

SCORPIO  THEATRE

THE
AFFECTIONS
OF MAY

BY NORM FOSTER

DIRECTED BY
STUART BENTLEY
AND
NICOLE DICKINSON
OCTOBER 17-25, 2025

AT THE PUMPHOUSE THEATRE

TICKETS AT
SCORPIO.CA



The Affections of May was originally produced at Theatre New Brunswick in 1990.

The Affections of May is staged by arrangement with Pam Winter, GGA, www.ggagency.ca

The setting is the early 1990's at the bed & breakfast owned by May and Brian Henning.

Act One

Scene One	Early October
Scene Two	One week later
Scene Three	Halloween night

Act Two

Scene One	The next morning
Scene Two	Later that evening

Cast

May	Meaghan Schulz
Brian.....	AJ Pearce
Quinn.....	Leo Tucker
Hank	Nick Wensrich

Crew

Producer	Stuart Bentley
Directors.....	Stuart Bentley & Nicole Dickinson
Stage Manager.....	Cally Miller
Assistant Stage Manager.....	Elayne Fischer
Intimacy Director	Anastasia St. Amand*
Fight Director	Ian Pond
Set Design	Stuart Bentley
Properties and Set Decoration.....	Mikee Laberge, Elayne Fischer
	AJ Pearce, Tracy Proctor
Set construction	Leo Tucker, AJ Pearce, Stuart Bentley
	Nick Wensrich, Meaghan Schultz
Lighting Design.....	AJ Musters
Sound Design	Stuart Bentley

Graphics Design..... Ian Pond
Costume Design Rhonda Miller Mottle
Costume Assistant..... Elayne Fischer
Running Crew Cathi Groves
Program Design..... Stuart Bentley
Front of House Managers..... John Knight, Janos Zeller
..... Daisy Pond, Stuart Bentley
Ushers..... Ashley Douglas, Yvonne Fredrick
..... Karen Hanna, James Jack, Cheryl Lee
..... Catherine Miranda, Kelly Misko
..... Celia Niksic, Astrid Olsen
..... Lorraine O'Neill, Rowena Romero
..... Niki Tapp, Rochelle Viray
..... Cheryl Wheat, Angela Woodard

* The participation of this Artist is arranged by permission of Canadian Actors' Equity Association.

Special Thanks: Morpheus Theatre, Elayne Fischer, Cathy Handford, Kim Johnson, Joan McNeil, Grapes to Glass

If you enjoyed our production, consider
nominating us for a CAT Award at:

Calgary-ACTS.com

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

I first directed *The Affections of May* 26 years ago in Red Deer, and always hoped to see another production of it one day. But unlike many of Norm Foster's plays, this one seems to be a rarely produced. When our first two planned productions for the fall each fell through (one will be done next fall, the other is being developed into a TV series for Crave), I suggested this play to our planned director and they were excited to be directing this one, until they were offered a professional theatre job the day prior to auditions. I stepped into the director's shoes, but knew I needed a great co-director, because I was heading to Vancouver to perform in the Fringe Festival in under two weeks. Fortunately, Nicole had contacted Scorpio to be considered for a future season, and when I called her that night, she immediately said yes!

To say that was a lucky turn of events is only the beginning of our journey with this play. We were blessed with an absolutely stacked slate of auditioners, and we ended up with what I can only describe as a dream cast. Throughout a very short rehearsal period they worked their tails off and maintained a wonderfully positive and collaborative attitude. The same goes for the entire production team. We were truly blessed.

Many thanks to each and every person on and off stage who have contributed to making this show one I am very proud of. And my best wishes to my dear friend Paul for a speedy recovery from a serious health scare that landed him in the hospital two days before we moved into the theatre.

- Stuart Bentley

When my phone rang on Saturday, August 16th at 9:43 p.m., the last person I expected to hear on the other end of the line was Stuart Bentley, calling to tell me he needed a co-director and that auditions were at 3 p.m. the next day. I almost didn't answer the phone because, let's be honest, I'm a millennial who doesn't like talking on the phone, but I am SO glad I did.

The very first show I ever co-directed was *Set List*, a fundraiser concert with Untold Stories Theatre. Next, I apprentice-directed *Heathers*, again with Untold Stories Theatre, and I completely fell in love with directing and the process of helping create something meaningful.

So when my friend Becky sent me an email saying that Scorpio was looking for directors for future seasons, I jumped at the opportunity.

Directing *The Affections of May* has been an absolute dream come true. I hadn't heard of the show before signing on to co-direct, but the moment I read the script, I fell in love. The balance of drama, comedy, and real human moments is just so beautiful.

Our cast is incredible, and I'm thankful for them every single day. They've worked so hard to bring this show to life and have created honest, moving moments. Our crew is equally amazing, and we couldn't have done this without each and every one of them. I couldn't have asked for a better experience directing my first full show.

To Stuart: thank you for taking a chance on me.

To my cast and crew: thank you for trusting me.

To Harrison: Thanks for telling your dad I was still interested in directing.

And to our audience: thank you for being here, I hope you enjoy the show.

- Nicole Dickinson

CAST

Meaghan Schultz (May)



Meaghan is a graduate of the University of Alberta (B.Mus., Voice Performance), and MacEwan University (Theatre Arts). Some of Meaghan's previous roles include Reno Sweeney in Anything Goes (Stage Right of Texas and Nightingale Arts Collective), Francesca in The Bridges of Madison County (Nightingale Arts Collective), Sister Mary Hubert in Nunsense (Front Row Centre), Sister Mary Amnesia in Nunsense, Mrs. Lynde in Anne of Green Gables (Swamp Donkey), and Mrs. Banks in Mary Poppins (Storybook Theatre). She has also appeared in numerous productions with Calgary Opera.

Meaghan is honoured and grateful to be part of the supportive, kind and talented community of Scorpio Theatre.

AJ Pearce (Brian)



AJ is so excited for his first time on stage with Scorpio. His previous productions include A Murder is Announced, The Blue Room, Dracula, And Then There Were None (Workshop Theatre) AJ also facilitates acting courses and takes part in one act play festivals. Playing Brian has been great fun and AJ is looking forward to future productions. He'd like to thank the whole team and a special thanks to his ever-supportive wife Sarah.

Leo Tucker (Quinn)



A Louisiana native transplanted to Calgary, Leo spends his days selling software and his nights cooking, beatboxing, playing music, and entertaining people at the Pumphouse. This is his first Scorpio production and he couldn't be more excited. He's performed in plays including A Few Good Men, A Streetcar Named Desire, A Lion in Winter, Beauty and the Beast, and It's a Wonderful Life.

Nick Wensrich (Hank)



Nick Wensrich is excited to be performing in his Scorpio Theatre debut. "The Affections of May" also marks Nick's first time on stage since the pandemic and is happy to be back performing. Nick's other acting credits include: Shakespeare in love (Morpheus); A Few Good Men (Simply Theatre); The Inconvenience (Urban Stories); and Hamlet (Theatre Calgary). Nick would like to thank the cast and crew for their collaboration during this production as well as his friends and family for their continued support.

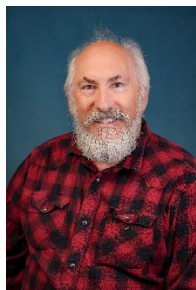
CREW

Nicole Dickinson (Director, Set Decoration)



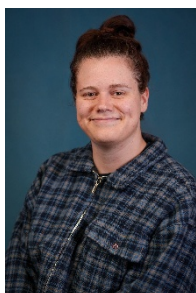
Nicole is so excited to be making her directorial debut and is grateful to be working with such a talented cast and crew! A multidisciplinary artist, she has worked as a producer, director, stage manager, actor, photographer, and filmmaker. When she's not at the theatre, behind the camera or coaching field hockey, she works at a nonprofit supporting children and families affected by childhood cancer. Nicole would like to thank her friends, family, and her love, Sarah, for their endless love, encouragement, and patience throughout this journey.

Stuart Bentley (Director, Producer, Set Design, Sound Design, Program Design)



Stuart has been involved in theatre for over 50 years. Far more frequently acting rather than directing, he has also performed almost every off-stage role except for costume design and stage management. No one wants to see him attempt either of those! Shows Stuart has directed include: *Messiah on the Frigidaire* (Canadian Premiere), *Sherlock's Secret Life* (Canadian Premiere), and *Jitters*. He is thrilled to have the opportunity to direct this show again after directing it in *Red Deer* in 1999 when his late wife Laura played May. This production is dedicated to her memory.

Cally Miller (Stage Manager, Set Decoration)



This is Cally's first show with Scorpio Theatre and she is absolutely thrilled to be working with such a lovely cast and crew. She would like to thank the show's directors; Nicole, for asking her to work the show, and Stuart, for welcoming her with open arms to join a show that means so much to him. She'd also like to thank her fiancé for supporting her while she continues to spend her free time doing what she loves - and for popping the question last month! She hopes you all enjoy the show and would like to emphasize her appreciation to you all for supporting the arts; none of this is possible without you.

Anastasia St. Amand (Intimacy Director)



Anastasia (she/her) is a queer, Certified Intimacy Director, Fight Designer, and founding member of Principal Intimacy Professionals from Mohkinstsis (Calgary) on Treaty 7 Territory. For Scorpio: *Jaan, 1984, Blood of the Red Queen, Cry Havoc 3, Spirit of the West...* to name a few. Select credits include: *Dial M for Murder, Legally Blonde, Beaches The Musical, Selma Burke, Escape to Margaritaville* (Theatre Calgary), *Mary Stuart* (Sage Theatre), *Silent Sky* (Fire Exit), *Austentatious* (Forte Musical Theatre), *Girl on the Train* (Vertigo), *Hurry Hard* (Western Canada Theatre), *Genesis: The Mary Shelley Play* (Edinburgh Fringe). Special thanks to her PIPs Pals and loved ones for their ongoing support.

Elayne Fischer (Assistant Stage Manager, Costume Assistant, Set Decoration)



Elayne has been involved in countless productions over the last 15+ years: sewing, follow spot, quick changing, props, and, even, a little acting (Robin Hood). Stepping into the world of ASMinG has allowed Elayne to engage with the production process in new and exciting ways, that she thoroughly enjoys! Elayne has enjoyed every moment of working with this tight knit cast and crew and hopes you enjoy May's emotional journey as much as she has!

Rhonda Miller Mottle (Costume Design)



SCORPIO - Blood of the Red Queen, (Costume Design [CD]), FRC - Mamma Mia - SM, My Fair Lady (Lady Boxington) & Footloose (Betty Blast), and Spamalat {CAT award}, Legally Blonde, & Gypsy (CD), STORYBOOK - Willy Wonka (Grandma Georgina), and Busytown, Peter Pan - ASM, MORPHEUS - HMS Pinafore and Shakespeare in Love & Unnecessary Farce (CD), COWTOWN OPERA - Ella goes to ComicExpo (CD), UNIVERSITY OPERETTA - Titanic (Edith Coors Evans), Miss Saigon, Island of Tulipitan.

Rhonda has enjoyed putting the icing on the actors' characters; collaboration is the best. Rhonda also thanks Bruce, for his forbearance.

Aj Musters (Lighting Design)



Aj has been a member of the Calgary theater and film community for many years, contributing in many roles including stage manager, lighting designer, and set decoration. We are thrilled that he was able to take time away from a busy film and television season to design our lights for the show.

- love, Stuart Bentley

Mikee Laberge (Props)



Mikee has been a mainstay of the Calgary theatre scene for many years. When not tap dancing, she is often collecting and creating intricate props for many theatre companies, such as Scorpio Theatre, Simply Theatre, StoryBook Theatre and Stage West to name but a few. In partnership with her husband Brad, Mikee has been a vital part of many shows I have been a part of, and the two of them have been incredible friends.

— love, Stuart Bentley

Tracy Proctor (Set Decoration)



Tracy is a multi-talented painter and designer who used to run her own gallery in Calgary for a number of years. Her assistance in the wallpapering of our set on move-in day was invaluable, and I can't thank her enough for coming down to help while her husband Paul (Scorpio Theatre's Secretary/Treasurer) was in the hospital recovering from a serious health scare suffered only days before we moved into the theatre.

Much love to Tracy and Paul – Stuart Bentley

Ian Pond, Erin Howe, The Cast and Crew and their partners (Set Construction)



The Scorpio family is a wonderfully diverse group of people from all walks of life, who have found their way into the fold at different times, and we couldn't be happier to spend time with them at the theatre, the rehearsal space, or at social events. Everyone pitched in at the last minute to build this set to ensure the success of the show, and thanks to their efforts we were able to gain an extra day in our tech-week schedule! Join us for a future show. We're fun!

Much love and thanks to each and every one of you! – Stuart Bentley

Coming soon!

SCORPIO  THEATRE



Terry Pratchett's

GUARDS! GUARDS!

**ADAPTED FOR THE STAGE
BY STEPHEN BRIGGS**

DIRECTED BY CHRISTOPHER J. GAMBLE

**FEBRUARY 27 TO MARCH 7, 2026
AT THE PUMPHOUSE THEATRE**