SAMWRITES & NICHOLAS COLLETT PRODUCTIONS

PRESENT



# PREJUDICE & PRIDE

BOOK BY SAM WRIGHT AND NICHOLAS COLLETT

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY SAM WRIGHT

DIRECTED BY NICHOLAS COLLETT

59 59

THEATER A

JULY 13 – AUGUST 20

# PREJUDICE & PRIDE

## CAST

| | |
|---|---|
| BENNETT LONGBORN | SAM WRIGHT |
| DARCY FITZWILLIAMS | BRIDGET CASAD |
| PAPA LONGBORN / SENATOR DE BERG | TIM AHLENIUS |
| MAMA LONGBORN / TOUR GUIDE / JUDGE | MARGARET SHELBY |
| JAKE LONGBORN | PT MAHONEY |
| CARLY BING / VICTORIA "WICK" HAMM | STEFANIE STEVENS |
| LYLE LONGBORN / GEORGIE | CHRIS OWEN |
| STATE TROOPER / LUKE CHARLTON / BIG CHAPS CLERK | CHRIS ARNONE |
| JANE / REV. WILLAMINA COLE / REPORTER / LAWYER | FRANCI TALAMANTEZ-WITTE |

## BAND

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| CHRIS HUDSON | MARK HAMBLIN | SAM WRIGHT |
| GUITAR | BASS | BANJO |

## PRODUCTION TEAM

| | |
|---|---|
| BOOK | SAM WRIGHT & NICHOLAS COLLETT |
| MUSIC AND LYRICS | SAM WRIGHT |
| DIRECTOR | NICHOLAS COLLETT |
| MUSIC DIRECTION | KEVIN BOGAN |
| CHOREOGRAPHER | STEFANIE STEVENS |
| STAGE MANAGER | DIANE BULAN |
| SOUND DESIGNER | JEFF EUBANK |
| LIGHTING DESIGNER | JEN LENO |
| SCENIC DESIGNER | SAM WRIGHT |
| COSTUME DESIGNER | LAUREN LONG |

PRODUCED BY

DANIELLE YEAGER, JESSICA YEAGER,
SAM WRIGHT, & NICHOLAS COLLETT

*PREJUDICE & PRIDE* MADE ITS WORLD PREMIERE AT MUSIC THEATER HERITAGE
IN KANSAS CITY ON JULY 8, 2022, THROUGH ITS ARTIST RESIDENCY PROGRAM

# SONG LIST

## ACT I

**PRETTY LITTLE GOLDMINE**
BENNETT, PAPA, ENSEMBLE

**I DON'T NEED NO MAN**
DARCY

**HEAVEN-SENT**
REV. WILLAMINA COLE

**SIMPLE AMERICAN GIRL**
PVT. "WICK" HAMM

**POUR ANOTHER FINGER (OF THAT TENNESSEE RYE)**
PAPA

**THROUGH THE GLASS**
LUKE CHARLETON

**EASTWARD-FACING ROAD**
BENNETT, JAKE, ENSEMBLE

**VEIN OF GOLD**
DARCY

**YOU DON'T NEED NO MAN**
DARCY, BENNETT

## ACT II

**AMERICAN PRIDE**
BENNETT, ENSEMBLE

**DEAR BENNETT**
DARCY

**WITH MY OWN TWO EYES**
BENNETT

**BORN WITH A BROKEN HEART**
BENNETT, DARCY, ENSEMBLE

**BANDITS IN LOVE**
LYLE, WICK, ENSEMBLE

**EASTWARD-BREAKING GOLDMINE**
DARCY, BENNETT, ENSEMBLE

**RUN TIME:** 2 HOURS, INCLUDING ONE 15 MINUTE INTERMISSION



# DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Firstly, welcome and thank you for coming to see our new musical.
It's a miracle that we're here. I met Sam Wright in 2015, when I was over to do a show at Kansas City Fringe. In 2016 Sam came to the UK to make a solo show, with me directing, about Crazy Horse, the Lakota leader who defeated Custer at the battle of the Little Bighorn.
My wife Lorraine had had an idea for some time to write a country and western version of "Pride and Prejudice" – she even had a provisional title, "Hoedown Jane" – and suggested Sam and I collaborate. We made ***Crazy Horse*** and kept talking, but the opportunity to push "Pride" eluded us, separated by busy schedules and an inconvenient ocean.
The pandemic gave us the opportunity to begin throwing ideas around. What relevance would a new version have? Was it simply enough to have country and bluegrass at the heart of it? What did we want to say? We settled on a relocation to East Tennessee and New York.
Then Sam had an idea – to gender swap the whole story. A gimmick? Or a chance to throw a modern light on the characters and their relationships – and how that reflects on society today?

We met at 4pm every Saturday on Zoom (I'm pretty sure we all shared this experience at some point in the pandemic), pushing on with plot and character and Sam introduced new numbers as we went. Gradually we drew the threads together. Remaining faithful to the major storylines (perhaps more so than recent movie versions), we hope to entertain you – and to posit the thought that we have much more in common than that which divides us.
I'm delighted to have such a talented cast to bring this story to life.

Our thanks to MTH for awarding us the 2022 residency, to theSpaceUK for hosting us at Edinburgh Fringe and Korey, Courtney, and all at Arts Asylum in KC for their support.
The adventure continues. From an original idea by Lorraine Collett

## SAM WRIGHT

*(Book/Music/Lyrics, Bennett Longborn, Banjo)*



Sam Wright is thrilled to be appearing at 59E59 Theaters! Selected acting credits: ***Evil Dead the Musical*** (Egads! Theatre), ***Murder Among Friends*** (New Theatre Restaurant), ***Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson*** (Unicorn Theatre), ***Carousel*** (Living Room/KC Rep), ***The Winter's Tale*** (HoA Shakespeare Festival). Writing credits: ***The SlaughterHouse Opera***, ***Crazy Horse: A Dream of Thunder*** (winner Best of Kansas City, 2016). Much thanks to Lorraine for the use of her fabulous idea, Nick for his co-writing, direction, & friendship, the whole company for their brilliance & forbearance, and especially to Danielle for her endless love & support. Seeking representation.

**www.samwrites.org**

## BRIDGET CASAD

*(Darcy Fitzwilliams)*



Bridget Casad cannot be happier to be returning as Darcy Fitzwilliams! Since premiering the show in Kansas City and Edinburgh, she has been somewhat nomadic; writing, acting, and musicianing around Kansas City and New York. When not on the stage, she loves reading depressing books, watching pretentious movies, and beating everyone around her at trivia. Big thanks to her precious dogs, friends, partner, family, and to dad, for the Martin :)

Instagram: **@bridgetcasad**

TikTok: **@sadcatbridge**

## TIM AHLENIUS

*(Papa Longborn/Senator de Berg)*



Tim Ahlenius has worked professionally in Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, Alabama, Colorado, California, Illinois, and Kentucky, as well as nearly every professional theater in Kansas City. Coming in 2023, you can see him in the musical film, *NELLY DON*, as Senator James A. Reed! When not working in theater, Tim runs his own general contracting business, Two Rivers Design Build, LLC. He thanks Paige, his wife and his kids, Hannah & her husband Brody, Audrey, and Lindsey for their love and support!

## MARGARET SHELBY

*(Mama Longborn/Tour Guide/Judge)*



Margaret Shelby is delighted to return to ***Prejudice & Pride***, having toured with the company to Scotland last summer. Margaret holds her Master's in Theatre from UMKC where she studied with Dr. Felicia Londrè. While there she had the privilege of working with Tony Award-winning director David Cromer in KCRep's 2014 production of ***Our Town***. Other credits include ***Oedipus Rex*** (KCPublic Theatre), ***The Humans*** (Unicorn Theatre), ***The Summer House*** and ***The Taming of the Shrew*** (Rising Tide Productions), ***Blithe Spirit*** (Kansas City Actors Theatre), ***My Fair Lady*** (Music Theatre Heritage), and ***Clue*** (Padgett Productions).

## PT MAHONEY

*(Jake Longborn)*



PT Mahoney is an actor and singer based out of Kansas City. Recent credits include ***Titanic*** and ***Man of La Mancha*** (Music Theatre Heritage), ***Macbeth*** and ***King John*** (Texas Shakespeare Festival), and ***In Circles*** (Odyssey Theater, LA). He received his BM in Musical Theatre from Oklahoma City University. Watching this musical grow has been such a joy, so thank you for buying a ticket today and sharing in that joy with us!

## STEFANIE STEVENS

*(Choreographer/Carly Bing/Victoria "Wick" Hamm)*



Stefanie Stevens is an active performer and choreographer around Kansas City. Select theater credits: Miss Scarlet in ***Clue***, Barbara in ***Night of the Living Dead*** (Padgett Prod.); ***I've Got Rhythm*** (Quality Hill Playhouse), ***Danny and the Deep Blue Sea*** (Different Choices); Mrs. Kendal in ***The Elephant Man***, Ulla in ***The Producers*** (The Barn Players); Judy in ***A Chorus Line***, Lola in ***Damn Yankees*** (Theatre in the Park); Columbia in ***The Rocky Horror Show***, ***Godspell*** (Egads! Theatre), ***West Side Story*** (Spinning Tree Theatre). She is also active in film and commercial work.

## CHRIS OWEN

(Lyle Longborn/Georgie)



Chris Owen is ecstatic to be back in Longborn Hollow for another run as Lyle! From conception to a stellar run in Edinburgh last summer, this has been the most fulfilling experience of his career thus far. Credits: Mr. Krabs in ***Spongebob Squarepants: The Musical***, Dan in ***Joseph...Dreamcoat***, Whizzer in ***Falsettos***, and Britt Craig in ***Parade***. Chris would like to thank Sam, Danielle, and the rest of this wonderful cast/crew for this incredible opportunity and trusting him to bring this role to life. As well as Katherine, Mom, Dad, Brandon, and Andria for their constant love, support, and encouragement.

Instagram: **@christianowen**

## CHRIS M. ARNONE

*(State Trooper/Luke Charlton/Big Chaps Clerk) (he/him)*



Chris M. Arnone has also performed with Stuffed Buffalo Productions, Westport Center for the Arts, and others. He was a co-founder of Bohemian Cult Revival. He also performed burlesque and variety shows with KC Cabaret, Late Night Theatre, and many other shows. Chris' debut novel, "The Hermes Protocol," was published in 2023, and the sequel is due out in winter 2024. He is a bibliologist and senior contributor for Book Riot with an MFA in Creative Writing from UMKC. He lives near KC with his wife Christy & their cats.

## FRANCI TALAMANTEZ-WITTE

*(Jane/Rev. Willamina Cole/Reporter/Lawyer)*



Franci Talamantez-Witte is a performing and teaching artist in the thriving theater community of Kansas City. She has performed at several theaters in the metropolitan area such as New Theatre & Restaurant, Music Theatre Kansas City, Musical Theatre Heritage, Theatre for Young America, and Padgett Productions. She is a strong supporter of the arts education for our future performers, hosting workshops, classes, camps, and events. As an educational director she is collaborating with Fishtank Theatre at The BlackBox to develop a young actor professional training program. She thanks her family, friends, and amazing colleagues for all of their non-stop love and support.

## CHRIS HUDSON

*(Guitar)*



Chris Hudson is a Kansas City native, classical guitarist, musician, composer, multi-instrumentalist, singer-songwriter, teacher, and visual artist. Soloist, bandleader, and founding member of Gullywasher & the Bard Owls.

## MARK HAMBLIN

*(Bass)*



Mark Hamblin teaches kindergarten through fifth grade music and performs various styles of music with bands in Kansas City. He plays trumpet with the folk band Gullywasher; bass with classic jazz trio Blue Wail; bass with hot jazz trio Jump, Jive & Swing; trumpet with the rootsy band Copper Threading; trumpet with the poetry ensemble Inspiration Monkeys; and trumpet/keys/vocals with the wedding band MultiPhonic. He is thankful for the opportunity to play bass for ***Prejudice & Pride***.

## NICHOLAS COLLETT

*(Book / Director)*

Nicholas Collett is an award-winning UK-based actor, director, writer, producer, and the creator of numerous solo and duo shows alongside Gavin Robertson, including ***Spitfire Solo***, ***Nelson – The Sailors' Story***, and ***Your Bard***. His theater work includes the Royal Shakespeare Company at the Barbican and Bombur in ***The Hobbit*** in London's West End. In 2016 he won the British Arrows Craft Award for Best Performance by an Actor for the Currys commercial "Laptop" with Jeff Goldblum.

## DIANE BULAN

*(Stage Manager) (she/her)*

Diane Bulan is an actor, director, and teaching artist based in Kansas City. Recent directing credits: ***The Secret in the Wings*** (William Jewell College), ***Men on Boats*** (Bell Road Barn Players), ***Superior Donuts*** (Olathe Civic Theatre), ***Louie, Louie and La Dolce Vita*** and ***The Gin Game*** (Talking Horse Productions), ***Equus*** (Barn Players). Recent stage performances with: Theater for Young America, The Living Room, Whim Productions, Midtown International Theatre Festival (New York), Musical Theatre Heritage, Black Hills Playhouse, and Great Plains Theatre. Diane is a member of the Screen Actors Guild, the union of film and television performers.

## SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Heidi Van, Rusty Sneary, & the Black Box
Donna Yeager
Courtney Perry, Korey Childs, & The Arts Asylum
Katie Gilchrist, Ashley Pike, & Matt Rapport
Tim Mouton & Arena Insurance Brokers, Inc.
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Dale Westgaard
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Sara Prem
Dwayne Martin
Nate Evans
Anonymous (x5)

The Shelby Family in loving memory of Jim Shelby

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## CURATOR'S NOTE



Sam Wright's new musical delighted audiences in Kansas City and Edinburgh and we are so pleased to host it here. ***Prejudice & Pride*** has a refreshingly minimalist approach to stagecraft that invites audiences to focus on the gorgeously composed songs which are expertly played and sung by the raucous characters. Wright's intelligent and ironic view of modern America is in keeping with the intent of its source material and I believe Jane Austen would give it a hearty nod of approval. Enjoy the ride!

Val

**VAL DAY**
Artistic Director,
59E59 Theaters

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**NEXT IN THEATER A** **SEPTEMBER 2 – OCTOBER 22**




## LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

59E59 Theaters reside on the traditional homelands of the Lenni-Lenape People on the Lenape Island of Mannahatta. We acknowledge the Lenni-Lenape as the original people of the land who were forcefully removed during colonization resulting in erased and excluded peoples and culture. We are grateful for the opportunity to work on the land and honor their elders, past and present alongside future generations for their stewardship and continuing relationship with their territory.

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