



## *The Selfish Giant*

*by Oscar Wilde*

*'You Raise me up'*

*'It is never ever ever too late....'*

Performed by pupils at the Charles Dickens Grundschule Berlin with special guest, Pejman Yousefi

Written for the stage, directed and produced by Carolyn Buckley

String Instrument Orchestral Group, directed by Heather Cottrell

Charles Dickens Childrens' Choir, directed by Joanna Foote

Sound and Lighting by Roderick Campbell

## CAST

The Selfish Giant (Gordon Stone) - Special Guest: Pejman Yousefi

### **Class 1a**

Mi Su Nikajong  
Fayola Sultanmele  
Su Eli Katana  
Olivia Mika  
Karl Georg

### **Class 1euA**

Paulina Aman  
Shivapria Rai  
Ayana Glück  
Oliver Steinwald  
David Adekunle  
Peter Delaney  
Dahlia Adomayli  
Sian Mcgirr

### **1euB**

Hagen Fox Bielski  
Deepti Bhat

Nelly Hepner  
Callum Wilson

### **Class 2euA**

Sarah Müller-Diesing  
Josephine von Hagen  
Nellisiwe Nkosi

### **Class 2euB**

Ada Stapf  
Hanna Arita  
Edgar Sähnel  
Johann Gillis  
Esther Pastorino  
Amber von der Waydrink  
Margo Eristovi

### **Class 3euA**

Beatrice Marschall  
Merlin Moebius

Sophia Ermakov  
Stefney Somtoo Ojukwa

### **Class 4euA**

Mila Ballantyne  
Anna Sofia Sanabria Amin

### **Class 4euB**

Whitney Somtoo Ojukwa  
Dorian Preuss  
Kian Abdu-Cook

### **Class 5euA**

Neil Zalkind

### **Adult Actors**

Bettina Müller-Diesing  
Martin Müller-Diesing

## MUSICIANS

### **Violins**

Fiona Larkum, 5euC  
Olivia Mika, 1a  
Isadora Rieger, 1euB  
  
Ian Schulz, 3euA  
Erik Westeson, 4euB  
Matilda Williams, 6euA

### **Celli**

Jiahn You, 6euA  
Eleanor Larkum, 6euA

### **Harp**

Sophie Müller-Diesing, 5euA

### **Adult Musicians**

Heather Cottrell-Larkum  
Matthew Larkum  
  
(Advisor and Supporter -  
without whom impossible!)

Yamei Yu

## CHOIR

Director: Joanna Foote  
Pianist: Wolfram Rieger

Yumi Mohr, 6euB  
Sophie Zhang, 5euA  
Jonas Peter Koehne Rosen, 5euA  
Lynsey Ndikum, 5euA  
Gabrial Ndikum

Valentina Gonzalez-Calata Yud, 4euA  
Liev Helene Scheller, 4euA  
Hermine Siewezynski, 4euA  
Justus Albert Siewezynski, 1euB  
Sahasra Gnadepalli, 4euA

Isadora Rieger, 1euB  
Ana Sophie Sanabria Amin, 4euA  
Ava Hannah Newsome, 4euA  
Charlotte Gwendolyn Kinsey, 2euA

## **SPECIAL THANKS TO**

Bettina Müller-Diesing: Costume Advisor and Creator, Scenery Advisor and painter, Make-up Artist and Provider, Props provider and Advisor– HUGE HELP. FABULOUS IDEAS! COULDN'T HAVE DONE THIS WITHOUT YOU!

Gerhard von der Waydbrink, Head Sculptor at Babelsberg Film Studios with assistants: Creation of castle, Grandfather Clock and cow: Wonderful bonus!

Michael Moebius: Creator of Google List. Stage Manager

Tobias Stapf: Creator and provider of essential props such as the Giant's phone, the presents and the vuvuzela.

Alice Mika – Creator of some costumes

Dina Khalid and Jeff Zahlkind – pictures of show

Gabriela Hilpert Moebius: Make-up

Petra Koehne: Provision and organiser of Refreshments with Class 5euA and parents

Patrick Buckley: Creator of program

Martin Müller-Diesing: Creator of Sound CD

Christian Rosen: Production Film-maker

Philippa Cook: Costume Advisor and Provider, painter of cow

Michael Giacobbe: Organiser and Runner and Stage Hands

Christine Lyons: Ticket creation organiser, Carer of cast between appearances

Tracey Duncan, Charlie Haddad, Gemma Packer, Patrick Buckley, Irma Kilic, Friderike McGirr, Rosanna Buckley, Moya Nüske – Stage Hands

Jana Wendland – for sending out multiple emails

Teachers and Educators at the CDGS

Ms Reid: posters with Art class children, Classes 4euA and 5euC

Mrs Thiemert: Staging Advisor

Frau Arendt: Recommendation of key Actress and Ticket and props creation with Class 1a and Herr Katebini.

Frau Vogel: Provision of plants for Scenery

And to Herrn Effenberger and all teachers and parents, particularly those who provided costumes and props, a HUGE THANK YOU for supporting and encouraging this venture.

Please forgive me if I have failed to mention you personally in this program.

## **THANK YOU FOR THE SUPPORT OF**

Edeka, Brixplatz 1-3, 14052 Berlin, for providing us with 50 banana boxes for the wall

Nahkauf Burkart, Steubenplatz 3-5, 14050 Berlin, who generously provided us with groceries for the market scene



## **THE SELFISH GIANT (Gordon Stone) : Special Guest, Pejman Yousefi**

Hi, I am Pejman, 25 years old; from Iran but born in Tehran. I grew up in an open-minded family where I was encouraged to make independent decisions. I studied medicine and English. I worked in a pathology laboratory in Iran and also taught English.

I now act as a translator and an interpreter.

I left Iran because I faced a court of trial for helping Christians hold worship services in my home. I knew that I could receive the death penalty for this, so I decided to leave my country and everything I owned and everyone I love. I made it to Berlin, Germany with my backpack about 20 days later on 5.11.2015.

The last 2 years and 3 months I have learned a new language, made some interesting friends and got to live in a cool city and work with homeless people which I find cool.

On the flip side, there is a lot of stress here and life can be extremely cruel.

I don't know what the future holds, but I still have a lot of hopes and dreams. I am currently trying to validate my qualifications in Germany so that I can start a training programme (Ausbildung) and either return to lab work or social work.

I have really enjoyed my role as the Selfish Giant and working with the children at the CDGS.

All the very best to you!

Wish me all the very best!

Pejman Yousefi.

### **NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR**

Why did I want to write the Selfish Giant into a play and see it performed?

I first heard of this fairytale by Oscar Wilde, for children almost 8 years ago, whilst on holiday with my family on the Channel Island of Jersey. The story struck me so deeply that I couldn't get it out of my mind. Thank you Oscar Wilde for writing that simple but oh-so-powerful work! Also holidaying on Jersey was a man named.....who had directed an orchestral group to illustrate this story and used the Vivaldi's Four Seasons! How perfect I thought and determined someday to do likewise.....

The years rolled by and due to health issues and family circumstances it seemed that the realisation of this idea would not happen.

But last May the ideas for a script came into my mind. Over the summer holidays 2017 Herr Effenberger read my first script and in October pronounced that it could go ahead! I was delighted and amazed! Children auditioned for parts. Wonderful people said yes to help out in different ways. I am especially grateful to Heather Cottrell-Larkum for her willingness to rewrite Vivaldi's Four Seasons to suit our musicians and for tirelessly and faithfully (despite her own busy orchestral schedule) training them up with her husband, Matthew Larkum. THANK YOU!

I am also deeply indebted to Bettina Müller-Diesing, who has given of her time, energy and great organisational gifts and ideas to help this venture move forward and be the best that it can be. THANK YOU!

I also want to deeply thank my God, Father of the Lord Jesus Christ, my first Inspiration, Orchestrator, Provider, Strengthened and Sustainer.

*Carolyn Buckley*

**It is never, ever too late!**