

Crew

Director: Janeve West ♠
Production Design: Doug Rankin
Prop and Foley Design/Construction: Ken Yeater
Lighting Design: Stacy Field ♠♥
Costume Design/Hair and Makeup: Kate Drost ♠ and Sara Kindt
Recorded Sound Design: Janeve West ♠
Video/Production and Publicity Consultant: Chris Goble
Dramaturgy: Mike Diamond ♠♥ and members of the Theatre History Course (Ken Yeater, Kate Drost ♠♥, Krissie Heinzman, Heather Hall ♠, Jenny Erbes ♠♥)
Radio/Campus Television Publicity Concept/Design: Misty Czapla
Stage Manager: Jenny Erbes ♠♥
Assistant Stage Manager: Erin Hallas ♠
Assistant Costume/Hair/Makeup: Stephanie Steele ♥
Light Board Operator: Sarah Sauer
Sound Board Operator: Jason Deford
Video Operator: Chris Baldwin ♥
Stage Crew: Jonathan Matthews
Videographers: Josh Graber, Brent Sherman, Kelly Winters
Box Office Management and Ticket Sales: Valerie Koopman ♠♥
Concessions Managers: Heather Hall ♠
Tiela Halpin ♠♥
Publicity: Doug Rankin, Misty Czapla, Chris Goble and Alpha Psi Omega
Costume Shop Foreman: Pat Andresen
Scene Shop Foreman: Dean St. Ledger

♠ Denotes membership in Alpha Psi Omega, a National Theatre Honor Society

♥ Denotes a winner of a Fine Arts Scholarship

*** To the Audience. Tonight's production contains smoke, gun shots, and mysterious sounds. ***

Special Thanks:

Professors Chris Goble and Joe Angotti, Dr. Chris Fasano, Pat Andresen, Dean St. Ledger and all of the students in the Tech Theatre Course. This production is created in partnership with Chris Goble and the Television and Radio workshops. Students are using media to create a wide variety of publicity pieces and PSA's tailored toward this production. This publicity can be seen on MCTV.

Crimson Masque
presents

Night at the Mercury Theatre



February 26-March 1, 2009

Wells Theater

7:30 pm Thursday-Saturday
2:00 pm Sunday

Buck Rogers: Episode One

by Jack Johnstone, Joe A. Cross, Albert G. Miller,
Philip Nowlan and Richard Calkins

Tynan Sinks: Opening Announcement

Amanda White ♠: Announcer

Marcus Bailey ♠: Pete

Brian Rowe: Huer

Gabi Schaerli: Wilma

John Snowdon: Buck

Zero Hour by Ray Bradbury

Tynan Sinks: Opening Announcement

Amanda White ♠ : Announcer

Brittany Van Etten ♠: Announcer

Brittany Alston ♠: Mink

Danielle Foust: Mary

Stacey Field ♠♥: Anna

Ashley Musser: Helen

Dane Feenstra: Henry

Abby Davis ♠: Operator

There will be a 10 min. intermission

War of the Worlds by Orson Welles. Adapted from the novel by H.G. Wells

Tynan Sinks: Opening Announcement, Orson
Welles, Captain

Amanda White ♠: Merc Announcer, Operator 3

Abby Davis ♠: Announcer

Stacey Field ♠♥: Announcer

Ashley Musser: Announcer 2, Operator 2

Gabi Schaerli: Announcer 3

Dane Feenstra: Phillips, Gunner

John Snowdon: Pierson, Commander

Tynan Sinks: Policeman

Brian Rowe: Policeman

Marcus Bailey ♠: Wilmuth, Secretary, Observer,
McDonald

Brian Rowe: Smith, Officer, Stranger

Brittany Van Etten ♠: Operator 1

Danielle Foust: Operator 4

Brittany Alston ♠: Operator 5

Foley Walkers: All performers listed above

The audience is invited to remain in the theater following opening night for coffee and conversation with the cast, crew, designer and director of *Night at the Mercury Theatre*.

We also invite the audience to a pre-show discussion Sunday, March 1 at 1:00 p.m. in the Wells Theater. Communication lecturer Chris Goble will discuss the Golden Age of radio drama, and Joe Angotti, visiting distinguished professor of communication, will address the role and responsibility of the media in times of national crises.

A few thoughts from the Dramaturge...

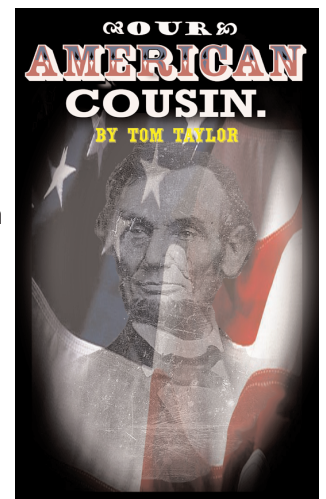
With the birth of radio came radio entertainment. Families listened to programs in order to escape from reality and listened to entertainment essentially for free. Times were hard and money was tight and the best form of entertainment was listening to the radio. Once radio programs were born, the need for superheroes emerged as a way for Americans to know that someone, fictional or real, could be looking out for an entire city. The emergence of *The Shadow*, *The Lone Ranger*, *Buck Rogers* and *Superman* eased the minds of most Americans. This provided some sense that Americans were safe in a country that seemed to be collapsing around them after the Stock Market Crash of 1929.

War of the Worlds caused much panic because it was the first radio program to sound like radio news. Because many Americans were listening to the Edgar Bergen and Charlie McCarthy show on NBC, they switched over to CBS about 12 minutes into the Welles broadcast and heard Martians landing. Many people of New Jersey also remember the Hindenburg disaster of 1937, a year before Orson Welles program was aired, which was the most famous news broadcast in radio's history.

Upcoming Productions

April 4-5, 2009
Our American Cousin
by Tom Taylor
Orpheum Theater,
Galesburg, IL

April 29-30, 2009
Directing Class One
Acts
W.I.T. Theater



The Monmouth College Theatre Program is a proud member of the Illinois Theatre Association.

From the Director

I did not begin this project with the intent of making a socio/political statement. Though often my intent in previous productions, this work was intended to train actors in a new performance style while exploring scripts, characters, moments, news, people, and sounds that have become iconic in our culture. As we explored the actual panic resulting from the 1938 broadcast of *War of the Worlds*, we did so in tandem with an in depth look at the headlines that were pervading the culture of the 1930s and 1940s. In our search we discovered a culture fearful that the new weapons of warfare would come to their door; concerned that an enemy called unemployment would sneak into their homes; in terror that their lives might be invaded by poverty. We also found great music, fantastic hairstyles, and an urgent desire for a hero to drop from the sky, step out of the shadow, shine a light (or a green lantern) onto their lives. Throughout this process, it became all so easy to draw clear connections to the headlines of today. As our homes struggle to protect themselves against the invasions of foreclosures, and our televisions allow that creature called fear into our households, it's clear to me that we still need our heroes (thank you Sully), we still fear for our children, and we still worry about the potential, metaphorical, and literal invasions in our lives. If the saying is true, and nostalgia is merely a desire to "go home" perhaps we don't have too far to look. I hope you enjoy both the sights and sounds of tonight's performances. May they take you back to the past, propel you into the future, and play vividly in the theatre of your mind.



THE JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival -
XLII

sponsored in part by
Stephen and Christine Schwarzman
The Kennedy Center Corporate Fund
U.S. Department of Education
The National Committee for the Performing Arts
Dr. Gerald and Paula McNichols Foundation

This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF). The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for a response by a regional KCACTF representative, and selected students and faculty are invited to participate in KCACTF programs involving scholarships, internships, grants and awards for actors, directors, dramaturgs, playwrights, designers, stage managers and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for inclusion at the KCACTF regional festival and can also be considered for invitation to the KCACTF national festival at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC in the spring of 2009.

Last year more than 1,300 productions were entered in the KCACTF involving more than 200,000 students nationwide. By entering this production, our theater department is sharing in the KCACTF goals to recognize, reward, and celebrate the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.



BRITTANY ALSTON is a junior Communication major from Matteson, IL. She is a member of the Monmouth College Chorale and a Scot Ambassador. She just returned from studying off campus in the Chicago Arts Program and hopes to study in London and Florence next spring. Recent MC theatre credits include Ms. Pennywise in *Urinetown* and Dr. Todesrocheln in *The Baltimore Waltz*.

MARCUS BAILEY is a freshman Psychology major, English minor from Knoxville, IL. He is currently involved in both Crimson Masque and Sulci and was last seen in the MC production, *Lysistrata*. His future plans are to continue his study in the area of psychology and continue his passion of writing.



ABBY DAVIS is a freshman majoring in Theatre with a History minor. She is from Springfield, IL, Abby is a member of Crimson Masque. She was last seen in the Monmouth College production of *Lysistrata*. She is not quite sure what she wants to do after graduating but would like to do something relating to the theatrical aspect within museums or historical sites such as New Salem or the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Museum in Springfield, IL.

JENNY ERBES is a sophomore Theatre major, Religious Studies minor from Hamilton, IL. She is a member of Crimson Masque, PRISM, Alpha Psi Omega and is a Student Chaplain. She was last seen in the MC production, *Lysistrata*, but her past favorite role was that of Poso in the MC production of *Waiting for Godot*. After graduation she plans to attend graduate school.



DANE FEENSTRA is a sophomore majoring in Vocal Performance with hopefully a Theater minor. From Pittsfield, IL, Dane is a member of the Chorale, the Concert Choir, the Marching Band, the Jazz Band, and the Scotsmen. This is Dane's first show here at Monmouth College. After graduation Dane would like to attend graduate school and eventually become a professional singer. He is very thrilled to be a member of this show's cast and crew.

STACEY FIELD is a junior Theater major, Media minor from Chicago, IL. She is a member of Crimson Masque, Alpha Psi Omega, and ASAP. After college she plans to work as a stage manager for a theatre company, continue to work in technical theatre and maintain her passion for music.



DANIELLE FOUST is a junior majoring in Elementary Education with a content area of Social Science and Theatre minor. From Monmouth, Illinois, Danielle is a member of Crimson Masque, as well Secretary for IEA. In her free time she keeps busy tutoring, as well as working at Buffalo Wild Wings and Family Video. She was last seen in the MC production of *Lysistrata* as Alexis. She would like to continue her education at graduate school where she will expand her teaching career to include the subjects of science.

ERIN HALLAS (Assistant Stage Manager) is a freshman with an undecided major from Mineral, IL, Erin works in the theater and is a member of Crimson Masque. This is her first experience with collegiate theater. After this year she plans to leave Monmouth and become a Nanny for at least a year.



ASHLEY MUSSER is a sophomore English major, Political Science minor from Nokomis, IL. She is a member of Crimson Masque as well as Alpha Lambda Delta and the Pre-Law Society. She was last seen in the MC production of *Lysistrata*. After graduation she plans to attend law school.

BRIAN ROWE is a senior Theatre major. He has been seen previously on the Monmouth stage in *A Christmas Carol* as Bob Cratchit, and *The Importance of Being Earnest* as Lane. He was also seen performing as the lead singer in his band, A Firefly Midnight, and a few short films he directed and acted in for MC-TV. He will be directing *The Jet of Blood* by Antonin Artaud this April in the spring one acts. After leaving Monmouth, he hopes to play music with his band professionally.



GABRIELLE SCHAEFERLI is a freshman majoring in Public Relations. From Gurnee IL, Gabrielle is a member of Scot Speak and is the president of the Grier Hall council. This is her first production at Monmouth College. After graduation she would like to work for a public relations firm in Chicago.

R. TYNAN SINKS is a junior Public Relations major. From Rockford IL, Tynan is the vice president and social chair of Zeta Beta Tau, a member of the MC Chorale, a writing and speech tutor, as well as co-founder of Monmouth's first poetry troupe, Sulci. Tynan was last seen in *Urinetown* as Hot Blades Harry. Last summer, Tynan interned for MTV in L.A. and would like to do so again this coming summer..



JONATHON SNOWDON is a sophomore majoring in English with a minor in Theatre. From Roscoe, Illinois, Jonathon is a member of Crimson Masque, ZBT Fraternity, and the Liberal Legion. He was last seen as Adam in the MC production of *The Shape of Things*. After graduation he would like to teach English at the high school level.

BRITTANY VAN ETTEN is a freshman majoring in Theatre with a Political Science and Psychology minor. From Morton, IL, Brittany is a member of KKG, Crimson Masque, Chorale, and Grier Hall Council. She was last seen in the MC production of *Lysistrata* as Old Woman 3. After graduation she'd like to attend cosmetology school and become a theatrical cosmetologist.



JANEVE WEST (Director) is finishing her second year as a professor at Monmouth College. Her credits include multiple world premiere productions at The Omaha Theater Company as well as a wide array of academic, community and youth productions. Some of her directing credits include: *The Baltimore Waltz*, *Waiting for Godot*, *Proof*, *Our Town*, *The Baby Dance*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Woyzeck* and *The Taming of the Shrew*. Her last production at MC was *The Shape of Things*. Janeve has her MFA in both acting and directing from Texas Tech University and her B.A. in English and Theatre Education from Southwestern College in Winfield, KS. She would like to thank Julia for her wealth of patience.

AMANDA WHITE is a sophomore Psychology and Public Relations double major with a Communication minor. She is from Roscoe, IL and is a member of Crimson Masque, KKG and is a Scot Ambassador. One of her favorite roles was that of Hope in the MC production of *Urinetown*. After graduation she plans to work for a non-profit organization particularly dealing with children and/or nature conservation.

