

Ian Needle
Presenter - Biography



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Ian Needle was born in London, England.

He began his theatre career in 1987 as the title role in Bill Kenwright's *Oliver*, working alongside Victor Spinetti as Fagin. He then went on to play John in *Peter Pan* with Lulu and George Cole at the Cambridge Theatre in London's West End, and the following year on tour with Eric Skyes and Christopher Timothy.

Having acquired a taste for the stage, he then went on to appear in many professional productions, including *The Hobbit*, *Matilda*, *The 15 Streets*, *Joseph* and the *Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* and *The Children's Royal Variety Performance*.

Returning to formal training in 1991, Ian was part of the opening year at the British Record Industry School in London, where he studied Performing Arts and Theatre Studies. In 1993 he was the first student to be awarded the Entertainment Law Associates Student of the Year.

After finishing at the BRIT School he started his professional acting training at the Arts Educational Drama School in London, graduating in 1996. During his time there he received a nomination for the Lawrence Olivier Bursary Award.

He then had the opportunity to work in Germany for Centro Entertainment in Oberhausen, where he learnt many new performance skills including Street Theatre, Clowning and Mime.

Directing his attention back to Theatre, Television and Radio, he appeared in numerous mainstream television commercials, including Philips, Switsel Kids Bubble Bath, Seiko Watches and Savvy Phones. Other television shows include *Wake Up London*, *Getting Hurt* and *The Glass*.

Voiceover credits include, among others, Footlocker (1 and 2), Movenpick, Volkswagen Cars, British Airways (Schipol), Adez Drinks, and the CD Rom Game Liath. Film credits include *Mood Disorders*, *Schizophrenia*, *I Want to Go to Prison* and *Tabloid Television*.



After moving to Holland, he presented two seasons of the award winning children's television show Songmachine, which continues to be broadcast in many European countries. Alongside the presenting, Ian also recorded two music CD's to accompany each series.

Then he turned to two lifelong ambitions, the first to travel and the second to work for Disney. He was hired by Disney Cruise Line and began working onboard the Disney Magic out of Port Canaveral Florida. While onboard he presented numerous shows including Mickey Mania, Walk The Plank, Who Wants To Be A Mouseketeer and The Pirates of the Caribbean Deck Party, which attracted audiences of up to 2,000 people. During Ian's time at Disney he was promoted twice and won the Disney Excellence Award in 2004 and 2006 for his achievements. As Specialty Host Ian was able to present a wide range of special events including the Indy Racing League's Halloween Party with Gene Simmons, and the Make a Wish Charity Night, in which he interviewed American Idol's Randy Jackson and Disney Channel's Raven Symone.

Currently, Ian is working for Oceania Cruises where this year alone he has travelled to Brazil, China, Japan, Thailand, Singapore, India and Egypt, with multiple calls in Europe and the United States. Onboard Ian is presenting a daily series of self-written game shows.

