

**ROSE THEATRE KINGSTON ANNOUNCES 2017 CHRISTMAS SHOW
*ALICE IN WINTERLAND***

ALICE IN WINTERLAND

Based on the books by **Lewis Carroll**

Adapted and directed by **Ciaran McConville**

Composer and Lyricist: **Eamonn O'Dwyer**

Designer: **Tim Bird**; Choreographer: **Jamie Neale**

7 Dec 2017 – 7 Jan 2018

Press night: **15 Dec 7pm**

Following the huge success of last year's festive hit *The Wind in the Willows*, **Rose Theatre Kingston**'s most successful Christmas production to date, the theatre today announces its 2017 Christmas show ***Alice in Winterland***. The play, based on **Lewis Carroll**'s much loved *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and *Through the Looking Glass*, is adapted and directed by **Ciaran McConville**, following his acclaimed productions of *The Wind in the Willows*, *A Christmas Carol* and *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe*, with music and lyrics by **Eamonn O'Dwyer**, and featuring a professional cast alongside a group of Rose Youth Theatre actors.

Alice has always been brought up to believe in wonder but her life takes an unexpected turn when she is sent to live with her stern auntie... until she is visited by a White Rabbit and propelled on a quest to save Winterland.

Follow Alice to the magically curious world of Winterland, a world of ice and imagination, of mad hatters and cruel queens, strong-minded dodos and friendly knights. A world inhabited by the mysterious Bandersnatch and the terrible Jabberwock, a world that lies in the shuffle of a pack of cards or in the lines across a chess board, where the impossible becomes possible...

This dazzlingly festive new stage production is based on Lewis Carroll's timeless books, *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and *Through the Looking Glass*. Step through the Looking Glass with Alice this Christmas and join her for this glorious adventure.

Ciaran McConville said today, "Lewis Carroll's Wonderland books are genius. They're funny, clever, exciting and completely bonkers. I'm looking forward to the challenge of writing a festive adventure from such a mad melée of brilliant characters. Carroll's work will always resonate because he writes about a child trying to make sense of the world and herself. She doesn't always get it right, and there's often a battle between head and heart, but she always stands up against injustice and she has faith in her own imagination – something we all need to remember at Christmas, I think."

ALICE IN WINTERLAND AUDITIONS

As with 2015 and 2016, the Rose Theatre Kingston invites young actors aged 10-19 to audition to perform in *Alice in Winterland* as part of Rose Youth Theatre. Working alongside an award-winning creative team and supported by experienced teaching staff, up to fifty young people will learn high level acting skills before performing in alternate shows across the run. The young cast will receive training from a voice coach, movement director, musical director and stage director.

Auditions will take place on Thursday 18, Saturday 20, Sunday 21, Thursday 25, Friday 26 and Saturday 27 May. For further information please visit www.rosetheatrekingston.org/news, or email Director of Learning and Participation Ciaran McConville at CiaranM@rosetheatrekingston.org.

Ciaran McConville has adapted the play and also directs. Since 2010, he has been Director of Learning and Participation at Rose Theatre Kingston. For Rose Theatre Kingston, his directing work includes *The Wind in the Willows*, *A Christmas Carol* and *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, *The Crucible*. As a writer, McConville's stage-plays include: *The Creature* (a retelling of *Frankenstein*) *My Kingdom is a Horse!*, *Erica the Viking*, *Stones*, *In the Way of Peace*, *Scenes from Childhood*, *Stay With Me*, *Lay Your Sleeping Head*, *Our Town: A Kingston Story*, *Pitching In*, *Over Me Now There is Only Blue Sky and God*, *Leipzig 1981*, *Orpheus & Eurydice*, *Snowbound*, *My Father the Angel* (both developed at the National Theatre Studio), *These Four Walls*, *Shostakovich*, *MiracleBoy*, *The Curse of Death's Glen*, *Little Crooked House*, *Touched by Fire*, *Immortal*, *The Man Who Dreamed* and *The Settling Dust*. Adaptations for the stage include: *Treasure Island*, *Nineteen Eighty-Four*; *The Trial*, *Arabian Nights*, *Tess of the d'Urbervilles* and the hit show *Horrible Histories: Ruthless Romans*, which toured internationally.

Eamonn O'Dwyer is an Associate of the Royal Academy of Music and has worked as a composer and musical director in theatres across the UK and internationally. He has worked with the Rose Theatre Kingston before on *The Wind in the Willows*, *A Christmas Carol*, *The Lion, The Witch & The Wardrobe*, *Tess of the d'Urbervilles* and *Our Town: A Kingston Story*. Other composing credits include *Peter Pan* (Chichester Festival Theatre), *Fanny & Stella* (Theatre Bench/South Hill Park), *Spirit of England* (new work commissioned by the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra), *A Flea in her Ear* (Tabard Theatre), *Five Children & It* (Tristan Bates Theatre), *Stones in his Pockets* (Dukes, Lancaster), *Portia Coughlan* (Old Red Lion), *The House of Mirrors & Hearts* (Arcola), *Around the World in Eighty Days* and *The Glass Menagerie* (Chipping Norton Theatre), *Boy in a Dress* (Bush Theatre), *My Swordhand is Singing* (Festival of Stories), *Frankenstein* (Dorset Corset Theatre), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Barakura Festival, Japan) and *The Massacre* (Theatre Royal, Bury St Edmunds). He worked as a Musical Director and Sound Designer on *The Rise and Fall of Little Voice* (Greenwich Theatre) and as Musical Supervisor for *The Immortal Hour* and *Merrie England* (Finborough Theatre).

The production will once again be supported by Wahid Samady and CNM Estates, who have sponsored the Rose Theatre Kingston Christmas show since 2014.

Listings

Alice in Winterland

Rose Theatre Kingston

24-26 High Street, Kingston, KT1 1HL

www.rosetheatrekingston.org

Twitter: [@Rosetheatre](https://twitter.com/Rosetheatre)

Facebook: [/RoseTheatreKingston](https://www.facebook.com/RoseTheatreKingston)

Instagram: [RoseTheatreKingston](https://www.instagram.com/RoseTheatreKingston)

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE:

Thu 7 Dec	6pm
Fri 8 Dec	1pm, 6pm
Sat 9 Dec	6pm
Tue 12 Dec	6pm
Wed 13 Dec	6pm
Thu 14 Dec	6pm
Fri 15 Dec	1pm (school performance), 7pm PRESS NIGHT
Sat 16 Dec	11am, 5.30pm
Sun 17 Dec	11am, 5.30pm
Wed 20 Dec	11am (school performance), 5.30pm
Thu 21 Dec	5.30pm
Fri 22 Dec	11am, 5.30pm
Sat 23 Dec	11am, 5.30pm
Sun 24 Dec	11am, 4pm
Tue 26 Dec	1.30pm, 6pm
Wed 27 Dec	11am, 5.30pm
Thu 28 Dec	11am, 5.30pm
Fri 29 Dec	11am, 5.30pm
Sat 30 Dec	11am, 5.30pm
Sun 31 Dec	11am, 5.30pm
Tue 3 Jan	11am, 5.30pm
Thu 4 Jan	1.30pm (relaxed performance)
Fri 5 Jan	1.30pm, 5.30pm
Sat 6 Jan	11am, 5.30pm
Sun 7 Jan	11am, 5.30pm

Box Office: 020 8174 0090
Monday – Saturday: 10am – 8pm (6pm non-performance days)
Sun: one hour before the performance

Concessions: Only one discount per ticket, subject to availability
Terms and conditions apply - no discounts on Pit Cushion prices.
Over 60, unwaged, entertainment union, children under 16 and Students: £5 off.

Schools, Colleges: Tickets are priced from £15 at selected performances for school & Universities: groups of 10 or more; 11th teacher ticket free with every 10 purchased. Please contact the Box Office for more details.

Access: Patrons with disabilities enjoy half price tickets.
The Rose is a fully accessible organisation and we welcome everyone.
There is Blue Badge parking in High Street and Rose car park.

Sensory Access: A digital hearing system is available for patrons with a hearing aid, and Sennheiser headsets for patrons without a hearing aid. Guide and hearing dogs are welcome. Please let us know in advance so we can provide a dog-sitter and water bowl.

Learning Disabilities: Please contact us in advance to discuss how we can help make your visit as comfortable as possible, on 0208 174 0090 or email access@rosetheatrekingston.org.

For further information please contact:

Alexander Milward on 07944 539 484 / alexander@katemorleypr.com