



November 9, 2018  
For Immediate Release

***Main Street Theater Presents Witty and Delightful Sequel to  
Jane Austen's "Pride and Prejudice"***

***Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley***

**By Lauren Gunderson and Margot Melcon**

**November 23 – December 23**

**MST – Rice Village**

Main Street Theater brings back its holiday hit, *Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley* by Lauren Gunderson and Margot Melcon. MST Founder and Artistic Director Rebecca Greene Udden has long been a champion of Jane Austen's work, even adapting *Pride and Prejudice* for the stage herself, which the company produced in 1988 and 1996. It seems only fitting, then, that MST would select *Miss Bennet*, the sequel to *Pride and Prejudice*, for its holiday offering.

The entire cast is returning from last year's acclaimed production save one: Spencer Plachy, who played Mr. Darcy, is now on the National Tour of *The Lion King*, so this season the role will be played by Alan Brincks. The full cast is listed below.

The production opens Friday night, November 23 at 7:30pm and runs through December 23 at MST – Rice Village, 2540 Times Blvd. Performances are Thursdays - Saturdays at 7:30pm and Sundays at 3pm. Tickets are \$36 - \$48, depending on date, section, and availability. All tickets are on sale via phone at 713.524.6706 or online at [MainStreetTheater.com](http://MainStreetTheater.com).

***About Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley***

A sequel to Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*, *Miss Bennet* is set two years after the novel ends and continues the story, this time with nerdy middle-sister Mary as the unlikely heroine. Mary is growing tired of her role as the dutiful middle sister in the midst of everyone else's romantic escapades. When the family gathers for Christmas at Pemberley, an unexpected guest sparks Mary's hopes for independence, an intellectual match, and possibly even love.

Ms. Gunderson co-authored the play *Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley* with Margot Melcon, which received a 3-way world premiere in 2016.

***More***

**About the Production**

Longtime MST artist Claire Hart-Palumbo directs the production once again this season. Ms. Hart-Palumbo most directed MST's hit production of *Fallen Angels* by Noël Coward and appeared on stage in Lauren Gunderson's *Silent Sky* at MST. Chaney Moore returns as Mary Bennet. Brock Hatton returns as her potential love, Arthur de Bourgh. Laura Kaldis is back as Elizabeth Bennet Darcy, and Alan Brincks will be her Mr. Darcy. The rest of the returning cast includes Skyler Sinclair, Blake Weir, Lindsay Ehrhardt, and Heidi Hinkel.

The entire production design team returns as well: Ryan McGettigan (Set Design), Carrie Cavins (Lighting Design), Deborah Anderson (Costume Design), Shawn W. St. John (Sound Design), and Rodney Walsworth (Properties Design). Julie Marie Paré is the production stage manager.

**About Main Street Theater**

Main Street Theater provides theater experiences for all ages. Founded in 1975, our MainStage produces professional, intimate, literary plays for adults and operates under an Actors' Equity Association union contract; our Theater for Youth produces professional, engaging productions based on children's literature for families and school groups, both in-house and on tour around Texas; and we offer Education and Outreach programs on-site and at satellite locations around the Greater Houston area for youth aged 4 – high school. We work out of 2 facilities: our Rice Village home on Times. Blvd., and as part of the MATCH (Midtown Arts & Theater Center Houston) on Main Street.

Main Street Theater is a member of Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national service organization for not-for-profit theaters, of Theatre for Young Audiences/USA (formerly ASSITEJ), the world theatre network of theatre for children and young people, and a founding member of Houston Arts Partners. Main Street Theater is funded in part by grants from the City of Houston through the Houston Arts Alliance, and the Texas Commission on the Arts. United Airlines is the official airline of Main Street Theater.

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