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THE  
HOBBIT

BY J.R.R. TOLKIEN



ADAPTATION BY PATRICIA GRAY  
GUEST DIRECTOR ROB LAUER

CSU Theatre Presents

# THE HOBBIT

by Patricia Gray

based on the classic by J.R.R. Tolkien

Directed by Rob Lauer

Set Design by Zhanna Gurvich

Costume Design by Maile Speetjens

Lighting Design by Andrew McIntyre

Sound Design by Jacob Margolis

Projections Design by Brennan Allen

Makeup Design by Siobhan Gleason

Stage Managed by Aidan Jace Cox

# CAST

BILBO BAGGINS . . . . . Chris Olson  
GANDALF . . . . . Ryan Miller  
DWALIN . . . . . Michael Butts  
BALIN . . . . . Kyle Phibbs  
KILI . . . . . Kyle Moffitt  
FILI . . . . . Spencer Rayle  
DORI . . . . . Kelly Waldo  
NORI . . . . . Heather Salyer  
ORI . . . . . Mike Broadbent  
OIN . . . . . Michel de Polignac Reich  
GLOIN . . . . . Sean O'Reilly  
BIFUR. . . . . Jacob Brooks  
BOFUR. . . . . Liam Kelley  
BOMBUR. . . . . Jack Krause  
THORIN . . . . . Trevor Grattan  
GROCERY BOY. . . . . Beka Davis  
TROLLS. . . . . Luke Biedscheid, Allison Hatch, Mason Weiss  
THE ELVEN QUEEN. . . . . Erin Ramirez  
ELF GUARDS . . . . . Allison Hatch, Beka Davis  
SMAUG. . . . . Luke Biedscheid  
GOBLINS. . . . . Zack Rickert, Andrew Jacques, Sam Otter  
GOLLUM. . . . . Mason Weiss



## ROB LAUER (Director)

Rob Lauer is an award-winning writer, theatrical and television director, and currently the director and host of three TV shows in the Hampton Roads region of Virginia.

Rob's first play *Digger* won the 1982 Mayhew Award, was later produced to critical acclaim and first published in 1988. In 1990 he became the first playwright to win both the Best Play of the Year Award (for his satire, *Tom and Penny's Yard Party*) and the Paul T. Nolan Award (for his urban drama, *The Church Street Fantasy*) at the Deep South Writers Conference.

As an actor, Rob has worked in theatres across the country and in television. From 1992 until 1996, he was a member of the critically acclaimed Prince Street Players in New York City, performing in three national tours. His prime time television work had included roles on *Big Brother Jake* (ABC Family Channel), *FBI Files* and *True Detectives* (TLC).

Rob founded and served as Artistic Director of the Olde Theatre Company in Virginia from 1986 until 1990. As Artistic Director of Sail Productions in New York City, Rob wrote two youth/family oriented musicals annually and directed national tours of these shows from 1996 until 2000. From 1997 through 2003, he served as Associate Director of the nation's largest outdoor drama, *The Hill Cumorah Pageant* in Palmyra, New York.

From 2002 through 2005, he was the Artistic Director of Cotton Hall Theatre and *Swamp Gravy*—Georgia's official folk-life play—in Colquitt, Georgia. He wrote and directed the critically acclaimed musical *A Southern Christmas Carol* which was produced—featuring a cast of Broadway actors—at Cotton Hall annually from 2003 through 2005. The show has since enjoyed over a dozen productions in Alabama, Arkansas, Tennessee and Virginia.

In 2003 Rob was commissioned to write the musical *First Freedom*, with Emmy Award Winning composer, Sam Cardon. Other written works include the musical *My Jo* (based on the works of Louisa May Alcott) and the comedy *Geeks & Gangsters* (inspired by the true story of Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster — the Cleveland teenagers who, during the 1930's, created Superman). Rob directed the original productions of both shows in 2007.

In 2012 Rob was commissioned by the Mountainside Theatre and the Cherokee Historical Association (in Cherokee, North Carolina) to write a new musical, *Chief Little Will*, inspired by the life of William Holland Thomas — the only white man to ever serve as chief of the Eastern Cherokees. This musical will premiere in the summer of 2016 and play every summer thereafter in rep with the acclaimed outdoor drama, *Unto These Hills*.

Many of Rob scripts are currently available through Steele Spring Stage Rights ([www.stagerights.com](http://www.stagerights.com)) and Leicester Bay Theatricals ([www.leicesterbaytheatricals.com](http://www.leicesterbaytheatricals.com)).

## CAST BIOS

**Heather Adams (Puppeteer)** is a sophomore as a double major in English with a creative writing focus and Theater with a directing focus. This is her third CSU production, starting with a role as a Canary in *Alice in Wonderland* and Jill and second woman in *All in the Timing*. Additional credits are light board op for *Glass Menagerie* and stage crew for *Frog and Toad*. She would like to thank those who have stood by her side and encouraged her to follow her dreams, Walt Jones, Garrett Ayers, Candice Ingold, Cory Seymour, Eric Prince, Di Rushing, Harrison Meyers, Linda and Albert Adams.

**Luke Biedscheid (Troll)** is a senior Art Major concentrating in design and animation. *The Hobbit* is his first production. Luke would like to thank his parents for believing that pretending to be a dragon will one day grant him financial stability.

**Mike Broadbent (Ort)** spent the majority of 2000-2011 acting professionally (and semi-professionally...) in NYC, with stops in LA and various other places. Favorite roles include John Merrick (the *Elephant Man*), Parolles (*All's Well That Ends Well*), and Danny Zuko (*Grease*). Least favorite roles include an infomercial that no one will ever see...because he ate the footage and put a hit out on its offspring. Mike would like to thank Rob, the cast, and the crew for having him and for being so incredible to work with.

**Michael Butts (Dwalin)** is a Sophomore Theatre and Sociology double major at CSU. He is the Artistic Director for the Young Producers Organization (YPO) in the UCA and *The Hobbit* is his third show at CSU. Previous CSU productions include YPO's *Oh Dad Poor Dad*, and CSU's *All in the Timing*. He is looking forward to many more experiences on the stage and would like to thank all of his friends and family for their continued love and support, they make all the difference. Onto the Lonely Mountain!

**Jacob Thomas Brooks (Bifur)** This is Jacob's sixth show at CSU. He would like to thank his friends and family for their continuing support. Enjoy!

**Beka Davis (Grocery Boy)** is a theatre student at CSU and this is her fourth Mainstage production. She would like to thank her mixed heritage which allowed her to play a hobbit, and an elf. But beware of feeding her after midnight, or you might see an oddly feminine goblin running around wacking dwarfs and blowing them kisses.

**Shay Dite-Bosworth (Puppeteer)** is a Freshman Theater Major studying design. *The Hobbit* is her first show at CSU and she looks forward to more performances to come.

**Trevor Grattan (Thorin)** is a senior double major in Theatre and Business. This show is his eighth and final main stage performance here at CSU. Other CSU roles include Kirby in the world premiere reading of *Vang*, written and directed by John Patrick Shanley, Turtle and Father Frog in *A Year with Frog and Toad*, John in *Orestes 2.0*, and many others. He is looking forward to continuing work in

the theatre after graduation and eventually wants to move out to Los Angeles to pursue film and television. He would like to thank his friends and family for this wonderful opportunity and their continued support.

**Allison Hatch (Elf Guard)** is graduating this semester with a bachelor's degree in Theatre and Dance with a concentration in Performance. This is her third CSU production, following *A Year With Frog and Toad*, and *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)*. She would like to thank her mentors (John, Tyler, Garrett, and Walt) for never allowing her to give up, and her amazingly supportive mother for supporting her in this absolutely insane attempt to make a living while playing pretend.

**Andrew Jacques (Goblin)** is a sophomore double major in Theatre and Business. This is his fifth production at CSU and plans to keep acting at least until he graduates. Andrew would like to thank his family and friends for their love and support.

**Liam Kelley (Bofur)** is a freshman English major, currently looking to become a teacher. Past roles at Colorado State University include Kinesias in YPO's production of *Lysistrata*, and Greg and Horatio in the *Freshman Project 2015*. Liam would like to graciously thank his friends and family for their love and support.

**Jack Krause (Bombur)** is a junior theatre major with a focus in playwriting and directing. This is his eighth show at CSU and he is very excited to be a part of it. After *Frog and Toad*, and this show, he is now one with the fat suit.

**Lindsay Morris (Puppeteer)** is a sophomore double major in Theatre and Communications. This is her third show at CSU, and she is immensely excited to be learning puppetry in this production. She would also like to thank friends and family for their undying support.

**Chris Olson (Bilbo Baggins)** is a Senior double majoring in Theatre and Journalism & Technical Communication. This is his last show at CSU. Past roles include Zombie Fonzie and Hannibal in *Evil Dead: The Musical*, Pylades in *Orestes 2.0*, and Buster in *A Year with Frog and Toad*. Chris would like to thank Walt Jones for giving him the opportunity to join this program despite joining a couple years late and not knowing anyone, Amy Scholl for putting up with him in classes and in *The Amazing Food Detective*, Garrett Ayers for instilling a new attitude about what it takes to become a serious actor, and the rest of the amazing faculty at Colorado State. He would also like to thank his family for being so supportive over the past couple years and for supporting him in his endeavor to move to Los Angeles to try and act professionally. Isaiah 6:8

**Sam Otter (Goblin)** is a sophomore theatre major. This is his first mainstage show at CSU and hopefully they don't hate him. Please keep me around and thanks.

**Kyle Phibbs (Balin)** is a sophomore theatre major in the Playwriting and Dramatic Literature concentration. Past credits at CSU include Frog in *A Year with Frog and Toad* and Bellboy in *Oh Dad, Poor Dad*. Kyle would like to thank his family, friends, and teachers for their endless support. Enjoy the show!

**Erin Ramirez (The Elven Queen)** is a nontraditional Equine Sciences senior, with a degree in Biotechnology and Molecular Biosciences. Past roles include CSU's production of *A Year with Frog and Toad*, as both Lizard and Mother Frog. She is endlessly excited to perform in *The Hobbit*, hoping to act after graduation in conjunction with pursuing a career in equine welfare. She requests to be called Lord High Elven Queen Sheila by her subservients, which is everyone.

**Spenser Rayle (Fili)** is a senior theatre major with a focus in performance. This is her first production at CSU. Previous acting experience includes productions and improvisation in Young Actors Theatre with Georganne Sugden in Denver, CO. She is excited to be a part of the production of one of her favorite books and wants to thank her family and fellow castmates for endless support and fun. Welcome to Middle Earth!

**Heather Salyer (Nori)** is freshman theatre major with a concentration in performance. Past roles include Ginny in *Whom the Southern Belle Tolls* and a Witch in *McHamleth*. She would like to thank her family and friends for the support (and coffee). Cheers to the cast for all the fun and laughs we shared.

**Kelly Waldo (Dori)** is a senior Philosophy and Economics major, with minors in Spanish and Theatre. Her goal after graduation is to continue to pursue her many interests by attending law school, and continuing to practice theater on the side. She is very happy to be a part of *The Hobbit*, as this show has allowed her to gratify both her lifelong love of Tolkien and her lifelong dream of rocking a magnificent beard.

**Mason Weiss (Gollum and Troll)** is a sophomore double majoring in Psychology and Theatrical Performance with a (soon to be) minor in Women's Studies. He is extremely thankful for the support of his family and friends and hopes that their support will continue when they see how absolutely disgusting Gollum is.

**Jasmine Winfrey (Puppeteer)** is a junior theatre major with a concentration in performance. Past roles at Colorado State University include Lysistrata in YPO's production of *Lysistrata*, the Caterpillar in *Alice and Wonderland the Musical*, Ms. Shields in *A Christmas Story*. She has also participated in a few film projects. Jasmine would like to thank her friends and family for all of the endless love and support.

## DESIGN TEAM BIOS

**Allen Brennan (Projections Design)** is a Senior Theatre Production and Design Major at CSU. Previous works have included Lighting/Rigging/Projections design for *Aida*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Identity*, *It's a Wonderful Life*, *Vespers*, *You Can't Take it With You*, as well as sound design for *Lysistrata*. Brennan likes to help out wherever he can and has a passion for technology and learning new things. As a result, he works as a Broadcast Engineer for KCSU, CSO for the CSUPD, and IT/Systems Administration for his church. After graduation, Brennan hopes to return to his high school to become the master electrician for the arts center they are currently building. He is excited for the next big thing and would like to thank his family, friends, and all those who have helped to support him, guide him, and take him under their wing to learn something new.

**Aidan Jace Cox (Stage Manager)** is a third year Theatre Major. Their past management positions include CSU's productions of *Il Trittico*, *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)*, *Cendrillon* & *Little Women* as well as the CSU Music Department's *2014 Holiday Spectacular*. Aidan is pleased to be managing *The Hobbit* and has enjoyed working with the cast and crew of this production throughout its process. They are looking forward to stage managing *Kids do it All* this summer and *Hansel und Gretel* next fall.

**Mackenzie Cunningham (Properties Master)** is a Junior double majoring in Business Marketing and Theatre. When she is not at CSU she spends her time doing properties with the Berkshire Theatre Group in Massachusetts, and she is excited to apply all her new skills to *The Hobbit*. Her previous credits include props for *Orestes 2.0*, *Little Women*, *Alice in Wonderland* and *Frog and Toad* here at CSU.

**Siobhan Gleason (Makeup Design)** is the costume crafts artisan at CSU and hair and makeup designer for *The Hobbit*. She graduated with her bachelor's degree from CSU in 2014 in Technical Design and Production. Previous works have included hair and makeup design for *Idomeneo*, G&S's *Patience*, *A Year with Frog and Toad*, and *Evil Dead: The Musical*, as well as costume design for *Alice in Wonderland* and *A Christmas Story*. She has also contributed a myriad of odd creations to various shows. In her spare time, she enjoys cooking and crafting oddities at home. She would especially like to thank hot glue, black tea, and her very supportive friends, family, and s.o. Enjoy the creatures.

**Zhanna Gurvich (Set Design)** is an award-winning designer and painter who has designed for theatre, dance, opera, and film at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, the Joyce Theatre, Chautauqua Opera, and the Juilliard Theatre. Ms. Gurvich's favorite designs include *Radiance* for Axial Theatre Co., *Hello and Goodbye* for Rattlestick Theatre, *Ladies in Retirement* and *Chaos Theory* for Pulse Ensemble Theatre, *The Most Dangerous Room in the House* for The Susan Marshall Dance Company, *Tears* for Violetta and *Tierra del Nadie* for Ballet Hispanico, *The Seagull*, *Man and Superman*, and *Three Sisters* for Juilliard, *In the Air* and *La Llorona* for Stageplays Theatre, *Hansel and Gretel* for Chautauqua Opera, *Ping Pong Diplomacy*, *Havana Bourgeoisie*, and *Billboard* for Reverie Productions, and *Luck* for Epic Rep. Ms. Gurvich received an HOLA Award for Outstanding Set Design for her work on *La Llorona*.



She has painted for Scenic Art Studios, Goodspeed Opera House, Virginia Opera, Dallas Theatre Center, Mannes Opera, and The Mint Theatre Company, including critically acclaimed portraits for Mary Broome and a mural for *Black Snow*. Ms Gurvich is a member of United Scenic Artists Local 829 and holds a B.F.A. in Studio Art from Clark University, as well as an M.F.A. in Stage Design from Southern Methodist University, with a concentration in scenery and lighting design. Since starting at CSU last year, Zhanna has designed *Cendrillon*, *Suor Angelica* and *Gianni Schicci* for CSU opera. She is delighted to be bringing one of her favorite, childhood stories to the stage.

**Andrew McIntyre (Lighting Designer)** is a senior graduating this May and a BA in Theatre, with a Minor in Arts Administration through the LEAP Program. His past credits include *College: The Musical*, and *All In the Timing* for the Young Producers Organization, *Orestes 2.0*, *A Year With Frog and Toad the Musical*, and *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)* with CSU Theatre, and *Cendrillon* with CSU Opera. He has also worked frequently with CSU Dance, and *The Rockband Project*.

**JJ Margolis (Sound Designer)** is a senior Theatre Major with a concentration in Sound Design. *The Hobbit* is his third Sound Design, following *The Glass Menagerie* and *A Year With Frog and Toad*. Additional credits include Assistant Sound Designer on *Little Women* and *Night of the Iguana* and Sound Mixer on *Alice*. JJ is incredibly excited to spend the summer working at the Santa Fe Opera in New Mexico.

**Maile Speetjens (Asst. Costume Shop Manager)** is originally from Kauai HI, Maile attended Emerson College in Boston, Mass., where she received a B.F.A. in Musical Theatre and worked extensively in the Emerson Costume Shop. After graduating from Emerson, Maile worked as a wardrobe supervisor and costume designer for Boston's Actors Shakespeare Project, and continued as a cutter/drapers at Emerson College. She received her M.F.A. in Costume Design from the University of Georgia, Athens, where she also worked as a designer and cutter/drapers. Some of Maile's design work includes *Hidden Man* (7 Stages, Atlanta), *The Life and Times of Tulsa Lovechild*, *The Dance of Hands* (UGA), *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *Avenue Q*, *Rent* (HCT After Dark), *Scapin* (Openstage), and *Much Ado About Nothing* (Actors Shakespeare Project). She has spent her summers teaching, directing and designing for Hawaii Childrens' Theatre, a non-profit organization on the island of Kauai dedicated to theatre education. This year, Maile is particularly excited to be directing KDIA (Kids Do It All), CSU's summer children's theatre camp!

**Sarah Taylor (Associate Makeup Designer)** This is Sarah's final show at CSU, and she has had a grand old time makeup designing for *The Hobbit*. She has learned so much from this show, and all of the shows she has worked on here. Now it is time for her to drown herself in the responsibilities of the real world, and a big kid job. Live long and prosper everyone!

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SPECIAL THANK YOU to the CSU Athletics department, Patrick Krza,  
and *The Coloradoan* Kim Blumhardt.

# PRODUCTION TEAM

Producer . . . . .	Price Johnston	Assistant Projections Designers . . .	Evee Helman Mackenzie Pursley
Production Manager . . . . .	Annaleigh Pfiffner	Assistant Sound Designer . . . . .	Cooper Adams
Stage Management Faculty Supervisor . . . . .	Hally Albers	Associate Makeup Designer . . . . .	Sarah Taylor
Technical Director . . . . .	Nathan Cory Seymour	Assistant Stage Manager . . . . .	D. Sivits, Emily Menaldi
Costume Director . . . . .	Janelle Sutton	Assistant Properties Master . . . . .	Lua Frontczak
Master Electrician . . . . .	Andy Killion	Scenic Artist . . . . .	Hannah Baldus
Charge Scenic Artist . . . . .	Lauren Coghlan	Costume Shop Technician . . . . .	Siobhan Gleason
Properties Master . . . . .	Mackenzie Cunningham	Light Board Operator . . . . .	Tristan LeMaster
Fight Choreography . . . . .	Bryan Connolly	Sound Board Operator . . . . .	Kaya Rudoin
Assistant Director . . . . .	Kailey Buttrick	Sound Mixer . . . . .	Logan Smith
Asst. Technical Director . . . . .	Brandon Ingold	Director Marketing & Publicity. . . . .	Jennifer Clary
Asst. Costume Shop Manager . . .	Maile Speetjens	UCA Development and Alumni Relations . . . . .	Carrie Care
Asst. Master Electrician . . . . .	Jessica Whitehead	Publicity and Marketing Specialist . .	Mike Solo
Associate Set Designer . . . . .	Amy Garland	Events Manager . . . . .	Peter Muller
Assistant Set Designer. . . . .	Lindsay Davis	Assistant Events Manager . . . . .	Judd Farner
Associate Costume Designer . . . . .	Devin Anders	Poster Design	Nathan Young
Associate Projections Designers . . . . .	Andy Killion, Price Johnston		

# TECHNICAL CREWS

Deck Crew . . . . .	Adam O'Connell, Isabella Huff, Jack Clark, DeAnza Banuelos	Wardrobe Crew . . . . .	Lela Smith, Taylor Champion, Chase Morris
Properties Crew . . . . .	Charlotte Clanton, Shay Dite-Bosworth	Set Construction Crew . . . . .	Kailey Buttrick, Aidan Cox, Beka Davis, Jessika Gill, Trevor Grattan, Logan Smith, Heather Adams, Jon Burns, Michael Butts
Puppeteers . . . . .	Jasmine Winfrey, Adam O'Connell, Lindsay Morris, Heather Adams, Emily Monaldi, Shay Dite-Bosworth	Electrician Crew . . . . .	Lighting TH246, Kent Washington, Evee Helman, Andrew Macintyre, Sam Otter, Lindsay Morris
Sound A2s . . . . .	Billy Evenhuis	Scenic Art & Properties Construction Crew . . . . .	Mackenzie Cunningham, Sarah Taylor, Keili Elliott, Charlotte Clanton, Kyle Moffitt, Emana Lukac. Shay Dite-Bosworth, D. Sivits, Abby Jordan, Adam O'Connell
Costume Construction Crew. . . . .	Taylor Aguilar, Devin Anders, Tori Green, Abby Jordan, Molly Langeberg, Allison Perkins, D. Sevits, Sofia Shappell, Jasmine Winfrey, Lua Frontczak, Cassie Maack		

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Life is suddenly different for Ellie Murphy. Her widowed father has remarried, and now Ellie turns to her imaginary friends to escape. Only by running away and discovering what it is really like to be alone does she begin to come to terms with herself and her own need for a mother.

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December 3-5, 11-13, 2015

This “tale” of marital love and blind implacable jealousy has terrible, shocking consequences, yet evolves into something spiritually profound and resonant, a deeper recognition of love and of redemption.

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February 4-6, 12-14, 2016

An “everyman” couple conspires at the birth of their fourth daughter to announce they finally have a son, and they raise the baby as a boy. They call her Boy. This seems to work, until Boy begins to develop characteristics of Girl.

## *Spring Musical*

April 20- 23, 29-May 1, 2016

We can't lift the “lid” on this “secret stash” just yet, but make sure you're “holding” April 20, 2016 free for our smoking spring musical. With guaranteed madness by the ounce, this show will have you laughing so hard you'll forget to inhale.

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