



## Requirements regarding Program Copy, Publicity, and Marketing Material

Tales & Scales® requires the right to preview all copy regarding publicity releases and program content about the performance. Any changes or additions to program copy require prior approval from Tales & Scales, Inc. Additionally, in any printed publicity or marketing material regarding the performance, the words ‘Tales & Scales’ must always appear in larger print than the title of the work. The words ‘Tales & Scales’ must always be printed with an ampersand in accordance with our registered logo. Photo reprints may only be of official Tales & Scales publicity photos.

Because of the collaborative nature of a Tales & Scales work and the ramifications involving rights and representations, any printed program for Tales & Scales performances **MUST** include the following information in this format:

### **Transformation Overture**

A Tales & Scales Introduction to Music-telling  
Composed by Christopher Grymes

### **The Little Dragon**

A Tales & Scales Musictale<sup>SM</sup>  
Story by Jay O’Callahan  
Composed by Scott Wheeler  
Directed by Gary Race

### **Tales & Scales Musictellers**

Elizabeth.....	Hilary Abigana, flute & piccolo
Monsieur La Flute, King .....	Greg Jukes, percussion
The Little Dragon.....	Jason Gresl, saxophone, bass & b-flat clarinets
Jailor, Countess .....	Liza Malamut, tenor & alto trombones

## ***About Tales & Scales***

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Tales & Scales®, based in Evansville, Indiana, exists to ignite, nurture, and fully engage the imaginations of young people and their families through *music-telling* – a unique blend of story, music, theater, and creative movement. Using minimal sets and costumes, Tales & Scales travels the country, giving over 150 performances and workshops each year in schools, performing arts centers, and with symphony orchestras.

Founded in 1986, Tales & Scales® has brought music-telling to the stages of the Dallas Symphony, Boston Symphony, Chicago Symphony, Detroit Symphony, Indianapolis Symphony, Baltimore Symphony among others, to the New Victory Theater in New York City and the Smithsonian Institution's Discovery Theater in our nation's capital, to the Annenberg Center, the Grant Park Music Festival, the Chautauqua Institution, the Caramoor Festival and to thousands of schools across the United States. Tales & Scales® has been featured on National Public Radio's Morning Edition and Talk of the Nation as well as in several national publications.

In tandem with performances, Tales & Scales gives workshops designed to partner the performing arts with education for students, educators, and artists from the primary grades to the university level. **Residencies and Student Workshops** have been held for the Aspen Music Festival and School, Tallahassee Symphony Orchestra, and the Children's Theatre of Winston-Salem, and in hundreds of elementary schools, **Artist Workshops** for Michigan State University, New World Symphony, Eastman School of Music, Manhattan School of Music, Oberlin Conservatory of Music, and **Educator Workshops** for the Harlem School of the Arts, Tilles Center on Long Island, Florida State University, and the Philharmonic Center for the Arts in Naples, FL.

## ***About The Little Dragon***

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Tales & Scales collaborated with internationally-acclaimed storyteller Jay O'Callahan, composer Scott Wheeler, and director Catherine Chuplis in 1991 to create *The Little Dragon*. In the story, we meet Elizabeth, a young girl who wanders into the forest to meet her favorite storyteller Monsieur La Flute. As she is transported into the story, she meets a dragon who is being held captive in a castle because he cannot breathe fire. As Elizabeth and the dragon become friends, a calamity befalls the kingdom—a crust of ice is forming around the sun and unless the Little Dragon can breathe fire, the kingdom will surely freeze. Through her powerful imagination, she teaches the timid dragon how to breathe fire by believing in himself. *The Little Dragon* is a story about caring, courage, and the power of the imagination.

## ***About the Artists***

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Flutist **Hilary Abigana** completed her master's degree at Rice University's Shepherd School of Music where she was also a recipient of the Sviatoslav Richter Fund for Music Outreach. She earned her Bachelor of Music degree, graduating with distinction, from the Eastman School of Music where she was awarded the Performer's Certificate in Flute, won the Eastman Nielson Flute Concerto Competition and Eastman's John Celetano Award for Excellence in Chamber Music. Hilary has performed with the National Repertory Orchestra, Aspen Music Festival, Norfolk Chamber Music Festival, Sarasota Music Festival, and SYZYGY New Music. In 2008, she won the Byron Hester Solo Flute Competition and was a silver medalist at the Fischhoff Chamber Music Competition as a member of Trio Destino. She has studied with Timothy Day, Bonita Boyd, and Leone Buyse.

Clarinetist **Jason Gresl** has performed with groups such as Denver's Mercury Ensemble, the Playground Ensemble, the South Bend Symphony, and Dutch ensembles, The Barton Workshop and Groupo Montebello. Jason, with cellist wife, Lara Turner, has performed as the duo Claricello in recitals, masterclasses, and as the Ensemble-in-Residence at Saint Mary's College. He has taught at Andrews University, the Boulder Arts Academy, Northampton Community Music School, and served as a Fischhoff Chamber Music Mentor. As Education Director for the South Bend Symphony, Jason redefined educational performances designing several acclaimed concerts. He received degrees from the University of Colorado – Boulder and Oberlin Conservatory. Jason studied clarinet under Daniel Silver, Bil Jackson and Daniel Gilbert. He studied bass clarinet with Henri Bok.

Trombonist **Liza Malamut** holds degrees from the Eastman School of Music and Boston University where she studied under John Marcellus and Don Lucas, respectively. Liza has performed with orchestras in Boston, Dallas, and Rochester. She has played with the Texas Festival Orchestra at the International Festival Institute at Round Top and attended the Chautauqua Summer Music Festival and School. An avid sackbut (ancestor of the modern trombone) player, Liza has performed across the United States with groups such as Early Music New York, the Clarion Society, the New York Collegium, Piffaro, the Concord Ensemble, the Catacoustic Consort, and members of Spiritus Collective. She has also performed at the Norfolk Chamber Music Festival and the Madison Early Music Festival. Liza appeared as a guest artist at the annual Bloomington Early Music Festival.

Percussionist **Greg Jukes** studied at the Peabody Institute of Johns Hopkins University under Robert van Sice. He has performed with the Campos do Jordão Festival Orchestra in Brazil under Roberto Minczuk, the Aspen Music Festival's Chamber and Festival Orchestras, and the Peabody Symphony and Concert Orchestras. In 2005, Greg made his concerto debut with the National Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra at Strathmore Hall in Bethesda, Maryland. Greg is dedicated to the performance of contemporary music having commissioned and/or premiered numerous chamber works and percussion solos. A diverse musician, Greg has performed in percussion trios, quartets, sextets, a percussion and cello duo, an electro-acoustic trio, the eclectic No Signal ensemble, and his rock band The Greatest City in America.

### ***About the Collaborators***

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Storyteller **Jay O'Callahan** takes a bare stage and single-handedly transforms it into a dynamic and sensitive world filled with compelling characters. His solo performances at Abbey Theatre in Dublin, National Theatre Complex in London, the Olympics, Lincoln Center, Boston Symphony Orchestra and other theaters throughout the world have been applauded by the media, including The Boston Globe, The Washington Post and Entertainment Weekly. The Associated Press trumpeted him as "a theater troupe inside one body." Time Magazine dubbed Jay "a genius."

The National Endowment of the Arts awarded Jay a fellowship for solo performance excellence. He has received awards for his performances, books, audiotapes and videos from the National Education Film Festival, Fund for U.S. Artists at International Festivals, Parents' Choice, New England Theater Conference and UNESCO, to name a few. He also is a regular contributor to National Public Radio and leads creativity workshops for corporations and other interested groups.

Composer **Scott Wheeler** (born 1952, Washington, D.C.) has received awards from the Guggenheim Foundation, the Koussevitsky Foundation, the Fromm Foundation, Tanglewood, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Massachusetts Artist Foundation, Yaddo, the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and the MacDowell Colony, as well as the Stoeger Prize from the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center. His works have been commissioned and performed by the orchestras of Minnesota, Houston, Toledo and Indianapolis, as well as by New York City Opera, Washington Opera, soprano Renée Fleming, the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, the Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra of Boston, the

John Oliver Chorale, the New England Composers Orchestra, the Chicago Contemporary Players, Parnassus, the Newport Music Festival and Dinosaur Annex. Scott's music can be heard on GM Recordings, Northeastern Records, Palexa and Koch International.

Scott teaches at New England Conservatory and Emerson College in Boston, where he is Artistic Director of Dinosaur Annex Music Ensemble. He studied at Amherst College, New England Conservatory and Brandeis University. His teachers include Virgil Thomson, Sir Peter Maxwell Davies, Arthur Berger and Lewis Spratlan.

Director **Gary Race** has served as the Director of Opera for the Cleveland Institute of Music and as Artistic Director for the Pittsburgh Opera Theater and the Ithaca Opera Association. His twenty years of directing experience have taken him to regional companies throughout the east and Midwest including the Tri-Cities Opera, Cincinnati Opera, Ash Lawn Highlands Opera, the Whitewater Opera, Utah Opera and the Kennedy Center. In 1994, Gary made his European debut directing *Madam Butterfly* for the Stattheater Lueneburg in Germany. In 1997, Gary staged Tales & Scales®' original Musictale™ *The Enchanted Horn*. As an educator, Gary has presented workshops on performance technique for colleges and universities including Carnegie Mellon University, Cornell, Duquesne University, Syracuse University, Miami University, Ithaca College, and the University of Maryland. He has created and directed programs in arts education for many organizations, most recently for the Gateway to Music and the Performing Arts in Pittsburgh and the National Symphony Orchestra in Washington DC, where he serves as an educational consultant. Gary's educational programs have won several awards including a national "A+" award from the National Education Association, one of only seven awards given nationally. Gary has written several musical theatre works for performance by young people. He also directed the premiere of *Angels Voices* at the Kennedy Center, an opera for young audiences for which he wrote the libretto.

This season, Gary was assisted by **C. Neil Parsons**. Neil, who comes from a theatrical family, had a childhood filled with dance classes and numerous theatrical roles. He chose to study music exclusively in high school, attending Interlochen Arts Academy on a trombone scholarship. His musical studies led him to Oberlin College, where he discovered modern dance and declared an individual major in Interdisciplinary Performance & Education. Although early choreographic efforts were for dancers, lately he has been specializing in choreographing works for musicians who play the music while dancing, including "The Pied Piper," "Transformation Overture," and "The Little Dragon" for Tales & Scales.

### ***Tales & Scales Thanks***

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Vectren Corporation, Toyota Motor Manufacturing Indiana, The Earl S. McDaniel Foundation, Bristol-Myers Squibb/Mead Johnson Nutritionals, Target, The Mesker Music Trust, Bussing-Koch Foundation, The BMI Foundation, The City of Evansville, The Arts Council of Southwestern Indiana, The Indiana Arts Commission, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

#### **NOTE TO PR/MARKETING DIRECTOR:**

Tales & Scales maintains complete program and technical documents (including reproduction-quality photos) available for downloading from our website at [www.talesandscales.org](http://www.talesandscales.org). We can also provide this information via email. Contact us at [info@talesandscales.org](mailto:info@talesandscales.org)