



Written by Paul Joseph and Tim Benzie

Directed by Tim McArthur

Produced for The RVT by James Lindsay, John Kerr and Dave Cross

Special thanks to the RVT bar and security team

Lucy Penrose • Belle

Matthew Ferry • The Prince

Ada Campe • The Inventor

Robert McNeilly • Mrs Spout

Jo Wickham • Asston

Katherine Leyva • Villager Number One

Musical Director • Annemarie Lewis Thomas

Stage Manager • Lysander Dove

Sound and lighting • Andy Hill

Costumes • Michelle Taylor

Social media • Jason Reid

Set design • Jessie Huckin

Video production • Joseph Dewey

Photography and design • Chris Jepson

**For information and tickets on all RVT events
checkout all our social media @TheRVT and vauxhalltavern.com**





We are excited to welcome you to the 2025 RVT panto, *Growled*, with its brilliantly funny script, fantastic songs and our amazing cast, all combining to bring you some much needed festive cheer! **James Lindsay – RVT CEO**

LUCY PENROSE • BELLE



Lucy Penrose is a London based actor who trained at Mountview Theatre Academy. Most recently Lucy starred as Rizzo in *Grease: The Immersive Movie Musical* for Secret Cinema, returning to the role after her 2023 Birmingham performance. She originated the role of Young Judy Garland in *Judy!* (previously *Through The Mill*) at The Arts Theatre, Southwark Playhouse and The Hippodrome Theatre, and Katie McBoil in the West End Wilma-nominated *Eurovision, Your Decision* (Above The Stag, Wonderville Theatre, The King's Head Theatre and The RVT). Other highlights include Madge Hardwick in *Top Hat* (The Royal Court Theatre), Mrs Cratchit and the Ghost of Christmas Past in *A Pissedmas Carol* (Sh!tface Showtime, Edinburgh Fringe), and Millie Michaels in *California Suite* (The Royal Court Theatre). TV credits include Crookshanks #2 in HBO's *Watchmen*. Lucy is thrilled to be back at the RVT, playing Belle after previously starring as the Fairy Godmother in the RVT's *Pricked* and Sleepy in *Cracked*, for which she was OFFIE nominated). @lucycpenrose

MATTHEW FERRY • THE PRINCE



Matthew trained at Italia Conti. His recent work includes Prince Charming in *Cinderella*, lead vocalist contracts across Viking Cruise Lines, and voice-over work as Gabriele in Netflix's *Out of My League* films. He's thrilled to be making his RVT debut! @mattuferry

ADA CAMPE • THE INVENTORER



Ada Campe is a cabaret performer, variety artiste, comedian and magician. She works across the UK comedy and cabaret circuits and at events and festivals - including for Pride in London, Glastonbury, the Wellcome Collection, The Magic Circle, Comedy Club 4 Kids, and the V&A. Solo shows include *Ada Campe and the Psychic Duck* (2019), *Too Little, Too Soon* (2022), *Naval Gazing* (2023), *Big Duck Energy* (2024), *The Magic of Ada Campe* (2025) and her new project, *Behind the Nightlight* (2026). Winner: Hackney Empire New Act of the Year Show (2018), Leicester Square Old Comedian of the Year (2018), Stand Comedy Club Good Egg Award (2019), and as part of the RVT panto cast, since 2023, including Best Panto Performance (Offie Awards, 2024) adacampe.com @ada.campe

ROBERT MCNEILLY • MRS SPOUT



Robert was born and raised in Glasgow. In 2013 he was the recipient of the John Pocock Cup for excellence upon graduating from The London School of Musical Theatre. Robert recently made his West End debut as an emergency swing playing The Barman in *The Choir of Man* - a role he previously played for Norwegian Cruise Line. Other notable roles include Production Vocalist for Celebrity Cruises, The Sprite in the U.S and International premier of *Elyria*, Dr Von Whackoff in *Saucy Jack and the Space Vixens* and Trevor in the original cast of *Orton - The Musical*, This is his sixth RVT panto, he previously performed in *Goosed*, *Rubbed*, *Slipped*, *Pricked* and *Wolfed*. @robadam

JO WICKHAM • ASSTON



Jo trained at East 15 Acting School and has been causing theatrical mischief ever since. She's played everything from a Shakespearean wife with a very questionable husband (Adriana in *The Comedy of Errors*, Open Bar Theatre) to pagan landlady Elsie Shufflebottom (*Agatha Raisin: Kissing Christmas Goodbye*, Sky TV), and even the Baker's Wife (*Into the Woods*, The Cockpit Theatre) – proof that she can sing, act, and handle carbs. She once channelled Imogen Holst (*Turning the Screw*, Wimbledon and King's Head Theatres), wrangled wigs as Truvy (*Steel Magnolias*, The Hope Theatre), and survived Wonderland as a Duchess with attitude (Australian Shakespeare Company). Jo is delighted to return to the RVT, fresh from the West End Wilma Award-nominated *Eurovision: Your Decision*. @wickhamjo

KATHERINE LEYVA • VILLAGER NUMBER ONE



Katherine Leyva has performed internationally at Disneyland Paris (Ursula, Fairy Godmother) and Beaches Resorts (Lead Vocalist). She trained at the University of Southern California, and performed extensively in the San Francisco Bay Area in shows such as *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* (Columbia), *Mary Poppins* (Miss Andrew), and *Sunday in the Park with George* (Dot u/s). She is also a burlesque performer under the name Lady Kayve, specializing in comic routines with dazzling vocals. She made her RVT panto debut last year as Villager Number One/ The Door and recently played Gail in *Newlyweds - the Musical* at the 2025 Edinburgh Fringe. @misskate_sings



PAUL JOSEPH AND TIM BENZIE • WRITERS

Paul and Tim have written The RVT Panto since 2017, including the Offie winning *Tossed*. Paul Joseph is the producer of Horror-themed cabaret night *Pop Horror* at The RVT, co-produced with Tim. Paul is also the promoter and DJ at hit queer '80s party *Athena* at The Eagle, and its popular spin off, *8020*. Tim Benzie is the creator and performer of the critically acclaimed cult show *Solve-Along-A-Murder-She-Wrote*, launched at The RVT in 2018. He is currently touring the UK, USA, Ireland and Australia, alongside his new one-man show *It's a Mystery!* including the Murder, She Wrote Festival in May 2026.

@paulbjoseph1 @timbenzie



TIM MCARTHUR • DIRECTOR

Tim McArthur, is an actor, writer, and Theatre Director. Directing work includes *Eurovision Your Decision*, (Kings Head, Wonderville, ATS and now at The RVT), *Turning the Screw* (Kings Head and Wimbledon Theatre) *Beans, Cream* (Canal), *Into The Woods*, *A Perfect Christmas* (Cockpit), *The Sunny Side of The Street*, *Bewitched Bothered and Bewildered* (Jermyn St), *Metropolis*, *Wonderful Town*, *A Little Night Music*, *Follies*, *She Loves Me*, *Days of Hope* (Rose and Crown), Tim was Associate Director at Above the Stag Theatre – ATS credits there include. *Maurice*, *My Beautiful Laundrette*, *Dangerous*, *The Blink Series* and *Bathhouse*. At the Royal Vauxhall Tavern – *Charming Dick*, *Goosed*, *Rubbed*, *Slipped*, *Pricked* and *Tossed*. Several seasons of *Newsrevue* London and (Edinburgh Pleasance). Writing credits include *Small Town Boys* (Union Theatre) *A Word for Mother* (Upstairs at the Gatehouse), *Deeper and Deeper* (Union Theatre), *The Queens Laundry* (Toy Project London Schools and Hospitals), *Control* (Bridge Theatre and Hen and Chickens), *Facing Time* (Fireside Mystery Theatre Company NYC), *Eurovision Your Decision* (ATS, Wonderville and Kings Head Theatre), *Puss* (Wonderville). TV – *Dressing Room One* was optioned by Free At Last TV. *Readings of Conversations over Toys* (Playground Theatre) and *No Place Like Home* (ATS), *Dessert* (Lauderdale House). Tim is the creator of *Sister Mary*, season's include; *The Red Room* (Provincetown) *The Red Eye* and *The Laurel Beechman Theatre* (NYC) and *Ice Palace* (Fire Island). Tim is currently writing a new musical with Ben Boecher and Billy Reece. @mcarthur.tim



ANNEMARIE LEWIS THOMAS • MUSICAL DIRECTOR

MD credits inc: *Magical Merlin* (St Martin's, West End), *Shrek*, *Wizard of Oz*, *Oliver* (Wycombe Swan), *The Mikado* (The Tabard), *Urinetown* (ARU), *Wolfed* (RVT), *Taming of the Shrew*, *Twelfth Night*, *All's Well That Ends Well* (Shakespeare in the Squares), *Sleeping Beauty* (Watersmeet), *Billie The Kid* (Workshop and West End Concert), *Elephant and Piggie's We Are In A Play* (Perform in the Park), *The Wizard of Oz* (Two Brewers), *From Up Here* (Trafalgar Studios), *Annie* (No 1 tour), *Black Eyed Susan* (Theatre Royal Bury St Edmunds), *Rent* (Olympia Theatre Dublin). Composer credits inc: *Macbeth* (Shakespeare in the Squares), *The Interview* (Film), *J* (Film), *Oh My*, *Nellie Bly*, *Dangerous Daughters* and *Around The World in 80 Days* (published by Concord), *Fool's Gold*, *Great Expectations*, *Girl in the Ashes* and *The Open Door* - all commissioned by YMT:UK, *Jack and the Beanstalk*, *Puss in Boots* and *Cinderella* - all commissioned by Theatre Royal, Bury St Edmunds. Between 2009 - 2022 Annemarie was the Principal/CEO of the multi-award winning drama college, *The MTA*. @annemarielewisthomas



For details of all shows and events at The RVT, please visit VauxhallTavern.com