

★ LANGHAM COURT THEATRE ★

PRESENTS

The Wickhams:
Christmas at Pemberley



Written by
Lauren Gunderson & Margot Melcon

Directed by
Janine Longy

NOV ★ DEC
13 to 01
★ 2024

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version of our
programme.



The Wickhams: Christmas at Pemberley is presented by special arrangement
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Grant Harville, Music Director

Civic Orchestra of Victoria

25th G.F. Handel

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Deanna Sills, mezzo soprano

Martin Renner Wallace, tenor

Louis Dillon, bass

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THE CAST IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

Janet Hietter	Mrs. Reynolds, <i>the housekeeper</i>
Noah Gallant	Brian, <i>the footman</i>
Emme Sait	Cassie, <i>the new housemaid</i>
Branden Hutchison	Mr. Fitzwilliam Darcy, <i>head and owner of Pemberley</i>
Helena Kantowicz	Mrs. Elizabeth Darcy, <i>mistress of Pemberley</i>
Andrew Shum	George Wickham, <i>grew up at Pemberley and has been in and out of trouble</i>
Brittany Pilgrim	Lydia Wickham, <i>eloped with Wickham at 15, and now somewhat trapped</i>

SETTINGS

TIME

December 1815

SETTING

The lower floor of the grand Pemberley Estate,
particularly the common room where servants gather and eat.

ACT I

Early morning December 22nd to Christmas Eve

There will be a 20 minute Intermission

ACT II

Christmas Morning to Boxing Day

LCT gratefully acknowledges the *lək'wəŋən* Peoples, on whose traditional territories we create and perform, and the Songhees and Esquimalt Peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day. We are committed to listening, learning and collaborating as active participants in truth and reconciliation as we create on this beautiful land.

THE PLAYWRIGHTS



Lauren Gunderson & Margot Melcon

Gunderson was travelling with her friend Margot Melcon, a former literary manager who reminded her that every theatre needs a holiday show: something clever, heartwarming, and family-friendly enough to entice an audience inured to

A Christmas Carol. Gunderson recalled their idea: “You know what people love? Jane Austen.” By the time they finished the drive, they had outlined a script on Starbucks napkins: a holiday reunion for the Bennet sisters. In this delightful companion play to *Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley* Gunderson and Melcon once again bring Austen’s beloved characters to the stage for a yuletide sequel to *Pride and Prejudice*.

ART in the LOUNGE

Ainsley Lauren Guzman Jason, a figurative painter and muralist from Victoria, has emerged as a prominent force in the local art scene. Her work has garnered attention and is in spaces of businesses and organizations around Victoria as she continues to grow her reputation. Since completing her BFA at Alberta University of the Arts in 2017, she has sold commissions and painting murals for businesses across Canada. Ainsley’s latest paintings, on display at the Gage Gallery, are a reflection into her soul, inviting viewers to immerse themselves in the powerful emotions she captures.

Russ Reynolds, is an avid art collector, as well as a businessman who is also a conceptual production artist producing large scale artworks for public and private venues in Victoria. Russ has a Masters degree in business (MBA) and is a Vancouver Island School of Art board member. He is dedicated to creating a fair model to help artists monetarily further their careers. Russ is currently producing future Nelson Mandela art exhibits in collaboration with other artists and in cooperation with Mr. Mandela’s children and the House of Mandela Art International.

GRATEFUL ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

VOS Costumes, St. Luke’s Players Community Theatre, Broad View Thrift Store, Virginia Landucci, Sally Crickman.

There are many vibrant and creative opportunities in volunteering with Langham Court Theatre

ushering, bartending, acting, directing, producing, stage managing, costume design, lighting design, sound design, set painting/decor, set construction, backstage crew, tech operators, committee work

DIRECTOR'S NOTES



Welcome to *The Wickhams: Christmas at Pemberley*.

I am pleased to present this delightful production to you filled with holiday cheer, and Austen inspired charm.

In this sequel to Jane Austen's beloved novel, *Pride and Prejudice*, we delve back into the world of the Bennet sisters. Set during the festive season, this play brings together familiar faces, and introduces new characters, all navigating the complexities of love, family and society. There are enduring themes of tradition and change, identity and self-discovery, and social class and status.

In this production, I aim to capture Austen's wit and insight, while also adding a fresh perspective to the story. It is my hope that those very familiar with, and those new to Jane Austen, find joy and laughter in this performance.

Thank you for joining us. I invite you to embrace the warmth of the holiday spirit, and appreciate the bonds of family and friendship.

May your evening be filled with merriment as we celebrate the magic of Christmas at Pemberley.

~ Janine Longy, Director



The wonderful volunteer crew that made it all happen.

THE CAST IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE



Janet Hietter – Mrs. Reynolds

Janet recently moved to Canada and is delighted to be a part of this production at Langham Court Theatre. She previously performed in Seattle and Ohio in theatre, film and training videos. She enjoys rowing with Victoria City Rowing Club and exploring the beauty of Vancouver Island.



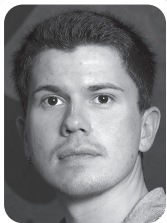
Noah Gallant – Brian

This is Noah's eighth play as a performer, and second at Langham Court. Noah is also a writer and director, who last year made the short-film *Liquor and Life* (trailer available on YouTube). He thanks his family, friends, and various teachers who influenced his passion for all things performance arts.



Emme Sait – Cassie

Emme is an actor and writer from Yorkshire, UK. Most recently, she played Daphne in *Present Laughter* (Langham Court) and directed a staged reading of her original work, *Fairytales of the Penumbra*. She is grateful to join the cast of *The Wickhams: Christmas at Pemberley* for her second LCT show!



Branden Hutchison – Mr. Fitzwilliam Darcy

Branden is delighted to be performing in his first stage production, making his debut with Langham Court Theatre. He has been involved in several small films and TV/media projects. He works during the day at Point Hope Maritime shipyard.



Helena Kantowicz – Mrs. Elizabeth Darcy

Helena is thrilled to be making her debut at Langham Court Theatre alongside a wonderful cast and crew. She is honoured to play such a beloved character. Outside of the theatre, she guides young minds, frolics in forests, and throws herself around on roller skates.

THE CAST IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE



Andrew Shum – George Wickham

This is Andrew's first production with Langham Court Theatre, and recent foray back onto the stage. It has certainly been a minute, but he's having a blast living it up Austen style. He would like to thank his family, friends, and especially his husband, Tim, for encouraging him.



Brittany Pilgrim – Lydia Wickham

Brittany is thrilled to be making her LCT debut. Born and raised in Victoria, she was fortunate to train under the hand of Matthew Howe and to perform with St. Luke's Players Community Theatre. After graduating from NYU, Brittany is grateful to be back on stage in Victoria with this warm cast and crew. Love you, Zech!



The awesome cast.

THE PRODUCTION TEAM

DIRECTOR	Janine Longy	Set Painters	Lise Chartrand, Jane Grainger, Bobbi Jacob, David Wheatley
PRODUCER	Holly McGimpsey	Scenic Painters	Ann Harris, Debra Taylor Wright
Asst Producer	Jasmine Beyhum	Lighting Crew	Alison Bendall, Perry Burton, Matthew Ehrler, Andrea Gregg, François-Michel Pellequer, Luke Stewart-Weston, Georgia Tooke, Marni Wedin
STAGE MANAGER	Kathy Macovichuk	Lighting Board Ops. . . .	Matthew Ehrler, Debbie Laverty, Nahlia Meyer, Georgia Tooke
Asst SM	Gerry Thompson	Lead Sound Op.	François-Michel Pellequer
SET DESIGN	Simon Skey	Sound Board Ops.	Dominick Ali, Debbie Laverty, Phil Letourneau Holly McGimpsey, Kyla Mellish
LIGHTING DESIGN . . .	Andrea Gregg, Luke Stewart-Weston	Hair and Wigs	Bonnie Barratt, Lal O'Connor
Lighting Mentor	Carol-Anne Moore	Programme Coord/Ads	Holly McGimpsey
SOUND DESIGN	Gord More	Programme Design . . .	Saltchuck Studios
COSTUME DESIGN . . .	Susan Victoria Phillips	Publicity	Kathy Macovichuk
Asst Costumes/Dressers	Acacia Cousins, Ann Edelstein, Susan Phillips, Emily Taylor, Capri Ward	Programme and Archival Photos	Terry Stitt
SET DÉCOR/PROPS . .	Ann Harris	Front of House Mgr. . .	Marilyn Kuss
Asst. Set Décor/Props	Debra Taylor Wright	Box Office Manager . .	Dick Newson
Special Props	Bill Adams	Bar Manager	Kathy Macovichuk
Intimacy Coach/Choreo	Sylvia Hosie		
Accent Coach	Geli Bartlett		
Fight Choreographer.	John Varszegi		
HEAD CARPENTER . . .	Mike Kuss		
Set Construction	Gordon Alexander, David Burbank, John Clarke, Bruce Dzioba, Charley Encell, Marcus Handman, Colin Houghton, Mike Kuss, Alf Small, Blair Williamson		

**LANGHAM
★ COURT ★
THEATRE**

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by Sean Grennan

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2025**

AN INSPECTOR CALLS
by J.B. Priestley

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2025**

SEND ME NO FLOWERS
by Norman Barasch & Carroll Moore

THE PRODUCTION TEAM



DIRECTOR – Janine Longy

This is Janine's first time directing at LCT. She thanks everyone for the opportunity and warm welcome. Janine started in community theatre with Nanaimo Theatre Group in 2007. After moving to Victoria in 2010, she continued her theatre involvement: acting, courses, workshops, and individual coaching. She has directed 5 shows: a mystery, a comedy, a panto and two dramas.



PRODUCER – Holly McGimpsey

Holly has worked on and off stage since 1962. In the last 2 seasons she has produced 7 LCT productions and, as an assistant producer, mentored 3 new producers. Holly is a Life Member of VOS. Her favourite role with VOS was Miss Mona in *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*. The Wickham's cast and crew have been a joy to work with!



STAGE MANAGER – Kathy Macovichuk

Kathy has been with Langham since 2009 and recently became a Life Member. In her role as Stage Manager, she has been enjoying this fun romp through the world of the "downstairs" although she may never look at raisins in the same way again.



SET DESIGN – Simon Skey

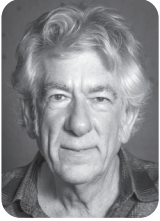
It has been a joy to work with Janine, Mike and the crew to create the set and the atmosphere of the "downstairs" for *The Wickhams: Christmas at Pemberley*. Welcome to this strange underworld of the past and my second set for Langham Court Theatre.



LIGHTING DESIGN – Andrea Gregg &

Luke Stewart-Weston collaborated on the *Ravenscroft* stage management team. Now they are working on their first lighting design together and are eternally grateful to Carol-Anne Moore for teaching them the art. They extend their gratitude to all the volunteers who helped them along the way.

THE PRODUCTION TEAM



Sound Design – Gord More

This is Gord's third play as sound designer at Langham Court Theatre. One of the challenges of a production set in 1815 is finding Christmas music that was being performed during this time. Many Christmas carols were originally old poems that had become paired with traditional folk or dance music. But were they paired by 1815?



Costume Design – Susan Victoria Phillips

Susan has more than 35 years of experience in theatrical arts. Her most remarkable design project was creating an intimate stage setting for the Dalai Lama to address an audience of 15,000 people. Susan thought she was retired but is back and enjoying her first assignment with Langham Court Theatre.



Set Décor & Properties – Ann Harris

In her 10th year behind the scenes at Langham, Ann is happy to be Lead for Set Decoration and Props for this classic Jane Austen production. It is such a pleasure to be creatively working to bring this story to life in a Regency Era Christmas setting. What a talented cast and committed crew! How many biscuits do we need!?



Head Carpenter – Mike Kuss

I thank the crew that make this job both practical and satisfying. This is my first production with Janine and compliment her on her cast and crew choices. I also thank Simon Skey for his detailed set design and look forward to more when we do *An Inspector Calls*. I am constantly amazed by the talent that LCT brings into its community. Well done all.



Assistant Stage Manager

– Gerry Thompson

Assistant Producer

– Jasmine Beyhum

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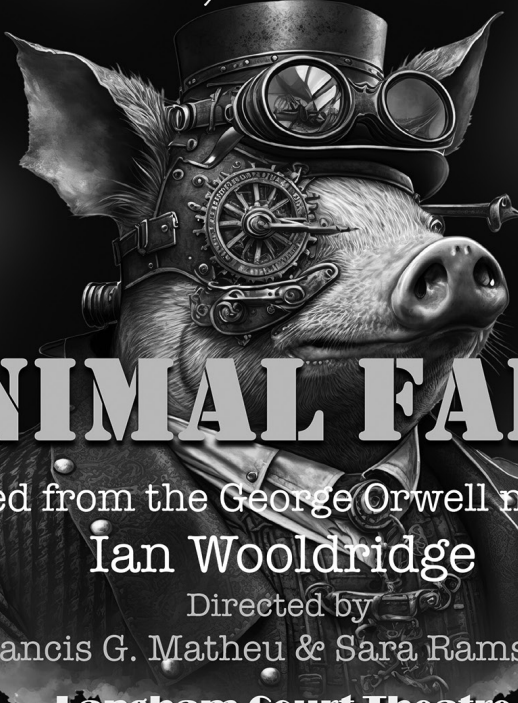
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Directed by

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Langham Court Theatre

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