

# **DIRECTORS' NOTES**





A couple of years ago we met each other through a pantomime on the Morpheus stage. Beauty and the Beast to be exact. Who would have guessed that four years later we would be on one of the biggest adventures of our lives, bringing a classic story to life, but with a hilarious and feminine touch!

When we were invited to direct this show, one of our biggest questions was how can we make this different? Coming out of a year of pandemic shutdowns, rules, and regulations, we knew that this show had to be special for our cast, our audiences, and ourselves. Little did we know

that the solution came to us through the cast themselves! They have brought so much heart, joy, and laughter to the show and we couldn't ask for a better group of new and familiar faces to grace the stage.

Our team of designers have brought so much talent and creativity to the table, and it is so exciting to work with these amazing people. The show is truly brought to life when the art of our cast and our team are combined!

Robin Hood and His Merry Men, at its heart, is a story about love, justice, humour, and friendship. Of course, our version has an air of feminine power to it as well! This story and these characters show us that love perseveres, and in times like these, we think everyone should remember to give a little love like Marian and Robin, spread a little laughter like John, Will, and Tuck, and dance like no one is watching (looking at you Daisy!) Sit back, relax, and enjoy the show!

— Jason Bakaas & Gad Gijon

## A PANTO PRIMER

Welcome to pantomime! Contrary to popular belief this is not a mime without words. In fact it cannot be more different. Pantomime developed out of the old music hall and burlesque tradition in Britain. As is traditional the main older woman's role is played by a man or "Dame". In addition to cross dressing, pan-tomime includes all forms of humour in order to provide something for everyone. There is physical and visual comedy, terrible puns, as well as more sophisticated political jokes and satirical comments. Cou-pled with this are outlandish costumes, dancing and singing. Adding in some of our favourite songs to help tell our tale.

But the most important part of a pantomime is YOU the Audience! You are encouraged to get involved vocally as much as possible – through your face masks, of course. Boo the baddies and cheer the good-ies (every time Prince John or the Sheriff comes on stage, give them a good boo!) Laugh at the jokes and respond when spoken to by certain characters in the play. If asked where people or things are, or what something is, shout out the answer from your seat. You cannot get too involved in pantomime! One of the most important phrases to watch for is a character saying "Oh no they didn't!" or "Oh yes they did!" In these instances YOU as the audience should respond along with the character you support. Do you think you can manage that? The more you get involved the more fun you will have watching this fabulous show! And don't forget to sing along when prompted!

Well now that you have passed panto 101 let the show begin! Have fun!

# Morpheus Theatre Presents



PRODUCER

Colleen Bishop

DIRECTOR

Jason Bakaas

DIRECTOR/CHOREOGRAPHER

Gad Gijon

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Paul Tomas Graham

STAGE MANAGER
Elizabeth Schieman

Script provided by Spotlight Publications







# **CAST**

Prince John	Sydney Born
Prince John	Hailey Carr
Jim/Gymkhana Thatch Robin Hood	Paisley Newburn
Robin Hood	Sofia Aya Cristancho
Will Scarlett	Alexandra Woodley
Little John	Sofia Ciavardini
Friar Tuck	Heather Berg
Maid Marian	Alina Cox
Nurse Jemma Gusset	Dave Sandy
Ellen A-Dale	Bianka Bergeron
Daisy (the Dancing Cow)	Emma Garrison
Craig	Suzanne Berg
David	
Jim's Mom, Servant & others	Amber Dujay
Jim's Dad & others	

# **PRODUCTION CREW**

Producer	Colleen Bishop
Director	Izeon Bakaze
Director / Choreographer	
Music Director	
Assistant Choreographer	Holly walker
Stage Manager	Elizabeth Schieman
Assistant Stage Manager	Elayne Fischer
Set Designer	Bill Brown
Costume Designer	Christie Johnson
Hair & Make Up Designer	Britta Siemens
Properties	Mike Johnson
Lighting Designer	Mckenna Clarke
Lighting Designer  Sound Designer  Board Operator  Running Crew.	Quinn Hawse
Board Operator	Trevor Somers
Running Crew	Lana Borrell
Running Crew	Elle Douglas
Running Crew	
Running Crew	
Rehearsal ASM	Reg Brehaut
Videographer & Editing	

Morpheus Theatre would like to pay tribute to our friend and photographer

Andre Goulet

who recently passed. Andre, we thank you for all the memories!

This production is performed in two acts with a 20-minute intermission.

#### **SONG LIST**

#### Act One

1. Beggin' (Måneskin)

2. I Really Don't Care (Demi Lovato)

3. Bad (Michael Jackson)

4. It's Raining Men (The Weather Girls /

Priscilla: Queen of the Desert)

5. I'll Make a Man Out of You (Mulan)

6. You're the One That I Want (Grease)

7. Hold My Hand (Jess Glynne)

8. Into the Unknown (Frozen 2)

#### Act Two

9. I'm Still Standing (Elton John)

10. Call Me Maybe (Carly Rae Jepsen)

11. Man! I Feel Like A Woman (Shania Twain)

12. Oops I Did it Again (Britney Spears)

13. Survivor/I Will Survive (Glee Cast)

14. *It Won't Be Long* (The Beatles)

15. Domino (Jessie J)

#### **SPECIAL THANKS**

Lorraine Aha, Deloris Booker, Kathy Donnison, Jackie Gelfand, Margaret Harper, Ian Pond, Bhatia's Cloth House, Junk in the Trunk, The Society for Creative Anachronism, Yeats Magic Co, the Staff at the Pumphouse Theatre, and anyone we may have missed.

# FRONT-OF-HOUSE

## Front of House Managers

Jennifer Dickinson, Byron Hynes & Janos Zeller

## **USHERS & VOLUNTEERS**

Arwen Au-Yeung	A
Faith Casement	Go
Karen Choy	Lo
Carol Dann	
Sara Drabinsky	
Zena Drabinsky	J
Tim Elliott	
Aura Felipe	Lo
Alana Gowdy	M
•	

Alan Hamaliuk	
Gordon Hamilton	Tl
Louise Hamilton	
Lisa Hoffart	
Trina Huff	
Julie Johnston	
Laura L	
Lorraine O'Neill	
Marilyn Olynek	
Lana Patterson	



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We hope you will show your support by nominating an individual artist or production

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

# THE ARTISTS

#### Jason Bakaas (Director)



Jason is an emerging performer, director, writer, and puppeteer, and the Co-Artistic Director of his own company, Untold Stories Theatre. Select favourite credits include: Princeton (Avenue Q. Front Row Centre), Benny (Rent, StoryBook Theatre), and Mr. Bundles (Annie, StoryBook Theatre). Jason hopes that

you will enjoy this phenomenal cast and their rendition of **Robin Hood and his Merry (yet questionable) Men.** Special thanks to his family and friends and his incredible Co-Director, Gad.

#### **Heather Berg** (Friar Tuck)



Robin Hood is Heather's fifth foray into the world of panto! She has flown to Neverland as Peter Pan, tried to foil Sherlock Holmes as a rat named Drat, sat in several cardboard boxes as Kitty, and helped saved the fairest of them all as a huntsman/dwarf. Outside of theatre, Heather is known for being a Disney World Cast Member (and never shutting up about

it), and working as an education assistant.

#### Suzanne Berg (Craig)



Robin Hood & His Merry Men is Suzanne's 3rd panto with Morpheus Theatre and her first panto playing a human! She's set aside her whiskers and tail to be a manly man in tights (Tight tights! If you know, you know). Suzanne has a BFA in Theatre from the U of C and when she isn't telling stories on stage, she can be found helping others

find stories of their own in the Airdrie Public Library.

#### Bianka Bergeron (Ellen A-Dale)



Bianka Bergeron is a French Canadian originally from Quebec. She has traveled and worked across the country on a multitude of TV shows and films as a set designer. She is now ready to further her passion in acting, singing and dancing. Beyond the few plays she has done while in high school, you might have seen her recently

starring in the *Company of Rogues* production of the Shakespeare play **The Comedy of Errors**.

#### Colleen Bishop (Producer)



This is Colleen's third season producing with Morpheus. Colleen is currently directing Goodnight Desdemona, Good Morning Juliet for Morpheus. Her loving husband and adorable daughters are always there to support her theatrical endeavours. Support your local artists, stay safe and stay healthy.

#### Lana Borrell (Running Crew)

Lana can usually be found behind the scenes working on sets, props or stage crew. But she enjoys opportunities to perform whenever they arise. She is actively involved in a seniors acting group called "Acting our Age". She has performed in Funeral Tea (Gloria Dood), The King's Feast (Queen Isadora) and Seniors Behaving Badly. Previously, Lana developed and implemented a high school drama program for aboriginal students in Cumberland House, SK that resulted in the students winning first place at their regional drama festival three years in a row.

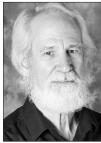
#### Sydney Born (Prince John)



Sydney Born is eighteen, and just moved here this fall to study neuroscience and archaeology at the University of Calgary. She grew up in Cold Lake where her interest in the brain actually stemmed from her first passion – acting, and the character development that went into it. She also loves rock climbing, slacklining, writing

music, reading, and laughing! Sydney is very excited to portray her first ever villain. (So bring on the "boo"s!)

#### Reg Brehaut (Rehearsal ASM)



Everyone performs for an audience, the people who must pleased if one is to be successful. Actors perform for the people in the seats, entertaining, engaging and enthralling them. Backstage crew perform for the actors, supporting and assisting, smoothing their way to success. Reg is happy to perform behind the scenes,

doing whatever it takes to help our actors give the performance their audience deserves.

#### **Bill Brown** (Set Designer)



Been a supporter backstage for over 30 years in sets, props and sound design. First show was in 1979 - Workshop Theatre's "Plaza Suite" as sound design/operator. Nominated several times for Cat Awards, won three times. With over fifty shows for Morpheus, Bill has done sets and set design for Workshop Theatre, StoryBook

Theatre, Front Row Centre, Theatre Junction, Sage Theatre, Theatre 80, and 4 of the High School Drama departments.

#### Hailey Carr (The Sheriff)



Hailey would like to thank her fabulous directors & cast for making this process so enjoyable. Theatre credits; Queen of the Ring (Attollo Productions), Rocket Man (Defakto Theatre), Den of Thieves (Rogues Theatre), As You Like It, Romeo & Juliet, & Macbeth (Shakespeare in the Park). Film Credits; "32" directed by Jesse Foster, &

"Stalker" directed by Kevin Littlelight. Hailey graduated from Mount Royal University's Theatre Performance program and also trained at *Company of Rogues*.

#### Sofia Ciavardini (Little John)



This is Sofia's first time working with Morpheus Theatre. This is also, her first time working with any community theatre, as her experience beforehand was in high school. Her most notable roles were The Blood Packet Guy in "Game of Tiaras", and Old Man Warner in "The Lottery". She has also played clowns,

zombies, and Pennywise when participating in *Haunted Calgary*. Sofia would like to thank her family for being so supportive of her, and for helping with transportation. She would also like to thank anybody who came to support her today.



#### Makenna Clarke (Lighting Designer)



FOR MORPHEUS
THEATRE: Pirates of
Penzance (Spring 2020)
ELSEWHERE: Spring
Awakening (Storybook
Theatre), Bring It On the
Musical (Storybook Theatre)
OF INTEREST: When not
in or around the theatre
Makenna can be found
baking cakes, climbing on
rocks and trees, and spend-

ing time with friends and family. She is thankful to have the opportunity to design lighting for the first time and is excited to watch this show come to life.

#### Alina Cox (Maid Marian)



Alina is thrilled to be part of such a merry crew in her first show back since Panny D. Previously seen in The Wedding Singer and Evita with Front Row Centre Players, she thoroughly enjoys being on stage is excited to make her Morpheus Theatre debut. She wants to say thanks to her amazing friends and family for their support, and

to her cat Stacy for bearing with her absence during rehearsals.

#### Sofia Aya Cristancho (Robin Hood)



Although this is Sofia's debut as an actor for Morpheus Theatre, she had the pleasure of working as running crew on Morpheus Theatre's "No Sex Please, We're British!" Sofia also starred in the recent MTI's "All Together Now!" where she sang Frozen's "Let it Go" as well as worked as assistant stage manager and acted for

Calgary Actor's Studio's SummerACT. Sofia would like to give a special thanks to Jaqueline Serpas de Mendoza and Daniel Libman for their unwavering kindness and support as she continues to grow!

#### **Amber Dujay** (*Jim's Mom, Servant & others*)



Amber is very excited to be gallivanting throughout Sherwood Forest with her fellow "Merry Men". She has previously been seen in Princess Ida (Morpheus), Night of the Living Dead (Workshop Theatre) and Ghoul's Night Out (Heritage Park). Her next adventure will have her as a swashbuckling pirate in Pirates of

**Penzance** this Spring. Thank you to her patient pups Peanut & Miley and to all of you for joining us back at the theatre.

#### **Elayne Fischer** (Assistant Stage Manager)



Elayne, like many others couldn't be happier that live theatre is back and is thrilled to be working back stage with so many talented upbeat performers. Enjoy the show.

#### Victoria Fortuna (David)



Victoria is excited to make her debut with Morpheus Theatre! Victoria has enjoyed her theatrical training and performance experience with Storybook Theatre and Bowness High School, where Victoria is a grade twelve student. When not on stage she enjoys hanging out with friends, volunteering with Girl Guides of Canada and.

catching the latest Marvel movies! Victoria would like to thank her supportive cast of Merry Men!

#### Emma Garrison (Daisy)



Emma is a graduate student in Physics at the University of Calgary. They are passionate about making time for theatre during their studies. Emma has previously participated in shows with UofSC's Off-Off Broadway including performing as Jack in Into the Woods. They have also choreographed and directed shows for the organization.

Emma is making their *Morpheus* debut after moving to Calgary just this year and is grateful for the opportunity to perform in this show!

#### **Gad Gijon** (Director / Choreographer)



Proudly Mexican, Gad has taken roles as director, choreographer, sound designer and stage manager. In Canada he has worked with Storybook Theatre, Morpheus Theatre, FRC, Cappuccino Theatre, Simply Theatre and St. Peter Players. Select credits include: A Chorus Line, Beauty and the Beast, Annie, Matilda,

Addams Family, Avenue Q, HMS Pinafore, Princess Ida and Mary Poppins. Gad studied ballet and holds a degree in Acting with a major in Dubbing. Co-artistic director of *Untold Stories Theatre* and associate director of *Gato Encerrado* in Mexico.

#### Paul Tomas Grahame (Music Director)



Paul Tomas Grahame is an actor, singer and composer who often works with StoryBook Theatre and Occasional Notes. This is his Morpheus Theatre debut, and his second time music directing in Calgary. He won a BroadwayWorld regional award for Best Actor in a Play (non-professional) in 2019 and has a TikTok

account @tomasgrahame with over twenty thousand followers. Paul is super excited to have had the opportunity to work with this exceptionally talented and hardworking cast!

#### **Quinn Hawse** (Sound Designer)



If he's not plugging away on a sound design project you'll probably find Quinn out in the woods shooting a horror film. He's been doing sound professionally for the past ten years and looks forward to seeing what his future holds.

#### **Christie Johnson** (Costume Designer)



Christie Johnson, costume designer, milliner and historical costumer. She has worked as a costume designer on numerous productions Some of her costuming credits include Shakespeare in Love, Iolanthe, Moon over Buffalo, Death of a Salesman, and My Fair Lady (creating almost 50 custom one of a kind

hats). Christie has also created period costumes for historical sites including Lougheed House, Fort Calgary and Fort Steele.

> Morpheus Theatre would like to thank the cast and crew for helping with load-in, light hang and set assembly.

#### Mike Johnson (Properties)



Mike Johnson, Steampunk Artist and gadgeteer. Mike creates retro Victorian pieces, merging modern technology with a Victorian aesthetic. He has done props and set décor on numerous productions for Morpheus and other theatre companies.

#### Alicia Maedel (Jim's Dad & others)



Alicia wants to welcome you to the show and thank you for being here today. Alicia has loved the stage since she was young. She completed a Bachelor of Music and an acting diploma. She performed as Lord Farquaad in Shrek the Musical. She has acted with *Heritage Park*, portrayed Lenny in **Crimes of the Heart** with CAT; she

also performed with *Morpheus* in **Princess Ida**, **Trial by Jury** and now Robin Hood. Enjoy the show!

#### Rhonda Mottle (Running Crew)



ASM: James and the Giant Peach, Busytown, Peter Pan, COSTUME DESIGN: Miracle on 34th Street, Ella Goes to Comic Expo, Pajama Games, Spamalot, DRESSER: Evita, ACTOR: Little Women (Aunt March), Willy Wonka (Grandma Georgina), Footloose (Betty Blast), Titanic, HMS Pinafore, Miss Saigon, OF

INTEREST: When not ensconced in theatre Rhonda shares her time with her husband, three children & two children-in-law, and three grandbabies: James, Cecilia and Charlotte, and friends. Boldly go!

#### Paisley Newburn (Jim/Gymkhana Thatch)



Paisley is so excited to join this talented cast and crew in her second production with Morpheus Theatre-- her first was over 10 years ago! She was last seen in All Together Now! (Untold Stories, Morpheus, FRC and Cappuccino Theatre Collaboration) and The Hunchback of Notre Dame (Cappuccino Musical Theatre).

Paisley dedicates her performance to her partner-incrime Henry, who always encourages her to pursue her love of musical theatre. Enjoy the show!

#### Dave Sandy (Nurse Jemma Gusset)



Dave is excited to be performing in his third Morpheus Theatre production after having performed in "It's a Wonderful Life" and "Miracle on 34th Street" and is proud to be working with such a talented cast and crew. Dave spent two years training with the Calgary Actor's Studio and has done some background acting in film and television

as well as performing in a web series. Dave is especially grateful to his wonderful wife and two daughters for their support.

#### Elizabeth Schieman (Stage Manager)



Elizabeth started in the Arts at a young age, first as a singer and actor onstage, then transitioning to working backstage, either as a Stage Manager, or a Lighting Designer. She has been involved with community theatre for many years now – the last 5 in Calgary. Select credits include: "A Few Good Men", "Plaza

Suite", "Beau Jest" (Simply Theatre); "Ungentlemanly Warfare" (Scorpio Theatre), "Princess Ida", "Trial by Jury", "No Sex Please, We're British" (Morpheus Theatre).

#### **Britta Siemens** (Hair & Make-up Designer)



Britta has been a part of the theatre community since 2018. She has worked on several *Morpheus* productions including the last pantomime, **One Bad Apple**. Hair and make up design combines Britta's passion for theatre and her career as a hairstylist. She is currently working at Delmar College as an instructor, educating

future hairstylists. Her favourite food is tacos.

#### **Trevor Somers** (Board Operator)



Trevor is very happy to be the lighting operator on "Robin Hood". He is very happy to be back doing lighting and sound for theatre. His last play for Morpheus Theatre was "No Sex Please, We're British" in October of 2021.

#### George Thomson (Running Crew)



A life in the arts, they said. Creative and challenging, they said. Now it's just "Move that there will you" and "Can you do that again, but faster?" Not depressing you, am I? Sorry that you had to read this. I'll be over there if you need me.

#### Holly Walker (Assistant Choreographer)



Holly has been raised around theatre. She loves theatre and only listens to musicals and Disney music. This is her first time assistant choreographing. She's worked back stage for Storybook Theatre on many shows, including Mary Poppins, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat, and Sister Act. She has also appeared on

stage with Storybook Theatre and Front Row Centre Players: Into the Woods (SBT), Addams Family (FRC). Thank you IJKL and Willa for all the support!

#### Alexandra Woodley (Will Scarlett)



Alexandra Woodley began dancing at the age of three in her home province of Alberta. In 2015 Alexandra moved to Toronto and obtained a certificate and diploma in dance from George Brown College. Upon graduation Alexandra Woodley was the recipient of the George Brown Dance Acting Award (2018). Today

Alexandra can be found working with the Toronto arts collective *The Lofty Goal Project*, teaching and choreographing throughout Alberta and training in acting and singing.

# **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

Auditions for **The Pirates of Penzance** – January 6 & 9

Casino Fundraiser – January 19 & 20 **Goodnight Desdemona (Good Morning Juliet)** – January 28 - February 12





#### STAFF FOR MORPHEUS THEATRE

#### MORPHEUS THEATRE SOCIETY

Randolph West
Marie-Claire Gould
Alex Ruelle
Lisette Allan
Margaret Harper
Byron Hynes
Mike Johnson
Tim Elliott
Christie Johnson
Dave Sandy

The Morpheus Rehearsal Centre at Parkdale 3512 - 5th Avenue NW Calgary, AB T2N 0V7



Morpheus Theatre's offices and rehearsal space is located in the Parkdale Community Centre. www.parkdalecommunity.com

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David Young

Morpheus Theatre is extremely grateful to everyone who has donated. These donations help to fund our productions, workshops, theatre school, and rehearsal studios. If you are interested in helping, please visit our website or call our office. **Thank you very much.** 

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