



**PREMIERE DISNEY LIVE! SHOW BRINGS CHARMING CHARACTERS OF THE
HUNDRED ACRE WOOD TO THE STAGE IN
*DISNEY LIVE! WINNIE THE POOH AND THE PERFECT DAY***

The premiere Disney Live! show produced by Feld Entertainment, *Disney Live! Winnie the Pooh and the Perfect Day* brings the characters of the Hundred Acre Wood to cities around the world in a charming story of friendship. This all-new touring stage production features the honey-loving Winnie the Pooh and his friends Tigger, Piglet, Eeyore, Rabbit, Kanga, Roo and Owl, who embark on a journey of fun and surprise to discover what makes a “perfect day.” With all the characters planning a surprise party for the Winnie the Pooh, the Hundred Acre Wood is abuzz with activity.

Narrating the tale is Tracie, the storyteller who guides the audience through *Disney Live! Winnie the Pooh and the Perfect Day* with the help of her three amusing and eager Hunny Helpers. The Hunny Helpers provide constant humor and hijinx as they help change scenes, interact with the audience and follow Tracie’s direction throughout the story. Their wacky antics not only tickle the funny bone, but warm the heart.

“*Disney Live! Winnie the Pooh and the Perfect Day* offers audiences young and old an unforgettable live entertainment experience and a chance to see Winnie the Pooh like never before,” said Producer Kenneth Feld, chairman and CEO of Feld Entertainment. “When the audience walks in and sees the set before them, they will feel like they are walking right into the Hundred Acre Wood. For many children, this will be their first theatrical experience, which will set the bar for what they expect to see for the rest of their lives.”

Each of the memorable character’s personalities shines on stage, as all the friends work together to plan a surprise birthday party for Pooh. Keeping Pooh distracted from remembering that it is his birthday, Piglet accompanies the bear in his ongoing quest for a “smackerel” of honey and visits each character to find out what they think makes a perfect day. Along the way, they get carried away in the adventures that unfold and take audiences through an imaginative musical journey.

“Creating this production of *Winnie the Pooh and the Perfect Day* has been a wonderful journey for all of us back to the days of fun and innocence exemplified by life in the Hundred Acre Wood,” says Feld Creative Director Jerry Bilik. “Our objective has been to open a portal that allows all who come to the show to visit this very special world and to enjoy their visit with the delightful characters who dwell therein.”

Tigger bounces, Pooh and Piglet get carried away by balloons on a blustery day and Eeyore contributes his usual “enthusiasm” for the bustling activity around him, all while Rabbit frantically assigns tasks and manages the preparations for the party. Director BT

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McNicholl says about his role for the show, “from the beginning, we went about making sure that each scene, each song and each moment was engaging in the best way.” From the moment the towering trees part on the stage, revealing the depth and beauty of Winnie the Pooh’s world, to the moment the audience leaves the theater singing the signature “Winnie the Pooh” song, the show is sure to capture the heart of anyone who attends.

Production Designer Anna Louizos, who just recently designed the sets for Broadway shows including the Tony Award-winning® *Avenue Q* and *Golda’s Balcony*, translates her experience into *Disney Live! Winnie the Pooh and the Perfect Day*. “In theatre, you invite the audience to make connections and think about the set and storyline in ways that aren’t necessarily spelled out for them,” Louizos says. “Creating this magical world of Winnie the Pooh was both a challenge and a joy—in envisioning the set, I wanted the audience to really feel like they were enveloped by the Hundred Acre Wood.”

State-of-the-art digital projection transforms the stage into a magical world audiences will instantly recognize. For the first time ever, Feld Entertainment has worked with Disney animators to create stage backgrounds inspired directly by Disney’s films and the classic Winnie the Pooh tales. The varied landscapes of the Hundred Acre Wood come to life with blowing leaves, fluttering butterflies and changing seasons. Lighting Designer Patrick Dierson explains, “we are using the latest technology to help illustrate the story, however the lighting does not dominate the show like it would in a rock concert—what I wanted to accomplish for Winnie the Pooh was to add a subconscious mood.” Each scene unfolds with nostalgic beauty, lending itself the opportunity to engulf guests in song, laughter and memories. Beautiful colors, life-sized props, amazing sound and light effects and the intimate atmosphere are all cornerstones of the production.

A cast of 15 performers takes to the stage under the choreography direction of Christopher Gattelli, whose theater credits include *Chess*, *Adrift in Macao* and *The Radio City Christmas Spectacular*. Gattelli says it takes a good sense of humor and fun to build the numbers for the show. “The dance numbers have to play on two different levels so that both children and adults are entertained and involved as participants.” Parents and children alike excitedly bounce along with Tigger in his energetic entrance for “The Wonderful Thing About Tiggers.”

Drawing from the vast library of Pooh music, Music Director David Loud created new arrangements of songs such as “Winnie the Pooh,” “Rumbly in My Tumbly,” “The Whoop-De-Dooper Bounce” and other favorites into the show. From simple dance steps and memorable songs to high-energy bouncing and audience sing-alongs, everything comes together on the stage to create this new production. Whether humming a familiar tune as they leave, or dreaming of Heffalumps in the days ahead, audiences will hold this show in their hearts for years to come.

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Feld Entertainment, Inc., is the worldwide leader in producing and presenting live entertainment experiences that lift the human spirit and create indelible memories, with 25 million people in attendance at its shows each year. Feld Entertainment’s productions have appeared in 50 countries and on six continents to date and include *Disney On Ice*™, *Disney Live!* and *Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey*®.

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