

A Christmas Carol

Cast: Biographies

CHRISTOPHER TERRY. This is his fourth tour with TNT/ITCL , after a successful run as Baptista in *Taming of the Shrew* two years ago he returns to the role in 2008. Last season he performed as Polonius on the world tour of Paul Stebbings' HAMLET. He recently starred in the world premiere of the new play *The Smilin' State* at the Hackney Empire Studio Theatre In what's been a busy year for him so far, he's also appeared in the acclaimed revival of Howard Brenton's political masterpiece *Weapons of Happiness* at the Finborough Theatre. Previous theatre work also includes: with the Royal Shakespeare Company in *Hecuba* starring Vanessa Redgrave; two UK/International tours with Theatre Set-Up in *The Winter's Tale* and *Comedy of Errors*; at the Orange Tree Theatre in Galsworthy's rediscovered tour de force *The Skin Game*; as the singing New York reporter Gore-Bellamy in the premiere of the musical *The Walpole Orange* (Regent's Park Studio); *The Importance Of Being Earnest* (Brockley Jack); and *A Doll's House* (New Wimbledon). Christopher's feature film debut *The Toybox* (Paolo Sedazzari) in which he played the key role of Rod Usher, won three international awards Christopher is a published poet and short story writer, and also works as a journalist and voice over artist.

ERIC TESSIER LAVIGNE was born in Montreal and lives near Cawdor, Scotland. After years of street-theatre he returned to Canada to take a degree in Drama and inadvertently stumbled into dance. He performed for Desrosiers Dance Theatre and The National Ballet of Canada, Pearl Lang (NYC), Toronto Dance Theatre as well as in mainstream theatre as an actor. In 1987 he joined the celebrated Lindsay Kemp Company with whom he toured the world in leading roles. In Scotland Eric has danced and choreographed for Scottish Ballet and the Paragon Ensemble, The Scottish Early Music Consort and Grey Coast Theatre. In 1992 he began working with TNT Music Theatre, ADGE and Paul Stebbings. Productions include: OLIVER TWIST, MOBY DICK, GULLIVER'S TRAVELS and LORD OF THE FLIES, LES CHAISES, CANTERVILLE GHOST and BRAVE NEW WORLD, MACBETH and MOON PALACE, often taking leading roles. Eric's most recent devised show, THE COMIC, won a Herald Angel award at the Edinburgh Festival. Eric is the artistic director of Tartan Chameleon which in 1998 premiered Mahler's SONGS OF A WAYFARER, MOBY DICK in Scotland as well as a new music/dance-theatre creation THE SECRET HOUSE . and later Shostakovich's music theatre piece HYPOTHETICALLY MURDERED. Eric also shared the role of Dad in Paul Stebbings' Music hall nightmare HITLER KILLED MY CANARY, performing in Germany and Scotland, including the Edinburgh Festival. This year Eric tours with the company performing in several productions and creating the title role in DON QUIXOTE.

GEORGINA PANTON. This is Georgina's fourth production with the company and second tour to Japan. She was Ma Otis in CANTERVILLE GHOST and also performed in HAROLD AND MAUDE, DINNER FOR ONE and the British colonial project MANY VOICES. After graduating in English from St. Andrews University, Georgina trained at East 15 Drama School in London where roles included Nastya in THE LOWER DEPTHS, Lady Eleanor in THE WORLD TURNED UPSIDE DOWN, Madiha in TWELVE WOMEN IN A CELL and Titania/Hippolyta in A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM. Her first professional engagement was touring Germany and Denmark for White Horse Theatre with three productions including Oscar Wilde's THE PICTURE OF DORIAN GRAY. Other work includes playing Ann Bonney in the masked comedy HELL AND HIGH WATER for Strange Face Theatre, Narrator for a rehearsed reading of THE SCENE at the Royal Court Theatre and understudying/playing Catherine in the West End production of PROOF for the Birmingham Stage Company. Among her film credits are Nina in THIRTEENTH HOUR and Wife in THE HUMAN FACTORY.

REBACCA NAYLOR trained at Exeter University and Drama Studio London. Theatre includes: "ANIMAL FARM" (European Tour, Tour de Force), "TWELFTH NIGHT" and "LOOT" (Italian Tour, Palkettostage), "A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM" (UK Open-Air Tour, Hazlitt Theatre/The Changeling), "A CHRISTMAS CAROL" (Trafalgar Studios, Horla), "I AM STAR TREK" (Edinburgh Fringe/Greenwich Theatre, Skullduggery), "BEN-HUR" (Battersea Arts Centre), "JACK AND THE BEANSTALK" (Watermans Theatre/Bath Theatre Royal, TieBreak) "LA BOHEME" (Grange Park Opera), "LORDS AND LADIES" (Open-Air Tour, Rollright Trust), "GRIMMS" (Greenwich Playhouse, Horla), "EDWARD II" (The Cockpit, Revival), "THE SNOW QUEEN" (Taunton Brewhouse, Parasol). As a musician she has played clarinet in the Royal Festival Hall and Royal Albert Hall, toured the world with the National Youth Choir of Great Britain and released two E.P.s as half of electro-pop duo Oosterdok (www.oosterdok.co.uk).

DAID AHMAD lives in London. This is his second tour with ITCL and TNT theatre. Other work includes: Perseus in EYECATCHER (Sheffield Crucible); Klaus-Heinrich in FEAR & MISERY IN THE THIRD REICH (Watford Palace); George W. Bush in WHAT I HEARD ABOUT IRAQ (Arts Theatre); Billy in THE SNOW DRAGON (Broadway and US tour); Jago in JAGO'S BOX (New Vic); George in GEORGE'S MARVELLOUS MEDICINE and Peter in TOM'S MIDNIGHT GARDEN (Birmingham Stage Co.); Benvolio in ROMEO & JULIET (UK tour and Germany) and Tommy in PLAYING MATHILDE (Quorum Theatre, France). **Film and Television:** THE FRANK SKINNER SHOW (Avalon); STOP THE WORLD (BBC Choice) and WESTWAY (BBC World Service)

SARA CIANTAR has spent the last 25 years of her life immersed in music. Her passion for music has taken her from such extremes as studying Balinese Gamelan music to leading a choir of disadvantaged women in a drug rehabilitation program. She's also established a name for herself performing such diverse tasks as playing the pipe organ for weddings and funerals and touring Canada in a camper van to promote her two solo albums of eclectic guitar-based folk music (How Long 2006 and Lines For Keeping 2009). She began her journey as a Classical pianist and after some life-changing events switched to studying Ethnomusicology at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada. Along the way she studied Jazz, flute, voice and accordion. The latter took her in the direction of the Canadian Folk scene as she began to play accordion and sing with various folk and world artists. She also has been known to co-compose on the odd film score and moonlight as a producer for other recording artists. She is currently studying voice with Vancouver based Mezzo-Soprano Grace Chan and is also a teacher herself of Piano, Accordion, Voice and Guitar

CHRISTIAN FLINT (co director) was born in London. He studied at Dartington College of Arts and with Grotowski in Italy. He has worked as an actor with many diverse theatre companies such as The Kosh, Lindsay Kemp Co, Paines Plough, OTTC, Charnock Co, The Gate Theatre and most recently the Royal Shakespeare Company. He returned to TNT (his sixth production) for MOON PALACE, having recently toured to South America and Britain with the company's MACBETH. Christian lives in north London. He has directed THE PICTURE OF DORIAN GRAY and MOON PALACE for TNT. He acted the role of Scrooge in CHRISTMAS CAROL and returns to the production to direct.

PAUL STEBBINGS is artistic director of TNT theatre Britain and The American Drama Group Europe. He was born in Nottingham and studied drama at Bristol University, where he received first class honours. He trained in the Grotowski method with TRIPLE ACTION THEATRE in Britain and Poland. Paul founded TNT theatre in 1980 and received regular Arts Council funding for work in the UK. Paul has also acted for NOTTINGHAM PLAYHOUSE and TNT and directed and written for SOUTH YORKSHIRE THEATRE, PARAGON ENSEMBLE Glasgow, TAMS THEATER Munich, the ST PETERSBURG STATE COMEDY THEATRE, the Athens Concert Hall MEGARON and the Russian TEATR EXPERIMENTA. His productions have toured to over twenty countries worldwide. Festival appearances include WIZARD OF JAZZ at the Munich Biennale (critics prize), the Off Broadway Festival in New York, the Tehran Fajr Festival, the Tokyo International Festival, and award winning performances at the Edinburgh Festival (THE MURDER OF SHERLOCK HOLMES, in which he played the title role). His numerous productions for ADGE and TNT include MACBETH, BRAVE NEW WORLD, MOON PALACE (a dance drama version of Paul Auster's contemporary novel) DEATH OF A SALESMAN, A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM and the recent prize winning HAMLET. One of Paul's main areas of interest is the integration of music and theatre which culminated in his large scale production of production of MOBY DICK. He has directed productions in Russian, Greek, German and is increasingly working in Spanish, while in spring he directs THE TAMING OF THE SHREW in Mandarin at Shanghai's leading theatre (SDAC). In addition to GULLIVER'S TRAVEL'S this season sees Paul direct premiers of DON QUIXOTE and OTHELLO and an Edgar Allen Poe project plus revivals of MACBETH, THE PICTURE OF DORIAN GRAY, ONE LANGUAGE MANY VOICES (an exploration of Britain's colonial legacy),

A CHRISTMAS CAROL, CUENTA DE NAVIDAD (the Spanish version of his Christmas Carol by Teatro Terrauno in Costa Rica) and the continuing epic tour of his ROMEO AND JULIET. These varied productions tour to over thirty countries on four continents performing in cities as diverse as Beijing, Jerusalem, Moscow, Tokyo, Brisbane, Guatemala, London and Berlin.