

FROSTBITE

WHO PINCHED MY MUFF?

AN ADULT PANTOMIME
WRITTEN BY GARETH JOYNER
DIRECTED BY ROBERT MCWHIR



GARDENTHEATRE.CO.UK @EAGLELONDON

Welcome to the Garden Theatre at Eagle London and our panto, Frostbite, Who Pinched My Muff?

Since we proudly opened in the summer with Fanny & Stella, the UK's first production after lockdown, the support we have had from our audiences has been unprecedented. This enabled us to present a further two musicals as well as Su Kelvin's hit Edinburgh show Bette Midler and Me, and also to remount our Kings Head Theatre production of Naked Boys Singing!

We have also hosted two events in association with The Grad Fest to enable actors who have graduated into this notoriously difficult industry under the most challenging circumstances to showcase their talent.

It is fitting that as we enter panto season, we welcome one of Britain's most beloved actors and entertainers, Su Pollard as official patron of The Garden Theatre.

We are eternally grateful to Mark, Lee, Ian, Kurt and the entire Eagle team for their unwavering support, helping us keep theatre alive.

2021 will bring new challenges however with your continued support we plan to present an ambitious, adventurous but most importantly entertaining programme.

Enjoy the show!

*Peter Bull
Artistic Director*

Robert has been in the entertainment business for 33 years (he started VERY young!), and is thrilled to be back at the Garden Theatre with this intrepid team of theatre makers, striving to bring some entertainment to you during these challenging times.

Thank you for supporting us!

*Robert McWhir
Director*



GARDEN THEATRE

CREATIVE TEAM:

Writer **Gareth Joyner**
Director **Robert McWhir**
Choreographer **William Spencer**
Musical Director **Flynn Sturgeon**
Designer **David Shields**
Lighting Designer **Richard Lambert**
Casting director **Anne Vosser**
PR **Kevin Wilson**
Associate Musical director **Aaron Clingham**
Producer **Peter Bull** for **LAMBCO Productions**

CAST:

Bessy Ewa (Greta)
Tom Keeling (Bergermeister Kai)
James Lowrie (Lumiukko)
Kingsley Morton (Fairy Snowflake)
Shelley Rivers (Garbo)
Nathan Taylor (Demon Frostbite)
Dereck Walker (Dame Herda Gerda)

Artistic Director: **Peter Bull**
Executive Producer: **Richard Lambert**

Garden Theatre Patron: **Su Pollard**
Garden Theatre Associate Director: **Adam Spreadbury-Maher**

Production Team:

Stage Manager – **Daniel McKeown**
Production Assistant – **Liam Gartland**
Social Media – **Nora Perone**

Acknowledgements:

David King – Rehearsal Space at St. Gabriels Hall
Daniel McKeown – Programme layout
Mark, Kurt, Lee and the staff @EagleLondon
Andrew Harmer – Batchelors Solicitors
Fiona English and the King's Head Theatre
Lighting supplied by **LAMBCO Lighting Ltd**

Resident Team for Garden Theatre

Director: **Robert McWhir**
Musical Director: **Aaron Clingham**
Designer: **David Shields**
Choreographer: **William Spencer**
Press Relations: **Kevin Wilson PR**
Casting: **Anne Vosser**
Social Media: **Nora Perone**
Venue Technician: **Daniel McKeown**
Production Management: **LAMBCO**



For Eagle London:

Managing Director: **Mark Oakley**
General Manager: **Kurt Hoffman**
Media and Design: **Lee Benjamin**

THE CAST

GRETA (DANCE CAPTAIN)

Training: Arts Educational Schools - 2020 graduate.

Theatre: Waverley in *Next Thing You Know* (Garden Theatre); Amanda in *Squad Goals* (Dagenham & Redbridge F.C.).

Concert: Vocalist in *Olivier Award Ceremony* (Royal Albert Hall).

Online: Jack and the Beanstalk (Showcatcher).

Theatre whilst training: Ms Luckenbill in *Freaky Friday*; Serena in *Legally Blonde*.



BESSY EWA



TOM KEELING

BERGERMEISTER KAI

Training: Royal Central School of Speech and Drama and Italia Conti Academy of Theatre Arts

Theatre: Harry in *Mamma Mia!* (Royal Caribbean International); Vinnie Di Ruzzio in *Lucky Stiff* (Union Theatre); Tiger, Daddy, Postman (U/S) in *The Tiger Came to Tea* (UK No.1 Tour); Arthur Seaton in *Saturday Night and Sunday Morning* (Nottingham Playhouse); Geronimo Stilton in *Geronimo Stilton* (International Tour); Lead Singer for AIDA Cruises, commercials for VODAFONE, CHANNEL 5, COLGATE and PET TRACER, Denys in *The Go-Between* (Workshop); Martyn/Tom in *Out, Out, Out!* (The Red Hedgehog), and John in Andrew Lippa's *John and Jen* (Rosemary Branch Theatre).

LUMIUKKO

Training: Guildford School of Acting, (BA (Hons.) Musical Theatre), and The Dance School of Scotland.

Theatre credits: Dwarf/Dance Captain in *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* (QDOS); Boy in *Butterfly Kiss* (Óran Mór); Ensemble in *Hansel and Gretel* (Scottish Opera).

Credits while training: Charley in *Merrily We Roll Along*; Grimsby in *The Little Mermaid*; Joe Sharpe in *The Hired Man* (The Guildford School of Acting) and Joe in *9 to 5*; Batboy in *Batboy* (The Dance School of Scotland). James has been cast to play Spencer in *A Second Chance*, a new British musical currently in workshop stages.



JAMES LOWRIE



KINGSLEY MORTON

FAIRY SNOWFLAKE

Training: ArtsEd.

Theatre credits: Soapdish Workshop as Tawny Miller/Ensemble (MTFestUK); Ensemble in *Let's Face The Music Concert* (Royal Albert Hall).

Television credits: Ensemble in *Olivier Awards* (ITV).

Short film credits: Ivy in *Pudding Bowl* (Venessa Caswill).

Theatre whilst training: Officer Sitz in *Freaky Friday*; Duchess Estonia Dulworth in *Nice Work If You Can Get It*; Otto in *Design For Living*; Shawntel in *Jerry Springer: The Opera*, and Harper Harris in *The Affair* (all at ArtsEd).

THE CAST

DEMON FROSTBITE

West End: *Spamalot*; *Mary Poppins*; *Taboo*; *Les Miserables*; *Hedwig & the Angry Inch*; *The Rocky Horror Show*; *Martin Guerre*; *Miss Saigon*.

Other: *South Pacific* (Kilworth House); *Jack & the Beanstalk* (Wakefield Theatre Royal); *Just So* (Tabard); *The Day Before Spring* (Sadler's Wells); *Nunsense A-Men!* (Arts Theatre); *F***ing Men* (King's Head); *Naked Boys Singing* (King's Head/Arts Theatre/Charing Cross Theatre); *Round the Horne* (National Tour); *Alice in Wonderland* (West Yorkshire Playhouse); Brad Majors in *The Rocky Horror Show* (UK Tour); Frank N' Furter in *The Rocky Horror Show* (European Tour); *Spend! Spend! Spend!* (English Theatre Frankfurt); *Aladdin* and *They're Playing Our Song* (Royal Theatre, Northampton).

Nathan was nominated for a BAFTA for co-writing and appearing in *Our Gay Wedding: The Musical* (C4). For Sky Arts, he also co-wrote the musical, *Beyond the Fence* (Arts Theatre) for the documentary *Computer Says Show* a collaboration with his husband, and some rubbish computers!



NATHAN TAYLOR

GARBO

Training: Musical Theatre at Laine Theatre Arts, and Opera at The Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester.

Theatre credits: Nell Gwynn in *Nell Gwynn*; Maria in *The Sound Of Music*; Eliza in *My Fair Lady*; Rose in *Aspects Of Love*; Guest Artist for various cruise lines.

Opera credits: Cunegonde in *Candide*; Adele in *Die Fledermaus* and Mabel in *The Pirates of Penzance*.

TV and film credits: *Coronation Street* (ITV); *Four O'clock Club* (BBC) and *The Girl with the Gifts* (Warner Bros. Feature Film).

UK and Middle East: The Lilac Fairy in *Sleeping Beauty*; Cinderella in *Cinderella*; Fairy Vegetable in *Jack and the Beanstalk*; Mrs Darling/ Miranda the Mermaid in *Peter Pan*.

Worldwide Tour: *Symphony* (Shelley's one woman show).

Other credits: Member of the classical/crossover British girl group Voce; David Beckham's family birthday party at Old Trafford home to Manchester United Football.



SHELLEY RIVERS

DAME HERDA GERDA

Theatre credits: Grandma in *George's Marvellous Medicine* (Birmingham Stage); Tin Man in *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* (PMA Productions); Friar Lawrence and Benvolio in *Romeo & Juliet*; Mr and Mrs Birling in *An Inspector Calls*; Macbeth in *Macbeth* (all for Arty-Fact Theatre); Mr Pinkerton/Elf in *The Elves and the Shoemaker* (Support Act); *Captain Cholesterol and the Grannies from Mars* (Quantum Theatre) Liberty in *Liberty Rides Forth* and Jorgen in *Hollow* (DK Productions); Quinny in *Get 'Em Off* and Don in *Grindr The Opera!*; Pamplemousse in *Sleeping Beauty* and Benevola the Fairy in *Rapunzel* (Chipping Norton); Widow Twankey in *Aladdin* and Sarah the Cook in *Dick Whittington* (Jordan Productions) and Dame Dolly Donuts in *Dick Whittington* (Duncan/Reeves productions).

Other credits: For several years, he portrayed one of Cinderella's Ugly Sisters at many venues across the country including Luton, Stevenage, Redditch, and Potters Bar.



DERECK WALKER

THE CREATIVES

GARETH JOYNER – WRITER

Gareth Joyner is a comedian, writer, and actor who is perhaps best known for his comedy creation Myra DuBois. Myra gained nationwide attention in 2020 as a semi-finalist on *Britain's Got Talent*. In February 2020 her Edinburgh Fringe hit *Dead Funny* enjoyed a two-week run at the iconic Sydney Opera House. Myra also appears in the upcoming film *Everybody's Talking About Jamie*. Having a life-long passion for pantomime, Gareth Joyner has written several adult pantos with titles such as *Alezzin*, *Comatose Beauty*, and *Peter Pansexual* amongst his favorites. He has also permitted Myra DuBois to appear in traditional pantomimes, most notably at the Leeds Carriageworks where her *Carabosse* in 2019's *Sleeping Beauty* saw Myra scoop Best Female Baddie at the 2020 Great British Pantomime Awards. Gareth is honoured to have written The Garden Theatre's inaugural Panto *Frostbite: Who Pinched My Muff?*. Here's to the high art of low comedy!

ROBERT MCWHIR – DIRECTOR

Robert has worked as a director with Peter Bull and LAMBCO Productions for many years, as well as a whole storm of credits including five pantomimes for Jordan Productions at Ferneham Hall (Fareham); *Next Thing You Know* (Garden Theatre); *Change Of Heart*, *An Evening With Webborn & Finn*, and *The Rhythm Of Life* (St James' Theatre); *Tickle the Musical* and *The Crumple Zone* (King's Head); *Queereteeria TV*, *Goodbye Norma Jean*, [title of show], *The Musical of Musicals (The Musical)*, *Strictly Murder* (Manor Pavilion Theatre, Sidmouth); *The Dresser* and *Lloyd George Knew My Father*, *House Guest* and *The Ladykillers* (Theatre Royal, Windsor); *Mousetrap Projects 21st Birthday Gala* (Prince of Wales Theatre); *Beauty & The Beast* (Watersmeet, Rickmansworth); *He Shoots! He Scores!*, *The Crumple Zone* (Pleasance); *Jonathan D. Ellis & The 20th Century Foxes* (Brasserie Zedel); *Grand Central* (Charing Cross Theatre); *Get 'Em Off! the Musical* and *Torsten, The Beautiful Libertine*, *Personals*, *Romance Romance* (Landor Theatre). Before going freelance, Robert was Artistic Director of the Landor Theatre for 16 years where productions were too numerous (and brief) to mention, but notably included *She Loves Me*, *The Man Inside*, *Meet Me In St Louis*, *A Class Act*, *Curtains*, *Ragtime*, *Tomorrow Morning*, *Into The Woods*, *I Love You Because* and *Follies*.

DAVID SHIELDS – SET AND COSTUME DESIGNER

David has designed the set and costumes for plays, musicals, and other spectacles at venues of every scale from international arena tours to studio theatres via prominent international and regional producing houses and the West End, most recently with *Heathers The Musical* (Theatre Royal Haymarket). Some of his other credits include: *Little Shop Of Horrors*, *Sister Act* and *Legally Blonde* (Aberystwyth); *Strictly Come Dancing The Professionals* (UK tour); *Ice Age Live - A Mammoth Adventure* (Arena World Tour); the UK touring Production of Robin Cousins' *ICE*; National Touring productions of *End of the Rainbow*, *Little Shop Of Horrors*, and *Our House*. *High Fidelity* (Turbine Theatre); *Honest Amy* (directed by Kathy Burke); *Bang Bang* by John Cleese, *Dick Whittington*, *Snow White*, (GBPA best costume design nominee), *Jack and the Beanstalk*, *Oliver* and *Cinderella* (Mercury Theatre Colchester).

FLYNN STURGEON – MUSICAL DIRECTOR

Flynn studied music at Royal Holloway, University of London, where he specialised in piano accompaniment. Alongside his busy performance schedule, he currently holds positions with the Gay Men's Dance Company, Richmond Piano School, and Popchoir. Credits as Musical Director include: *Roles We'll Never Play* (Apollo / Union / Turbine Theatre); *Three Little Pigs* (Dorking Halls); *There's No Business Like Show Business* (The London Eye); *New Year, New Favourites* (Other Palace). Credits as Assistant MD / Deputy MD / Rehearsal Pianist: *Soapdish* (Turbine Theatre), *What's On Stage Awards 2020*, *Soho Cinders* (Charing Cross Theatre), *Songs for a New World* (London Palladium). Flynn was nominated in the Creative Courage for Life Awards 2019 where he subsequently won the category 'Outstanding Singing Teacher'.

RICHARD LAMBERT – LIGHTING DESIGNER

Richard's lighting work has seen him work internationally, some of his credits include *Pippin* and *Next Thing You Know* (Garden Theatre); *TICKLE*, *Margot*, *Undetectable* (OFFIE Nomination lighting), *The Crumple Zone*, *Boys in the Buff* (King's Head Theatre); *Skin Deep* (Ed Fest and UK Tour); *Marry Me A Little*, *Muscles the Musical*, *Alvaro's Balcony*, *Discotivity*, *Stand Tall*, *Vincent River*, *The Hot Mikado*, *Get Aladdin*, *A Class Act*, *Next Thing You Know*, *Nonsense*, *Bakewell Bakeoff*, *Meet Me in St. Louis*, *No Way to Treat a Lady*, *The Man Inside*, *Damn Yankees* (OFFIE Nomination lighting), *She Loves Me*, *In*

THE PRODUCERS

PETER BULL

Peter is artistic director of The Garden Theatre and an associate producer at the King's Head Theatre in Islington. He has produced over 100 Off West End plays, musicals and pantomimes as well as cabaret and stand up performances. In addition he has directed in London, New York, Chicago and Milwaukee. He recently produced the original cast recording of his award winning production of *Grindr The Opera*.

LAMBCO PRODUCTIONS

LAMBCO is an independent live entertainment production company based in London. LAMBCO is very proud to be working with Peter Bull at the Garden Theatre @EagleLondon. As an independent commercial producer, LAMBCO has produced four seasons of the LAMBCO Fringe Festival, which offered opportunities for emerging Production Companies and established Artistes, with 2 seasons at the Landor Theatre and 2 seasons at the Stockwell Playhouse. Other productions: *Do You Have A Secret Crush? (Sleeping with Straight Men)* (Lost Theatre); 5 Christmas Skating Events (Torquay); *Bluebirds* (Above The Stag); *Sincerely Yours* and was Associate Producer for *Bewitchment on Black Ice* (Landor), *Boys in the Buff* and *Skin Deep* both of which received 5 star reviews. *Skin Deep* then went on a National Tour and the Edinburgh Fringe Festival gaining another 5 star review and a Fringe Award from "Scots Gay"; *The Crumple Zone* and *Margot, Dame, the Most Famous Ballerina in the World*; and *Tickle the Musical* (King's Head Theatre).

LIAM GARTLAND – PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

Liam is a Northern lad who had gone to fulfil his dreams in the Big Smoke and trained for three years at The Guildford School of Acting studying a BA (Hons) in Musical Theatre. Liam was set out to graduate from GSA early and begin his journey as a performer in Sasha Regan's All Male *HMS Pinafore*, sadly due to COVID-19 this was postponed. However, he doesn't stop creating and know he was always intrigued to see what life would be like on the other side of the table. So this brings him to being the founder and producer of the award-winning company *The Grad Fest*.

the Dead of Night, The Clockmaker's Daughter, Sincerely Yours, Personals, Romance Romance, Devilish (Landor Theatre); *Do you Have a Secret Crush?* (LOST Theatre). Other credits: *Disney on Ice* (Worldwide including Tokyo Budokan, New Orleans Super Dome, Toronto Sky Dome, NYC Radio City Music Hall), *Royal Wedding Dress Exhibition* (Kensington Palace), *#Hashtag Lightie* (Arcola Theatre), *Cirque Enchantment* (UK Tour) and Jazz Dance Company UK Tour (6th year). lambcolighting.co.uk

WILLIAM SPENCER – CHOREOGRAPHY/MOVEMENT

William trained at Bird College and was a Student Ambassador to the McOnie Company. Within the last year he has been two time Offie nominated for Best Choreographer for his work on *[Title of Show]* and *Boy Toy The Ballet*. Other choreographic and directorial credits include *Black Magic Woman*, *Queereteria TV*, *Diary of a W*nky Actor*, the cabaret show *Cut Before Curtain Up*, *Gradfest Showcase* and *Next Thing You Know*. As an assistant choreographer/director his credits include: *Pippin*, *Romance Romance*, *Musical of Musicals (The Musical)* - all offie nominated- along with *Naked Boys Singing!*, *Mother Goose* and *Cynthia's Girls*. Performance credits include: Jack in *Grindr the Opera* (where he can also be heard on the original cast recording) and Dance Captain in *Spamalot*, R&H's *Cinderella* and *Saucy Jack and the Space Vixens*.

AARON CLINGHAM – ASSOCIATE MUSICAL DIRECTOR

Aaron has received seven Off West End Award Nominations for Best Musical Director. Favourite credits include: *Next Thing You Know*; *Grindr The Opera*; *Pinocchio*; *[title of show]*; *Fanny and Stella*; *Bathhouse The Musical!*; *Metropolis*; *The Kissing Dance*; *The Apple Tree* (Broadway World Nomination for Musical Director) and *Wonderful Town* (Ye Olde Rose and Crown Theatre); *Into the Woods* (Cockpit Theatre); *It's a Bird...It's A Plane...It's Superman* (Leicester Square Theatre); *My Land's Shore* (Theatr Soar); *The Rippers Five* (Theatre Technis); *Sondheim by Sondheim* (Camden Roundhouse); *Cream* (Canal Cafe Theatre) and *Charming Dick* (RVT). Orchestration credits include: *Romance Romance*; *Grindr The Opera*; *Metropolis*; *Into The Woods* and *My Land's Shore*

NAKED BOYS SINGING!



*Book Tickets online at:
gardentheatre.co.uk or scan QR code*

