



6 Hat boxes, 1 slide show, 6 inspirational moving stories from the real-life women who shaped the prairies!

French Grey Nun Nurse
 Midwife & Riel Rebellion Witness
 Ukrainian Farmer

Metis Carpenter
 Quebec Matron of the Arts
 School House Teacher & Farmer

Grades 4 and up.
 2 different 30 min. shows to choose from.
 3 Characters each show.

For Bookings Contact:
 Rooney and Punyi Productions
 (780) 458-9790
interviewhistory@telus.net

HATS and GLOVES, HARD WORK and DREAMS

Opening in Alberta with STANDING OVATIONS this show has continued to receive that response everywhere it has been performed. Excellent story-telling by one actress who transforms herself into our courageous Grandmothers and Great Grandmothers with the use of a few simple props and costume pieces. Humorous, inspirational and moving stories from the real-life women who pounded the first nails, taught in the first schools, nursed the sick, entertained in parlours and shaped the prairies from their hard work and dreams.

Maureen Rooney has acted professionally for since 1979. CBC, NFB, YTV, FAMILY, ACCESS, GLOBAL, CFRN, TNT, VICOM, Theatre Calgary, Citadel, Mayfield Dinner Theatre, Northern Light, Workshop West and many more as well as the Educational Theatre company that she runs with her husband Paul Punyi.

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| Running time: | 25 min. Followed by a question answer period. |
| Audience: | Grades 4 and up |
| Audience size: | Max 3 classes per show (additional fee for larger audiences) |
| Space required: | Quiet room with screen for power-point show, audience on floor for sight lines. 20 min set up time required. |
| Fee: | Please contact us directly for pricing. |
| Playwright/actor: | Maureen Rooney |
| Categories: | <u>Drama, story-telling, multi-media</u> |
| Cast: | Maureen Rooney |
| Stage Manager: | Paul Punyi |

This exciting one act play takes the audience on an emotional trek through the lives of three dynamic women who helped shape their prairie town in Alberta. A one woman show where the actress becomes each of the characters. She transforms into each different character as she reaches into a hatbox and puts on a hat and a pair of gloves, for each different person.

A power-point slide show acts as a backdrop showing what the town looked like during each woman's life.

This is a positive and hopeful play that leaves the audience feeling inspired, proud and grateful.

The three women are from a variety of eras and backgrounds and nationalities.

**Note: Schools have a choice.
Book a 30 min version with 3 characters.
Book the hour long version with 6 characters.
For a max of 3 classes/show (90).**



**“Hats And Gloves, Hard Work And
Dreams”**
**The half-hour long version has the
following 3 prairie women**

1. SISTER EMERY (Parisian French)

One of the first Grey Nuns (late 1800s) who nursed and comforted her town through the small pox epidemic. A warm and compassionate nurse who longs to save lives, and hopes and prays for the prairies to have a good hospital.

2. KATE MALONEY (Tough English Canadian)

A fun and confident career woman, (early 1900s) who worked as a midwife and lived on her own land, never choosing to marry, in an age where that was unheard of. She relays her memories of fear and armies during the Riel Rebellion and wishes for the prairies to never know war again, to be able to invest in parks and trails, instead of weapons.

3. MARY SERNOWSKI (Ukrainian)

The woman who told Lois Hole to sell a few flowers! A heart wrenching story of rags to riches. An emigrant from the Polish Ukraine who survived war and famine, only to struggle through the poverty of the depression. She is barefoot, and working on seeding herbs while she talks about her great love of the farmers market and it's customers, who she sees as beautiful in their diversity as the flowers in her garden. She wishes for Albertans to always look after it's poor and for the market to continue to grow and prosper.



“Hats And Gloves, Hard Work And Dreams”

The hour long version has the following 6 prairie women

ROSE PLANTE NORMAND (Métis)

A Métis handy woman who helped plan and build the early mission with Father Lacombe in the mid 1800s. A down to earth character that just wishes that when a person wants to fix, or build something that the supplies were already here and available.

SISTER EMERY (Parisian French)

One of the first Grey Nuns (late 1800s) who nursed and comforted St. Albert through the small pox epidemic. A warm and compassionate nurse who longs to save lives, and hopes and prays for St. Albert to have a good hospital.

KATE MALONEY (Tough English Canadian)

A fun and confident career woman, (early 1900s) who worked as a midwife and lived on her own land, never choosing to marry, in an age where that was unheard of. She relays her memories of fear and armies during the Riel Rebellion and wishes for St. Albert to never know war again, but instead, to be able to invest money in parks and trails not weapons.

ALICE GIROUX (Montreal French)

A high-energy theatre madam who taught drama and music and hosted concerts and plays out of her own home. Audience spilled out of the house and all through the yard, with windows open for them to hear. She wishes St. Albert had a Cultural Center. (1930s)

BERTHA KENNEDY (English Canadian)

An old time teacher who taught at the little white schoolhouse, and raised seven children on a farm without any water. Her story is one of strong moral convictions and much good advise for today's audience in regards to education, parenting and volunteering. She wishes for all teachers to know the difference that they are making in the lives of the students. (1940s)

MARY SERNOWSKI (Ukrainian)

An emigrant from the Polish Ukraine who survived war and famine, only to struggle through the poverty of the depression. She is barefoot, and working on seeding herbs while she talks about her great love of the farmers market and it's customers, who she sees as beautiful in their diversity as the flowers

in her garden. She wishes for St. Albert to always look after it's poor and for the market to continue to grow and prosper.

