

# Lightwire

THEATER



WELCOME TO A WORLD  
OF ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES...



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# CREATORS

Ian and Eleanor Carney were both born and raised in New Orleans and met at the age of 13, through ballet class. Their successful dancing careers took them to New York, and it was on Broadway when Ian met co-creator, Corbin Popp, while dancing in Twyla Tharp's *Movin' Out*. An immediate connection was made between the kindred spirits as they discovered their mutual love of art, theater and technology. After coming across a product called, "EL wire," the lights turned on and the possibilities seemed endless. Together, with their wives Eleanor and Whitney, they began to experiment with shapes and designs to develop puppetry-based neon creatures that quickly came to life.

After years of engineering and development, they initially founded CORBiAN Visual Arts and Dance. Although New York offered many opportunities, Ian and Eleanor wanted to return to New Orleans shortly after Hurricane Katrina hit their hometown. With the hopes of helping to rebuild their city, they were joined by Corbin and Whitney Popp and eventually founded Lightwire Theater.

Since then, they have become internationally recognized for their signature brand of electroluminescent artistry, poignant storytelling and music scores designed to evoke imagery. Lightwire Theater continues to create and deliver innovative theatrical experiences to audiences worldwide based out of New Orleans, LA.



CORBIN POPP & IAN CARNEY

# TV & REVIEWS

In 2012, Lightwire Theater was featured in *America's Got Talent* (season 7) which launched them into the national spotlight. Since then, Lightwire Theater has been fortunate to travel internationally, sharing their unique brand of storytelling with audiences of all ages, cultures and backgrounds.

Lightwire Theater spent the summer of 2013 in Paris, competing on MY TF1 *The Best Le Meilleur Artiste* and made it to the finals before returning to the U.S. to debut two new theatrical productions, *A Very Electric Christmas* and *THE SHOW*.

During the fall of 2014, Lightwire Theater had the opportunity to compete in truTV's newest competition series, *Fake Off*. In addition, their holiday production, *A Very Electric Christmas* debuted on public television stations in select markets, which included behind the scenes footage and interviews with Ian and Eleanor Carney.





MY TF1 THE BEST LE MEILLEUR ARTISTE

# FAKE OFF



TRUTV-FAKE OFF

**"ABSOLUTELY INCREDIBLE"**

ROLLING STONE

**"YOU'RE EVERYTHING THAT  
MAKES AMERICA GREAT!"**

HOWARD STERN  
AMERICA'S GOT TALENT

**"THEIR CAPTIVATING COMBINATION OF  
DANCE, PUPPETRY AND LIGHTING EARNED  
LIGHTWIRE A STANDING OVATION."**

TV GUIDE

**"LIGHTWIRE CAME ON STAGE TONIGHT  
AND BLEW EVERYONE AWAY..."**

E! ENTERTAINMENT TELEVISION

**"...AN EYE-POPPING DISPLAY OF STORYTELLING  
THAT'S LIKE NOTHING ELSE YOU'VE EVER SEEN."**

BROADWAYWORLD.COM



# SIGNATURE CITIES

BOGATA

MUNICH

ST PETERSBURG

MOSCOW

BEIJING

MINSK

NIECE

LYON

MARSEILLE

PARIS



HONG KONG

TAIPEI

BERLIN

NEW YORK CITY

SAN FRANCISCO

DALLAS

NEW ORLEANS

TORONTO

LOS ANGELES

ATLANTA

CHICAGO

LAS VEGAS





MOSCOW



BERLIN



COPENHAGEN





TAI PEI



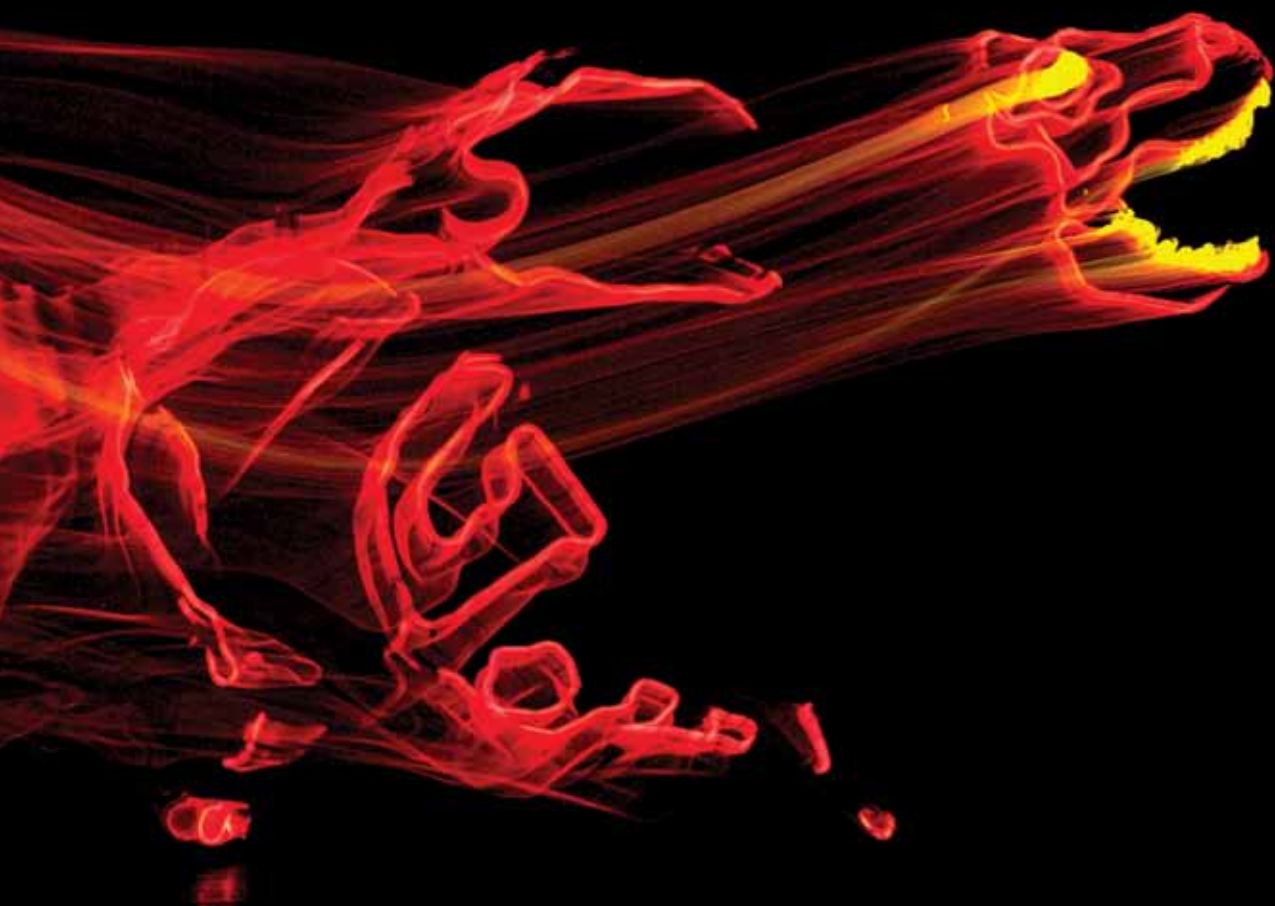
BEIJING

# DINO-LIGHT

*DINO-LIGHT*, formerly known as *Darwin the Dinosaur*, was the recipient of the prestigious Jim Henson Foundation Grant and first feature-length theatrical production created and performed by creators Ian Carney and Corbin Popp.

In this original storyline, a famous scientist with magic powers brings a friendly dinosaur to life. When the dinosaur wanders away from home, he discovers a wonderful world full of creatures that light up the darkness and help him find the true meaning of love.

This glow-in-the-dark adventure is visually amazing and has been praised for its cutting edge blend of puppetry, technology and dance by audiences all over the world.







# THE UGLY DUCKLING AND

In an age when technology seems to provide many distractions, Lightwire Theater brings together two classic tales, *The Ugly Duckling* and *The Tortoise & The Hare*, to the modern stage in an unforgettable theatrical experience.

Hans Christian Andersen's, *The Ugly Duckling* is a wonderful story celebrating differences and transformation while Aesop's fable, *The Tortoise & The Hare* reminds audiences of the old adage "slow and steady wins the race."



# THE TORTOISE & THE HARE





Lightwire  
THEATER

## The Ugly Duckling



## The Tortoise & The Hare

Lightwiretheater.com



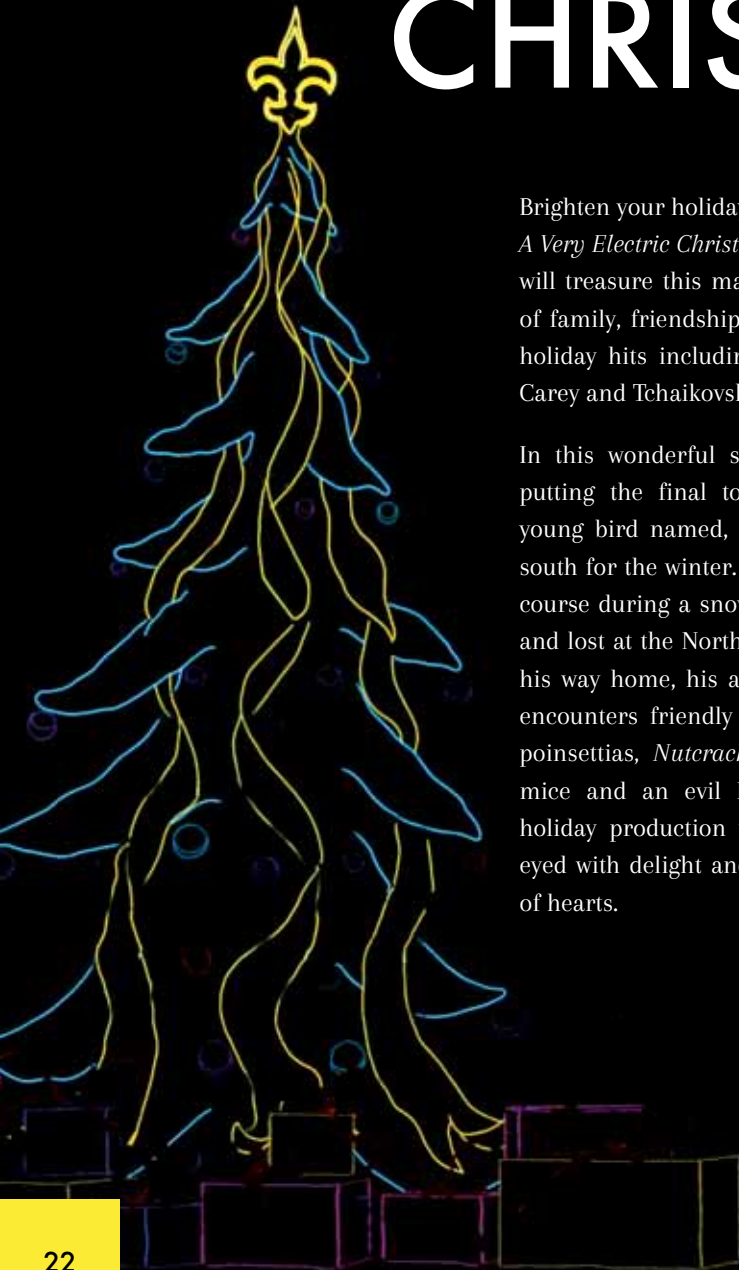
vimeo



# A VERY ELECTRIC CHRISTMAS

Brighten your holidays with Lightwire Theater's *A Very Electric Christmas*. Audiences of all ages will treasure this magical and captivating tale of family, friendship and hope set to timeless holiday hits including Nat King Cole, Mariah Carey and Tchaikovsky.

In this wonderful story, Santa's helpers are putting the final touches on presents as a young bird named, Max and his family head south for the winter. When Max gets blown off course during a snowstorm, he ends up alone and lost at the North Pole. As he tries to make his way home, his adventure begins when he encounters friendly caroling worms, dancing poinsettias, *Nutcracker* soldiers, mischievous mice and an evil Rat King. This delightful holiday production will make children wide-eyed with delight and warm even the smallest of hearts.





# LIGHTWIRE: THE SHOW

In 2014, Lightwire Theater introduced a strange and fascinating new world to audiences in *LIGHTWIRE: THE SHOW*. In this most recent epic adventure, birds grow 16-feet tall, cat's fight with light sabers and 60 electroluminescent creatures light up the stage in this visually stimulating performance.

The story begins with an outcast young bird trying to come to terms with a strange new power he's been given. Banished from his tribe for being different, he wanders his planet where danger lurks everywhere. A chance encounter with a warrior cat creates an unlikely friendship and together they have the potential to save their world from an alien species seeking to destroy it. *LIGHTWIRE: THE SHOW* is a must-see theatrical event the whole family will enjoy.



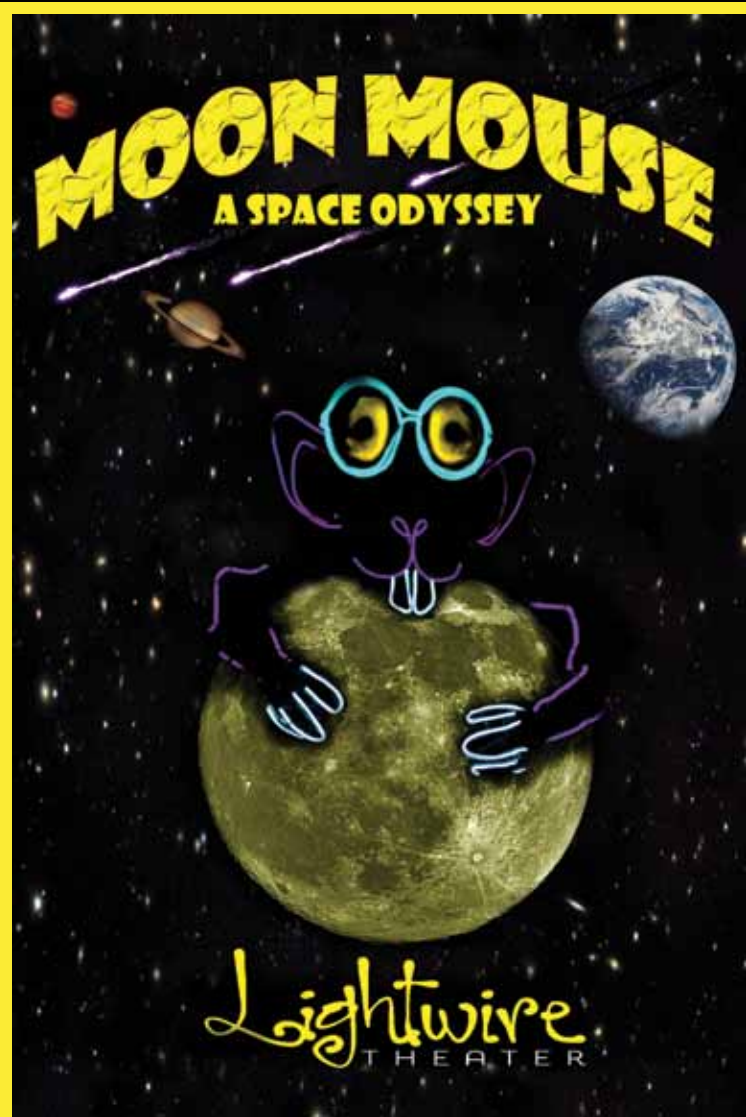


# Lightwire

**THE SHOW**



# MOON MOUSE: A SPACE ODYSSEY



The launch date for Lightwire Theater's newest show, *Moon Mouse: A Space Odyssey* is set for 2016. In this new neon adventure, space is the "final frontier" and latest destination. Audiences will be introduced to a brand new cast of endearing characters, including Marvin the Mouse who believes the moon is made of cheese.

This humorous and relatable story follows Marvin on his journey of self-acceptance and teaches us how being different is "cool." The expansive moon set with craters and caves gives a warped perspective of imaginative flight and will captivate space explorers of all ages. Five performers portraying 40 luminous characters operate the entire production, which includes a music score ranging from classical to pop and original compositions.

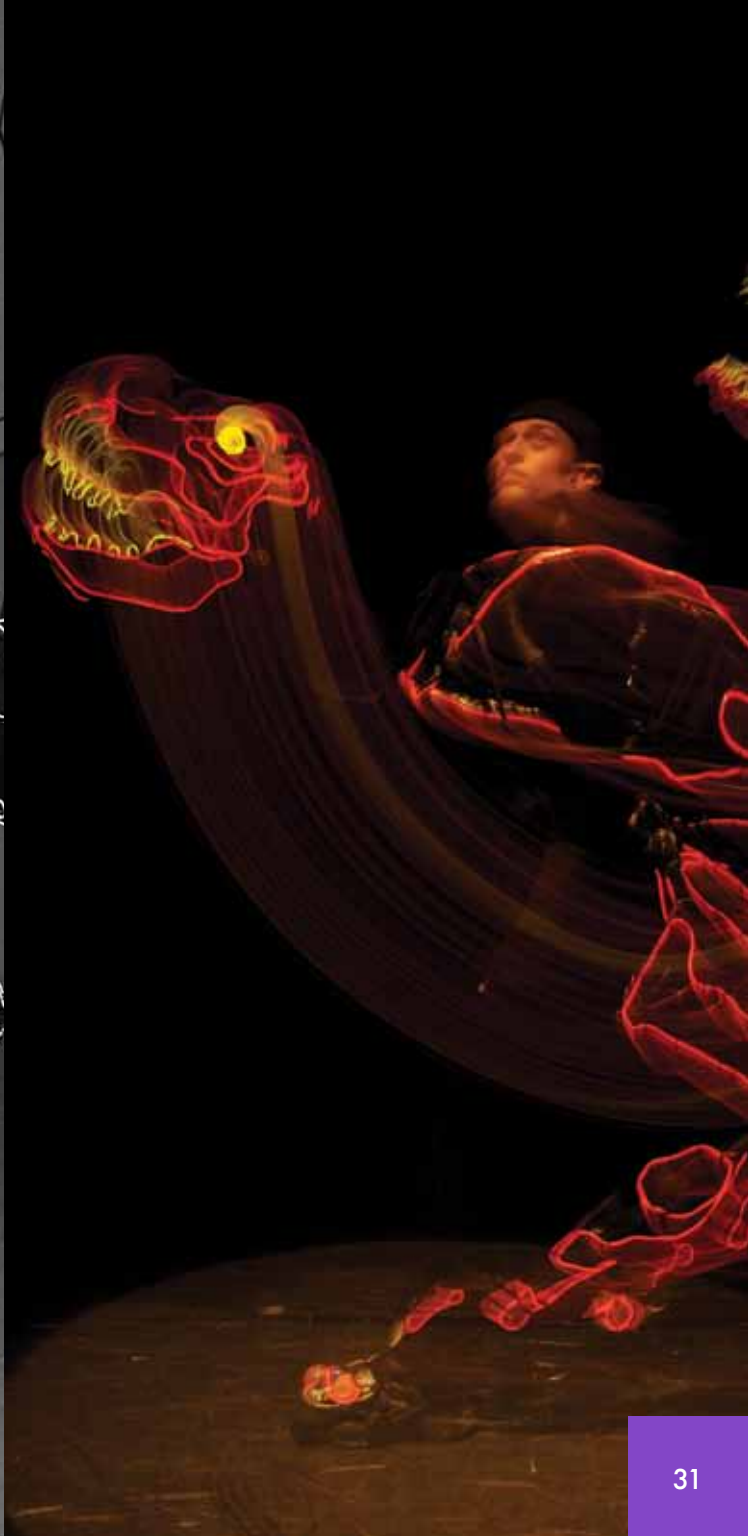
# THE BUILD

The process of building Lightwire Theater's electroluminescent characters starts with the creators and the cast. They build everything themselves from the ground up, with each sculpture taking nearly 200 hours of intensive labor. The foundation begins with a base that includes triggers and armatures. They utilize recyclable materials including aluminum rods, election signs, skate board wheels, dryer ducting, plumbing supplies, PVC pipes, fishing poles, duct tape, zip ties and back packs to help define peaks and angles. These common household items help create durable and pliable sculptures that can withstand the movement of the dancers and multiple performances. Black fabric is added to the sculpture for dimension and then lined with electroluminescent wire known as "el wire" which is soldered everywhere the wire is connected. Unlike black lights, "el wire" can be powered by batteries, requires no theatrical lighting and gives a 360-degree of glowing light. Once the character is "turned on" it can use up to a 16AA or rechargeable batteries per performance. The result...anything your inner-child can dream of including 16-ft. tall birds, dinosaurs, ducks, soldiers, swords and more!





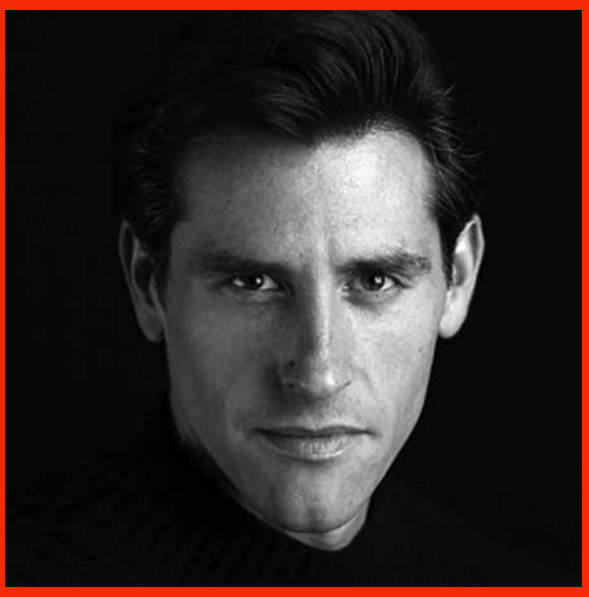








# THE TEAM



## IAN CARNEY

(Creator, Artistic Director and Choreographer)

Ian is best known for his long run in Billy Joel and Twyla Tharp's musical *Movin' Out* on Broadway. A New Orleans native, he started dancing as a child, studying ballet with Harvey Hysell and Diane Carney in New Orleans and in New York City. He danced lead roles in *The Nutcracker*, *Sleeping Beauty* and many other ballets, as well as being a guest dancer, teacher and choreographer in companies across the United States. While still performing, Ian earned a degree in English Literature from Tulane University. He is the co-creator of *Dino-Light*, the family show that continues to delight audiences around the world. Ian has appeared on television with Lightwire Theater on Season 7, semi-finals of *America's Got Talent*, TF1's *The Best: Le Meilleur Artiste* in France and on the series premiere of truTV's *Fake Off*.



## ELEANOR B. CARNEY

(Creator, Executive Director)

Originally from New Orleans, Eleanor began her dance training with Harvey Hysell and Joseph Giacobbe. She graduated from Southern Methodist University with a BFA in Dance and a BA in Anthropology. She has danced professionally with Indianapolis Ballet Theater, and the Lexington, Northwest Florida, Delta Festival and Montgomery Ballets. Career highlights include dancing Aurora in *The Sleeping Beauty*, Desdemona in *The Moor's Pavane*, the title roles in *Romeo and Juliet*, *Cinderella*, *Giselle* and *Coppelia*, and of course, the Sugarplum Fairy in *The Nutcracker*. Mrs. Carney was delighted to appear with Lightwire Theater on Season 7, semi-finals of *America's Got Talent*, TF1's *The Best: Le Meilleur Artiste* in France and on the series premiere of truTV's *Fake Off*.



## CORBIN POPP

(Creator, Technical Director)

Corbin is from Lincoln, Nebraska. He earned a degree in biochemistry at University of Nebraska-Lincoln, while also studying math, physics and dance. Opting for dance, Corbin performed in *The Phantom of the Opera* and *Billy Joel* and Twyla Tharp's *Movin' Out* on Broadway. He has toured throughout the United States with many shows, and all over Europe with Tharp's dance company. Corbin speaks German, studied in Germany on a Fulbright scholarship and recently graduated from dental school, yet still continues to perform and collaborate with Lightwire Theater.



## WHITNEY POPP

(Creator)

Whitney began her training in her hometown in eastern Washington at the Tri-Cities Academy of Ballet. She trained with the Mid-Colombia Ballet under the direction of Debra Rogo. Whitney later studied with the Pacific Northwest Ballet and went on to become a Principal dancer with the Sacramento Ballet. After moving to New York, she was discovered by Twyla Tharp and later received honorable reviews for works such as *The Fugue* and *Surfer at the River Styx*. Whitney spent three years with *Movin' Out* dancing the lead roles of Judy and Brenda. Recently she has enjoyed dancing works by Corbin LLC and setting works for Twyla Tharp both locally and internationally with her husband Corbin. She currently enjoys raising her three children, while teaching dance to our next generation of performing artists.



## STEPHEN CHARLES NICHOLSON

(Tour Manager / Performer)

Stephen Nicholson has appeared in many independent films and off-Broadway stage productions. He is pleased to be part of the building team, a performer and tour manager with Lightwire Theater. He has a B.A. in Religion with an Asian Studies minor from Colgate University and an MFA in Acting from The Actors Studio Drama School at The New School. He is an alumnus of Teach for America.



## JOHNATHON WHALEN

(Tour Manager/Performer)

Johnathon Whalen is a New Orleans native and is very excited to have been a part of Lightwire Theater for several years now. He currently Tour Manages *Dino-Light* as well as performing in the show. Johnathon also enjoys set design, construction, & make-up/prosthetic effects. He has performed at many theaters in and around New Orleans, including The Stage Door Canteen at The National World War 2 Museum. Johnathon also enjoys being a part of the film industry in New Orleans as well. He would like to thank his Lightwire family for helping to create an atmosphere of creativity and love that he is truly grateful to be a part of everyday!



## ELIZABETH DANIELS

(Dance Captain)

Elizabeth has been a New Orleans-based actress, singer, and dancer since the summer of 2010. Before moving to the Crescent City, she spent ten years auditioning and performing in New York City. She holds a BFA in Musical Theatre from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts, CAP21 Conservatory. Some favorite credits include the *Broadway's Rising Stars Concert* at the legendary Town Hall in NYC; *The Sound of Music*, Asian Tour with Troika Entertainment; *Let Freedom Swing!* at the National World War II Museum in New Orleans; *The Parrot*, at the Flea Theater in NYC, and *Cold As Ice*, starring Olympic Gold medalist, Oksana Baiul, at the Gateway Playhouse. She loves working with Lightwire Theater and helping to bring the joy of live performance to audiences across the globe. Love and gratitude to Mom, Dad, SCN, Ian and Eleanor.



# SPECIAL THANKS

"We would like to say a special thanks to The Detroit Music Hall, Kid's Entertainment, General Entertainment Associates and Mendelson Entertainment Group for believing in us from the beginning and helping us to share our art with the world."

Ian & Eleanor Carney





## BARRY MENDELSON

(President + CEO)

Mendelson Entertainment Group, LLC is based in Dallas, TX and owned and operated by Barry Mendelson, who oversees and manages every aspect of the company from conception to completion. Mr. Mendelson's passion for entertainment, live events and sports has been reflected throughout his entire career. His most recent accomplishments include: Executive Producer of Lightwire Theater's *A Very Electric Christmas*, majority owner and President of Texas 28 Films, LLC, Executive Producer of the network television series *Courtside Jones* and Executive Producer of Dallas Children's Health<sup>SM</sup> Holiday Parade, which is syndicated for television both domestically and internationally.

In addition, Mendelson Entertainment Group has recently produced public television specials for Lightwire Theater and *Rick Springfield: Stripped Down Live* that have been broadcast in select markets. Visit [megartsmedia.com](http://megartsmedia.com) for more information on MEG.

Lightwire Theater Booking Contact:  
[BMendelson@megartsmedia.com](mailto:BMendelson@megartsmedia.com)

Mendelson Entertainment Group (MEG) proudly represents and manages Lightwire Theater. MEG provides compelling and creative content across multiple genres and platforms while specializing in: development, production and distribution of television and film specials; production and promoting live events and theatrical productions; and management and promotion of artists.

## CRISTINA CURTIS BARBE

(Public Relations + Marketing)

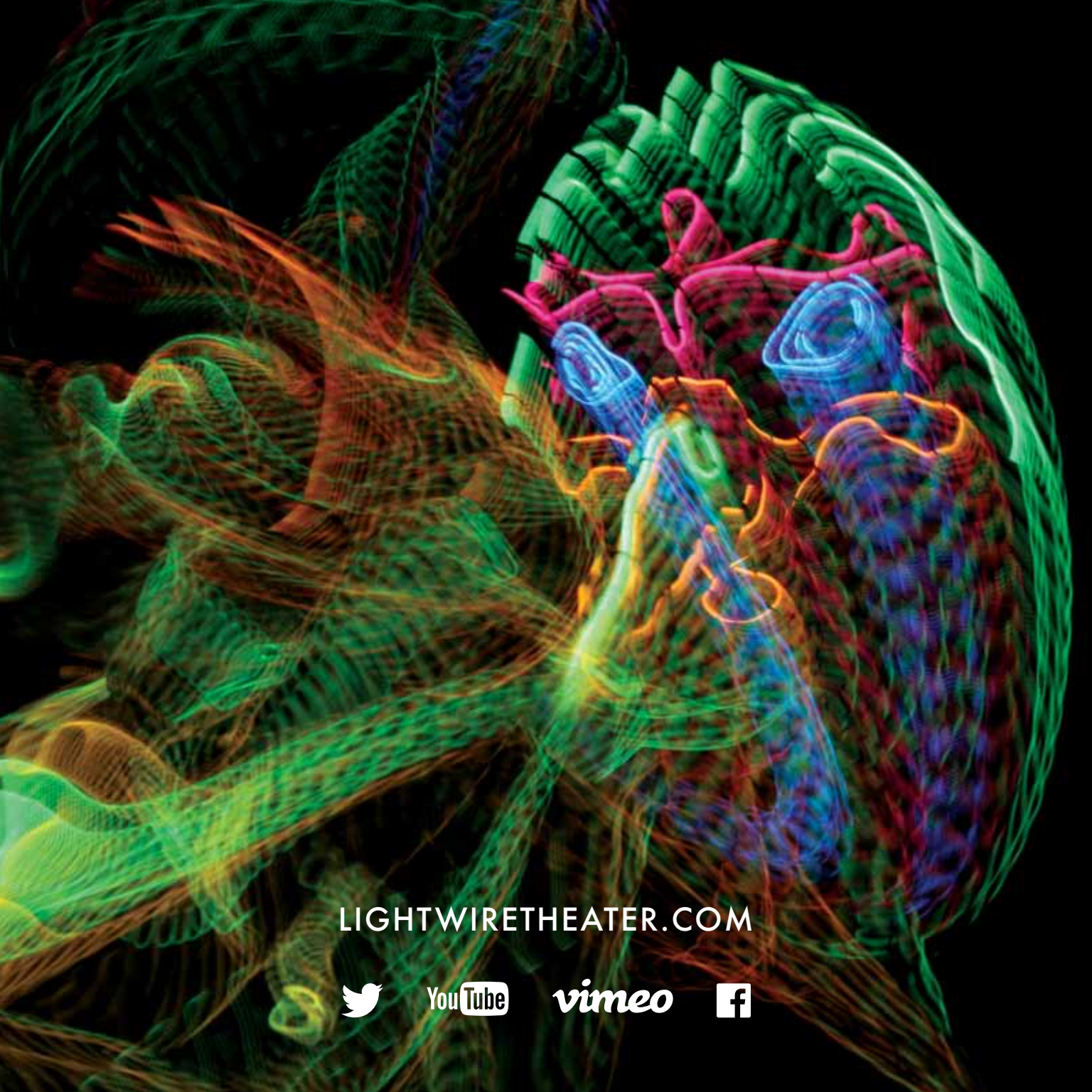
Cristina has an extensive background in public relations, advertising and marketing experience for live events, sports teams, non-profits and the performing arts. With over 15 years of experience, her passion for creating positive and long-term relationships with the media, venues, community leaders and local and national partners continues with MEG. She specializes in community outreach, non-traditional revenue programs, sponsorships and branding.

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All photos courtesy of Nicholson/Popp/Carney



LIGHTWIREFEATER.COM

