

THE CIVIC & Rob Murphy present a **GIANT** of a Panto

KEILA ANA WHELAN
as JILL

AIDAN G as
MOOTILDA

ROBERT DOWNES
as DAME DOTTIE

RUTH LEONARD
as
FAIRY RUTHLESS

SARAH HARVEY
as BARONESS

Tickles and the Beanstalk

KEVIN KEELEY
as TICKLES

4th Dec - 5th Jan
#TheCivicPanto

"DEADLY BUZZ
from start to finish"



DublinLive.ie

SHOW PROGRAMME

The Civic & Rob Murphy present a **GIANT** of a Panto



#TheCivicPanto

Join us here at The Civic as we follow Tickles and his friends on this spectacular adventure. Tickles might not always have the brightest ideas, but with his Ma Dottie by his side, they can conquer anything. BUT! They're facing a big challenge: the Evil Baroness wants to take their home away....

What's a family to do? Sell their hilarious all-singing, all-dancing pet cow, MOOTilda? Maybe Jill, the Baroness's niece, can help change her aunt's mind about being so mean?

Will Tickles and Dottie find their Happily-Ever-After?

This is our FAVOURITE time of the year and we cannot wait to welcome you all.

From all @ #TeamCivic



DONAL SHEILS - ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

A warm and laughter-filled welcome to this year's spectacular pantomime, 'Tickles and the Beanstalk'. We're absolutely delighted to have you join us for a magical adventure brimming with giggles, gasps, and good old pantomime mayhem. Get ready to climb the beanstalk with us into a world where bravery, friendship, and a touch of silliness save the day.

This year, Rob Murphy and our incredible creative team have woven their magic to bring a fresh and hilarious twist to this classic tale. With a lovable hero, a mighty beanstalk, a goose with golden surprises, and a villain you'll love to boo, the stage is set for a truly unforgettable family experience.

Our cast and crew have worked tirelessly to ensure you're entertained from the moment the curtain rises. Expect dazzling costumes, jaw-dropping sets, toe-tapping tunes, and plenty of opportunities to shout, cheer, and sing along (and don't hold back — this is pantomime, after all!).

At The Civic Theatre, we're passionate about creating live theatre experiences that bring people together. Your support makes it all possible. In a world of screens and streaming, there's something truly special about the magic of live performance — the shared laughter, the gasps, the joy of being part of something created right before your eyes. By joining us, you're helping to keep this magic alive for everyone, young and old, and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts. So, don't hold back — shout, cheer, and laugh your socks off as 'Tickles and the Beanstalk' springs to life. Let's create magical memories together and celebrate the wonder of live theatre!

Enjoy the show!

Donal Sheils

ROB MURPHY - PANTO DIRECTOR

Welcome to 'Tickles & The Beanstalk'! A massive round of thank yous to my amazing cast: Kevin, Ruth, Sarah, Aidan, Rob, and Kelia who have been absolute stars from day one. Huge thanks to my dream production team: musical wizard Elaine Gallagher, dance dynamo Alan McGrath, our super-organised stage managers Kyra and Bea, lighting legend Paddy Farrelly, and sound maestro Vinny Osborne.



Shout-out to the tech heroes here at the Civic: Dermot, Paddy, and Tara. To our talented, young ensemble dancers (and their patient chauffeurs — aka parents!), and to head chaperone Pauline Looney backstage, thank you all!

And, of course, a final cheer for Team Civic the heart and soul of our show. We're already counting down to next year's magic with 'Tickles, Beauty & The Beast'! Now your job is to raise the roof, sit back and

Rob Murphy

Enjoy!

CAST

KEVIN KEELEY AS JACK TICKLES

KEILA ANA WHELAN AS JILL

ROBERT DOWNES AS DAME DOTTIE TICKLES

AIDAN GAVIN AS MOOTILDA/GIANT

SARAH HARVEY AS BARONESS TRUMP

RUTH LEONARD AS FAIRY RUTHLESS

UNDERSTUDIES

DARA REILLY JACK TICKLES

KATIE KAVANAGH JILL

ABBIE FINN DAME DOTTIE TICKLES

JESSICA COULES MOOTILDA/GIANT

SOPHIE PALMER BARONESS TRUMP

HANNAH QUINN FAIRY RUTHLESS

MEET THE CAST



KEVIN KEELEY - JACK TICKLES

A Tallaght native, Kevin is no stranger to the stage, having first appeared on the Olympia Theatre stage at the age of 11. He played leading roles in the Olympia for 7 consecutive years alongside some of Ireland's most well known talents. Other credits include becoming a finalist on The Voice of Ireland, where he was mentored by Sharon Corr in 2012. Kevin then went on to join Celtic Woman on their tour of the United States in 2018, following a residency in Lanzarote.

Currently based in the UK, Kevin is back in the Civic Theatre to celebrate an incredible 20 years in the show business industry. With this year's Civic Panto being Tickle's biggest adventure yet, Kevin cannot wait to return for yet another Deadly Buzz.

KEILA ANA WHELAN - JILL

Keila graduated from BIMM Dublin in 2017 with a BA in Commercial and Modern Music. Recent credits include Daisy Buchanan in the premiere of Peter Beckett's new musical 'Gatsby'. Other credits include 'Raising your Voice Through the Power of Music' alongside Colm Wilkinson, Laurie in 'Oklahoma' in the National Concert Hall, originating the role of Mam in 'Tiny: The Musical' (Civic Theatre), Leading Lady with National Stadium Panto (2018-2021) and as Featured Soloist 'ENCORE' (Bord Gáis Energy Theatre).



She also originated the role of Anna in 'New Fish' (Smock Alley Theatre, Original Cast), performing as Swing for 'SHOUT! The Mod Musical' (Irish Tour) and Ensemble in 'SCAM The Musical' (Irish Premiere, Civic Theatre). Keila has starred in the last two Civic Halloween Spooktacular Productions as well as the past two Civic Panto productions, playing Princess Aurora (2022/23) and Cinderella (2023/24).

She is thrilled to be returning as Jill in this year's production! She would like to dedicate this year's shows to her late Nana Ann.



ROBERT DOWNES - DAME DOTTIE

Robert graduated in 2015 from The Conservatory of Music and Drama TU Dublin where he received a BA honours degree in Drama Performance. Also a graduate of NUI Galway's MA programme in Drama and Theatre Studies, Robert is an actor, playwright, director, and drama teacher.

He is also the artistic director of SQUAD Productions, a small Dublin-based theatre company committed to bringing innovative and collaborative theatre practices and experiences to Irish audiences.

Recent work includes 'The G Trilogy', a trilogy of campy horror radio plays that he wrote and directed, featured in The Lasta Festival in association with the Town Hall Theatre Galway and 'Dudder one' in Causeway Production's 'Snow White's Big Adventure - a Panto'. 'The Dwyer Scandal', written by Robert received a Pride Bursary from The International Dublin Gay Theatre Festival and was subsequently published in '18 and Coming of Age', an anthology of plays from the festival.

Robert loves a panto and being a Panto Dame has been a dream since he was a young wan! This is his third year playing Dame Dottie.

AIDAN GAVIN - MOOTILDA/GIANT

Aidan G is returning for his second Civic Panto, having played Ugly Sister Dame Lottie in last year's production of 'Cinderella'. This time, he's cow-a-bungaing into the legenDAIRY role of MOOTilda! Aidan is also excited to be double-cast as the Giant for this year's show. He has always had performing in his blood and trained with Dizzy Footwork Academy as a child whilst also performing as a Panto Dame in the amateur circle for many years. Aidan is currently studying BA (Hons) Commercial Modern Music in BIMM Institute Dublin. As a vocalist, he released his first original song on Spotify called 'Esta Noche' in 2020 which reached over 20K streams. Aidan loves creating TikToks and has over 30K followers on the platform.



For the last year, Aidan has been hosting and performing in a range of shows, in venues such as The Academy and The Telegraph Building. He hosts and performs a range of bottomless brunches with themes like ABBA, 80s vs 90s and Disney. Aidan is over the MOOn and can't wait to bring this all-singing all-dancing cow to life and join the incredible cast and crew in 'Tickles and The Beanstalk' and he hopes you enjoy the show – Oh YES he does!



SARAH HARVEY - BARONESS TRUMP

Sarah began her full time training in Sallynoggin College of Further Education, where she studied dance. Later completing a Diploma in Musical Theatre Performance with the London College of Music, she was invited to attend North London Dance Studios on a scholarship training week. She also studied singing through the ABRSM and taught Performing Arts in Sydney, Australia for a year.

Credits include the premiere of 'Whiskey in the Jar', and 'Wilde Nights' on the Oscar Wilde with Irish Ferries and 'The Promise', an Irish musical which premiered in the Helix. In 2015, Sarah performed as a leading vocalist on one of the most prestigious cruise lines, the 'Seabourn Quest', completing a world cruise visiting over 20 countries. Film credits include featured dancer in 'Mrs. Browns Boys D' movie'.

Taking a short break from the stage, Sarah took on her most important role to date ... being a mother! She returned to the stage in 'Rob Murphy Let Loose', which she also choreographed. She also choreographed The Civic Halloween Spooktacular this year. Sarah performed in her first ever solo show as part of the Musical Mondays series here in the Civic in June 2024.

Having played 'The Evil Stepmother' in last year's Civic Panto, she is delighted to be returning to the cast of the Civic Panto again this Christmas.

RUTH LEONARD - FAIRY RUTHLESS

Ruth has been in panto since she was 9 years old - dancing, singing and acting. She studied drama for a year in the Washington DC School of Acting in the USA before taking a break for a few years to get married and have children. She then became an Internet sensation with her Facebook (@TotallyRuthless), Instagram (@totally.ruthless) and TikTok (@totallyruthless43) comedic videos. She now has over 1.5 million followers and 100 million views on her online videos.



Ruth also starred on TV in 'Salon Confidential' on RTÉ and 'Angelina's Home Cooks' on Virgin Media Television. She is now making her return to panto as Fairy Ruthless in this year's Civic Panto!

MEET THE CREW

ROB MURPHY - PRODUCER, WRITER & DIRECTOR

Rob has recently graduated from University College Dublin with a First-Class Honours Master's Degree in Theatre Practice. Bull Alley Theatre Training Company and Trinity Guildhall London were among his former institutions of training. Rob has been working professionally for the past fifteen years, and his work encompasses acting, performing, theatre directing, choreographing, producing, and writing. He is well renowned for his performance as panto dame "Buffy" in the yearly pantomime production at Dublin's National Stadium (previously The Tivoli Theatre) - 'Queen Of The Panto Dames' (*The Irish Times*).



Other career highlights include premiering the one man show '69 Shades Of Gay' for Zac Productions at Smock Alley Theatre, playing the Wicked Witch in 'The Wizard Of Oz' at the Helix, playing The Olympia Panto Dame in 'Jack and The Beanstalk' 2006 for Spotlight Productions and his own comedy cabaret show 'Rob Murphy Let Loose' recently sold out at Dublin's legendary Vicar St. He is also a weekly contributor on Dublin's Q102 breakfast show.

For the last 10 years, he has directed The Civic Theatre Summer Camp. Since 2018, he has also directed and produced, in partnership with The Civic, the annual professional pantomime production which has been highly successful, entertaining over 16,000 patrons a year. Rob has been an associate artist with the Civic for the last four years. He is also the artistic director of Dramatic Action Stage School with classes in Dublin, Kildare and Kilkenny and in 2018 won 'Best School Director' at the All Ireland Dance Awards. The school runs classes five days a week and each season culminates in annual showcases.

He recently wrote and directed 'Mary Byrne Check Me Out', a new one woman show starring X Factor sensation Mary Byrne. The show received rave reviews and toured the country during Summer 2024, finishing in Dublin's Olympia Theatre. He also wrote and directed 'Safety In Sequins', a brand new musical which was featured in the Scene & Heard Festival 2024 and Smock Alley Theatre, Dublin.



KYRA CLIFFORD - STAGE MANAGER

Kyra has recently graduated from Bull Alley Theatre Training Company and holds an ATCL from Trinity Guildhall, London.

She is a drama and singing teacher with Dramatic Action Stage School and Spotlight Theatre Group. She also works extensively as a stage manager and workshop facilitator. She is also drama tutor for the highly successful Civic Theatre Summer Camp.

Kyra was Assistant Director for 'Rob Murphy Let Loose' which played Vicar Street in August 2022. Kyra worked on Karl Broderick & Alan Hughes' 'Aladdin' in the National Stadium in 2021 and was Assistant Stage Manager for the 2022 Civic Panto 'Sleeping Beauty' before stepping into the role of Stage Manager for last year's production of 'Cinderella'. She's delighted to be returning as Stage Manager.

ALAN MCGRATH - CHOREOGRAPHER



Alan has been the Director of Dizzy Footwork Productions Ltd. Dance Academy and Drama Academy alongside his sister Lisa McGrath for the past 16 years based in Rua Red Arts Centre Tallaght, which makes this extra special for him, working so close to home this Christmas.

His Film & TV Credits include Disney's 'Disenchanted' (Dance Captain), EMA's MTV Awards, Eurovision 2018, Eurovision 2013, ITV This Morning with Jedward, The Voice of Ireland, Ireland's Got Talent Season One & Two, 'Penny Dreadful', 'The Tudors', 'Vikings', 'Little Women', 'My Super Sweet 16' MTV, Ireland Am Guest Choreographer, RTÉ Junior Industry Expert Panel, 'Don't Tell The Bride' (Choreographer) and more.

His theatre credits include 'Singin' in the Rain' (Cork Opera House), 'Grease' & 'Tribute to Earl Gill' (Gaiety), 'Pirates of Penzance' & 'Sleeping Beauty' (Helix), 'The Nutcracker', 'Cinderella', 'Sleeping Beauty', 'Peter Pan', 'Beauty & The Beast', 'Aladdin' (Dance Captain & Assistant Choreographer), Late Late Toy Show and more.

Music Video Choreography credits include 'Window Pain' starring Gemma Lee Deveraux, 'Gone' by James Vincent McMorrow and 'High & Low' by Gemma Hayes among others. Alan has also performed with artists as varied as Justin Bieber, David Guetta, Jessie J, Selena Gomez, Tao Cruz and Flo Rida at the Odyssey Arena, London Beat, Ace of Base at 3 Arena and was part of the support act for the Westlife Farewell Tour. He has also choreographed for Samantha Mumba and performed on the Eurovision Tour.

Alan would like to say a huge thank you to everyone for welcoming him with open arms this year and would like to wish all the cast and crew a very successful run.

ELAINE GALLAGHER - MUSICAL & ASSISTANT DIRECTOR



Elaine is a theatre practitioner with nearly two decades of experience as a drama and singing teacher, working with both children and adults in Dublin. She graduated from the Bull Alley Theatre Training Company in 2006 and is currently pursuing a Master's Degree in Theatre Practice at UCD. Since 2018, she has held the positions of Musical Director and Assistant Director the Civic Panto, and Musical Director for the annual Civic Spooktacular. She also works as a vocal coach for numerous primary, secondary, and stage schools across Dublin. Elaine also has an active career as a professional wedding and events singer - a position she has been active in for two decades.

As Artistic Director of "Train with Elaine," she provides personalized acting and singing tuition for children and adults, specializing in audition preparation, drama and music examination coaching, and annual showcases. In 2018, she musical-directed and performed as lead vocalist in 'Rob Murphy Let Loose' at Dublin's Vicar Street. She also presented a sold-out solo concert in May 2024, as part of the Civic's Musical Mondays series. Elaine would like to wish the cast and crew the best of luck!

BEA ADOMAITYTE - ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER



Bea is a final year student of Inchicore College of Further Education studying Stagecraft and specialising in Stage Management. They have been a part of a number of college productions including Shakespeare's 'As You Like It' (Assistant Stage Manager), 'Liam Gallagher-Smyth and Samuel Memento Mori' (Stage Manager) and the expressionist 'Lost and Found' (crew and operator).

During The Civic's 2023 panto production, Bea partook in an internship programme with the stage management team. They're delighted to be back for this year's panto as Assistant Stage Manager.

AND...

Production Manager: Paddy Brophy

Sound Design: Vinny Osborne

Lighting Design: Paddy Farrelly

Costumes: Pauline Looney and Rob Murphy

Bespoke Costumes: Kevin Hynes

Chaperone/Children's Safety Officer: Pauline Looney

Set Design & Construction: Richard Levins

Operator: Tara Perry

Promotional Make Up Design: Ali Murphy

Promotional Photography: Rob Kennedy

Backing Tracks: Gary Burke

Wigs: How's Your Head Wigs

**& a BIG THANK YOU to Inchicore College of Further Education
and all of the student interns involved in this production!**

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Elaine Gallagher

Civic Panto musical director & assistant director would like to wish all her students from 'Train With Elaine' the very best of luck performing in *TICKLES & THE BEANSTALK*

Classes

LYRICAL DANCE CLASSES Age 4-18+ yrs

DRAMA CLASSES Age 4-18+ yrs

TINY TOTS DANCE CLASS Age 3-4 yrs

ACROBATIC CLASSES Age 4-18+ yrs

HIP HOP DANCE CLASSES Age 4-18+ yrs

Dizzy **Foot** *Work* **Productions** *Ltd*

Dizzy Footwork Production's Ltd, Dance Academy and Drama Academy Was Established 16 Years ago in Rua Red Arts Centre Tallaght located beside the Civic Theatre by brother & sister duo Alan Mc Grath & Lisa Mc Grath. Dizzy Footwork caters for ages 3 Years to 18+ Years.



Alan Mc Grath choreographer would like to wish his students dancing in *Tickles & The Beanstalk* the very best of luck.



CONTACT US

**ALAN & LISA ON
083 138 5263**

CHORUS ENSEMBLE

DANCE CAPTAINS: Abbie Finn and Sophie Palmer

TEAM BEAN

Senior Troupe:

Sophie Palmer
Ariana Callan
Hannah Quinn
Abbie O'Malley
Naoise Mitchell
Colleen Brennan
Katie Kavanagh
Katie McGrane
Leyla O'Neill
Eoin Clavin

Junior Troupe:

Ruby McMahon
Amelia Forde
Bonne McLoughlin
Evelyn Harris
Julianne Reynolds
Clodagh O'Brien
Alannah Lynch
Ethan McGill

TEAM STALK

Senior Troupe:

Abbie Finn
Jessica Coules
Sophie Granaghan
Ella Smith
Zara O'Brien
Ruby Coker
Dayna Kelly
Bianca Tepordei
Katie Kavanagh
Ariana Callan

Junior Troupe:

Tinca Tepordei
Amber Sexton
Amie Cunningham
Mollie Ryan
Alana Hall
Evie O'Connor
Mya Reid
Sam Gannon

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To all our 16 students dancing
in this years production :
Tickles & The Beanstalk



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Our School Administrator
Pauline on:

0876720651

SCHOOL DIRECTOR: ROB MURPHY, MA
ROB IS THE DIRECTOR, WRITER AND
CO PRODUCER OF
THE CIVIC PANTO !!!



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The Civic & Rob Murphy present

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Operators Tara Perry & Isabel Greene

Box Office/FOH Team Louise Larkin,

Nikki Keating, Tara Perry & Barbara Dignam

Lobby Design Nikki Keating

Security Gerry Brennan

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Ava, Abigail, Calum, Codie, Declan, Fionn, Glen, Gráinne, Holly, Isabel, James, Kate, Katie, Kim, Lucy, Ryan & Shona

Cleaning Staff Valerie Clifford and Edita Balandé

And thanks to all of the staff of Betelnut Café