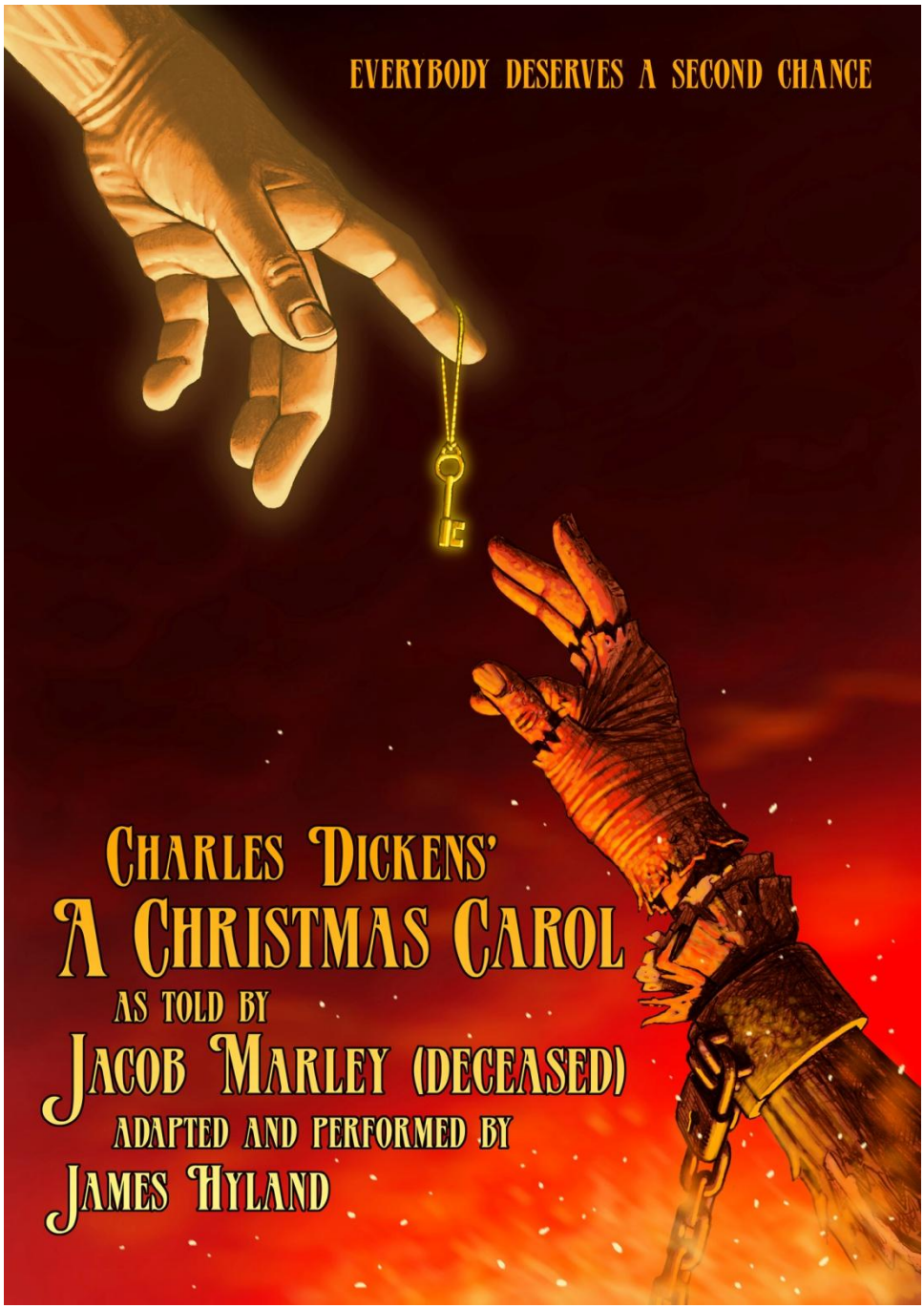
PRESS RELEASE



Brother Wolf is proud to present the return of its award-winning one-man show**, *A Christmas Carol – As told by Jacob Marley (deceased)***, taking the stage for its eighteenth anniversary tour! Adapted and performed by award-winning actor/writer/producer, **James Hyland**, this groundbreaking production portrays Charles Dickens' classic tale from the perspective of Scrooge's deceased business partner, Jacob Marley. Hailed as "a forcefully compelling masterpiece" (The Manx Independent) and the "definitive telling of A Christmas Carol" (Redditch Standard), the production has been rated as one of "the top Christmas Shows in London, Edinburgh and around the UK" (High 50 Culture), winning **Best Performer in Theatre**

(Fringe Report Awards 2012), an **OffComm Commendation** (Off West End Awards, 2023) as well as recognition from Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II at Buckingham Palace for its part in Dickensian Scholarship. The show's unique presentation has even been discussed in best-selling books about the theatre. In 2018, during the 175th anniversary of Dickens' original novella, the award-winning production was staged at The Royal Albert Hall, selling out to capacity. A highly acclaimed box office sensation, *A Christmas Carol – As told by Jacob Marley (deceased)* is just one in a long line of outstanding stage productions from Brother Wolf including *Fagin's Last Hour, "*powerful, thought provoking and faultless... captures the true spirit and message of Dickens" (Redditch Standard), recipient of an **OffComm Commendation** (Off West End Awards, 2023); *Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*, "One of the most mesmerising and terrifying performances you'll ever see" (The Sheerness Times Guardian), winner of **Actor of the Year** (Pink Prince Theatre Review of the Year, 2025); *A Lesson from Auschwitz*, "one of the most powerful responses to holocaust denial I have ever seen" (theatrereviews.design), commended by The Foundation of Memory Sites Near Auschwitz-Birkenau; *The Mad Hatter's Tea Party*, "insanely creative... an absolute masterpiece" (A Youngish Perspective); and *Silver & Gold* , "a masterclass in storytelling... utterly incredible" (Pink Prince Theatre).

Praise for A Christmas Carol – As told by Jacob Marley (deceased):

"a tremendous achievement... a wonder to watch" ★★★★★ (Plays To See)
"Hyland was the only actor on stage, yet was able to bring a whole cast to life." ★★★★★ (Voice)
"an absolute masterclass... What a joy this show was" ★★★★★ (A Shiny Life For Me!)
"Hyland plays Marley with stunning conviction... a Christmas treat" ★★★★★ (Dark Fiction Writer)
"Hyland is an extremely powerful presence... a masterful performance" (British Theatre Guide)
"Hyland *is* mankind!... Such energy. Such force. Genius... Do go and see this one-man-show" (Ink Pantry)
"I was completely spell bound... A wonderful and impactful piece of theatre." (Nantwich News)
"storytelling at its best... a memorable and astonishing production" (London Theatre 1)
"heart in the mouth theatre in its finest form" (Sheerness Times Guardian)
"a forcefully compelling masterpiece... outstanding" (Manx Independent)
"Hyland has hooked us in with his magnetic solo performance" (St Albans Review)
"as Charles Dickens intended it... Imaginative and captivating" (High 50 Culture)
"an incredible one man performance... a master class in acting" (Lanelli Star)
"riveting acting... stunning voice work... unforgettable" (The Stage)
"thrilling... Hyland's versatility and physicality are astounding" (UK Theatre Network)
"masterful storytelling... a production which enthrals at every point" (A Younger Theatre)
"a work of art, and one that must be seen... thoroughly recommended" (The Dr Bird)

"Wonderful storytelling... clever, funny and powerful" (Remotegoat)

"astonishingly powerful... extraordinary acting" (The Public Reviews)

"astonishing acting... a vibrant re-imagination of the classic" (Extra! Extra!)

"chilling, humorous, surprising... Powerful theatre indeed" (The York Press)

"Hyland is an immensely powerful actor... the kids were riveted" (The Independent)

"as Dickens intended... powerful, thought-provoking... definitive" (Redditch Standard)

"the physical performance was exceptional... performed superbly" (Cumbria Guide)

Watch the trailers here:

http://youtu.be/D4Kg-msBR24 | http://youtu.be/sKDhj92jCXs

JAMES HYLAND

Actor | Adapter | Producer

James Hyland is Artistic Director and Founder of **Brother Wolf**. He is also a multi award-winning stage and film actor as well as an award-winning writer, producer and director with more than thirty years' experience in the profession. James' work has been described by the press as "magnificent" (Plays to See), "highly accomplished" (The Stage) and "astonishing" (The Courier). Following his education at the National Youth Theatre of Great Britain and Rose Bruford College of Theatre and Performance, he made his professional acting debut in *The North Pole*, winning the Guardian International Student Drama Award in 1996. Since then he has appeared in over 70 professional productions, working with a variety of directors including Adrian Noble, Matthew Warchus and the late Michael Boyd, as well as acclaimed companies such as the Royal Shakespeare Company and Brother Wolf, winning a further 42 awards including Actor of the Year (Pink Prince Theatre Review of the Year, 2025) for his solo performance in *Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*, Best Performance of the Year (The Actors Awards LA, 2022) for his performance as Mr Guthrert Vratrol/Narrator in the film *The Impatient Man Who Made His Life Considerably Shorter*, The Hamilton Deane Award (The Dracula Society, 2022) for his performance as Dracula in *Dracula's Guest*, an OffComm Commendation (Off West End Awards, 2023) for his stage production of *Fagin's Last Hour*, and Best Performer in Theatre (Fringe Report Awards, 2012) for his solo performance as Marley's Ghost in *A Christmas Carol - As told by Jacob Marley (deceased)*, the longest running stage production of *A Christmas Carol* in the UK. John Park, Director of the Fringe Report Awards, said "The award celebrates the work of James Hyland, actor, and in

particular his creation and delivery of A Christmas Carol - As told by Jacob Marley (deceased). It reflects his fine work as an actor in film, TV, radio and theatre in a remarkable range of productions." In the same year, further honours were bestowed by Queen Elizabeth II at Buckingham Palace in recognition of Dickensian Scholarship. By 2014, *A Christmas Carol - As told by Jacob Marley (deceased)* had been officially rated as one of "the top Christmas shows in London, Edinburgh and around the UK" (High 50 Culture). The show's unique presentation has even been discussed in best-selling books about the theatre. In 2018, during the 175th anniversary of Dickens' original novella, James performed his award-winning show at The Royal Albert Hall, selling out to capacity. The production was followed by two more award-winning one-man shows, *Fagin's Last Hour*, reviewed as "powerful and highly accomplished" (The Stage), and *Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*, described as "nothing short of supernatural... a genuine acting genius" (Pink Prince Theatre), as well as his very latest solo drama, *Silver & Gold* (based on *Treasure Island* by Robert Louis Stevenson), recently nominated for Solo Performance in a Play (Fringe Theatre Awards, 2025/2026), and reviewed as "theatre as it should be. Raw, engaging, and unapologetic" (Pink Prince Theatre). James serves as actor, adapter and producer on all four productions. The shows have toured extensively, breaking box office records along the way, as well as his commemorative drama *A Lesson from Auschwitz*, of which he is the writer, director, producer and co-actor (commended by The Foundation of Memory Sites Near Auschwitz-Birkenau), reviewed as "one of the most powerful and most important pieces of theatre I've ever seen" (Centre Stage); his double award-winning stage adaptation of *Dracula's Guest*, of which he is the adapter, director, producer and co-actor, described as "the most intense 55 minutes of drama you're ever likely to encounter" (Voices from the Vaults); and his fantastically original Theatre-of-the-Absurd interpretation of *The Mad Hatter's Tea Party*, of which he is the adapter, director, producer and co-actor, hailed as "insanely creative... an absolute masterpiece" (A Youngish Perspective). Among his many screen credits is the acclaimed *The Impatient Man Who Made His Life Considerably Shorter* in which he plays the dual lead roles of Guthrert Vratrol and the Voiceover Narrator for which he received 31 Best Actor awards including Best Performance of the Year at The Actors Awards LA, Best Actor in a Comedy at the Best Actor & Director Awards New York, the Made You Laugh BBC Comedy Award at The World Cinema Film Festival and Best Actor at The APEX Film Awards at which his

performance was reviewed as "absolutely hilarious and played to perfection." To date, James has played the lead role in five international multi award-winning films.

Listings Information

Synopsis:

Jacob Marley is dead and condemned to an eternity of carrying a heavy chain, forged in life; a life to which he can no longer return except to recount the tale of his miserly business partner, Ebenezer Scrooge, and the path that lead to his redemption. Through Marley's words, we learn how three magical spirits opened Scrooge's eyes and made him realise the true value of love and forgiveness.

Told from the perspective of Scrooge's deceased business partner, this award-winning stage adaptation has been hailed as the "definitive telling of A Christmas Carol" (Redditch Standard), and rated as one of "the top Christmas shows in London, Edinburgh and around the UK" (High 50 Culture). Recognised by The Queen for its part in Dickensian Scholarship, this "forcefully compelling masterpiece" (Manx Independent) delivers thrills, chills and excitement aplenty for all ages.

Tour Dates:

NOV 13 @ 7pm
NEWBURY - ARLINGTON ARTS CENTRE
Mary Hare, Snelsmore Common, Newbury, Berkshire, RG14 3BQ
TIX: 01635 244246 **www.arlington-arts.com**

NOV 26 @ 7.30pm
LONDON - STANLEY ARTS
12 South Norwood Hill, London, SE25 6AB
TIX: 020 8251 0184 **www.stanleyarts.org**

DEC 4 @ 7.30pm
CREDITON - CREDITON ARTS CENTRE
East Street, Crediton, Devon, EX17 3AX
TIX: 01363 773260 **www.creditonartscentre.org**

DEC 6 @ 7.30pm

FARSLEY - OLD WOOLLEN

Sunny Bank Mills, 83-85 Town Street, Farsley, Leeds, LS28 5UJ

TIX: 07886 369431 **www.oldwoollen.co.uk**

DEC 17 @ 10am

SCHOOL PERFORMANCE (FOR STUDENTS & STAFF)

DEC 18 @ 7.30pm

DORCHESTER - DORCHESTER ARTS

The Corn Exchange, High East Street, Dorchester, Dorset, DT1 1HF

TIX: 01305 266926 **www.dorchesterarts.org.uk**

Credits:

Actor/Adapter/Producer: James Hyland

Music: Chris Warner

Costume Designer/Maker: Nicki Martin-Harper

Age Recommendation: 7+

For further details please contact:

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