

About the Author

Peter John Lucking 1956 -

Peter, originally born in England, grew up in West Africa, Cameroons with his parents, Derek and Maria and his two brothers and sister. He graduated from Oxford with a postgraduate diploma in architecture in the early 80's and began his career. He has travelled the world extensively.

Peter is renowned internationally and nationally for planning, designing and preserving theaters, concert halls and performing arts centers. His accomplishments include, working as a consultant on the Disney Concert Hall and Tanglewood Ozawa Hall as well as but not limited to Principal in Charge and Lead Designer of "The Ellie Caulkins Opera House" <http://fanfaire.com/Ellie/7e-lucking.htm> here in Denver, Colorado where he lives with his beautiful American wife Cheri.

In 2005, Peter picked up a paintbrush for the first time in 25+ years and painted Cheri and Peter's backyard English garden located at their home in Colorado. On his first attempt his brother Donald commented, "It looks like paint by numbers." We laugh!

English Garden in Colorado 2005

Thankfully, not giving up he surprised himself and many others with his painting of their friend Jacque a saxophone player painted completely with just a palette knife 2006.

In 2008, the Lucking Family gathered in Sussex, England for a Christmas reunion. Peter's nephew asked, "What is the true meaning of Christmas and why do we celebrate?" The three Kings (the Lucking brothers), wearing their Christmas paper hats, began to tell the story through the joyful singing of Christmas Carols, when you listen to the lyrics you discover the meaning of Christmas and why we celebrate.

The evening was magical. Mum Maria had left a copy of the original Santa and the Little Teddy Bear a 17 year old manuscript on the bedside table; a book that was originally inspired by Peter's son Michael's birth. Peter had an epiphany that night and set out to rewrite the story intertwining carols, developing the characters to create a book that is fun, joyful, educational, whilst

it tells you the true meaning of Christmas.

Inspired by children's movies old and new especially Kung Fu Panda, which makes him, laugh from his belly every time he sees it, about 25+ times; Peter dropped everything to set about rewriting the manuscript a full-blown action adventure. The story includes places Peter has visited and lived, working to capture the essence of tradition and place. The result is the epic adventure Santa and the Little Teddy Bear.

Sunflowers 2008

Peter believes that children, parents and grandparents will delight in reading the tale of Santa and the Little Teddy Bear as they travel the world discovering the magic of Christmas and how different countries celebrate. There are so many wonderful places in the world to learn and discover. Peter has written and illustrated this Christmas story depicting traditions around the world through Christmas carols and his personal adventures and experiences. Sure to warm your heart, put a couple of tears in your eyes and smiles on your face. Enjoy the story and the beautiful paintings included in this Heirloom Family Gift Book.

Cheri and Peter marvel at the beauty of God all around us, we Love Life! We enjoy spending time with Michael and Courtney. We have a passion for helping children, gardening, gourmet food, music, art and architecture. Often you can find Peter in the garden; or painting with our niece Courtney. We all love to watch kid friendly movies like "Up" or "The Polar Bear Express."

The most important thing Cheri and Peter want to accomplish with this book is to give back to young children in need around the world.

Painting of the family in Domme, France on the Dordogne River

Get ready for the next adventure: Santa and the Little Teddy Bear; The Mystery of the Missing Letters coming in 2012!