

DalekoArts

Peterpresents

Starcatcher

BASED ON THE NOVEL BY DAVE BARRY AND RIDLEY PEARSON MAY 3 – 19 | TH, FR, SAT @ 7:30PM | SUN @ 2:00P

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Hello, fellow adventurer, and thank you for climbing aboard the Neverland!

First, a bit about Pan: Peter Pan was born in 1902 by the hand of Scottish writer JM Barrie, in his book The Little White Bird. Barrie would go on to write three books and a play (Peter Pan, or The Boy Who Wouldn't Grow Up) about Peter, and Peter himself would go on to capture the imaginations of generations of the world's children (including two little girls in our lowa home almost 100 years later). Pan is the embodiment of childhood: he is joy, delight, escapism, occasional selfishness, courage, wonder, innocence, anarchy--he faces the world believing that it will bend to his whim. The story of Peter Pan and his friends would go on to inspire movies (perhaps most notably Disney's 1953 animated feature), musicals, books, psychological theory, and even food and household products.

Which brings me to our play.

Peter & the Starcatcher is the prequel to the Peter Pan story of your child-hood. Based on Dave Barry and Ridley Pearson's popular young adult series Peter & the Starcatchers (Disney Hyperion), the play tells the story of how an orphan Boy with no name becomes a legend. You'll note the change from book to script: "Starcatchers" on the book cover becomes "Starcatcher" on your playbill. Pearson discusses this in several interviews as being a small but significant change. In the books, the Starcatchers are an elite force of humans charged with protecting a magical element called "starstuff" that turns beings into what they truly want to be. In the play, the titular "Starcatcher" is Molly Aster, an aspiring member of the force, but more importantly, the brave and precocious young woman who teaches Peter what being a true leader looks like. This is the story, really, of Peter and Molly.

Peter & the Starcatcher is written in the British Pantomime, or Panto, style. Rooted in some elements of the Italian commedia del' arte, Panto is generally designed for the retelling of traditional fairy tales or folklore, and includes physical or slapstick comedy, satire, actors dressed as animals, a lot of double entendre (if you know what I mean), stock characters (the villain, the hero, the clown, etc.) and a bunch of modern references thrown in for good measure. There is often a chorus in a Panto, and you'll see that our actors serve that purpose--they are watching over scenes, sometimes commenting on and even driving the action. Panto also embraces a strong "cross-dressing" tradition, and this looms large in casting the show. The play is written for 11 men and one woman; the woman plays "Molly", and the men play everyone else--women, mermaids, Italian mollusk islanders, everyone. Often directors choose to cast both men and women in the roles, and to ignore that Panto element of the script. I faced some serious decisions here, then. First, there's this: as a celebrator of the

complex and wondrous spectrum of nonbinary gender expression, I have learned that making a joke of a man in a dress is, among other things, both small and boring. Since our play is neither of those things, I'm not interested in finding the funny there. I don't want giggling at mer-men in shell bras, or our Mrs Bumbrake in her dress. In conversation with our costume designer Samantha, though, we discovered that we could solve those issues by putting the men in minimal pieces that imply their characters but require a bit of imagination--you'll have to let me know if you think it worked.

So then I faced the issue of whether or not it's even a good or interesting thing to create this play with 12 actors and only one woman. I decided, ultimately, that it is. Here's why:

In the Prologue, we learn that our story starts on a "grey and misty dawn" in 1885 on the docks at Portsmouth. The history buffs among us will recognize immediately, then, that we are in Victorian England. Queen Victoria reigned for decades, and was a much beloved monarch who presided over the then Great Britain in a time of prosperity and peace. It was also a time of severe restrictions and limitations for women. British society was committed to the idea that a woman's only place was in the home, with her children (not really an original stance for any time or place). Women were not considered leaders in any way: a notion I find deeply ironic, since a woman helmed the entire Empire. So I decided that the image of a young woman, our Molly, facing adventure and danger in a world made only of men, is compelling enough that it's worthy of that casting decision. Molly is a born leader, and her ideas about leadership imply a deep understanding of how human beings work. She is unapologetic and smart, and she knows how to motivate people toward an almost impossible goal. She also faces non-stop skepticism about her ability to lead, because others feel that they themselves more closely resemble traditional leaders. Listen for the moment in the play when she turns to one of the orphans and says, "Ever notice, Ted--the more you claim leadership the more it eludes you?"

The play you're about to watch is packed with everything we at DalekoArts love in a play: it has action, love, mystery, adventure, imagination, joy, heart, sincerity, and a lot of laughs. It tackles some issues, it embraces life, and it has more than one hero's journey. We love these characters, each and every one of them, and we hope you'll feel the same when our adventure today is over. On behalf of Molly, Peter, the orphans, Stache, Smee, Tink, and the whole gang...thank you for having faith. We're honored to count you among our band of Starcatchers.

With love and a little pixie dust,

Amanda and the Peter & the Starcatcher Team

DalekoArts Peter PRESENTS

Starcatcher

Rick Elice
music by
Wayne Barker
based on the novel by
Dave Barry &
Ridley Pearson
directed by
Amanda White*
music direction by
Anthony J Sofie*

Register Boy/Peter Erik Dagoberg

Ted

Jonathan Feld

Molly Aster Eva Gemlo

Bill Slank/Hawking Clam Vincent Hannam

Lord Leonard Aster Tom Karki*

Smee/Greggors Patrick Kozicky*

Mrs. Bumbrake/Teacher Michael Lee

Capt. Robert Falcon Scott Ryan Lee

Prentiss

Armando Harlow Ronconi

Alf

Anthony J Sofie*

Fighting Prawn/Sanchez/ Grempkin/Mack

Mike Swan

Black Stache Ben Thietje*

* denotes company member
In addition to the roles listed above, most of the Company will also play multiple pirates, sailors, mermaids,
mollusks, and an assortment of the sorts of characters one might find in a tale of adventure and magic.

Stage Manager Samson Perry

Scenic Designer/ Painter/Carpenter Robin McIntyre

Lighting Designer Courtney Schmitz

Props Designer Sarah Salisbury

Fight Director Josh Scharback

Keely Wolter

Dialect Consultant

Costume Designer Samantha Kuhn Staneart

Sound Designer/Composer Joshua Stallings















OUR MISSION

DalekoArts (DELL-uh-koh), an ensemble theatre company, works with professional artists to pursue impactful, live performance in our community of New Prague, Minnesota and the surrounding region.

OUR VISION

Our purpose is to decentralize professional theatre in Minnesota by increasing engagement and opportunity in New Prague and the surrounding area. It is our dream that New Prague will be a known destination for quality performing arts and arts education.

OUR STORY

DalekoArts was founded in 2012 by theatre artists Ben Thietje and Amanda White as a way to help decentralize professional theatre in Minnesota.

New Prague was chosen as the company's home due to the community's extraordinary interest in theatre, the regional growth and development it has experienced in the last decade, its relative proximity to the Twin Cities, and its close ties to the founders.

"Daleko" — a Czech word meaning "far away" — reflects New Prague's strong bohemian roots, its spatial relationship to the cultural hub that is the Twin Cities, and the ensemble's desire to step back and examine the world from a new point of view.



DalekoArts is a member of the Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national organization for the American theatre.



DalekoArts is a proud member of the Minnesota Theater Alliance.

ERIK DAGOBERG

Boy/Peter

Erik is excited to be performing in first DalekoArts production. His most recent performances include A Midsummer Night's Dream (Demetrius), Pride and Prejudice (Mr. Darcy), and [Title of Show] (Jeff), all through Normandale Community College. His last professional production was I and You (Anthony) through Phoenix Theater. Erik will graduate from Normandale this upcoming spring and will attend the University of Michigan next year in pursuit of a BFA in Theatre Performance (Acting). He would like to thank his parents for always supporting him and grandma Rei and grandma Mur who come to every performance in body and spirit.

JONATHAN FELD

Ted

Jonathan is tickled as a pickle to be performing in his first Dale-koArts show. An lowa native, he graduated from Simpson College with a theatre degree and migrated north because of a marriage arrangement. Jonathan took a hiatus from theatre since performing in Fat Pig with the Des Moines Social Club back in 2009, and is pleasantly pleased to be back on stage performing for the fine folks of New Prague. In his free time Jonathan enjoys cooking, camping, hiking, and being outdoors as much as humanly possible.

EVA GEMLO

Molly Aster

Eva is a Twin Cities actor, returned to the ancestral homeland of Saint Paul after getting her undergraduate degree from Luther College in Iowa. She was most recently seen as Margot Frank in The Diary of Anne Frank at Park Square Theatre. Some favorite past roles include Olivia in Twelfth Night (Stillwater Zephyr Theatre), Ishmael in Moby Dick (Theatre Coup d'Etat), Judith in Equivocation (Walking Shadow Theatre Company), Titania in A Midsummer Night's Dream, and Bianca in Women Beware Women (both with Classical Actors Ensemble). Eva also freelances as an intimacy choreographer, currently working with the History Theatre. Thank you to Amanda for giving us the chance to live our dreams and flv.

VINCENT HANNAM

Bill Slank/Hawking

Clam

Vincent is delighted to return to New Prague this spring in one of his favorite stories. Past Ďaleko shows include Wait Until Dark, Snowed Inn, and Middletown (as assistant director). Previously, he has worked with other Minnesota companies such as Park Square Theatre, Yel-low Tree, Girl Friday Productions, Commonweal Theatre, Paul Bunyan Playhouse, and Lyric Arts. He has also worked around the country at the Hangar Theatre, Alhambra Theatre & Dining, and Heartwood Regional Theater. Born and raised in central Florida, he earned a BFA in Acting from the University of Central Florida and now celebrates his fifth year living and making art in the state, thanks in large part to DalekoArts and every single one of you reading this program.

TOM KARKI

Lord Leonard Aster

Tom is absolutely tickled to return for his 7th season at DalekoArts. On the DA stage, he has performed in The Odd Couple (Roy), Forever Plaid (Smudge), Rancho Mirage (Charlie), Little Shop of Horrors (voice of Audrey II), Urinetown (Officer Lockstock), The Rink (Lino/Papa Antonelli), and Middletown (Cop). A graduate of the University of MN-Duluth, he has performed numerous theater and opera roles across the country. Tom would like to thank his friends and family for their constant love and support; especially his wife, Chris and his awesome son, Deven!

PATRICK KOZICKY

Smee/Greggors

Patrick is delighted to be working with DalekoArts again. He has performed with DA in Constellations, Middletown, A Chris Smith Carol, Adventures in Mating, Another Main Street Holiday, Our Town, Main Street Holiday, The Philadelphia Story and The Odd Couple. He also directed DA's production of Rancho Mirage. Previously, he has performed with The Children's Theatre Company, Walking Shadow Theatre Company, Park Square Theatre, Theatre Unbound, The Mechanical

Division, Theatre in the Round Players, Youth Performance Company, and The New Theatre Group. Patrick would like to thank DalekoArts for inviting him into their family. He also thanks you, for buying a ticket and supporting local art. Last but not least he thanks Dan for letting him go to Disney World so often.

MICHAEL LEE

Mrs. Bumbrake/Teacher

DalekoArts: Peter and the Starcatcher, Rancho Mirage; Classical Actors Ensemble: Romeo and Juliet, Merchant of Venice; Mixed Blood Theatre: Safe at Home; Yel-low Tree Theatre: The Pavilion, Dancing at Lughnasa, On Golden Pond, Artistry Theater: Blithe Spirit, A Few Good Men; Old Log Theatre: Leaving Iowa; Jungle Theatre: Macbeth; Children's Theatre Company: The Diviners, Once Upon a Forest, Grimm Tales, Lyle the Crocodile, Alice in Wonderland, Guthrie Theater: As You Like It; Theatre de la Jeune Lune: The Kitchen; Park Square Theatre: St. Joan, Equus, Fashion; Peter Peter Pumpkin Theatre: Edward II; Paul Bunyan Playhouse: The Un-derpants, Boeing Boeing, Picasso at the Lapin Agile, The Full Mon-ty, Guys and Dolls, The Rainmaker; Brave New Workshop: Flanagan's Wake, Actors Theatre: Guys on Ice, Tony n' Tina's Wedding, We Gotta Bingo! Minnesota Shakespeare Company: Romeo and Juliet, Merry Wives of Windsor; Pioneer Place Theatre: Arsenic and Old Lace. The Foreigner, Dogg's Hamlet/Cahoot's Macbeth; Urban Samurai Theatre: Slasher; Joking Apart Theatre: Bobby Gould in Hell; Mystery Café: Let's Kill the Boss, I'll Be Homicidal for Christmas, Death Throws a Curveball. Upcoming Fall 2019: Classical Actors Ensemble: Arden of Faversham/Much Ado About Nothing

RYAN LEE

Captain Robert Falcon Scott

Ryan is absolutely overjoyed to be back in New Prague for his fourth DalekoArts show! Recently, Ryan has been fortunate to perform with several fantastic theaters around the Twin Cities including Lyric Arts, Theater Latte' Da, Uprising Theatre, and Seasons Dinner Theater. Ryan also works as a Realtor, serving peo-

ple all across the Metro with their home buying and selling adventures! Also a seasoned songwriter and musician, Ryan has released five albums of original music and toured nationally. Thanks for coming and enjoy the show!

ARMANDO HARLOW RONCONI

Prentiss

Armando is stoked to return to the DalekoArts stage as Prentiss! His previous credits include Jakob (City Council Christmas) and Lucky (The Rink). A graduate from Marquette University, Armando moved to the Twin Cities in 2015 where he continues to pursue his career as an ac-In addition to DalekoArts, he has worked with Lyric Arts (Plaid Tidings), Artistry Theatre (Mary Poppins), Children's Theatre Madison (How I Became a Pirate), Chameleon Theatre (39 Steps), CLIMB Theatre (Performing Company), and Valley Fair (Vocal Coasters). When he is not on stage, you can find him teaching tap, tutoring math, and playing D&D! He would like to thank his friends and family for their constant love and support!

ANTHONY J SOFIE

Alf/Music Director

Anthony is delighted to take the stage again at DalekoArts -- where he has previously been seen as "Dino" in the Main Street Holiday series -- in addition to having the privilege of coordinating the many musical aspects of this play. Previously at DA, he has music directed Forever Plaid, Little Shop of Horrors, Always...Patsy Cline, Urinetown, The Rink, She Loves Me, and Godspell. Anthony is an active performer in the Twin Cities area, assuming the roles of music director, vocal coach, accompanist, and dialect coach. As a singer and actor, Anthony has performed with Artistry, Minneapolis Musical Theatre, Dale Warland Singers, St. Paul Chamber Orchestra Chorale, Minnesota Opera, and Chameleon Theatre Circle. He also currently serves as music director at St. Anne's Episcopal Church, and music director and accompanist for Park Center High School.

MIKE SWAN

Fighting Prawn/

Sanchez/Grempkin/Mack
Mike is so excited to return to DalekoArts for what he considers one of
his "bucket list shows." Past credits at Daleko include Middletown,
Our Town, and The Shape of Things.
Other Twin Cities credits include
The Skin of Our Teeth and Idiot's
Delight (Girl Friday Productions/
Park Square Theatre), Wit and All
My Sons (Artistry), My Barking Dog
(Market Garden Theatre), and two
seasons as a member of the Commonweal Theatre Company. Mike
holds a B.A. in Theatre Performance
from James Madison University and
wants to pet your dog.

BEN THIETJE

Black Stache

Ben has been working as a professional theatre artist and educator in the Twin Cities for the past fifteen years. He teaches and directs theatre at New Prague High School, and holds a degree in Theatre Arts from Minnesota State University, Mankato. In addition to being a Daleko founding Artistic Director, he's appeared in the company's productions of The Odd Couple, Forever Plaid, Almost, Maine, Rancho Mirage, Little Shop of Horrors, Love Letters, Urinetown, Stones in His Pockets, The Rink, Middletown, and City Council Christmas in addition to serving as director for the DA holiday productions.

AMANDA WHITE

Director

Amanda is proud and delighted to be on this joyful adventure with this company of artists. In addition to being a founding Artistic Director of DalekoArts, Amanda has directed Godspell, Our Town, Little Shop of Horrors, Barefoot in the Park, and The Odd Couple. She has also been privileged to join the companies of Middletown, The Rink, The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged),The Philadelphia Story, Rancho Mirage, and Proof. She is a graduate of Columbia University's MA Program in Arts Administration, MSU Mankato's MFA in Theatre Performance, Truman State University's Theatre Arts program, and the School at

Steppenwolf Theatre Company in Chicago. Amanda is in her third year as a member of the Theatre Department faculty at Normandale Community College. She is proud to serve on the Board of Directors at Walking Shadow Theatre Company, on the New Prague Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, and on the Fine Arts Board at Plymouth Congregational Church in Minneapolis. This one is for our Ethan: the greatest Captain the Neverland will ever know, and a true Starcatcher.

SAMSON PERRY

Stage Manager

Samson has previously worked with DalekoArts on Middletown. He currently travels around the Twin Cities theatre scene as a Stage Manager, Director, and Playwright. His recent credits include Stage Managing Evita and Guys and Dolls (Lyric Arts), Winnie the Pooh (Old Log Theater), and Actually (Minnesota Jewish Theater). He also directs and works with students at Elk River High School each winter, and attempts to fill in the down time with his writing.

ROBIN MCINTYRE

Scenic Designer/

Painter/Carpenter

Robin graduated with a BFA and an MFA in Theatre Design and Stage Technology from The University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Since 1991 Robin has designed for a variety of local theatres including Lakeshore Players, Mounds View Community Theatre, Park Square Theatre, The History Theatre, Actor's Theatre, The Flying Foot Forum, North Star Opera, The Phipps Center for the Arts, local colleges, and many local high schools. For 10 seasons Robin created hundreds of sets for both main stage musicals and Black Box theatre productions at Bloomington Civic Theatre and Art Center. He is currently freelance designing in the Twin Cities and Working with The University of Northwestern in St. Paul.

COURTNEY SCHMITZ

Lighting Designer

Courtney earned her MFA in lighting design from the University of Iowa in 2009. Since relocating to Minne-

apolis in 2012, she has designed locally with Yellow Tree Theatre, Collective Unconscious Performance, Workhaus Collective, nimbus theatre, SPARK theatre + dance, 20% Theatre Company, and Bucket Brigade Theatre, among others. Previous designs with DelakoArts include Wait Until Dark, Stones In His Pockets, The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged), She Loves Me, Godspell, City Council Christmas, and Constellations.

www.cargocollective.com/schmitzlighting

SAMANTHA KUHN STANEART

Costume Designer

At DalekoArts: Our Town, Urinetown, Little Shop of Horrors, Godspell Representative Experience: At Pro Rata: Rocketman, Henry V, The Beauty Queen of Leenane, 1984, Isaac's Eye; Minneapolis Musical Theatre: Love Comics; Lyric Arts: Guys and Dolls, She Loves Me, Always...Patsy Cline, Shrek the Musical, The Explorers' Club, Grease, Boeing Boeing, Into The Woods; Theater Unbound: Mere Trifles Silk-Theater Unbound: Mere Trifles, Silkworms; Apple Valley High School: The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, 9 to 5; Actors' The-atre of Columbus, OH: A Comedy of Errors, The Merchant of Venice Training/Education: The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH: M.F.A. Costume Design and Construction; Hamline University, St. Paul, MN: B.A. Economics and Theatre Arts. Samantha is the the Makeup/Retail Buyer at Norcostco, Inc.

JOSHUA STALLINGS

Sound Designer/

Composer

Joshua is excited to be returning to DalekoArts after designing Godspell earlier this season. A designer and composer, his work includes shows with Twin Cities Public Television, History Theatre, CLIMB Theatre, SteppingStone Theatre, Yellow Tree Theatre, and countless music and corporate events across the midwest.

SARAH SALISBURY

Props Designer

Sarah is overjoyed to be back for her eighth Daleko production. Past credits include Stones in His Pockets, The Rink, The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged), Middletown, She Loves Me, Godspell, and Constellations. Sarah is also a stage manager for such companies as Jagged Moves, Rhythmically Speaking, Eclectic Edge Ensemble, Alternative Motion Project, as well as being an Assistant Stage Manager at Ted Mann Concert Hall. On top of all of that, Sarah is the Production Manager for The Haunted Basement.

JOSH SCHARBACK

Fight Director

Josh is thrilled to be back with the amazing team at DalekoArts. He was last seen with DA as an actor in The Philadelphia Story and Stones In His Pockets, and as fight director for Wait Until Dark. Recent fight direction at Normandale Community College: She Kills Monsters, Pic-nic, Noises Off, The Gravedigger, and Dr. Seward's Dracula. Previous theater includes: Playwrights' Center, Portland Stage, Merrimack Repertory, American Shakespeare Center, Philadelphia Shakespeare, Fairbanks Shakespeare, Penobscot Theater, Seacoast Repertory, and seven seasons as an actor, director, and fight director with the Theater at Monmouth – The Shakespearean Theater of Maine. Josh trained at the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art..

KEELY WOLTER

Dialect Consultant

Keely holds an MA in Voice Studies from the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama in London. She has served as a voice and accent coach with HBO, the Guthrie Theater, Park Square Theater, Jungle Theater, Children's Theater Company, Theater Latte Da, Artistry, the University of Minnesota/Guthrie BFA Actor Training Program, St. Olaf College, and many others. Keely was named a 2018 Best Vocal Dialogue Coach by Lavender Magazine for her work on Artistry's Awake and Sing. This is her fourth production working with DalekoArts (Stones in His Pockets, The Rink, and Constellations).

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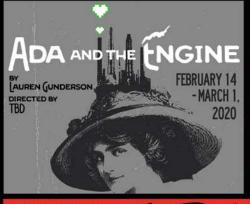


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