

Soulpepper



**BAD HATS'**  
**ALICE IN**  
**WONDERLAND**

A FILMED FAMILY MUSICAL



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### Director's Note

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On average a child asks 100,000 questions before the age of five. Sometimes repeated (What's for lunch?) sometimes obvious (Are we there yet?) and the fun ones about the everyday miracles. (What are clouds? Clocks? Ice cubes? Night?)

That curiosity is refocused once they start school when rubrics and getting good marks are the goal and is followed by that teenage stage of being too cool to ask questions believing somehow that while they may feel lost they should know everything. All the while the big questions about justice, equality and what it means to be a good human on this planet become more concerning and prescient.

By adulthood we feel embarrassed, told that there are "no stupid questions" yet sometimes dangerously lead to believe that our important questions may not have answers or solutions at all because it has "always been that way."

The child that we once were travels within us, has never left us. Curiosity is the key that when mixed with kindness could save the world. May your visit to Wonderland encourage you to love all the little questions and also to courageously ask the big ones.

Enjoy!

**Sue Miner**, Director

### A Note From The Company

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Someone once told us that the best method for holding onto our youth is to stop trying to figure out who we are. Growing up comes with a need to answer questions about ourselves and the world around us that seems to put a halt on dreaming, and this permeates through the rest of our lives. What if we allowed ourselves to live in the unknown a little longer? What if we let ourselves live there as often as possible? This year so much of the fabric of who we are - which was wrapped up in what we do, where we work, and how we live - was turned upside down. This year we had to sit with ourselves and with our questions. It feels like the perfect time to be sharing this story.

Gathering together in a theatre to explore this piece felt like a return to childhood. The Wonderland we've created, the mysteries and discoveries within it, is a direct reflection of our experience putting together this piece, and like all of us working on the show, it's still growing. We hope the palpable joy we felt working in this unique and long awaited moment inspires you to let go of what you know, and to let your wondering take you somewhere you haven't been before.

We can't wait to see you in person someday soon. Until then, stay curious.

**The Bad Hats Team**

### Thank Yous

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The Pat & Tony Adams Freedom Fund for the Arts, Belinda Corpuz, James Daly, David DiFrancesco, Driftwood Theatre, Allison Edwards-Crewe, Wendy Gordon, Ray Hogg, Cynthia Jimenez-Hicks, Val Koziol, Jordan Laffrenier, Crystal Lee, Nyle McLeod, John Millard, Rachel Moore, The Musical Stage Company, Kelly Read, Roseneath Theatre, Ariana Sauder, Ron Sauder, Robert Sauder, James Smith, Chris Tsuijiuchi, Peggy Vandervoort, Amy Marie Wallace, Why Not Theatre, Cheryl Witoski, our GoFundMe Donors, our Anonymous Donors.

## Cast

### Tess Bengler

Alice

### Landon Doak

Todd, Tweedle Dum,  
Hatter

### Phoebe Hu

Rose, Duck, Unicorn

### Richard Lam

Douggie, Dodo, Lily

### Jacob Macinnis

Maddie, Owl, Buttercup,  
Bill, Caterpillar

### Matt Pilipiak

Mr. Charles, Rabbit

### Fiona Sauder

Tod, Tweedle Dee, Hare

### Vanessa Sears

Ruby, Red Queen

### Jonathan Tan

Cheshire Cat

## Musicians

### Landon Doak

Guitar, Melodica, Banjo,  
Percussion (Cajon)

### Phoebe Hu

Flute, Percussion (Triangle)

### Richard Lam

Bass, Percussion (Cajon)

### Jacob MacInnis

Percussion (Cajon, Triangle)

### Matt Pilipiak

Piano, Melodica

### Fiona Sauder

Percussion (Cajon,  
Tambourine, Triangle)

### Vanessa Sears

Melodica

### Jonathan Tan

Piano, Clarinet

## Creative Team

### Sue Miner

Director

### Reza Jacobs

Music Director

### Cameron Carver

Choreographer,  
Broadcast Rehearsal Ad

### Logan Raju Cracknell

Lighting Designer

### Fiona Sauder

Adaptor

### Landon Doak

Co-Composer

### Matt Pilipiak

Dramaturg, Associate Producer

### Victor Pokinko

Co-Composer, Line Producer,  
Executive Producer

### Lauren Vandervoort

Associate Producer

### Ming Wong

Costume Designer

### Joyce Padua

Assistant Costume Designer

### Lisa Humber

1st AD, Stage Manager

### Victoria Wang

2nd AD, Assistant Stage Manager

### Phoebe Hu

Dance Captain

## Production

### Robert Metcalfe & Links Live Media

Stream Producer/Editor

### Andres Castillo-Smith

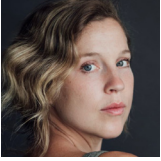
Sound Coordinator

### Andrew Leeke

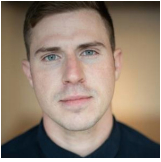
Technical Consultant

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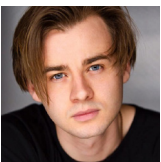
**TESS BENDER** is a Toronto born and raised actor, singer, dancer. She has performed on stages all across Canada and North America. Select credits include Dot in *Sunday in the Park with George* (Eclipse Theatre, Dora nomination); Sally Bowles in *Cabaret* (Grand Theatre); Dora award winning *Chasse Galarie* (Soulpepper/Storefront); Anne Shirley in *Anne of Green Gables* (Charlottetown); Lydia Wickham in *Miss Bennet's Christmas at Pemberley* (MTC, Evie nomination); and three seasons at The Shaw Festival where she did *Top Girls*, *The Next Whiskey Bar*, *Sweeney Todd*, *The Philadelphia Story*, *Cabaret* and more! This year Tess Benger and her business partner Julia McLellan launched a not-for-profit called The Canadian Green Alliance, where they aim to bridge the gap between sustainability and theatre.



**CAMERON CARVER** is a multidisciplinary artist from London Ontario. He currently resides in the other London (UK), and holds a MA in Theatre Directing from the Bristol Old Vic Theatre School. Previously As Director/Choreographer: *Something Bubbled*, *Something Blue* (National Arts Centre); *No Place Like Home* (Camden People's Theatre); *Little Mermaid* (Theatre Royal Bath- UK Theatre Award 2018); *The Addams Family*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *Sweet Charity* (St. Lawrence College). Previously As Choreographer or Movement Director: *Cabaret* (Grand Theatre); *Sweeney Todd* UK/Toronto (Talk is Free Theatre); *Spring Awakening* (Redgrave Theatre); *La Strada* (UK Tour); *Manhattan Parisienne* (The Other Palace with Alain Boublil).



**LOGAN CRACKNELL** is a Toronto based theatre artist specializing in lighting design and live stream creation. Most recently before the pandemic he had worked as an assistant lighting designer for the Shaw and Stratford Festivals, been an associate Lighting Designer for the production of *Mother's Daughter* at Soulpepper, taken a dance tour across the country, and had been designing his own shows throughout the province. Since the pandemic his work has heavily evolved into coordinating live stream events and shows for many groups both in and out of Canada. While the transition to figuring out how to create theatre for these pandemic times has been exciting he cannot wait to return to being in a theatre with other individuals.



**LANDON DOAK** is an award winning actor and singer-songwriter based in Toronto. He is the Associate Artist of Bad Hats Theatre, was recently selected for Musical Stage Company's RBC Apprenticeship program, and is a faculty member at Randolph College for the Performing Arts. Selected writing credits include *Alice in Wonderland*, *Peter Pan* (Dora Awards - Outstanding Ensemble, Outstanding Production; Bad Hats Theatre/Soulpepper); *Life in a Box* (Dora Award - Outstanding New Musical; Bad Hats Theatre/Toronto Fringe); *Romeo and Juliet* (Old Flame Brewing Company); *The Welland Canal Play* (Essential Collective Theatre); *Pippi!* (Fourth Gorgon Theatre). Selected acting credits include *Shazam!* (New Line Cinema/DC Films); *Peter Pan* (Bad Hats Theatre/Soulpepper); *A Woman of No Importance*, *Dance of Death* (Shaw Festival); *The Drawer Boy* (Essential Collective Theatre); *Salt-Water Moon* (Old Flame Brewing Company); *Life in a Box* (Toronto Fringe).



**PHOEBE HU** Phoebe Hu 胡馨勻 is an actor, singer, musician, urban dance choreographer, and language/movement/cultural consultant, who works in theatre, film/tv, and voice-over throughout Ontario and in Asia. Born and raised in Taiwan, Phoebe is grateful to call Mississauga/Tkaronto her “second home base” that has nourished her with opportunities to continuously working with the rich and inspiring companies and artists it has to offer. While not on contract, Phoebe is either working on Project Mulan Rogue - a multidisciplinary, bilingual cabaret series that centres and explores the Chinese immigrant artistic languages, or indulging in animal cuddling and wondering.



**LISA HUMBER** is a Toronto based artist, stage manager, producer and musician. She is the co-creator, co-producer, and co-host of the online talk show *Check in from Away*. She is 1/4th of the artistic core of bluemouth inc and most recently was the Stage Manager for Mirvish Productions’ *Come From Away* in Toronto. Lisa has worked in theatres across Canada and internationally, she has been a faculty member at the Banff Centre and is a member of the Professional Advisory Committee for the Theatre Production Program at Humber College. She is currently the Stage Management mentor for Humber College’s winter show *Songs of Class and Dirt* featuring Andrew Penner which will premier in April. In addition, Lisa is also working on her first album of music due to be released in the winter of 2021



**RICHARD LAM** is a Toronto-based Actor, Writer, Musician, and Sound Designer. Originally from Vancouver, Richard obtained his B.A. in Political Science at UBC before training in the BFA in Acting program at the University of Alberta. Richard was a company member at Soulpepper Theatre for four years, where he trained at the Soulpepper Academy in a split actor/musician stream under Director of Music Mike Ross. At Soulpepper, he appeared in 15 stage productions and concerts, and joined the company on tours to the Charlottetown Festival and Off-Broadway in New York City. He has also worked for many other theatres across Canada, including the Citadel Theatre, Canadian Stage, Coal Mine Theatre, Buddies In Bad Times, and Outside The March. In 2019, Richard wrote, performed, and composed music for his first original play, *The Little Prince: Reimagined*, and received Dora Award nominations for Outstanding New Play and Outstanding Performance. He is the guitarist in the band James King and the Midnight Hours, and recently released his own home-recorded pandemic EP *Hard Rain: A Mixtape Cabaret*.



**JACOB MACINNIS** is a Tkaronto-based actor, and is thrilled to be making their Bad Hats Debut with *Alice!* After training for three years at Sheridan college’s Music Theatre Performance Program, Jacob has gone on to entertain audiences all over Turtle Island in countless musicals, concerts and cabarets. In 2014 Jacob was nominated for a Dora Mavor Moore award, and won the Toronto Theatre Critic’s Award for best supporting actor in a musical (*James and the Giant Peach*, YPT). Jacob sends love to all the folx at TH, to their family, to JP, and to Tucker. #braverthanbrave.



**SUE MINER** is a director versed in classical, music theatre, opera and puppetry. Credits include James and the *Giant Peach* (YPT); *Prairie Nurse* (Factory Theatre, Thousand Island Playhouse, Blyth Festival), *The Pub Operas* (Tapestry New Opera); *The Tempest* (Canadian Stage); *The Fantasticks* (Red Barn); *Le Chevalier St. Georges* (Tafelmusik); *Titus Andronicus* (Shakespeare in the Rough). She has directed *Sunday in the Park with George* twice; at Sheridan and at George Brown/Equity Showcase. As co-artistic director of Pea Green Theatre Group with her husband Mark Brownell she directed *Three Men in a Boat* and *Three Men on a Bike* which continue to tour. Sue has garnered several Dora nominations, been thrice touted as one of Toronto's Top-10 theatre artists by NOW Magazine and along with Mark received a Harold Award for "Outstanding Contribution to the Toronto Performing Arts Scene." *Cinderella in Muddy York* with Puppetmongers won the prestigious "Citation of Excellence in the Art of Puppetry" founded by Jim Henson at the American Center of the Union Internationale de la Marionette. She also teaches and is currently the Program Coordinator of George Brown Theatre School. Sue is thrilled to be working with Bad Hats in Wonderland.



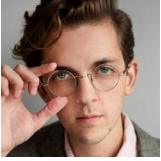
**REZA JACOBS** is an award-winning composer, sound designer, and music director, known for his versatility in style and genre. His credits include sound design and composition for the Shaw Festival, Stratford Shakespeare Festival, Factory Theatre, Tarragon, Passe Muraille, Volcano, Cahoots, the Luminato Festival, & Harbourfront's World Stage Festival. As Music Director he has won Dora Awards for *Life After*, and *Caroline, or Change* (Musical Stage Company) and *London Road* (Canadian Stage). He has played Ted in *2 Pianos 4 Hands*, most recently at the NAC, and has toured with Andrea Martin as her music director. His favourite gig of all time is being partner to Stephanie and father to Arabel & Iris.



**JOYCE PADUA** is a Toronto-based costume designer, cutter, and head of wardrobe. A recent BFA graduate of York University, her work as a cutter and head of wardrobe has been featured in several productions including shows with Factory Theatre, Canadian Stage, and Young People's Theatre. She is delighted to be joining Bad Hats Theatre on this adventure through Wonderland. Previous theatre credits include: Costume design: *The Life and Death of Fred Herko* (Rendezvous With Madness Festival); *Orlando* (Theatre@York); Wardrobe assistant: *Much Ado About Nothing* (Canadian Stage); *Sweat* (Canadian Stage) Head of Wardrobe: *21 Black Futures* (Obsidian Theatre Company); *Acts of Faith* (Factory Theatre); *Lady Sunrise* (Factory Theatre).



**MATT PILIPIK** was born and raised in the Prairies and is a Toronto based actor, theatre producer and pizza aficionado. Matt is best known for his work in Pea Green Theatre's *Three Men in A Boat*, which received a Dora Mavor Moore nomination for Outstanding Ensemble. Other favourite credits include *Boys Girls and Other Mythological Creatures* (Carousel Players); *Finishing The Suit* (Bear & Co); *Midsummer Night's Dream* (Humber River Shakespeare); *The Wedding Singer* (Hart House Theatre). Matt is a graduate of George Brown Theatre School and the Managing & Artistic Producer for Bad Hats Theatre.



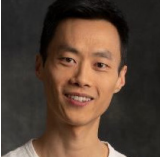
**VICTOR POKINKO** is an award-winning producer, actor, and theatre-creator who has entertained audiences on stages ranging from parks to museums, from stone amphitheatres to the National Centre for Performing Arts in Mumbai, India. As a producer, his interest lies in carving out and supporting space for new, inventive, multidisciplinary work to be developed, explored, and shared. As the Executive Producer of *Bad Hats*, he works closely with the core team to imagine, develop, and realize new and exciting ways to create big art and provide meaningful employment to the incredible artists on our teams. Outside of his work with *Bad Hats*, he is the Creative Producer for *Bad New Days*, the Producer for *J Mar Electric*, and has produced with companies like *The Cultch*, *Soulpepper Theatre*, *Luminato Festival*, *ARC*, *Globus Theatre*, *Pea Green Theatre*, *The Three Men Collective*, *Goat(H)owl Theatre*, and *Theatre Rusticle*. He has produced theatre at venues ranging from small breweries, to side-specific venues, to independent tours of national festivals and theatres, to *Soulpepper Theatre's Family Festival*, and most recently, into the digital sphere with innovative content including *The Candy Show* with *Candy Palmeter and Friends* (with *Kent Monkman*, *Elvira Kurt*, *Cameron Fraser-Monroe*, and *Jeremy Dutcher*), and an international webcast/production of a ground-breaking multidisciplinary song-cycle, *The Cave*, dreamed up by Canadian visionary artists *John Millard*, *Tomson Highway*, and *Martha Ross*.



**FIONA SAUDER** is an Ottawa-born director, performer, writer, educator, and Artistic Director of *Bad Hats Theatre*. Fiona has had the privilege of collaborating with such companies as *Canadian Stage*, *The Blyth Festival*, *The Musical Stage Company*, *Young People's Theatre*, *Driftwood Theatre*, *Bad New Days*, *YES Theatre*, *Theatre Gargantua*, and *Soulpepper Theatre*. Fiona is a *Dora Mavor Moore Award* winner and nominee, and the recipient of the *Jon Bannerman Scholarship for Theatre*. She is a graduate of *George Brown Theatre School's* class of 2014. In her work with *Bad Hats*, Fiona is committed to generating environments centred around play as an act of resistance. Both in the work she creates and the work she facilitates, Fiona looks for ways to highlight the wisdom of our younger generations and offer it to the generations that have come before; as a gift, as a request, as a challenge.



**VANESSA SEARS** is a *Dora*, *Toronto Theatre Critics*, *BroadwayWorld* and *Critic's Pick Award* winning artist based in Toronto. Vanessa has starred on stages across Canada in productions like *Kinky Boots* (*Mirvish Productions*); *Grand Hotel*, *The Magician's Nephew*, *An Octoroon* (*Shaw Festival*); *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Billy Elliot* (*Stratford Festival*); *Mary Poppins* (*Young People's Theatre*); and *Caroline or Change* (*Musical Stage Company/Obsidian Theatre*). More recently she has been acting in film and television and training as an *RBC Apprentice Director* with *Musical Stage Company*. Passionate about art and activism, Vanessa is also very proud to be on the board of directors for *Canadian Green Alliance*; a not for profit organization devoted to bridging the gap between theatre and sustainability. Vanessa is ecstatic to be returning to the stage with such a dynamic group of storytellers and wonderers.



**JONATHAN TAN** His curiosity has led him down the rabbit holes of theatre, vegetable gardening, voice acting, various instruments, teaching, travel, and an obsessive love of food and food science. Stage credits include David Yee’s *carried away on the crest of a wave* (National Arts Centre); *Amadeus* (TIFT); “*The Cat in the Hat*” in *Seussical* (YPT); Leslie Arden’s *Gift of the Magi* (Smile Theatre); *Cowboy Versus Samurai* (Soulpepper); *Little Women* (Theatre New Brunswick); *I Was Looking at the Ceiling and Then I Saw The Sky* (Théâtre du Châtelet, Paris); and nine seasons at the Shaw Festival including “Jim” in *The Glass Menagerie*, “Agnes” in *Sex*, “Fred” in *A Christmas Carol*, and “Smee” in *Peter and the Starcatcher*. Off stage, Jonathan occasionally appears in animated form, voicing “Basilisk” in Ubisoft’s battle royale game *Hyper Scape* and characters in animated series like *Remy and Boo*, *Kody Kapow*, and *Detentionaire*, where he lives out his childhood fantasy of becoming a cartoon.



**LAUREN VANDERVOORT** is an arts administrator & producer. She is currently the Development Coordinator at Soulpepper Theatre and General Manager of Bad Hats Theatre. She has worked with many of Toronto’s most exciting artistic organizations including Tarragon Theatre, Nightwood Theatre, Project: Humanity, Groundwater Productions, and as a freelance producer. Lauren is Bad Hats Theatre’s almost-four-year-old President Lola’s very proud Mama, and also serves on the Board of Directors for Public Recordings Performance Projects and the anti-bullying organization The Get REAL Movement.



**VICTORIA WANG** is a stage manager, creative producer and installation artist who works in theatre, dance, film and interdisciplinary forms of live performance. Victoria is also the founder of Memory Palace Project, an ongoing community-based public art project whose participatory installations, live performance art and digital media creations have appeared at the Toronto Fringe, Assembly Theatre, Long Winter, and the Art Apart Festival. As a first-generation Chinese Canadian settler, Victoria is grateful to call Hong Kong and Tkaronto home.



**MING WONG** is a Toronto costume designer, stylist, and wardrobe technician. She has worked on a variety of projects ranging from dance & theatre to film & television. She has designed across the city and beyond for companies such as the Canadian Opera Company, Citadel Theatre, Canadian Stage, Crow’s Theatre, Nightwood Theatre, Factory Theatre, Obsidian Theatre, and Modern Times Stage Company. She is a 5 time Dora Mavor Moore nominee as well as a 4 time nominee for the Virginia & Myrtle Cooper Travel Award in Costume Design.



*Soulpepper gratefully acknowledges the support of the following:*

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The artists and staff of Soulpepper, Bad Hats, and the Young Centre for the Performing Arts acknowledge the original caretakers and storytellers of this land – Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, Huron-wendat (Wyandot) and Mississaugas of the New Credit territory. We commit to honouring and celebrating their past, present and future.