

PAST PRESS

Nancy McAlear Directing Reviews

Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley – Citadel Theatre, 2018

“McAlear’s well-staged production, attentive to every choreographed scene change, is attractively cast, with a view to our rediscovering characters we recognize from the novel.” “This is by way of introduction to the lively, handsome, vividly realized production directed by Nancy McAlear in her Citadel directing debut.” Liz Nicholls, 12th Night

“Directed by Nancy McAlear, *Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley* is striking first because of its attention to detail. Literally, from top to bottom and inside out.” Jenna Marynowski, After the House Lights

“Enough cannot be said about McAlear’s helming. You can see her fingerprints all over the precise, spare direction and brisk pace. There are directorial touches everywhere, as in the peppy set changes which are all done in character and in a kind of stylized dance.” Colin MacLean, Gig City

The Believers – MadFandango Theatre Collective, 2017

“It’s been a long time since a play as different, strange and striking as *The Believers* has materialized on a local stage.” Colin MacLean, Gig City

“One of the oddest, eeriest, most unnerving plays of the season is happening at the Roxy, in a production by the adventurous indie collective MadFandango.” Liz Nicholls, 12th Night

Category E – The Maggie Tree, 2015

“Visionary director, Nancy McAlear gives the play a balance between tragedy and laughter.” Anna Borowieki, St. Albert Gazette

“...the Varscona stage has resisted and defeated more than a few directors...the last show at the old Varscona finds such a striking, artful and elegant solution to its many challenges. Nancy McAlear’s production, for the experimental collective The Maggie Tree, gets a gold star for that.” Liz Nicholls, Edmonton Journal

The Deep Blue Sea – Bright Young Things, 2014

“It is a remarkable thing in a theatre to feel an audience catch their breath collectively, you with them, at a moment when a character says something utterly unremarkable...The Deep Blue Sea, directed by Nancy McAlear, is full of stunning moments like that, of struggle to summon middle-class English charm and put a brave smile on desperate unhappiness.” Liz Nicholls, Edmonton Journal

“This production is a brooding, compact and absolutely brilliant gem.” Mel Priestly, Vue Magazine

Nancy McAlear Acting Reviews

Frozen – 7 Siblings Theatre, 2018

“As the grieving mother, Nancy McAlear conveys so much in the smallest of gestures. There can be great emotion in the steady and determined act of suppressing that emotion. She doesn’t indulge in hysterics, but the anguish and anger she experiences is conveyed in the way she grips a glass of scotch or holds an old keepsake to her chest.” Mooney on theatre

Murderers Confess at Christmastime – Outside the March, 2013

“The other particularly haunting vignette belongs to Tony Nappo who brilliantly embodies a sad sack man confined to a wheelchair and desperate for the love of his flighty co-worker (played with just the right sense of innocent narcissism by Nancy McAlear)” Kelly Bedard, My Entertainment World