

## ***Aanika's Elephants***

*Presented by Feisty Elephant Productions, Pam Arciero Productions,  
and Little Shadow Productions*

*In a time when children are feeling so much division and stress,  
Aanika's Elephants is a play about compassion,  
love and conservation.*

*RUN TIME: 60 minutes*

*INTENDED AUDIENCES: Family Audiences (7+)*

*Supplemental education materials and workshops will be available.*

### *ABOUT THE SHOW:*

*Aanika's Elephants is the story of a young African girl who meets a baby elephant (Little) at the orphanage where her father works. They grow together the way only two young girls can, even if one has a trunk. When Aanika's father dies, she becomes the ward of an abusive uncle. She flees into the African Savannah making one final farewell to Little. Camping that night in the bush the way her father taught her, she is frightened by crashing branches and discovers Little has followed her. They become a herd of two, working together to survive and steer clear of humanity. Adopted by a small herd of elephants, Aanika learns their very beautiful, civil ways. She is finally tested when she must save her new family from poachers. In a time when children are feeling so much division and stress, Aanika's Elephants is play about compassion, love and conservation. It's a story that shows how family can be anything -- a beloved, widowed father or even a herd of elephants. The audience can use their imaginations to fill in the large rattan-framed elephants, adorable baby elephant and people represented by just hats and gloves. With music, a variety of puppets and humor, Aanika's Elephants entertains and educates both adults and children on the plight of the elephant and our world.*

*PUPPETRY STYLES are best described as an amalgam pulled from cultures around the world. In particular we highlight large masks, direct manipulation, rod puppetry and glove puppetry.*

### *PHOTO GALLERY:*

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1\\_oqTzIVxhf4OpoUPfZiiwysCuDDOWiKJ?usp=share\\_link](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1_oqTzIVxhf4OpoUPfZiiwysCuDDOWiKJ?usp=share_link)

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1OGME5fnMbFtoO-FNnEGz5z9CyKOeUx\\_xh?usp=share\\_link](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1OGME5fnMbFtoO-FNnEGz5z9CyKOeUx_xh?usp=share_link)

PRODUCTION SIZZLE REEL:

[Aanika'selephantssamplevideo.MOV](#)

FULL PRODUCTION VIDEO:

<https://youtu.be/PGFmaHmLiL4>

PRESS COVERAGE:

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1RsU4iWHGt23hntGX3sBxzOCpe6DVvPkC?usp=drive\\_link](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1RsU4iWHGt23hntGX3sBxzOCpe6DVvPkC?usp=drive_link)

SCRIPT:

■ AanikasElephantsdr7NewVictoryshow.pdf

NOTES FROM THE WRITER:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/10qkT\\_XSo5qvDBpeK7EA-VzIbp4FJw8SI/edit?usp=share\\_link&oid=115570258796646359420&rtpof=true&sd=true](https://docs.google.com/document/d/10qkT_XSo5qvDBpeK7EA-VzIbp4FJw8SI/edit?usp=share_link&oid=115570258796646359420&rtpof=true&sd=true)

PRODUCTION COMPANY BIOS:

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COMPANY AWARDS & HIGHLIGHTS:

*Annie Evans - 13 Daytime Emmy awards (best writing for Sesame Street) 2  
Aurora Awards (Humanitarian award for Sesame Street writing)*

*Martin P. Robinson has been playing Mr. Snuffleupagus on Sesame Street for over 40 years. He is also the creator of Audrey II for Little Shop of Horrors which he performed in the original Off Broadway and Broadway productions.*

*Pam has received over 32 Emmy Award Certificates for contributions to an Outstanding Children's Program for both Sesame Street and Between the Lions, a Peabody Award for the Great Space Coaster, an Action for Children's*

Television Award for Eureka's Castle, and the Po'okela Award for Excellence from the Hawaii State Theater Council.

#### CAST & PRODUCTION LIST::

See Program Notes by venue:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1mehhnUtMbOYzmOp4g0aerOZv0-4AkKbB3-Dxd6o8ykE/edit?usp=share\\_li](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1mehhnUtMbOYzmOp4g0aerOZv0-4AkKbB3-Dxd6o8ykE/edit?usp=share_li)

#### LEAD TEAM BIOS:

**Annie Evans:** (writer/producer) Has written children's television for the past twenty-five years, most notably for Sesame Street (13 Emmy Awards) as well as for shows on Nickelodeon, PBS, Discovery Channel, Disney Channel and Animal Planet. She has taught writing for children around the world and story edited for Sesame Street co-productions in Bangladesh, India and Indonesia. She is also a playwright having had plays produced around the world and at such New York City theaters as New York Stage and Film Company, Manhattan Class Company, Ensemble Studio Theatre and the Circle Repertory Lab. She is a graduate of Brown University. [www.FunnyGirlscoopingwithboys.com](http://www.FunnyGirlscoopingwithboys.com); [www.Annieevans.com](http://www.Annieevans.com).

**Pam Arciero:** (director/producer) is a multi-ethnic, multicultural director, born and raised in Hawaii. She directs for live theater, television, film, as well as being a performer and producer. Pam choreographs and directs live walk-around (the big versions of the puppets) shows for Sesame Workshop in such far flung places as Jamaica, Turks and Caicos, Barcelona, and Saudi Arabia, Sesame Place, PA and Sea World, USA. She performs for film, television and theater, notably as a puppeteer with Sesame Street (Grundgetta Grouch, Oscar's girlfriend, and assorted characters) and for the Muppets for over 30 years. Pam has taught puppetry all over the world, from New York to Hong Kong, Hawaii to South Africa. Her love and joy of Puppetry is contagious. She is the Artistic Director of the National Puppetry Conference at the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center.

**Jean Marie Keevins** (performer/producer) is an Emmy nominated puppet artist, producer and professional coach whose puppetry work spans from film ("The Muppets") and television ("Helpsters" and "The Muppets: A Letter to Santa") to the stage. She co-produced Martin P. Robinson's Off-Broadway Run of All Hallow's Eve, Riddle of the Trilobites, Zwerge (co-writer), The Flatiron Hex (The New York Times Critic's Pic & UNIMA Citation of Excellence), Lunatic Cunning (UNIMA Citation of Excellence), The Joshua Show: Volume 2 (UNIMA Citation of Excellence), The Adventures of Liverwurst Girl and building. Her production company, Little Shadow is known for its excellence in shepherding original productions, as well as education through its academy and Lil' Talks

series. The majority of her time is spent coaching original, forward thinking people to create their new narrative and the life and careers that they want. Jean Marie is a proud graduate of the University of Connecticut's Puppet Arts program and the Associate Artistic Director of the National Puppetry Conference and the Tony Award-winning Eugene O'Neill Theater Center. [LittleShadowProductions.com](http://LittleShadowProductions.com)

**Martin P. Robinson:** (puppet designer/builder) Broadway: *Little Shop of Horrors* (designer/performer); *The Frogs*(designer). Off Broadway: *Little Shop of Horrors* (Drama Desk, L.A. Drama Critics, Villager Awards); *Go, Diego Go!* National Tour (puppet designer); Film: *Muppets Take Manhattan*, *Follow That Bird*, *Elmo in Grouchland*, *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*, *The Producers*. TV: *Sesame Street*– 41 years playing Mr. Snuffleupagus, Telly Monster, Slimey, etc. Currently playing Mr. Primm on the new *Sesame Street*/Apple TV show “Helpsters.”

**Paul Rudolph:** (composer/musician) is a composer, arranger, instrument builder, and vocal music director/recordist/composer for “Sesame Street”, where he received 3 Emmy nominations for Music Direction, and won 3 Emmys for music editing. Music direction/composition/arranger credits include *Sesame Street* (HBO/PBS) (includes TV, web, live shows and app content), *Nature Cat* (PBS), *Toca Boca*, *Heather Henson*, *Leslie Carrara-Rudolph*, *Martin P. Robinson's All Hallows' Eve*, the *Jim Henson Company*, *Muppets Tonight* (ABC), *Jerry Nelson's original CD Truro Daydreams*.

**Jimmica Collins** is an actor/puppeteer with a love for Children's Theatre. She graduated from NYU (Tisch) with a B.F.A in Theatre and a minor in Children's Mental Health. Jimmica has performed in many TYA productions over the years including *Stellaluna*, *Harold and the Purple Crayon*, *Fancy Nancy the Musical*, among others. She trained with the *Jim Henson Company* and performed in *Brian Henson's Puppet Up! Improv show*. TV credits include: *Helpsters* (Apple TV+), *Donkey Hodie* (PBS), *Feel Your Best Self* (UConn), and *Wondermore* (InTouch Media). She is also a new puppeteer on *Season 53 of Sesame Street!*

#### ARTIST BIOS:

Please find our entire team's bios attached [HERE](#).

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1V4ASTJ3pAKic3SGiyaZ9Po5kUarH7zlkdCWPTvJhSSI/edit?usp=share\\_link](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1V4ASTJ3pAKic3SGiyaZ9Po5kUarH7zlkdCWPTvJhSSI/edit?usp=share_link)

#### ARTIST HEADSHOTS:

Please find the majority of our team's headshots [HERE](#).

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/19wXvH-1vQcKAKkNVLSy2KPDplsCEfIPV?usp=share\\_link](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/19wXvH-1vQcKAKkNVLSy2KPDplsCEfIPV?usp=share_link)

*THANK YOU CREDITS:*



*Aanika's Elephants is the proud recipient of workshop and production grants from The Jim Henson Foundation*

*Ridgefield Theatre Barn  
Pamme Jones  
Tryon Fine Arts Center  
Center for Puppetry Arts  
Heather Henson  
Green Feather Foundation  
Cheryl Henson  
The Jim Henson Foundation  
Flock Theatre  
Derron Wood  
Matt Pagliaro  
Paulette Richards  
Ashley Bishop  
Catherine Gillett  
Marianne Carruth  
Kristen Delfau  
Michael Ayotte  
Lauren Saunders  
Hillel Friedman  
Emily Lawson  
Stephen Lanza  
John Reilly  
Dauna Williams  
Bob Marty  
Malia Arciero  
Laurie Everitt  
Kathleen Keevins  
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