



American Repertory Theater  
64 brattle street, cambridge, massachusetts 02138  
617.495.2668 TEL  
617.495.1705 FAX  
617.547.8300 TICKETS  
[www.americanrepertorytheater.org](http://www.americanrepertorytheater.org)

For Immediate Release November 5, 2013  
Contact: Kati Mitchell 617-495-2668  
[kati\\_mitchell@harvard.edu](mailto:kati_mitchell@harvard.edu)

**The A.R.T. /MXAT Institute for Advanced Theater Training  
in association with the Loeb Drama Center presents  
*THE LIGHT PRINCESS*  
A musical for children and their families  
December 21 — January 5**

Cambridge, MA — Following previous seasons sold-out holiday hits, *The Snow Queen* and *Hansel and Gretel*, the A.R.T. Institute, in association with the Loeb Drama Center, brings another children's story to life — *The Light Princess*, by **Lila Rose Kaplan** with music by **Mike Pettry**, directed by **Allegra Libonati**, with choreography by **Jeff and Rick Kuperman**. Performances will be held at the Loeb Drama Center at from December 21 through January 5, 2014.

Based on George MacDonald's fairy tale, this world premiere musical tells the story of a young princess cursed to live without gravity. She floats through life unburdened by cares or sorrow, constantly threatened by high winds and low trees. If her parents, the King and Queen, don't help her come back to earth by her birthday, the curse will be permanent. Lila Rose Kaplan and Mike Pettry's innovative and original adaptation of the classic story combines gravity defying ensemble choreography, regal costumes, and a larger-than-life fairy tale forest onstage in A.R.T.'s characteristic style of stage magic. Featuring graduate acting students from the A.R.T. Institute for Advanced Theater Training, this energetic and interactive show is sure to be a sweet holiday treat for the whole family. The set design is by **Julia Noulin-Merat**, costume design by **Arthur Oliver**, and lighting design by **Porsche McGovern**.

**Performances dates and times:**

December 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31 and January 3, 4, 5 @ 10am

**About the creative team:**

**Lila Rose Kaplan** writes bittersweet comedies and modern myths that delve into the mysteries of human relationships. Her play *Wildflower* made its Off-Broadway debut in 2009 at Second Stage Uptown and was published by Dramatists Play Service. Her other works include *We All Fall Down*, *Home of the Brave*, *100 Planes*, *Entangled*, *Bureau of Missing Persons*, and *Tink*. Her plays have been seen and/or developed at Second Stage, Arena Stage, La Jolla Playhouse, The Old Vic, Chalk Rep, Perishable Theatre, The Kennedy Center, Ensemble Studio Theatre, Center Theatre Group, Theatreworks, PlayPenn, The Lark, among others. Awards include The National Science Award in

Playwriting, The International Women's Playwriting Award, The Shank Playwriting Fellowship, and the I.J. Kapstein Award in Playwriting. In 2010, She was selected as an Old Vic/New Voices T.S. Eliot Exchange Playwright and one of her short plays debuted at the Old Vic in London.

**Mike Pettry** is a New York based composer/lyricist and musician. He is a 2012 ASCAP Foundation Harold Adamson Lyric Award winner, and a 2007 Jonathan Larson Award winner. Musicals written include *Hardcore West Virginia* (2012 ASCAP Musical Theatre Workshop with Stephen Schwartz), *The Time Travelers Convention*, *Long Distance*, *World of Heroes*, *The Wonderful World of Zidney* (featured highlight at Kennedy Center Page to Stage Festival), and *Flipside* (2007 NYU Frederick Loewe Award winner). Mike's songs have been performed all over the country and in the UK. Muzz Skillings of Living Colour produced several of Mike's songs for the Lin McEwan album "When I Wake...". Mike's solo album "The Voices In My Head" is available on iTunes, as is the original cast album of *The Time Travelers Convention*. He also wrote the score for the film *The Promise of New York* (Big Muddy Film Festival Audience Choice Best Documentary).

**Allegra Libonati** is the Artistic Associate at the A.R.T., where her previous credits include *Hansel and Gretel* and *The Snow Queen*. She was the Resident Director for *The Donkey Show*, Associate Director for *Prometheus Bound*, and Assistant Director for *Death and the Powers: The Robots' Opera, Best of Both Worlds*, and the Tony Award winning revival of *HAIR* on Broadway. She curates *The Chairs Revue* at Harvard University, an original festival of theater and happenings in Harvard Yard. At OBERON she directed the food/performance event *Once in Hell: Dante's Inferno in 10 Dinner Courses*, and *Matchmaker Matchmaker, I'm Willing to Settle: A Musical Guide to Internet Dating*, also presented at the New York Musical Theater Festival last year. She directs outdoor musicals and Shakespeare productions at the Summer Theater of New Canaan, including *Carousel*, *Twelfth Night*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *H4* (an original adaptation of *Henry IV, Parts 1 and 2*, produced by Resonance Ensemble on Theater Row, NYC last spring). Other credits include *The Island*, *Life Is a Dream*, *The Just Assassins*, *Cinderella Waltz*, *The Accidental Death of an Anarchist*, and *The Illusion*. She studied Commedia dell'arte performance at the Accademia Dell'Arte in Arezzo, Italy, and is a graduate of NYU, Tisch School of the Arts. She holds an MFA in directing from Carnegie Mellon University.

**Rick and Jeff Kuperman** are a directing and choreography team for stage and screen. Their theater and dance works have been seen across New York City at Ars Nova, HERE Arts Center, the Ailey Citigroup Theater, the New Ohio Theatre, Steps on Broadway, Dixon Place, The Living Theatre, NY Fringe, Theater for the New City, The Cutting Room, and Symphony Space. They've also directed and choreographed at PST in Princeton, NJ. Their award-winning films have been screened internationally, across North America, Europe, and South America. The brothers are recent graduates of Harvard and Princeton, respectively.

Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased by calling 617-547-8300 or online at <http://americanrepertorytheater.org/events/show/light-princess>

The Loeb Drama Center, located at 64 Brattle Street, Harvard Square, Cambridge, is accessible to persons with special needs and to those requiring wheelchair seating or first-floor restrooms. Deaf and hard-of-hearing patrons can also reach the theater by calling the toll-free N.E. Telephone Relay Center at 1-800-439-2370.

