

Vagabond Players Presents

*The*  
**Birds** *and*  
*the Bees*



By Mark Crawford

Directed By Samantha Alexandra



April 30 - May 17, 2026

Thursday - Saturday 8:00pm, Sunday 2:00pm

**Bernie Legge Theatre**

Queen's Park, New Westminster

[www.vagabondplayers.ca/tickets](http://www.vagabondplayers.ca/tickets) or 604-521-0412

The Birds and the Bees premiered at the Blyth Festival in June 2016. The Birds and the Bees is produced by permission of the Playwright and Marquis Literary (Colin Rivers) [www.MQlit.ca](http://www.MQlit.ca)

# SCENE SYNOPSIS

Setting - Present Day, Gail's farmhouse

Act 1 - May

Act 2 - Scene 1, 2,3 - June

Act 2 - Scene 4 - Dec. 31

Act 2 - Scene 5 - Four months later

This production contains sexual content/partial nudity as well as a scene involving pregnancy and possible baby loss.

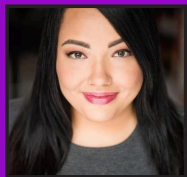
## PRODUCTION CREW

Director .....	Samantha Alexandra
Production Manager .....	Katherine Morris
Stage Manager .....	Frederick Popowich
Assistant Stage Manager/Props/Set Decoration .....	Michelle Roebuck
Set Design & Decor .....	Sandra Walton
Lighting Design/ Tech Director .....	Scott MacDonald
Sound Design .....	Manon Ducos
Costumes .....	Cindy Dean
Costume Assistant .....	Susan Rae
Set Construction .....	George Edwards, David Dodge, Craig Premack, Stacy Restiaux, Steve Charboneau, Warren Johnson & Jason Harris
Set Painters .....	George Edwards, Pam Bennett, Angie Manville, Cindy Dean, Warren Johnson, Stacy Restiaux, Lindsay Macintosh & Anne Rhodes
Publicity .....	Valerie Lawlor
Social Media & Photos .....	Samantha Alexandra
Intimacy Coordinator .....	Vanessa Lazare
Poster Design .....	Michael McCray
Program .....	Cassidy Lynch

## DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Sometimes we find connection in the strangest ways, and sometimes in the most familiar places. People who are part of our everyday life can suddenly become our whole world, while complete strangers can quietly tiptoe into our lives and stay there forever. We can never quite know what life will bring or how the bigger picture will shift the course of our days. And perhaps that's the most delightful adventure of all—stepping aside, letting life surprise us, and discovering exactly what we didn't know we needed. This play is about love, connection, and the curious ways life brings us together when we least expect it.

# CAST



## Samantha Alexandra – Director

Samantha, originally from St. John's, Newfoundland, has been immersed in the world of theatre since childhood. She earned her BFA in 2014 and has been based in British Columbia since 2015. Her acting credits include *Father Tartuffe* (Arts Club), *Our Town* (Vagabond Players), *Sylvia*, *Emilia*, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, *Abandon Hope Mabel Dorothy*, *The Penelopiad*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, and *In The Next Room* and more. In addition to her work on stage, Samantha directed *The Revolutionists* last season at Vagabond Players. She was most recently seen in *Tempting Providence* with Little Dippers Theatre. When she's not performing or directing, Samantha is a dedicated educator in public schools.



## Lauren Marshall – Sarah

Lauren is an actor/musician hailing from Winnipeg, Manitoba. Although she started as a band teacher, a love of acting was ignited after attending an improv class, and Lauren switched her focus to pursue theatrical arts, moving to Vancouver in 2021. When she's not on stage, she teaches middle school drama and is busy in the director's chair overseeing her own shows. Recent productions include 'Monster' through Direct Collective Theatre, and various Panto shows with Fraser Valley Musical Theatre. Many thanks to the fantastic people at Vagabond theatre, and the creative team for their vision and talent.



## Isabel Mendenhall – Gail

Isabel generally thrives on stage at a fast and comical pace. However, she's been out of the stage public eye since 2017 when she last performed in *Charley's Aunt. Yikes!* This was partly due to covid, and partly due to visiting family who seem to have moved as far away as possible from their homeland. She has played at numerous venues throughout the lower mainland and as far away as Tampa, Florida. She has held most positions on the Vagabond Players board including the current board. Welcome back to the stage, Isabel!



## Bill McNaughton – Earl

Bill is delighted to return to Vagabond Players in this hilarious romp. A really fun show with a fabulous cast and crew, Bill hopes you enjoy it as much as we have. Recent theatre productions include: *George Bailey* in *It's A Wonderful Life* (Deep Cove); *Hercule Poirot* in *Black Coffee* (Theatre WestVan); *The Twelve Pound Look* and *When The Reaper Calls* (both at NorthVan Community Players); *A Flea in Her Ear* (United Players Jericho); *The Mystery of Irma Vep* (Theatre WestVan); *Murder by Misadventure*, *The Gazebo*, *A Comedy of Tenors*, and *Murder on Reserve* (all at Metro Theatre); and of course *The Haunting of Hill House* (here at Vagabond Players).



## Danny Malena – Ben

Danny trained at the Canadian College of Performing Arts in Victoria, BC and is originally from Saskatoon. After several years pursuing singing and theatre, he took a long detour into medicine and now works as a psychiatrist in community mental health in Richmond, BC. Selected stage credits include *Galileo* in Theatre Under the Stars' production of *We Will Rock You*. Danny is thrilled to return to the stage in *The Birds* and *The Bees*. He thanks his husband Kevin, and his friends and family, for their encouragement and support.

# ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT



## Mark Crawford

One of Canada's most popular playwrights, Mark's work has been produced across the country and in the US, UK, Poland, Australia, New Zealand, and more. He is the author of several plays: *Stag and Doe*, *Bed and Breakfast*, *The Birds* and *The Bees*, *Boys, Girls and Other Mythological Creatures*, *The New Canadian Curling Club*, *Chase the Ace*, *The Gig*, and *The Golden Anniversaries*.

Mark has been nominated for the Playwrights Guild of Canada Comedy Award and the Stephen Leacock Medal for Humour. His work is published by Scirocco Drama. Also an actor, Mark has performed on stages from coast to coast.

Mark grew up on his family's farm near Glencoe, Ontario, studied theatre at the University of Toronto and Sheridan College, and now lives in Stratford.

# OUR FIRST SHOW OF THE 2026-2027 SEASON

Vagabond Players Presents

## THINGS MY MOTHER TAUGHT ME

By Katherine DiSavino  
Directed by Denise Brookson



September 24 - October 11 2026  
Thursday - Saturday 7:30pm, Sundays 2:00pm

Bernie Legge Theatre  
Queen's Park, New Westminster  
[www.vagabondplayers.ca/tickets](http://www.vagabondplayers.ca/tickets) OR 604-521-0412

THINGS MY MOTHER TAUGHT ME is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals  
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