

ENCHANTMENT THEATRE COMPANY

Igniting Children's Imaginations Everywhere!

PETER RABBIT™ TALES

based on *The Original Peter Rabbit Books*
by Beatrix Potter



By arrangement with
F. Warne and Co., 2015



BIOGRAPHIES

2016-17 Cast & Crew



Katie Adkins (Ensemble) is a 2015 graduate of Temple University in Philadelphia, PA with a B.F.A. in Dance Education. She performed in numerous works with the dance department including the work of Andrea Miller's, *Wonderland*, and was a company member with female tap ensemble *The Lady Hoofers*. Special thanks to Merián Soto, Kun-Yang Lin and the rest of Temple's esteemed faculty for all of their knowledge and wisdom - and not to be forgotten is Ms. Charlotte Hafer. Thank you to Enchantment Theatre Company for the opportunity to hop across the country.



Trevor Cahill (Ensemble, Touring Company Co-Manager) is thrilled to return to Enchantment's production of *Peter Rabbit™ Tales!* After touring the eastern US and delighting audiences with this fun story, Trevor is eager to bring the show to viewers all over the country. As a Philadelphia-based actor, Trevor has worked on numerous productions, but none quite as magical as this! Regional: *The Rocky Horror Show Live!* (BrainSpunk Theater), *One Evening at St. Lucia's* (Luke Allen Productions), *Till Divorce Do Us Part* (Society Hill Playhouse) and *Tony 'N' Tina's Wedding* (Count Basie Theater). A tremendous thanks to all who have contributed to this incredible journey!



Erin Carney (Ensemble, Touring Company Co-Manager) has been a proud member of Enchantment Theatre Company since 2014. She is a founding performer of their *Enchantment Everywhere* outreach tours, and was on their 2014-2015 national tour of *The Adventures of Harold and the Purple Crayon*. Erin got her BFA in Theatre and has studied classical acting and multi-disciplinary performance in Philadelphia, London, and Liverpool. She is a 2013 alumni of the Headlong Performance Institute, has performed in various productions in the Philadelphia Fringe Festival since 2009, the Philadelphia International Festival of the Arts since 2013, and recently premiered her own work in the Philadelphia Solow Festival in 2016. She is grateful to be able to share stories and would like to thank Enchantment for so many opportunities to play.



Bob McMahon (Ensemble) is thrilled to be making his Enchantment Theatre debut with *Peter Rabbit™ Tales*, as well as embarking on his first national tour! Bob holds a B.F.A in Musical Theatre from The University of the Arts. A Philadelphia based actor, he was most recently seen in the award winning production of *Liberty to Go to See* (New Freedom Theatre) and *Mauritius* (Stagecrafters Theatre). It is his distinguished pleasure to be working with such wonderful and talented artists on this production, as well as sharing this timeless story with you! bobmcmahonjr.com

Peter Rabbit™ Tales

Story Adapted by Jennifer Blatchley Smith, Leslie Reidel and Landis Smith

Music by Charles Gilbert

Based on The Original Peter Rabbit Books™ by Beatrix Potter

By arrangement with Frederick Warne & Co Limited,
A Penguin Books Limited company

Cast & Crew Cont.



Patrick Murray (Ensemble) is thrilled to take the Peter Rabbit's story on the road with Enchantment Theatre Company! A graduate of Temple University's musical theater and acting program, he has worked in and around Philadelphia as an actor, teaching artist, and choreographer. Recent credits include *Sister Act* (Walnut Street Theatre), Mary Zimmerman's adaptation of Homer's *Odyssey*, *Anything Goes* (Temple University), and he recently made his directorial debut with Center Stage Productions and a cast of thirty awesome children with Pasek and Paul's *James and the Giant Peach Jr.* Many thanks to ETC for this awesome opportunity and to his family, friends, and teachers for inspiring and fueling his journey as a citizen artist.



Arielle Pina (Peter Rabbit) is a Philadelphia-based artist hailing from Boston, MA. She explores topics of equality with collaborators of many disciplines to create a cohesive, diverse body of work. She received her Bachelor of Fine Arts from The University of the Arts, and received The Nadia Chilkousky Nahumck Award for Creativity and Dance-Making. She also attended the Headlong Performance Institute, a post baccalaureate in hybrid performance. Since graduating, she has shared her work at dance venues and film festivals in New York, Philadelphia, Boston, San Francisco, Belgium and Paris. She is excited to be joining *Peter Rabbit™ Tales*, a story she has cherished since she was a toddler.

Logan Foy (Not pictured. Touring Technical Director) couldn't be happier to be a part of this theatrical experience. He is a 2012 graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi. Most recently, he held the post of Master Electrician and Lighting Designer for Creede Repertory Theatre in Creede, Colorado. His most recent lighting designs include *Rodeo & Juliet*, *Reading! and Other Superpowers* (Creede Repertory Theater), and *An Enemy of the People* (Center Stage Theater). He has also been fortunate enough to work with some amazing musical artists such as Doc Severinsen, Wynton Marsalis, Marty Stuart, and Arturo Sandoval amongst many others. He'd like to thank his parents for always believing in him in everything he does.

Staff & Collaborators

Charles Gilbert (Music) is Composer-in-Residence for Enchantment Theatre Company. This is the sixth ETC production he has composed; previous works include *Harold and the Purple Crayon*, *Sylvester and the Magic Pebble* and, most recently, *The Brave Little Tailor* and *The Beast in the Bayou*. A multi-faceted composer, writer, director and educator, Charlie was the Director of the Ira Brind School of Theater Arts at The University of the Arts in Philadelphia from 2008 to 2013, a position to which he was appointed after founding and successfully heading the UArts Musical Theater Program for nearly 20 years. He wrote music and lyrics for *Gemini the Musical*, earning a Barrymore nomination for Outstanding Original Music; it premiered in New York at NYMF in 2007. *Leading Lady*, created with playwright P. Seth Bauer, is the most recent of Charlie's works for the musical stage. Other musicals include *A Tiny Miracle*, *Watch The Birdie*, *Realities*, *Goosefeathers* and *A Is For Anything*. His 1979 musical *Assassins* was the source of the idea for the Tony Award-winning musical of the same name by Stephen Sondheim and John Weidman. Learn and hear more at www.chasgilbert.com. Charlie gratefully acknowledges the musicians who contributed to *Peter Rabbit™ Tales*: Harvey Price (percussion and contractor), Christopher Farrell (guitar), Douglas Mapp (bass), Jeffrey O'Donnell (oboe), Karen Schubert (horn), Ed Schultz (flute), Jon Shaw (trumpet) and Jim Hamilton of Rittenhouse Soundworks.

Scott McPheeters (Choreographer) graduated from Dickinson College in 2005 with a B.A. in Theatre Arts and has worked as a freelance performer/choreographer in Philadelphia ever since. He is a co-director of Subcircle, a multimedia dance collective, and performs with the Nichole Canuso Dance Company and Bearded Ladies Cabaret. Performance credits with Enchantment Theatre include *Pinocchio*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *The Snow Queen*, *Sorcerer's Apprentice* and *Cinderella*. In addition to *Peter Rabbit™ Tales*, he has choreographed Enchantment's productions of *Aladdin and Other Enchanting Tales*, *The Fisherman and the Flounder*, *The Brave Little Tailor* and *The Beast in the Bayou*. Independently, his choreography has been performed as a part of the Philadelphia Fringe Festival and the SoLow Festival.

Staff & Collaborators Cont.

David O'Connor (Lighting Designer) is a Philadelphia director, designer and teacher. He has directed or designed at the Arden, Hedgerow, Act II Playhouse and Delaware Theatre Company, among others. He was nominated for Barrymore Awards for his lighting design of *Skylight* and his direction of "*Master Harold*"...and the boys, both at Lantern Theater Company. David is a Resident Director for Philadelphia Young Playwrights and an adjunct at Temple University and University of Pennsylvania.

Leslie Reidel (Artistic Director, Resident Director) has dedicated the last 30 years of his professional life to the preservation of classical theatre and the development of theatre for young audiences. He holds a bachelor's degree from Muhlenberg College and a M.F.A. from Temple University. He served as a member of the M.F.A. faculty at Temple University and was a founding member of the Professional Theatre Training Program at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and the University of Delaware. His directorial credits include The Walnut Street Theatre, Milwaukee Repertory Theatre, the Madison Civic Rep, the Pennsylvania, Utah, Colorado and Fort Worth Shakespeare Festivals and 12 years as the resident director of the Great American Children's Theatre. His most recent creations with Enchantment Theatre Company are Ravel's *Mother Goose* and *Aladdin and Other Enchanting Tales*. Other productions include the recent *The Flounder and the Fisherman* and *The Brave Little Tailor*, as well as *Sylvester and the Magic Pebble*, *The Adventures of Harold and the Purple Crayon*, *Scheherazade*, and *The Velveteen Rabbit*. Leslie is Professor of Theatre at the University of Delaware and a director for the Resident Ensemble Players in Newark, DE, where his recent projects have included Shakespeare's *Macbeth*, Pinter's *The Homecoming* and McPherson's *The Weir*. In the fall of 2011 he directed a critically acclaimed production of Lillian Hellman's *The Little Foxes*. Leslie is also a frequent guest lecturer on "Acting Shakespeare" and is a member of The International Shakespeare Conference, located in Stratford-upon-Avon.

David Russell (Production Designer) David's varied career includes costume and scenic design, costume and property crafts, event design, project management and teaching. He is currently Assistant Professor of Scenic Design at Ohio University School of Theater. He served as Head of the Costume Crafts Technology Program and instructor of Costume Design at Ohio University from 2003 through 2010. David has been Production Designer for Enchantment Theatre Company for 12 years and has been responsible for the costumes, puppets and scenic designs for *Mother Goose*, which premiered with the Montréal Symphony; *Scheherazade*, and *The Firebird*. He also designed national tours of *The Velveteen Rabbit* and *Pinocchio*. David has designed numerous productions with the REP/PTTP Company at the University of Delaware, including set designs for *Macbeth*, *Angels in America*; *Hayfever*; *Travesties*; *Ah, Wilderness!* and *The Mousetrap*, for which he also designed the costumes, and costume designs for *The Importance of Being Earnest* and *Tartuffe*. Other costume design work includes *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Julius Caesar* and *The Tempest* at the Shakespeare Theater of New Jersey. In addition to his design work, David has been on staff at The Santa Fe Opera for 18 years, where he has served as the Master Craftsperson in the prop shop. David received his B.F.A. from Ohio University School of Theater and his M.F.A. from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts. Website: cdavidrusselldesign.com

Jennifer Blatchley Smith (Artistic Director, Literary and Education) studied writing and theater at Bennington College. For the last 30 years, she has co-created and performed in over 20 original productions presented around the United States and abroad. As a founding member of Enchantment Theatre Company, Jennifer created roles as diverse as the Broom in *The Sorcerer's Apprentice* and Beauty in *Beauty and the Beast*. She performed in Enchantment productions at Lincoln Center and the Brooklyn Academy of Music in New York; the John F. Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C.; and the Annenberg Center, the Kimmel Center, and the Academy of Music in Philadelphia. She has traveled to Asia six times with Enchantment productions. Her most recent roles have been in Enchantment's newest symphony production, *Mother Goose*, as well as *The Firebird* and *Scheherazade*. Her recent co-creations with Enchantment's artistic team are *Aladdin and Other Enchanting Tales*, *Sylvester and the Magic Pebble*, *The Adventures of Harold and the Purple Crayon*, *Scheherazade*, and *The Velveteen Rabbit*. She is a co-creator of Enchantment's newest program, Enchantment Everywhere, which brings high quality, portable productions into schools and community venues in the Greater Philadelphia Area. Recent Enchantment Everywhere productions are *The Fisherman and the Flounder*, *The Brave Little Tailor* and *The Beast in the Bayou*.

Staff & Collaborators Cont.

Landis Smith (Artistic Director, Production) studied theater with Jewel Walker at Carnegie-Mellon and with Jacobina Caro at Webster University Conservatory in St. Louis. He began performing magic at the age of six and studied violin and voice beginning at the age of nine. His love of theater, music and the art of illusion led to the founding of Enchantment Theatre Company in 1979. As a founder and performer with Enchantment, Landis has created, produced and performed in productions in America and in the Far East. In 1985, Landis and Enchantment collaborated with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra to premiere *The Symphony and the Sorcerer*, the first of a series of programs introducing young people to the magic of symphonic music. Since then, Landis has appeared with major orchestras nationwide, including the premiere of Enchantment's theatrical adaptation of Rimsky-Korsakov's *Scheherazade* with The Cleveland Orchestra in 2008. Landis appeared with the Boston Pops on their annual holiday PBS television special, which aired for five years. He has performed in Enchantment symphonic productions of *The Firebird*, *Cinderella*, *The Sorcerer's Apprentice* and *Mother Goose* with the Philadelphia, Baltimore, Atlanta, Montreal and Seattle symphonies, among others. Landis collaborated in the creation of Enchantment's most recent national touring productions of *Aladdin and Other Enchanting Tales*, *Sylvester and the Magic Pebble*, *The Adventures of Harold and the Purple Crayon* and *The Velveteen Rabbit*. He toured in the Far East six times with Enchantment, performing in Taiwan, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Indonesia and Singapore. Landis is a co-creator of Enchantment's newest program, Enchantment Everywhere, which brings professional, portable productions to students and family audiences around the Greater Philadelphia area. Recent Enchantment Everywhere productions include *The Fisherman and the Flounder*, *The Brave Little Tailor* and *The Beast in the Bayou*. Landis has been an adjunct professor of theater at Muhlenberg College since 2012.

Susan Sweeney (Narrator) has been a Voice/Speech/Text/Dialects Coach to professional theatres for the past thirty-five years, among them the Guthrie Theatre, Milwaukee Repertory Theatre, Madison Repertory Theatre, Skylight Opera Theatre, Philadelphia Drama Guild, Walnut Street Theatre, Baltimore Center Stage, Virginia Stage Company, and the Colorado, Illinois, Utah, Sedona and Oregon Shakespeare Festivals. In 2006, she was dialect coach for Francesca Zambello's production of *Show Boat*, which featured a cast of 85 singer-actors, at the Royal Albert Hall in London. From 2001 until 2013, Susan served as Head of Voice and Text, coaching more than 40 productions, at American Players Theatre. She was on the faculty of the Professional Theatre Training Program at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee from 1981-1989, and then moved with the program to University of Delaware, where she taught until joining the faculty of the Department of Theatre and Drama at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2003. She is now a UW-Madison Professor emerita. Susan has acted and sung for many years at such theatres as the Utah Shakespearean Festival, Dallas Theatre Center, Cleveland's Great Lakes Theatre, Milwaukee Chamber Theatre, the International Classical Theatre and the Skylight Theatre, playing such roles as Mrs. Lovett in *Sweeney Todd*, Eliza Doolittle in *My Fair Lady*, Grace in *Faith Healer*, Martha in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf*, Paulina in *Death and the Maiden*, Goneril in *King Lear*, Linda Loman in *Death of a Salesman*, Mother Courage in *Mother Courage* and in several rounds of *Love Letters* with husband William Leach and Daniel J. Travanti. She played Madame Arcati in *Blithe Spirit* at American Players Theatre in 2011, Dottie in Forward Theatre's *Good People* in 2013 and Jesse 2 in Next Act Theatre's 2014 production of *Three Views of the Same Object*. Susan's recorded voice is heard as the Story Lady and all character voices in *Cinderella*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *The Snow Queen*, *Pinocchio*, *Sylvester and the Magic Pebble* and *The Velveteen Rabbit* on all national tours and resident Philadelphia runs for Enchantment Theatre Company. She is a voice-over artist, a regular voice on Wisconsin Public Radio's "Chapter a Day", and also a consultant to various professional voice users, including clergy, politicians, teachers, motivational speakers and toastmasters.