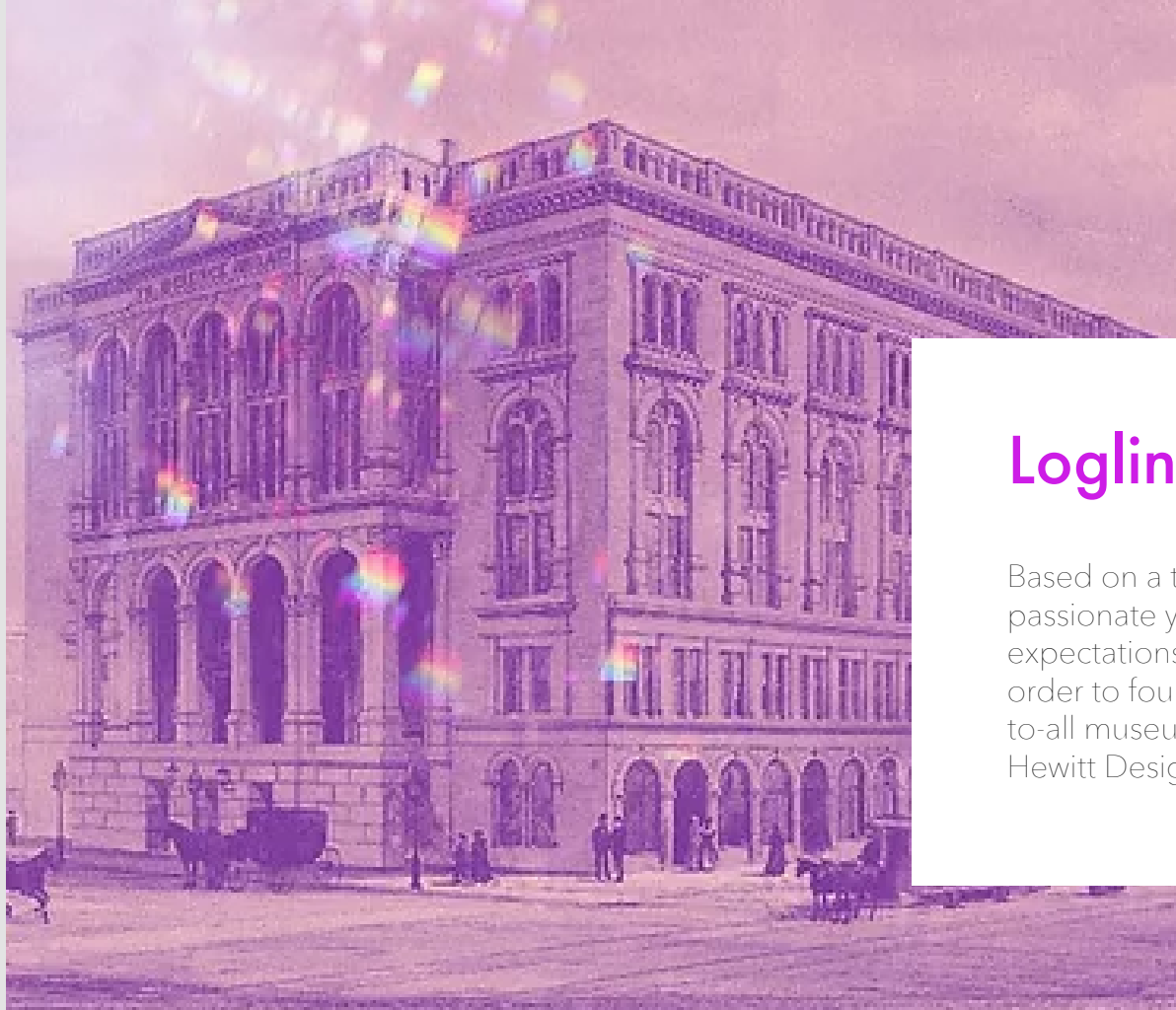


Decorative Objects

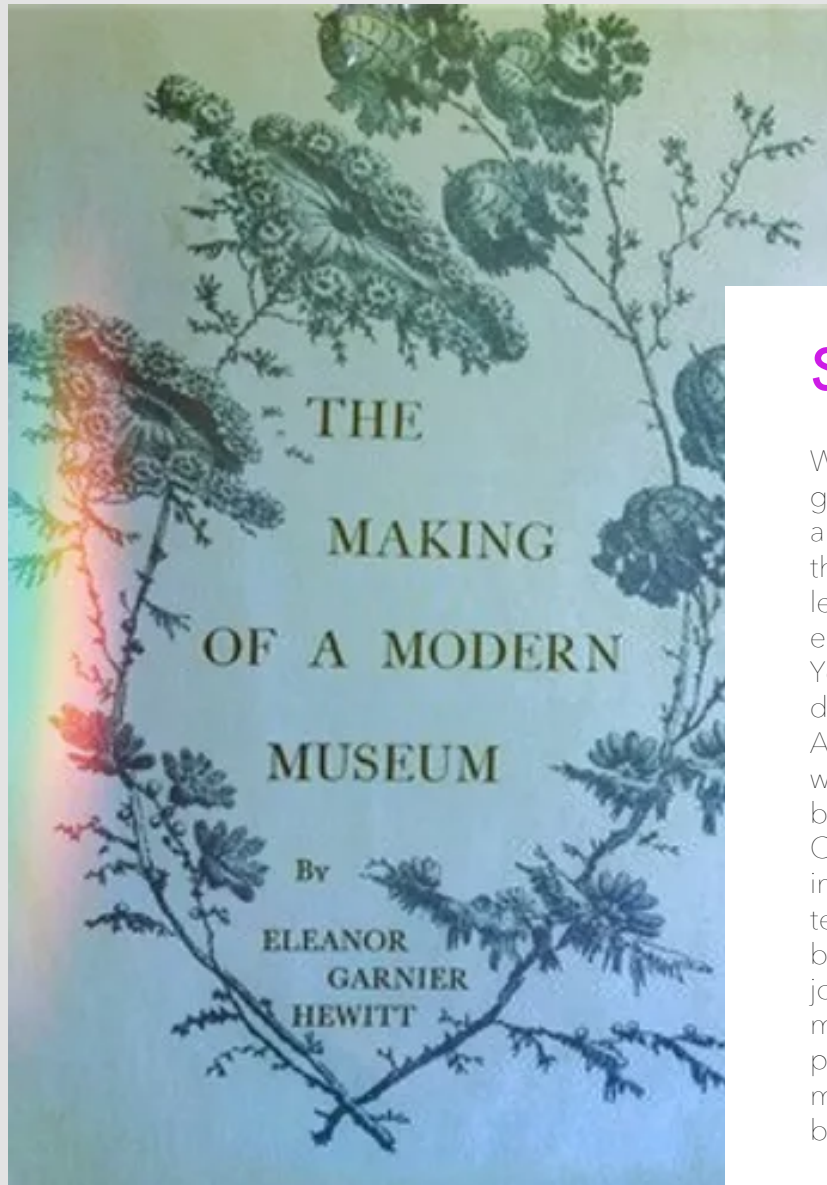
A one-hour period drama inspired by real-life people





Logline

Based on a true story, two rebellious, passionate young sisters reject societal expectations and battle the patriarchy in order to found New York's first free, open-to-all museum - the modern day Cooper Hewitt Design Museum.



Synopsis

When their older sister Amy Hewitt gets engaged, society ladies Sally and Nellie Hewitt decide to reject the traditional path of marriage and leisure laid out for them and endeavor to found one of New York's first museums, the modern day Cooper Hewitt Design Museum. Along the way their paths intersect with Etta Blackwell, an aspiring young black artist taking classes at the Cooper Union, and Li Xiu, a Chinese immigrant seamstress who suffers a terrible loss. Things are complicated by Prudence Williams, a female journalist with a penchant for meddling into the lives of the privileged, and Bridget, a ladies maid who is not who she appears to be.

SHOW CROSS

Decorative Objects is akin to:





EPISODE CONCEPTS

PILOT (Vanderbilt Ball)

The Hewitt sisters prepare for the ball of the century, which has a ripple of effects culminating in Sally's decision to build the museum.

TWO (Brooklyn Bridge)

Family patriarch Peter Cooper passes and the Hewitt family mourns while planning a wedding. Pressures mount for the ladies, who attend the opening of The Brooklyn Bridge.

THREE (Paris)

The Hewitt sisters travel to Paris to help plan Amy's wedding and get inspiration for their new venture. Back in New York, a series of questionable propositions are made.

FOUR (Wedding)

Love is in the air as Amy and Jame's big day arrives, and surprise, they've decided to move to Paris! The ladies get caught up in various romantic entanglements and secrets.

FIVE (Appearances)

Things are not what they seem, as the ladies mold and stretch their identities to get what they want -- but at what price?

SIX (Grand Opening)

Finally, Sally and Nellie prepare to open the museum. Will it be successful or end before it's begun?

TONE + THEMES

Decorative Objects is a period drama with depth, a touch of humor, plenty of tension, and a dash of hope. Our main characters are often forthright, earnest, and striving for more, but they can also be selfish, short-sighted, and blind to their own privilege.

Equal to this, is the ever-present feeling that these women are trapped deep inside the oppression of the patriarchy. We watch them grab for what they need with varying degrees of success. Though there are some dark moments when the characters are in dangerous situations, there is also a hope in the world of these characters; things might work out, and that hope is what pulls us back

Through the above lens, we explore themes of class-ism, misogyny, racism, art, and altruism, among others.



THE TEAM



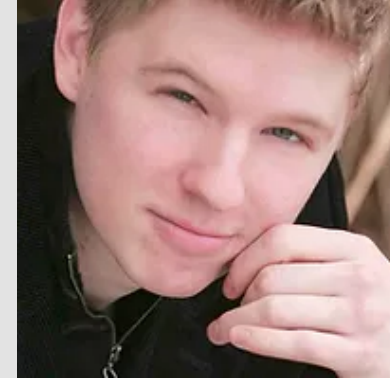
CHRISTY ESCOBAR

Christy Escobar recently received a grant from NYFA for her new play *The Motherhood Project*, which received a reading at The Cell Theatre. As an actress, she has appeared on TV and film in *Blindspot* (NBC), *Dietland* (AMC), *Loser Leaves Town* (HBO), *The Man in The Woods* (Apple), and more. Her theatre work includes *GNIT* (Theatre for a New Audience), *Beginning Days of True Jubilation* (New Ohio), *Queen of Basel* (Studio Theatre), and *Scissoring* (INTAR). She is a proud member of SOCIETY Theatre.



CAROLINE HEWITT

Caroline's Broadway credits include *Junk* and *The Front Page*. Off-Broadway credits include *Lazarus* (New York Theater Workshop and King's Cross Theater in London), *Tamburlaine* (Theater for a New Audience), *Against the Hillside* and *Good Results* (Ensemble Studio Theater). TV credits: *When They See Us*, *The I-Land*, *New Amsterdam*, and *The Blacklist*. Caroline adapts novels into plays, including *Howard's End*. She is currently adapting Edith Wharton's *The House of Mirth* into a play.



PAUL HUFKER

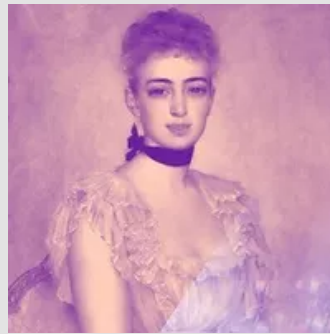
Paul is a Eugene O'Neill Prize Semi-Finalist, a Great Plains Theatre Conference invited playwright, and Himan Brown Award winner, a O'Neill Conference semi-finalist, a American Theatre in Higher Education Excellence in Playwriting Award finalist, a Jerome Fellowship finalist, a Princess Grace Award semi-finalist, and an O'Neill Conference semi-finalist. His plays have been produced in NYC, throughout the US, and in Toronto, Canada, as well as at MIT, the Museo Jumex in Mexico City and the Serpentine Gallery in London.

CHARACTERS



SALLY HEWITT

Historical figure and second daughter to Amelia and Abram Hewitt, and granddaughter to Peter Cooper. She's fiery, independent, and acutely aware of her own desires. She is ready to dismantle patriarchal norms--if only she could find an occupation worthy of her attention!



NELLIE HEWITT

Historical figure and youngest daughter of Amelia and Abram Hewitt, and granddaughter to Peter Cooper. A sensitive soul with an eye for design, Nellie takes a more cautious approach to the world - she believes in romance, but worries it isn't possible for her on her own terms.



ETTA BLACKWELL

As a Black young woman, Etta struggles to make a place for herself in a society designed to shut her out. She has a great talent for drawing and wishes to present a world of courage, hope, and humanity.



LI XIU

An extremely talented seamstress who recently immigrated to New York from China with her husband Huang. She is smart and resourceful by necessity, as she faces many challenges in a country the recently signed the Chinese Exclusion Act into law.



PRUDENCE WILLIAMS

A journalist with a sharp eye for politics, Prudence is stuck writing for the society pages. Ambitious, and whip-smart, Prudence believes everyone in New York is hiding at least one secret.



BRIDGET

Bridget is smart and hardworking. When she lands a coveted position as a ladies maid within the Hewitt family household, Bridget quickly ingratiates herself with Sally and Nellie. But Bridget understands the necessity of concealing her true past, and she isn't beyond some unsavory dealings in order to advance her position in the world.



"If the first woman God
ever made was strong
enough to turn the world
upside down, these
women together ought to
be able to turn it right
again."

- Sojourner Truth