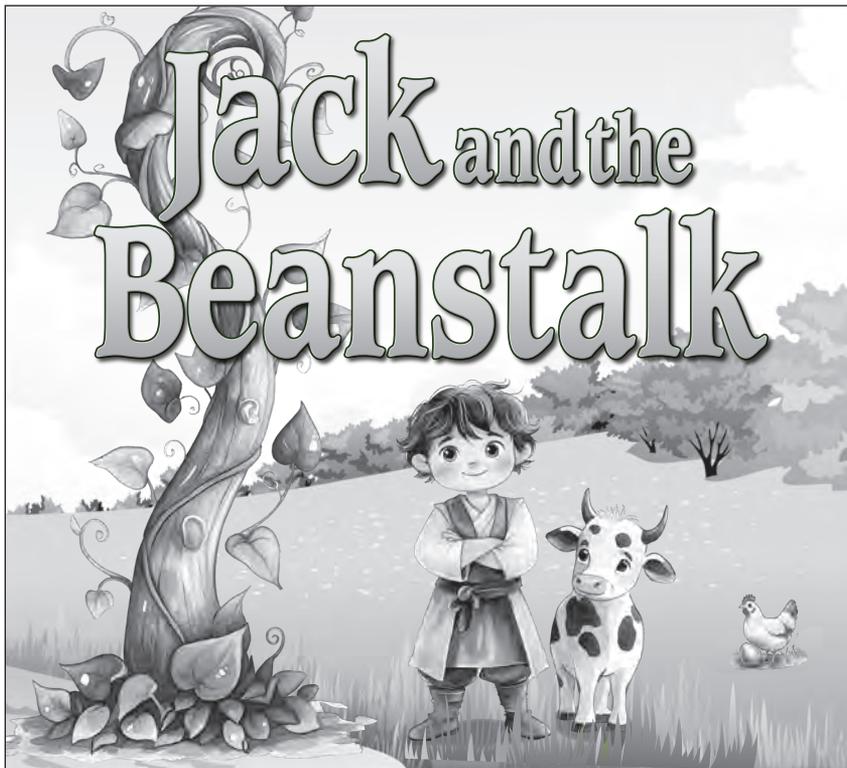




**ST. LUKE'S PLAYERS**  
COMMUNITY THEATRE SINCE 1948

*Presents*



Written by **Ben Crocker**    Directed by **Karmen McNamara**

**Evenings 7:00**  
**Dec 12, 17, 18, 19**

**Matinees 2:00**  
**Dec 13, 14, 20, 21, 26, 27, 28, 30, 31 & Jan 1**

*Jack and the Beanstalk is presented by Ben Crocker Pantos, a 2025 production*

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Ben Crocker comes from a theatrical family and is the son of the actor and pantomime writer John Crocker. He saw his first pantomime at the age of three and has been hooked ever since—although he can't remember all of the show as he spent the frightening bits under his seat.

Many pantomimes later, Ben studied Drama at Exeter University and has worked in the theatre since 1989. During that time, he has directed over seventy professional productions and was Artistic Director of the Northcott Theatre, Exeter, between 1998 and 2008.

Towards the end of his time at the Northcott, Ben started writing the pantomime scripts which contain all his knowledge, expertise and love for the artform. Since then, he has gone on to develop a collection of scripts which are enjoyed at hundreds of amateur and professional productions each year. In past years, during the COVID lock down, he was delighted to provide Comic Relief with his *Cinderella* script to use as the basis for their TV production of *Cinderella*, starring Olivia Coleman and Helena Bonham Carter!

The scripts are very funny, fast moving, true to the story and quite possibly the best pantomime scripts in the world—oh, yes they are!



## PANTO SUMMARY

In the village of Merrydale, Edena the Eco Fairy tries to protect Jack Trot, his mother Dame Trot, and Princess Demelza from the schemes of Slimeball, henchman of the greedy Giant Blunderbore.

Festivities open with a jubilant welcome (“Another Op’nin’, Another Show”) before the Queen announces the giant’s crushing new tariffs, and Slimeball demands payment—or else the Giant will marry Demelza. When Edena intervenes, the villagers rally (“The Queendom’s in the Very Best of Hands”).

Jack and Demelza’s relationship blossoms on a country lane (“Getting to Know You”), but trouble brews when Daisy the Cow is sold for what turn out to be worthless beans. Soon a magical beanstalk shoots skyward, and Jack climbs it in search of rescue (“Go Go Go Jackie”).

High above the clouds, the company encounters the Giant’s bumbling guards, while Demelza laments her captivity (“On My Own”). The Giant himself proclaims his twisted love (“I Really, Really Love You”), but Jack arrives just in time, and together the heroes outwit their foes with courage and song (“Seize the Day”).

Back on the ground, the villagers celebrate freedom and new beginnings (“Our Time”). At last, love triumphs and three weddings seal the happy ending—as Jack, Demelza, and all of Merrydale rejoice in one final dance.

## DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Hello, and welcome to Jack and the Beanstalk!

Pantomime isn't exactly known for being subtle, and thank goodness for that. Where else do you get fairies who rhyme on cue, villains who invite you to boo them, cows with more personality than most politicians, and a beanstalk that grows faster than the national debt?

At its heart, this story is about what happens when ordinary folk (and one extraordinary cow) refuse to be bullied by greedy leaders who think they're bigger, louder, and more important than everyone else. Merrydale may quake under the Giant's tariffs, but together with laughter, courage, and the odd bit of slapstick, they stand tall. And if that's not a message for our times, I don't know what is.

This show has been a joy to create. The cast have thrown themselves into every pratfall, prat-boo, and prat-song with gusto. The crew have worked their socks off making magic (and sweeping up after Daisy). And our travelling minstrels? They've been brave enough to tackle everything from Sondheim to marching bands without once complaining about the Dame upstaging them.

But the last piece of the puzzle is you. Panto isn't complete without an audience ready to hiss, cheer, sing, and groan at the terrible jokes. (Don't worry—there are plenty. You'll know them when you hear them.)

So join in, laugh loudly, boo enthusiastically, and remember: even the greediest of giants can be toppled when we stand together.

Enjoy the show! ~ Karmen McNamara



## Colonel Bogey March

Here are the lyrics so you can all sing along with us:

Come on, be very bold and brave,  
Let glee be light to dark and cave,  
Our song—we'll sing all night long—  
Because we're chasing the ghosties away!

## THE CAST • IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

|                                  |                       |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Edena the Eco Fairy.....         | Kathryn Theobald      |
| Slimeball .....                  | Steve Eastman         |
| Jack .....                       | Sébastien Vincent     |
| Princess Demelza.....            | Kseniia Sinelnikova   |
| Queen Bertram .....              | Shannon Demers        |
| Trumpet/Ensemble .....           | Brianna Gilson        |
| Dame Trot.....                   | Joe Scheubel          |
| Simon.....                       | Micah Wosilius        |
| Daisy/Ella/Ghost/Ensemble.....   | Jennifer Beatty       |
| Giant/Edward/Ghost/Ensemble..... | Bear Spry             |
| Elizabeth/Sarge/Ensemble.....    | Jude Somers           |
| Emily/Jones/Ensemble .....       | Clara Hamilton-Harris |
| Minstrel/Ensemble .....          | Jim Rabb              |
| Minstrel/Ensemble .....          | Glen Rodger           |
| Minstrel/Ensemble .....          | Bill Tolson           |
| Minstrel/Ensemble .....          | Sheila McKenzie       |
| Minstrel/Ensemble .....          | Lina Streltsov        |

## GRATEFUL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Many thanks to the VOS and Langham Court Theatre costume lofts, Ukrainian Cultural Centre, Simply Computing, McPherson Playhouse

Please be advised that this show includes  
flashing lights, fog, and loud noises.

## THE CAST

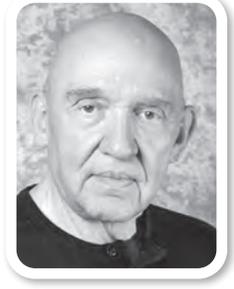
### **Kathryn Theobald** – *Edena*

After years of dance, singing, and writing, Kathryn has finally found their way into the world of theatre. With a passion for storytelling, they have wanted to bring stories to life for as long as they can remember, and they are grateful to get the chance to do so alongside such an incredible group of humans..



### **Steve Eastman** – *Slimeball, Ensemble*

Steve has been acting since 2006 when he was cast as Israel Hands in *Treasure Island*, a Panto in Hudson Quebec. Since moving to Victoria in 2011 Steve has been involved in 8 Pantos with SLPCT as well as a number of other productions. "This has made St. Luke's a great theatre home for me."



### **Sébastien Vincent** – *Jack Trot*

Sébastien was Carribean born and moved to Canada with family. He has been interested in films and the arts from a very young age. He's a classical pianist and singer and studied acting at VADARTS (Victoria Academy of Dramatic Arts) and V.A.S (Vancouver Acting School). He likes to challenge himself, push boundaries and grow as an artist and individual.



### **Kseniia Sinelnikova** – *Princess Demelza*

Ksu is an actress and puppeteer from Kyiv (Ukraine). A graduate of the Academy of Variety and Circus Arts in Kyiv, she performed in the Fantasia New National Children's Musical Theatre, taking part in New Year's shows and participating in international puppetry festivals. Previous Canadian credits include *Gold* (Indigenous Healing Arts Network) and *A Dictionary of Emotions in Wartime* (HUVI).



## THE CAST

### **Shannon Demers** – *Queen Bertram*

Shannon has appeared in the last three SLPCT Pantos since her return to performing after many, many (no need to place a number on it) years. *Beauty and the Beast* and *Camelot* led her to the delightful diva role she is playing as Queen Bertram. She has also sung her little heart out with Victoria G & S productions of *Pirates of Penzance* and *HMS Pinafore*.



### **Brianna Gilson** – *Trumpet/Ensemble*

Happy to be performing in Jack & the Beanstalk, Brianna has deeply enjoyed getting to know and work with the wonderful cast. She has been in several productions with Spectrum High and is assisting with their current show. Most recently she played Juno in *Beetlejuice* with Al Dente.



### **Joe Scheubel** – *Dame Trot*

This is Joe's third performance with SLPCT, and he is thrilled to take up the iconic role as the Dame in his fifth pantomime. Joe's theater experiences include *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat*, *Miss Saigon*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Tommy-the Rock Opera*, *Pirates of Penzance* and *HMS Pinafore*.



### **Micah Wosilius** – *Simon*

Micah is delighted to be returning to the stage as Simon. SLPCT's Panto aficionados might recognize him from his roles as Laughalot in *Camelot* [2024], and Blood Boiler in [2019's] *Treasure Island*. Outside of theatre, Micah enjoys writing music, birdwatching, and Super Smash Bros. He hopes everyone has a good time, enjoys the show, and remembers that sometimes a little help can go a long way.



## THE CAST

### **Jennifer Beatty** – *Daisy/Ghost/Ensemble*

Jennifer is thrilled to bring Daisy the Cow (and a few surprise characters!) to life in *Jack and the Beanstalk*. A longtime educator and caregiver, Jennifer has spent years sparking imagination in children — now she's bringing that same playful spirit to the stage. She's loved every "moo-ment" of this magical adventure!



### **Bear Spry** – *Giant/Ghost/Ensemble*

Earlier this year Bear performed as part of the ensemble in Theatre Al Dente's musical production of *Anne of Green Gables*. Now that they've renewed their love of the stage after eight sad years away, they can't get enough of community theatre.



### **Jude Somers** – *Ensemble*

This is Jude's first turn on stage after set painting and making props the last few years. She is having so much fun reliving her disco days while practising in her kitchen for this year's fabulous panto.



### **Clara Hamilton-Harris** – *Ensemble*

This is Clara's first ever panto and second musical production. Clara played the Duke of Weselton and King Agnar in her school's production of *Frozen JR* last June. She is currently working on *Footloose* with Oak Bay High's musical programme, set to open this February.



## THE CAST

### **Jim Rabb** – *Minstrel/Ensemble*

Jim is very proud of his recent promotion from playing King Uther of *Camelot*, to his current role as a Minstrel of Merrydale. The local fairy waved their magic wand and blessed Monstrel Jim with wicked new skills on the cowbell. In another reality, Jim has played on-stage at SLPCT , LCT, and University of the Fraser Valley.



### **Glen Rodger** – *Minstrel/Ensemble*

This is the 9th SLPCT production Glen has been part of, but most of the others have been on the construction side. He played four roles in last year's panto, this year he plays four instruments as a wandering minstrel. He would like to thank you for supporting community theatre and encourages you to try it out for yourself.



### **Sheila McKenzie** – *Minstrel*

Having participated in panto for 65 years, for the past five months Sheila has faced the challenge of learning how to ping a triangle on cue. She trusts her efforts enhance your enjoyment of the traditional raucous spirit of panto that she loves.



### **Bill Tolson** – *Minstrel/Ensemble*

Bill is eager to start something new in live performances. His last musical experience before an audience was back in high school. This opportunity to provide music and sound effects for this production is welcome. He is looking forward to other possibilities in the future.





*Some of our most awesome Production Team*

SLPCT gratefully acknowledges the lək'wəŋən Peoples, on whose traditional territories we create and perform, and the Songhees and Esquimalt Peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day. We are committed to listening, learning and collaborating as active participants in truth and reconciliation as we create on this beautiful land.

## MOST EXCELLENT PRODUCTION TEAM

|                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Director                                                | Karmen McNamara                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Apprentice Director                                     | Kathryn Theobald                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Music Director                                          | Lina Streltsov                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Stage Manager                                           | Vincent Gornall                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Assistant Stage Manager                                 | Paula Rennie                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Co-Producer/Board Contact                               | Susan Nicholl                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Co-Producer                                             | Bronwyn Taylor                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Co-Choreographer                                        | David Roland                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Co-Choreographer                                        | Katie Liébault                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Set Design                                              | Helena Hitchcock                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Set Painting Lead                                       | Deirdre Tipping                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Set Construction Lead                                   | Dave Hitchcock                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Lighting Design                                         | Karmen McNamara                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Lighting Assistants                                     | Natascha Sekerinski<br>Kathryn Theobald                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Lighting Operator                                       | Zhanna Kolesnyk                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Lighting Consultants                                    | Kendra Martin, Mike Martin,<br>Nette Martin, Dan Pedlow                                                                                                                                                     |
| Sound Consultant                                        | Mitch Barnes                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Sound Design/Tech                                       | Mike Martin                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Costumes                                                | Beverly van Druten-Blais                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Costume Assistants/Dressers                             | Guy Blais, Janet Grogan, Ruth,<br>Jaime Le Roy, Linda Troke                                                                                                                                                 |
| Props                                                   | Janet Grogan, Joan Steacy                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Set Construction Team                                   | Gordon Alexander<br>Chris Frappell, Jim Grant, Julie Gray, Paul Hawkes-Frost<br>Dave Hitchcock, Helena Hitchcock, Phil McOrmond<br>Glen Rodger, Lorne Seifred, Bill Tolson                                  |
| Set Painting Team                                       | Morgan Andrews<br>Emilie Boulanger, Lil Dobson, Daryl Finlayson<br>Gloria Gillingham, Julie Gray, Janet Grogan, Barb McBride<br>Soni Metz, BJ Shaw, Joan Steacy, Deb Taylor<br>Deirdre Tipping, Linda Troke |
| Programmes, Lobby Display, Publicity,<br>Graphic Design | Beverly van Druten-Blais                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Front of House                                          | Bronwyn Taylor                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Concession Manager                                      | Bronwyn Taylor                                                                                                                                                                                              |



**Karmen McNamara** – *Director/Lighting Design*

For over 35 years, Karmen has been telling stories through theatre across western Canada as a performer, actor, designer and director. She fosters collaboration, ensuring every voice is valued in supportive rehearsal spaces. Known for her award-winning musicals and the impactful world premiere of *A Dictionary of Emotions in Wartime*, Karmen seeks

to inspire empathy and connection through her work, including most recently *White Christmas* at VOS.



Vincent Gornall  
*Stage Manager*



Lina Streltsov  
*Music Director*



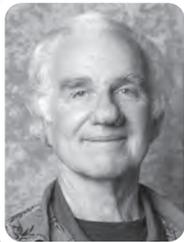
Susan Nicholl  
*Co-Producer*



Bronwyn Taylor  
*Co-Producer*



Katie Liébault  
*Co-Choreographer*



David Roland  
*Co-Choreographer*



Dave Hitchcock  
*Set Construction*



Helena Hitchcock  
*Set Design*



Deirdre Tipping  
*Set Painting Lead*



Mike Martin  
*Sound Design/Tech*



Beverly van Druuten-Blais  
*Costumes*



Janet Grogan  
*Properties*

*A musical celebration of the mating game*

A Langham Court Theatre presentation of

# I love you, you're perfect, now change



**Content Advisory**

Adult themes and language

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Tickets are available online at [www.langhamtheatre.ca](http://www.langhamtheatre.ca)  
or at our Box Office 250.384.2141 | 805 Langham Court

Book and Lyrics by

**Joe DiPietro**

Music by **Jimmy Roberts**

Orchestrations by **Doug Katsaros**

Directed by Alan Penty

Music Direction by Jim Hill and Sara Partridge

Choreography by Jennifer Sanders and Heather-Elayne Day

**January 22 – February 8, 2026**

PREVIEW JANUARY 21

AN AMUSING DRAMEDY

# WAITING IN THE WINGS



Written by Noël Coward

Directed by Jon Scheer

**Eves 7:30 Mar 11–14 & 18–21 • Mats 2:00 Mar 14, 15, 21, 22**



**ST. LUKE'S PLAYERS**

COMMUNITY THEATRE SINCE 1948

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