

meet the cast

See; A Choreographer's Showcase in Rhinebeck, NY. She has toured nationally and internationally with the New Orleans based Lightwire Theater, and now happily calls the Crescent City Home. As a teaching artist with New Orleans Ballet Association, she enjoys co-leading their weekly Dance for Parkinson's classes and was the lead instructor of their Freedom of Movement dance program for disabled Veterans at the New Orleans VA. She has also performed locally with Melange Dance Company, Ellevate Dance, and NOLA Contemporary Ballet.

Jesse Forcha (Ensemble) is in his fifth season with Lightwire Theater. He has performed in *Hoofing for Heros* at the New Orleans World War II Museum and at the Atlantis Resort in the Bahamas as a magician's assistant for the world-renowned magician, Rob Lake. Other favorite credits include *42nd Street* (Andy), *A Chorus Line* (Mike), *Curtains* (Billy), *Grease* (Danny), *The Sound of Music* (Rolf), *The Wizard of Oz* (Tin Man) and many others. Jesse has been a member of the Gulf Coast Theatre on Tap where he does what he loves best, tap dancing. He is also a skilled clarinet, flute and saxophone player. He would like to thank his parents and sisters for always encouraging his dream and a special thanks to his Aunt Kat.

Symone Johnson (Ensemble) is thrilled to be making her debut with the Lightwire Theater! As a professional circus artist specializing in aerial silks and rope, she has appeared in many shows ranging from Aloft's production of *Tough Drafts* to Cabinet of Curiosity's immersive experience *Illumination*. While training full time in Chicago, she worked under many accomplished circus artists such as Joe Pinzon, Tanya Burke, Duo Rose, and Shayna Swanson. When not performing, she travels the United States in her van with a little black cat named Minew.

Now based out of New Orleans, Symone has fallen in love with combining the local music scene with interactive character work and aerial craziness!

Tyler Scifres (Road Manager/Ensemble) is originally from New Orleans and has been with Lightwire Theater since 2014. It is his extraordinary electrical knowledge that helps to keep the company glowing around the world! Tyler has also worked with Southern Repertory Theater in set design and has taught stilt walking and puppetry for Country Day Creative Arts for the past ten years.

Lightwire Theater has been featured as the winner of TruTV's *Fake Off* (season one), semi-finalists on *America's Got Talent* (season seven) and as finalist on TF1's *The Best: Le Meilleur Artiste* in Paris, ABC's *Game of Talents* and Italy's *Tú sí Que Vales*.

Internationally recognized for their signature brand of electroluminescent artistry and poignant storytelling, Lightwire Theater is based in New Orleans and continues to create and deliver innovative theatrical experiences to audiences worldwide including: Hong Kong, Taipei, Estonia, Brazil, Russia, Europe, Belarus, China and Abu Dhabi. Mendelson Entertainment Group LLC, proudly manages and represents Lightwire Theater.

MEGARTSMEDIA.com
For Booking Information, contact
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A very special thanks to The Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, who commissioned and premiered *Darwin The Dinosaur* on October 13, 2007, Detroit, Michigan.

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the adventures of tortoise and hare: the next generation

apr 28 & 29



April, 28 & 29, 2022 @ 10AM
and 12PM

Lightwire Theater presents

The Adventures of Tortoise and Hare: The Next Generation

Artistic Director
Ian Carney

Road Managers
Kevin Chick
Tyler Scifres

Cast
Eleanor Carney
Kevin Chick
April Dayok

**Managing Director
& Co-Creator**
Eleanor Carney
Corbin Popp

Music Director
Jay Weigel

Jesse Forcha
Seymone Johnson
Tyler Scifres

meet the cast

Ian Carney (Artistic Director, Ensemble) is best known for his long run in Billy Joel and Twyla Tharp's musical, *Movin' Out* on Broadway. Born in New Hampshire and raised in New Orleans, he started dancing as a child, studying ballet in New Orleans and in New York City. He danced lead roles in *The Nutcracker*, *Sleeping Beauty* and many other ballets. He has been a guest dancer, teacher and choreographer in companies across the United States. While still performing, Ian earned a degree in English Literature from Tulane University. He is the co-creator of the family shows that continue to delight audiences around the world — *Dino-Light*, *The Ugly Duckling*, *Lightwire: the Show*, *A Very Electric Christmas* and *The Adventures of Tortoise and Hare: The Next Generation*. Ian has appeared on television with Lightwire Theater on *America's Got Talent*, *Game of Talents*, Italy's *Tú sí Que Vales*, TFI's *The Best: Le Meilleur Artiste* and as the 2014 winner of TruTV's *Fake Off*.

Eleanor B. Carney (Managing Director, Ensemble) Originally from New Orleans, Eleanor began her dance training with Harvey Hysell and Joseph Giacobbe. She graduated from Southern Methodist University with a BFA in dance and a BA in anthropology. She has danced professionally with Indianapolis Ballet Theater, the Lexington, Northwest Florida, Delta Festival and Montgomery Ballet. Career highlights include dancing as Aurora in *Sleeping Beauty*, Desdemona in *The Moor's Pavane*, the title roles in *Romeo and Juliet*, *Cinderella*, *Giselle* and *Coppelia* and, of course, the Sugarplum Fairy in *The Nutcracker*. Mrs. Carney is delighted to have appeared with Lightwire Theater on *America's Got Talent*, Italy's hit show *Tú sí Que Vales*, *Game of Talents*, *The Best: Le Meilleur Artiste* on TFI and as the 2014 winner of TruTV's *Fake Off*. She is eternally grateful to work besides her husband, Ian, and share their art with the world.

Corbin Popp (Co-Creator, Technical Supervisor) is from Lincoln, Nebraska. He earned a degree in biochemistry at University of Nebraska-Lincoln, while also studying math, physics and dance. Opting for dance, Corbin performed in *The Phantom of the Opera* and Billy Joel and Twyla Tharp's *Movin' Out* on Broadway. He has toured throughout the United States with many shows and all over Europe with Tharp's dance company. Corbin speaks German, studied in Germany on a Fulbright scholarship and recently graduated from dental school, yet still continues to perform and collaborate with Lightwire Theater.

Kevin Chick (Road Manager/Ensemble) is a puppeteer and clown stand-up comedian. Most notable credits include: The Jim Henson company, The Kimmel Center of Philadelphia, The Guthrie of Minneapolis, Southern Colorado Repertory Theatre, educational theater throughout South America Mexico and Argentina, Coca-Cola Zero commercials and political activist puppet videos with daily show writer Liz Winstead. Kevin's hails from Iowa and received his BA in theater from the University of Iowa. Most recently, he accomplished one of his dreams by blasting across the United States on his motorcycle. He would like to say a big thank you to his family for their continued love and support.

April Dayok (Ensemble) grew up dancing in southwestern Pennsylvania and graduated with a BA in dance from Point Park University. She then relocated to New York City where she danced works with Kaley Pruitt Dance, Becky Radway Dance Project, Counter Tides Dance, Mark Dendy Dance and Theater Projects, and many others. Her choreography has been shown at Choreography on the Edge at the Byrdcliffe Theater in Woodstock, NY and as a part of The Thing About Art, *Continued on back page*

As a courtesy to the performers and fellow audience members, please be sure to silence all mobile devices. The use of recording equipment and the taking of photographs are strictly prohibited.



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