

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



ABOUT ENCHANTMENT

Enchantment Theatre Company

Enchantment Theatre Company is a non-profit arts organization, headquartered in Philadelphia. For more than 30 years, we have been guided by our mission: *to create original theater for young audiences and families that inspires, educates and stimulates the creative spirit of children, onstage and in the classroom.* Unique among Philadelphia arts organizations, Enchantment exists for young audiences - all of our resources are focused on children and everything we do honors, respects and nurtures their development and imaginations. We believe that quality theater can do more than just entertain. It can offer young audiences a real aesthetic experience that awakens in them feelings of wonder, empathy and joy. It can raise their aspirations as well as change the way they look at themselves and their futures. We accomplish this by drawing on great theatrical traditions from around the world - from the Bunraku theater of Japan, to the shadow puppets of Indonesia, from Italy's commedia dell'arte to French mime and mask theater. We weave these elements together in compelling productions of beauty and wonder that inspire children to discover and explore the depths of their imaginations. We employ a unique combination of art forms to tell our stories: masked actors, magic and illusion, puppets (often life-sized) and mime, all set to classical or original music. Enchantment offers a diversity of theater-related programs to fulfill its mission. Each year, we make every effort to:

- **Conduct national/international tours**—Each year, Enchantment takes one of its major works on the road to reach school groups and families well beyond Philadelphia. These tours generally cover 30-40 states where audiences on average of 100,000 people see our shows. The presentation venues comprise a great variety of performance spaces, from a huge tent in eastern North Carolina to sophisticated theaters like Lincoln Center in New York or the Kennedy Center in Washington. The Company also has toured Canada and in the Far East six times.
- **Perform with symphony orchestras**—Enchantment provides a unique front-of-the-orchestra theatrical event that enlivens and enriches symphonic concerts for young people. Performing right on stage with the orchestra, we help tell the story of the music and captivate the attention of young audiences. We have performed with more than 65 symphony orchestras nationwide and in Canada, including The Philadelphia Orchestra, The Cleveland Orchestra, Montreal Symphony Orchestra, Seattle Symphony Orchestra, and orchestras in Baltimore, Houston, and Atlanta.
- **Present a major work at the holiday season**—In December of each year we like to stage a major production for our Philadelphia audience. These are either brand-new works or shows drawn from our repertoire. In either case, the shows are completely original. Recent examples include *Aladdin and Other Enchanting Tales*, *The Adventures of Harold and the Purple Crayon*, *Cinderella*, *The Velveteen Rabbit*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Pinocchio*, and *The Snow Queen*. Every effort is made to reach the most underserved children and schools.
- **Tour throughout the Philadelphia region** - In spring of 2014, Enchantment launched its new arts access initiative, *Enchantment Everywhere*. These imaginative, professional, portable productions travel to schools, arts venues, parks, and retirement communities, literally anywhere there is a community of families and children. *Enchantment Everywhere* productions ensure that children and families within the region have access to high-quality theatrical productions, regardless of their ability to pay. In 2015, we toured two classic tales inspired by the Brothers Grimm in to 45 schools and reached nearly 20,000 children across the Philadelphia region.
- **Offer In-school Arts Education programs**— Enchantment has offered artist residencies in under-resourced Philadelphia schools and schools with special needs since 2001. Our in-school Arts Residency programs capture and spark children's creativity like no other residency can do. By using the body as primary tool for communication, we engage the body, mind and imagination and encourage social, collaborative and group focused work.

Peter Rabbit™ Tales

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

Music by Charles Gilbert

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