

Morpheus Theatre
Presents



Written by
Kate Hamill

Based on the novel by
Louisa May Alcott

Directed by
Corinne Nairn

January 30 to February 14, 2026

At The Pumphouse Theatre
403-246-2999 MorpheusTheatre.ca

DIRECTOR'S NOTES



Louisa May Alcott penned *Little Women* in 1868. In the more than 150 years since its publication, the themes woven through her story have remained strikingly relevant to the world we live in today.

Playwright Kate Hamill has written a beautiful — and, as she calls it, “radical” — adaptation of this classic, distilling its timeless explorations of relationships, family, gender, identity, classism,

discrimination, sexism, and so much more. She has also given actors an extraordinary gift: roles filled with warmth, complexity, and wit.

Colleen, as Producer, has brought together an exceptional artistic team of designers who have helped create this rich and beautiful world of *Little Women*. Our indefatigable Stage Manager, Cheyenne Cranston, is an absolute gem. She has kept us all on track, worked tirelessly to maintain a safe, warm rehearsal environment, and kept us laughing along the way.

We have also been incredibly fortunate to have the guidance of our Dramaturg, Meg Alyward, who combined her degree in history, years of theatre experience, and deep love for *Little Women* to give the artistic team and cast everything we needed to bring this world to life. This production truly would not be the same without Meg’s invaluable contribution.

Colleen and I first met in community theatre more than thirty years ago as young adults. Close friends ever since, we have been fortunate to collaborate both onstage and off. From our earliest conversations about this play, we hoped to build a company that was not only talented and well-suited to each role, but also caring, open, and able to work as a true ensemble — one that could support one another, grow together, and bring the world of *Little Women* to life with generosity and heart. And who knows — perhaps even form some lifelong friendships along the way, as we did all those years ago.

When you are involved in theatre for many years, every once in a while, a very special show comes along. This is one of those shows. It has been a true gift to work with this company — a bouquet of wildflowers, each artist their own distinct person, with unique talents, strengths, and differences. Together, they have become a close-knit group beyond what we could have imagined, giving their best to one another and breathing new life into this timeless story.

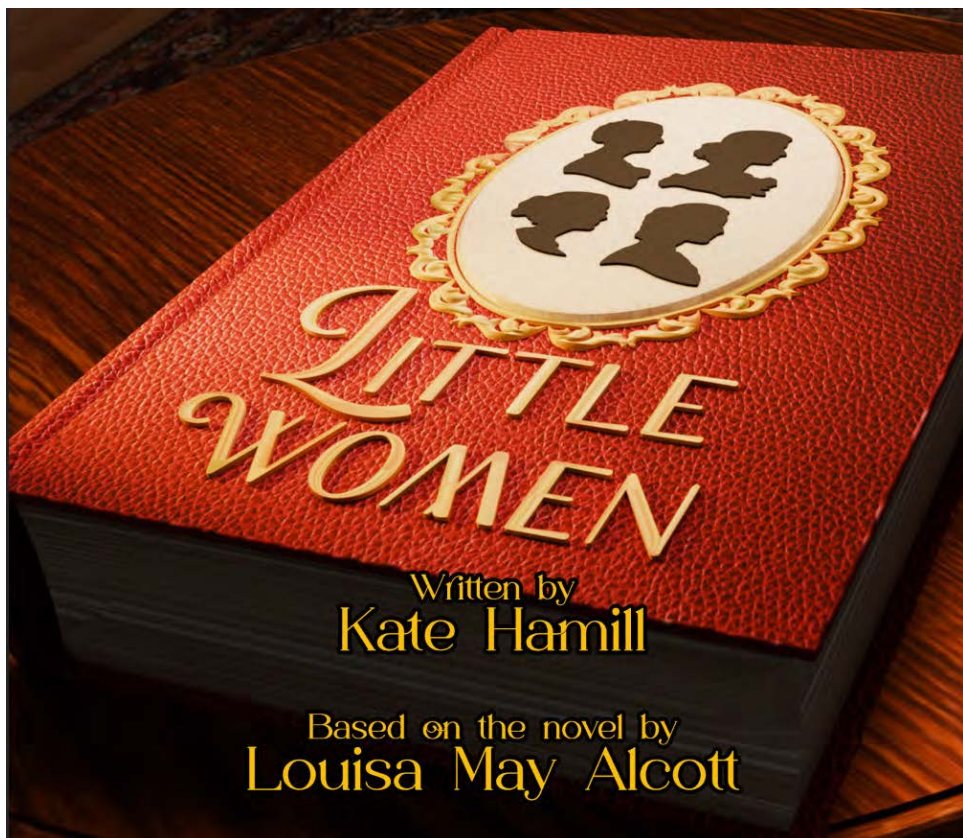
At its very best, live theatre moves you — it makes you feel deeply, makes you laugh, and makes you cry. We imagine that for you, the audience, as it has been for us in this company, there will be moments — particularly in Act Two — that take your breath away. Moments that carry you through sadness, joy, fear, regret, and love.

We hope you will agree with us that this remarkable company of actors represents theatre at its very best. To quote our script: each of us needs different things. We invite you to immerse yourselves in this story, and hope that within it, you will find exactly what you need.

— Corinne Nairn, Director &
Colleen Bishop, Producer / Associate Director

Morpheus Theatre

Presents



PRODUCER
Colleen Bishop

DIRECTOR
Corinne Nairn

STAGE MANAGER
Cheyenne Cranston

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SPECIAL THANKS

Jared Eaves, Ian Pond, Dorin McIntosh, Karen Walker, Max Wintonyk,
Dewdney Players, Front Row Centre Players, Misfit Theatre YYC,
On Staging Podcast, Workshop Theatre,
the Staff at the Pumphouse Theatre, and anyone we may have missed.

*Morpheus Theatre would like to thank the cast and crew for all their help with
loading in and out, hanging the lights, and assembling the set.*

This production is performed in two acts with one intermission.

FRONT-OF-HOUSE

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at <http://www.calgary-acts.com>.

CAST

Marmee March / Aunt March.....	Joanne Wheeler
Meg March	Emily Sharp
Jo March.....	Stephanie Bessala
Beth March.....	Rebeca Dumitru
Amy March.....	Victoria Pilot
Hannah / Mrs. Mingott	Kelly Misko
Theodore “Laurie” Laurence	Nolan Peters
John Brooks.....	Milton Joseph
Mr. Laurence / Robert March.....	Brad Simon
Understudy.....	Paisley Newburn
Understudy.....	Kyle Gould

PRODUCTION CREW

Producer / Associate Director.....	Colleen Bishop
Director	Corinne Nairn
Stage Manager.....	Cheyenne Cranston
Dramaturg	Meg Aylward
Fight Coordinator	Ian Pond
Set Designer	Corinne Nairn
Costume Designer	Kim Johnson
Hair & Makeup.....	Adanna Nawalkowski
Properties & Set Décor.....	Margaret Harper
Properties & Set Décor.....	Gisela Wintonyk
Lighting Designer	Kathryn McLaren
Sound Designer	Grace Lu
Assistant Stage Manager	Erin Hynes

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THE ARTISTS

Meg Alyward (*Dramaturg*)



Meg has always had a passion for history and intricacies of the past. Currently working at *Loughheed House*, she has curated multiple, sold-out historical tours. Receiving her BA in History in 2024, she is thrilled to be able to

combine her two passions. She is incredibly grateful to be asked to fill this role (as Turtle Meg, so it's not too confusing!), letting her passion for theatre and history mingle. Backstage credits: **Dad's** - *MisFit Theatre*.

Stephanie Bessala (*Jo March*)



Steph (she/they) is an emerging artist born and raised in Calgary and is proud to call Moh'kinstsis her home. She graduated with a BFA in Drama from the *University of Calgary* and has had the honour of performing

on stages in Edmonton and Calgary ever since. And, AND, she is thrilled to now welcome you to **Little Women** in 2026! When not in rehearsal, driving to rehearsal, or buying gas to keep driving to rehearsal, they enjoy spending time with their bunny Lugh (translation: training him to run from the living room to the kitchen every time he hears the lettuce bag crinkling.)

Colleen Bishop

(*Producer, Associate Director*)



Colleen is so thrilled to be directing with her friend and be part of bringing this incredibly talented group of people together.

Colleen has been a member of the Calgary community theatre scene for 3 decades

and producing for *Morpheus Theatre* for 6 years. Most recently she's been behind the scenes as an intimacy director for *Front Row Theatre*. You can also see her acting, singing, and dancing throughout the city on occasion as well. Thank you to Carl, Lily, and Scarlet for being her heart and letting her play.

Cheyenne Cranston (*Stage Manager*)



Born and raised in Alberta, Cheyenne has recently entered the Calgary theatre scene after a brief (8 year) gallivant in Montreal. In Calgary she has had a busy year stage managing **Sweeney**

Todd (*Front Row*

Centre), **Dads! The Musical** (*MisFit Theatre*)

and now **Little Women**. In Montreal she worked with the *Fringe Festival*, *Just For Laughs*, and stage managed and produced many productions. Highlights include **The Rocky Horror Show**, **Spring Awakening**, and an original musical, **Kill For This Role**. She would like to dedicate her work on this show to her grandmother, who was always her biggest theatrical cheerleader.

Rebeca Dumitru (*Beth March*)



This is Rebeca's first show with *Morpheus*, and she couldn't be more ecstatic! Apart from lying about her piano knowledge (and lying again about it in her bio), her past acting credits include **La Cage Aux Folles**

with *Front Row Centre*, **Metamorphoses** under *Toronto Film School's* Andy Massingham, and numerous director projects at *University of Calgary*. Shout-out to her sister, Francesca, as her inspiration and built-in best friend. Rebeca feels privileged to have been a part of this serendipitous journey with a crew that is so generous with their love and care for this story. She hopes you all leave inspired to tell your stories and never give up on the better ones to come.

Kyle Gould (*Understudy*)



Kyle is pleased to be part of this production in even a small way. Kyle was last an understudy for *Morpheus'* production of **Rumors** in 2023 and had to go on stage script on hand for the run of the show. He is

eager to not have to do this for **Little Women**. Thank you to all of the hard work and dedication of the cast and crew for bringing this excellent production to life.

Margaret Harper (*Properties & Set Décor*)



So many years, so many shows, so many roles. But every one is a fresh delight, as is this show. Who wouldn't want to re-create the Civil War and a favourite childhood book? Hope you enjoy watching it as much as Gisela and I enjoyed working on it with an amazing cast and crew.

Erin Hynes (*ASM*)



Erin is excited to be working on her second *Morpheus Theatre* show! As a lover of classic literature and modern adaptations of such, Erin is thrilled to be part of the team for this show! Shout-out to the cast and

production team who have been hard at work to bring such a beautifully written play to life.

Kim Johnson (*Costume Designer*)



Kim is thrilled to be joining this production as Costume Designer. This is her fourth show with the company, and she's loved bringing these characters to life through fabric, color, and a bit of creative chaos. When not

hunting for the perfect costume piece, Kim can be found drinking too much coffee and convincing herself she definitely needs more pins. She hopes you enjoy the show!

Milton Joseph (*John Brooks*)



Milton is excited to act in his first production with *Morpheus Theatre*. After graduating from *St. Mary's University* and enjoying the Drama courses there, Milton often participates in various roles (acting, writing, directing, stage managing, etc.) with *Urban Stories Theatre* and the *FLC Seniors Acting Club*, and has been a member of the acting troupe at *Heritage Park* for the past two summers.

Grace Lu (*Sound Designer*)



Grace (she/they) For *Morpheus: The Peacock Season, Calendar Girls*. Other: *The Shakespeare Company (ASM), Rocky Horror Show (Riff Raff)*. Grace can be found on stage with improv troupes *Loose Moose* and *The 404s*, and volunteers for Calgary theatre companies, professional and community. They feel very blessed to be a part of this astounding production of *Little Women*. They thank friends & family for their love & support. Protect Trans Kids.

Kathryn McLaren (*Lighting Designer*)



Kat is very pleased to be light designing for her fourth *Morpheus* show. Other shows include *Steel Magnolias* and *Calendar Girls*. She has also light designed for *Front Row Centre* and works as a professional Lighting Technician in Calgary.

Kelly Misko (*Hannah / Mrs. Mingott*)



Kelly has appeared on stage with *Front Row Centre* in *Sweeney Todd*, Mother Superior in *Nunsense*, and Sally Durant Plummer in *Follies*. Audiences may also remember her as Mickey in *Workshop Theatre's* all-female production of *The Odd Couple*. Additional credits include *The Pajama Game*, *Jesus Christ Superstar (FRC)*, *Clue: The Musical*, *War of the Worlds (Dewdney)*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, *HMS Pinafore (Morpheus)*. She sends love to her dots and the boy.

Corinne Nairn (*Director*)



After a 2 ½ year hiatus from the Director's Chair, following 10 years as Artistic Director/Producer of a performing arts teaching program, Corinne is grateful to *Morpheus Theatre*, and Sean and Colleen, for being able to once again answer theatre's siren call. Having previously directed over 30 plays and musicals, Corinne's favourites include: *Anne of Green Gables*, *Beauty and the Beast* and *The Other Side of the Pole*. Thank you to Richard and our own *Little Women*, Sydney & Bayleigh for your support and love.

Adanna Nawalkowski (*Hair & Makeup*)



Last seen choreographing for *Peter Pan*, and on stage in *The McAdo*, *Puss in Boots (Morpheus)*, and *Carrie (FRC)*. Adanna is no stranger to the stage on or off. She is now dipping her toes into hair and makeup design and is super excited for everyone to see *Little Women!!*

Paisley Newburn (*Understudy*)



Paisley has been thrilled to support this ridiculously talented cast in an understudy capacity during the rehearsal process. Previous understudy roles have included Belle (*Beauty and the Beast*) and the Baker's

Wife (*Into the Woods*). Having played Jo onstage many (many) years ago, it has been a joy to return to the world of the March sisters. Congratulations to the cast and crew for creating such a beautiful interpretation of this classic story-- we hope you enjoy the show!

Nolan Peters (*Theodore "Laurie" Laurence*)



Nolan is delighted to be performing in his first production. He has often been mistaken for a theatre kid, so he felt it was time to resolve the confusion and finally take to the stage. He is grateful to be part of

such a supportive and spandy team. Beyond theatre, Nolan loves teaching elementary school, juggling a myriad of hobbies, and writing about himself in the third person.

Victoria Pilot (*Amy March*)



Little Women is Victoria's third production with *Morpheus*, previously playing Carlotta Gumpert in *The Peacock Season* and *The Stripper* in *The Graduate*. Victoria was last seen on stage in

Imagine Theatre YYC's production of *The Horse and His Boy* as Hwin, the talking Narnian Horse. Amy March is a dream role for Victoria, and she is incredibly honoured to bring her to life on stage, a true joy of her career. When Victoria isn't acting on stage you will find her working in Calgary's bustling Film and Television Industry on projects like *My life With the Walter Boys* and *Fraggle Rock*.

Ian Pond (*Fight Coordinator*)



Ian is happy to return to *Morpheus Theatre* providing fight choreography and violence design for **Little Women**.

Previously Ian has provided work for **Peter Pan** (*Morpheus Theatre*), **Rock of Ages**,

Sweeney Todd (*Front Row Centre*), **Guys and Dolls** (*MisFit Theatre*), and **Riverona** Episodes 3+4 (*Full Circle Theatre*). Ian is a certified member of *Fight Directors Canada*, and a member of *The International Order of the Sword and Pen*.

Emily Sharp (*Meg March*)



Little Women is Emily's first show with *Morpheus Theatre* and she could not have wished for a better cast and crew to share this special production with. Emily recently graduated from the *University of Lethbridge's*

theatre program where she focused in acting and devising theatre. Her recent roles include Siobhan in **In Tongues** and Boreas in **Boreas**. Thank you to all who made this production possible, and you, our audience for sharing the journey with us. Please enjoy the show.

Brad Simon (*Mr. Laurence / Robert March*)



Brad has been hounded by stage managers for several years to submit a suitable bio for the show program. He has continued to be delinquent in said task for such shows as **Sweeney Todd (FRC)**,

Off the Beaten Path, **A Chorus Line (FRC)** and **Love's Labours Lost** (Shakespeare Company). Much love to our talented lighting designer and the menagerie of humans and cats at home.

Joanne Wheeler
(*Marmee March/Aunt March*)



Ever since her very first leading role as Penny No.1 when she was six years old, Joanne has loved everything about the theatre! Decades later, her roles have included *Workshop Theatre's* **The Miracle Worker** and **Escaped**

Alone, *Morpheus Theatre's* **Calendar Girls**, and *MisFit Theatre's* **The Complete Works of William Shakespeare**. But playing such an iconic character as Marmie has been an absolute thrill! Thank you to the cast and crew of **Little Women** for a truly special experience Joanne will not soon forget.

Gisela Wintonyk (*Properties & Set Décor*)



Gisela has enjoyed working on props with *Morpheus Theatre* over the past few years. She greatly appreciates all the support and knowledge shared with her. **Little Women** has given her an even greater appreciation to

props that are period specific. She hopes everyone enjoys the production.

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 22 – *Workshop: Music Literacy Crash Course with Natalie Ehrenholz*

March 7 – *Workshop: Character Development with Daniela Vlaskalic*

April 11 – *Workshop: Auditioning with Claire Preuss*

April 24 – May 2 – **Patience**

April 27 & 28 – *Morpheus G&S Juniors Present: Patience*



STAFF FOR MORPHEUS THEATRE

Artistic Director and

Executive Producer.....Sean Anderson
Operations Manager.....Ginette Simonot
Theatre Administrator.....Janos Zeller
Publicity & Production Photos..... Dorin McIntosh
Graphic Design.....Ian Pond
Program Design.....Byron Hynes

MORPHEUS THEATRE SOCIETY

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Wayne Hunter
Byron Hynes
Members-at-Large.....Ian DeWolfe
Christie Johnson
Grace Lu
Yvonne Ustick

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