



Presents



By Karen Zacarias
Music by Deborah Wicks La Puma
Based on the book by Munro Leaf

Directed by Andrés Alcalá

Music Direction – Jonathon Ivie
Scenic Design – Jeff Lemire
Costume Design – D. Daniel Hollingshead
Lighting Design – Bill Rios
Sound Design – Christopher Neumeyer
Stage Manager – Alfredo Macias

The Cast:

Ferdinand..... Andrés Alcalá
Cochina.....Laura Berger
Duque Dodo.....Jesse Berger
Doquito Danilo.....Colin Ross

Who's Who in Ferdinand the Bull

Andrés Alcalá (*Ferdinand*) joined the artistic staff at Childsplay in October 2007 as an Associate Artist through a grant from Theatre Communications Group. He comes to Childsplay from Portland, Oregon, where he has an extensive resumé of roles and shows that he has directed. Last season for Childsplay he played Duck and Huntsman in *Peter and the Wolf*. Last season he played Engywook and others in *The Neverending Story*, Captain Salty and others in *Busytown*, the Skin Horse in *The Velveteen Rabbit* and directed *Ferdinand the Bull* and the Arizona premiere

of *Getting Near to Baby*. The previous season he was seen on stage as Mr. Lorry in *A Tale of Two Cities*. He created the animation and video projection for *The Neverending Story*, *Goodnight Moon* and *Miss Nelson is Missing. Ferdinand the Bull*. Other acting credits in the Phoenix area include a one-man show, *Men on the Verge of A His-Panic Breakdown*, *Bordertown* at Actors Theatre of Phoenix, the title role in *Richard III* and Iago in *Othello* for Southwest Shakespeare, *Metamorphoses* at Nearly Naked Theatre and *Almost, Maine* for Phoenix Theatre.

Jesse Berger (*Duque Dodo*) is extremely happy to be making his second appearance for Childsplay, having portrayed the role of Pantalone in the school tour of *Androcles and the Lion* last season. This tour should prove to be especially fun, however, as he has the opportunity to perform and travel with his wife, Laura. Jesse has been performing in theatre for most of his life, alongside his other work as a guitar maker and repairman. Favorite credits include The Engineer in *Miss Saigon*, The Emcee in *Cabaret*, Benny Southstreet in *Guys & Dolls*, and Sparky in multiple productions of *Forever Plaid* and *Plaid Tidings*.

Laura Berger (*Cochina*) is thrilled to be back with Childsplay, have previously appeared in *The Big Friendly Giant*. She is especially grateful for the opportunity to appear along side her husband, Jesse! She is a native of Phoenix, AZ and has been performing since childhood. She holds a BS in Psychology from Arizona State University. Her favorite credits include *Into The Woods* (Cinderella), *The Music Man* (Marian), *Anything Goes* (Reno Sweeny), *Joseph...Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat* (The Narrator), and *The Taffetas* (Kaye/Peggy).

Colin Ross (*Doquito Danilo*) is currently pursuing a career as an actor. He spent this summer teaching at the Summer Camp program at Childsplay and thoroughly enjoyed it. Colin has always enjoyed working with children and has appeared as the Teen Angel in *Grease*, Gepetto in *Gepetto & Son* and *Seussical the Musical* at the Valley Youth Theatre in Phoenix. After touring last year through California and Arizona, Colin is excited to able to a part of the national tour of *Ferdinand the Bull* reprising his role as Danilo. He would like to thank Childsplay for the opportunity to travel and see the country.

Jeff Lemire (*Scenic Design*) is in his ninth season as Technical Director for Childsplay and is proud to see another one of his designs head off across the country. Jeff's other set designs for Childsplay include *Eric and Eliot*, *A Thousand Cranes*, *A Little Bit of Water* and last season's *Peter and The Wolf* national tour.

Jonathan Ivie (*Music Director*) is a dog lover, a ping-pong master, and is getting better at video games. He went to college for classical piano at Indiana University (B.M. Piano Performance '99) and has music-directed for many local theatres including Phoenix Theatre, Actors Theatre of Phoenix, Nearly Naked Theatre, and more. He won a Zoni award for *The 1940s Radio Hour* and has been seen working for Childsplay onstage as part of the *Seussical* band in previous years. Outside the theatre world, look for him rocking and rolling with local favorite band The Instant Classics.

D. Daniel Hollingshead (*Costume Design*) has designed costumes for *Eric and Elliot*, *New Kid* and *Power Play* along with remount designs of: *Apollo to the Moon*, *And They Came for Me*, and *The Velveteen Rabbit* for Childsplay. Other designs include *As You Like It* and *Beehive* for Perry Mansfield, as well as many dance works for companies such as Center Dance Ensemble, Site Specific Dance Works, The Dance Connection, Perry Mansfield, ASU and ASU West Dance

Departments. Mr. Hollingshead has also designed hair and make-up for many local theatre and dance companies and has worked as cutter draper, wardrobe supervisor, deck crew and wardrobe for both local and touring companies. Mr. Hollingshead is currently head of Childsplay's costume construction and wardrobe department. In addition to his behind the scenes skills in theatre, Mr. Hollingshead has performed as a professional dancer with many dance companies in both Arizona and Colorado as well as many works at ASU where he received a BFA in Performance and Choreography. Currently Mr. Hollingshead is performing with Center Dance Ensemble as a soloist and principal member of the company.

Bill Rios (*Lighting Design*) is beginning his third season as Master Electrician at Childsplay. His previous work includes lighting design for *Tomato Plant Girl* at Childsplay and assistant lighting design for the Adams Theatre at Utah Shakespearean Festival's summer season. He is ecstatic to be designing two shows with Childsplay in their 2010-2011 season: the national tour of *Ferdinand the Bull* and the upcoming production of *The Imaginators*.

Christopher Neumeyer (*Sound Design*) is currently in his fourth season as the Sound Supervisor for Childsplay, where he also works as a Sound Designer and Composer. Amongst his favorite shows are: *Honus and Me*, *Busytown*, *Goodnight Moon*, *The BFG* at Childsplay; *Secret Order* with Actors Theater, PHX; and *All My Sons*, *Fences*, *Cabaret* at Theaterworks, Palo Alto, CA. Additionally, he has toured nationally with *The New Musical Adventures of the 3 Redneck Tenors* as their Sound Supervisor/FOH mixer, as well as produced sound effects and voice over content for multimedia projects, corporate DVD's, and feature films.

Alfredo Macias (*Stage Manager*) is an ASU graduate with a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre thrilled to be returning to Childsplay for this national tour. Most recently, he wrapped up his fourth full season at Stray Cat Theatre in Tempe, AZ with *12th Night of the Living Dead*. Some of his favorites at Stray Cat include *Speech & Debate*, *columbinus*, *Trainspotting*, *4.48 Psychosis*, *Fatal Attraction: A Greek Tragedy*, *Dog sees goD: Confessions of a Teenage Blockhead*, and *Pulp*. Other credits with Childsplay include *Androcles and the Lion*, the AZ tour of *Rock, Paper, Scissors*, *Ferdinand the Bull* (the original production), and *Miss Nelson is Missing*. Stage managing credits include *Bash* with Class6 Theatre as well as the world premiere of *Voices of Valor* by James Garcia for both ASU/Gammage and the University of Texas Austin. In Arizona he has stage managed the co-produced Arizona Theatre Company production of *Fully Committed* at the Mesa Arts Center, the '07 & '08 summer seasons for Shakespeare Sedona, and also assistant stage managed *La Boheme* for the Phoenix Metropolitan Opera. Much love to my family and partner Brad who continue to support and encourage my work. Thanks for supporting the arts and enjoy the show. "Cha-Cha-Cha!"

Jeremiah Pfeiger (*Sound Coordinator*) is happy to back with Childsplay for his second national tour with the company, resuming his roll from last years tour of *Peter and the Wolf*. An Arizona native, he has been working on live productions as a freelancer for more than six years. Working primarily as an audio/mix engineer, he has had the pleasure of working concerts and industrial shows, however he enjoys working dance and theatre companies the most. Aside from Childsplay, the companies/groups he has enjoyed working for include. Blue Rodeo, Meadowlark, Spring of Life, Copperstar Repertory, and Liz Lerman Dance Exchange. When he is not on tour, Jeremiah can generally be found working at the Chandler Center for the Arts.

Who's Who at Childsplay

David Saar is Childsplay’s Founder and Artistic Director. He has directed and taught for Childsplay since the company was formed in 1977. Among the many productions he has directed for Childsplay, favorites include *Still Life with Iris*, *A Year With Frog and Toad*, *Pero or the Mystery of the Night*, *Afternoon of the Elves*, *Cyrano* and, always, the show he is currently working on! David also directed *The Origins of Happiness in Latin* for Arizona Theatre Company, *Charlotte’s Web*, *The Yellow Boat* and *Tomas and the Library Lady* for the Seattle Children’s Theatre, and *The BFG* for the Chicago Theatre for Young Audiences. David served on the roster of the Arizona Commission on the Arts Artist-in-Education program for nine years, was an adjunct faculty member for the Department of Theatre at ASU, and worked for the Mesa Unified School District as a Drama Curriculum Specialist. He is a former board member of the U.S. chapter of the international children’s theatre association (ASSITEJ) and is a member of the American Association for Theatre and Education. In 1989 he received the Governor’s Arts Award for his contributions to the arts in Arizona, in 1991 he was the recipient of the national Winifred Ward Dare to Dream Fellowship, and in 1993 he received the Phoenix Futures Forum Dream Weavers Vision award. In 2002, he received the first Notable Achievement Award from the Herberger College of Fine Arts at ASU. In 2007, he was awarded the prestigious Thomas DeGaetani Award from the United States Institute for Theatre Technology (USITT). In 2009, he was recognized for outstanding contributions to theatre in Arizona by the National Society of Arts and Letters, and in August 2010, he received the prestigious Medallion Award from the Children’s Theatre Foundation of America to honor Childsplay’s artistic excellence and national influence during its 33 year history.

Steve Martin is in his tenth season as Managing Director at Childsplay. He is a native of Toledo, Ohio, and a 1983 graduate of the University of Toledo. He is currently on the boards of the Papago Salado Association and is President of Arizona Citizens for the Arts. Prior to joining Childsplay, he was Assistant Managing Director of the Alliance Theatre Company in Atlanta, Georgia, and the Managing Director of Virginia Stage Company in Norfolk, Virginia. He has also served as a grants panelist for the Virginia Commission on the Arts, Arizona Commission on the Arts and the Phoenix Office of Arts and Culture.

Childsplay Company and Staff

“One of the underlying core values of Childsplay is the notion of *ensemble*. There is a resident group of theatre artists (our Associate Artists) who, in collaboration with the Artistic Director, are responsible for planning and creating the artistic products that illustrate Childsplay’s mission. But these artists do not create in isolation. Everyone who works at Childsplay -- other artists, technicians, educators, administrators and trustees -- is a part of this resident ensemble. This mindset guides the way our work is created, the way it is marketed and the way it is delivered.”

Childsplay’s Strategic Plan 2012

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Associate Artist

Jon Gentry

Associate Artist

José Cruz González

Playwright-in-Residence

Dwayne Hartford

Associate Artist and Playwright-in-Residence

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Stage Manager

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Resident Stage Manager

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Laura Berger
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ASL Interpreters: Judy Robbins
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Kim Manning

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John Moum
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Elizabeth Polen
Aimee Reid
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Laurie Trygg
Ebony Tucker
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Maureen Dias Watson
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About Childsplay

480-921-5700

www.childsplayaz.org

- Childsplay, founded in 1977, is a non-profit professional theatre company of adult actors, teaching and performing for young audiences and families.
- Childsplay's mission is *to create theatre so strikingly original in form, content or both that it instills in young people an enduring awe, love and respect for the medium, thus preserving imagination and wonder, those hallmarks of childhood that are the keys to the future.*
- This season, Childsplay expects to give 700 performances for more than 250,000 young people on public stages and in schools throughout the state.
- Childsplay launched its first national tour in 2007 when the two-person cast of *Tomás and the Library Lady* toured 24 states in 24 weeks. In 2008, the same show toured to the Geffen Playhouse in Los Angeles for a short run. In 2009, *Peter and the Wolf* toured 20 states in 8 weeks. This year, *Ferdinand the Bull* will tour in both fall and spring for a total of 17 weeks and will reach 41 cities.
- Childsplay's administrative offices, classrooms, rehearsal halls, prop and costume shops are located in the Sybil B. Harrington Campus for Imagination and Wonder at Mitchell Park, 900 South Mitchell Drive, Tempe.
- Childsplay is a constituent of Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national organization for American theatre; TYA/USA, the US Chapter of ASSITEJ, the international organization for theatre for young audiences; and the Tempe Chamber of Commerce.

2010-11

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Childsplay gratefully acknowledges the following individuals, corporations, foundations and businesses for their support of our Annual Fund from July 1, 2009 through December 6, 2010. Thank you for helping us share imagination, wonder and joy with children of all ages.

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(New Page)

Bright Lights Bright Kids

To commemorate generosity to the *Bright LIGHTS Bright KIDS Campaign*, the staff and campaign leaders of Childsplay wish to publicly recognize gifts from those whose commitment has helped make the goals of the \$4.75 million capital development program a reality.

Childsplay gratefully acknowledges the following individuals, corporations, foundations and organizations whose gifts, as of March 10, 2010, have played a major part in the success of the capital development program.

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Dennis and Mary Ann Jontz
Erica Kartak
Lawrence and Jenifer Kasten
Ryan and Erin Kelly
Megan Kimball
Christine Klenk
Jay Koval
John Krieger
Lewis and Roca
Juliet Lim
David Lunt and Julie O'Connell Lunt
Caroline Mara
Stephanie Matson
Robert and Linda McCormick
Camille and Michael McCue
Paul McDonald
Jack and Christie Meldrum
Linda D Menchoff
Jenny Millinger
Myra Millinger
Linda Mitchell
Linda Norcross
Patricia Norris
Jonathan E Ockert
Erin L Ogden
Brenda O'Regan
Marcia Parish
Linda and Chris Parkis
Amy and Bill Perciballi
Anthony Prenol
Kay Rickelman
Alisa Rosenberg
Mitchell and Kimberly Rosendorf
Bruce Samuels
Ellen Shankman
Ryan Short
Mary Ann and Gerald Shrader
Keri Silvyn

Carl and Renate Slaughter
Jennifer Slaughter
Michael A Slaughter
Jim and Lynna Soller
Jack Spitzer
Starwood Friends of John Van Kirk
Helen Joan Streit
Frank Strocchio
Krista and Kenneth Thompson
Nancy J Thompson
William Trumpbour
Richard and Janet Uddin
John and Marilyn Van Ausdall
Susan Van Kirk
Quentin Vaughan and Amy Erickson
Lori Vik
Susan Walker
Rosemary and Patrick Walsh
Weiss & Moy, PC
Chris and Carol Wellford
Heidi Wesolowski
Karen Wildman
Lisa L Wolters
Ruth A Wright

We apologize if we have omitted anyone who has made a gift in Gwendolyn's memory. Please contact the Development Office at 480-921-5762 so that we can correct any future listings. Thank you for your support!