

COMPANY OF FOOLS

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# Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol

BY TOM MULA

DEC 12, 2020

LIVESTREAMING

# COMPANY OF FOOLS

PRESENTS

## Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol

BY TOM MULA

DIRECTED BY:  
DAVID JANESKI

The running time for *Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol* is 2 hours plus a short intermission.

JACOB MARLEY'S CHRISTMAS CAROL is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York.

Originally produced by the Goodman Theatre,  
Chicago, Illinois, on December 4, 1998;  
Robert Falls, Artistic Director;  
Roche Schulfer, Executive Director

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## About the Play

### JACOB MARLEY'S CHRISTMAS CAROL

**THE STORY:** "Marley was dead, to begin with..." —and what happens to Ebenezer Scrooge's mean, sour, pruneey old business partner after that? Chained and shackled, Marley is condemned to a hellish eternity. He's even given his own private tormentor: a malicious little hell-sprite who thoroughly enjoys his work. Desperate, Marley accepts his one chance to free himself: to escape his own chains, he must first redeem Scrooge. So begins a journey of laughter and terror, redemption and renewal, during which Scrooge's heart, indeed, is opened; but not before Marley—in this irreverent, funny and deeply moving story—discovers his own.

"...[Blends] a Dickens sensibility with a taste for fairy tales and contemporary wit...thoroughly charming—a holiday treat..."  
—*Herald* (Chicago)

"Delectably zany...inspired theatre...gives the audience cause to ache, and to laugh, and in the end, to exalt."  
—*Citybeat*

"Of all the holiday shows dotting the theatrical landscape, none shines brighter than JACOB MARLEY'S CHRISTMAS CAROL."  
—*The Life*

## About the Playwright



**TOM MULA** has been an award-winning playwright, actor, and director for more than twenty-five years. He received two Joseph Jefferson Awards for his play *GOLEM* at the National Jewish Theatre and for his work on Nicole Hollander's hit musical, *SYLVIA'S REAL GOOD ADVICE*. His novel *Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol* (the backstage version of Dickens' Scrooge story told by Marley's Ghost) was published by Adams Media; it became a best-seller. The audio version was broadcast nationwide on NPR for six seasons, and received an INDI Award for Spoken Word. The play received the prestigious Cunningham Prize from the Goodman School of Drama. It premiered at Chicago's Goodman Theatre, received an After Dark Award, and was repeated the following year. Since then, it has been performed in theatres across the country. Several of Mr. Mula's adaptations have received critical acclaim, among them *DR. JEKYLL & MR. HYDE*; *FALSTAFF*, his adaptation of John Gardner's "In the Suicide Mountains," and a rock-musical version of *DR. FAUSTUS*. Peninsula Players in Wisconsin premiered his play *BOB ALMIGHTY*. Some of Mr. Mula's acting credits include *HOT MIKADO* at Drury Lane, for which he received an After Dark Award and a Joseph Jefferson Award; his award-winning one-man performance of his book "Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol"; Christine Thatcher's *EMMA'S CHILD*; the Fool in *KING LEAR*; Richard III, Caliban, Bottom, Feste, Malvolio, and Prospero; another award-winning solo turn as *THE CIRCUS OF DR. LAO*; seven seasons (over four hundred performances) as Goodman Theatre's Scrooge; and nine seasons at Peninsula Players. His directing credits include Jeff nominations for *PORCH* and *A LIFE*, and the world premiere of Larry Shue's play *WENCESLAS SQUARE* in Chicago and at the Queens' Festival in Belfast. Mr. Mula teaches at Columbia College as an Artist-in-Residence.

[www.tommula.com](http://www.tommula.com)

# Creative Team

Director..... DAVID JANESKI  
Stage Manager.....CHRIS HENDERSON  
Camera #1 ..... TESS MAKENA  
Camera #2.....MATT MUSGROVE

Sound Board Operator.....CHRIS HENDERSON  
Technical Director.....PATRICK SZCZOTKA  
Company Manager..... KRISTEN OLENICK

# Cast

Jacob Marley, A Damned Woman,  
Scrooge, Christmas Past,  
A Boy, Young Marley,  
Young Scrooge,  
Christmas Present .....RACHEL AANESTAD

Narrator, Record Keeper,  
Cratchit, Fred, Marley's Father,  
Fezziwig, Dic Wilkins,  
The Shadows, A Boy .....KEVIN QUADERER  
Understudy for all Roles .....ALY WEPPLLO

# About the Artists



## RACHEL AANESTAD

(Actor) is excited to embark on this virtual theater experience with Company of Fools! Finding voices for eight different male characters? Yes, please! A few of Rachel's

favorite roles thus far include Jane Bingley (*Christmas at Pemberley*—Company of Fools), *Sour Kangaroo* (*Seussical the Musical*—St. Thomas Playhouse), Miss Jane (*Floyd Collins*—The Spot), and Ginny (*The Trestle At Pope Lick Creek*—The Spot). Rachel is a Ketchum native, and is thrilled to be back. She is the architecture teacher and librarian at Sun Valley Community School. She received her B.A. in Theatre Arts from University of Oregon, and also holds a B. Arch in Architecture from UO. She would like to thank her heroic family for supporting her in her theatrical shenanigans.



## KEVIN QUADERER

(Actor) teaches Engineering, Art, and a little Theatre at Ernest Hemingway STEAM School in Ketchum, ID. He has performed with Kensington Theater Company in South Jordan,

UT, including numerous seasons with The Improvators. You might have seen him most recently in Company of Fools' reading of *The Night Thoreau Spent In Jail*. He's delighted to be performing with the Fools again, and wishes to extend a special thanks to the cast and crew. He'd also like to wish all our audience, near and far, the happiest of holidays.



## ALY WEPPLLO

(Understudy) is an actor, librarian, crafter, navy brat, and seven-time aunt. Born in California, moved to Rhode Island, and mostly raised in Virginia, she discovered Idaho was the

best place of all and moved here in 2015. You may have seen Aly in *Crimes of the Heart* or *Edward Tulane* at Company of Fools, as Rosemary in Sawtooth Productions' *Outside Mullingar* at the Argyros, as Loud Stone in *Eurydice* at The Spot, and as Gertrude in *Seussical* with St. Thomas Playhouse. While sheltering in place, Aly has taken up dressmaking and long neighborhood walks. She just finished her Master's in Library Science, so she's on the hunt for a new project. And she wishes you health and happiness.



## DAVID JANESKI

(Director) feels honored to be a part of one of the most important stories in the English language. An enormous fan of Mr. Dickens' work, David has been a part of three

variations on this classic tale. David has been involved in professional theatre for 20 years and holds an MFA from Virginia Commonwealth University, one of the top art schools in the country. Last January, he directed the Fools' reading of *The Night Thoreau Spent in Jail*. David hopes you will enjoy this performance as we test the boundaries of our livestream capabilities. He reminds you to bring your imagination and to keep the spirit of Christmas the whole year round.



National  
New Play  
Network



Company of Fools is a proud member of the National New Play Network, Theatre Communications Group, the National Association of Professional Theatres, and Theatre Development Fund's Autism-Friendly Theatre Network.



\* Member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.



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**Thank you.**

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