Tim Bray Theatre Company presents- The Santa Claus Show ’22 by Tim Bray, songs by Christine White. Soundtrack and incidental music by Marshall Smith @ Marshmellow. Staged by kind permission of Playmarket.

Cast

Santa Claus- Himself

Santa Claus’ Stunt Double- Christian George

Kelly- Isabella Temm

Elfie- Dylan Underwood

Alana/Toy (Kelly Alternate)- Carolyn Lamonde

Kelly’s Dad/Toy (Santa Alternate)- Awatea Timothy

Balloon Seller/ Mail Delivery Elf/Toy/Reindeer (Elfie Alternate)- Jared Morello

Ruby/Toy (Alana Alternate)- Rebecca Ansell

Ruby’s Dad (Alternate cast member)- Joshua Bruce

Twitty - Morning Shows – Lucy Goer

Twiddly – Morning Shows – Eve Yang

Twitty – Afternoon Shows – Oskar Fee

Twiddly – Afternoon Shows – Lexi Wilson

Audience Host and Alternate Cast Member - Samantha Ellwood

Accessible performances

NZ Sign Language Interpreter- Kelly Hodgins, Platform Interpreting NZ Ltd

Audio Described Performances- Kevin Keys and Nicola Owen, Audio Described Aotearoa

Sensory Relaxed Performance- In association with Jeanita Cush-Hunter, Autism Consultancy Education

Creative and Design

Director- Tim Bray, QSM

Soundtrack and Incidental Music- Marshall Smith, Marshmellow

Set and Prop Design- Rachael Walker

Costume Design- Vicki Slow

Lighting Design- Steve Marshall

Choreography / Movement- Linda McFetridge and Tim Bray

Production Crew

Production Manager- Robert Hunte, Hunte Limited

Company Manager- Alana Hawkes

Stage Manager- Katie Querin

Technical Operator(s)- Shane Hickmore, Jake Hoggin

Assistant Stage Manager- Joshua Bruce

Set Construction- Grant Reynolds, Zorp Films

Scenic Painting & Set Dressing- Rachael Walker

Props Master- Rachael Walker

Technical Suppliers- Creative Ambiance Stage Technologies, Pilot Productions, LotechMedia, Wireless Rentals

Teachers’ Resource Guide- Rosemary Tisdall, Getting Kids into Books

Photography- David Rowland, One-Image Photography

Trailer- Luke Thornborough

Publicist- Elephant Publicity

Print Design- Benefitz

Ushers - Volunteers

### For The Operating Theatre Trust

Trustees- Peter Winder (Chairperson), Rosemary Tisdall, Rachel Jefferies, Mike Tisdall, Tim Bray, QSM,

Artistic Director- Tim Bray, QSM

Business Development Manager- Gail Rotherham

Company Stage Manager- Katie Querin

Youth Theatre Outreach Manager- Madeleine Lynch

Youth Theatre Manager- Sara Dakin

Marketing Manager- Gary Perez

Grants Writer- Sally Warrender

Partnerships Lead- Chiara Palombi

Schools Engagement Co-ordinator- Diane Burnett

Youth Theatre Tutors- Rachel Constantine, Suzy Sampson, Isabella Temm, Lucy Dawber, Jeanita Cush-Hunter, Clementine Mills, Brittany O’Rourke, Kate Sampson, Michael Hockey

Trust Bookkeeper / Treasurer- Lynn Toomer

Trust Accountant & Auditor- Lynch & Associates

Haere Mai- Welcome

Kia ora koutou and a warm festive welcome to *The Santa Claus Show ‘22.* For 31 years our theatre company has been creating world-class stage shows for children and since 2012, we have offered Youth Theatre programmes for children and young people. We believe that theatre and creativity can be transformative, supporting the mental well-being of our tamariki and rangatahi and building their confidence.

After the big success of our second show of the year, *The Whale Rider,* which toured around Tāmaki Makaurau over seven weeks, we are thrilled to bring you an absolute classic of the season, *The Santa Claus Show ‘22.*

Our ever-popular Christmas production, *The Santa Claus Show,* has been touching the hearts of families and thousands of people all over Auckland since 1991. We are overjoyed to be celebrating the season by bringing back this audience favourite for 2022!

# Playwright and Director’s Note- Tim Bray, QSM

 “Welcome to the eighteenth season of *The Santa Claus Show.* For many of you, this show has become a part of your own Christmas traditions, and if so, it’s lovely to be able to share in the magic of this show with you once more (especially as Covid-19 wrought havoc on our usual Christmas traditions over the festive seasons of 2020 and 2021).

I wrote and presented this play in 1991, the very first year I set up the theatre company (then known as The Central Theatre). *The Santa Claus Show* was presented again in 1992 and has been performed every year at The PumpHouse Theatre since 2004 (except in 2018, 2020 and 2021 – although we did screen a video of the show in 2021).

We have a brand-new cast this year (only Dylan Underwood and Rebecca Ansell have been in the show before) and a new soundtrack, using Christine White’s songs, with incidental music created by Marshall Smith (@ *Marshmellow*). The stunning set design by Rachael Walker, gorgeous costumes designed and made by Vicki Slow and rich lighting design by Steve Marshall continue to add the magic this show deserves.

One thing remains the same: the original 1991 Santa costume makes an appearance in the show when Alana wears it in the ‘play’ that she and Kelly rehearse in the opening scene

Dedication

In 1991, I dedicated the play with love to my nieces, Alana and Kelly, who were aged six and three at the time, by naming the two friends in the play after them. Alana and Kelly now bring their own children to *The Santa Claus Show”*. - Tim Bray

CAST

Christian George: Malo le soifua. Christian is a trained actor with a performing arts degree from Unitec Institute of Technology. He was born in the little town of Te Awamutu in the Waikato. His father is palagi Kiwi, and his mother is Samoan and through her, they whakapapa proudly to the village of Malie on the island of Upolu. He loves being in nature and feels at home in the countryside. Christian says, “I have had a heart condition for most my life and it has limited me in so many ways, but this passion for acting gives me freedom, to embrace something else, to give life to words and to share it. With love and understanding. I am Pasifika, I am queer, I am proud, and unapologetically myself.”

Dylan Underwood: Dylan Underwood has been performing professionally as a children’s theatre actor for the past five and a half years. He studied at UNITEC and received a Bachelor of Performing and Screen Arts degree majoring in acting and has since performed in five Tim Bray shows along with touring with the Duffy Books in Homes theatre show for the last four years. He’s very much looking forward to reprising the role of ‘Elfie’ and bringing some Christmas cheer to all our audiences!

Isabella Temm: Isabella spent four years studying performance overseas; three years in a drama conservatoire in Paris, and one year in a master’s programme in London. She returned to Aotearoa in late 2020 and toured with the Ugly Shakespeare Company nationally for five months and co-adapted an original script for their following tour. She is working on her third show with National Youth Theatre in Auckland, directing over 300 youth cast members in an original musical *Wendy*. Isabella has received training in languages, accents and voice work, stage combat and physical theatre, but believes fun and play to be central to all her work.

Carolyn Lamonde: Carolyn is a passionate actor and voice actor with a strong background in theatre. Born and raised in Canada, she studied theatre in Montreal before the travel bug bit her and prompted her to explore the world for several years. Her travels led her to New Zealand five years ago, and this instantly became home. Now a proud mother of the world’s sweetest little boy (in her completely unbiased opinion), Carolyn is thrilled to be back for her second show with the Tim Bray Theatre Company (after *The Man Whose Mother was a Pirate* in 2019). She wishes you all a beautiful and magical Christmas!

Jared Morello: *The Santa Claus Show* is Jared's first show with Tim Bray Theatre Company, and he is excited to be working alongside a team that is so passionate about inspiring creativity in young minds. Jared received his bachelor’s in performing arts at NASDA at Ara in Christchurch. Since graduating, he has performed in a number of large-scale musicals such as *Jesus Christ Superstar* at the Court Theatre, *Mary Poppins* at the Civic Theatre, as well as the New Zealand tour of J*ersey Boys*. Jared hopes this show will spark some joy and help spread the magic of the Christmas season.

Awatea Timothy: Awatea Timothy grew up in Fairton, Ashburton. Kai Tahu te iwi. Awatea moved to Auckland in 2017 to study acting at Unitec. Straight out of acting school Awatea played the Sultan in *“Aladdin”* and played various characters in *“The Christmas Carol”.* Awatea loves singing and playing the guitar in his spare time. Awatea loves performing for kids as he has over 15 nieces and nephews and he is excited to work with Tim again.

Rebecca Ansell: Rebecca has grown up expressing herself through art. She attended dance, acting and musical instrument lessons as children but when she started singing lessons, Rebecca found her true passion. She loved working in musicals in and out of her school life. At the end of her education, Rebecca was conflicted as to what she would do next. Then she found Te Auaha’s Musical theatre course.

In 2021, Rebecca graduated with a bachelor’s degree in performance art. She had spent three years at university finding herself and gaining confidence in her talents and now has become a capable young performer.

Twitty and Twiddly

Eve Yang: Hi, my name is Eve. I am 7 years old. My school is Forrest Hill School. This is my second year attending the Youth Theatre Class, but my first time on stage without my class. I am a bit nervous but excited. In my free time, I love ballets, drawing, reading and Lego. Besides, I play piano and sing at the same time.

Lexi Wilson: Lexi is a nine-year-old student at Milford School. Lexi has been participating in the Tim Bray Youth Theatre classes since July 2022 and performed in the 2022 Class Show. This will be her first formal acting role. Lexi was diagnosed with a tumour on her skull and spine at four years old. Lexi has shown huge resilience and courage throughout and this shines through in her acting.

Lucy Goer: Lucy is five years old (nearly six!) and lives in west Auckland with her mum, dad, sister and their cat named Chicken. She began taking drama classes with the Tim Bray Youth Theatre in term two this year, which have quickly become her favourite hours of the week. She loves to perform whenever and wherever she can, so being invited to join the cast of *The Santa Claus Show 22* is a dream come true.

Oskar Fee: Oskar is nine and has been doing drama classes with Tim Bray Youth Theatre since he was six. This year he was in an episode of *Toi Time*, and he also played one of the central characters in a short film, *Bottle Money*. Before this year, he was in a number of promotional clips, a *Seven Sharp* *Christmas Story*, and featured in an episode of *Attitude*. He goes to Grey Lynn School, and loves acting, performing, singing, and dancing.

TBTC Design Team- Rachael Walker (Set), Vicki Slow (Costume) and Steve Marshall (Lighting)

Theatre design is a collaborative art. It is the bringing together of people with specialist visual design skills (scenic, costume, lighting) who work together in the spirit of mahi kotahitanga to contribute to making a visual ‘world’ that serves the director’s vision and enables the actors to inhabit the story and to tell that story to the audience.

Theatre design is also about whānau and is a sort of ‘family business’, with personal relationships playing a big part in the ability of the design team to collaborate and communicate with each other. This is done in the spirit of ngākau mahaki which enables deep respect at a level that is intuitive, and which allows them to achieve the artistic goals of the production.

The design team of Steve Marshall (Lighting), Vicki Slow (Costume) and Rachael Walker (Scenic and props) have been collaborating with Tim Bray Theatre Company for seven years and first met in 1999, 23 years ago at Auckland’s Performing Arts School.

Collectively and individually, they have created designs for 100s of professional theatre, dance, operatic, musical and event productions throughout Aotearoa New Zealand for more than two decades. Their close relationship and deep understanding of each other’s strengths enable them to work closely with Tim Bray to create magical worlds for our young audiences.

Me mahi tahi tātou, mō te oranga o te katoa. We work together for the well-being of everyone.

**Sponsorship Opportunities**

Tim Bray Theatre Company is a charitable trust and is recognised as Auckland’s leading theatre company for children. We have an audience of 25,000 attending our shows per annum, plus we reach over 1,500,000 people via our digital channels and advertising.

We are engaged with the community, and we would like to talk about how we could put you in front of our audience in a sponsorship opportunity. We offer various sponsorship options, depending on the level of commitment that a business may wish to consider.

**Would your company be interested in an alignment with Tim Bray Theatre Company, a trusted brand, through sponsorship or in-kind contribution? We can work together on a unique arrangement tailored to your requirements.**

Not ready for sponsorship? There are many other ways you can be involved:

* Buy show tickets as Christmas gifts for staff, clients, and business partners.
* Make group bookings for staff and their families.
* Book an exclusive show for a function.
* Philanthropic donations.

If you would like to help us develop great outcomes for children and young people all over the Auckland region through professional theatre productions, community events, accessible performances and youth theatre programmes, please contact Chiara Palombi, Partnership Lead at Tim Bray Theatre Company at Chiara@timbray.org.nz.

Funding and support for this show and our theatre company are kindly provided by:
Foundation North, Trillian Trust, More FM, Four Winds Foundation Lotteries Community Fund, Becroft Foundation, Lion Foundation, Constellation Communities Trust, Milestone Foundation, Bluesky Community Trust, Due Drop Events Centre, Benefitz, Playmarket, The PumpHouse

**A big thank you to:**

You, for coming;

Our partners, parents, families and friends for all their love and support;

Our fantastic team of core sponsors and funding bodies and their representatives;

Dean Agnew, Trillian Trust;

Connie Lee and Jacqui Johnston, Foundation North;

Aidan Bennett, Benefitz;

Nicky Ranson and Emma Duffy, MORE FM;

Our regular donors and *Gift a Seat*™ donors;

The volunteers who are being ushers and have assisted us recently;

James Bell and team, The PumpHouse Theatre;

Arts Access Aotearoa;

Murray Lynch, Playmarket;

Auckland Libraries;

Dorothy Butler Children’s Bookshop.