

THE WICKHAMS: CHRISTMAS AT PEMBERLEY

BY LAUREN GUNDERSON
& MARGOT MELCON



The Wickhams: Christmas at Pemberley **by Lauren Gunderson & Margot Melcon**

Directed by Lisa C. Ravensbergen
Featuring Caroline Bell, Caroline Coon, Kenzie Delo, Jeff Dingle,
Jillian Hanson, Patrick Jeffrey and Natasha MacLellan.
Set Designer | Andrea Evans
Sound Designer | Jodee Richardson
Light Designer | Leigh Ann Vardy
Stage Manager | Judy Joe Scheffler
Assistant Stage Manager | Patricia Vinluan

Theatre New Brunswick is an active member of the Professional Association of Canadian Theatres (PACT).

We engage under the terms of the Canadian Theatre Agreement, professional artists who are members of the Canadian Actor's Equity Association.

Please Respect the Performance. The taking of photographs and video is strictly prohibited. Please turn off your cell phones and data devices before the show begins. Thank you.

Special thanks to: Our two talented wardrobe assistants: Anna Chow and Cat Candow, our friends and actors Lara Lewis and Julia Williams, the offices of David Coon and Jenica Atwin, Germaine and Nikki at Gallery 78, the good folks at Trius Trucks, John at the Fredericton Inn, the box office staff at the Fredericton Playhouse, Jean-Michel Cliche, Tim Rayne and Arthur Thomson at Raynemaker Productions, Patrick Clark, and everyone who helped with accommodations for our actors and designers.

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***Theatre New Brunswick
acknowledges that it carries
out its work on the traditional
unceded territory of the
Wolastoqiyik, Mi'kmaq and
Peskotomuhkati peoples.***

This territory is covered by the "Treaties of Peace and Friendship" which these nations first signed with the British Crown in 1726. The treaties did not deal with the surrender of lands and resources, but in fact recognized Mi'kmaq and Wolastoqiyik title and established the rules for what was to be an ongoing relationship between nations.

We, the staff and members of the board, pay respect to the elders, past and present, and descendants of this land. We honour the knowledge keepers and seek their guidance as we strive to develop closer relationships with the Indigenous people of New Brunswick.



A Message from our Artistic & Executive Director

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to another Theatre New Brunswick holiday production. Last season we took many of you on a journey into the fictional world of Jane Austen's Pemberley Manor, complete with lavish costumes and fanciful sets. This year we return to Pemberley to share with you a story from the same evening, but with some new characters. Leaving the opulent surroundings of Pemberley's upstairs, we go below the floorboards to experience the holidays from a very different perspective.

I love Christmas, I'm one of those people who starts playing Christmas music on November 1! I believe the holiday season is a time of year when we all ache to feel something real; to connect with what matters most to us. It's no coincidence that so many cultures and faiths have significant holy days around this time. And sometimes, it serves us to strip away all the tinsel, the commercialism and the gift wrap, to focus on what's happening underneath it all.

I want to thank Lisa Cooke-Ravensbergen for offering us such a beautiful and thoughtful interpretation of this very colonial story. The last few weeks have been an intensely thoughtful and healing time for us- we worked on telling this story while we re-evaluated our connection to the unceded Wolastoqiyik land we work and live on, and synthesized that experience with our individual backgrounds and experiences. I believe our whole hearts and sincerest wishes for Joy, to you and yours, are on stage tonight.

As always, I hope you all enjoy the performance and leave the theatre tonight with a greater appreciation for your friends, your families, the land on which we live, and most importantly, each other. Happy holidays!

Natasha MacLellan
Artistic & Executive Director
Theatre New Brunswick



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A Message from our Chair

Another holiday season is upon us. For a while it felt like the fall would last forever. But no. We welcomed our first snowfall on the second day of rehearsals for this production, setting the mood and the tone for the weeks of work that followed. And now here we are, excited to raise the curtain and share with you another holiday production from all of us at TNB.

I want to express my sincere thanks to all of you who have joined us tonight and continue to join us with each new production. Your support is what keeps Theatre New Brunswick on stage. As Chair of the TNB Board of Governors I want to remind you that your donations play an important role in supporting everything we do. Every dollar we accept helps us to continue our work. Our Theatre School programs, our annual TNB Young Company school tour, and shows like the one you are about to experience are all made possible in part through your kind generosity.

I hope you are as excited as I am to experience The Wickhams: Christmas at Pemberley. May we all leave the theatre richer than when we arrived. Happy holidays everyone!

Deborah Burns
Chair
Theatre New Brunswick
Board of Governors



A Winter Brunch

tnb theatre
NEW BRUNSWICK

*Join us for a fundraising brunch at the
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Tickets on sale at tnb.nb.ca



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Be careful how you judge others...At any moment, you might catch a man at either his best or at his worst.

The Wickhams: Christmas at Pemberley

by Lauren Gunderson & Margot Melcon

While the Bennets and Darcys are celebrating upstairs, the servants below stairs find themselves in the midst of a holiday scandal. Lydia's ne'er-do-well husband Mr. Wickham has arrived, and it's up to the loyal housekeeper, footman, and new maid to keep the festivities running smoothly without revealing the unwelcome guest. As old misunderstandings and new secrets start to spiral out of control, the residents of Pemberley prove that family, forgiveness, and the true spirit of giving always win the day.

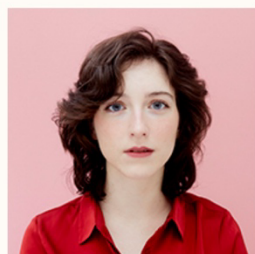


**Lisa Cooke Ravensbergen (kew/she/her)
Director**

Lisa Cooke Ravensbergen is a tawny mix of Ojibwe/Swampy Cree and English/Irish. She is a mother, multi-hyphenate theatre artist and scholar working across Turtle Island as a performer, play-maker, director, writer, dramaturge, curator, space-holder, and teacher. Her work is rooted in Indigenous protocol and is recognized nationally and internationally for its rigour and artistic excellence. Lisa is an Associate Artist with Full Circle: First Nations Performance and a Playwright-in-Residence with Delinquent Theatre, both of whom are supporting the world premiere of her latest work, "The Seventh Fire," at the 2023 PuSh International Performing Arts Festival. She is the founder of the Maada'oonidiwag Canadian Anti-Racist Theatre Exchange, an IBPOC-centred resistance and anti-racist mobilization that focuses on disrupting the colonial project called 'Canadian theatre.'

As the next generation of colonial survivors, Lisa currently resides as a visitor and raises her family on the occupied and unceded territories of the Skwxwú7mesh, Səlilwətaʔ/Selilwitulh, and xʷməθkʷəyəm Nations (aka Vancouver, BC).

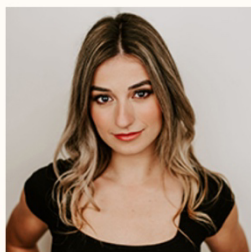
Hands raised with gratitude to this beautiful cast and extra love across the mountains to Jay and her family for the gorgeous gift of their unwavering support.



**Caroline Bell (she/her)
Cassie**

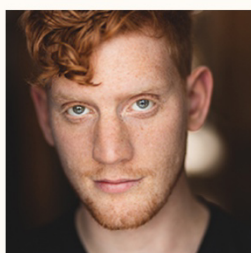
Caroline Bell (she/her) is an actor/creator from Menahkwesk/Saint John, New Brunswick. After graduating from George Brown Theatre School in Tkaronto, Caroline returned home to make art in the 506. She is passionate about telling stories big and small, and sharing all that makes humans artful and connected.

Her recent projects include: reading for TNB's Fall Festival of New Plays, writing and originating the roles of Venning and The Guide in Atlantic Repertory Company's The Loyalist Burial Ground Project, bilingual collective creation with Satellite Théâtre, and a continued re-working of her solo show Swing (Fundy Fringe). Select acting credits include: Thea in Hedda Gabler, Margaret Harding in No Man Is An Island, Mary in Mary's Wedding, and I in Abyss (ARC). Caroline is overjoyed to be working with friends at TNB to bring the downstairs world of Pemberley to life!



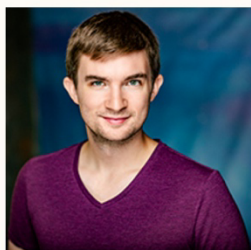
Caroline Coon (she/her)
Lydia Wickham

Caroline (she/her) is an emerging artist based in Fredericton, New Brunswick. She is a graduate of Randolph College for the Performing Arts and has a BA in Dramatic Arts from Brock University. Recent credits include *Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley* (Theatre New Brunswick), *Legally Blonde* (Branch Out Productions), *Camelot* (Red Panda Productions), *King Stag* (Randolph College/Toronto Fringe), and *Cabaret* (Randolph College). She is an actor, writer, and producer, who hopes to help cultivate the thriving theatre scene in NB and encourage more young people to pursue their artistic paths on the East Coast. Caroline could not be more thrilled to be back onstage with Theatre New Brunswick this holiday season.



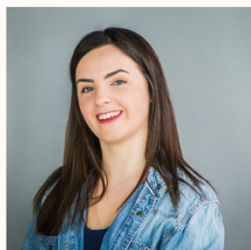
Kenzie Delo (he/him)
Mr. Darcy

Kenzie Delo (he/him) is a theatre, film, and TV actor from Dartmouth, Nova Scotia—traditionally Punamu'kwati'jk in the lands of Mi'kma'ki. He graduated from the Fountain School of Performing Arts before attending the National Theatre School of Canada. Currently based in Toronto, he has appeared on screen in *Titans* and *American Gods* among other titles, and last summer was an artist-in-residence at the Atlantic Repertory Company in Saint John, a company that he performed with during a production of *Mary's Wedding* that toured to Germany and France. That tour ended with a performance at the Canadian Embassy in Paris. Kenzie is thrilled to be collaborating with Theatre New Brunswick again, returning to both Atlantic Canada and to Pemberley as Mister Darcy.



Jeff Dingle (he/him)
Mr. Wickham

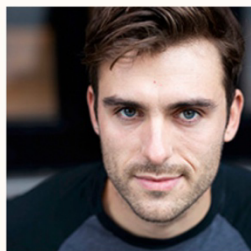
Jeff is very excited to be returning to Theatre New Brunswick for the Holidays. He last appeared on the TNB stage as Joe Clark in 1979. Most recently he was part of a workshop production of *Rough Notes* (McKencroft Productions) where he played opposite his partner Torey for two very special nights in Florenceville-Bristol. He also recently played author Arthur Conan Doyle in *The Real Sherlock Holmes* (Lighthouse Festival), and made an appearance on the popular Canadian TV series *Murdoch Mysteries* (CBC/Shaftebury). When not in NB, Jeff lives in Toronto with Torey and his cat Whitney Houston. Happy Holidays everyone!



**Jillian Hanson (she/her)
Elizabeth Darcy**

Jillian Hanson (she/her) is a Fredericton-based actor. Originally from Woodstock, Jilly lived in Fredericton for four years while attending STU ('13 grad) before moving to Toronto to attend GeorgeBrown's Theatre School. After graduating from GB in 2016, she helped co-found the theatre company Kindling

Collective, a company that strived to put an intersectional-feminist spark into classic works. In October 2018, Jilly moved back to Fredericton for a work contract that ended up being a transition into being a permanent New Brunswick resident again. Jilly most recently made her Theatre New Brunswick debut as Mary Bennet in *Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley* back in December, and just "mini-toured" around the Maritime's with *Falling Igwana's* remount of *81 Minutes* in April.



**Patrick Jeffrey (he/him)
Brian**

Patrick grew up in Epekwitk / PEI and lives in Fredericton. He is a recent graduate of the Acting program of the National Theatre School of Canada. Patrick's recent stage appearances include: *Shadows in the Cove* (Mulgrave Road), *Lauchie, Liza & Rory* (Theatre Baddeck), *The Glass Menagerie*,

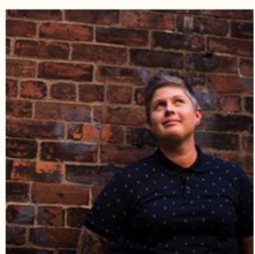
No Man Is An Island, *Loyalist Burial Ground Project*, *Hedda Gabler* (Atlantic Repertory Company), *I Know You* (Desert Island Theatre Co.) and *Romeo & Juliet* (Repercussion). He recently appeared in the short film *Finale* (Human Moves Media) and the feature film *Moment One* (Ewola Cinema). Patrick is also a writer. His plays have appeared in the St. John's Shorts Festival and the Island Fringe Festival, and selections from his third play, *The Breakthrough*, were presented by Montreal's *Tableau D'Hôte* Theatre in 2021. Last winter he worked with his grandfather Vernon Corney to make *Shipwright*, a performance and exhibit based on the fleet of model ships Vernon built over the past fifty years.



Natasha MacLellan (she/her)
Mrs. Reynolds

Natasha MacLellan's love of new scripts was fostered through Playwrights Atlantic Resource Centre where she mentored with Jenny Munday. From there she started Forerunner Playwrights Theatre, which produced new works in Halifax for a decade followed by six seasons as the Artistic

Producer of Ship's Company Theatre. Before she became a full time producer, Natasha worked as an actor, director, teacher and dramaturge. And, she still does those things, when she can.



Andrea Evans (she/her)
Set Designer

Andrea Evans proudly holds a BFA with Honours from York University where she studied Theatre Production and Design. With nearly 20 years' experience, she has worked as a set designer, scenic painter, and props builder for numerous theatres throughout Ontario and the Atlantic provinces. Andrea has worked for

theatre companies such as the National Ballet of Canada, Saint John Theatre Company, the Chester Playhouse, Tarragon Theatre, and many others. For two seasons, Andrea worked as an assistant designer at the Stratford Festival. She has also been a guest artist / instructor at numerous high schools teaching stagecraft and design. Andrea has been nominated two times for Toronto's Dora Awards and the proud recipient of a Dora Award for Outstanding Set Design.



Leigh Ann Vardy (she/her)
Light Designer

Leigh Ann has designed lights for theatres across Canada. Recently she designed The Neverending Story (Stratford, NAC), The Third Colour (Prairie Theatre Exchange), Secret Life of a Mother (Theatre Centre, Crows Theatre), and The Colour Purple (Neptune Theatre), The God That Comes (2b), Between Breaths

(Artistic Fraud). Her work has been seen throughout Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, and the US.

Leigh Ann is a teacher and coach at National Theatre School of Canada.



**Sherry Kinnear (she/her)
Costume Designer**

Sherry is the costume designer at Theatre New Brunswick and serves as Head of Wardrobe for all branches of the company. Sherry most recently designed costumes for Heroine, A Brief History of the Maritimes and Everywhere Else, A Christmas Carol, Fortune of Wolves, The Boat, The Snow Queen, A Sunday Affair,

Marion Bridge, Vigil and The Eighth Fire, as well as The Wizard of Oz, Beauty and the Beast, Mary Poppins, The Drowsy Chaperon, Guys & Dolls, West Side Story, Les Misérables for TNB's musical theatre, and has created costumes for The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe, Frankenstein, Miracle on 34th Street, It's a Wonderful Life, Little Shop of Horrors, Gifts of the Magi, The Dollar Woman, Treasure Island and many other TNB productions over the past several years.



**Jodee Richardson (he/buddy)
Sound Designer**

Jodee Richardson is one of Newfoundland & Labrador's most diverse and dynamic performers/creators. A renowned singer/songwriter, actor and playwright, Jodee enjoys traveling Atlantic Canada, writing about the people he meets and the places he visits. As a sound designer and

composer he has contributed to countless projects throughout AC and he is overjoyed to be working with Theatre New Brunswick on this groovy show...let alone to be out of the house! Onwards into the light, good people!



**Judy Joe Scheffler (she/her)
Stage Manager**

After stage managing last year's Miss Bennett, Judy Joe Scheffler is delighted to return for The Wickhams: Christmas at Pemberley. Judy's first stage management gig with TNB was the 1995 Young Company school tour with the productions, Lovers and Clowns and Alligator Pie. Since then, she's worked (Artistic

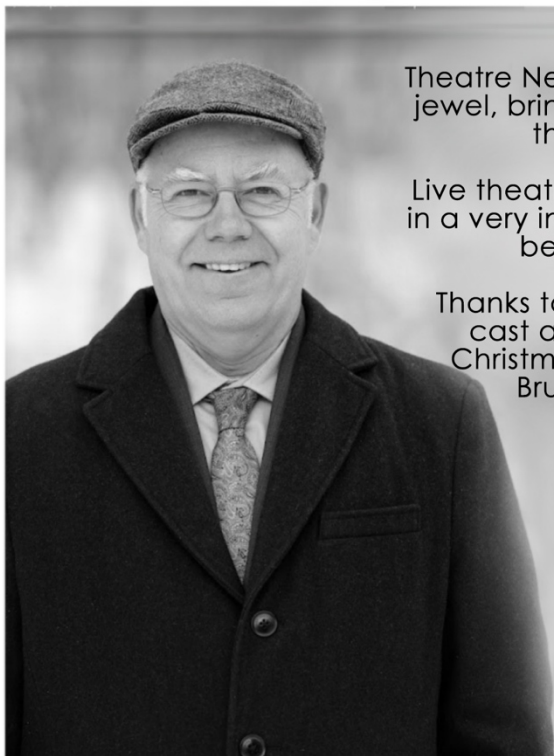
Alligator Pie. Since then, she's worked on over 15 productions and spent 2 seasons as Production Manager at TNB. A graduate of the Dalhousie University Theatre Department, her favourite stage management credits include: The Turn of the Screw for the Atlantic Repertory Company; Anne of Green Gables for the Charlottetown Festival; The Bricklin – An Automotive Fantasy for TNB and the Fredericton Playhouse; and many productions of Christmas@thePlayhouse. When not stage managing, Judy co-instructs an introduction to technical theatre class at UNB and is known to set off a few fireworks now and again. Enjoy the show!



Patricia Vinluan (she/her)
Assistant Stage Manager

Patricia (she/her) is a stage and production manager based out of Kijipuktuk. She is passionate about the live events sector and has enjoyed many roles within event management, having held positions in arts admin, festival coordination, production design and technical direction. In her

career, Patricia has been involved in the development of over a dozen world premieres, has collaborated on a multitude of projects presented across Canada, and has toured internationally. In her work, Patricia is deeply invested in safe and sustainable production practices and dedicates her approach to fostering spaces that allow artists to thrive. Patricia grew up on the rainy west coast but has happily lived in Nova Scotia for the past nine years.



Theatre New Brunswick is a cultural jewel, bringing stories to the stage that entertain and inspire.

Live theatre connects us to a story in a very intimate way that cannot be replicated on a screen.

Thanks to TNB and this wonderful cast and crew for bringing this Christmas story to so many New Brunswick families this year.

David Coon
MLA Fredericton South

**TNB Company
2022-2023**

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Artistic and Executive Director

Joanna Bryson
General Manager

Matt Carter
Development and Communications

Sharisee LeBrun
Theatre School and TNB Young Company Director

Nikki Vigneault
Production Manager and Technical Director

Naomi Costain
Theatre School and Admin Assistant

Sherry Kinnear
Head of Wardrobe

Jamie Atkinson
Head of Carpentry

Accounts Manager
Kahla Laird

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Nathanael Telman
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Alex Rioux
Sydney Hallett
Jena Mclean
Kylie Fox
Melanie Murray



Jenica Atwin
MP / Députée Fredericton

Happy Holiday season,
and a joyful & healthy
New Year !



Joyeux temps des
fêtes, bonheur et santé
en cette nouvelle
année !



RESIDENT ALIENS

BY DON HANNAH



Coming Up: A TNB World Premiere
Touring New Brunswick
March / April 2023

Performances

The Wickhams: Christmas at Pemberley

December 8-10 | Fredericton Playhouse | Fredericton, NB
December 11 | Imperial Theatre | Saint John, NB
December 12 | Student Matinee | Imperial Theatre | Saint John, NB
December 14 | Bathurst High School | Bathurst, NB
December 16 | Riverview Arts Centre | Riverview, NB

Resident Aliens

March 22-26 | Open Space Theatre | Fredericton, NB
March 28 | Theatre Restigouche | Campbellton, NB
March 29 | Empress Theatre | Moncton, NB
March 30 | TBA
March 31 | W.C. O'Neill Arena Theatre | St. Andrews, NB
April 1 | Carleton North High School | Florenceville-Bristol, NB
April 2 | Motyer-Fancy Theatre | Sackville, NB

Take D Milk, Nah?

April 13-15 | Open Space Theatre | Fredericton, NB

The Little Prince (TNB Theatre School)

April 18-19 | Fredericton Playhouse, Fredericton, NB

Rose - A New Musical (TNB Theatre School)

April 21-22 | Fredericton Playhouse, Fredericton, NB

Tickets

Tickets for all season performances can be purchased through the **Playbill and Tickets** section of our website **tnb.nb.ca**

