

MEDIA RELEASE

THE
COURT
THEATRE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

5th January 2018

Puff the Magic Dragon

By Carl Nixon

Directed by Elsie Edgerton-Till

17-27 January 2018

Tonkin & Taylor Main Stage at The Court Theatre

Puff Soars into The Court

Kids will discover how to believe in dragons – and in themselves – in The Court Theatre’s delightful production of *Puff the Magic Dragon*.

Christchurch Writer Carl Nixon tells an original tale of young Jacqueline (“Jackie”) Paper, who befriends the magical dragon Puff. When Puff’s mighty roar is stolen by a band of pirates, Jackie and Puff team up to recover it before the wicked Captain Fogarty can use it for his nefarious plans! The adventure mixes comedy, action and fun to create an entertaining romp for all ages.

“*Puff the Magic Dragon* is the story of one girl’s journey into the power of imagination,” says director Elsie Edgerton-Till. “This will be a high-spirited day at the theatre for all those young at heart.”

An expert cast of dragon enthusiasts has been assembled for *Puff*, pulling together some of Canterbury’s most experienced children’s entertainers. Monique Clementson, who was most recently at The Court in *Cinderella in Space* and has just completed a national tour of *Saturday Night Fever*, plays Jackie Paper. Sophie Petersen brings her ability to juggle multiple roles last seen in *Bad Jelly the Witch*; Albany Paseta utilises skills at puppetry and performing in full-body costume from *Matatihu* and *The Ugly Duckling*; while Bianca Seinafo rounds off the cast with her effortless charm honed on TV’s *What Now* as well as The Court’s 2017 seasons of *Crash Bash* and *Hamlet: The Video Game (the stage show)*. Edgerton-Till says “I am proud to work with such a stellar cast to bring Carl Nixon’s play to life.”

The show incorporates many theatrical tricks for the titular dragon, although the creative team are tight-lipped as to how the magical creature will come to life. “We want how Puff is created on stage to remain a surprise for the audience,” says costume designer Deborah Moore.

Edgerton-Till believes *Puff the Magic Dragon* will be a whimsical flight of fancy for the young and young at heart. “Our creative team are bringing their inner child to their work. This production will be a voyage into the power of imagination and the importance of believing in yourself.”

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The Court Theatre

PO Box 268

Christchurch 8140

New Zealand

Email: admin@courtheatre.org.nz

www.courtheatre.org.nz

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Puff the Magic Dragon appears at The Court Theatre from 17-27 January 2018. All tickets are \$10.

Cast:

Jackie Paper: [Monique Clementson](#)
Mrs Paper/Jasper Parrot/Tom/Belinda: [Bianca Seinafo](#)
Amber/Crumble: [Sophie Petersen](#)
Puff/Captain Fogarty/B&B Prince: [Albany Paseta](#)

Production

Director: [Elsie Edgerton-Till](#)
Stage Manager: [Ruth Love](#)
Set Designer: [Harold Moot](#)
Costume Designer: [Deborah Moor](#)
Lighting Designer: [Giles Tanner](#)
Sound Designer: [Tim Heeringa](#)
Operator: [Rachel Pugh](#)
Properties Manager: [Christy Lassen](#)
Production Manager: [Flore Charbonnier](#)

Starting Times: Monday – Friday 11am and 1pm.

Relaxed Performance: 3pm Friday 26 January

All tickets \$10. Caregivers Required.

Booking Details: 963 0870 or visit www.courttheatre.org.nz

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

For more information or to arrange an interview please contact:

Samantha McConnell, Marketing and Communications Manager – The Court Theatre, 03 963 0884,
samantha.mcconnell@courttheatre.org.nz

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