

SHOW PROGRAM

HAMILTON THEATRE INC. PRESENTS

Big Fish

MAY 9 TO 24, 2025

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Hamilton Theatre Inc. Presents

BIG FISH

Book by JOHN AUGUST

Music and Lyrics by ANDREW LIPPA

Based on the novel **BIG FISH** by Daniel Wallace
and the Columbia Pictures film screenplay written by
John August

Originally produced on Broadway by Dan Jinks, Bruce Cohen and Stage
Entertainment with Roy Furman, Broadway Across America/Rich
Entertainment Group, John Domo, The Nederlander Organization and Edward
Walson in association with CJ E&M, Dancing Elephant Productions, Parrothead
Productions, Harvey Weinstein/Carole L. Haber, Peter May/Jim Fantaci, Ted
Liebowitz/Joe Piacentile and Columbia Pictures.

**The video or audio recording of this
performance by any means is strictly prohibited.**

Directed By
MATTHEW MOORE

Music Direction By
JENNIFER FERREIRA

Choreography By
KATLYN ALCOCK

Produced By
TERYN LAWSON

Stage Managed By
ELIZA CHAMPION

Costume Design by
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Today, we gather on the Treaty Lands and Territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and recognize this land as being home and traditional territory to other Indigenous people since time immemorial.

HAMILTON THEATRE INC.

Hamilton Theatre Inc. is Hamilton's oldest musical theatre company, while entirely operated and maintained by volunteers. HTI's mandates include providing our members with the necessary training to get involved in all aspects of theatre, and making the performing arts accessible to the Hamilton community.



hamiltontheatre.com
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Recording Secretary & Karen Rachner
Membership Coordinator

MUSICAL NUMBERS

Act One

"Be The Hero"	Edward, Ensemble
"I Know What You Want"	Edward, Witch, Other Witches
"I Know What You Want - Reprise"	All Witches
"Stranger"	Will
"Two Men In My Life"	Sandra
"Ashton's Favourite Son"	Jenny Hill, Townsfolk
"Out There On The Road"	Edward, Karl, Jenny Hill, Townsfolk
"Little Lamb From Alabama"	Sandra, Two Friends
"Time Stops"	Edward, Sandra
"Closer to Her"	Edward, Amos, Circus Folk
"Daffodils"	Edward, Sandra

Act Two

"Red, White, And True"	Edward, Sandra, Ensemble
"Fight The Dragons"	Edward, Young Will
"Stranger - Reprise"	Will
"Showdown"	Edward, Will, Ensemble
"I Don't Need A Roof"	Sandra
"Start Over"	Edward, Don Price, Amos, Karl, Ensemble
"Start Over - Reprise"	Edward
"What's Next"	Edward, Will, Ensemble
"How It Ends"	Edward
"The Procession"	Ensemble
"Be The Hero - Reprise"	Will

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THE CAST OF BIG FISH

Edward Bloom Glen McCann
Will Bloom John Connolly
Sandra Bloom Fiona Roossien
Josephine Bloom Parker Elizabeth Rodenburg

Amos Calloway Allen Helsdon
Karl the Giant Noun Holloway
The Witch Aramenta Sobchak

Young Will Penny McKay
Don Price Tobi V.
Zacky Price Haleigh Wallace
Jenny Hill Meagan Collett
Dr. Bennett Sean Skarratt
The Alabama Lambs (Featured Dancers) Kindrey Krol,
Jasmine Mino

Ensemble Gavin Nelson, Gregory Sokil, Sarah Gazzola,
Elizabeth McLean, Kayla Jensen

THE BAND FOR BIG FISH

Trumpet Ash Matthew
Violin Donna Mahboubi
Guitar and Banjo David Brideau
Piano Keelin Donnelly
Drums and Percussion Vincent Campovari-Waters
Piccolo, Flute, Clarinet, Alto Saxophone Jennifer Ferreira
and Tenor Saxophone

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO

Bar Sazerac, Saltlick Smokehouse, Hamilton Handyman,
KC Creatives, Kreations Photography, Haughland Media,
Markus Carreiro, Sheridan College, Jonah Schaufler-
Biback, and Jennifer Mule

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST



Glen McCann as Edward Bloom

Glen is thrilled to be back at HTI after appearing in *Something Rotten* in 2023. Recent credits include

Cabaret, Urinetown, Hello, Dolly!, Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf and *Oleanna*. Proud grandpa to Frankie.



John Connolly as Will Bloom

Thrilled to be appearing what is hopefully the first of many shows with HTI, John would like to thank

his friends and family for their incredible support. For Rob and Diana.



Allen Helsdon as Amos Calloway

Allen has spent 4 decades in the music industry and previous shows with HTI include *Broadway Show*

Stoppers and *Heathers!* As always much love to family and friends for your support!



Aramenta Sobchak as The Witch

Aramenta is very happy to be back on the HTI stage with so many incredible people! At work, she gets

to make people smile as a photographer @merisedesign. At play, she has taken on many roles both on stage and off - in Hamilton, Toronto, Bangkok, and a few places in between. Most recently, she directed *The Last Resort* for Drury Lane and acted in *Miracle on 34th Street* for Theatre Bacchus. All the love goes to her boys.



Fiona Roossien as Sandra Bloom

With extensive stage experience including productions like *Anne of Green Gables, The Sound of*

Music, Brigadoon, and various British Pantomimes, Fiona has also made a mark on television with roles in *Anne of Green Gables*, as well as other television movies and series. After taking a break to focus on family and career, she is excited to return to the stage with the encouragement of her family and in the company of such an incredibly talented cast.



Parker Elizabeth Rodenburg as Josephine Bloom

Parker-Elizabeth Rodenburg (she/they) is excited to be making their

Hamilton Theatre Inc debut as Josephine in *Big Fish!* Recent credits include: Laurie in *86 Me: The Restaurant Play* (Dead Raccoon at Toronto Fringe), Iris in *Slate Sisters* (AlvegoRoot Theatre), performer and creator of *Party Games* (Buddies in Bad Times), and Lissa in *Bone Cage* (Alumnae Theatre).



Noun Holloway as Karl the Giant

Noun is incredibly excited to be taking on their first role at HTI, which is hopefully to be followed by

many more! They are a 5th year high school student going to post-secondary for acting next year.



Penny McKay as Young Will

Penny is very happy to be at HTI for the second time (after *Seussical!*)! She would like to thank her mother for

tolerating her intense and constant love of theatre. Thank you Everybody! <3



**Haleigh Wallace as
Zacky Price**

Haleigh is thrilled to be back onstage for her third show with HTI and encourages everyone to

laugh with her (and, let's face it, laugh at her) as she brings Zacky Price to life. She is thankful to be part of such a warm and welcoming theatre community and looks forward to what's next with this wonderful group.



**Meagan Collett as
Jenny Hill**

Meagan is delighted to be returning to HTI. Singing and dancing on stage has helped her realize a dream

she didn't think possible, and has reminded her to be the hero of her story. She'd like to thank her rockstar husband and her sons for supporting and cheering her on always.



**Sean Skarratt as
Dr. Bennett**

Sean would like to thank his friends and family for their support. He is very happy to be back with HTI

and hopes everyone enjoys the show!



**Jasmine Mino,
Ensemble**

Jasmine is a longtime performer, dance fitness enthusiast and a very proud student of Tom

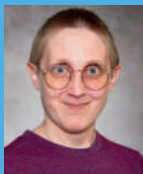
Oliver's Voice Concepts Studio. She is lucky to have the best husband, friends and family who support her singing and dancing her way through life. She is very moved by this musical and wants to dedicate her performance to her late father-in-law, Rick Mino, one of the world's greatest dragon fighters.



**Kindrey Krol,
Ensemble**

Kindrey was born with a love of performing, and has been doing so ever since! After graduating from the

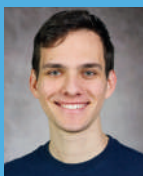
theater and film program at McMaster last spring, she is excited to be a part of another musical production. This time in a role that has her dancing all night long!



**Gavin Nelson,
Ensemble**

Gavin has been around HTI both onstage and backstage and he is excited to be back for another

show. He would like to thank his HTI family for their constant support.



**Gregory Sokil,
Ensemble**

Gregory is new performer to HTI, who has always loved performing on the stage. He has had the

opportunity to work with so many talented individuals, and is thrilled to be performing on the HTI stage for his first time.



**Sarah Gazzola,
Ensemble**

Sarah feels so lucky to be in her third HTI production; they most recently appeared as Logainne

SchwartzandGrubenierre in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* and Alyssa Greene in *The Prom*. She is excited to share the stage with this talented group and her trusty puppet, Mr. Fluffybottom. Thanks go to family and friends, enjoy the show!



**Mr. Fluffybottom,
Featured Puppet**

Mr. Fluffybottom is thrilled to make his HTI debut as part of his court-ordered community service.



**Kayla Jensen,
Ensemble**

Kayla is happy to be returning to the HTI stage adding to the colourful ensemble cast of *Big Fish*.

Favourite credits include Sally Jackson In *Lightning Thief the Musical* with CBY, Juliet in *Any Other Rosie* web series with *Stuck in a Story* and ensemble roles in *Wedding Singer*, *Tommy*, and *Seussical* at HTI. Thanks to my husband Jake for all your love and support, and the creative cast and crew behind *Big Fish*!



**Elizabeth McLean,
Ensemble**

Liz McLean has previously appeared as Mrs. Greene in HTI's production of *The Prom*. In her spare time, she

enjoys visual art, live music, yoga, and volunteering to make the world a better place. She will kick your butt at Mariokart but make it feel like you almost won.

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

I won't lie, directing *Big Fish* scared me. With so many larger than life characters and fantastical stories (as well as the beautiful but complex music of Andrew Lippa), *Big Fish* is truly a daunting task for a smaller theatre such as ours to take on.

However at its heart you have the story about a family struggling to find peace with the pending loss of one of their own. It's a feeling we all share at some point...the pain of losing a loved one.

In 2006, I lost my father, my own personal Edward Bloom, and someone whose stories I still hold dear to this day. We didn't always get along, truth be told we often butted heads, but when that man told a story, it was magical to listen to.

It's through these personal stories that we learn how those that we've lost can truly live on, and the lessons rooted in those stories can help to teach and nurture us as we navigate the increasingly complex world we all live in. Most importantly, they teach us to live life to its fullest, even if our lives aren't as "big" as we envisioned.

I want to dedicate this show to all the storytellers in our lives, and to all the people who love them.

Matt Moore, Director of *Big Fish*

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THE CREW BEHIND BIG FISH

Director Matt Moore
Musical Director Jennifer Ferreira
Choreographer Katlyn Alcock
Producer Teryn Lawson

Stage Manager Eliza Champion
Assistant Stage Manager Rikki van Goozen-Nemeth
Assistant Stage Manager Graham Clarke

Lighting Operator Emily Hartleib
Spotlight Operator Abbey Hanson
Sound Operator Robert Alley

Art Department Manager Rikki van Goozen-Nemeth

Head of Construction Paddy Skinner
Set Builders Lilyan Stoddart, Gord Maric
Scenic Painters Lilyan Stoddart, Annika Venkatesh,
Rikki van Goozen-Nemeth
Set Dressers Matt Hunt, James Rabinovich
Backdrop Designer Maddie Merrill

Props Manager Nikki McGinlay
Props Assistant Morgan Evans

Costume Designers Jenn Helsdon, Hope Wickett
Costume Assistants Rhys Turner, Kelli Helsdon, Jennifer
Ferreira, Zena Monaco, Mallory Toye,
Emelia Crisp, Sarah Gazzola, Maddie Merrill

Dressers Rhys Turner, Laila Glasbergen
Makeup Design Mary Poirier

Show Marketing Riane Leonard, Mallory Toye

PRODUCTION TEAM



**Matthew
Moore**



**Jennifer
Ferreira**



**Katlyn
Alcock**



**Teryn
Lawson**



**Eliza
Champion**



**Jenn
Helsdon**



**Hope
Wickett**



John August, Author of *Big Fish*

John received a 2004 BAFTA nomination for his screenplay for *Big Fish*. His other credits include *Go*, *Titan A.E.*, *Charlie's Angels*, *Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle*, *Corpse Bride*, *The Nines*, *Frankenweenie* and *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, for which he received a 2006 Grammy nomination for lyrics. The first book in his middle-grade fantasy adventure series

Arlo Finch was published by Macmillan in February 2018 and has been translated into 11 languages. Born in Colorado, he is a graduate of Drake University and USC's School of Cinematic Arts. On Twitter and Instagram @johnaugust.



Music and Lyrics by ANDREW LIPPA

Andrew Lipa is currently at work on numerous projects for stage and screen. New titles include *Fairy Tale*, written with Adam Gopnik, which tells the story of a father, a son, and the birth of Disco; *La Casa de las Flores*, written with Bob Martin and based on the hit Netflix Mexican television show; *The Turning Point*, based on the classic film and novel,

for which Lippa is writing the book, music, and lyrics; and an original Christmas film musical titled *A Totally Awesome Christmas Story* with 10 new songs.

His epic choral work *Unbreakable* had its world premiere with The San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus in San Francisco with 300 artists onstage including Mr. Lippa. Many more choruses across the country have presented this new work and the original cast recording, produced by legendary producer Leslie Ann Jones, was released by GhostlightRecords.com. He conducted the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in a new production of his *A Little Princess* in concert in London at the Royal Festival Hall in May, 2018 to a sold-out crowd of nearly 3,000 people.

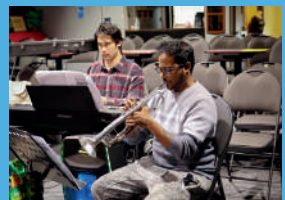
His hit song "Evil Like Me" appears in *Disney's Descendants*. Written for Kristin Chenoweth that soundtrack hit #1 on the "Billboard 200" album chart, #1 on the iTunes and Billboard soundtrack charts, has been viewed over 70 million times on YouTube and "Evil Like Me" was certified gold in 2017. On Feb. 1st, 2017, Lippa opened the new season of The American Songbook Series at Lincoln Center with his sold out concert of *Andrew Lippa and Friends*. In 2016, he composed and conducted a world premiere piece for the international piano virtuoso Lang Lang and the Guangzhou Symphony Orchestra in Guangzhou, China.

This new work, a 32-minute, 5-movement piece called *Rising Tide*, was reprised later in 2016 and recorded in China. Lippa's epic concert work *I Am Anne Hutchinson/I Am Harvey Milk* had its world premiere at The Music Center at Strathmore in April of 2016 starring Kristin Chenoweth as Anne Hutchinson and Mr. Lippa as Harvey Milk. Summer 2016 saw the US premiere of *Life of the Party* – a musical compendium of Mr. Lippa's career – produced by Theatreworks in Mountain View, CA and starring Mr. Lippa. Summer of 2017, Bay Street Theater in Sag Harbor, NY, presented the world premiere of *The Man in the Ceiling*. Based on Jules Feiffer's award-winning novel, this musical features a book by Mr. Feiffer and music and lyrics by Mr. Lippa who also played the role of Uncle Lester in this production. Recording also available on GhostlightRecords.com

Broadway credits include: Music and lyrics for *Big Fish* directed and choreographed by Susan Stroman; the Tony-nominated music and lyrics for the Broadway musical *The Addams Family* (directed by Jerry Zaks), as well as the music for Aaron Sorkin's Broadway play *The Farnsworth Invention* (directed by Des McAnuff). Other musicals include the Drama Desk award-winning musical *The Wild Party* (book/music/lyrics); *A Little Princess* (music); *John & Jen* (music/book); *Asphalt Beach* (music and lyrics); and *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown* (additional music/lyrics and arrangements), and the upcoming *Love Somebody Now*. His epic oratorio for men's chorus, orchestra and soloists, *I Am Harvey Milk* has seen over 40 productions including Disney Hall, Lincoln Center, and London's Cadogan Hall.

Awards: Tony, Emmy, Grammy nominations; shared Emmy for Nickelodeon's "The Wonder Pets"; SFGMC Vanguard Award; The Gilman/Gonzalez-Falla Theater Foundation Award; ASCAP's Richard Rodgers/New Horizons Award; The Drama Desk Award; The Outer Critics Circle Award. A graduate of the University of Michigan, Mr. Lippa serves as president of the board of The Dramatists Guild Foundation (dggf.org), recipient of the Tony Award for Excellence in the American Theater. He was born in Leeds, England, grew up in suburban Detroit, and is an ordained Interfaith minister.

Explore all things Andrew Lippa at andrewlippa.com!







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Friday, July 25th	👉	9:30pm
Saturday, July 26th	👉	1:00pm

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written by
GEORGE F. WALKER

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HAMILTON FRINGE FESTIVAL
written & directed by
Elias Campbell
JULY 18th-26th