

**YOU
ON THE**



**MOORS
NOW**

**PLAYWRIGHT: Jaclyn Backhaus
DIRECTOR: Sarah Shippobotham**

**April 4-13, 2025
Babcock Theatre
theatre.utah.edu/tickets
801-581-7100**



The University of Utah Department of Theatre Presents

YOU ON THE MOORS NOW

PLAYWRIGHT: **Jaclyn Backhaus**
DIRECTOR: **Sarah Shippobotham**

Scenic Designer
GAGE WILLIAMS

Lighting Designer
SKYLER LEMELLE

Sound Designer
TONY TRUNNELL

Costume Designer
NIAMH HELWIG

Properties Designer
ARIKA SCHOCKMEL

Dramaturgs
AUBREY WARNER & TRIN JONES

Producer & Fight Choreographer
CHRIS DUVAL

Stage Manager
ANNA BIRCH

Intimacy Director
LYNN DEBOECK

Director & Dialects
SARAH SHIPPOBOTHAM

*There will be a 10-minute intermission.
Video or audio recording of this performance by any
means is strictly prohibited.*



*American Sign Language interpretation will
be provided during the 2nd Friday evening
performance and talkback for every show.*

COMPANY

AKINA YAMAZAKI.....	Jo
AVNEET KAUR SANDHU.....	Player 1: Caroline Bingley, Amy March
CADE FREIERMUTH.....	Heathcliff
CHARLIE MILLER.....	Player 5: St. John Rivers, Bhaer, Edgar Linton
ELLA FRANK.....	Player 6: River Sister, Meg
EMILY TATUM.....	Lizzie
HANS FENTON.....	Player 2: Mr. Bingley, Old Mister Laurence
ISACC MANUEL MARTINEZ-TRINIDAD.....	Darcy
KOLTON DOUCETTE.....	Rochester
RACHEL JOHNSON.....	Player 3: Nelly Dean, Beth, Jane Bennett
SANDRA DETWEILER.....	Jane
TOM GLASMANN.....	Player 4: Joseph, Mrs. March
TYLER M. SHAW.....	Laurie
ZOE LUPCHO.....	Cathy

CONTENT WARNINGS:

Mature Themes: The play addresses complex themes such as gender roles, societal expectations, and personal autonomy. **Language:** Contains strong language and contemporary dialogue that may not be suitable for younger audiences.

Violence: Includes scenes of physical confrontation and implied violence.

Sexual Content: Discussions and depictions of romantic and sexual relationships are present.

Emotional Intensity: The play features emotionally charged scenes that deal with rejection, anger, and grief.

Audience Discretion: Due to the mature themes and explicit content, *You on the Moors Now* is recommended for audiences aged 14 and older. Viewer discretion is advised.

This advisory aims to inform potential audience members about the nature of the content so they can make an informed decision about attending the performance. If you need any more details or have other questions, feel free to ask!

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

I am a big fan of Jaclyn Backhaus' work. This is the second time I have directed this play, and it is the second play of hers that I have had the privilege to direct, the other play being *Men On Boats*.

Her writing is specific and technically demanding yet her story telling leaves so much open to the director's and company's imaginations. This has been a wonderful journey with a fabulous group of students and I couldn't be more grateful to them for their endless patience with my off the wall ideas for movement, demands for very specific, technical, skill-forward acting, and vulnerable clown moments.

I also love the premise of this play: what *could* have happened when the four heroines – Elizabeth Bennett, Jane Eyre, Jo March, and Cathy Earnshaw – said no to the men who asked them to marry them. At a time in history when women were very much confined to the house and family with few choices and opportunities beyond that, this play wildly explores these women's journey to independence and freedom.

– Sarah Shippobotham, Director

THE DIRECTOR WISHES TO THANK:

A. Raheim White

DRAMATURGICAL NOTE

The Rebel Queens of Fireburn

You on the Moors Now centers four literary heroines from the 19th century whose stories revolve around relationships, social status, and the loss and accumulation of wealth. The play reframes the familiar novels, giving agency and a modern feminist sensibility to the heroines. But one crucial aspect of these stories goes unaddressed: much of the wealth our heroines end up with came from the slave trade. Jane Eyre's inheritance, for instance, came from Madeira, a Canary Island famous for its sugar production. And the Bingleys made their fortune in "trade," which in Regency England likely involved cash crops grown by slaves in the Americas. Slavery was an undercurrent of Western society in the 19th century and therefore the novels of the time, whether they explicitly mention it or not.

Inspired by the themes of subversion in *You on the Moors Now*, I looked to the Caribbean—the epicenter of the trans-Atlantic slave trade—for female-led stories of rebellion and survival. There were many to choose from, but the most topical took place in the Danish West Indies (DWI) at the end of the 19th century.

After centuries of uprisings, protests and plantation burnings, slavery was abolished in the DWI in 1874. But for the next 30 years, Afro-Crucians on the island of St. Croix struggled to gain workers' rights, decent living conditions, and social mobility. On October 1, 1878, a planned protest of working conditions turned into a fiery rebellion when rumors spread that a Black man had been killed by the Danish militia. Among other leaders, Mary Thomas, Mathilda McBean, Axeline "Agnes" Solomon, and Susanna Abramson—who had been elected leaders or "queens" in their communities—organized a series of nighttime attacks on plantations. Volunteers would sneak in, set fire to barrels of rum in the greathouses and outbuildings, and sneak out again in a matter of minutes.

More than 50 plantations were razed this way, and despite the interference of the British, French, and US militaries, the rebellion now known as Fireburn lasted for 30 days. Some of the leaders were killed upon their capture, but Queens Mary, Agnes, Mathilda, and Susanna were extradited to Denmark to serve life sentences lest they

prove to be martyrs whose deaths would inspire more violence. When the ash settled, workers were finally granted the rights they had fought for.

Women have long been at the center of the fight for social justice. Many rebel queens remain nameless, but their contributions are no less significant than those of Queen Mary and her cohorts. *You on the Moors Now* invites us to consider the possibility that collective resistance is our most promising route to liberation and self-actualization, for all members of a society.

— Aubrey Warner, Dramaturg



Photo: Todd Collins

COMPANY & CREATIVE TEAM

CAST

SANDRA DETWEILER (Jane Eyre) is a senior in the Actor Training Program with a minor in Gender Studies, originally from Eugene, Oregon. Recent Department of Theatre credits include Dame Dourly in *The Heart of Robin Hood* (Meldrum), Somebody in *Everybody*, Mickey in *The Old Man and the Old Moon*, a musician in *Storm Still* (Babcock), and Corin in *As You Like It* (Studio 115). Sandra is a recipient of the Lady Bracknell Scholarship.

KOLTON DOUCETTE (Rochester) a junior in the Actor Training Program originally from Moorhead, Minnesota. Previous Utah shows include *Seussical* (Mr. Mayor), *Dancing at Lughnasa* (Gerry Evans U/S), and *Spring Awakening* (Adult Men). He hopes you enjoy the show!

HANS FENTON (Player 2: Mr. Bingley, and Old Man Laurence) is thrilled to be a part of this production of *You On The Moors Now!* A passionate actor and singer, Hans has performed in *The Lightning Thief The Musical*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Freaky Friday The Musical*, *A Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime* and others. Hans is currently honing his craft in the Actor Training Program, with a double major in Economics. Hans thanks the director Sarah Shippobotham, cast/crew, friends, and family for their encouragement and hopes you enjoy the show!

ELLA FRANK (Player 6: River Sister, Meg) is a junior in the Actor Training Program. While here, she performed in the UofU Department of Theatres production of *Dancing at Lughnasa* (US Maggie) and *The Heart of Robin Hood* (US Marion). She has also been a part Ogden Shakespeare Festivals debut production of *As You Like It* (Le Beau/Phebe). She's excited to make her Babcock debut!

CADE FREIERMUTH (Heathcliff) is a senior in the Actor Training Program and is from Kansas City. Department credits include *The Heart of Robin Hood* (Robin Hood), *The Tempest* (Stephano), and *As You Like It* (Duke Frederick/Duke Senior). Other university-related projects include *King Lear*, *The Post Office*, and *The Baltimore Waltz*. See Cade and other Moors castmates on April 27th for their senior project production of *A Streetcar Named Desire*.

TOM GLASMANN (Player 4: Joseph, Mrs. March) is a second-year student in the Actor Training Program. Tom is a triple major, pursuing degrees in Theatre, English, and Game Development, with a minor in Animation. Tom has acted in many films and video games across campus, but this play marks his first theatrical performance at the University of Utah. Tom is grateful and excited to be part of this production, and he hopes to put on a good show!

RACHEL JOHNSON (Player 3: Nelly Dean, Beth, Jane Bennett) is so excited to be in her second show at the University of Utah. Some of her recent credits include *The Heart of Robin Hood* (Meldrum) and *Emma* (Sandy Arts Guild). Rachel is a junior in the Actor Training Program. She would like to thank all of her family and friends who have supported her throughout her acting career.

ZOE LUPCHO (Cathy) is currently a senior in the Actor Training program here at the U and hopes to be walking in May. Previously, she has been in the department shows as Rose in *Dancing at Lughnasa*, and as an understudy for Celia in *As you Like It*. Last semester she interned with Pioneer Theater Company and understudied the role of Elodie in their production of *Prayer for the French Republic*. When she is not acting, she enjoys hiking and spending time with family and friends.

ISACC MARTINEZ-TRINIDAD (Darcy) is a senior in the Actor Training Program. Born and raised in the Salt Lake Valley, he is proud to represent his Latino heritage. Previous credits include Ferdinand in *The Tempest* (Babcock Theatre), Alexander in *Somewhere: A Primer for the End of Days* (Studio 115), Much Miller in *The Heart of Robin Hood* (Meldrum Theatre), and Adam/US Orlando in *As You Like It* (Studio 115). Isacc is grateful for the chance to perform on the Babcock stage once more and

would like to thank his parents for their unwavering love and support. He is honored to be a Utahna B. Meilstrup Scholarship recipient. As his chapter at the U comes to a close, he is deeply grateful to his professors and everyone who has enriched his education and journey.

CHARLIE MILLER (Player 5: St. John Rivers, Bhaer, Edgar Linton) is a junior in the Actor Training Program. He comes to the University of Utah from Decatur, Georgia. Charlie's previous University of Utah credits include *The Heart of Robin Hood* (Makepeace) and *Dancing At Lughnasa* (Father Jack U/S). Charlie would like to thank his parents for their continued and unwavering support.

AVNEET KAUR SANDHU (Player 1: Amy March, Caroline Bingley) is a 3rd year in the Actor Training Program, double majoring in business. She is very excited to be a part of this show and working alongside this amazing cast and team! Her previous credits include *The Heart Of Robin Hood* (2nd Assistant Director), *Townhall (A)* at the University of Utah, *Little Shop Of Horrors* (Crystal), *Children of Eden* (Aphra) at West Jordan High School. Hope you enjoy the show!

TYLER SHAW (Laurie) was born and raised in San Diego, California. He is currently a junior at the University of Utah and is studying to get his BFA in the Actor Training Program. Recent roles include Mr. Krabs in *The SpongeBob Musical*

performed at Kingsbury Hall, Jacob in *Three Doors* in PAB 115, and Pierre in *The Heart of Robin Hood* at the Meldrum Theatre. He would like to thank his parents, siblings, and friends for their unwavering support in his theatrical endeavors.

EMILY TATUM (Lizzie Bennet) is currently a senior in the Actor Training Program and is from the Bay Area, California. Recent credits include *The Tempest* (Gonzalo), *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* (Alice), and *As You Like It* (Audrey/Rosalind U/S). She would like to thank her family for their loving support and the ATP for four incredible years! Richard T. and Lonna Brown Scholarship Recipient.

AKINA YAMAZAKI (Jo March) is a senior in the Actor Training Program at the University of Utah. Her most recent performances include *The Tempest* (Antonio), directed by Melinda Pfundstein at the Babcock Theatre, *A Beautiful Day in The Neighborhood* (SLAC's Summer Show) at Salt Lake Acting Company, and *The Old Man and The Old Moon* (Cookie/Lucy Puppeteer) at the Babcock Theatre. As her final production at the University of Utah, Akina is deeply grateful to be closing this chapter with *You On The Moors Now* and for the community that has shaped her journey.

CREATIVE

ANNA BIRCH (Stage Manager) is a senior in the Stage Management program here at the U. She is

very excited to be Stage Manager for *You On The Moors Now*! Recently, Anna has worked as a Technician at Desert Star Playhouse running tech for their shows. Her recent experience include *Spring Awakening* (1st ASM), *Thais* at UtahOpera (Production Assistant) *Town Hall* (1st ASM), *Evil Dead: The Musical* (SM), *Twelfth Night: The Musical* (SM), *The Servant of Two Masters* (SM), and *As You Like It* (2nd ASM). Anna is very grateful for the continuing support of her family and friends.

LYNN DEBOECK is an Associate Professor of Theatre and Associate Lecturer in Gender Studies at the University of Utah. This is her first time on the production side of things in the department and she's thrilled to contribute in her capacity as an intimacy specialist, having completed training with Theatrical Intimacy Educators and working as intimacy coordinator the past three years for the Mid-America Theatre Conference with their new play development workshop as well as at Westminster College for the 50th anniversary Greek Theatre Festival production of *Helen* in 2021.

ISIS FREIBERG (2nd Assistant Stage Manager) is a Sophomore in the Stage Management program. *You on the Moors Now* is her second University of Utah production, and she is getting the pleasure of being the 2nd Assistant Stage Manager. She previously worked as a Production Assistant for *Spring Awakening*. Isis has been

working in the scene shop helping with set production, and as a Community Advisor for the U's HRE department. She is looking forward to her future productions here at the U and loves getting to be a part of such wonderful Stage Management teams!

LYNN BRISCO (1st ASM) is pumped to be working on his second university production. Following *Everybody* last spring as well his work on SLAC's production of *Whitelisted*, he is glad he gets to continue doing what he loves. He would like to thank all the friends, family, and mentors who made things possible.

MAGGIE GOBLE (Assistant Director) was born and raised in Salt Lake City and is currently a senior in the Actor Training Program at the University of Utah. Most recently Maggie performed the role of Molly in Pioneer Theatre Company's production of *Prayer for the French Republic*. Maggie is so excited for the opportunity to be a part of the creative team for this production and would like to thank her family, friends, and professors for all of their encouragement and guidance. Maggie is the proud recipient of the Lady Bracknell Scholarship.

NIAMH HELWIG (Costume Designer) is a sophomore Performing Arts Design Student with an emphasis in costume design within the Department of Theater. This is her third show designed at the University of Utah with

previous shows including *Dancing at Lughnasa* her freshman year and *The Heart of Robin Hood* earlier this academic year. She is very excited for you to see this witty, playful and rebellious show!

TRIN JONES (Dramaturg) is a freshman in the Stage Management Program. Some of Trin's past credits include *SpongeBob the Musical* (Stage Manager, Highland High School), *Little Women* (Assistant Stage Manager, HHS), *Big Fish the Musical* (Stage manager, HHS), *Fortress* (Head Dramaturg, HHS), *Circle Dreams around (the Terrible Terrible Past)* (Intern SM, BLK BOX Lab), *The Heart of Robin Hood* (crew, University of Utah), *Spring Awakening* (crew, University of Utah), *Xanadu* (PA, University of Utah), and *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Stage Manager, Open Door).

TRUE LEAVITT (Assistant Director) is a graduating senior in the Actor Training Program. Recent performance credits include Young Pierre in *A Prayer for the French Republic* (Pioneer Theatre Company), Caliban in *The Tempest*, Professor U/S in *Sweet Science of Bruising*, Swing in *Somewhere* (University of Utah), and Swing in *Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood* (Salt Lake Acting Company). He is thrilled to be making his assistant directorial debut with this show and to be learning from such an incredible director.

ISABEL MOSS (Production Assistant) is a Freshman in the Stage Management Program. This is her first production here at the U, and she is thrilled to work with this stellar team on this production! Aside from projects here, Isabel has worked as a Head Dresser at the Ruth Theater (Formally the Hale Theater Orem) for the last 2 years, along with backstage work at companies like Pioneer Theater and The Egyptian Theater. Isabel would like to express her gratitude and love for her family for always supporting her in her projects!

SKYLER LEMELLE (Lighting Designer) is a Senior in the Stage Management Program. He started his Theatre career at Juan Diego High School as a Lighting Designer and Sound Technician, which eventually led him into Stage Management. Past credits include: *Midsummer Night's Dream* (ASM), *The Verge* (SM), *Footloose* (SM), *A.L.I.C.E* U of U Opera (ASM), *The Lightning Thief* (ASM) *Guys And Dolls* (ASM), and *Curious Incident* (ASM). He would like to thank his family and friends for their love and support, without them he would not have been able to pursue the things he loves.

SARAH SHIPPOBOTHAM (Director/Dialects) is a Professor at the University of Utah as well as being an actor, dialect coach, intimacy choreographer and director. Trained as a Voice/Dialect Coach at The Royal Central School of Speech and Drama, London, coaching credits

include eighteen seasons with the Shaw Festival (Canada), over 30 productions for Pioneer Theatre Company (Utah), and 7 months in New Zealand as a Dialect Coach on *The Hobbit* films. Trained as an actor in Wales, Sarah has acted with the Tony Award winning Utah Shakespeare Festival for three seasons, appeared at Pioneer Theatre Company and at Salt Lake Acting Company as well as in Part 1 of Kevin Costner's *Horizon: An American Saga*. Her one-person show *Can I Say Yes to That Dress?* received its world premiere at Salt Lake Acting company, September 2023.

TONY TRUNNELL (He/Him) is a Stage Management student at the University of Utah. He's an upcoming freshman. *You On The Moors Now* will be the first show he's sound designing at the U. His most recent production at with the DOT was *The Heart Of Robin Hood* (2nd ASM, Meldrum Theater). His latest acting roles include Tev Hearst (*Corralis*, Studio 115) and Mikey Bird (*Boxes*, Babcock Theater). Tony is a proud recipient of a Department of Theatre Scholarship. He would like to thank his parents for supporting him through his educational journey, and all of professors.

AUBREY WARNER (Dramaturg) is a senior in the Theatre Studies program. She was a founding board member of West Works Theatre Company from 2017-2023, and she's now on the board of Hedgepig

Collective. Her original show, *Who's Gonna Tell Her?*, will be performed at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe this summer.

GAGE WILLIAMS (Scenic Designer) has designed the scenery for over thirty department and Classic Greek Theatre Festival productions, including *Edward the II*, *The Bacchae*, *Three Penny Opera*, *Hair*, and *Hello Dolly*. As department chair from 2009 to 2018, he produced over 70 department and Salt

Lake Shakespeare productions. He created the Performing Arts Design Program in 2000 and helped usher in the Musical Theatre Program in 2011. In 2017, he led the department's self-study, which assured the department's new home in the Price Theatre Arts Building.



Photo: Todd Collins

PRODUCTION STAFF & ADVISORS

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ISIS FREIBERG..... 2nd Asst. Stage Manager
ISABEL MOSS..... Production Assistant

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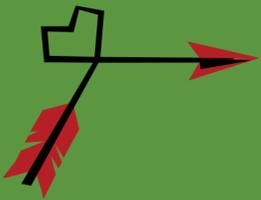


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2024



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OCTOBER 25 -
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