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ALBERTA THEATRE PROJECTS

NEW HOCKEY PLAY *GLORY* IS AN UPLIFTING, MUSIC AND DANCE-FILLED TAKE ON CANADIAN HISTORY

World premiere showcases the little-known origin story of Canadian women's hockey in ATP's 2017-18 season closer.

CALGARY, ALBERTA – From April 3rd to April 21st [Alberta Theatre Projects](#), in association with Kamloops' [Western Canada Theatre](#), is bringing an epic story ripped from the pages of Canada's hockey history to the stage of the Martha Cohen Theatre. [GLORY](#), a world premiere by playwright and choreographer Tracey Power is a tale of friendship and perseverance inspired by the true story Canada's first women's hockey league. Told through the eyes of four friends who went on to become hockey legends, setting a record for percentage of game wins that remains unbeaten to this day, [GLORY](#) takes audiences on a jazz and dance-filled odyssey through the early days of women's hockey and explores questions about femininity and women's participation in athletics.

At the end of the summer of 1933 sisters and softball teammates Hilda and Nellie Ranscombe, and Marm and Helen Schmuck dream of finding a sport to keep them occupied through the winter. Despite public criticism they decide to take to the ice and form the Preston Rivulettes, gradually find their footing as a hockey team in a small women's league. But with The Great Depression weighing heavily on the nation, and political tensions rising in Europe, the women struggle to overcome the odds and society's expectations to forge their own path to glory.

"It's important to us as Canadians that we find a way to shine a light on our own stories, particularly when they tell us about the courage, sacrifice, and spirit of women in our history," says [GLORY](#)'s director James MacDonald. "[GLORY](#) is a story that brings to life the vitality, humour, and spirit of women of that generation. It's an honour to collaborate with ATP, the home of new play production in Western Canada, on this important and exciting play."

"I knew that the dynamics between the women, being sisters as well as teammates, would be great potential for both comedy and drama," says [GLORY](#)'s playwright and choreographer Tracey Power. "Creating a fusion of hockey and swing dancing lets us bring the excitement and the intensity of a real hockey game to the stage."

“We’re so excited to be teaming up with Western Canada Theatre to bring this show to Calgary audiences” says ATP Marketing and Communications Director Ashley Meller. “With Calgary being such a hub for hockey fans, players and supporters, I think audiences here will be truly surprised and inspired by this little-known story of the origins of women’s hockey in Canada. Hilda Ranscombe was the Gretzky of her time and the Rivulettes truly broke new ground for women in sport, paving the way for all the women’s hockey teams who followed, and we hope that this play will help share their story and honour this sport that’s become such a huge source of Canadian pride.”

With vintage-inspired costumes reminiscent of the era by costume designer Cindy Wiebe and a stage-sized ice rink designed by set and light designer Narda McCarroll, Power’s portrayal of Canada’s early hockey heroines is a visual delight that shouldn’t be missed.

GLORY runs from **April 3 to April 21** at the **Martha Cohen Theatre at Arts Commons** (215 8 Ave. SE). Tickets are available at www.atplive.com or 403-294-7402.

Contains some mild profanity. Suggested for ages 12+.

Cast

Katie Ryerson (Hilda Ranscombe)
Morgan Yamada (Nellie Ranscombe)
Gili Roskies (Margaret “Marm” Schmuck)
Kate Dion-Richard (Helen Schmuck)
Kevin Corey (Herbert Fach)

Creative Team

Tracey Power (Playwright/Choreographer)
James MacDonald (Director)
Narda McCarroll (Set/Lighting Design)
Cindy Wiebe (Costume Design)
Steve Charles (Sound Design)
Lisa Russell (Stage Manager)
Kelly Cheetham (Assistant Stage Manager)

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Follow the hashtag **#GLORYplay** on Twitter and Instagram for the latest news about this production.

For media enquiries, please contact:

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High-resolution images and video available for download at www.atplive.com/media

PHOTO & VIDEO CALL for photography, videography and cast interviews on **April 3** from 12:00 – 1:00 pm at the [Martha Cohen Theatre at Arts Commons](#).

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 idea-driven new works, plays by Canadian playwrights, and contemporary theatre from around the world. It is also a national leader in new play development and dramaturgy.

ABOUT WESTERN CANADA THEATRE

Western Canada Theatre is a live professional theatre serving Kamloops and the surrounding region. Each year, WCT produces a full season of professional theatre on their Mainstage, the Sagebrush Theatre, and their second stage, the Pavilion. They also provide ongoing theatre classes for young people aged 8-18.

www.wctlive.com

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