

GRAND ONSTAGE
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Season
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BILLY GOATS GRUFF AND OTHER TALES

PRODUCED BY MERMAID
THEATRE OF NOVA SCOTIA



BILLY GOATS GRUFF AND OTHER TALES



Produced by Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia

Written by Danny Everson

Inspired by the classic folktales: Goldilocks and the Three Bears, The Three Little Pigs, and The Three Billy Goats Gruff

Creative Team:

Director, Set and Puppet Design: *Jim Morrow*

Writer & Creative Producer: *Danny Everson*

Music Composer: *Chris Luedecke*

Sound Engineer and Soundscape Designer:

Joshua Van Tassel

Lighting Designer: *Ryan Wilcox*

Character Designer: *Kate Church*

Production Manager, Associate Designer & Director:

Struan Robertson

Puppet Sculptor and Builder: *Cassie Seaboyer*

Seamstress and Puppet Set Builder:

Michelle Warren

Technical Artist: *Alexandra Cubbon*

Technical Artist: *Sasha Postma*

Painter and Production Assistant: *Brenda Duran*

Production Assistant: *Sarah Haydon Roy*

Production Assistant: *Charles Ford*

Production Assistant: *Alex Esperanza*

Production Assistant: *Julia Sommerville*



Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia's newest production, Billy Goats Gruff and Other Tales, presents a fresh and engaging reimagining of three cherished children's stories—Goldilocks and the Three Bears, The Three Little Pigs, and The Three Billy Goats Gruff.

Filled with adventure, humor, and heroism, the story follows a brave raccoon and clever mouse who are on a journey to collect treasure. Along the way, they unknowingly help the goats, bears, and pigs, preventing disaster—without any of the animals ever encountering a true villain. This imaginative retelling seamlessly interweaves three classic tales into a heartwarming adventure that celebrates friendship and courage.

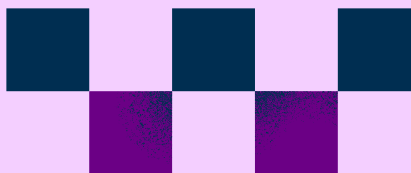
Designed for children ages 3 to 7, Mermaid Theatre's latest production offers a captivating performance, laughter, and wonder for young audiences.



ABOUT THE DIRECTOR, SET & PUPPET DESIGNER

Jim Morrow

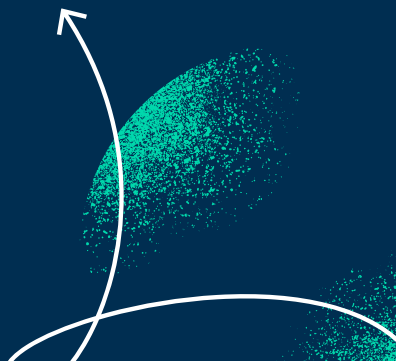
(he/him) is Mermaid Theatre's Artistic Director as well as a performer, designer, teacher, mentor and creator of many of Mermaid's celebrated productions including: It's OK To Be Different; The Rainbow Fish; Goodnight Moon & The Runaway Bunny; Brown Bear Brown Bear, What Do You See; Guess How Much I Love You & I Love My Little Storybook; and the award-winning productions of Swimmy, Frederick & Inch by Inch and The Very Hungry Caterpillar & Other Eric Carle Favourites. Jim's contributions to the community, both as artist and mentor, have earned him the Nova Scotia government's highest award for artistic achievement, the Portia White Award; a Doctor of Humanities from his Alma Mater, Acadia University; the Order of Nova Scotia; and the International Performing Arts for Youth's, Mickey Minor Award. Jim was born in Grand Falls, Newfoundland, and lives in Lower Avonport, Nova Scotia.



ABOUT THE WRITER & CREATIVE PRODUCER:

Danny Everson

holds a Master of Fine Arts in Producing from the California Institute of the Arts (CalArts) and a Bachelor of Arts in Music from the University of Tampa. With a career spanning nearly a decade in the Theatre for Young Audience sector, Everson has served as both an arts executive and a creative producer. Additionally, he has written more than 60 episodes of television and film content for children and young audiences. Danny is Mermaid Theatre's Executive Director and Creative Producer for MermaidTV. Danny Everson (the Playwright) is a member of the Playwriters Guild of Canada.



ABOUT THE CHARACTER DESIGNER

Kate Church,

BFA Rhode Island School of Design.

Inviting viewers into a world of storytelling and introspection Kate's figurative work is an artful play of cloth, clay, wire and found objects. The figures spark curiosity and provoke contemplation. As viewers immerse themselves in this imaginary world, they are encouraged to reflect on universal human experiences of humour, yearning and a search for purpose. During her time as a textile and costume associate with Mermaid Theatre, Kate discovered her natural affinity for her distinctive figurative work. She is proud to have created figures for Cirque du Soleil which they commissioned and sold in their shops and at their shows around the world. She offers intensive workshops a handful of times each year.

"Kate describes her work as 'Sculptural Puppetry': figures that combine movement and life with detail and line. She sees her characters as her muses, presenting her work hoping people might discover something for and about themselves."



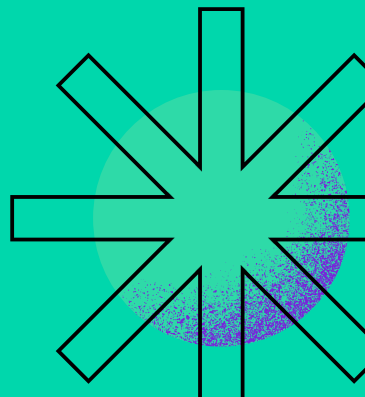
ABOUT THE COMPOSER:

Chris Luedecke

Old Man Luedecke is the stage name of two-time JUNO Award winner and Polaris Prize nominee Chris Luedecke, a celebrated Canadian folk singer-songwriter known for his high energy bango driven stompers, touching guitar ballads and dry humorous stories. A longtime resident of rural Nova Scotia, Luedecke emerged from Halifax's DIY folk scene in the early 2000s.

He's released critically acclaimed albums produced by Steve Dawson and folk legend Tim O'Brien, recorded everywhere from Nashville's Butcher Shoppe to his hand-built cabin in Nova Scotia. His songs—like "I Quit My Job" and "The Early Days"—trace the beauty and struggle of everyday life with warmth and charm.

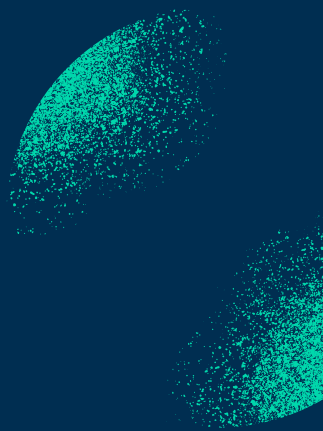
Luedecke has toured widely across Canada, the U.S., Europe, and Australia, and in 2022 received an honorary doctorate from King's University in Halifax for his cultural contributions.



ABOUT THE SOUND ENGINEER AND SOUNDSCAPE DESIGNER

Joshua Van Tassel

is a sideman, producer, composer, podcast producer, sample maker and sonic landscaper. He regularly performs some of Canada's best song writers such as Great Lake Swimmers, Amelia Curran, Sarah Slean, Donovan Woods, Rose Cousins, David Myles, among others. Joshua and his studio Dream Date Studio in Toronto have worked on albums for The Good Lovelies, Nico Paulo, Sarah Slean, David Myles, KIRTY, Justin Rutledge, Christine Bougie, Megan Bonnell, and more. He has been nominated for and won numerous ECMA, JUNO, and NSMW Awards.



THE CAST:



Rachel Franco

is a movement-based performer with a BA Honours in Dance and Theatre from the University of Winnipeg and the School of Contemporary Dancers. Her passion for expressive movement led her into Motion Capture for 3D animation, and eventually into Animation Production, where she wrote and produced children's content for companies including Mattel Entertainment, The Jim Henson Company, Fisher-Price, Nickelodeon, Knowledge Network, and Amazon Prime.

Rachel creates, teaches, choreographs, and performs movement and theatre-based work in Canada and Colombia. In every project, she brings an energetic spirit and commitment to quality storytelling, with a special passion for work that engages and inspires young audiences.

THE CAST:



Rafael Ziah Franco

is a Colombian-born visual storyteller and multimedia artist with a flare for bringing stories to life through animation. He studied Photography and Performance at Santa Monica College, followed by Film and Media Arts at the University of California Los Angeles extension program. He enjoyed a long career in children's television as a director and producer, where his work received awards from the TELUS Fund, Canada Media Fund, and Proimágenes Colombia.

A playful and curious child at heart, Rafael naturally gravitates toward live performance and object animation. He is driven by the power of presence in visual storytelling to connect people across languages, cultures, and generations.

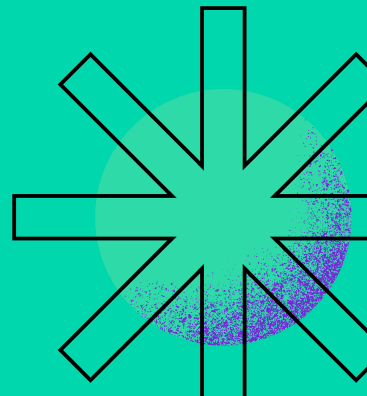
STAGE MANAGER

Logan “Lo” Robins

(@loganrobins) is a queer environmental theatre maker, puppeteer, stage manager, science communicator, and the founding Artistic Director of The Unnatural Disaster Theatre Co.

He is based in the Moolipchugechk region of Mi'kma'ki (colonially known as Herring Cove, Nova Scotia, Canada) and has performed across the world in theatres, on glaciers, and everywhere in between. In the summer of 2025 Logan performed as a puppeteer from Southern Spain to the Arctic Circle with “The Herds”- an international climate action project by The Walk Productions.

Logan is passionate about devised theatre, mask, puppetry, and outdoor site-specific theatre that connects audiences to the natural world. As a theatre maker they believe that prioritising collective creation and community care are key to creating art that forges pathways of empathy towards others, ourselves, and the planet



The City of Kingston acknowledges that we are on the traditional homeland of the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee and the Huron-Wendat, and thanks these nations for their care and stewardship over this shared land.

Presented by Grand OnStage and the City of Kingston Arts & Culture Services Department.

Learn more about Grand OnStage at
KingstonGrand.ca.

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The City of Kingston recognizes IATSE Local 471 as
the exclusive bargaining agent for stagehands
working at Kingston Grand Theatre.
