

MEDIA RELEASE

THE
COURT
THEATRE

21 September 2018

For immediate release

[Hansel and Gretel](#)

Written and directed by Dan Bain

29 September – 13 October

As part of New Zealand Theatre Month

The Court Theatre's mainstage

Short Show Description:

Hansel and Gretel have no food to eat. Their Dad has a new wife who seems obsessed with how plump they are. Time to head out into the woods with some breadcrumbs... See the story you know so well told in a way never seen before in this silent comedy adaptation of the fairy tale classic.

HANSEL AND GRETEL ARE VISITING THE COURT THEATRE THESE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

IN-BRIEF:

If you follow the breadcrumbs to The Court Theatre these school holidays you'll find fairy-tale characters Hansel and Gretel on stage, performing a comedic adaptation of the Brothers Grimm classic that's perfect for little ones aged 3 – 7.

In this silent adaptation dialogue is replaced by action, the actors telling the story through physical clowning aided by radio announcements that help progress the plot.

The classic story remains, following a young brother and sister as they get lost in the forest where a hungry witch is waiting for them...

The cast entering the gingerbread house are John Armstrong as Hansel (*Ideation*); Court Jester and actor Millie Hanford as Gretel (*A Paintbox of Clowns*) and fellow Court Jester and actor Jared Corbin (*Easy Money*) as the witch – among other characters.

Hansel and Gretel is sure to be a vibrant and joyous kids show audiences have come to expect from The Court, with plenty of chances for small audience members to get involved with the performance.

Hansel and Gretel runs at The Court Theatre as part of New Zealand Theatre Month from 29 September – 13 October 2018 with a relaxed performance of the show being hosted on 13th October at 11am. Recommended ages are 3 – 7 with all tickets \$10.

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The Court Theatre

PO Box 268

Christchurch 8140

New Zealand

Email: admin@courttheatre.org.nz

www.courttheatre.org.nz

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IN-DEPTH:

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Director Dan Bain calls the show, "a very traditional version of the story, told in an untraditional way. I like it because it's all about temptation – can you resist the witch's treats? It's the precursor to *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*."

Kids are sure to be entertained by the big, visual comedy on stage in *Hansel and Gretel* – and the participation they'll be invited to take part in.

One of the integral pieces of the play is the set - a world of gingerbread and lollies, designed by Nigel Kerr.

The cast entering the gingerbread house are John Armstrong as Hansel (*Ideation*); Court Jester and actor Millie Hanford as Gretel (*A Paintbox of Clowns*) and fellow Court Jester and actor Jared Corbin (*Easy Money*) as Hansel and Gretel's dad, the witch, the witch pretending to be the stepmother and the King of the Birds.

"Jared will be quite busy!" Bain says.

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While there is a little darkness inherent in the story of *Hansel and Gretel*, Bain promises that it's just the right amount for its young audience.

"There are pieces that are a bit spooky. It does involve Hansel and Gretel getting lost in the forest and the witch trying to eat them - and it's hard to tell the story without that - but (spoilers!) it all turns out okay in the end. I think if you're going to do these shows; the traditional fairy-tales, you want to use what's there, rather than inventing something else. Kids like spooky things: when it's a bit gross or a bit scary, but in a cool, fun way they're quite into it."

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[To read more, click here](#)

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**THE
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Cast

Hansel [John Armstrong](#)
Gretel [Millie Hanford](#)
Dad/Witch/Kind of Birds [Jared Corbin](#)

Creatives

Writer & Director [Dan Bain](#)
Set Designer [Nigel Kerr](#)
Costume Designer [Hayley Douglas](#)
Lighting Designer [Giles Tanner](#)
Sound Designer [Matt Short](#)
Stage Manager [Jordan Keyzer](#)

Ticket Prices

All tickets \$10

Show Times (29 September – 13 October):

- Monday – Friday 11am and 1pm
- Saturday 29th September 11am
- Saturday 6th October 11am
- Saturday 13th October 1pm
- Relaxed Performance Saturday 13th October, 11am

Bookings: phone 03 963 0870 or visit www.courttheatre.org.nz

Images can be found at The Court Theatre's [Media Centre](#)

For more information or to arrange an interview please contact:

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