

MEDIA KIT



WAITING FOR THE PARADE

By John Murrell

Directed by Kate Newby

Rating: Some mature themes. Appropriate for children 12 and older.

Show Run: September 13 – October 1, 2016 (no shows on Mondays)

Preview Dates: September 13, 14 & 15, 2016

Opening Night & Reception: September 16, 2016 (reception free with ticket)

Post-opening night reception generously provided by Ruth's Chris Steak House. Enjoy a glass of sparkling wine compliments of Barefoot Wine & Bubbly.

Venue: The Martha Cohen Theatre at Arts Commons | [220 9 Ave SE, Calgary, AB T2G 5C4](#)

Ticket Prices: \$25-72 | Special student \$10 pricing with valid student ID on Sept. 20, 2016

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ABOUT WAITING FOR THE PARADE

IN A SENTENCE:

A tender story about female friendship in tough times set on the home-front in World War II Calgary.

IN A PARAGRAPH:

World War II. The Home Front, Calgary. Five very different women wait out the war in this charming, funny, and touching drama that is one of our country's best-loved plays. They struggle, argue, sing, drink, and dance. Together, they find a way to survive a defining moment in Canadian history, when our national identity based on working together and accepting difference was born. The play explores the human side of living together in a world of clashing values, and celebrates the spirit of helping your neighbour that Calgary is known for to this day.

Written by Calgary playwright John Murrell, *Waiting for the Parade* is a Canadian classic and features live music and popular songs from the war years. The play had its world premiere at Alberta Theatre Projects in 1976.

ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT: JOHN MURRELL

John Murrell is a celebrated and influential Alberta playwright who has made equal contributions to the canon of Canadian literature and the Canadian arts community. His plays have been translated into 15 languages and performed in 30 countries around the world.

John's connection to the natural world lends a strong sense of place to all of his plays. From his home in Calgary he creates vivid stories and settings that have captured audiences around the world. His characters often reflect the Alberta personality, aiming their sights high and expecting great things from the future and the world around them.

ABOUT ALBERTA THEATRE PROJECT'S STAGING OF *WAITING FOR THE PARADE*

This 40th Anniversary production of one of the first full-length plays premiered at Alberta Theatre Projects. A milestone of Canadian theatre, it has been in performance world-wide ever since.

Just in time for Canada's 150th birthday, Alberta Theatre Projects' 2016 staging of *Waiting for the Parade* explores how women's experience on the home front during the Second World War went on to play role in shaping the Canadian identity. The show weaves in music, comedy and drama to create an incredibly moving portrait of female friendship in trying times, and through a unique, diverse casting comments on the problematic ways fear and insecurity can lead society to divide itself along racial and ethnic lines to include some and exclude others. Tender, hopeful and human, this unique telling of John Murrell's classic story is inspired heavily by the director's and cast's personal connections to the era.



PRAISE FOR WAITING FOR THE PARADE

“Speaks honestly and directly to the heart.” – The Toronto Star

“A small masterpiece.” – The Ottawa Citizen

"A vivid picture of another era." - Chicago Reader

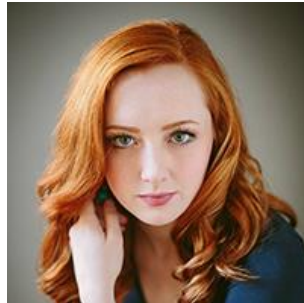
ABOUT THE DIRECTOR: KATE NEWBY

Kate Newby is a Calgary-based, award-winning director, actor, festival curator and educator whose work has appeared on numerous stages in Canada. Kate began her theatre career as an actor in the late 80's. She received a BFA Acting degree from The University of Alberta in 1985 and an MFA Directing degree from The University of Calgary in 2006. During her acting career, she has accumulated over 150 acting credits in theatre and film. She is the recipient of 5 theatre awards and 19 nominations for directing, acting and production. As both an actor and/or director she has worked for Alberta Theatre Projects, The Globe, Vertigo Theatre, The Citadel Theatre, Theatre Calgary, The Shakespeare Company and The Stratford Festival. Most recently she directed *Hamlet* for Theatre Calgary's Shakespeare by the Bow in the summer of 2016. Kate is also Artistic Producer of Handsome Alice Theatre, a company dedicated to unleashing the female voice.

THE CAST



Janelle Cooper as Janet



Allison Lynch as Marta



Sabryn Rock as Catherine



Elizabeth Stepkowski Tarhan
as Margaret



Selina Wong as Eve



The Exchange events are opportunities for audiences and artists to connect and explore the themes of the play and celebrate the art of live theatre. Most are free with the purchase of a ticket.

Thursday, September 15 – 6:30pm - PIZZA NIGHT AT ATP | FREE WITH TICKET

Enjoy Papa John's Pizza and a conversation with director Kate Newby. Hosted by Artistic Director Vanessa Porteous.

Sunday, September 18 – 1:00pm - BEAKERHEAD:THE ART OF WOMEN IN WARTIME | FREE WITH TICKET

Explore the art and science of women in wartime. In a pre-show event, celebrate the vital role that women played and their contribution to innovation. In association with Beakerhead – a smash up of art, science and engineering.

Tuesday, September 20 – 7:30pm - THAT \$10 TICKET THING Presented by TD

Calling all students! Buy a ticket to the show for only \$10 and be entered to win a door prize. Student ID is required.

Tuesday, September 20 – After the Show - MEET THE CAST | FREE WITH TICKET

Join us after the show for a conversation with the cast of Waiting for the Parade.

Sunday, September 25 – 1:00pm - AFTERNOON TEA | FREE WITH TICKET

Journey back in time to historic Calgary and talk about our city then and now. Hosted by Artistic Director Vanessa Porteous. Enjoy a cup of gourmet Tea Trader and a delicious pastry from Patisserie du Soleil.

Thursday, September 29 – 6:00pm WINES OF ATP | \$35

ATP's Sommelier Michael Bigattini of Willow Park Wines & Spirits hosts an exclusive wine tasting inspired by our 2016/17 Season. Paired with delicious hors d'oeuvres.



IMAGES AVAILABLE (HI RES) AVAILABLE AT www.atplive.com/media

2016 Production



Photo credit: Kenneth Locke



Photo credit: Kenneth Locke

1977 Production



Photo Credit: Alberta Theatre Projects



Photo Credit: Alberta Theatre Projects



Photo Credit: Alberta Theatre Projects

ABOUT ALBERTA THEATRE PROJECTS

Alberta Theatre Projects is a Calgary-based, not-for-profit, professional theatre company that celebrates the art of live theatre. From its home in The Martha Cohen Theatre at Arts Commons, the company produces world-calibre shows with a focus on new works of theatre, plays by Canadian playwrights, and contemporary theatre from around the world. It is also a national leader in new play development and dramaturgy.

www.ATPlive.com

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