

**PRESS RELEASE****For Immediate Release: December 11, 2025****Media Contact:**

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**Children's Theatre Company Announces Complete Cast and Creative Team for  
*Dinosaur World Live*  
 The Spectacular Prehistoric Journey – A Worldwide Sensation**

**March 3-April 5, 2026**

**Minneapolis—December 11, 2025** — Children's Theatre Company (CTC) is delighted to announce the complete cast and creative team for *Dinosaur World Live*, the prehistoric journey that has dazzled theatregoers of all ages worldwide. *Dinosaur World Live* will run from March 3-April 5, 2026, on the UnitedHealth Group Stage. Opening night is Friday, March 6, 2026, at 7pm. *Dinosaur World Live* is written and directed by Derek Bond (*Sweet Charity*, Manchester Theatre Awards 2017 winner, *Little Shop of Horrors* Manchester Royal Exchange), and produced by Nicoll Entertainment.

"*Dinosaur World Live* brings together everything we love at CTC—imagination, adventure, and theatrical artistry that ignites curiosity," said Rick Dildine, CTC Artistic Director. "The show's blend of spectacular puppetry and hands-on storytelling invites young people to lean in, marvel, and discover. We can't wait for families to experience the thrill of seeing these magnificent prehistoric creatures come to life right in front of them."

"We are so excited to be bringing *Dinosaur World Live* to CTC," said writer and director Derek Bond. "We've heard that there are lots of young people in Minneapolis who just love dinosaurs, so we're sending my friend Miranda and some of her dino-friends to come and meet you. She might even need your help with some of the dinosaurs!"

Are you brave enough to face a T-rex? Do you know what it feels like to get sneezed on by a triceratops? Find out when dinosaurs take over CTC in *Dinosaur World Live*. Feel the rumble of their *rawrs* as a young paleontologist takes you on a tour so up-close-and-personal you'll almost smell their stinky breath! This extraordinary experience has wowed kids and adults all over the world. But be on the lookout: you never know who (or what!) you'll run into after the show ...

★★★★★ "Great fun. Highly recommended for all ages." – *What's Good To Do*

"A spectacular interactive show!" – *OK! Magazine*

"The perfect family show. Educational and entertaining." – *The Reviews Hub*

*Dinosaur World Live* runs March 3-April 5, 2026, on the UnitedHealth Group Stage. The show is best for ages 3 and up. Tickets may be purchased at [childrenstheatre.org/dinosaur](http://childrenstheatre.org/dinosaur) or by calling the ticket office at 612.874.0400. Ticket prices start at \$25.

The cast of *Dinosaur World Live* features Lizzie Burder as Miranda, William Chaplin Stephens as Puppeteer/ Puppet Tech, Nat Speight as Puppeteer/ Puppetry Captain, Georgia Wall as Puppeteer/ Understudy Miranda, Alice Bravery as Puppeteer, and Sebastian Chambers as Puppeteer.

In addition to Derek Bond and Nicoll Entertainment, the creative team and production staff for *Dinosaur World Live* includes Laura Cubitt (co director), Rhea Locker-Marsh (associate director), Emma Brunton (associate director), Max Humphries (puppet designer, for Unit 9 Puppet Workshop), James Perkins and Victoria Smart (co-set and costume designers, for Good Teeth), John Maddox

(lighting designer), Tom Mann (sound designer), Hayden Camidge (company stage manager – tour), and Nicole Roper (tour manager).

### **Ticket Information**

Tickets may be purchased at [childrenstheatre.org/dinosaur](https://childrenstheatre.org/dinosaur) or by calling the Ticket Office at 612.874.0400. Ticket prices start at \$25.

School groups interested in attending *Dinosaur World Live* can contact [schools@childrenstheatre.org](mailto:schools@childrenstheatre.org) for more information.

*Dinosaur World Live* has a run time of 50 minutes plus a 15-minute post-show meet and greet with the dinosaurs.

This production is best enjoyed by everyone 3 and up. Lap passes are available for children 3 years and younger.

### ***Dinosaur World Live***

Written and Directed by Derek Bond

Puppet Design by Max Humphries

Puppet Direction by Laura Cubitt

Produced by Nicoll Entertainment

March 3-April 5, 2026

UnitedHealth Group Stage

Best for Everyone 3 and Up!

### **Creative Team and Production Staff**

Associate Director | Rhea Locker-Marsh

Associate Director | Emma Brunton

Co-Set and Costume Designers, for Good Teeth | James Perkins and Victoria Smart

Lighting Designer | John Maddox

Sound Designer | Tom Mann

Company Stage Manager – Tour | Hayden Camidge

Tour Manager | Nicole Roper

### **Cast**

Miranda | Lizzie Burder

Puppeteer / Puppet Tech | William Chaplin Stephens

Puppeteer / Puppetry Captain | Nat Speight

Puppeteer / Understudy Miranda | Georgia Wall

Puppeteer | Alice Bravery

Puppeteer | Sebastian Chambers

**CAST**

Miranda

**Lizzie Burder** (she/her) has theatre credits including *Dinosaur World Live* (U.K. tour), *Peppa Pig Live* (West End/U.K. tour), *Little Red Riding Hood*, *Heart of Winter* (Lyngo Theatre), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (S4K), and *Meet the Teaspoons* (Tabard Theatre). She trained at ICMT and has a B.A. from Middlesex University London.

Puppeteer/ Puppet Tech

**William Chaplin-Stephens** William is an actor from Nottingham and a graduate of Rose Bruford College Wigan. Only after graduating did he find his love for puppeteering. He has been trained in animal movement, and professionally working as a puppeteer for over three years.

William is excited to take on this role as puppet tech for the tour. He has always been interested in the practical aspect of how things work. His father had him working in the garage from a young age, so he's no stranger to getting his hands dirty.

A fun fact about William is that before deciding that his heart belonged to theatre, he was planning on becoming a paleontologist! This job perfectly ties his two loves together.

Puppeteer/ Puppetry Captain

**Nat Speight** is an actor and puppeteer who trained at East 15 Acting School. Credits include: *Pirates Love Underpants* (Leicester Curve), *In The Night Garden Live* (U.K. tour), *Milesians* (Circolombia), *Godiva Awakes* (Imagineer), *Odyssey*, *Here And Now* (The Abbey Theatre), and *Peace & Trackers* (Creation Theatre).

Puppeteer/ Understudy Miranda

**Georgia Wall** trained at East 15 Acting school and is an actor, mover, puppeteer, and theatre maker who has enjoyed several years touring the U.K. and internationally, with a soft spot for rural touring.

Having joined the Nicoll family, touring with *Dinosaur World Live* on its U.K. and international tour in 2025, Georgia is thrilled to now be joining the *Dinosaur World Live* company in the U.S.

Theatre credits include Hetty Feather Understudy in *Hetty Feather* (Kenny Wax/Sally Cookson), Mouse in *The Gruffalo's Child* (Tall Stories/Kenny Wax), Pandora in *Alice in Canning Town* (Middlesex University), Puppeteer/ The Girl in *Whispering Willows* (Wassail Theatre Company), and Puppeteer and Understudy Miranda in *Dinosaur World Live* (Nicoll Entertainment).

Puppeteer

**Alice Bravery** (she/her)'s recent theatre credits include Puppet Captain on *Dinosaur World Live* (China Tour), *Scruff's Christmas Adventure*, *Story of Stories*, *Puppets in Peril*, and other productions for the iconic Little Angel Theatre. Alice trained at the Curious School of Puppetry and has a B.A. from York University.

Puppeteer

**Sebastian Chambers** is thrilled to be back with *Dinosaur World Live* USA 2026, after an exciting time touring China. Sebastian is an actor and award-winning puppeteer. His previous credits include: TikTok in *The Wonderful* (Theatre Peckham), Astronaut Puppeteer in *Space Junk* (Hours Theatre Company), Cover Puppeteer in *The Magic Flute / Die Zauböflote* (Glyndebourne Opera), Dancer in *OUT OUT* (Sky Arts X Highly Sprung), and Ensemble in *Urban Astronaut* (Highly Sprung).

## CREATIVE TEAM AND PRODUCTION STAFF

Writer/ Co-Director

**Derek Bond** is an award-winning director and writer, who has directed musicals, new writing, and classics

across the U.K. and around the world. He became artistic director of the Roses Theatre in Tewkesbury U.K. in 2025. He loves all dinosaurs, but especially triceratops.

#### Co-Director

**Laura Cubitt** is an Olivier Award winning theatre director and performer, working in the U.K. and overseas. She has worked at many prestigious U.K. theatres including The National Theatre, the RSC, The Old Vic, Young Vic, and Regents Park, making work that has toured the U.S., Asia and Europe.

#### Associate Director

**Rhea Locker-Marsh** has been a long-standing member of the *Dinosaur World Live* team and since 2021 has toured across the world and is now an associate director of the show. Her favourite dinosaur is a segnosaurus :)

#### Associate Director

##### **Emma Brunton**

Current work as Puppetry/Movement director includes *The Paddington Bear Experience*, London; *The Taming of the Shrew* at Shakespeare's Globe Theatre; *Madagascar the Musical* U.K. and International Tour; and *The Christmasaurus* with Tom Fletcher. Other productions as associate puppetry director with Nicoll Entertainment include *Dragons and Mythical Beasts* and *The Lion Inside*.

#### Puppet Designer

**Max Humphries** (for Unit 9 Puppet Workshop) is a puppet designer and theatre maker known for his experimental mechanisms and novel puppet styles.

Since 2021 (along with his longtime collaborator Cheryl "Chuck" Brown), he has been co-studio head of the Unit 9 Puppet Workshop, a division of Nicoll Entertainment, where they created the Olivier Award-winning *Dinosaur World Live* and *Dragons and Mythical Beasts*.

In 2025 he was made a Fellow of the Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama, in recognition of his service to British Theatre.

#### Co-Set and Costume Designers

##### **James Perkins and Victoria Smart** (for Good Teeth)

Good Teeth is a theatre design studio founded by artists and designers James Perkins and Victoria Smart. They are associate artists at the Lyric Hammersmith.

Design credits include: *A Christmas Carol* (Gate Theatre, Dublin); *Marriage Material* (Birmingham Rep / Lyric, Hammersmith); *Elmet* (Bradford, City of Culture 2025); *Sweat, Romeo and Juliet* (Royal Exchange); *The Book Thief* (Leicester Curve / Bolton Octagon / Belgrade Coventry); *Piaf* (Watermill Theatre); *The Beauty Queen of Leenane* (Chichester Festival Theatre / Lyric, Hammersmith) *Faustus: That Damned Woman* (Storyhouse); *King James, The Dumb Waiter* (Hampstead Theatre); *Twelfth Night* (Not Too Tame / Shakespeare North Playhouse); *Rope, Skylight* (Theatr Clwyd); *The Barber Of Seville* (Wilton's Music Hall); *Scandaltown, Aladdin, Cinderella, Jack and The Beanstalk* (Lyric Hammersmith); *Visitors* (Watermill Theatre); *Dinosaur World Live* (UK and International Tours); *Dragons and Mythical Beasts* (U.K. and international tours); *The Winter's Tale* (Shakespeare's Globe); *While We're Here* (Bush Theatre); *Pilgrims* (Hightide / Theatr Clwyd); *German Skerries, Jess And Joe* (Orange Tree Theatre).

### Lighting Designer

#### **John Maddox**

John is a specialist in entertainment lighting and performer flying. Having trained in Lighting Design at RADA, John went on to tour internationally with Cirque du Soleil, Sigur Rós, and Sylvie Guillem's final farewell world tour.

He was production manager and lighting designer for Sadler's *Wells Breakin' Convention* (U.S. tour, London and Toronto), and head of lighting for the following: *Bat out of Hell* (Manchester Opera House and London Coliseum), *Railway Children* (London Waterloo and King's Cross Theatre), *Lazarus* (King's Cross Theatre), *Guys and Dolls* (Savoy and U.K. tour), *Ladykillers* (U.K. tour), *In The Heights* (King's Cross Theatre), *The Diary of Anne Frank* (U.K. tour), *Horrid Henry Live and Horrid* (U.K. tour), *To Kill a Mockingbird* (U.K. tour), *To Sir With Love* (U.K. tour), *Regeneration* (U.K. tour), and *Milonga* (U.K. tour).

John also devises magic tricks and flying illusions for the stage. He designed and engineered the performer flying systems for: *The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe* (Bridge, U.K. tour); *Peter Pan* (Troubadour White City); *Dystopian Dream* (Europe and U.S. tour); and *The Secret Life of Humans* (London and NY). He also designs flying effects for pantomimes all over the U.K. each Christmas.

### Sound Designer

**Tom Mann** started his journey in theatre at the Guildford School of Acting, graduating with a First-Class Honours degree in Professional Production Skills in 2009.

He has since established a reputation in the corporate, sporting, and theatrical areas of the sound industry. Credits include: *A Little Night Music* (Yvonne Arnaud Theatre), *The Reluctant Debutante* (U.K. tour), *Less Than Kind* (U.K. tour), *Wife Begins at 40* (Ray Cooney Plays), *Cinderella* (Yvonne Arnaud Theatre), *Jack and the Beanstalk*, and *Snow White* (Yvonne Arnaud Theatre). He has worked on sound installations for the West End shows *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical* and *The Book of Mormon*.

Tom was part of the audio production team for the Olympic Games 2012 and Commonwealth Games 2014, and worked on sports presentation sound for the Sochi Winter Olympics 2014 and the Rio Olympics 2016.

### Company Stage Manager (Tour)

**Hayden Camidge (He/Him)** graduated with First-Class B.A. Honours from Mountview Academy of Theatre Arts in London. His company stage manager credits include *The Tiger Who Came to Tea*, *The Lion Inside*, and *Dinosaur World Live* with Nicoll Entertainment. He is delighted to be returning to *Dinosaur World Live* in 2026.

### Tour Manager

**Nicole Roper** is thrilled to be taking on the role as tour manager for *Dinosaur World Live*, after having worked on the show in 2024 as company stage manager and in 2020 as an assistant stage manager. She has toured the U.S.A. and Canada since 2022, and the U.K. and internationally since 2018.

### General Management

**Nicoll Entertainment** is the brainchild of Oliver Royds and Nick Brooke, creating some of the most innovative family-friendly theatre productions of the past decade. The company has toured shows extensively across the U.K. and Ireland with multiple West End seasons, and toured internationally across U.S.A., China, Australia, Hong Kong, Singapore, U.A.E., Kuwait, Germany, Canada, Turkey, Portugal, Thailand, and Bahrain to name a few.

Nicoll's Olivier Award-winning production of *Dinosaur World Live* has wowed audiences across three continents since 2017 with its ferociously life-like dinosaur puppets, and is unique in bringing puppets of

this scale to an interactive setting where the audience can get so close to them. Their Olivier Award-nominated production of *The Tiger Who Came to Tea* has been a huge success since its debut in 2008, playing to packed houses regularly across the U.K. and internationally. Their Olivier Award-nominated production of *Dragons and Mythical Beasts* has brought amazement and wonder to audiences across the U.K., with major tours of the U.S.A. and mainland China. And in 2024 Nicoll premiered two new touring productions: *The Lion Inside*, a heartwarming tale about bravery which toured across the U.K., Dubai and China, and Floella Benjamin's *Coming to England*, an inspiring Windrush story which dazzled audiences across the U.K. 2025 saw the launch of a new co-production of *The Koala Who Could*, building Nicoll's puppetry repertoire and bringing more magic to the stage as it tours the U.K.

Along with producing their own sell-out shows, Nicoll Entertainment also offer a range of General Management services including tour booking, production management, payroll, merchandising and transport.

**Children's Theatre Company (CTC)** is the nation's largest and most acclaimed theatre for young people and serves a multigenerational audience. It creates theatre experiences that educate, challenge, and inspire more than 200,000 people annually. CTC is the only theatre focused on young audiences to win the Special Tony Award for Outstanding Regional Theatre and is the only theatre in Minnesota to receive three Tony nominations (for its production of *A Year With Frog and Toad*). CTC is committed to creating world-class productions at the highest level and to developing new works, more than 200 to date, dramatically changing the canon of work for young audiences.

CTC is the most significant provider of theatre education opportunities in the region. Every year, thousands of children experience theatre for the first time at CTC. Our student matinees and education programs demonstrably benefit the community, from the intergenerational conversations sparked by our world premieres, to the sequential skill-building that happens in our Theatre Arts Training, to the pre-K focus of our Early Childhood Initiative. ACT One is CTC's comprehensive platform for access, diversity, and inclusion in our audiences, programs, staff, and board that strives to ensure the theatre is a home for all people, all families, reflective of our community. [childrenstheatre.org](http://childrenstheatre.org)

#### FOR CALENDAR EDITORS:

WHAT:

***Dinosaur World Live***

Written and Directed by Derek Bond

Puppet Design by Max Humphries

Puppet Direction by Laura Cubitt

Produced by Nicoll Entertainment

March 3-April 5, 2026

UnitedHealth Group Stage

Best for Everyone 3 and Up!

WHEN: March 3-April 5, 2026 (Opening Night is Friday, March 6, 2026 at 7pm)

WHERE: CTC's UnitedHealth Group Stage (2400 Third Avenue South Minneapolis MN 55404)

AGE RECOMMENDATION: This production is best enjoyed by everyone 3 and up. Lap passes are available for children 3 years and younger.

RUNNING TIME: 50 minutes plus a 15-minute post-show meet and greet with the dinosaurs.

TICKETS: Starting at \$25 and available at [childrenstheatre.org/dinosaur](http://childrenstheatre.org/dinosaur) by calling the Ticket Office at 612.874.0400.

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