

NON-VERBAL FAMILY SHOW

HONG KONG



Toasty's Day-dreaming

BY JUMBO KIDS THEATRE (HONG KONG)
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR: EVEN LAM



Jumbokids1999

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Jumbo Kids Theatre



jumbokids.org.hk

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Artistic Director / Director's Note

Even Lam

It has been a long-time dream of Jumbo Kids Theatre to create a family-friendly pantomime. Originally, *Toasty's day dreaming* is supposed to be performed together with visiting mask master Larry Hunt, the mentor of Jumbo Kids Theatre. Yet, as we were running our full capacity in making preliminary preparation for the production, the most unfortunate news reached us – Larry passed away from cancer in the summer of 2016. On top of our immediate response of immense sadness, the second most imminent issue was whether we should continue with the planned performance. Since Larry was no longer with us, the meaning of a collaborative production would be much weakened. Yet, after more thorough consideration, we thought that it would be more meaningful if we continue the planned production as a tribute to Larry. We believe we would not be alone during the creative process because Larry would work with us side by side from another world. Thank you, Larry!

As far as Jumbo Kids Theatre is concerned, creating a pantomime is one big challenge because we have produced performances which rely on dialogues for storytelling since the company was found. Now that the format of pantomime is chosen, we need to ask ourselves how we should make our story clear and accurate without the help from dialogues. If we cannot tackle this problem, children would keep asking questions and their parents would be explaining as the play unfolds. Taking this opportunity, we must thank the entire creative team for their limitless originality and their selfless contribution to the performance. I must also thank them for their tolerance of my confusion and stubbornness during rehearsal. Without your professionalism, the performance would not have completed successfully.

Indeed, almost all of us have composed an essay on the topic of 'My dream' some time in our lives. After watching the show, do you know the dream of Toasty? How about you? Have you asked your parents what their dreams are? If you happen to meet me, Brother Spaghetti someday, do share your dream with me! Let's be each other's encouragement.

Playwright's Note

Freddy Wong

When I was young, I loved to daydream. In the classroom, I looked outside of the windows, and my mind floated freely like a balloon. Sometimes, I imagined I was going to the forest, sometimes to the seaside, and sometimes to a shop that I like. When I was still a child, I was often asked what my dream was. Classmates around me enthusiastically raised their hands and responded – lawyer, doctor, policeman... I wonder how these classmates are doing today. Have their dreams come true? Obviously, I did not have too many dreams, or I should say, I do not have that many dreams that conform to the expectations of the adult world. I think, having lived up till this moment, my dream has not changed at all. I want to be happy! I wish I can still daydream.

Producer's Note

Vivian Li

The dream of the Jumbo Kids Theatre finally comes true in 2016 – our very first pantomime in masks is born.

This dream began in 2015, when we visited North America and Larry Hunt, with whom we collaborated some ten years ago. Larry opened up our eyes in masks and our visit was more than just a reunion; we hoped to work together once again. Larry, also wanted to revisit this place. We agreed to join up in 2016 to stage to excerpts from *Lemur*, a production we previously created. While our stamina may no longer be comparable to when we were much younger, we promised each other as a group on a lovely early summer evening when the sun was setting, that we would separately apply for subsidies in the United States and Hong Kong to make this dream come true.

By end of 2015, our artistic director Even Lam successfully received financial aid to visit Europe on a field trip. West Kowloon Cultural District Authority also discussed with us about the possibility of inviting Larry to perform in Hong Kong. I was also tasked by the company to tag along Even for observation and exchange. On top of these, we also began to run a revision mask workshop and made preliminary preparations for Larry's workshop and performance in Hong Kong. During the cold, snowy winter days, Even and I rekindled our passion we had when we took lessons in the past. The seven-day programme was cut short because of the snowstorm locking down the Kennedy Airport. A tight schedule with mask workshops, designing and making masks and for conceptualising the script kicked off right the way. We managed to incorporate some art-enriching family activities that Larry mentioned years ago: we walked on a frozen lake, we chopped woods for a bonfire, and we played with his new born granddaughter; we sat by the fireplace and discussed art, politics and history. Larry, who had always been a child at heart, looked weary...

In early summer of 2016, we learned that Larry had fallen ill. Very often, we only talked about our creative work, masks, music and script in our email communication. He did not stop consoling us that there was no need to feel anxious about him. As soon as the application was approved, he would pack up and bring his masks as scheduled to meet up with our group of big kids. We built up our front stage and backstage team, we looked for sponsorship in air tickets and accommodation, and we also continued to discuss the details with the creative team and our sponsors.

On 30 July, two weeks after Larry took a trip to Boston to seek second opinion from another hospital, we received an e-mail from his son Simon, who was supposed to be one of our actors in his performance. He wrote that his respected father and our mentor had gone to heaven surrounded by love and blessings. We were left to feel a piercing, cold heartache at the height of summer.

The show must go on! This is the last wish of Larry and we must spare no effort to work on it. We will also take this performance beyond Hong Kong, perhaps to the home country of Larry, or even farther...

We would like to dedicate this performance to Larry, Jennifer and their family, who also contributed to the creation of this production. We will surely meet again someday.

Lastly, I have to send my deep gratitude to Larry's wife Jennifer for leading us most of the masks to be used in this performance. As such, the audience finally have a chance in Hong Kong to appreciate the marvelous pieces of Larry Hunt, the master of mask.

About Us

Our dream is to dream the impossible dream!

Jumbo Kids Theatre is a professional children theatre, established in 1999. Since 2001 it became a 'One-Year Grant' arts group funded by The Hong Kong Arts Development Council (HKADC). Later, it was funded by HKADC as a 'Two-Year Grant' arts group in 2009 and 'Three-Year Grant' arts group in 2013. This proves that its continued efforts and determination in the field of Performing Arts have gained recognition from HKADC. The arts group was founded by a group of theatre practitioners and educators who possess substantial experience in performing and programme planning. It holds the enthusiasm and perseverance in producing the educational and high quality children theatre programmes. Its past collaborations with different organisations produced different types of school tour drama shows, children programmes, parenting workshops and public performances. Highly positive feedbacks have been received from audience. Other than bringing the children entertainment, it also aims to enrich the lives of children through drama performance as well as to let adults rediscover their innocence which have been forgotten for long. Jumbo Kids Theatre focuses on the creation of children theatre. By using original half-mask performances, it established the 'Miss Toasty and her Classmates' Series. It has also created the 'Children Literature' Series so as to cultivate the reading habits of the next generation, to enrich their cultural lives, and to equip them as the audience with good quality in the future.

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Twitter: [JUMBO KIDS THEATRE](#)



Scenes

Prologue	Wordless decision
Scene 1	Composition title: 'My dream'
Scene 2	White Face rush to work
Scene 3	The old man and puppy
Scene 4	White Face rush to eat
Scene 5	Contest of dreams
Scene 6	Home sweet home
Epilogue	Tribute to Larry, the master of mask

The running time of each performance is approximately
45 minutes without intermission.

The Story

The story begins when Toasty receives a composition assignment titled 'My dream' from her teacher. Without a clue about the assignment, she decides to look for inspiration in the street. On her way, she meets people from all walks of life but they are all busy running the rat race and chasing for fame and fortune, no one notices her existence. Toasty meets a lonely elderly who is not alone and an energetic puppy; she also runs into busy white-faced persons. Gradually, she understands the true meaning of 'My dream'...

Cast List

Actors

Even Lam
Vivian Li
Boat Chan
Louie Lai
Bu Chan
Lee Hoi-yan
Ada Ho

Roles

Old Man
Toasty
Ah Lui / White Face / Mother
Ah Ming / White Face
Little Star / White Face / Little Dog
Ah Lam / White Face / Father
White Face

Creative & Production Team

Concept / Artistic Director / Director / Creative Actors
Concept / Mask Designer & Producer
Playwright
Producer
Producer / Creative Actor
Creative Actors

Choreographer / Creative Actor
Composer / Arranger
Lyrics
Production and Graphic Designer
Mask Designer
Lighting Designer
Sound Designer
Stage Manager
Assistant Stage Manager
Assistant of Front House and Administration
Assistant Administration and House Program Designer
Assistant Administration

Even Lam
Larry Hunt
Freddy Wong
James Lung
Vivian Li
Louie Lai
Boat Chan
Bu Chan
Lee Hoi-yan
Ada Ho
Henry Poon
Ken Kwan
Wai Lau
Alex Tam
Lau Ming-hang
Lee Ma-tai
Oliver Man
Vanessa Lam
Joyce Lung
Joyce Cheng
Fion Leung

Questionnaire can help us prepare our future programmes and promotion strategy. Please finish this online questionnaire on the day of performance, you can receive a gift from the front-of-desk!

Online questionnaire:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdiL1VaXcHgTUn5kW51g9-7Uj2PxXvMhMgZf8NbfPMe24jTcg/viewform?c=0&w=1>



Even Lam

Concept / Artistic Director / Director / Creative Actors

Even Lam graduated from the Swire School of Design of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University and Department of Acting of the School of Drama of The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts. He has been working as a drama educator for more than 20 years. From 1991 to 1997, he was a full-time actor for the Exploration Theatre; he founded Jumbo Kids Theatre in 1999. He has since performed in and created over 70 productions for touring in primary schools and for public performances. In 2008 and 2010, he was invited to direct the children's plays *Magic Gem*, *The Ten Brothers* and *The Last Journey to the West* for Macao's Little Mountain Arts Association (Macao and Shanghai World Expo versions in 2010). Some of his recent directorial works are: *Andersen's Mysterious Case*, *The Critical Family* and *The Last Journey to the West* (Hong Kong version 2011). He is now the Artistic Director and Company Manager of Jumbo Kids Theatre, member of the Consultation Panel of West Kowloon Cultural District Authority, an examiner of the Hong Kong Arts Development Council (2009-1017), a judge on the evaluation panel of the Hong Kong Federation of Drama Societies, and an adjudicator and instructor for the Hong Kong School Drama Festival.



Larry Hunt

Concept / Mask Designer & Producer

Larry Hunt was an actor, director, mask-maker, and educator. He created all of his masks and characters. Since 1977, he has been performed throughout the United States and 15 other countries in Europe and Asia. He evolved a distinctive version of mask performance which combined historical traditions with innovative approaches by body expression. He founded the Masque Theatre which combined mask, movement, music, and puppets to represent original ideas or ideas acquired from the observations of the drama life. Much of the work is in non-verbal style.

www.masque-theatre.com



Freddy Wong
Playwright

Freddy Wong received his bachelor's degree from the Department of Directing of the School of Drama of the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts; he also has a master's degree from the Department of Cultural Studies of the Lingnan University. He is a seasoned theatre director, actor, playwright and tutor. Some of the works he wrote and directed include: *Once upon a time* by Theatre Ronin, *Romeo and Harriet* by Hong Kong 3 Arts Musical Institute, *Happy Days Toy Shop* by Fantasy Puppet Theatre (co-director), *Tino's Beautiful Amusement Park* by Class 7A Drama Group, *Volcano PaMa* by Jumbo Kids Theatre. His directorial works include: *Death* (the premiere, rerun, second rerun at the invitation of Korea's Busan International Performing Arts Festival and the Shanghai Modern Drama Valley for Shanghai World Expo version), *The Big Happy Dying* and *A Mosaic of that Summer* by Class 7A Drama Group, *Shall We Love* by Red Theatre, *Searching for Da Vinci* (co-director), *Landscape in the Mist* (co-director) and *Sew and Soul* (co-director) by Theatre Ronin, *Princess Wenderland*, *Town Musician*, *Toasty & Princess Chang Ping* and *2 in 1 's School Detective-The Crisis of Video Games* by Jumbo Kids Theatre, Young Friends of the Hong Kong Arts Festival: *The Lost Super Spicy Fishballs*, *I want to be Pretty*; *We Understand* a caring for Sichuan musical organised by Kwun Tong District Council and Kwun Tong District Office of the Home Affairs Department; *When Snow Falls* (co-director) by Chung Ying Theatre Company, *Moomin Valley – The Dream Stealers* by Spring-Time Creative Media, *The variety Show to commemorate the 10th Anniversary of Macau's return to Chinese sovereignty* (executive director) by Instituto Cultural de Macau . Wong is now a playwright-in-residence for the Jumbo Kids Theatre.



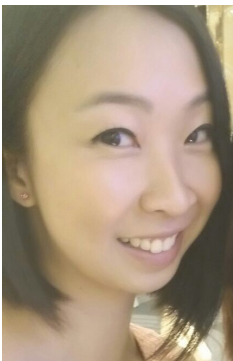
James Lung
Producer

James Lung was the stage manager for the school tours of Jumbo Kids Theatre since October 2007. He later worked as a contract staff handling the administrative work of the company's primary school tours. He became a full-time staff in July 2008, currently serving as the programme manager of Jumbo Kids Theatre.



Vivian Li
Producer / Creative Actress

Vivian Li is a founding member of the Jumbo Kids Theatre and a graduate of the School of Drama of Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, majored in acting. She has worked as an actress, educator, playwright, director, producer, and administrator for years. She is now the Education and Development Manager for the Jumbo Kids Theatre.



Louie Lai
Creative Actress

Louie Lai graduated from the School of Drama, Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts. She majored in acting and has a Bachelor of Fine Arts (Honours) degree. She was a recipient of the Ben and Benson Company Limited Scholarship, the Jackie Chan Charitable Foundation Scholarships and the Hongkong Bank Foundation Hong Kong - Mainland Exchange Scholarship at the Academy. In 2008, she was a Best Supporting Actress nominee (comedy/farce) in the 17th Hong Kong Drama Awards for her performance in *Jack & Jackie* by Drama Gallery. She was a full-time actress for Chung Ying Theatre Company from 2010 to 2012. She has worked in various roles in the theatre in recent years, such as the deputy director for the London, Taiwan and Germany performances of *Titus Andronicus* by Tang Shu-Wing Theatre Studio, etc. She is now a deputy stage manager for Wish Theatre, an actress a judge and an instructor for Hong Kong School Drama Festival. Her recent participation in Jumbo Kids Theatre's public performances include: *Town Musician*, *Journey of the Car* and many other school tours.



Boat Chan
Creative Actress

A young actor who keeps herself young at heart, Boat Chan has an proactive personality and does not mind being taken advantage of. She loves to laugh and cry and hopes to go on adventures in her life. She applied for the School of Drama of The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts three times. After a lot of hard work and breakthroughs, she graduated from the School of Drama of The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts in 2015 and awarded a Bachelor of Fine Arts (Honours) degree, majored in acting. Chan performed in several Academy Drama productions, including *The Blue Bird*, *Happy Family*, *The House of Bernarda Alba* and *Beyond the Horizon*; she also took part in the bilingual version of *Animal Farm*, The Musical as part of her external internship at Theatre Noir Foundation. Chan has been a full-time actress for Jumbo Kids Theatre from Aug 2015 to July 2016. Some of her other stage highlights include: *Volcano PaMa* and *Princess Wonderland* by Jumbo Kids Theatre; *Fish* by Wedraman Black Box Theatre, *The Cheapy Dogs* by 61 Production and *Prison de Ballet* by Sammy & Kitty Drama Show, etc. She also worked as a dancer, taking part in 'Louis Cheung 123 Music Concert 2010' and 'Asian Millionstar', etc. She always reminds herself to love her neighbours like loving herself. :)



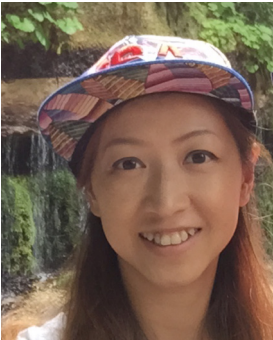
Bu Chan
Creative Actor

Bu Chan graduated with a higher diploma in digital animation from Hong Kong Design Institute (HKDI) in 2011. During his years at HKDI, he joined the dance club and his passion for dance performance was ignited. He studied dance programmes at pop dance schools Neverland Dance House and Infinity Dance Studio. He also took part in the musical training of HUBSOFAG's theatre curating programme. He was a scholarship recipient at Neverland Dance House and the scholarship recipient at Infinity Dance Studio for two and a half years. He has worked as a parade actor for the Ocean Park's Halloween Fest for five years, receiving the best actor award at the "Macreba Studio" in 2011. He has recently taken part in the Shanghai tour of *Ruan Lingyu* by Perry Chiu Experimental Theatre as Acting Assistant Stage Manager; *Coquettish Diva* for Spring-Time Productions as dancing actor; *Myth of a Changeable Constant*, the graduation project in The Experimental Vaudeville; HKDI Image Show 2016 Dance Opening; online commercial for CooperVision clariti® - Big Eyes the Herione; Song#10 annual event: 'Ex-boyfriend accident', etc. He wishes to explore acting and singing in addition to dancing. He is now training intensively at the ballet school Gravity Ballet. He is now a freelance dancer and actor, specialising in jazz.



Lee Hoi-yan
Creative Actor

Lee Hoi-yan is Jumbo Kids Theatre full-time actress. She has participated in the school touring team and performance '*Princess Wenderland*' and '*Volcano PaMa*'. She graduated from the first regiment The Whole Theatre one-year drama certificate course (advanced). She had served as a Halloween and Christmas programme performer at Hong Kong Disneyland. Some of her recent productions include: *If I Were You* by Chuang Dian Theatre, *An Angel Dumped Into New City* and *Gap Life Haunted Haunted Little Star* (premiere and re-run) and *Shall we go to Mars* by The Whole Theatre, and she has joined the Community Cultural Ambassador Scheme "Traditional Cultural Journey - *A Happy Marriage* and *Our New Born Baby* etc.



Ada Ho
Choreographer / Creative Actor

Ada Ho is a graduate from the School of Dance of The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts. After receiving a scholarship in 1997, She took part in the American Dance Festival and furthered her studies in New York. She worked as a dancer, actress, choreographer and producer in various dance, drama and musical performances upon graduation. Some of the art groups that she collaborated with include: Hong Kong Dance Company, Wow and Flutter, Wan Chai Theatre, Amity Drama Club, Chung Ying Theatre Company, Prospects Theatre, Wedraman Workshop, Spring-Time Chinese Opera, Jumbo Kids Theatre, Theatre Space, Hong Kong Repertory Theatre, Drama Gallery, Class 7A Drama Group, Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra and The Autistic Genius, etc. Her recent appearance includes *Gap Life* by The Whole Theatre, *MALADE 18+* and *Tatsujin Symphony* by The Autistic Genius. She is now a dance instructor for the one year drama certificate programme of Radix Troupe.



Henry Poon
Composer / Arranger

Henry Poon is a graduate from the Department of Composition of the School of Music, The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts. In addition to music education, he also created various types of music. He began more creative work on children's music since 2000. Poon is now the resident composer of the Jumbo Kids Theatre. Some of his works include: *Volcano PaMa*, *Princess Wonderland*, *Win at the Starting Line*, *White Lie*, *Journey of the Car*, *Monster Family*, *That's What Friends are For*, *Father & Mother I Love U*, *A Happy Scarecrow* and *Toasty & Princess Chang Ping*, etc.



Wai Lau
Production and Graphic Designer

Wai Lau graduated in 2001 from the First Institute of Art and Design and he was recipient of the multimedia design award. After he graduated, he worked in art and product design, and founded his own company in 2009 to create diversified designs for his clients. He has collaborated with various organisations, including UNICEF, OXFAM, Spring-Time Stage Productions Limited and Jumbo Kids Theatre, etc.

Lau Ming-hang
Lighting Designer

Affectionately known as 'SunFool', Lau Ming-hang is a freelance theatre lighting and pop-up art designer. He created the pop-up book storytelling theatre *Fire Kid*, *Mr. Windy Nobody* and *Am I crying*. *Am I Crying* was also performed at the Chinese Theatre Festival in Singapore. His works *The Will to Build* by Theatre Du Pif, *French Kiss* by SNAP Production, *Dragon Head* by Prospects Theatre and *The Good Person of Szechuan* by Actors' Family were nominated for Best Lighting Design at the Hong Kong Drama Awards. He also designs lighting for a long list of performance groups locally and abroad, including Jumbo Kids Theatre, Theatre du Pif, On & On Theatre Workshop, Hong Kong Repertory Theatre, Actor's Family, Prospects Theatre, City Contemporary Dance Company, the School of Theatre of Macau Conservatory and The Theatre Practice (Singapore), etc.



Lee Ma-tai
Sound Designer

Lee Mai-tai graduated from The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts; he has a Bachelor of Fine Arts (Honours) degree, majored in stage sound design and music recording. After graduation, he has worked with different art groups and designed the sound effect and sound control for various shows. His sound designs could be heard in some recent productions, including *Impressions of Yau Tsim Mong*, *999 Superstar*, *the Community Oral History Theatre Project* by Chung Ying Theatre Company; *Miaracle Kingdom* (re-run) by Wilderness Creation, *Wang Dan* by Stage 64, *Full Moon Love* and *Sing Along 3* by Trinity Theatre, as well as *Volcano PaMa* by Jumbo Kids Theatre. Lee is now a freelance stage worker.



Oliver Man
Stage Manager

Oliver Man is a freelance art worker. Focusing on stage management and Prop art. He had worked as a production manager in Wholetheatre(2012-2014) and learning Theatre Art from Wai Lung Hoh. He has been the Stage manager, Deputy Stage manager, Assistant Stage Manager, Prop Master for many productions including Whole theatre, Theatre Horizon, iStage, Hong Kong Movie TV Theatrical Society and Hong Kong Repertory Theatre etc.



Vanessa Lam
Assistant Stage Manager

Vanessa Lam has been a front stage helper for Jumbo Kids Theatre many years. This is her first time to be the assistant stage manager in the production.



Joyce Lung
Assistant of Front House and Administration

Joyce Lung is a freelance Performer & Clown. She stayed in Germany for one year and Australia for two years before, she speaks English, Mandarin, Cantonese and German. Joyce apprenticed to a clowning master Andrew Segura to enrich her performance techniques and skills.

She is extremely proud to work with Jumbo Kids Theatre many years, acted as actress, storyteller and front house helper.

Apart from theatre shows, Joyce was the full time performer for the Hong Kong Ocean Park in 2011, other public performance including International Art Carnival -- ALOHA! SUMMR FIESTA! at ShaTin Town Hall Auditorium, Clowning and being balloon twister for different private parties and carnivals.

Recent years, she is dedicating to different roles such as coaching kids, sound performance and administrative works.

Joyce believes delivering joy and loves towards her audiences is one of her life mission.



Joyce Cheng
Assistant Administration and House Program Designer

Joyce Cheng has been an administrative assistant for Jumbo Kids Theatre since 2009. She takes care of our accounting matters, as well as the administrative work for school tours and public performances.



Fion Leung
Assistant Administration

Fion Leung has been an administrative assistant for Jumbo Kids Theatre since 2008. She handles the administrative work of school tours, public performances, as well as the Jumbo Kids Book Club.



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