## What is the best thing about your character?

The tamarind based unitard with the furry bits. The Chewbacca boots are a dream come true.

### What is the worst thing about your character?

That monkey play time is mostly accepted at the theatre only.

This is **Sia Trokenheim**'s fifth appearance for Auckland Theatre Company following performances of CABARET, STEPPING OUT, OLIVER! and SWEET CHARITY. Sia's screen credits include: SIONE'S WEDDING 2: UNFINISHED BUSINESS, THIS IS NOT MY LIFE, SHORTLAND STREET, commercials, short films and HYUNDAI SPORTS CAFE.

Sia started acting in Stockholm. A graduate of UNITEC, other theatre appearances include: THE PRODUCERS, SKIN TIGHT, JANE EYRE, JACK AND THE BEANSTALK, HAMLET, THE LOVE OF THE NIGHTINGALE, BIG RIVER, JULIUS CAESAR and STOCKHOLMSBLOD (Stockholm Theatre Company).



## THE CREATIVES

**Author Roald Dahl** was a British novelist, short story writer, fighter pilot and screenwriter. Born in Llandaff, Cardiff, Wales, to Norwegian parents, he was a mischievous child, full of energy, and from an early age he proved himself skilled at finding trouble.

He served in the Royal Air Force during the Second World War, in which he became a flying ace and intelligence agent, rising to the rank of Wing Commander.

He rose to prominence in the 1940s with works for both children and adults, and became one of the world's bestselling authors. His short stories are known for their unexpected endings, and his children's books for their unsentimental, often very dark humour. Some of his better-known works include 'James And The Giant Peach', 'Charlie And The Chocolate Factory', 'Fantastic Mr Fox', 'Matilda', The Witches' and 'The Big Friendly Giant'.

Roald Dahl died in Oxford, England, on November 23, 1990.

Visit the official Roald Dahl website, which is packed with information and games as well as up-to-date news from the world of Roald Dahl, by clicking through to:

www.roalddahl.com





Adapter David Wood has been writing plays for children for over 40 years. He has adapted works for stage by distinguished children's authors Roald Dahl, Philippa Pearce and Dick King-Smith, including THE TWITS, THE BFG, THE WITCHES, TOM'S MIDNIGHT GARDEN and BABE, THE SHEEP-PIG.

He has also written a number of original fantasy-based original plays including THE

GINGERBREAD MAN, THE PAPERTOWN PAPERCHASE, HIJACK OVER HYGENIA and NUTCRACKER SWEET. Most recently, his plays have taken on conservation themes including: THE PLOTTERS OF CABBAGE PATCH CORNER, THE SELFISH SHELLFISH and THE SEE-SAW TREE.

For more information see the official website: www.davidwood.org.uk

**Director Alison Quigan**'s theatrical experience spans over 30 years. In that time she has acted in and directed over 100 plays, as well as writing 12 original works and was the Artistic Director of Centrepoint Theatre, in Palmerston North 1987 - 2004.

Alison is also well known for her work on SHORTLAND STREET where she played Yvonne Jeffries from 2004 to 2010. In 2001 Alison was awarded a Queen's Service Medal for Services to the Theatre.

In 2011, she performed in CALENDAR GIRLS and CINDERELLA at the Civic and CONJUGAL RITES at Centrepoint Theatre. Favourite roles include: Shirley Valentine, Lady Macbeth in MACBETH, Cathy in MUM'S CHOIR, and as Mattie Fae in AUGUST: OSAGE COUNTY for Auckland Theatre Company in 2010.

Favourite productions include OTHELLO, HAMLET, MACBETH, ROMEO & JULIET, PACK OF GIRLS, MUM'S CHOIR, WHO WANTS TO BE 100? and recently KING ARTHUR for The Outfit Theatre Company at TAPAC.



Brad Gledhill designs and creates Light, Sound and Video Imagery for Theatre and Events for his new company, All Stages Creative, working with the likes of Auckland Theatre Company, A Nightsong Productions, Theatre Stampede, Charles Koroneho, Silo Theatre, TAPAC, Tempo, Mary Jane O'Reilly, The Outfit Theatre Company, Starboy Music and Spotlight Systems.

Auckland Theatre Company productions of RED, CALENDAR GIRLS, WELL HUNG, STEPPING OUT, THE WIFE WHO SPOKE JAPANESE IN HER SLEEP, THE THIRTY-NINE STEPS, YOUNG & HUNGRY FESTIVAL 09/10, WHO NEEDS SLEEP ANYWAY?, THE FEMALE OF THE SPECIES, DESIGN FOR LIVING, MY NAME IS GARY COOPER, THE TUTOR, THE SHAPE OF THINGS, THE TALENTED MR RIPLEY, PLAY 2 & PLAY 2.03.

Other designs highlights include 360 for the Wellington International Arts Festival and HEAD (AK07 + Wellington Season), TARTUFFE (Silo), BODY FIGHT TIME (Malia

Johnston), TEMPO DANCE FESTIVAL 2011, IN FLAGRANTE (Mary Jane O'Reilly), Wet Hot Beauties production of SIRENS, the Outfits KING ARTHUR BOY'S LIFE, SEX SHOW and LITTLE WHITE MEN. Tim Bray Productions THE LIGHTHOUSE KEEPERS LUNCH. THE LIFE BETWEEN US (United 21 Years Celebration) LIVING ROOM 2010 (Charles Koroneho & Lilibeth Cuenca Rasmussen). THE LOVER, SEXY RECESSION CABERET (TAPAC), PRIME CUTS 09 and 10 as well as Fresh Cuts 10 and Y chromosome 10 for Tempo, THE CUT (Silo), ALADDIN (AK03), MEASURE FOR MEASURE (Unitec), MINIATURES (Malia Johnston), LASHINGS OF WHIPPED CREAM, KNOCK KNOCK TURN (Chris Jannides), CORAM BOY (Unitec) and Theatre/Dance works created for United by Malia Johnston, Shona McCullough, Michael Parmenter, Michael Hurst, Leo Gene Peters, Cathy Downes, Black Grace, Simon Ellis, Daniel Belton, Raewyn Hill, Katie Burton and Chris Jannides.

Tracey Collins has been designing stage sets and costumes for theatre and live event companies for over 20 years. Favourite productions include HORSEPLAY for Auckland Theatre Company, THE HOLY SINNER, THIS IS IT and SPECTACLE OF ONE (Inside Out Productions) and LOUIS VUITTON CUP party events.

For the NZ Actors Company, she designed costumes for MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM, A WAY OF LIFE and LEAH. Other set and costume designs include VIVA VERDI (NBR NZ Opera), ASSASSINS THE MUSICAL, INTO THE WOODS, THE HUNGRY CITY and PINOCCHIO (Watershed Company), Massive Company's ALICE IN CYBERSPACE, STILL SPEEDING, 100 COUSINS, WHERO'S NEW

NET and SONS OF CHARLIE PAORA (which toured to the Royal Court Theatre in London).

Tracey's repertoire also includes seven years of design for film and television. In 2007, she received a NZ Screen Award for Best Contribution to Design for MADDIGAN'S QUEST and Best Production Design for A PIECE OF MY HEART. Recently she won the AFTA 2011 Best Production Design for the television series THIS IS NOT MY LIFE. Other productions include DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY, and the television features BLISS, BILLY and WAITANGI - WHAT REALLY HAPPENED, and recently the feature film SIONE'S WEDDING 2: UNFINISHED BUSINESS, which will premiere in cinemas January 2012. Tracey has also created set decorations for feature films THE LION THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE and PRINCE CASPIAN.





Jason Te Mete, originally from
Tauranga, comes from a musical family
where he was encouraged to learn classical
piano from an early age. He enhanced his
musicianship through studying at Victoria
University of Wellington before moving to
Auckland in 2002 where he works as a
freelance actor, director, vocal coach, musical
director and pianist.

Jason directed the National Youth Theatre Company (NYTC) productions of GREASE and ALICE IN WONDERLAND, THE RAFT (Howick Little Theatre) and LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS (Parnell College). He has musically directed BLOOD BROTHERS (with Annie Whittle & Ray Woolf), CABARET, HAIR, BYE BYE BIRDIE, HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL.

THE WIZ and BUGSY MALONE.

On stage he has performed in STEPPING OUT (Auckland Theatre Company), ANYTHING GOES and LA CAGE AUX FOLLES (The Court Theatre), THE CONSUL (Opera Factory), KING & COUNTRY (Howick Little Theatre), RENT (for which he won the NAPTA Award for Best Supporting Male in a Musical), RAGTIME, WEST SIDE STORY and THE SECRET GARDEN. He also works with the Southern Stars Charitable Trust composing songs and background music for children's theatre (in which all proceeds go to children's charities). His television work includes KAITANGATA TWITCH, based on the novel by Margaret Mahy.





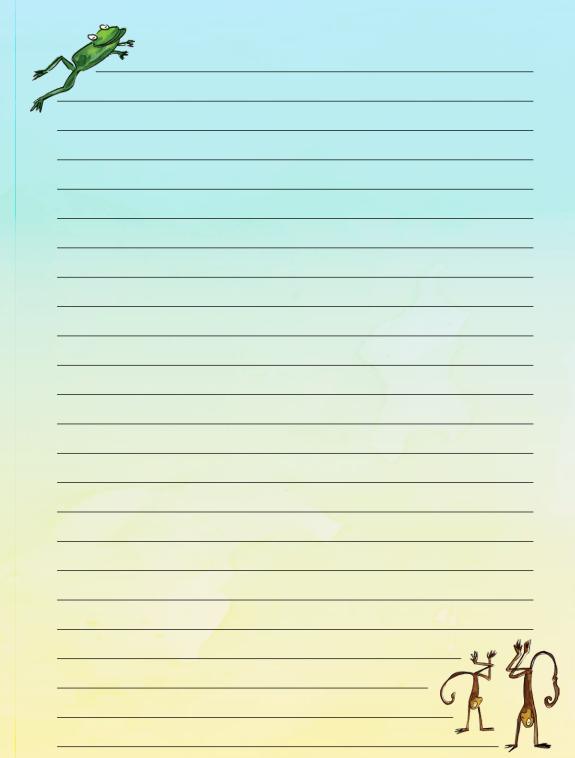
# WRITE YOUR OWN TWIT-TASTIC TALE

See how many of these words you can use in your Twits Christmas adventure.

presents	smelly	mugglewump monkeys
naughty	nice	worms
reindeer	santa	christmas tree
dirty	hairy	beard
stockings	frogs	christmas carols
candy cane	BBQ	sizzling sausages
upside down	cranky	spaghetti

## MR AND MRS TWIT'S CHRISTMAS

By	





# THE TWITS COLOURING-IN COMPETITION GALLERY



Thanks to everyone who sent us their amazing entries. The colour-in fun doesn't have to stop just because the competition is over, you can still download the picture to colour-in and keep, from www.atc.co.nz

# DRAW YOUR FAVOURITE SCENE OR CHARACTER FROM THE PLAY



## WHICH WORD IS WHERE?

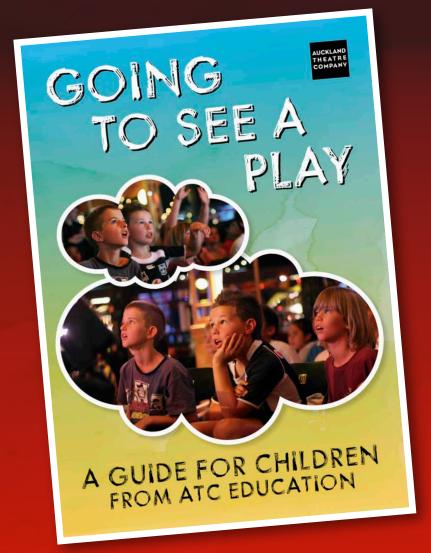
Find the 15 theatre words hiding in the grid below!

D	P	X	G	S	F	P	J	S	A	Е	K
I	G	C	R	T	Y	R	A	T	U	D	L
A	S	R	S	A	S	О	U	N	D	О	F
L	C	S	Е	G	T	P	W	K	I	L	U
О	R	Н	T	Е	G	S	A	Q	T	I	N
G	I	D	A	M	N	X	J	U	О	G	S
U	P	Е	N	R	V	R	W	P	R	Н	T
Е	T	Q	U	F	A	P	O	Е	I	T	О
Z	A	P	L	A	Y	C	В	О	U	S	X
A	C	M	R	C	О	S	T	U	M	Е	V
I	T	L	W	K	Z	Y	R	Е	V	M	U
В	O	X	О	F	F	I	C	Е	R	Y	Н
T	R	G	O	P	Е	R	A	T	O	R	J

PROPS	OPERATOR	CHARACTER
STAGE	GREEN ROOM	LIGHTS
ACTOR	AUDITORIUM	SOUND
COSTUME	PLAY	BOX OFFICE
SET	SCRIPT	DIALOGUE

## GOING TO SEE A PLAY

GOING TO SEE A PLAY is a guide to theatre-going aimed at children aged from 6 to 10 years. Whether they're five, fifteen or twenty-five we want to see young audiences spellbound. ATC Education works with schools, teachers and leading and emerging theatre-makers to spark a passion for theatre that will last a lifetime.



Download your copy of GOING TO SEE A PLAY from www.atc.co.nz

## WHAT'S ON IN THEATRES AROUND THE COUNTRY?

#### **AUCKLAND THEATRE COMPANY** THE MOTOR CAMP

By Dave Armstrong 9 Feb - 3 March 2012



Two couples. Two caravans. Two teenagers. Frank Redmond, a left-wing literacy lecturer, subjects his long-suffering wife and daughter to a run-in with their garrulous camp neighbours: Mike Hislop, a redneck builder, his socialclimbing partner Dawn Tairoa and her hormonally charged son, Jarod.

#### **CENTREPOINT THEATRE**

Palmerston North

HITS OF '83

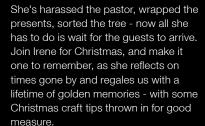
By Lucy Schmidt and Stayci Taylor 5 Nov - 17 Dec



Join the Gristle Wilson High School reunion to discover who turned out successful, fat, gay, divorced... as they reminisce about the glory days of Palmy's Skateworld in 1983. The talented cast play both the reuniting friends and their 14-year-old selves, along with countless other cameos including; teachers, bullies and spouses. All this while roller skating and singing your favourite anthems from '83 including: Come On Eileen, Total Eclipse Of The Heart and Should I Stay Or Should I Go.

#### **BATS THEATRE** Wellington **SILENT NIGHT**





#### **DOWNSTAGE THEATRE**

Wellington

**RAYBON KAN IN CLEAR & PRESENT MANGER** 

6 – 11 Dec

It's Xmas, so join Raybon Kan on the highway to the Manger Zone! Relish the thrill of living mangerously! Raybon crucifies Xmas, skewers Santa, and cluster-mulches vacant-eyed reindeer into delicious dim sum of red-nosed venison. It's commercial, it's sacred -- how much more do you need?

#### **CIRCA THEATRE**

Wellington

#### **ROGER HALL'S ALADDIN**

By Roger Hall

19 Nov - 23 Dec



A brand new production of Roger Hall's marvellous pantomime, ALADDIN, starring the world's best-known Pantomime Dame - Widow Twankey - who with her son, Aladdin, runs a laundry. With its evil villain, the wicked Abanazar, magic lamp, cave filled with gold and jewels, miraculous Genie, hilarious laundry assistants Hankey and Pankey, lovelorn Grand Vizier and a happy-everafter ending.

#### **COURT THEATRE**

Christchurch

#### A SHORTCUT TO HAPPINESS

By Roger Hall

10 Dec - 28 Jan 2012



"There are shortcuts to happiness, and dancing is one of them." So is Roger Hall's latest play about the lives, loves and misadventures of the members of a folk-dancing class.

Natasha is a Russian immigrant who teaches the class as a way to improve her English and meet new people. Among her students are two ladies on the prowl, a hen-pecked husband and a smooth-talking Romeo who is more than he seems...

#### **FORTUNE THEATRE**

Dunedin

#### A SHORTCUT TO HAPPINESS

By Roger Hall

18 Nov – 17 Dec

This is not Dancing with the Stars territory but folk dancing, with its infectious music, engaging rhythms and formation patterns. The beautiful Natasha, a recent immigrant from Russia, teaches such a class in order to supplement her income, meet Kiwis, and improve her English. Those who turn up to learn are the desperately-seeking Coral, golfing friends Laura and Janet, recently widowed Ned, U3A know-it-all Bev, and hen-pecked husband, Ray.

To find out what else is going on in Auckland be sure to read the latest copy of



#### **PRODUCTION SUPPLIERS:**



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#### **AUCKLAND THEATRE COMPANY**

 ${\sf ARTISTIC\,DIRECTOR-Colin\,McColl}$ 

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CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT & EDUCATION MANAGER - Lynne Cardy

LITERARY MANAGER - Philippa Campbell

YOUTH ARTS CO-ORDINATOR - Amber McWilliams

PARTICIPATION CO-ORDINATOR - Amo leriko

PRODUCTION MANAGER - Paul Towson

SENIOR STAGE MANAGER - Fern Christie

TECHNICAL MANAGER - Paul Nicoll

MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER - Michael Adams

MARKETING ASSISTANT - Laura Jones

TICKETING & SALES MANAGER - Anna Nuria Francino

TICKETING & SALES REP - Sophie Nichols

DEVELOPMENT MANAGER - Linden Tierney

DEVELOPMENT CO-ORDINATOR - Sarah Nutbrown

BUSINESS MANAGER - Kathy Russell

FINANCE OFFICER - Kerry Tomlin

RECEPTIONIST - Sue East

#### **AUCKLAND THEATRE COMPANY BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Gordon Moller ONZM (Chair), Karen Fistonich, Ross Green, Anne Hinton QC, Dayle Mace MNZM, Scott Kerse, Patricia Watson

Peter and Sally Jackson

Ross and Paulette Laidlaw

Hillary Liddell and Andrew

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Evan and Katie Williams

Sir James Wallace

Mike Smith and Dale D'Rose

Simon Vannini and Anita Killeen

Maria Renhart

Lady Tait

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AUCKLAND THEATRE COMPANY For more information about how you can support Auckland Theatre Company visit www.atc.co.nz/Partnerships or call, Linden Tierney 09 309 0390 ext. 272

#### ATC 2011 SUPPORTING ACTS

#### Our Standing Ovation Supporters

Betsy and Michael Benjamin Jenny Smith

#### Our Curtain Call Supporters

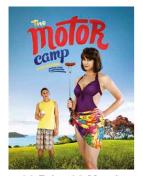
Rob Nicoll
Sandy Bulmer
Christine Campbell
Brian Keene
Brenda Levinsohn

#### Our Take A Bow Supporters

Norma Journeaux
Pip Meadowcroft
Heather Simpson
Rosemary Langham
Ewan and Jenny Price
Ted van Arkel
Sandra Greenfield
Jeff Mauk
John and Barbara Lindsay
John Salmon and Susan Adams

Richard and Shane Compton

## **SUBSCRIBE AND SAVE!**



09 Feb - 03 March Maidment Theatre



15 March - 07 April Maidment Theatre



03 May - 26 May Maidment Theatre



07 June - 07 July Skycity Theatre



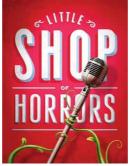
28 June - 22 July Herald Theatre



19 July - 11 August Maidment Theatre



13 September - 06 October Maidment Theatre



01 November - 25 November