



T H E A T E R

EDUCATION GUIDE



Lightwire Theater Presents:
The Tortoise & The Hare:
The Next Generation
Tuesday, March 30
9:30 & 12:30

Recommended for Grades K & Up
Tickets: \$7.00 per person

Jane Wallace ABT Student Matinee Series

ABT Education Partner



Alberta Bair Theater for the Performing Arts
2801 Third Avenue North • Billings, Montana 59101
406.294.5206 or 406.256.8915
www.AlbertaBairTheater.Org



Presented by Lightwire Theater
For Ages K and Up



About the Performance

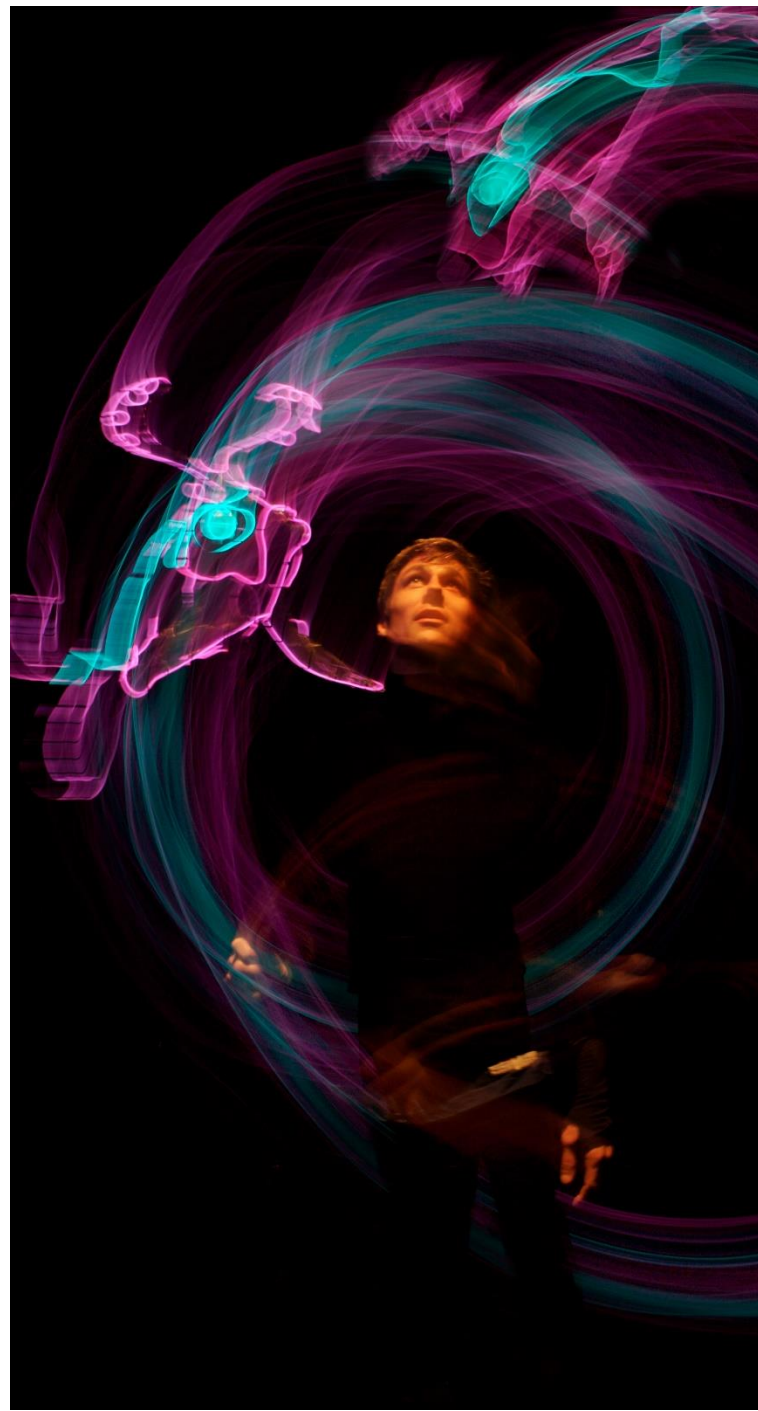
Synopsis

The story begins with Aesop's classic fable of The Tortoise and The Hare where the "slow and steady" Tortoise defeats the nimble but overconfident Hare. For those who ever wondered what happened after the Race Lightwire Theater continues the story which finds the two opponents 10 years down the road, now with children of their own and exploring modern day distractions. Smart phones and video games create a new landscape of lost connections to life experiences. The Next Gen features Tortoise Junior and Lil' Hare in a whole new kind of race, where their adventures lead them into unexpected territory. Old man Tortoise and Big Daddy Hare must come together despite their differences to find and save their children. What hurdles will they have to overcome to make it to the finish line?

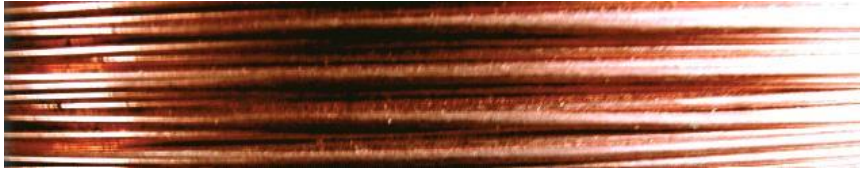
With dazzling visuals, poignant storytelling, and creative use of music from classical to pop, this production brings this classic tale into a brilliant new light.

About Lightwire Theater

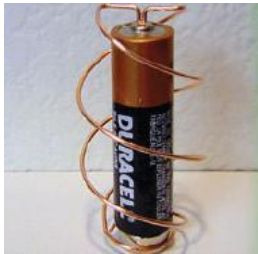
Creators Ian Carney and Corbin Popp met while dancing in Twyla Tharp's Broadway show *Movin' Out*. An immediate connection was made as they discovered their mutual love of art, theater, and technology. After coming across a product called electroluminescent wire or "EL wire", the lights turned on and the possibilities seemed endless. Together, with their wives Eleanor and Whitney, they began to develop EL wire puppetry based on creatures that quickly gained personality. Each Lightwire performance is a unique interpretation of a story told by dancers and glow-in-the dark puppets. These stories are told solely through movement and puppetry, without words, so it is up to your creative imagination to determine what is happening on stage!



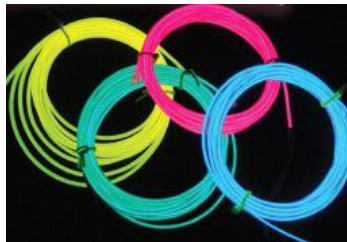
Technology behind the Show



1: Copper in the middle of the EL wire conducts electricity, letting it travel from one place to another.

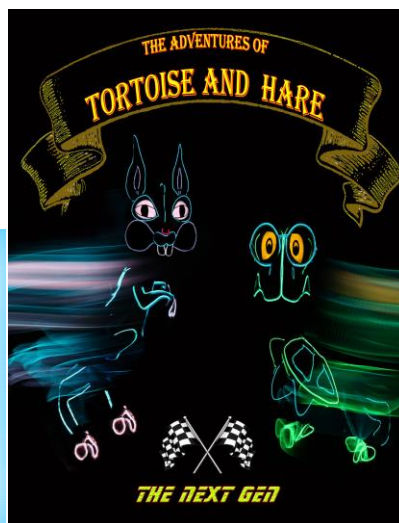


2: A material called phosphor surrounds the copper wire. The phosphor glows when electricity runs through the wire.



3: A colored plastic tube surrounds the phosphor and copper, completing the EL wire.

4: When the EL wire is attached to a power source, such as a battery, it glows! A battery pack that powers the EL wires is hidden on each creature in the show.



ANIMAL FACTS

Turtle or Tortoise?

Rabbit or Hare ?

QUESTION 1

Which spends most of its life in the water?



OR



TORTOISE?

QUESTION 2

Which is born without any hair and is blind?



OR



HARE?

QUESTION 3

Which has webbed feet?



OR



TORTOISE?

QUESTION 4

Which usually lives in burrows or tunnels in the ground, where they prefer to stay during daylight hours?



OR



HARE?

QUESTION 5

Which lives on land and doesn't migrate, living in the same place its whole life?



OR



TORTOISE?

QUESTION 6

Which grows larger and has longer ears?



OR



HARE?

QUESTION 7

Which is herbivorous, meaning it only eats plants?



OR



TORTOISE?

QUESTION 8

Which tends to spend most of their time alone? They do not travel in a group.



OR



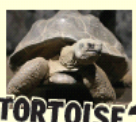
HARE?

QUESTION 9

Which is omnivorous, meaning it eats plants and insects.



OR



TORTOISE?

QUESTION 10

Which can live with humans and makes a better pet?



OR



HARE?

Answers: 1. turtle, 2. rabbit, 3. turtle, 4. rabbit, 5. tortoise, 6. hare, 7. tortoise, 8. hare, 9. turtle, 10. rabbit

Aesop



There are many adaptations of The Tortoise and Hare though the story is attributed to the Book of Fables by Aesop. Aesop is believed to have lived in Samos, a Greek island in the eastern Aegean Sea, but others say he came from Ethiopia. It is not known exactly when the first book of Aesop's fables was written, as the fables were originally handed down through generations like myths, tales and legends. It is, however, believed that Aesop lived from about 620 to 560 BCE. Many of Aesop's fables in The Book of Fables have been found on Egyptian papyri known to date between 800 and 1000 years before Aesop's time.

This casts doubts on the authorship of many of the fables attributed to Aesop and the Aesop's Fables book. Many of the fables were possibly compiled by Aesop from existing fables, much in the same way that the Mother Goose Nursery Rhymes were a compilation of existing rhymes. Each one of Aesop's fables has a lesson, or moral-just like a parable or allegory.

Terms to Know

Fable A fable is a fictional story that can include animals, mythical creatures, plants, objects, or forces of nature that are given human qualities. Fables teach a moral lesson.

Moral A lesson about right and wrong that can be learned from a story or an experience.

Proverb A proverb is a short saying, stating a truth or Piece of advice.



Extension - Write Your Own Fable:

Work with a partner to brainstorm your own fable.
Who will your characters be? What problem
will they have in the story? What is the moral of your fable?

Once you have your ideas in place,

1. Draft your story.
2. Edit and proofread with your partner.
3. Finalize your story and add pictures.
4. Share your fable with the class.

Follow-up Discussion: Slow and Steady vs Today's Immediate Culture

1. How does being slow and steady help, the Tortoise overcome the physical advantages of the Hare?
2. What are some examples of slow and steady?
3. What sort of things do you find distracting?

