



A project of The New 42nd Street

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**The New Victory Theater Presents
TINGA TINGA TALES**



**Joyful Live Action Musical TINGA TINGA TALES Travels from Kenya to
NYC for its U.S. Premiere**

**Emmy Award-nominated producer and writer Claudia Lloyd joins forces with
Kenyan Singer/Songwriter Eric Wainaina to bring the beloved African cartoon to life**

U.S. Premiere October 13-20, 2018

**New York, NY (September 17, 2018) -- "Jambo, human beings!" Welcome to *TINGA TINGA TALES*
- *THE MUSICAL*, where Lion, Monkey, Elephant and their larger-than-life animal friends leap onto**

the stage from the popular international cartoon series. Brimming with African folklore, storytelling, and live music, **TINGA TINGA TALES - THE MUSICAL** is directed by Emmy Award-nominated producer and writer **Claudia Lloyd**, Kenyan celebrity pop singer/songwriter **Eric Wainaina** (*Mo Faya*, New York Theatre Festival), who also plays the role of Monkey, and producer **Sheba Hirst**. With a live, onstage band, this vibrant musical explores mysteries from the animal kingdom including: Why do giraffes have long necks? And why do chameleons change color? Answers will be revealed from October 13 - 20, 2018!

The cartoon series **Tinga Tinga Tales** was created by Lloyd in collaboration with Nairobi-based Homeboyz, aired on BBC and Disney US and was later translated into a series of popular children's books by the same name. Lloyd is also lauded for her work on the groundbreaking children's series **Charlie and Lola** for which she received three British Animation Awards and four BAFTA Awards.

Tinga Rain Productions is a new stage production company established by Hirst, Lloyd and Wainaina to produce world class theater, media and music events in Kenya and beyond. They collaborate with the best Kenyan musical and acting talent, and produce rewarding professional experiences for a diverse and burgeoning theater audience. In an increasingly fractured world, Tinga Rain's ambitions are to celebrate coming together and promoting a world that benefits from sharing stories, music, art and happiness.

Composer Eric Wainaina himself will play Monkey and Eddy Kimani plays the majestic Lion. Other animals include Elsaphan Njora as Tortoise, Atemi Oyungu as Hippo, Alvan Gatitu as Chameleon, Nyokabi Macharia as Giraffe, Karimi Rimbui Wamai as Butterfly and Bird, Kendi Nkonge as Queen Bee and Raaay! as Elephant. Choreographed by Edu Ooro. Costumes were designed by Ann McCreath of KikoRomeo. Band members include Marvin Maveke (Drums), Tetu Shani (Vocals and Percussion), Benjamin Kabaseke (Lead Guitar), Victor Kimetto (Keyboard/Band Leader), Ted Mwangi (Bass Guitar) and Chris Adwar (2nd Keys/Acoustic Guitar/Percussion/Vocals).

Learn more about **Tinga Tinga Tales** at NewVictory.org.

Public Performance Schedule:

Saturday, October 13 at 11am / 3pm

Sunday, October 14 at 11am / 3pm

Saturday, October 20 at 11am / 3pm*

*sign-interpreted performance

Family Benefit Performance: Sunday, October 21 at 1pm

For more information and tickets, visit www.NewVictory.org/familybenefit or call 646-223-3082

Tinga Tinga Tales has a running time of 70 minutes with no intermission, and is recommended for ages 4 - 7.

Ticket Information

Full-price tickets for **Tinga Tinga Tales** are \$25. Tickets are available online (<http://www.newvictory.org/boxoffice>) and by phone (646.223.3010).

To purchase tickets in person, the New Victory box office is located at 209 West 42nd Street (between 7th / 8th Avenues). Box office hours are Sunday & Monday from 11am-5pm and Tuesday through Saturday from 12pm-7pm.

About The New Victory Theater

The New Victory Theater brings kids to the arts and the arts to kids. Created in 1995 on iconic 42nd Street, this nonprofit theater has become a standard-bearer of quality performing arts for young audiences in the United States. Reflecting and serving the multicultural city it calls home, The New Victory is committed to arts access for all students, teachers, kids, families and communities of New York to experience and engage with the exemplary international programming of theater, dance, circus, music, puppetry and opera on its stages. A leader in arts education, youth employment and audience engagement, The New Victory Theater has been honored by the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities with the National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award, by Americans for the Arts with a national Arts Education Award, and by the Drama Desk for "providing enchanting, sophisticated children's theater that appeals to the child in all of us, and for nurturing a love of theater in young people."

About The New 42nd Street

Founded in 1990, The New 42nd Street is an independent nonprofit organization charged with the continuous cultural revival of 42nd Street between 7th and 8th Avenues, building on the foundation of seven historic theaters to make extraordinary performing arts and cultural engagement part of everyone's life. The New 42nd Street fulfills this purpose by ensuring the ongoing vibrancy of 42nd Street's historic theaters; supporting performing artists in the creation of their work at the New 42nd Street Studios and The Duke on 42nd Street; creating arts access and education at The New Victory Theater, New York's premier theater for kids and families; and through the New 42nd Street Youth Corps, its model youth development initiative, which pairs life skills workshops and mentorship with paid employment in the arts for NYC youth. Inspired by the city it serves, The New 42nd Street is committed to the transformational power of the arts.