

**FLYING EFFECTS** SWIMMING EFFECTS WEIGHTLESS EFFECTS ★ **FLYING BALLETS** 

As featured in: "PETER PAN" (over 3000 Productions) "THE WIZARD OF OZ" "A CHRISTMAS CAROL" "ANGELS IN AMERICA" "CRYSTAL CATHEDRAL" ★ "RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL" \* "THE FLYING NUN" "FUNNY GIRL" "FANTASTIC VOYAGE" "ICE CAPADES" "SIEGFRIED AND ROY"

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Our Spectacular Flying Sequences are featured in: Broadway Shows, Las Vegas Revues, Industrial Shows, Rock Concerts, Ballets, Operas, T.V. Productions and Commercials

Stars Flown Include: PAULA ABDUL \* JASON ALEXANDER THE BACKSTREET BOYS ★ \* LUCILLE BALL **JACK BENNY** DAVID BOWIE **GARTH BROOKS** \* CAROL BURNETT JOHNNY CARSON SEAN CONNERY SANDY DUNCAN SALLY FIELD **BOB HOPE** HOLLY HUNTER MICHAEL JORDAN DANNY KAYE **GENE KELLY** \* DAVID LETTERMAN JERRY LEWIS LIBERACE MARY MARTIN CONAN O'BRIEN **CATHY RIGBY** CHITA RIVERA ROSEANNE **DIANA ROSS** HOWARD STERN BARBRA STREISAND RAQUEL WELCH

VANESSA WILLIAMS

## Hying by Foy "The Standard of the Industry"

## Peter Pan

Peter Pan: or, The Boy Who Wouldn't Grow Up is the full title of Scottish playwright and novelist James M. Barrie's most well-known stage play. It tells the story of Peter Pan, a mischievous, ageless little boy, dressed in autumn leaves and cobwebs, who can fly. Peter spirits away Wendy Darling and her brothers, John and Michael, for a series of adventures on the island of Neverland with the fairy Tinker Bell, the Lost Boys, the Indian princess Tiger Lily, and the pirate Captain Hook. The play premiered in London on December 27, 1904, and Kirby's Flying Ballets created the flying sequences. Peter Pan premiered on Broadway in 1905, with Maude Adams in the title role.

A new adaptation of *Peter Pan* was produced on Broadway in 1950, featuring five musical numbers with music and lyrics by Leonard Bernstein. The production starred Jean Arthur as Peter Pan, and Boris Karloff in the dual roles of George Darling and Captain Hook. A 24-year-old Englishman named Peter Foy sailed from London to stage the flying on behalf of the Kirby organization; and he was dispatched to the U.S. again in 1952 for a production at the Orpheum Theatre starring Veronica Lake.

Two years later, Peter Foy returned to New York to develop the flying sequences for a full musical version of Peter Pan starring Mary Martin, adapted and directed by Jerome Robbins, with music by Moose Charlap and Jule Stein, lyrics by Carolyn Leigh, Betty Comden and Adolph Green. Martin wanted her Peter Pan to fly higher, faster and farther than had ever been attempted before. To achieve this, Foy created a wholly new flying system, "the Inter-RelatedPendulum", which enabled him to extend the boundaries of Martin's aerial trajectory and move her very rapidly through the air. When Peter Pan opened on October 20, 1954 at the Winter Garden Theatre, Martin's soaring aerial choreography thrilled audiences and ushered in a new era in stage flying.

The show was a smashing success, winning Tony awards for Mary Martin and Cyril Ritchard (Captain Hook). It was broadcast live on NBC in 1955, re-staged for a second live broadcast in 1956 and produced once more in 1960, for a videotape recording that the network could rebroadcast again and again.

Since then, thousands of productions of *Peter Pan* have featured Flying by Foy, including Broadway revivals with Sandy Duncan (1979) and Cathy Rigby (1990); the 2004 feature film, Finding Neverland, with Johnny Depp and Kate Winslet; NBC's Peter Pan Live! (2014); national tours; international productions; regional and community theatres; college and high school shows. *In fact, Foy has flown Peter Pan more than* any other theatrical flying effects company in history! And now...