

Emily M. Shaffer

Dramaturg

*The Velveteen Rabbit*

### Philip Grecian

Philip Grecian is a theatre artist known for his stage adaptation of the film, *A Christmas Story*, which has over 100 professional and amateur productions every year. Another project he's well known for is his radio adaptation of *It's a Wonderful Life*, which has been broadcast on radio and television, as well as produced on the stage. Other plays he has adapted are *A Christmas Carol*, *The Velveteen Rabbit*, *Dracula*, *Frankenstein*, *In His Steps*, and *The Hounds of Baskerville*, a lot of which are radio plays.

Philip Grecian began performing at the age of four, beginning with ventriloquism. In an interview with *The Topeka Capital-Journal*, Grecian said, "I grew up in show business. So, from the age of 4, I was entertaining. There weren't roles for 4-year-olds in place, so I became a ventriloquist and then eventually a magician as well and entertained at parties and gatherings." (Hrenchir)

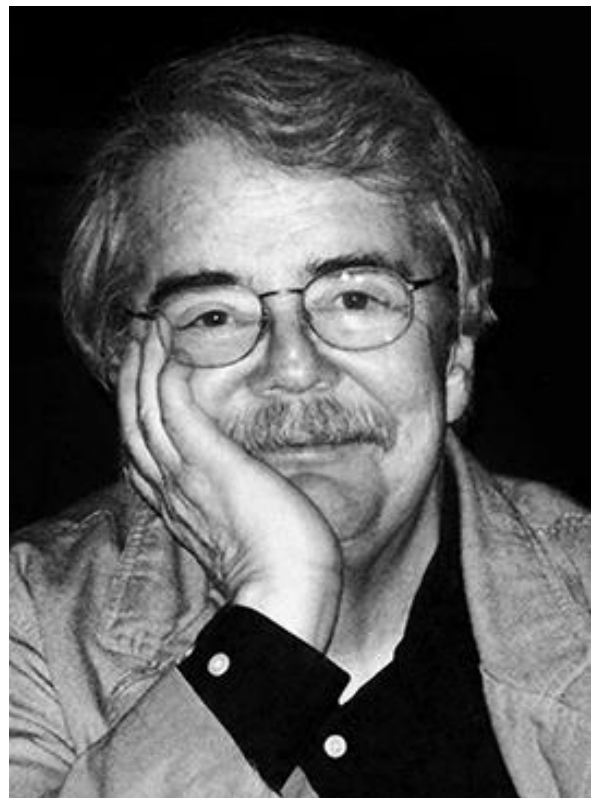


Figure 1: Philip Grecian, Photo by Raymond Remp Jr.

When Grecian was 14, he wrote a play that was later performed at the Jayhawk Theatre. He references the play as terrible, but the overall experience got him lots of exposure. In 1963, Grecian performed in *The Drunkard* by Joe Easton as the character Willie Hammond, the youngest character in the show. Since then, he has performed as almost every character. In 2022, Grecian directed *The Drunkard* with the Karen Hastings Players.

## Sources

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