

# VISUAL STORY

For the relaxed performance of *Pride and Prejudice* by Kate Hamill, Adapted from the novel by Jane Austen.

*In association with Gateway Theatre*

**Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at 2pm**  
**Sagebrush Theatre (1300 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue)**



Image Description: In big bold letters is the title of the play 'Pride and Prejudice' and to the left is Elizabeth Bennet leaning against a portrait and chewing gum, looking to the right. The portrait is of Mr. Darcy, looking to the left and down at a cell phone.



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## **Want to visit before arriving?**

Feel free to email our Director of Education, Terri Runnalls to set up a familiarization visit if you'd like to see the venue before attending or have any questions - [terri@wctlive.ca](mailto:terri@wctlive.ca) or 778-471-9058.

## **What is a relaxed performance?**

A relaxed performance provides the opportunity to attend live performance for those who might benefit from a more relaxed theatre environment. These performances have been adapted to ensure that everyone feels comfortable and can enjoy the show. The adaptations that are made do not change the story or the art of the show, but rather, provide the audience with a more relaxed viewing experience.

## **What is a visual story?**

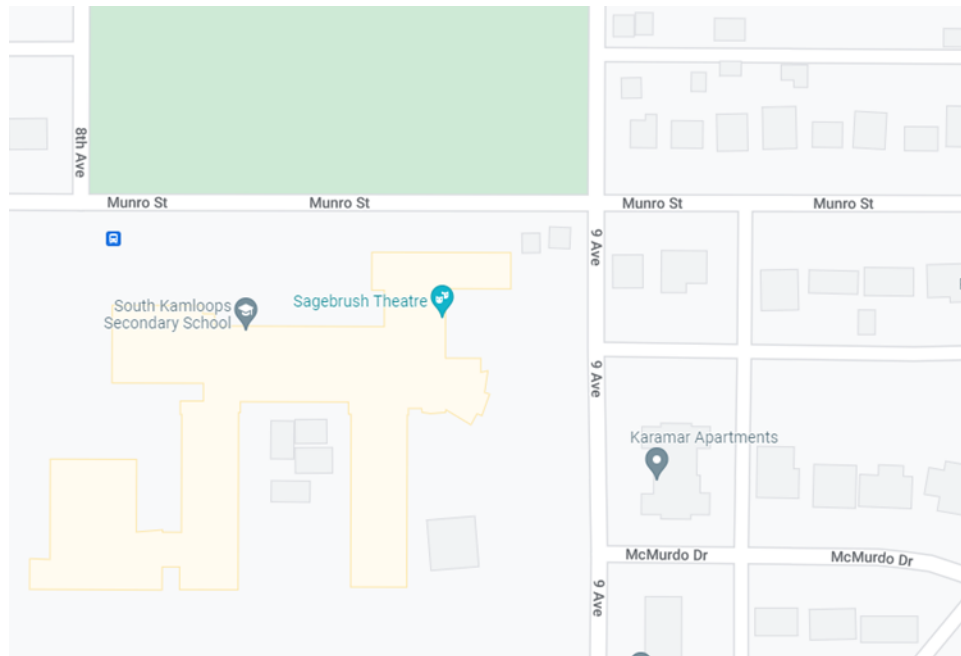
A visual story gives audience members an idea of what a Western Canada Theatre experience will be like, as well as give details on the current show.

## **How do I get my tickets?**

Tickets can be purchased online through the [Kamloops Live Box Office](#) website, or in person at the Pavilion Theatre (1025 Lorne Street – Tuesday to Saturday 12pm-5pm). Your tickets will either be emailed to you to print at home, or they will be available to pick up at the theatre on the day of the performance. You will need to provide your name to the ticket counter to receive your tickets. You will be able to pick up your tickets when the doors open for the show.

## About the Theatre

This play is being shown at the Sagebrush Theatre, located at 1300 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Kamloops, BC. The theatre is located on the traditional unceded territories of Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc within Secwepemcúíecw. You can see the theatre on the map below.



## How to get to the Sagebrush Theatre

Public transportation: Nearby bus lines are # 7, 9 & 6.

Visit [www.bctransit.com/kamloops/](http://www.bctransit.com/kamloops/) for more information.

For more information on downtown Kamloops (shopping, services, hospitality and more) please visit [downtownkamloops.com](http://downtownkamloops.com)

**Parking:** We recommend giving yourself extra time to get to the theatre. There is free parking available to the left of the lobby doors, as well as free street parking.

## **Age recommendation**

Western Canada Theatre recommends this show for ages 12 and older.

## **Audience Advisory**

There are no advisories for this production.

## **How long is the play?**

This play is about 2 hours long, with a 20-minute intermission.

## **Accessibility**

Our accessibility team is happy to have a conversation with you about your access needs and how they may be addressed going forward. Our team can be reached at [access@wctlive.ca](mailto:access@wctlive.ca).

## **Accessible & Limited Mobility - Reserved Seating**

Accessible and Limited Mobility seats may be booked by speaking with our box office staff by phone, email or in person – please contact us and advise us of your needs when you book your tickets at the Kamloops Live Box Office.

- Accessible seating (i.e. level access from the lobby) is available and reserved at the Sagebrush Theatre. Seats are reserved through to 15-minutes prior to curtain.
- At the Sagebrush Theatre, we also reserve limited mobility seating for those who are only able to walk up or down 2 stairs. These seats are reserved until 72-hours prior to performance.

## Hearing-Assistance Devices

Our hearing-assistance devices have a clip-on battery pack and are compatible with personal headphones using a 1/8" stereo headphone jack – and the packs are compatible with up to 2 headsets each. Please bring your own – or we will also provide sanitized headsets as well. Please contact us in advance if you'd like one!

## In the lobby



The lobby is the area where the audience waits before heading into the theatre to see the performance. Once you have your tickets scanned at the door, you can look at current local art pieces, go to the washroom, and purchase treats and drinks from the concession area.

There are also TVs in the lobby so if you feel you need to come out in the lobby during the show, you can still watch the production on the TV. During intermission and before the show starts, there will be a slideshow about the production and the people involved in the show!

## Washrooms

There are washrooms on the right when you arrive at the theatre – there is one stall in both the men’s and women’s washroom that is fully accessible. Towards the back of the theatre on the right past concession, there are two additional accessible washrooms. **If you need assistance, our volunteer ushers are in black and white and here to help you find your way.**



## Relaxation Station

If you need a private moment, check out our relaxation station! Nestled in a corner of the lobby, we strive to make it a calm and comfortable environment if anyone is feeling like they need to take a moment to breathe.

## Inside the Theatre

The seats in the theatre are organized by row letters and seat numbers, which are both on your ticket. Ushers near the doors will help you find your way if needed. During the show, if you need to leave the theatre for any reason, the main doors will remain open for you to come and go as you please.

## At the start of the show

The lights will flicker in the lobby, and an announcement will be made informing you that the show is about to begin. Inside the theatre, there will be a speaker on stage welcoming everyone. This speaker will also go over what happens in the play, to give everyone some more context before the show begins. They will also ask the cast to come out and introduce themselves.

## About the Play

*“It is a truth universally acknowledged that a single man in possession of a good fortune must be in want of a wife.”* In the regency marriage market, Elizabeth Bennet has no interest in the game of courtship. With an overzealous mother and one too many sisters looking for an ideal marriage, the Bennet family is bound to make waves in society. Love, wit, and manners are challenged when the arrogant and handsome Mr. Darcy pops up. Has Lizzie finally met her perfect (or imperfect) match?

Experience the charm and romance of the beloved literary love story, told with a modern comedic take on love, marriage, and society’s expectations of women. *Bridgerton* meets *Baskerville*, this playful, highly theatrical new adaptation features eight actors taking on multiple roles with uproarious results.



## **Characters (breakdown taken from the script, some actors play multiple characters):**

**Actor One: Jane Bennet** – Late 20's-early 30's. The eldest and most beautiful Bennet daughter. Kind, idealistic, diffident. Always tries to do the right thing.

**Actor One: Miss de Bourgh** – Lady Catherine's daughter; a gremlin. Probably allergic to the sun. Underneath all her veils, she may be covered in scales.

**Actor Two: Lizzy** – A year or two younger than Jane. Clever, spirited; can be sharp-tongued. Gets flustered, which makes her klutzy. Prides herself on good judgement. Not especially beautiful. Very very scared of marriage, after absorbing the lessons of her parents' marriage.

**Actor Three: Lydia** – 14. The youngest Bennet. Lively, prone to imitating others' behaviour and eavesdropping.

**Actor Three: Lady Catherine** – Patrician Caesar-meets-drill sergeant.

**Actor Four: Mr. Darcy** – Late 30s-40s. One of the richest men in England. Too proper for his own good; awkward in most social contexts. Prides himself on self-control and good judgement.

**Actor Five: Mr. Collins** – A pedantic, obtuse man. The original mansplainer. Rector to Lady Catherine.

**Actor Five: Wickham** – An unfairly handsome and charming gentleman. Probably a sociopath. Raised with Darcy.

**Actor Five: Miss Bingley** – A very rich, very beautiful young woman. Fancies herself witty.

**Actor Six: Mr. Bingley** – Late 30s-40s. Loves the world and the world loves him. Mr. Darcy's particular friend. Almost literally a dog.

**Actor Six: Mary** – The third Bennet girl. Violent and dark undertones; prone to pedanticism and sulking. A dark goth Bronte character trapped in an Austen world. Coughs to get attention, or to make a point; may fancy that she is dying.

**Actor Seven: Charlotte Lucas** – Same age as Lizzy. A practical girl with a good sense of humour.

**Actor Seven: Mr. Bennet** – The patriarch of the Bennet family. Finds amusement in absurdity; often looks for respectable escape from the chaos of his family life. Can be somewhat apathetic; probably a bit depressed, under everything. Enjoys antagonizing. Disappointed in marriage.

**Actor Eight: Mrs. Bennet** – The matriarch of the Bennet family. Mostly a silly woman, of mean understanding and variable temper. Hypochondriac; when she's upset, she fancies that she's dying. The business of her life is to get her daughters married. She traumatizes her family with some regularity.

**Actor Eight: Servants**



Pictured in photo from left to right, top to bottom: Sabrina Stace (Associate Costume Designer), Chris Walters (Mr. Darcy), Rem Murray (Mr. Bingley/Mary), Dylan Floyd (Miss Bingley/Wickham/Collins), Lukas Vanderlip (Sound Designer), Scott Bellis (Director), Victoria Snashall (Stage Manager), Anita Wittenberg (Mrs. Bennet/Servants), Melissa Oei (Lydia, Lady Catherine), Merewyn Comeau (Jane/Miss de Bourgh), Kate Besworth (Lizzy), Greg Armstrong-Morris (Mr. Bennet/Charlotte), Mandy Huang (Assistant Stage Manager).

## About the Playwright:

Originally from the farms and fields of upstate New York, Kate Hamill is an award-winning NYC-based actor/playwright.

She is deeply passionate about creating **new feminist, female-centered classics**, both in new plays and in adaptation - stories that center around complicated women. Her work as a playwright celebrates theatricality, often features absurdity, and closely examines social and gender issues - as well as the timeless struggle to reconcile conscience / identity with social pressures. As an actor, she tends to play people with intense drives and desires - truth-tellers, oddballs, and misfits.

**SPOILERS AHEAD! Please don't read any further unless you are okay with knowing the full extent of the play.**

### **Scene-By-Scene Summary**

At the beginning of the show, the actors gather on stage as music plays. They are all acting very serious. On a musical cue, Jane, Lizzy, Lydia and Charlotte step forward in a line and the others tie bandannas around their eyes. Suddenly a bell rings and they all relax. They start playing a game where all the women are pushed and pulled around, and they must guess who they are touching as they run into people. One by one they pull off their blindfolds and join the others, until only Lizzy is left blindfolded. She stumbles around and Mr. Darcy steps out, leaving them alone in the circle. As Lizzy gets closer to him the bell rings over and over again. Mr. Darcy reaches to pull off Lizzy's blindfold, but is interrupted by Mrs. Bennet who comes on stage ringing a bell.

The next scene begins in the Bennet's living room, at their house in Meryton. Mrs. Bennet is calling for the rest of the family to tell them that there is a new rich, unmarried man in town named Mr. Bingley. The daughters can't inherit the family estate when Mr. Bennet dies, so Mrs. Bennet wants one of their daughters to marry Mr. Bingley so that the family will not be poor. Mr. Bennet says that he already met Mr. Bingley, who will be going to the Longs' ball on Tuesday. Mrs. Bennet gets excited and leaves with Mr. Bennet.

Lydia, Jane, Lizzy, and Mary talk about who should marry Mr. Bingley. Lizzy thinks Jane is the best choice. They talk about marriage and how to know when you've found the right person to marry, and Lizzy says she'll never get married.

The next scene is at the Longs' ball. Mrs. Bennet tries to make sure the girls look happy and pretty so that they will find someone to marry. Lizzy's friend, Charlotte Lucas, comes in and says hello. Charlotte says her mother wants Charlotte to marry Mr. Bingley, too. Mr. Bingley comes in with his sister, Miss Bingley, and his friend Mr. Darcy, who is not happy to be at the ball. Mr. Bingley and Jane see each other from across the room and are very interested in each other. Mr. Bingley asks Jane to dance. Mrs. Bennet is very excited, which makes Lizzy get annoyed and she starts to leave. Lizzy bumps into Mr. Darcy and spills punch all over him. Mrs. Bennet tries to get Mr. Darcy to dance with Lizzy, but Mr. Darcy says he doesn't want to dance with anyone and leaves. Mr. Bingley says he will invite Jane to his house at Netherfield Park.

The next day, the Bennets sit in their living room. Lizzy is annoyed because Mrs. Bennet won't send a carriage to pick up Jane from Netherfield Park, and Jane had to stay there overnight. They all talk about how rude Mr. Darcy was at the ball. A letter from Jane arrives, and it says she has gotten sick and needs to stay at Netherfield Park until she's feeling better. Mrs. Bennet is very excited, but Lizzy is worried and says she'll go to Netherfield Park herself to bring Jane home.

The next scene is at Netherfield Park. Mr. Bingley talks about how much he likes Jane, but Mr. Darcy and Miss Bingley don't think she would be a good choice for a wife. Lizzy arrives and is wet and muddy from walking in the rain. Mr. Bingley takes her to see Jane, who is very sick and doesn't want Mr. Bingley to see her.

Back in the living room, Miss Bingley talks about how strange Lizzy is. Lizzy comes back and says Jane will be well enough to leave in the morning. They start to talk about what makes the perfect woman, and Miss Bingley is being rude to Lizzy. Jane comes in and sneezes on Mr. Bingley. Everyone is shocked, but Mr. Bingley gives her the ball he had been playing with to show her that he still likes her. Miss Bingley pulls Mr. Darcy aside to gossip about how unattractive the Bennets are, but it seems like Mr. Darcy really likes Lizzy.

In the next scene, Lizzy and Jane are back at the Bennet's house. Mrs. Bennet says how happy she is that Mr. Bingley likes Jane. Lydia and Mary come in. They're very excited because Lydia has invited a gentleman named Mr. Wickham over for tea. Mr. Wickham comes in and Lydia tries to convince him to take Lizzy to the ball at Mr. Bingley's on Tuesday. Mr. Wickham and Lizzy talk about how they both don't like Mr. Darcy. Mr. Wickham says that Mr. Darcy's father was his godfather, and that he was supposed to inherit money from him when he died, but that instead Mr. Darcy inherited it all. Mr. Wickham and Lizzy flirt with each other and then he leaves. Lydia says Mr. Wickham is the perfect match for Lizzy, but Lizzy doesn't think so. Mr. Bennet comes in and announces that Mr. Collins is coming for dinner the next day. Mr. Collins is Mr. Bennet's cousin, who will inherit the Bennets' estate after Mr. Bennet dies, and he is coming because he wants to be better friends with the Bennets. Mr. Bennet also says Mr. Collins is single, and Lydia says he sounds like a good match for Lizzy.

Mr. Collins enters to begin the next scene. He does not have a very attractive personality but is trying hard to impress the Bennets. Mr.

Bennet invites him to Mr. Bingley's ball. Everyone leaves except for Mr. Collins and Mrs. Bennet, and he tells her he is interested in marrying one of the Bennets.

The next scene is at Mr. Bingley's ball. Jane and Mr. Bingley dance together, and Mr. Darcy asks Lizzy to dance. Lizzy is shocked, but when she sees Mr. Collins coming closer, she says yes. As they dance, Lizzy and Mr. Darcy talk about each other's flaws. Mrs. Bennet and Lydia interrupt their dance and insult Mr. Darcy. Lydia says she'll take Lizzy to find Mr. Wickham, while Mr. Darcy finds Miss Bingley.

The next morning at the Bennets' house, Jane tells Lizzy and Charlotte she plans to tell Mr. Bingley that she likes him. A letter arrives from Netherfield, but before they can read it, Mrs. Bennet and Mr. Collins come in and Mr. Collins says he has chosen Lizzy to be his wife. Lizzy says no, but Mr. Collins says he will keep trying and chases her around. Finally Charlotte takes Mr. Collins out of the room and Mrs. Bennet tells Lizzy she'll never see her again unless she marries Mr. Collins. When Charlotte comes back, she says that Mr. Collins is going to ask Charlotte's father for permission to marry her. This means that Charlotte will inherit the Bennets' estate, which makes everyone upset. Charlotte leaves and they finally read the letter from Netherfield: it says that the Bingleys and Mr. Darcy are leaving Meryton and never coming back. Mrs. Bennet is very upset. Lizzy says that the note is wrong and that everything will be perfect.

This is the end of Act One. The lights will come up and it will be intermission. This is a chance to stretch your legs, go to the bathroom,

get a snack from the concession, or whatever you need to take a break from the show. The intermission will be about twenty minutes long.

At the beginning of Act Two, the Bennets are in their living room. Mrs. Bennet complains about how Charlotte will inherit the house, and that Mr. Bingley has gone. Mrs. Bennet gets upset and leaves, and Mr. Bennet follows her. Lydia brings Mr. Wickham in and tries to get him to cheer her sisters up. Lydia takes Jane out, leaving Lizzy and Mr. Wickham alone for a moment. Lydia and Jane come back, then Mr. Bennet, and Mary comes in and is so tired she collapses. In the moment of chaos, Mr. Wickham pulls Lizzy aside and asks to see her soon. He kisses Lizzy's hand and leaves. Mr. Bennet teases Lizzy, and Lizzy reminds everyone that she will never get married.

In the next scene, Lizzy arrives at Mr. Collins' house in Kent. Mr. Collins says they have been invited to dinner by Lady Catherine de Bourgh.

At dinner, Lady Catherine is very rude and judgemental towards Lizzy. Lady Catherine's daughter, Anne (Miss de Bourgh), is also there. Mr. Darcy comes in and Lady Catherine introduces him – he's her nephew. Charlotte and Lizzy sit at the piano, and Mr. Darcy comes over to speak with them. Lizzy and Mr. Darcy have a tense conversation, and then Mr. Darcy is called back to the table by Lady Catherine. Mr. Collins interrupts Lizzy and Charlotte and tells them that Lady Catherine is trying to make Mr. Darcy and Miss de Bourgh get married. He also asks them about Mr. Darcy leaving Meryton, saying he heard that Mr. Darcy left to save Mr. Bingley from marrying a girl from a poor family. Lizzy is



very upset, but also glad that she was right about Mr. Darcy being a bad person.

The next day, Mr. Darcy finds Lizzy alone in the Mr Collins' house. He confesses his love for her. Lizzy says she will never marry him because of his personality and because of what he did to Mr. Wickham, by taking his inheritance, and to Jane, by taking Mr. Bingley away. Mr. Darcy says that the reason Mr. Wickham didn't get his father's inheritance is because he tried to marry Mr. Darcy's younger sister when she was only 15 years old. He also defends his choice to tell Mr. Bingley not to propose to Jane. Lizzy tells Mr. Darcy again that even if she did want to marry, she would never choose him. He leaves.

Charlotte comes in and tries to get Lizzy to marry Mr. Darcy, but Lizzy says she never will. Charlotte tells Lizzy that they've been invited to Mr. Darcy's house and asks her to come.

In the next scene they are at Mr. Darcy's house with Lady Catherine, Mr. Collins, and Miss de Bourgh. Lady Catherine shows them how nice Mr. Darcy's estate is and Lizzy asks if she knows Mr. Wickham. Lady Catherine says she did, and that he was a liar and a bad person. Lizzy is left alone onstage, and Mr. Darcy comes in. He surprises her and she falls over. Mr. Darcy is about to apologize to her when Charlotte and Mr. Collins run in with a letter from Lizzy's father. The letter says that Lydia has run away with Mr. Wickham. Charlotte takes Lizzy away so they can go back to Meryton.

Back at the Bennets', Lizzy talks to the rest of her family about Lydia's disappearance. Everyone is very upset, except Mary, who says she has always felt left out from the rest of her sisters anyway. Lydia and Mr. Wickham come in. Mr. Bennet attacks Mr. Wickham and everyone shouts. The fighting stops when Lydia says that she and Mr. Wickham are married. Suddenly Mrs. Bennet is happy, but the other sisters are still upset and ask her why she would marry him. Lydia reveals that Mr. Darcy found her and Mr. Wickham in London, and overheard Mr. Darcy telling Mr. Wickham that if he married Lydia, he would pay off all of Mr. Wickham's debts. Mr. Bennet says he approves of the marriage but that Mr. Wickham is not welcome at the Bennets' house. Lydia and Mr. Wickham leave.

Jane and Lizzy are left alone and talk about Mr. Darcy. Lizzy realizes that Mr. Darcy is a good man, and that she was too stuck in her own prejudice to see that. Suddenly Lady Catherine comes in and asks to speak with Lizzy alone. She is upset because she thinks Lizzy is spreading a rumour about Mr. Darcy confessing his love to her, and reveals that he's engaged to Miss de Bourgh. Mrs. Bennet comes in, then leaves to show Lady Catherine around the house. Then the doorbell rings, and Mr. Darcy comes in with Mr. Bingley. It's very awkward. Jane asks Mr. Bingley to go on a walk, leaving Mr. Darcy and Lizzy alone. Lizzy apologizes to Mr. Darcy for the mean things she said. The other characters come back and Mr. Darcy is shocked to see Lady Catherine. We find out that Mr. Darcy is not actually engaged to Miss de Bourgh, and that Lizzy does want to marry Mr. Darcy. Mrs. Bennet is very excited, and Mr. Bennet gets everyone to leave. Mr. Darcy asks Lizzy to dance. They kiss.

*This is the end of the show.*

## Works Cited:

[ABOUT — KATE HAMILL: Actor / Playwright](#)

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Pride and Prejudice by Kate Hamill

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