

Soulpepper



**SOULPEPPER PRESENTS
BAD HATS THEATRE'S**

ALICE IN WONDERLAND

WRITTEN BY FIONA SAUDER
MUSIC BY LANDON DOAK & VICTOR POKINKO
DRAMATURGY BY MATT PILIPIAK



Illustrations: Gracia Lam Design - lightupthesky.ca

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It's our pleasure to welcome you to the final play of our 2023 season and we couldn't be happier to be taking another trip down the rabbit hole with *Alice in Wonderland*. What better way to help bring our season to an end than with a show that is becoming a holiday tradition for us (and for some of you)! And Bad Hats, the extraordinary and inventive artists who created the show, exemplify what Soulpepper artists and our productions aim to achieve – telling stories in innovative ways that can be enjoyed by a wide range of people.

As we look ahead to our 2024 season, we're excited to continue to tell stories that bring people together. Stories that speak to the past, present and future, that shape our values into an experience, and are groundbreaking and inventive. You may have seen a recent story that Toronto is one of the loneliest places in Canada; we see theatre as a place that not only brings people together, but can inspire collective empathy, courage and joy. That coming to the theatre can be a transformative catalyst for understanding and a cure for loneliness.

The habit of theatregoing starts young, which is why we cherish the opportunity to share plays like *Alice in Wonderland*. This play is not only for children, but it is inspired by children – their worldview, their ability to imagine, their curiosity. We invite you to see this show through the eyes of a child and be reminded of their hopeful outlook on the world and the ability to dream, to play and to reimagine a better world.

Thank you again for joining us this year. Our 2024 Season subscription packages are on sale now - we're offering some great deals that offer flexible options and big savings. We look forward to seeing you next year for our exciting and bold new season.

GIDEON ARTHURS

Executive Director,
Soulpepper Theatre Company

WEYNI MENGESHA

Artistic Director,
Soulpepper Theatre Company



How lucky we are! I feel I can speak for our whole team by saying it has been such a pleasure being able to revisit this production of *Bad Hats Alice in Wonderland* here at Soulpepper. The core creative team (truly amazing colleagues to work with) had many caring conversations, met over the summer and fall, always asking the question how can we make it even better?! To top off the cake we had the opportunity to welcome new artists to the project, who have been, in no small way, sensational. Because when the extraordinary actor/singer/dancer/musicians show up (every note of music you will hear is played live by a member of the ensemble) a very specific Wonderland magic happens. Our goal: to make the story fun for you and celebrate being back together in the theatre. And if you leave having questions about everything well Alice and her friends would be happy to hear that. Keep asking questions, small and large. Because with curiosity and kindness, the world, which is going through a bit of a tender time these days, cannot help but be a better place. Happy Holiday season to you and those you love.

SUE MINER

Director, *Alice in Wonderland*





Remember when it felt like Summer would last forever? How old were you the first time it went by in the blink of an eye? For each of us, there's a moment when we peek our head out of childhood and notice time moving faster than ever. The world tells us our time to wonder has come to an end, and we should graduate into the age of knowing. But do we? It seems as adults we spend a lot of time pretending we know. (What weekends are for...How to fold a fitted sheet...Taxes?) But we're all full of questions. So where do they go?

Following our production of *Peter Pan*, which explored the moment we choose to grow up, we wanted to offer a story about the next stage of life - what lies on the other side of that choice. *Alice In Wonderland* poses so many of the questions we're still asking as adults. Do the rules of this world we're inheriting make sense? How does time work and what is it for? How do we hold onto who we are as we grow?

At its heart, this piece reflects our core belief as a company - that we must maintain an awareness of the ideas, questions, and qualities that flowed through us so freely when we were young, and nurture them. We believe our connection to this part of ourselves is directly tied to our joy, our uniqueness, our power.

It is our true pleasure to welcome you to Wonderland. We hope you leave reminded that you've got time. Time to grow. Time to wonder. Time for questions. Thank you for sharing some of your wonderful time with us.

FIONA SAUDER

Artistic Director, *Bad Hats Theatre*



CAST & CREATIVE TEAM

Cast

Tess Benger
Alice

Shakura Dickson
Ruby & Red Queen

Landon Doak
Todd, Tweedle Dum, & Mad Hatter

Jessica Gallant
Nicola, Duck, Rose, Unicorn

Aisha Jarvis
Cheshire Cat

Ben Page
Buddy, Owl, Buttercup, Caterpillar

Matt Pilipiak
Mr. Charles & White Rabbit

Fiona Sauder
Tod, Tweedle Dee & March Hare

Haneul Yi
Doggie, Dodo & Lily

Chris Fulton
Rehearsal Tweedle Dee

Creative Team

Lewis Carroll
Original Story

Sue Miner
Director

Fiona Sauder
Writer, Associate Director

Landon Doak
Co-Composer, Associate Music Director

Victor Pokinko
Co-Composer, Producer

Matt Pilipiak
Dramaturg, Associate Director

Ming Wong*
Costume Designer

Logan Raju Cracknell*
Lighting Designer

Andres Castillo Smith
Sound Systems Designer

Rachel O'Brien
Original Music Direction

Jonathan Corkal-Astorga
Music Director

Cameron Carver
Original Choreography

David Ball
Associate Choreographer

Tamara Protic
Stage Manager

Wei Qing Tan
Apprentice Stage Manager

Bad Hats Theatre
Set Design**

*Indicated designers on this production are represented by the Associated Designers of Canada, IATSE Local ADC659.

**Desks borrowed from the 2019 production of Rose by Mike Ross & Sarah Wilson, Designer Lorenzo Savoini

Bad Hats Theatre

Fiona Sauder
Artistic Director

Matt Pilipiak
Managing & Artistic Producer

Victor Pokinko
Executive Producer

Landon Doak
Associate Artist

Kelsey Verzotti
Administrative Associate

Lauren Vandervoort
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Nicola Hockin
Board Member

Kelly Read
Board Member

Tania Senewiratne
Board Member

Production

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Head Scenic

Andy DeVries
Head Carpenter

Ellie Koffman
Head of Wardrobe

Lisa Nighswander
Head of Props

Kalina Popova
Assistant Head of Wardrobe

Bill Stahl
1st Carpenter

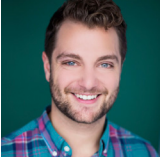
Gunes Agduk
Lighting Operator

TBC
Sound Operator

Dalton Villeneuve-Marini
Deck Audio

Running Time: 85 minutes
no intermission





DAVID BALL (they/he) was born and raised in Barrie, ON. FOR SOULPEPPER: Alice in Wonderland (with Bad Hats - 2023). OTHER THEATRE: Kelly V Kelly (Musical Stage Company); Holiday Inn, Brigadoon, The Horse and His Boy, Oh What A Lovely War, Our Town, Cabaret, Sweeney Todd, Grand Hotel, Me And My Girl (Shaw); Anne of Green Gables (Charlottetown); The Judas Kiss, Hedwig and the Angry Inch, Sunday in the Park with George, Candide (Talk is Free Theatre). OTHER: A proud graduate of Sheridan College, he is a three time winner of the Brian Linehan Triple Threat Award.



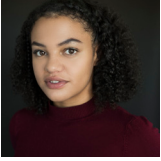
CAMERON CARVER (he/him) was born in London, ON and currently resides in London, UK. OTHER THEATRE As Choreographer: Richard II (Stratford Festival), Alice In Wonderland (Soulpepper, MTYP, Digital), Sweeney Todd (TIFT) [UK, Toronto & Buenos Aires], Cabaret (Grand Theatre), Something Bubbled, Something Blue (TIFT/ Outside the March); Spring Awakening (Redgrave Theatre), La Strada (UK Regional Tour), Manhattan Parisienne with Alain Boublil (The Other Palace.) OTHER THEATRE As Director/ Choreographer: No Place Like Home (Edinburgh Fringe Festival); Little Mermaid (Theatre Royal Bath); The Addams Family, The Wizard of Oz, Sweet Charity (St. Lawrence College). UPCOMING La Cage Aux Folles, The Diviners (Stratford Festival 2024) AWARDS: Dora Award- Alice in Wonderland (Outstanding Original Choreography 2023), Dora Award- Sweeney Todd (Outstanding Original Choreography 2022); Les Enfants Terribles Award 2022 ; UK Theatre Award- Little Mermaid (Best Show for Young People). ONLINE: www.cameron-carver.com; Instagram @cam_carver ETCETERA: All the love to my mom Lola. Xofc.



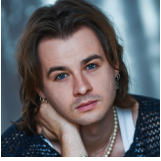
JONATHAN CORKAL-ASTORGA (they/he) is a Chilean-Canadian music director, copyist, and performer. In their work, Jonathan brings a collaborative and story-focused approach to musical direction. An avid supporter of new theatrical stories, they have been fortunate to help develop some of the foremost music theatre being made in Canada. FOR SOULPEPPER: Alice in Wonderland (with Bad Hats - 2023); De Pofundis: Oscar Wilde in Jail - upcoming. OTHER THEATRE: Kelly V Kelly; Dixon Road; Blackout; Caroline, or Change; Dr. Silver; 6 seasons of UnCovered (Musical Stage Co.); Lady Day At Emerson's (Theatre Calgary); Sunday In The Park With George (Eclipse Theatre); Spring Fever (Smile Theatre); Happy End; Threepenny Opera (Sheridan College).



TESS BENGER (she/her) FOR SOULPEPPER: Alice in Wonderland (with Bad Hats - 2021, 2022, 2023; Dora Award for Actor in a Leading Role in a Musical), The Seagull (Nina standby), Chasse Galarie. OTHER THEATRE: Carole King in Beautiful (Segal/ MTC), Sweeney Todd (TIFT, Dora nomination); Sally Bowles in Cabaret (Grand Theatre); Dot in Sunday in the Park with George (Eclipse Theatre, Dora nomination); Girls Like That (Tarragon); Lydia Wickham in Miss Bennet's Christmas at Pemberley (MTC, Evie nomination); Anne Shirley in Anne of Green Gables (Charlottetown); and three seasons at The Shaw Festival. OTHER: Alongside actor Julia McLellan, Tess is the co-founder of the Canadian Green Alliance, a not-for-profit devoted to bridging the gap between sustainability and theatre. Find us at @caandiangureenalliance



SHAKURA DICKSON (she/her) FOR SOULPEPPER: Alice in Wonderland (with Bad Hats - 2023); Billie, Sara, and Ella: Revolutionary Women in Jazz; 'da Kink in My Hair (with TO Live). OTHER THEATRE: Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill (Theatre Calgary); Dear Evan Hansen (Mirvish); I am William, Freedom 2.0 (Stratford); Jerusalem (Outside the March/Company Theatre); Light, Girls Like That (Tarragon); Trout Stanley (Factory Theatre); Other Side of the Game (Obsidian/Cahoots). FILM & TELEVISION: Coroner; Grand Army; Private Eyes. Et cetera: So much love to my dear Landy & the Bad Hatters for letting me come play!



LANDON DOAK (they/them) was born and raised in Newmarket, ON. FOR SOULPEPPER: Alice in Wonderland (with Bad Hats - 2021, 2022, 2023); Peter Pan (with Bad Hats). OTHER THEATRE: I Am William (Stratford Festival), As You Like it (Shakespeare in High Park/ CanStage), Uncovered: The Music of ABBA (Musical Stage Company), A Woman of No Importance, Dance of Death (Shaw Festival), The Drawer Boy (Essential Collective Theatre), Life in a Box (Bad Hats Theatre). FILM & TELEVISION: Shazam!, Murdoch Mysteries, The Community Players OTHER: Landon is also an award winning composer. In 2017 Bad Hats Theatres production of Peter Pan was awarded a Dora for Outstanding Production, in 2020 their show Life In A Box was awarded the Dora for Outstanding New Musical, and in 2023 Alice in Wonderland was awarded the Dora for Outstanding New Musical!



CHRIS FULTON (he/him) was born and raised in Stratford, Ontario. FOR SOULPEPPER: Alice in Wonderland (with Bad Hats - 2023). OTHER THEATRE: Jersey Boys, Plaid Tidings, Merrily We Roll Along, Violet, Hairspray, American Idiot (YES Theatre/Sudbury Theatre Centre); Peter Pan (Bad Hats Theatre/MTYP); Anne of Green Gables (Thousand Islands Playhouse); Framed (Here For Now Theatre); Romeo and Juliet (Old Flame Brewing Co.); Evil Dead The Musical (Starvox Entertainment). FILM & TELEVISION: Revenge of the Black Best Friend. OTHER: Graduate of George Brown Theatre School.



JESSICA GALLANT (she/her) was born and raised in Prince Edward Island. FOR SOULPEPPER: Alice in Wonderland (with Bad Hats - 2022, 2023). OTHER THEATRE: 7 seasons at the Charlottetown Festival: Anne Shirley in Anne of Green Gables, I'm Every Woman, Mamma Mia!, Canada Rocks!, Evangeline (World Premiere), 2010/2012 Young Company's, Aphrodite in Mythic (Segal Centre, BroadwayWorld Award for Vocalist/Performer of the Decade), Marty in Grease (Winter Garden Theatre), Ariel in The Little Mermaid and Belle in Beauty and the Beast (Drayton Entertainment), Freaky Friday (Theatre Aquarius), Mamma MIA! (Neptune). FILM/TV: The Community Players, Monica's News, Diggstown, Man Seeking Woman, Reign, In My Heart. OTHER: Jessica is mom and entrepreneur. Love to my L's! @jessicagallant3



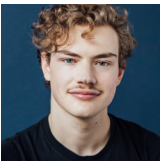
AISHA JARVIS (she/her) FOR SOULPEPPER: Alice in Wonderland (with Bad Hats - 2022, 2023). OTHER THEATRE: Chicago, Key Change (Globe Theatre); Mary Poppins (Young People's Theatre); The Velveteen Rabbit (Carousel Players); Anne of Green Gables, Mamma Mia! (Charlottetown Festival). FILM & TELEVISION: ET Canada (CTV), Private Eyes (Global TV), Ghostwriter (Apple TV). OTHER: Aisha also performs around the globe as a backup vocalist in bands such as Digging Roots and Samantha Martin & Delta Sugar! She would like to thank her family, friends, and fiancé, Junior for filling her life with wonder! Insta: @aishaljarvis



SUE MINER (she/her) is originally from Montreal and graduated from The National Theatre School Acting Section. Also for Bad Hats she directed Princess Frownsalot and Alice in Wonderland (MTYP) . She has directed at YPT, Factory, Blyth, Puppetmongers, Guild Festival, Canadian Stage, Theate Aquarius and Tapestry New Opera. Sue has garnered several Dora nominations, and has enjoyed producing theatre with her husband Mark Brownell for Pea Green Theatre. Currently Sue is the Program Coordinator of George Brown Theatre School which is also located in the Young Centre for the Performing Arts. Sue lives in Toronto with Mark, their children Lily and Gavin and cats Cecily and Ralph.

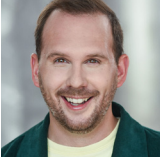


RACHEL O'BRIEN (she/her) was born and raised in Valley, Nova Scotia. She is now a Toronto-based music director, pianist, and teacher. FOR SOULPEPPER: Alice in Wonderland(with Bad Hats - 2022). OTHER THEATRE: As a music director, A Christmas Carol (Shaw Festival), Twelfth Night (Theatre Sheridan). Two seasons as the Associate Music Director at the Charlottetown Festival (Maggie, I'm Every Woman, Tell Tale Harbour, Anne of Green Gables - The Musical). Rachel is currently the Assistant to the Music Director and conducting selected performances for the Canadian premiere of Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812 (Crow's/Musical Stage Company). OTHER: Rachel is a former Shaw Festival Music Intern and a graduate of Mount Allison University's Bachelor of Music program.



BEN PAGE (they/them) was born and raised on the land colonially known as Toronto. FOR SOULPEPPER: Alice in Wonderland (with Bad Hats - 2023). OTHER THEATRE: Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat (Drayton); The Man That Got Away (Buddies in Bad Times); Ursa: A Folk Musical (Tweed & Co). OTHER: Ben's composition debut Leaving Eden (book and lyrics by Jenny Waxman) won best musical in 2019 at the New York Musical Festival. In 2021, Ben was a part of Bad Hat's New Bad Ideas program where they workshopped the Lobster Who Cried Person (co-written with Germaine Konji).





MATT PILIPIAK (he/they) is a Prairie-born, Toronto-based actor, dramaturg, director, and theatre producer. As Managing and Artistic Producer of Bad Hats Theatre, Matt helps foster and develop the company's artistic output including their work as dramaturg on *Peter Pan*, *Alice in Wonderland*, *Princess Frownsalot* and the upcoming, *Narnia*. Matt is also the co-creator and co-director of Bad Hats' newest production, *Storybook Search*, an immersive theatrical scavenger hunt which premiered this past Spring as a part of the Harbourfront Centre's international children's festival, JUNIOR. Alongside Artistic Director, Fiona Sauder, they also lead and curate Bad Hats' new-play development program, *New Bad Ideas*. Other notable performance credits include *Bed and Breakfast* (Orillia Opera House), *Three Men in a Boat & Three Men on a Bike* (Pea Green) *Murder for Two* (Globus Theatre), and *Boys, Girls & Other Mythological Creatures* (Carousel Players).



VICTOR POKINKO (he/him) was born and raised in Ottawa, ON. He is an arts leader, theatre-creator, and award-winning producer who is committed to carving out and supporting space for new, inventive, multidisciplinary work to be developed, explored, and shared. As the Executive Producer of Bad Hats Theatre, he brings a keen creative eye to the work he produces. Working together with Fiona Sauder and Matt Piliptak, he has stewarded the growth of the company from a small collective into a leader (or at least a well-known agitator) within the Family Programming sector. He is also the Creative Producer for *Bad New Days*, the Producer for *J Mar Electric*, and has produced with companies across the country such as *The Cultch*, *Soulpepper Theatre*, *Luminato Festival*, *ARC*, *Globus Theatre*, *Theatre Rustic*, *Pea Green Theatre*, among others, having the pleasure of collaborating with renowned artists like *Candy Palmater*, *Martha Ross*, *John Millard*, *Tomson Highway*, *Kent Monkman*, *Jeremy Dutcher*, *Colin Mochrie*, and *Buffy Ste Marie*.



TAMARA PROTIC (she/her) FOR SOULPEPPER: *Wildwoman*; *Alice in Wonderland* (with Bad Hats - 2022, 2023); *Peter Pan* (with Bad Hats). OTHER THEATRE: *The Waltz, among men*, *Lady Sunrise* (Factory Theatre); *In the Abyss* (Political Movement); *Knives in Hens* (Coal Mine Theatre); *The Cave* (The Cave Collective); *Philosopher's Wife* (Paradigm Productions); *Prairie Nurse* (Factory Theatre/Thousand Islands Playhouse); *Poison* (Coal Mine Theatre); *Salt-Water Moon* (Factory Theatre, WhyNot Theatre, Mirvish); *S H E E T S* (Veritas Theatre); *Late Night* (ZoomerMedia, Theatre Brouhaha); *Faust* (Theatre by the Bay); *Byhalia, Mississippi* (Cue6 Productions).



WEI QING TAN (she/her) is a Malaysian born theatre artist, currently based in Tkarón:to. FOR SOULPEPPER: *Alice in Wonderland* (with Bad Hats - 2022, 2023). OTHER THEATRE: *They Know Not What They Do* (Native Earth Performing Arts), *The Ballad of Stompin' Tom* (Capitol Theatre), *Storybook Search* (Bad Hats Theatre), *Burning Mom* (Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre), *Between a Wok and a Hot Pot* (Cahoots Theatre). OTHER: She is a graduate of the Production Design and Technical Arts program at the National Theatre School of Canada. She's excited to jump back into Wonderland!





LOGAN RAJU CRACKNELL (he/they) was born and raised in Hamilton, ON and now lives in Toronto. FOR SOULPEPPER: Alice in Wonderland (with Bad Hats - 2021, 2022, 2023); Associate Lighting Designer for Mother's Daughter. OTHER THEATRE: Fairview (Canadian Stage/Obsidian Theatre), Midsummer Night's Dream (Canadian Stage), Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill (Theatre Calgary), Heroes of the Fourth Turning (Crow's Theatre/Howland Company), William Shakespeare's As You Like It, A Radical Retelling (Crow's Theatre), The Extinction Therapist (Theatre Aquarius), Dixon Road (Musical Stage Company/Obsidian Theatre).



FIONA SAUDER (she/they) was born and raised in Ottawa, ON. FOR SOULPEPPER: Alice in Wonderland (with Bad Hats - 2021, 2022, 2023); Peter Pan (with Bad Hats); La Bête. OTHER THEATRE: Universal Childcare (Quote Unquote / Canadian Stage - upcoming); Under The Stairs (YPT); The Fighting 61st (Blyth Festival); Othello / Taming of The Shrew (Driftwood Theatre). DIRECTING CREDITS: Every Brilliant Thing (Orillia Opera House - upcoming), A Year with Frog and Toad (Capitol Theatre - Upcoming); Bed And Breakfast (Orillia Opera House); Narnia (MTYP/Bad Hats); Holiday Inn (Asst. Shaw Festival); Uncovered: The Music Of ABBA / The Music of Dolly Parton / Baapi Roho (Musical Stage Co.); Mamma Mia! / American Idiot / Les Miserables (YES Theatre); Sunshine Boy (Randolph College). OTHER: Fiona is a Dora Award winning Writer, Director and Performer. She is the Artistic Director of Bad Hats Theatre and is so happy to have you here in Wonderland!



MING WONG is a Toronto costume designer, stylist, and wardrobe technician. She has worked on a variety of projects ranging from dance, theatre, film, and television. FOR SOULPEPPER: Alice in Wonderland (with Bad Hats - 2021, 2022, 2023); The Guide to Being Fabulous; Sizwe Banzi is Dead; Pipeline. OTHER THEATRE: Is God Is, Canadian Stage/Obsidian/Necessary Angel; Hamlet 911, Stratford Festival; Orphans for the Czar, Crow's Theatre; Trouble in Mind, Shaw Festival; Hansel und Gretel, Canadian Opera Company; Julius Caesar, Crow's Theatre/Groundling Theatre. DIGITAL: Alice in Winterland, Ross Petty Productions; New Monuments, Luminato/Canadian Stage; Savitri, Against the Grain; Alice in Wonderland, Bad Hats Theatre/Soulpepper. OTHER: Winner of the 2021 Virginia & Myrtle Cooper Award in Costume Design.



HANEUL YI (he/him) is a multi instrumentalist singer songwriter, actor-musician, music director/arranger. FOR SOULPEPPER: Alice in Wonderland (with Bad Hats - 2023). OTHER THEATRE: Once (Thousand Islands Playhouse); Ballads Of Stompin' Tom (Capitol Theatre). OTHER: A graduate of Sheridan College, he is also the recipient of the 2021 Jon Kaplan Award. Special thank you to Bad Hats, Cast, and SM team for making a dream come true. Thank you to my wonderful family and Eunjin for their love and support.

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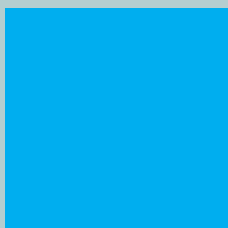
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