

South Coast Repertory

Julianne Argyros Stage • June 9 - 25, 2006

Theatre for Young Audiences

presents

The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales

by **Jon Scieszka** and **Lane Smith**

adapted by **John Gore**

Set/Costume Design
Nephelie Andonyadis

Lighting Design
Christina L. Munich

Sound Design/Music Director
Tim Horrigan

Production Manager
David Leavenworth

Stage Manager
Erin Nelson*

directed by **Anne Justine D'Zmura**

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Honorary Producers

The Theatre for Young Audiences season has been made possible in part by generous grants from
The Nicholas Endowment and **The Segerstrom Foundation**

The Cast

Cow Patty Boy/Cocky Locky/Prince/
Stepsister #1/Owl/Stinky **LARRY BATES ***
Jack/Tortoise **JOHN CABRERA ***
Ducky Lucky/Princess #2/Cinderella/
Cow Butt **ALLISON CASE ***
Chicken Licken/Princess #1/Little Red/
Rabbit **JENNIFER CHU ***
Foxy Loxy/Ugly Duck/Wolf/Giant/
Rumpelstiltskin/Fox **MICHAEL FAULKNER ***
Surgeon General/King/Frog/
Stepsister #2/Little Old Man/
Cow Head/Legal Guy **KEVIN SIFUENTES ***
Red Hen/Goosey Loosey/Queen/
Stepmother/Little Old Lady **JODEE THELEN ***

* denotes members of Actors' Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers

Incidental music composed by Tim Horrigan

For Your Information

Everyone must have a ticket. No babes in arms allowed.

Latecomers will be asked to watch the lobby monitor until an appropriate time that they can be taken into the theatre and seated at the discretion of the House Manager. They may then take their assigned seats at intermission.

Special seating arrangements can be made for Disabled Patrons in advance by calling South Coast Repertory's Ticket Services Department at 714-708-5555.

As a courtesy to all patrons, please turn off all Cellular Phones, Pagers and Watch Alarms or switch them to non-audible before the performance begins.

If Doctors or Parents expect calls during a performance, please leave your name and seat number with the House Manager, who can be reached at 714-708-5500, ext. 5442.

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OC Family Magazine



South Coast Repertory

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Producing Artistic Director

MARTIN BENSON
Artistic Director

PAULA TOMEI
Managing Director

JOHN GLORE
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These folks are helping run the show back stage!

Kristin Ahlgren*
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Mina Yueh
Jeff Brewer
Tom Cavnar
Lisa Kovarik, Stacy Nesda
Mia Osherow

ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER
ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR
STAGE MANAGEMENT INTERN
LIGHTING BOARD OPERATOR
SOUND BOARD OPERATOR
DRESSERS
DECK CREW



And these folks helped get it ready for you!

Linda Sullivan Baity

Joanne DeNaut

THESE FOLKS BUILT THE SCENERY

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Jesus Soto, *Scenic Carpenter*
Amanda Horak, *Scenic Carpenter*
Judy Allen, *Lead Scenic Artist*
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THESE PEOPLE CREATED THE PROPS

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Byron Bacon, *Assistant Property Shop Manager/Buyer*
Jeffery G. Rockey, *Properties Artisan*
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THEATRE FOR YOUNG AUDIENCES COORDINATOR
AND PRODUCTION DRAMATURG
CASTING DIRECTOR

THE FOLLOWING MADE THE COSTUMES

Amy L. Hutto, *Costume Shop Manager*
Laurie Donati, *Full Charge Costumer*
Merilee Ford, Amanda Seymour, *Costume Design Assistants*
MK Steeves, *Wig Master*
Kelly Meurer, *Wig Maintenance Technician*
Lisa Kovarik, *Wardrobe Supervisor*
Valerie Bart, Rhonda Brooks, Bronwen Burton,
Joan Goodspeed, Kathleen Hotmer, Peg Oquist,
Tiffany Regan, *Additional Costume Staff*

THIS GROUP DEALS WITH LIGHTS & SOUND

Alexander Will, *Lighting Design Assistant*
Keith Friedlander, *Master Electrician*
Jeff Brewer, *Argyros Stage Electrician*
B.C. Keller, *Audio Engineer*
Jeff Deckner, *Assistant Audio Engineer*
Tom Cavnar, *Audio Technician*

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The Stinky Cheese Man

by Jon Scieszka

Once upon a time there was a little old woman and a little old man who lived together in a little old house. They were lonely. So the little old lady decided to make a man out of stinky cheese. She gave him a piece of bacon for a mouth and two olives for eyes and put him in the oven to cook.

When she opened the oven to see if he was done, the smell knocked her back. "Phew! What is that terrible smell?" she cried.

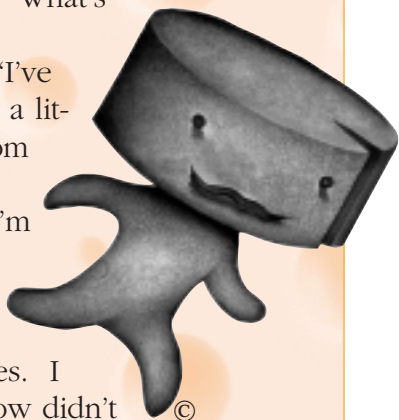
The Stinky Cheese Man hopped out of the oven and ran out the door calling, "Run run run as fast as you can. You can't catch me. I'm the Stinky Cheese Man!"

The little old lady and the little old man sniffed the air. "I'm not really very hungry," said the little old man. "I'm not really all that lonely," said the little old lady. So they didn't chase the Stinky Cheese Man.

The Stinky Cheese Man ran and ran until he met a cow eating grass in a field. "Wow! What's that awful smell?" said the cow.

The Stinky Cheese Man said, "I've run away from a little old lady and a little old man and I can run away from you too I can. Run run run as fast as you can. You can't catch me. I'm the Stinky Cheese Man!"

The cow gave another sniff and said, "I'll bet you could give someone two or three stomachaches. I think I'll just eat weeds." So the cow didn't chase the Stinky Cheese Man either. The Stinky Cheese Man ran and ran until he met some kids playing outside school.



“Gross,” said a little girl. “What’s that nasty smell?”

“I’ve run away from a little old lady and a little old man, and a cow, and I can run away from you too I can. Run run run as fast as you can. You can’t catch me. I’m the Stinky Cheese Man!”

A little boy looked up, sniffed the air and said, “If we catch him, our teacher will probably make us eat him. Let’s get out of here.”

So the kids didn’t chase the Stinky Cheese Man either.

By and by the Stinky Cheese Man came to a river with no bridge. “How will I ever cross this river? It’s too big to jump, and if I try to swim across I’ll probably fall apart,” said You-Know-Who.

Just then the sly fox (who shows up in a lot of stories like these) poked his head out of the bushes.

“Why, just hop on my back and I’ll carry you across, Stinky Cheese Man.”

“How do I know you won’t eat me?”

“Trust me,” said the fox.

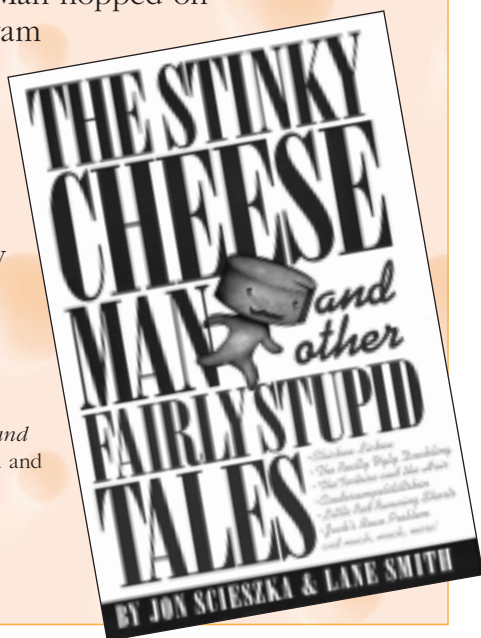
So the Stinky Cheese Man hopped on the fox’s back. The fox swam to the middle of the river and said, “Oh, man! What is that funky smell?”

The fox coughed, gagged, and sneezed, and the Stinky Cheese Man flew off his back and into the river where he fell apart.

The End.

Excerpted from *The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales* by Jon Scieszka and Lane Smith (Penguin Group, 1992).

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Designing Woman

Nephelie Andonyadis is the very talented theatre artist who designed both scenery and costumes for this production of *The Stinky Cheese Man*. Here are some of the drawings (also called “renderings”) which she created to help communicate her ideas to the director, and to all the hard-working folks who helped to make Nephelie’s “stinky” design dreams come true onstage!

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Tortoise

Ugly Duckling

Cinderella



Princess

Little Red Hen

Rabbit

Who's Who in the Cast

Larry Bates

**Cow Patty Boy, Cocky Loeky, Prince,
Stepsister #1, Owl, Stinky**

I was last seen at SCR as Cactus, that's right CACTUS in *Mr. Marmalade*. I never knew playing a plant could be so much fun. I have also done some TV here and there, like playing a cop on "NYPD Blue" and "Huff," or a coast guard who saves the day on "Numb3rs," or a mortician who gets to be around dead people all day (Ugggh) in "Boston Public." Once I was placed under a spell by "Sabrina, the Teenage Witch." I haven't been quite right since.



John Cabrera

Jack, Tortoise

The Stinky Cheese Man is my first big play here at South Coast Repertory, and I'm so excited, because just like Jack, I love to tell funny stories. Most of my acting has been on stages in Los Angeles, and on television shows like "CSI," "American Dreams" and "Miracles." But I'm most known for the character I play on The WB Network's "Gilmore Girls"—the lovable bass guitar player Brian. People ask me all

the time if I actually play the bass guitar on the show, and the answer is... kind of. You see, I do learn the songs well enough so it looks like I'm really playing, but actually the sound is not coming from my guitar, but from another guitar player standing behind the camera. So I guess you could say I play, but not as good as that guy behind the camera. Oh well.



Allison Case

Ducky Lucky, Princess #2, Cinderella, Cow Butt

It's great to be back here at SCR after being part of the cast of *The Adventures of Pör Quinly* and *A Christmas Carol*! The theatre has been a special part of my life for almost as long as I remember. I began my acting career with lots of school productions, beginning in elementary school



and on through high school and college. In fact, several summers were spent right here at SCR as part of the Summer Theatre Workshop, and later as part of SCR's Youth Program and Teen Players Program. I learned a lot, met some great people and loved every moment. Over the years I can clearly remember every role, and they're always so different! I've been a hippie (*Hair*), flown to Neverland (*Peter Pan*), danced with a scarecrow (*The Wizard of Oz*) and even spent some time in Greece (Shakespeare's *Timon of Athens*). Much love and thanks to my family and SCR.

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Jennifer Chu

Chicken Licken, Princess #1, Little Red, Rabbit



I play Chicken Licken in this production. I actually used to have a pet chicken when I was about your age, growing up in Boston. She laid about 200 eggs for me and my family to eat, but then died from old age. I was sad. But now I have two cats, and they make me happy. I'm also very happy to play the Princess, Little Red and Rabbit in this production. I like acting and singing very much, and enjoy playing my violin, running and

watching basketball on television. I hope to be a Mommy one day when I grow up.

Michael Faulkner

Foxy Loxy, Ugly Duck, Wolf, Giant, Rumpelstiltskin, Fox

I've played a lot of old men in my time, but none as old as Rumpelstiltskin. The last time I appeared at SCR I was "Big Wig" in *Rhubarb Jam*—another important old man. I also taught Shakespeare (a young man once, but really, really old now) for four years at SCR's Young Conservatory, before I went on the road doing children's theatre for adults with the Reduced Shakespeare Company, in shows like *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare* (abridged), *The Bible; The Complete Word of God* (abridged), and *All The Great Books* (abridged), which I also contributed additional material to. Sometimes I like to direct theatre for children with Parson's Nose in Pasadena—most recently I directed *The Pied Piper of Hamelin*. It is so nice to be back in the family at SCR, sharing stories I love with young people.





Kevin Sifuentes

**Surgeon General, King, Frog, Stepsister #2,
Little Old Man, Cow Head, Legal Guy**

Once upon a time there was a little boy named Kevin. He loved to read and make believe he was the characters in his books. He was always inspired by fairy tales, especially ones that made him laugh. Soon this little boy grew up to be a man. But he never gave up his love of using his imagination and the magic of make believe. So this man became an actor. And this man is me! Hello!

My name is Kevin Sifuentes. My last play here was in December 2005. It was called *La Posada Mágica*. I love doing plays and have traveled all over the country touring in different shows. My last trip was in April where I traveled to Texas and was the lead actor in a play called *By The Hand Of The Father*. I have also been in movies, television and commercials. I have played a Marine Tank Commander in *Independence Day*, a bad guy that Shaquille O'Neal teaches a lesson in *Steel*, and a newspaper reporter on the television show "ER." You may also have seen me floating in the air on a Taco Bell commercial, buying hardware on a Home Depot commercial or even talking about car brakes as the Midas Man. Currently I am also directing my first short film that I wrote. Thanks to my wife, family and friends for their love, support and funny anecdotes. Never stop dreaming and let your imagination have fun!

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Jodee Thelen

Red Hen, Goosey Loosey, Queen, Stepmother, Little Old Lady

I was last seen here in *The Adventures of Pør Quinly* as Gilly Galloo, a mermaid and a distracted mother. In *The Hoboken*

Chicken Emergency, I was a town person and others, and in *Sideways Stories from Wayside School*, I was a teacher who gets a split personality. I have done some films—*The Wedding Singer*, *Four Friends*, *The Black Stallion Returns*—and other plays here of note, *Jar the Floor* and *A Mess of Plays by Christopher Durang*. I have worked at theatres in New York and Los Angeles, Minneapolis, Washington D.C., San Francisco and Florida. I have been fortunate to have worked in television too. I always dreamed of being a theatre actress and feel so grateful

that I am living this dream and doing it especially for children. I am most proud of my daughter, Samm, who teaches me how to write different endings to the ongoing fairy tales that we share. I am also becoming a VIBE for "Cosmikids." Thanks to all my friends and colleagues at SCR.



Behind the Scenes

Playwright **John Glore** used to read *The Stinky Cheese Man* book to his little girl, Josie. She's thirteen now, but they still love the book. He has written other plays for young audiences, including *Wind of a Thousand Tales* and *Rhubarb Jam* (which went out on tour to Orange County elementary schools way back in 1997). Both of those plays have been produced at many theatres all over the country. He has also written some plays for grown-ups. Two, *On the Jump* and *The Company of Heaven*, were produced at South Coast Repertory. Once he worked with three crazy guys who call themselves Culture Clash on a new version of a very old Greek comedy called *The Birds*, which was also produced at SCR. When he's not writing plays, he works here as the Associate Artistic Director, which means he helps the top bananas run the theatre and helps other playwrights make their plays as good as they can be.



Jon Scieszka also wrote *The True Story of the Three Little Pigs*, *The Frog Prince Continued* and the Time Warp Trio series. He cannot tell a lie and says that he and Lane celebrate the Stinky Cheese Man's birthday on the second Monday of every February.

Honest **Lane Smith** wrote and illustrated *Glasses*, *Who Needs 'Em?*, *The Big Pets* and *Flying Jake*. He illustrated the Time Warp Trio series, *The True Story of the Three Little Pigs* and *Halloween ABC*. He has won the Golden Apple of Bratislava, the Silver Buckeye, the Silver Medal from the Society of Illustrators, and a bunch of other gold and silver stuff. If he hadn't been an illustrator, he probably would have grown up in a log cabin and become president.



Director **Anne Justine D'Zmura** knew she wanted to work in the performing arts when she danced in her first ballet recital as a bumblebee at the age of three. Originally from Pennsylvania, she studied directing at Hampshire College and continued at Yale School of Drama where she received her MFA degree. Since that time she has buzzed around directing at places including the Guthrie Theater, The Juilliard School, Shakespeare Santa Cruz and The Acting Company and is currently teaching and directing at CSULB. She dedicates this play to the stinky cheese man in all of us and to the stinky cheese sitting in her fridge right now.



Set and Costume Designer **Nephelie Andonyadis's** love of theatre started when she spent her childhood summers in a one-car garage that her neighbor had converted into a theatre for the community. There she participated in every way she possibly could, both onstage and off. Since then, she has studied architecture and stage design and loves to imagine and invent the visual world in which plays happen. Her recent work for young audiences includes the costume design for the world premiere of *Lily Plants A Garden* for Center Theatre Group's P.L.A.Y. and the set design for *The American Girls Revue*, now being remounted at the newest American Girl Place in Los Angeles. She lives in Redlands, where she is a professor of theatre arts and has worked as an artist in residence making masks with the children at her son's elementary school.

Lighting Designer **Christina L. Munich** is delighted to be working on the Theatre for Young Audiences series again this season, after designing *The Little Prince* and *The Emperor's New Clothes* in previous seasons. She has also designed numerous Players productions at SCR. Other recent designs include *3-7-11* for Cornerstone Theater Co., *Carmina Burana* for the Pacific Chorale at OCPAC, and *Cinderella* for Inland Pacific Ballet. In addition, she teaches lighting at the Orange County High School of the Arts. Christina received her MFA in Lighting Design from UC, Irvine.

Musical Director and Sound Designer **Tim Horrigan** has written music for movies and musicals, and has been Musical Director for *Pinocchio*, *The Emperor's New Clothes*, *The Hoboken Chicken Emergency* and *Bummicula* here at SCR.

"Working with a talented cast and crew in creating on stage a world that didn't exist before is just about the most fun you can have," says Tim. And if you live in Irvine, you just might have him as your English teacher at Northwood High School when you get older. In the meantime, Tim says, "Keep taking those piano lessons!"

Stage Manager **Erin Nelson*** grew up in Virginia acting in musicals and commercials. She soon realized that backstage was the place to be and has been a professional stage manager for more than six years, working in places around the country like La Jolla, California and Boise, Idaho. She even got a Masters Degree in Stage Management from UC San Diego. She enjoys cheese, but prefers a more subtle Gruyere or Gouda.

Assistant Stage Manager **Kristin Ahlgren*** became a stage manager because she discovered doing that was much more fun than piano lessons, dance class or acting camp. She has worked for the Long Wharf Theatre, La Jolla Playhouse, Opera Pacific and Disneyland, where she got to set the Rivers of America on fire every night for two summers working on FANTASMIC. This is therefore the second production she has ever done that is all about fairy tales.

Telling Your Own Tales

After watching today's performance of *The Stinky Cheese Man*, you may be inspired to keep having fun with fairy tales. Here are a few ideas to get you started:

- Use a different character to narrate the story.
- Choose your own ending by rewriting the last scene.
- Add a crazy new character of your own creation to the story.
- Create a modern-day version by updating everything in the story.
- Imagine a sequel to the play by fracturing some other familiar fairy tales.

©

- All fairy tales have some common elements:
 - 1) "good" characters
 - 2) "bad" characters
 - 3) a problem to solve or a task to accomplish
 - 4) a particular setting
 - 5) magic
 - 6) a reward

Come up with as many different possibilities for each of these elements as you can and write them all down on small pieces of paper. Choose one idea from each of the six elements and build a new story from them—the sillier the better!

Once Upon a Time

Fairy tales are classified as folk literature, a category that includes all kinds of stories which have been passed down orally through the years by ordinary people and are usually anonymous. Other types of folk literature are legends, fables, myths, and tall tales. See if you can match each type with its correct definition.

1. FAIRY TALE

2. TALL TALE

3. FABLE

4. MYTH

5. LEGEND

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- A. A short narrative in prose or verse that teaches a moral lesson and features non-human (usually animal) characters.
- B. A story in which there is interaction between human beings and gods or godlike heroes, and which often explains the world in terms of the relationship between natural and supernatural forces.
- C. A story of marvel and magic about the adventures of a hero or heroine who ends up living happily ever after, which can also feature supernatural creatures and often teaches a lesson.
- D. An account of something truly extraordinary that is supposed to have actually happened, or the exploits of a real-life hero that may be somewhat exaggerated but based on actual fact.
- E. A story that is nothing but outlandish lies and exaggerations about larger-than-life heroes, capturing the spirit and language of the times in which they were told.



Who Wrote What?

The world's best-loved fables and fairy tales were created by just a small handful of writers.

Although some of these writers are anonymous (in other words, unknown), most are very famous fellows:

- A. Hans Christian Andersen
- B. Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm (a.k.a. Brothers Grimm)
- C. Aesop
- D. Charles Perrault (a.k.a. Mother Goose)
- E. Anonymous

The Stinky Cheese Man features wacky versions of these original tales. Do you know who wrote what? Try filling in the blanks before each title with one of the authors above. (Hint: Four are “Anonymous” and the rest are equally divided among the remaining authors.)



- _____ 1. The Boy Who Cried Wolf
- _____ 2. Chicken Little
- _____ 3. Cinderella
- _____ 4. The Frog Prince
- _____ 5. The Gingerbread Boy
- _____ 6. Jack and the Beanstalk
- _____ 7. Little Red Hen
- _____ 8. Little Red Riding Hood
- _____ 9. The Princess and the Pea
- _____ 10. Rumpelstiltskin
- _____ 11. The Tortoise and the Hare
- _____ 12. The Ugly Duckling

Let's Put on a Show

The *Stinky Cheese Man* is a play about—among other things—how theatre happens. Here are just a few of the many theatrical terms used by Jack and the other characters:

- | | | |
|--------------|-------------------|----------------|
| 1. actors | 7. director | 13. script |
| 2. applauds | 8. house lights | 14. stage crew |
| 3. audience | 9. opening number | |
| 4. backstage | 10. narrator | |
| 5. bow | 11. performance | |
| 6. cue | 12. props | |



Try to fill-in-the-blanks below with the right words. (Hint: this will probably be easier after you've seen the play!)

The play begins with a rousing _____ (A) _____ that features all _____ (B) _____ singing and dancing. Jack of beanstalk fame is the _____ (C) _____ who talks directly to the _____ (D) _____ as well as to the other characters. He is also the _____ (E) _____ of the “play-within-a-play” who is responsible for bringing the _____ (F) _____ to life onstage. The director _____ (G) _____ makes sure that the actors wait _____ (H) _____ until they hear the right _____ (I) _____ that tells them when to enter with their _____ (J) _____. At the end of the play, the audience _____ (K) _____ as the cast takes their final _____ (L) _____. When the _____ (M) _____ come up, the _____ (N) _____ comes onstage to clean up before the next _____ (O) _____.