

Gingerbread Man Pre- show notes.
by Shalni Doshi and William Landsman

Welcome Note

Welcome to KC Arts Centre – Home of Singapore Repertory Theatre, known commonly as SRT. The performance of The Gingerbread Man is produced and presented by The Little Company, a division of the SRT. It is kindly sponsored by Berries and Vitagen Less Sugar.

A reimaging of a classic tale, the Gingerbread Man premiered in Singapore on the 23rd of October and will run until 7th of December. The Audio Description performance will be held Sunday 17th November 2019 at 2.00pm. There will be a TOUCH tour prior to the performance at 12:45pm.

GINGERBREAD MAN synopsis

Ginger is one energetic giant cookie! The good thing about him is that he is fast and quick and full of energy. Unfortunately, he believes in doing things his own way and refuses to cooperate with others on his mother, Anya's, farm. After making a terrible mess of things one day, he runs away. Mised by Sly Fox, Ginger joins the local race, supposedly to win an oven to replace the one he destroyed at the farm. However, Sly Fox's real aim is to find the best opportunity to gobble him up! When Anya and the farm animals realise Ginger is in danger, they rush to his rescue. To defeat the fox, Ginger must learn how to work as a team.

Written by Caroline Wigmore and directed by Kate Golledge, Gingerbread Man is full of vibrant songs and lots of action- sure to delight children of all ages.

The Gingerbread Man is a family-friendly play experience recommended for children aged 4 and above.

The Play is approximately 50 minutes long with no interval, audio described by Shalni Doshi and William Landsman.

Cast and Costume

Juni Goh plays Gingerbread or Ginger, as everyone calls him. Ginger is a man-sized cookie. On his head, he has a yellow helicopter cap with a red visor and blades. He is wearing a bright yellow elbow-sleeved T-shirt, a bright red bowtie and brown knee-length overalls. His T-shirt sleeves have a white trim around the edges to represent icing. His overalls also have the same trim outlining the front, waist and hem. The front of his overalls also include 4 baubles - 2 at the shoulder and 2 in the front - to represent the buttons. There is one blue bauble on the right shoulder and a pink one on the left. On the front of the overalls are a blue and pink bauble respectively, arranged like buttons. Ginger is also wearing Sparkly pink round spectacles, brown tights and sleeves. Orange gloves and red ankle sneakers complete his look.

Natalie Yeap plays Anya. Anya is Ginger's mother, a young farmer who loves working on her farm and believes strongly in teamwork. She is wearing a checkered red-and-white shirt and dark blue denim overalls. The sleeves of her shirt are rolled to the elbow. Around her waist she has a dull brown tool belt. There is a wrench hanging from it. Anya's black hair is tied in a bun and she is wearing a red bandana like a ribbon around her hair. The pants of Anya's overalls are tucked into shin-length purple boots.

Alyssa Lie plays 2 characters - Daisy the cow and Sly Fox.

As Daisy the cow, Alyssa is hardworking and good friends with Mr Jiggles, the pig. She has on a wig of long frizzy black hair and is wearing a soft black pilot helmet. Alyssa is dressed in a black and grey turtleneck jumpsuit whose print looks like army fatigues. In the middle of her jumpsuit, around the stomach area, she has strapped on a pink semicircular helmet. There are two black lines running down the length of the helmet. Between the two lines are two vertical rows of buttons, 3 in each row to represent udders. The pants of her jumpsuit are tucked into shin-high black boots and she is wearing a pair of aviator or pilot goggles. Daisy opens the scene with Mr Jiggles and they are never seen separately throughout the show.

As Sly Fox, Alyssa is cunning and greedy. She desperately wants to gobble Ginger up but knows she needs to plan it well or else. Alyssa is dressed in a fitting yellow shirt with a brown waistcoat over it. Around her neck she has a smart red necktie. She is wearing a glossy reddish-brown shoulder-length wig with a red felt skullcap with white felt ears. Her brown and black striped riding pants are tucked into knee-high black boots. A reddish-

brown bushy tail with a black tip completes the look. Sly Fox enters stage together with Weasel but they do appear separately in some scenes.

Ryan Ang plays 2 characters.

As Mr Jiggles, Ryan is the faithful farting pig on Anya's farm. He is wearing a pink long-sleeved jumpsuit. The jumpsuit is open at the collar and there is a pink scarf knotted into a tie around his neck. There is a zipper in running down the middle of the shirt half of the suit. On either side are 3 big pink round buttons, arranged vertically. Around his waist Mr Jiggles is wearing a dark pink belt. The pants of the jumpsuit are like riding pants. There are 2 oversized rectangular pockets on the sides of these pants. In his hand Mr Jiggles is holding a hammer and he is wearing a soft helmet cap. A pair of aviator goggles is strapped around it. He also has a pink snout on his nose. Shin-high black boots complete his look. Mr Jiggles opens the scene with Daisy and they are never seen separately throughout the show.

As Weasel, Ryan is Fox's partner-in-crime. Weasel is starving and very impulsive and can't wait to make Ginger his dinner. He is dressed in a similar fashion as Sly Fox. He is wearing a white shirt and black necktie, with a grey vest. He has white trouser braces over his shoulders His riding pants are light grey with dark gray checks and these are tucked into shin-high black boots. His long tail is black with a white tip. On his head is grey beret / French cap with black felt ears. Weasel enters stage together with Sly Fox but they do appear separately in some scenes.

As Roo Roo, various cast members manipulate a red Rooster puppet. The puppet covers their forearm until the elbow. They also support Roo Roo's legs with their other arm to create a sitting position. Roo Roo the puppet is about the size of a small cat. He is red in colour and his texture is soft and velvety. He has a floppy red crown and yellow beak. His ping-pong ball shaped eyes sit just above his beak and have black dots for pupils. . He also has long thin yellow legs and webbed feet. Although he is sitting on an oversized oven centre stage in the opening scene, Roo Roo appears at different sections of the stage at different times in the show. He helps to give Anya her wrench and also assists in holding various items during the performance.

Set and Setting

The setting of the play takes place on the mainstage at the Singapore Repertory Theatre. This main set, will over the course of the show represent different locations.

At the top of the show the area represents a farm. At the sides of the stage are large curved pieces of colorful wood that go from floor to ceiling. Industrial style lights hang from the ceiling and several large cogs and gears are hung and attached at various places about the stage, some of these can be rotated by the characters onstage. During the song where the characters build up electricity, some of the larger cogs will move on their own, like gears in an old clock.

The back wall is painted to look like a blue sky with large billowy clouds. There is a large half circle dome shaped object in the middle of the stage, it is made out of corrugated metal and represents a barn. When the scene transitions into baking cookies, the metal shed is lifted up and out of the way, revealing a large rusty industrial sized oven with a large gear on the front and lights that flash when they turn it on. During the scene where they make gingerbread cookies, Anya has a small wheeled cart that she will get ingredients out of. There are metal bowls and ingredients to make gingerbread in the cart. The top of the metal cart is covered in a red and white checkered style table cloth.

When “The Gingerbread Man” appears for the first time the oven explodes open to reveal, Ginger a walking, talking, moving and grooving cookie. This creates an elevated stage that is brightly backlit and filled with smoke.

The forest is represented by large the large curved wood pieces from the side being moved from the side stage, it gives the appearance of tall trees. When we first meet Fax and Weasel they are imprisoned in a large cage that is about 1 meter wide and deep and about 2 and ¼ meters tall. It has yellow warning paint at the top that says “Pest Control” in large black letters.

The race takes place in the forest. Before the race begins a large Olympic symbol made out of large gears is revealed by being lowered down from the ceiling. The race track is designated by Weasel stretching large ribbon pennants from tree to tree. At one point in the race there is a river that must be crossed, this is created by stretching a large amount of fabric across the stage, once the characters jump into it, the fabric is lifted and stretched vertically to make it appear as if it has depth.

Ticketing information and a link to purchase tickets are available on the SRT site at www.srt.com.sg/show/thegingerbreadman.

The closest MRT is Fort Canning on the downtown line and is roughly a 7 min walk or you can take the northeast line to Clark Quay which is about a 10-minute walk to the venue. The closest bus stop is either B13211 or B04321. There is a taxi stand at Robertson Walk on 11 Unity Street. For those driving to the theatre a car park is located at the Robertson Walk basement level.

The audio described performance will be held on Sunday November 17th at 2 pm. The audio will be transmitted to the audience members through their own mobile phone device with earphones. Download your Sennheiser Mobile Connect app prior to your visit on iTunes or Google Play.

The touch tour will be held at 12:45 to 1:15 pm, please meet at the box office 5 minutes prior to be escorted to the tour. The preshow notes will be read 15 minutes prior to the show.

The theatre is a guide dog friendly space please contact the theater to discuss options that are available.

The venue is accessible for wheelchair users to enter the theatre from both the front and rear entrances. If you require a wheelchair space or would like to understand more about transferring options, please contact our venue team at boxoffice@srt.com.sg or call 6733 8166

Accessible Toilets are available on the first floor.

There is a bar with concession located on the first floor of the theater and will serve soft and hard drinks along with a variety of snacks. This will be available up to 1 hour before the show and may be available after the show by talking to the front of house staff to request refreshments after. There are also many bars and restaurants within walking distance of the theatre.