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CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS SHOW BY AWARD-WINNING PLAYWRIGHT COMES TO NOTTINGHAM

Written by one of the UK's 'Top Ten Living Playwrights' (Independent on Sunday), Mike Kenny's spectacular children's show *The Boy Who Cried Wolf* brings Christmas cheer to Nottingham families at Lakeside Arts this December.

Kenny is best known for his Olivier-award-winning adaptation of *The Railway Children*. He has also won the Writers Guild Award for Best Play for Younger Audiences with *Three Wise Monkeys*.

Adored by the children of Nottingham for his adaptation of *Flat Stanley*, Lakeside's 2014 festive show, Kenny once again brings Christmas magic to the Nottingham stage with his new take on the popular Aesop's Fable.

Rated 4 stars by The Stage, *The Boy Who Cried Wolf* is set in a village of knitters where every jumper tells a tale.

Starring three talented actor-musicians, the show is filled with catchy songs created by Dominic Sales who has composed for Atomic Kitten and Opera North.

Audiences can expect a fun and cosy musical moral story featuring characters such as breakdancing sheep and a grumpy grandad all dressed in knitted clothes.

The show is created by Tutti Frutti, one of the UK's leading children's theatre companies. Different from a Christmas panto, this show is designed to engage little ones with a warming Christmas tale.

Director Wendy Harris said

"We are thrilled to bring this much-loved piece to Nottingham Lakeside as it works so well at Christmas time with its wintery setting.

This is a universal story of a boy unsure of where he fits-in, set against the backdrop of tradition and expectation. Mike Kenny has worked with us over many years and his work is always injected with humour and insight."

For years, Lakeside's Christmas show has been revered by local families, and this year will be no different with all school performances already fully booked. Lakeside staff will be dressed in bobble hats and a Christmas menu will be available from the cafés to add extra Christmas magic.

0115 846 7777 | lakesidearts.org.uk
Lakeside Arts, University Park, Nottingham, NG7 2RD



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Accompanying the show is also an exhibition of recycled and knitted materials including life-sized sheep made by local students at Strelley Academy with the help of local artist Michelle Reader.

It will also feature knitted bunting by local knitters and Lakeside staff members. The exhibition hopes to inspire a new wave of sustainable knitters and crafters this Christmas.

For ages 3+, *The Boy Who Cried Wolf* runs from Saturday 9 – Sunday 31 December at Lakeside Arts, Nottingham with tickets starting at £10.50. You can book online at lakesidearts.org.uk/ChristmasWolf

Following their run in Nottingham, the show will then tour to America.

-- ENDS --

For more information and to arrange interviews, please contact Lakeside Arts' Marketing and Communications Manager Phoebe Raine at phoebe.raine@nottingham.ac.uk

LISTING INFORMATION

The Boy Who Cried Wolf
Saturday 9 – Sunday 31 December
1 hour (no interval)
£10.50-£12
Suitable for ages 3+

Address: Djanogly Theatre, Lakeside Arts, University Park, Nottingham, NG7 2RD

Ticket link: www.lakesidearts.org.uk/ChristmasWolf

NOTES TO EDITORS

Lakeside Arts is the University of Nottingham's public arts centre presenting a programme of visual arts and museum exhibitions, theatre, dance, children and families' productions, workshops as well as a learning programme for everyone. Its venues include the Djanogly Recital Hall which stages concerts by internationally renowned soloists and chamber ensembles; the Djanogly Gallery; the University Museum which has a permanent collection of archaeology covering a period of some 250,000 years; and the Djanogly Theatre

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presenting UK and international touring work as well as producing and co-producing new theatre and dance.

Mike Kenny was awarded an honorary doctorate of letters by The University of Nottingham where his Christmas production will run this year at Lakeside Arts. He is one of the UK's leading writers specialising in young people's theatre. He was included in the Independent on Sunday's list of Top Ten Living Playwrights and his plays are performed regularly throughout the UK and all over the world. In 2000, he was Arts Council England's first recipient of The Children's Award for Playwriting for Children and Young People.

His Olivier Award-winning adaptation of THE RAILWAY CHILDREN for York Theatre Royal has had several successful revivals at Waterloo and Kings Cross stations, as well as at the National Railway Museum. In Canada it won the People's Choice Award following its record-breaking run in Toronto. Mike also won the Writers Guild Award for Best Play for Younger Audiences with THREE WISE MONKEYS, the Deutscher Kindertheaterpreis with ELECTRIC DARKNESS, and a Royal Philharmonic Society Award with his libretto for CALDERLAND – A PEOPLE'S OPERA produced by 509 Arts. In July 2013, Mike was awarded an honorary Doctor of Letters by the University of Nottingham.

For teens and older audiences, his adaptations of Homer's THE ODYSSEY and Siobhan Dowd's novel SOLACE OF THE ROAD had their premieres at Derby Theatre, and he has also adapted Giancarlo Gemin's COW GIRL and Jeannie Waudby's critically-acclaimed ONE OF US, both of which are published by Oxford University Press.

Tutti Frutti, for over 30 years, have created high-quality, inventive theatre performances for children aged 3+ and their families from their base in Harehills, Leeds. Their productions are either brand-new stories or fresh adaptations of much-loved fairy tales and fables which tour around the UK to schools and theatres, as well as internationally in the USA, Hong Kong and Singapore. They also deliver projects – sometimes live, sometimes digital – working with a range of partners in Leeds and across the country.

www.lakesidearts.org.uk

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