

***The Wizard of Oz - A Musical Tale Re-imagined* by Chris Burgess**

Workshop Performance

Upstairs at the Gatehouse

Thursday 15 October 2026

This brand-new musical update of *The Wizard of Oz* reboots the story with a new setting and quirky twists on the well-loved characters. All performed by just six multi-tasking performers. In a post-apocalyptic world of grey, can Dorothy and her new friends help bring technicolour back to Oz?



Alex Cosgriff, Dora Gee, Sue Kelvin, MacKenzie Mellen, Shelley Rivers, Dominic Sullivan

Cast (in alphabetical order)

Alex Cosgriff – Leo and other roles

Training: The Oxford School of Drama.

Theatre credits include: Percy Thompson in *Entertaining Murder* (Upstairs at the Gatehouse); *We Will Rock You* (RCCL); *Mallory and the Mountain* (The Lowry); *Their Finest Hour* (Waterloo East Theatre); *Climb Way Up* (Hope Mill Theatre) and *Small* (Soho Theatre).

Film credits include: *April Fool's Day* (Heart/Global) and *Doppelgänger* (JB Productions).

Instagram: @alexcosgriff

Dora Gee - Dorothy

Training: The MTA.

Theatre credits include: Young Avis in *Entertaining Murder* (Upstairs at the Gatehouse); Samantha Brown in *The Mad Ones* (UK Premiere, The Other Palace Studio and The Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham); Deb in *Ordinary Days* (Upstairs at the Gatehouse, The Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham and The Town and Gown Theatre, Cambridge); Maid Marian in *Outlawed* (UK Tour); Ensemble in *Go!* (Upstairs at the Gatehouse); Jack in *Jack and the*

Beanstalk (Harrogate Theatre); Little Red in *Wolfed: Red Riding Hood with Extra Bite* (Royal Vauxhall Tavern); Maid Marian in *Robin Hood* and Fairy Oceana in *Treasure Island* (Campus West, Welwyn Garden City) and Ayn Marigold in *Hill Behind the Hill* (Tristan Bates Theatre).

Dora was recently nominated for Best Performance in a Musical at the 2025 The Stage Debut Awards.

Instagram: @dora.gee

X: @dora_geeeee

Sue Kelvin – The Wizard of Oz and The Good Witch

Training: University of Kent and ALRA.

Theatre credits include: Madame Morrible in *Wicked* (Apollo Victoria Theatre); Louise in *Private Lives* (Gielgud Theatre); Auntie in *Travelling Light* and Eunice in *A Streetcar Named Desire* (National Theatre); Despina in *Onassis* (Derby Theatre and Novello Theatre); Golda in *Fiddler on the Roof* (Savoy Theatre); Mama Morton in *Chicago* (Cambridge Theatre and Adelphi Theatre); Mrs Bumble in *Oliver!* (London Palladium); Emma Goldman in *Assassins* (Donmar Warehouse); Madame Thénardier in *Les Misérables* (Palace Theatre); Grandma in *Caroline or Change* (Playhouse Theatre and Hampstead Theatre); Avis Graydon in *Entertaining Murder*, *Jewish Hollywood* and Rita in *Barmitzvah Boy* (Upstairs at The Gatehouse); *Bette Midler...And Me* (The Other Palace Studio); *Don't Destroy Me* (Arcola Theatre); Grandma in *Mumsy* (Hull Truck Theatre); *Smother* (JW3); *Apartment 2012* (White Bear Theatre); *Hetty Feinstein's Wedding Anniversary* (New End Theatre); *Beau Jest*, *Muck From Three Angles* and Fairy Godmother in *Dick Whittington* (Hackney Empire); *Sit and Shiver* with Steven Berkoff (New End Theatre and Hackney Empire); *Anyone for Tennis* with Steven Berkoff and *Tales My Lover Told Me* (King's Head Theatre); *Sophie Tucker's One Night Stand* (New End Theatre and UK Tour); *Mother Knows Best* (Bread and Roses Theatre); *Rags* (Bridewell Theatre); *Wild Wild Women* (Orange Tree Theatre); *An Evening with Victoria Wood* (Theatre Royal Drury Lane); Ernestina in *Hello, Dolly!* (Nottingham Playhouse and UK Tour); *Teechers* (Royal & Derngate, Northampton) and Miss Hannigan in *Annie* (Aberystwyth Arts Centre).

Television credits include: *Funny Women – Bette Midler* (Channel 5); *I Live With Models – Series 2* (Roughcut); *Silent Witness*, *Doctors*, *The Legend of Dick and Dom*, *Love Soup*, *Casualty*, *Coupling*, *Dr Who*, *Brazen Hussies*, *Love Hurts II* and *Red Dwarf VIII* (BBC); *Afterlife* and *Mike Bassett TV* (ITV 1); *Keen Eddie* (Paramount Pictures) and *London Bridge* (Carlton).

Film credits include: *The Groomsmen Trilogy* (Hallmark Films); *Great Expectations*; *Anxiety*; *Reuniting The Rubens*; *Red Eagle*; *Song of Songs* and *Phishing*.

Radio credits include: Co-hosting *The Jenny Eclair Show* (Radio London); *Jack and Millie* and *Book of Danielle* (BBC Radio 4).

Future credits include: *Wits End* (Circle & Star Theatre, Hampstead).

Instagram: @susankelvin8022

MacKenzie Mellen – The Woman of Steel

Training: Royal Central School of Speech and Drama.

Theatre credits while training include: Soloist in *Spring Awakening*, Hamlet in *Hamlet*, Beadle Bamford in *Sweeney Todd* and Carly in *Reasons to be Happy*.

Theatre credits include: *Twelfth Night* and *The Pirates of Penzance* (UK Tour, Illyria) and *Jewish Hollywood* (Upstairs at the Gatehouse).

MacKenzie has performed as a lead vocalist aboard numerous cruise ships and is also a regular performer on the cabaret circuit. She recently premiered her self-penned one-woman show *I Wanna Be A Gay Icon* (Phoenix Arts Club).

Instagram: @mackenziewithaz

Shelley Rivers – The Wicked Witch and Aunt Ruby

Training: Laine Theatre Arts and the Royal Northern College of Music.

Theatre credits include: Carlotta in *The Phantom of the Opera* (Courtyard Theatre, Hereford); Woman in Stephen Sondheim's *Marry Me a Little* (Stage Door Theatre) and Adele in Johann Strauss II's *Die Fledermaus* (Theatre Royal Bath, Carl Rosa Opera Company), alongside an extensive repertoire of musical theatre performances in the UK and internationally.

Shelley also created and stars in her own one-woman show, *Symphony*, which she tours internationally, performing at prestigious venues both on land and at sea.

Television credits include: Judy Garland in *Starstruck* and *Coronation Street* (ITV).

Film credits include: Lucy in the forthcoming feature film *Killing Time*, starring Alan Ford and Simon Callow.

Instagram: @shelleyannrivers

Dominic Sullivan – The Scarecrow

Training: Yale and LAMDA.

Theatre credits while training include: Josef F in *The Trial* (The Ballroom, Yale).

Theatre credits include: Darryl in *Supersonic Man* (Southwark Playhouse Borough); Freddy Bywaters in *Entertaining Murder* (Upstairs at the Gatehouse); Gordon in *Orca* (Waterfront Museum Theatre); Coriolanus in *Coriolanus* (Berkeley Basketball Court); Mr Colon and Christopher Columbus in *The SS Cancelled* (Teatro Latea) and Octavio in *Scapino!* and Protesilaus in *Mercury's Footpath* (Black Box Theatre).

Film credits include: Alessandro in *Pomodoro* (Short Film, Blue Lobster Productions); Peregrine in *Young Sherlock* (MGM and Amazon) and Billy Turner in *NR 24* (Motion Blue Films, Netflix).

Instagram: @domsullivan

Creatives

Chris Burgess – Writer and Director

Chris has written many stage shows.

Highlights include: *Supersonic Man* (Southwark Playhouse Borough); *Dishonorable Ladies*, starring Honor Blackman (National Tour and West End); *Tales My Lover Told Me, Boys in the Buff* and *Tickle* (King's Head Theatre); *The Last Fattybottypuss in the World* (Regent's Park Open Air Theatre); *Hetty Feinstein's Wedding Anniversary* (New End Theatre); *Lunch With Marlene*, starring Kate O'Mara (New End Theatre and National Tour) and *Sleeping Arrangements*, based on Sophie Kinsella's novel (Landor Theatre).

Other credits include: *Entertaining Murder*, musical revues *Jewish Legends*, *The Great Jewish-American Songbook*, *The MGM Story*, *That's Jewish Entertainment*, *A Night at the Oscars*, *Elton John: It's a Little Bit Funny* and *Jewish Hollywood* (Upstairs at Gatehouse); *The MGM Story* (Upstairs at the Gatehouse and Hope Mill Theatre), as well as *Sophie Tucker's One Night Stand* (Pleasance Theatre, Edinburgh) and *Skin Deep* and *Bette Midler and Me* (Gilded Balloon, Edinburgh).

Television and Radio Writing credits include: *London Bridge* (ITV); *Doctors* (BBC) and *The Invincible Violet* (a five-part BBC Radio drama, starring Sylvia Syms).

Future projects include: Chris is currently working on a country/bluegrass musical called *Kentucky Catfight*.

Aaron Clingham – Musical Director and Musical Arrangements

Aaron is a Multi Award Winning Musical Director, Orchestrator, Composer and Pianist, having received twelve Off-West End Award Nominations, a Broadway World Award Nomination and Two Fringe Theatre Award Nominations. He is the winner of a Standing Ovation Award and a Fringe Theatre Award for his work as a Musical Director.

Favourite credits include: *Into the Woods* (The Cockpit); *Marry Me a Little* and *The Story Of My Life* (Stage Door Theatre); *Grindr: The Opera* (UK Tour); *Supersonic Man* (Southwark Playhouse Borough); *Betty Blue Eyes* (Union Theatre); *Entertaining Murder* (Upstairs at the Gatehouse); *Romance Romance*, [title of show] and *The Pleasure Gardens* (Above The Stag Theatre); *Metropolis*, *The Kissing Dance*, *Wonderful Town* and *A Little Night Music* (Ye Olde Rose and Crown Theatre); *Faking Bad* and *Closer To Heaven* (Turbine Theatre); *Sleeping Beauty*, *Jack and The Beanstalk* and *Sleeping Beauty* (Charing Cross Theatre); *The Addams Family* (Theatre Royal Windsor and White Rock Theatre); *My Land's Shore* (Theatr Soar); *It's a Bird...It's A Plane...It's Superman* (Leicester Square Theatre); *The Ripper's Five* (Theatro Technis); *Naked Boys Singing* (King's Head Theatre and Garden Theatre); *Sondheim by Sondheim* (Camden Roundhouse); *Next Thing You Know* (Garden Theatre); *Dorian the Musical* (Southwark Playhouse and The Other Palace Studio) and *Soho Boy* (Drayton Arms Theatre).

X, Instagram and Threads: @aaronclingham

Steven Edis – Musical Arrangements

Composing, Arranging and Musical Directing credits include: *Franz & Marie* (Charing Cross Theatre); *Entertaining Murder* (Upstairs at the Gatehouse); *Supersonic Man* (Southwark Playhouse Borough) and numerous productions at the National Theatre, the Old Vic, Chichester Festival Theatre, the RSC and in London's West End. For over 20 years, Steven provided orchestrations for the annual musical at the Regent's Park Open Air Theatre and has been Composer and Musical Supervisor for the Hackney Empire pantomimes since 1998.

Musical Theatre Composing credits include: *Where is Peter Rabbit?* (with Alan Ayckbourn); *The Silver Sword* (with Susie McKenna) and *I Capture the Castle* and *Possessed* (with Teresa Howard).

Recent Musical Supervising credits include: *A Christmas Carol* (RSC, Stratford); *Perform in the Park* (also Arranger, Coram's Fields) and *What the Dickens?* (also Arranger, The Telling) and *Su Pollard: Still Fully Charged* (Musical Director, UK Tour).

Steven is a regular performer with The Comedy Store Players, at their weekly Sunday night improvised comedy show.

X: @SteveEdis

Website: www.stevenedis.com

Richard Lambert - Lighting Operator

Theatre credits include: Jazz Dance Company *Dreams* (UK Tour) 2026, *Entertaining Murder* (Upstairs at the Gatehouse); *SAVAGE* (White Bear Theatre); *Boys in the Buff* (Golden Goose Theatre); *Supersonic Man* (Southwark Playhouse Borough); *The Crumple Zone* (Waterloo East Theatre); *The Story of my Life*, *DM the play*, *Roy's Story*, *The Tailor-Made Man* and *Marry Me A Little* (Stage Door Theatre); *Boys in the Buff* (Offie Award Nomination, Best Lighting Design); *Twinkle, Tickle, Boys in the Buff* and *Love is Blue* (Drayton Arms Theatre and Edinburgh Fringe 2023); *Soho Boy* (Drayton Arms Theatre and Edinburgh Festival 2022); *Bette Midler & Me* (Garden Theatre, Vauxhall; Edinburgh Festival 2022; Town and Gown Theatre, Cambridge; and Drayton Arms Theatre); *Frostbite*, *Next Thing You Know*, *Pippin* and *Fanny & Stella* (Garden Theatre, Vauxhall); *Undetectable* (Offie Nomination, Best Lighting Design); *The Crumple Zone*, *Margot*, *Dame*, *the Most Famous Ballerina in the World* and *Boys in the Buff* (King's Head Theatre) and *Skin Deep* (Edinburgh Festival 2018 and UK Tour).

Other Landor Theatre credits include: *Marry Me A Little*, *Muscles the Musical*, *Alvaro's Balcony*, *Discotivity*, *Stand Tall*, *Vincent River*, *The Hot Mikado*, *Get Aladdin*, *A Class Act*, *Next Thing You Know*, *Nunsense*, *Bakewell Bakeoff*, *Meet Me in St. Louis*, *No Way to Treat a Lady*, *The Man Inside*, *Damn Yankees* (Offie Award Nomination), *She Loves Me*, *In the Dead of Night*, *The Clockmaker's Daughter*, *Sincerely Yours*, *Personals*, *Romance Romance* and *Devilish! A Musical Comedy*. He also designed *Do You Have A Secret Crush? (Sleeping with Straight Men)* (LOST Theatre).

Further credits include: FIFA World Cup 2022 (Luseil Stadium); Erasmus Bridge (Rotterdam); Disney on Ice (7 continents, including Tokyo Budokan, New Orleans Super Dome, Toronto Sky Dome and NYC Radio City Music Hall); Royal Wedding Dress Exhibition (Kensington Palace); *#Hashtag Lightie* (Arcola Theatre); *Cirque Enchantment* (UK Tour); and Jazz Dance Company (UK Tour, 8th year).

Future credits include: *The Patron Saint of Solo* and *Latency* (White Bear Theatre).

Website: www.lambcolighting.co.uk

Angie Lawrence – Production Assistant

Angie is a freelance Production Assistant and has worked on numerous shows in London and beyond. She has a BA (Hons) German with Linguistics degree from Leeds University and is the proud recipient of a Special Award from the inaugural Fringe Theatre Awards (2026).

Theatre credits include: *How To Make A Mess: A Totally Unauthorised Love Letter to Nigella Lawson*, *Entertaining Murder*, *Pippin*, *Shout: The Mod Musical!*, *Death on the Throne: The Loosical*, *Road Show*, *Tom Lehrer is Teaching Math and Doesn't Want to Talk to You*, *In Clay*, *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown*, *Jewish Hollywood*, *Elton John: It's A Little Bit Funny*, *The*

MGM Story, Barmitzvah Boy, Working – A Musical and *The Marvelous Wonderettes* (Upstairs at the Gatehouse); *Boys in the Buff* (Golden Goose Theatre, King's Head Theatre and LOST Theatre); *Supersonic Man* (Southwark Playhouse Borough); *Maria Caruso's Incarnation* and *Cinderella: Boom or Bust!* (Theatre Royal Drury Lane); *Marie Curie* and *Zorro* (Charing Cross Theatre); *A Song of Songs* and *Rags* (Park Theatre); *Becoming Nigella*, *Dorian: The Musical* and *Bromance: The Dudesical* (The Other Palace Studio); *Bette Midler and Me* (UK Tours); *Zorro*, *Pippin* and *Parade* (Hope Mill Theatre); [title of show] (Waterloo East Theatre); *Jerry's Girls* (St. James Studio and Jermyn Street Theatre); *It's a Bird...It's a Plane...It's Superman* (Ye Olde Rose and Crown Theatre and Leicester Square Theatre); *Into the Woods* (Ye Olde Rose and Crown Theatre and The Cockpit); *My Land's Shore* (Ye Olde Rose and Crown Theatre and Theatr Soar) and *The Adventures of Pinocchio* and *Tommy* (Greenwich Theatre).

Future credits include: *Side By Side By Sondheim* (Upstairs at the Gatehouse).

Instagram: @angie_m_lawrence

LAMBCO Productions - Producer

LAMBCO is an independent live entertainment production company based in London.

Theatre credits include: *Entertaining Murder* (Upstairs at the Gatehouse); *SAVAGE* (White Bear Theatre); *Boys in the Buff* (Golden Goose Theatre); *Supersonic Man* (Southwark Playhouse Borough); *The Crumple Zone* (Waterloo East Theatre); *Do You Have A Secret Crush?* (Lost Theatre); *Bluebirds* (Above The Stag Theatre); *Sincerely Yours* and (Associate Producer for) *Bewitchment on Black Ice* (Landor Theatre); *Skin Deep* (National Tour, 5 star reviews and Fringe Award from Scots Gay); *The Crumple Zone* and *Margot, Dame, the Most Famous Ballerina in the World* (King's Head Theatre); *Boys in the Buff*, *Tickle*, *Soho Boy*, *Bette Midler and Me*, *Twinkle* and *Love is Blue* (Drayton Arms Theatre and Ed Fest). Playbill chose *Boys in the Buff* as their "Pick of the Fringe" and the Scotsman declared *Tickle* and *Boys in the Buff*, two of the Fringe's four sexiest musicals.

Emerging from the pandemic, LAMBCO created an outdoor theatre, opening a musical ahead of Broadway and the West End and produced *Fanny and Stella*, *Pippin*, *Next Thing You Know*, *Naked Boys Singing* and *Frostbite* (Garden Theatre, Vauxhall).

In 2024, LAMBCO set up the first pub theatre in the West End and produced *Marry Me a Little*, *The Tailor-Made Man*, *Slices of Life* and the UK Premiere of the Broadway musical *The Story of my Life* (the award-winning Stage Door Theatre).

Future credits include: *The Patron Saint of Solo* and *Latency* (White Bear Theatre).

BlueSky: @lambco.bsky.social

Facebook: @lambcoprods

Instagram: @lambcoproductions

Website: lambcoproductions.co.uk

Cast

Dorothy	Dora Gee
The Scarecrow	Dominic Sullivan
The Woman of Steel	MacKenzie Mellen
Leo and other roles	Alex Cosgriff
The Wicked Witch and Aunt Ruby	Shelley Rivers
The Wizard of Oz and The Good Witch	Sue Kelvin

Creative Team

Book, Music and Lyrics	Chris Burgess
Musical Arrangements	Steven Edis and Aaron Clingham
Director	Chris Burgess
Musical Director and Arrangements	Aaron Clingham
Producer	LAMBCO Productions
Lighting Operator	Richard Lambert
Sound Operator	Jamie Ford
Stage Manager	Justina Nowakowska
Production Assistant	Angie Lawrence

With Thanks

Nigel Richards; Annlouise Butt, Isaac Bernier-Doyle, Jesse Musker, Peixuan Gu and Kady Finegan at Upstairs at the Gatehouse

The Wizard of Oz – A Musical Tale Reimagined

The Wonderful Wizard of Oz was written by L. Frank Baum in 1900. Just two years later, it became a hit vaudeville-style musical on Broadway.

The famous 1939 film version has inspired numerous stage adaptations, most recently with six additional songs composed by Andrew Lloyd Webber. In 1975, the story received a Motown spin with an all-Black cast in Charlie Small's funky retelling.

Then, in 2003, came an excavation of the backstory: *Wicked* – a global success that has kept interest in L. Frank Baum's original tale alive as ever. We are delighted to carry on the tradition of reinventing the story – and also very pleased that we are at liberty to do so, as the tale is thankfully long out of copyright!

Tonight – for one night only! We present a workshop reading of our new musical: a radical spin on a much-loved story. We're definitely not in Kansas anymore! This is the first time this show has been experienced by an audience anywhere, and we are presenting it as an early try-out of a work in progress.

We have spent just a few days together developing this presentation, so tonight's performance will take the form of a reading, with scripts in hand and without décor. There will be a few props and some sound effects – but otherwise, please use your imagination!

The full show will be presented tonight with a 10-minute interval.

After the performance, we would really appreciate it if you could spend a few minutes completing our questionnaire and sharing your reactions to the show.

Your feedback will help us as we continue to develop the musical.

We hope you enjoy your journey to the Land of Oz – even though it may differ in some ways from any of your previous trips.