



Byre
Theatre

Bard
in the
Botanics

Byre Theatre and Bard in the Botanics present

The 2024
St Andrews
Panto

Beauty and the Beast

Official Programme

Beauty and the Beast

A Message from our Writer and Director Gordon Barr

This year sees us celebrate a decade of Bard in the Botanics pantos at the Byre Theatre and the whole team is thrilled to be back in St Andrews to mark the occasion with another fun-filled, action-packed adventure in the kingdom of Fantasia – the “tale as old as time” that is *Beauty and the Beast*. Our fantastic professional cast, full of Byre panto favourites, are joined once again by our young cast – twenty-four of the most talented, brilliant and committed young people you could ever hope to find. Everyone at Bard in the Botanics would like to thank the Byre Theatre team and especially the amazing St Andrews audiences for providing us with such a warm, welcoming “home from home” each Christmas – and we look forward to sharing the festive magic with you all for many more years to come.

A Message from our Byre Director, Julie Ellen

The most enormous thank you goes to everyone at Bard in the Botanics, our pantomime partners. A decade of their creative endeavour has brought so much joy to so many people, filling the Byre Theatre with laughter, tears, boos and cheers. We are extremely grateful for all that they do and we look forward to an equally happy and fulfilling partnership in the years to come.

The Byre's Christmas Appeal

Please donate and give the gift of panto to someone in 2025.



Meet our Cast

Belladonna Nightshade
Prince Adam / The Beast
Martha May / Understudy
Valentine
Belle
Bunty Bahookie

Stephen Arden
James Boal
Rhian Ferrigan
Stephanie McGregor
Éimi Quinn
Alan Steele

Young Cast

The Cool Kids

Tiffany / Troy
Harmony
Melody
Kimberley

The Villagers

Mayor Mardyface
Susan Sourpuss
Just Gerald
Cindy Lou

The Castle Servants

Jobsworth
Mrs Potty
Flouncette
Chipper

The Beauties

Mia Miles
Erin Reid
Lily Robson
Sol Jiménez-Segui

Orelie de Majo
Sen de Majo
Alfie Michie
Daisy Murray

George Masters
Maja Smith
Emily Green
Dylan Morgan

The Beasties

Ben Smeddle
Lily Horrocks
Emily Woolf
Amy Montgomery

Charlotte Fisher
Iona McPhail
Fergus Ward
Hannah Stevenson

Eliot McEwan-Short
Eleanor Small
Freya Oram
Oscar Connell

Our Young Cast is managed by Byre Youth and Community Arts and generously supported by Friends of the Byre and St Andrews Ball.

Creative Team

Director / Writer
Designer
Lighting Designer
Choreographer
Musical Director
Young Cast Musical Director
Music Tracks Creation

Gordon Barr
Carys Hobbs
Benny Goodman
Stephen Arden
Luke Sprague
Miguel Esteban
Stephen Roberts

Production Team

Company Stage Manager
Deputy Stage Manager
Assistant Stage Manager
Wardrobe Supervisor
Deputy Wardrobe Supervisor
Wardrobe Assistant
Set Construction
Scenic Artists
Young Cast Liaison

Babette Wickham-Riddick
Alexandra McKenna
Robyn Johnstone
Sarah Michael
Mary Angélique Boyd
Alixandra Brady
Pretty Scenic Ltd.
Dylan Ross, Leila Kalbassi
Ashley Foster



For accessible performances

Audio Describer
Captioner

Veronica Kinahan
Louisa McDaid

Photography

Production Photography
Pre-production Video and Photography

Viktoria Begg
Tom Duncan at Twin City Pictures

For the Byre Theatre

Director
Deputy Director,
Head of Programme and Marketing
Programme and Marketing Officer
Programme Administrators (job share)
Marketing Intern
Head of Technical and Operations
and Production Manager for Panto
Deputy Technical and Operations Manager
Deputy Technical and Operations Manager
(Parental Leave Cover)
Operations Administrator
Theatre Technicians

Relief Technicians

Head of Visitor Services and Systems
Deputy Box Office Manager
Deputy Front of House Manager
Visitor Service Assistants

Director of Sands: International Film Festival
of St Andrews

Julie Ellen
Jan McTaggart

Hope Turriff
Mill Valentine and Lindsey Leven-Pryce
Nishka Dalmia
David Venters

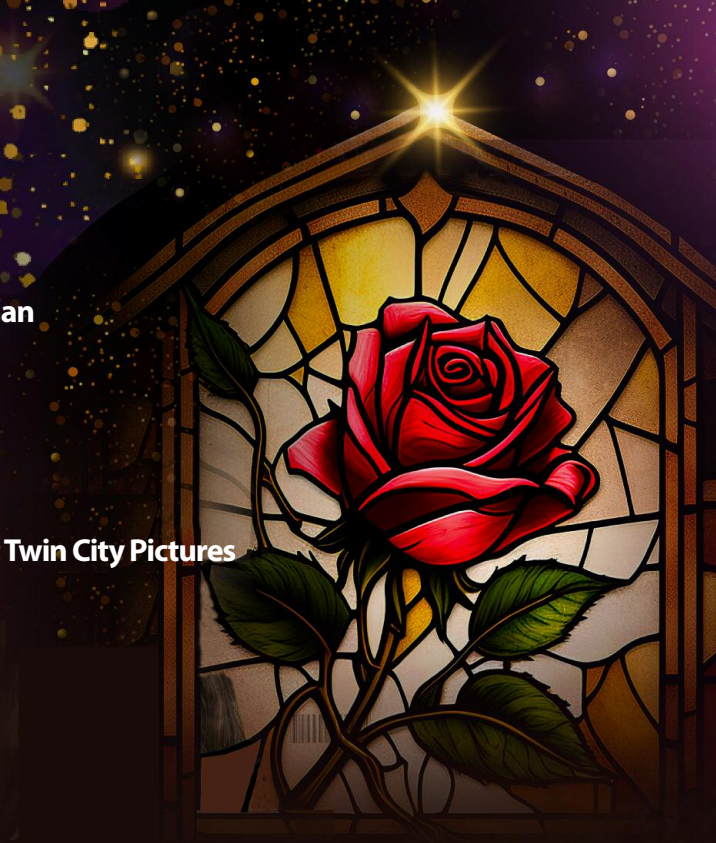
Bee George
Amy Dawson

Erin Karn
Scott Parker, George Killick, Craig Crawford,
Alan Macleod, Scott McKeen
Robert Moran, Andrew Barron, Shona M'gadzah,
Iain Cunningham, Rory Innes
Mary McKenzie
Jessica Somerville
Karl Morgan
Dianna Stewart, Emma Stothers, Isabelle Taylor,
Hannah Savage, Scott McKeen, Roslyn Bates
Ania Trzebiatowska

Other team members include our wonderful Front of House Volunteers.

Special thanks to the Domestic Technicians, and other colleagues from across the University who contribute to the success of the Byre.

On behalf of the cast, creative team and the Byre Theatre, a special thanks goes to:
Jennifer Dick, Tamsin Harper-Jenkins, Rhonda Barclay, National Theatre of Scotland,
Jude Bompfrey, Ashleigh Blair, Jack, Tali & Roo (apprentice scenic artist)



Meet our Cast



Stephen Arden
Belladonna Nightshade

From Motherwell, Stephen trained at RSAMD (Now RCS). 2024 was Stephens first year as an Associate Artist with Bard in the Botanics and this summer he played St John Rivers and several others in *Jane Eyre* and Frank Ford in *The Merry Wives of Wishaw*. More recently he appeared as James in new musical *Glasgow Kiss* at Glasgow's Pavilion Theatre. Stephen is a Byre Panto regular, wreaking havoc as villains: Cruella Disdain, Queen Lucretia, The Snow Queen, Count Olaf and Abanazar. Other credits for Bard in the Botanics include: Jack Worthing in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, Casca in *Julius Caesar*, Don Pedro in *Much Ado About Nothing*, Cobweb/Quince and Egeus in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Horatio in *Hamlet* and Oliver/Amiens in *As You Like It*. His other theatre credits include: Steven in *Crocodile Rock*, Baby in *A New Life* (Scottish Tours), Sir Robin/Resident Director for *Spamalot* UK Tour, Nicky/Trekkie Monster in *Avenue Q* (UK Tour), Ensemble in *Still Game Live 2*, WJ Clinton in *Clinton the Musical* (Edinburgh Festival and Kings Head, London), Anthony in *Sweeney Todd* (Dubai) and Melchior Gabor in *Spring Awakening* (Edinburgh Festival). Stephen appears in the BBC Short Stuff films *Fancy Man* and *The Split*.



James Boal
Prince Adam / The Beast

James appeared as Slim in David Ireland's *Cyprus Avenue* at the Pavilion Theatre, Glasgow 2024 (Tron Theatre/ Trafalgar Entertainment). Previously with Bard in the Botanics: Judge Brack in *Hedda Gabler*, Claudio/Escalus in *Measure for Measure*, Julius Caesar in *Julius Caesar*, Algernon in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, Benedick in *Much ado About Nothing*, Petruchio in *The Taming of the Shrew?* and Buttons in *Cinderella* (Byre Theatre/Bard in the Botanics). James played William Hare in Colin MacDonald's *An Eye for a Killing* (BBC Radio 4), which was shortlisted for best original drama series at BBC Audio Awards 2024. Other credits include: Mother Superior/Ensemble in the UK tour of *Trainspotting Live* (Kings Head Theatre/In Your Face Theatre/Seabright Productions), Beast in *Beauty and the Beast* (The Brunton Theatre) and Christy in *The Lieutenant of Inishmore* (In Your Face Theatre). Screen work includes companies such as Multichannel TV, Broken Blonde, BBCNI, Freak Films and NI Screen.



Rhian Ferrigan
Martha May / Understudy

Rhian Ferrigan is a Scottish Actor and Musician. She trained at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland graduating in 2022. A few credits include *A Mirrored Monet* (Edinburgh Fringe 2023) and *Lifeline, A New Musical Concept Album* (July 2024). This will be Rhian's first year at the Byre, and she can't wait to bring some Christmas sparkle to St Andrews.



Stephanie McGregor
Valentine

Stephanie trained at Rose Bruford College of Theatre and Performance and The Scottish Contemporary Dance School. Her theatre credits include *Jane Eyre*, *Measure for Measure*, *Jekyll and Hyde*, *Julius Caesar*, *Twelfth Night*, *The Winter's Tale*, *As You Like It*, *Hamlet*, *Queen Lear*, *Taming of the Shrew?*, *Dr Faustus*, *Love's Labour's Lost*, *The Merchant of Venice* and *Romeo and Juliet* (Bard in the Botanics); *The Scarlet Pimpernel* (Pimpernel Productions); *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (10FeetTall Theatre); *Glasgow Girls* (Raw Materials /NTS); *Where's Lulu?*, *Causeway*, *In the Heart of Darby Park* (A Play, A Pie and A Pint); *Monarch of the Glen* (Pitlochry Festival Theatre); *Cinderella*, *Snow White*, *Jack and the Beanstalk*, *Mother Goose*, *Sleeping Beauty*, *Beauty and the Beast* and *Aladdin* (Byre Theatre / Bard in the Botanics); *Flora's Fairy Challenge*, *A Christmas Carol* (Citizens Theatre); *Tribes* (Solar Bear); *The BFG* (Dundee Rep); *The Fumidor* (Pants on Fire, Warehouse Theatre) and *The White Devil* (The Globe, Sam Wanamaker Festival).



Éimi Quinn
Belle

Éimi is an actor and playwright who graduated from New College Lanarkshire in 2020, with a BA in Musical Theatre. Her theatre credits include Anne Page in *The Merry Wives of Wishaw*, Cecily in *The Importance of Being Earnest* and Portia/Octavia in *Julius Caesar* (Bard in the Botanics), Emma in *The Funeral Club* (A Play, A Pie and A Pint), Windolene in *Cinderella* and Doddit in *Snow White* (Byre Theatre), *The Celtic Story* (SEC), Small in *Is That You Santa?* (Macrobert Arts Centre), and Jade in *Class Act* (Traverse Theatre). Her TV credits include *Guilt* (BBC), *Six Four* (ITV), and *Shetland* (BBC). As a playwright, Éimi's first play, *The Funeral Club*, was produced in the 2024 Spring Season of A Play, A Pie and A Pint at Oran Mor. She was also one of the 2023 Mentored Playwrights with the Playwrights' Studio Scotland, with her second play, *Skelf*. She is currently part of a wonderful team of writers creating female led sketch shows with Witsherface theatre company. Éimi is really excited to be back at the Byre this Christmas, with the best folk you could hope to work with.



Alan Steele
Bunty Bahookie

Alan's credits for Bard in the Botanics include Sir John Falstaff in *Henry IV* and Prospero in *The Tempest* (both performances earning him CATS Award nominations for Best Performance), Lady Bracknell in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, Malvolio in *Twelfth Night* and roles in *Medea*, *Jane Eyre*, *The Winter's Tale*, *Hamlet*, *As You Like It*, *Coriolanus* and *Love's Labours Lost*, as well as reprising the role of Falstaff this summer in *The Merry Wives of Wishaw*. He has been the Dame for multiple Christmas seasons at the Byre Theatre in St Andrews. Alan's other theatre credits include several seasons at Pitlochry Festival Theatre with appearances in, amongst others, Rona Munro's *The Last Witch*, *Travesties*, *Europe* and *Good Things* (Leon Sinden Award); Peter Arnott's *Unspotted Snow* (Mull Theatre Scottish tour); the title role in *Dracula* (Courtyard, Hereford); the one man show *Backstage at the Pussycat Club* (The Arches, Glasgow); *A Taste of Honey* and *The Crucible* (Tag / NTS). He has toured the Highlands and Islands in many shows including *The Weir* and *The Lonesome West* and played the title role in *Macbeth* with Mull Theatre. He played Gil Martin, the devil, in a highly acclaimed production of *Confessions of a Justified Sinner* (Rowan Tree) and on BBC Radio 4. His TV credits include the title role of John Knox in the BBC's *The Sword and The Cross*.

Meet our Creative Team

Stephen Arden
Choreographer

Stephen trained at RSAMD (now RCS). Stephen was movement director for *Jane Eyre* and *The Merry Wives of Wishaw* for the Bard in the Botanics 2024 season. Previously he has created movement for Bard's *The Importance of Being Earnest* and for The Byre pantomimes: *Cinderella*, *Snow White*, *Jack and the Beanstalk*, *Mother Goose*, *Sleeping Beauty*, *Aladdin*, *Cinderella*. His other movement and choreography credits include *Is That You Santa?* at Macrobert Arts Centre (Puppet Direction and Choreography), *A New Life* for Play Pie and a Pint at Oran Mor and Traverse Theatre, and Movement and Puppet Direction for *Hamlet* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* for Bard in the Botanics. He was the Associate Director for *Jewish Hollywood* for Aria Ents, Associate Director on the UK tour of *Spamalot* in 2017 and the Resident Director for *Snow White* at Eastwood Park Theatre. He has also worked on musical staging for Bard in the Botanics' *Much Ado About Nothing* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, collaborated on the concept for Bard on Broadway, and created additional choreography for *Clinton the Musical* at The Kings Head London.

Gordon Barr
Director and Writer

Gordon has been Artistic Director of Bard in the Botanics for 21 years, directing and producing more than 100 productions in that time. His own directing credits for the company include *Hedda Gabler*, *The Merry Wives of Wishaw*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Henry IV*, *Medea* (CATS Award for Best Production; CATS nomination for Best Director), *Much Ado About Nothing*, *The Winter's Tale*, *Twelfth Night*, *Hamlet*, *As You Like It*, *Antony and Cleopatra*, *Edward II*, *Measure for Measure*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Macbeth*, *Coriolanus*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *Love's Labour's Lost*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Comedy of Errors*, *Othello*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Pericles*, *King Lear*, and *Richard III*. He has written and directed the Byre Theatre/Bard in the Botanics pantomime for the past decade, with recent titles including *Cinderella*, *Snow White*, *Jack and the Beanstalk*, *Mother Goose*, *Sleeping Beauty* and *Aladdin*. He has taught Shakespeare extensively, including a number of productions for the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, and has worked on projects for a variety of companies across Scotland including NTS, Macrobert, Cumbernauld Theatre, TAG and 7:84.

Benny Goodman

Lighting Designer

Benny Goodman is a freelance lighting designer and creative collaborator, based in Glasgow and London. He has worked in theatres across the UK and Europe in a variety of projects and productions, and is a creative collaborator with theatre company, Wonder Fools.

Selected credits include: *Twelfth Night* (Shakespeare North); *Aganeeza Scrooge* (Tron Theatre); *Cinderella and Snow White* (Byre Theatre); *Four Walls* (Derby Theatre); *La Performance* (Tron Theatre/Paris IVT); *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Orange Tree Theatre); *Hamlet* (Saint Stephen's Theatre); *Hang* (Tron Theatre); *Sense Of Centre* (Dance Base Edinburgh); *Julius Caesar* (Company Of Wolves Scottish Tour); *Palace Of Varieties* (Derby Theatre); *Learning From The Future* (OGR Torino); *The Tempest* (Tron Theatre); *Meet Jan Black* (Ayr Gaiety); *Maim* (Tron Theatre); *I Can Go Anywhere* (Traverse Theatre); *The Drift* (National Theatre of Scotland); *The Afflicted* (Summerhall); *Country Music* (Omnibus Theatre); *549: Scots of the Spanish Civil War* (UK Tour); *The Mistress Contract* (Tron Theatre); *Daddy Drag* (Assembly Roxy); *Where We Are: The Mosque* (Arcola Theatre, London); *Sorella Mia* (The Place, London); *Disarming Reverberations* (St Giles Cathedral, Edinburgh); *Heroines* (Theatre Gu Leor, Stornoway); *Humbug* (Tramway, Glasgow); *The Snow Queen* (Associate – Dundee Rep Theatre); *Like Animals* (Tron Theatre); *Ayanfe Opera* (Bridewell Theatre, London); *Lampedusa* (Citizens Theatre); *Circle of Fifths* (Tron Theatre/Cockpit Theatre London). For more on his work – www.bennygoodman.co

Carys Hobbs

Designer

Carys trained in Design at QMU – Edinburgh. Her most recent designs include *Moorcroft* (Tron Theatre); CATS 2022 Best production winner *Medea*, *Henry IV* and *Jekyll and Hyde* for Bard in the Botanics, *Walking Tall Tales* (Tron Theatre Education), *The Dutch Courtesan* for RCS and *Cinderella* at the Byre in 2023.

She's delighted to be returning to the Byre for her 10th year of Panto design. Her credits also include *Bingo!* for Stella Quines and Grid Iron, *Coriolanus Vanishes* with Fire Exit, *Last Tango in Partick* for NTS, *CRUDE* with Grid Iron and *GlasGlow* for Itison. For Tron Theatre she has also designed *Shall Roger Casement Hang?*, *Colquhoun and Macbryde*, *Happy Days* and *Brothers Karamazov*. Carys has been the Head of Design for Bard in the Botanics since 2014 with designs including 2022's *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Antony and Cleopatra*, *Measure for Measure*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Coriolanus*, *Dr Faustus*, *Romeo and Juliet* and *The Merchant of Venice*. Carys also leads the placement scheme for costumiers still in training to get professional training throughout the year with Bard in the Botanics.

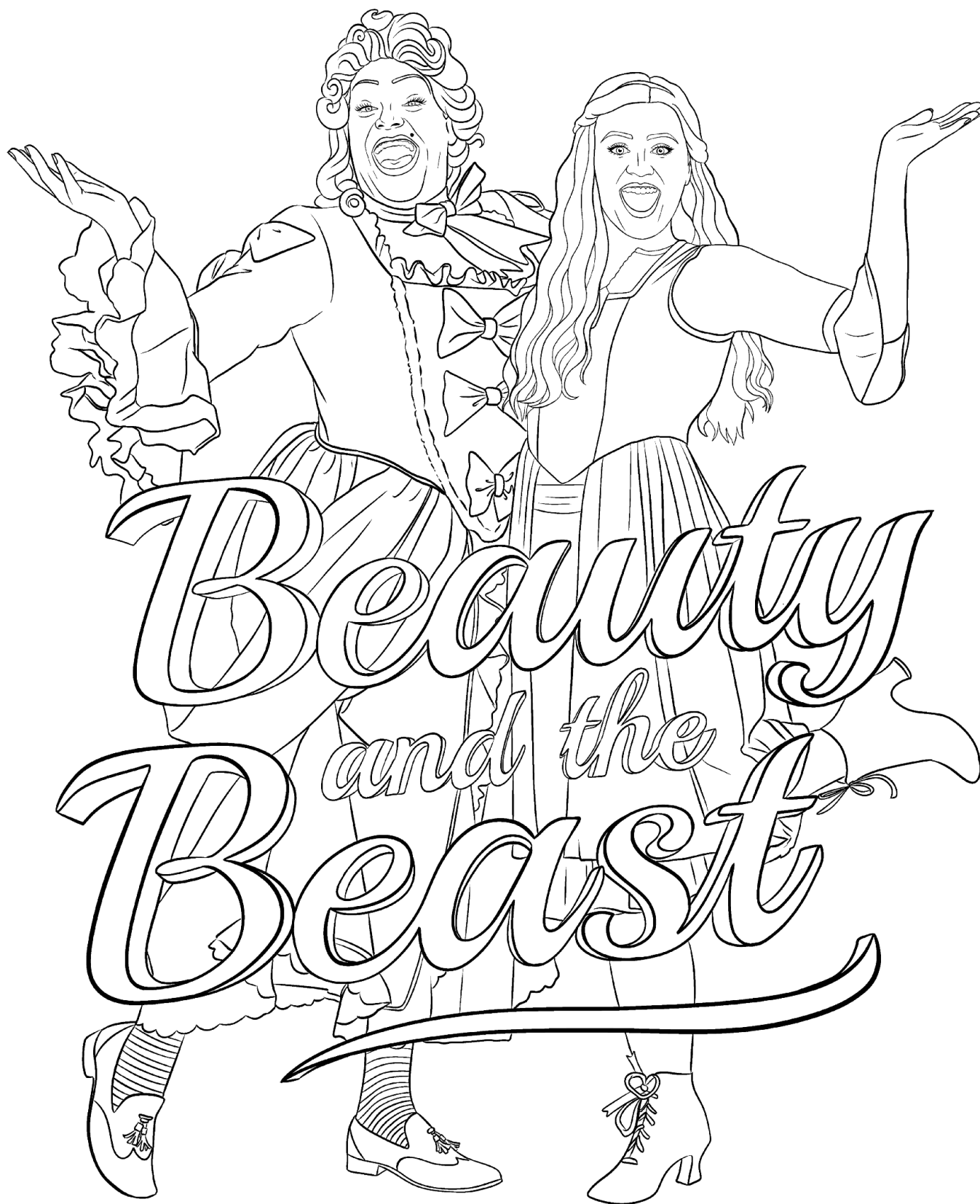
Luke Sprague

Musical Director

Luke Sprague is a Glasgow based Musical Director, Keyboard player, orchestrator and singer. After gaining his MA in Musical Theatre Music Direction from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland he has been a freelance MD picking up gigs taking him the length of the UK. Luke has a keen interest in new work and orchestration with a background in classical piano, singing and violin while also being involved in jazz orchestras as MD or playing bass guitar. He has worked as a vocal and repertoire coach for various companies and projects and offers 1:1 sessions in Glasgow. Recent credits include Musical Director/Keys 1/Bass – *Fountain of You* (Assembly Rooms Music Hall, Edinburgh Fringe), Associate Musical Director and Orchestrator – *Sweet Charity* (RCS), Musical Director – *Christmas at the Conservatoire* (RCS).



Print this page out to colour in Bunty Bahookie and Belle!



These puzzles are a beast! Print them out to complete.

Can you find these words which are trapped in the bell jar?

BALL, PANTO,
PRINCE, LOVE,
ROSE, MAGIC,
FANTASIA, CHRISTMAS,
BEAST, EVER AFTER



This year marks 10 wonderful years of Byre Theatre and Bard in the Botanics Pantos. Can you match the images from previous St Andrews Pantos to the correct title?

SNOW WHITE 2022, MOTHER GOOSE 2019, CINDERELLA 2023,
JACK AND THE BEANSTALK 2021, CINDERELLA 2015, ALADDIN 2016



1.....



2.....



3.....



4.....



5.....



6.....

Welcome to the Byre



Byre
Theatre

Refreshments at the Byre

The Byre Kiosk on Level 2 is open for preshow and interval hot and cold drinks, snacks, and of course, delicious ice cream. In addition, you'll also find drinks being served by our friends at BrewCo at the bar on Level 1, before the show and during the interval. Thank you to everyone who has been visiting the Byre Kiosk since it opened for business earlier in the autumn. We continue to expand the selection of what's available and look forward to hearing your thoughts on what's on offer.

Box Office opening hours for December 2024

The Byre Box Office is open 10.00am – 4.30pm Monday to Saturday, except when there is an evening event, when it remains open until after the performance starts. It is closed on Sundays, unless there is a performance, when box office opens two hours before the start time. The Byre Box Office is open throughout December, only taking Sunday 1 December and Christmas Day off. For full details of festive opening hours please visit byretheatre.com.

Opening hours for 2025

The Byre, including the Box Office closed Wednesday 1 – Sunday 5 January.

Box Office phone lines reopen from Monday 6 January 10.00am – 4.30pm Monday to Saturday.

The Byre building reopens and Box Office counter sales restart at 10.00am on Friday 17 January 2025.

You can always find information on what's happening and book at byretheatre.com. If you have any questions or queries, please email byreboxoffice@st-andrews.ac.uk and we will respond to you as soon as we can.

In the meantime, everyone at the Byre wishes you and yours a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

The Byre Theatre
Abbey Street, St Andrews
Fife KY16 9LA

01334 475000

Find us at byretheatre.com and on social media:



facebook.com/byretheatre



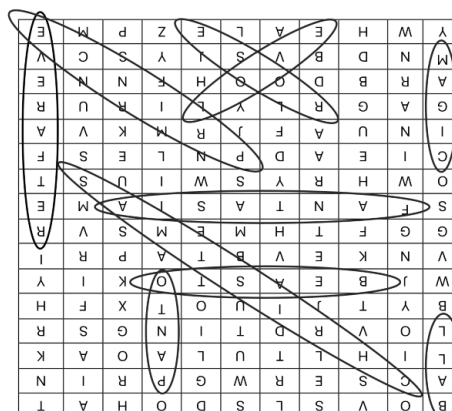
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instagram.com/byretheatre

Here are the answers to the puzzles inside. Don't peek!

1. Aladdin 2016
2. Cinderella 2015
3. Cinderella 2023
4. Jack and the Beanstalk 2021
5. Mother Goose 2019
6. Snow White 2022



Byre Theatre, Abbey Street, St Andrews KY16 9LA

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