



# THE CRUCIBLE

November 17-20, 2016



# The Crucible

By: Arthur Miller

Directed by: Ellen Johnson

November 17-20

Fusion Theatre

230 S. Main Street

Produced by special arrangement with DRAMATISTS PLAY SERVICE, INC.

## Characters & Setting

Set in Puritan Massachusetts Bay Colony (Salem), MA in 1692.

Betty Parris: Daughter of Reverend Parris, aged ten.

Reverend Samuel Parris: Town Minister, known to be greedy and judgemental.

Tituba: Reverend Parris' slave from Barbados.

Abigail Williams: Niece of Reverend Parris, orphaned, aged seventeen. A strikingly beautiful girl with an endless capacity for dissembling.

Susanna Wilcott: Friend of Abigail.

Mrs. Ann Putnam: A twisted soul of forty-five, a death-ridden woman, haunted by dreams.

Thomas Putnam: A well-to-do, hard-handed landowner near fifty.

Mercy Lewis: A sly, merciless girl of eighteen.

Mary Warren: Aged seventeen, a subservient, naive girl.

John Proctor: A local farmer, known for his independence and temper.

Rebecca Nurse: Aged seventy-two, a pious soul and well-respected within the community.

Giles Corey: Aged eighty-three, knotted with muscle, canny, inquisitive, and still powerful.

Reverend John Hale: Aged thirty-five, a ruddy, bright young man with an eagerness for knowledge.

Elizabeth Proctor: Wife to John Proctor, sickly yet fervently honest.

Francis Nurse: An elderly pillar to the community.

Ezekial Cheever: The town's clerk.

John Willard/Hopkins: The residing deputy, a drunkard.

Judge Hathorne: Local judge, aged sixty-five.

Deputy-Governor Danforth: A grave man in his sixties, of some humor and sophistication that does not, however interfere with an exact loyalty to his position and his cause.

Sarah Good: Homeless, has lost her mind due to the perils of the time.

Martha Corey: Third wife to Giles Corey.

# The Cast

Betty Parris.....	Alexi Licata
Reverend Samuel Parris.....	Billy Savage
Tituba.....	Deandrea Halmon
Abigail Williams.....	Amanda Grissom*
Susana Walcott.....	Maddi Denault
Mrs. Ann Putnam.....	Gabrielle Nance
Thomas Putnam.....	Korneel Dobbels
Mercy Lewis.....	Naia Dawson
Mary Warren.....	Sarah Schmitt*
John Proctor.....	Johnny Williams III*
Rebecca Nurse.....	Haley Willits
Giles Corey.....	Miles Rose
Reverend John Hale.....	Chauncey Nardi
Elizabeth Proctor.....	Galen Hughes*
Francis Nurse.....	Ian Jefferson
Ezekial Cheever.....	Declan Shannon
John Willard/ Hopkins.....	Richard Eyre
Judge Hathorne.....	Michael Hargrove
Deputy-Governor Danforth.....	Samuel Dummer
Sarah Good.....	Bethany Partridge
Martha Corey.....	Katie Robertson

## Synopsis

Widely regarded as one of the greatest American plays of all time, *The Crucible* was originally written as a parable of 1950's McCarthyism. As with the alleged witches of Salem, suspected Communists were encouraged to confess and identify other Communist sympathizers as means of escaping punishment. Many of those accused of Communism suffered loss of employment and/or destruction of their careers; some even suffered imprisonment. Miller's ideas resonate in the embattled world of today's political contexts with strong polarization between the ideologies of parties regarding religious freedom, social policies and fear of the unknown.

## General Information

\* denotes member of Alpha Psi Omega, National Theatre Honor Society.

-There will be a 10-minute intermission between acts. Please join us in the lobby for refreshments provided by Alpha Psi Omega and Crimson Masque.

-Please silence all electronics.

-Restrooms and drinking fountains are located in the lobby.

-Photography and recording of any kind is prohibited.

-Warning: this production contains mature content and is not suitable for children under 13 without parental supervision.



Johnny Williams III\*  
Senior  
Kewanee, IL  
Theatre Major



Galen Hughes\*  
Junior  
Theatre Major with an Arts Management Minor  
Genoa, IL



Amanda Grissom\*  
Sophomore  
Theatre Major  
Eldridge, IA



Chauncey Nardi  
Freshman  
Biology Major  
Hudson, IL



Billy Savage  
Sophomore  
Oak Forest, IL  
Theatre and Political Science Major



Samuel Dummer  
Junior  
History Major  
Round Lake Beach, IL

Sarah Schmitt\*  
Senior  
Marengo, IL  
Elementary Ed Major with a Spanish minor



Pictured: Katie Robertson, Miles Rose, Bethany Partridge, Ian Jefferson,  
Deandria Halmon, Richard Eyre, Naia Dawson, Maddi Denault, Haley Willits,  
Declan Shannon.

## Design Team

Director.....	Ellen Johnson*
Directing Faculty Advisor.....	Dr. Vanessa Campagna
Stage Manager.....	Kyrsten Hume
Assistant Stage Manager.....	Autumn Gay
Lighting Design.....	Morgan Holle
Lighting Design Faculty Advisor.....	Doug Rankin
Scenic Design.....	Doug Rankin
Costume Design.....	Galen Hughes*
Costume Design Advisor.....	Raymond Gabica
Sound Design.....	Sydney Ropella
Properties Design.....	Chauncey Nardi
Assistant Properties Design.....	Autumn Gay
Hair & Makeup Design.....	Galen Hughes*
Dramaturg.....	Katie Robertson
Scene Painter.....	Hannah Weis
Director of Theatre, Technical Advisor.....	Doug Rankin
Costume Shop Foreman.....	Raymond Gabica
Scene Shop Foreman.....	Leo Szaltis
Box Office/Publicity Manager.....	Ellen Johnson*
Box Office/Publicity Team.....	Leslie Appel* & Amanda Green

## Run Crew

Tanner Garey	Danny Evers
Zach Hoekstra	Logan Gigl
Carl O' Connor	Mike Gertz
Brady Crane	Austin Jones
Marina Carbajal	Andrew Martin
Jessica Simmons	Kaitlyn Walker
Maria Perino	

## Special Thanks

President Wyatt and Lobie Stone	Scholarship Students
Dr. Ron Zank	Jeff Rankin
CherIt Forward	THEA 173 Students
Work Study Students	Western Illinois University Department of Theatre



## A Note From Our Director

I first found my love for theatre in high school, when my parents encouraged me to audition for the fall play. I was afraid, absolutely terrified, as I had just moved to a new school, but when I walked out onto that stage and began working on the show, I felt magic in the air. I couldn't get enough. I participated in every theatre activity the school had to offer and each and every time I fell in love with the shows we were doing.

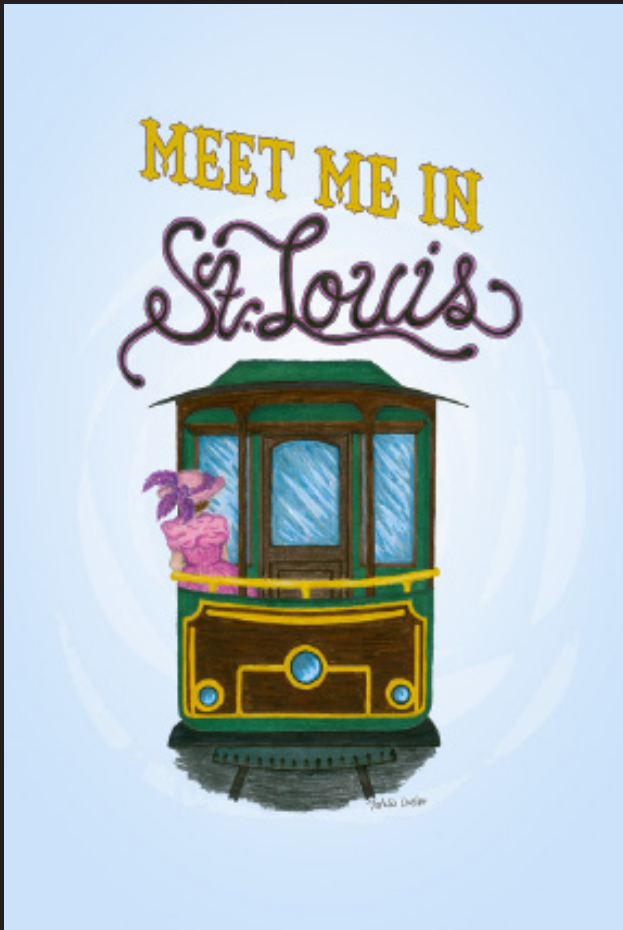
Fast forward to almost eight years later and I am still moving full speed ahead with theatre, only this time, I am no longer an actor on the stage. I have been given an amazing opportunity to direct an amazing show: *The Crucible*. *The Crucible* was first introduced to me my sophomore year of high school, where I played the role of Mercy Lewis. I was captured by the spirit of the show and Arthur Miller's brilliant writing, with its depth of emotion and sheer thrill of action. *The Crucible* became my favorite show.

Now that I reexamine the text through a more mature eye, in addition to the depth of emotion, I see a community that struggles with their moral fibers. Through a strange event and the whispering amongst the village, citizens find themselves questioning all aspects of their lives.

To me, this play is one on authority in which people struggle to maintain their sense of self. In this loss of self, the characters find themselves questioning the powerful institutions designed to help them as well as the humanity of their neighbors and friends. The hysteria of the village, the perils of John Proctor and his wife, and countless sins committed, marks the beginning where shadows of social stigma work together to cause a loss of hope in humanity, systems, and selves.

I would like to thank my parents who have been my cheerleaders from the very start, for encouraging me even through the countless rehearsals and helping to find this magical place. Many thanks to my advisor, Dr. Vanessa Campagna, and theatre faculty for their endless support. Finally, thank you to Carlin and my ZBT and Alpha Xi families for being there for me through all of this and supplying lots of coffee and pizza. I could not have done any of this without all of you.

Ellen Johnson



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