



MONMOUTH  
COLLEGE

DEPARTMENT  
OF THEATRE

2017-18  
SEASON



Welcome to our 92nd season. Since moving out of the Department of Communication a few years ago, our program has evolved into a unique environment for our students. Unlike many institutions, we believe in offering lead positions in all areas of production to students from all across campus. Our first main-stage offering, *Pieces of Glaspell*, is directed by one of our Theatre majors. Both that and *The Pitchfork Disney* are being designed by a Mathematics major. We believe that all of

our graduates will leave Monmouth College with the ability to be successful in all areas of theatre. My colleagues Vanessa Campagna, Ron Zank, and I hope you enjoy our diverse season which blends classical, community and challenging modern dramas. We rely on you, our audience, to give us feedback about how our teams perform and what we can do to make your theatre-going experience better. Please feel free to contact us via social media or email with your thoughts.

—Doug Rankin, Director of Theatre

We look forward to sharing our season with you. Whether you want to purchase a whole season package or just come to our downtown or campus productions, we want to make it easy for you. Our online ticket reservation system has been revamped to make ordering simple. You can have your tickets held at the box office, print them at home, or use your smartphone as a ticket device.

To purchase tickets for a production or for the whole season, go to [www.monmouthcollege.edu/box-office](http://www.monmouthcollege.edu/box-office)

If you have questions or difficulties, please email me personally:  
[drankin@monmouthcollege.edu](mailto:drankin@monmouthcollege.edu)

cover art by Robin Weis '19

September 8-9, 2017

### Fusion Fest IV

A 24-Hour Play Festival  
Starting at 7:30 p.m.

Friday

Performance Saturday  
7:30 p.m.

What happens when entire plays are created, rehearsed, staged, and performed for an audience – all in the span of 24 hours?

Just about anything. And it's a whole lot of fun to watch!

Welcome to *Fusion Fest IV*—Monmouth College Department of Theatre's fourth annual 24-hour play festival!

Here's how it works: At 7:30 p.m. on Friday, September 8, a group of playwrights will each randomly draw a team of actors, a director, and a random phrase. The intrepid (and soon to be sleep-deprived) playwrights then have a mere 12 hours to write a short play featuring their actors and, at some point in the dialogue, their random phrase. At 7:30 a.m., the playwrights hand off their brand-new creations, and the director and actors then have until 7:30 p.m. to rehearse, stage, and memorize it all before performing before a live audience.

Hilarity and hijinks are bound to ensue as part of this chaotic and exciting theatrical event!

Fusion Theatre  
230 South Main Street







October 5-8 2017

**Trifles**

and

**Woman's Honor**

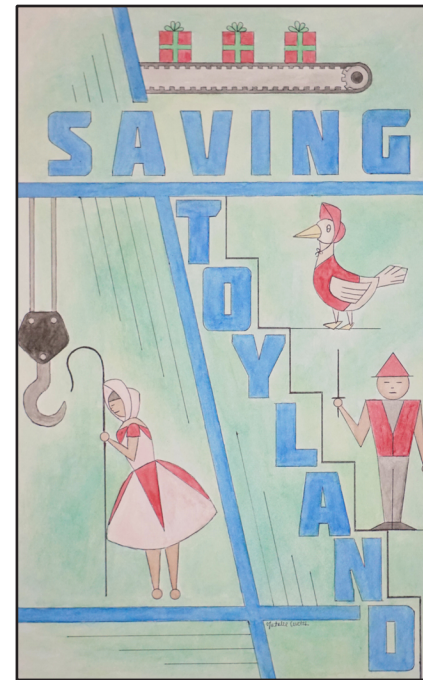
by Susan Glaspell  
7:30 pm. Thurs.-Sat.  
2 p.m. Sun.

Join us for two one-act plays by one of the first feminist authors. Susan Glaspell, the Pulitzer Prize winning author from Davenport, IA, focuses on the plight of women at the turn

of the 20th century. **Trifles** is a classic murder mystery based on a real-life case Glaspell covered while working as a reporter for the *Des Moines Daily News*. **Woman's Honor** is a satiric piece is about an attractive young man accused of murder who chooses to suffer for a crime he did not commit rather than spoil the honor of the woman with whom he'd spent the night of the murder and who could give him an alibi.

directed by Amanda Grissom '19

Fusion Theatre  
230 South Main Street



November 16-19, 2017

**Saving Toyland**

adapted by Ron Zank  
from *Babes in Toyland* by  
MacDonough and Herbert  
7:30 pm. Thurs.-Sat.  
2 p.m. Sun.

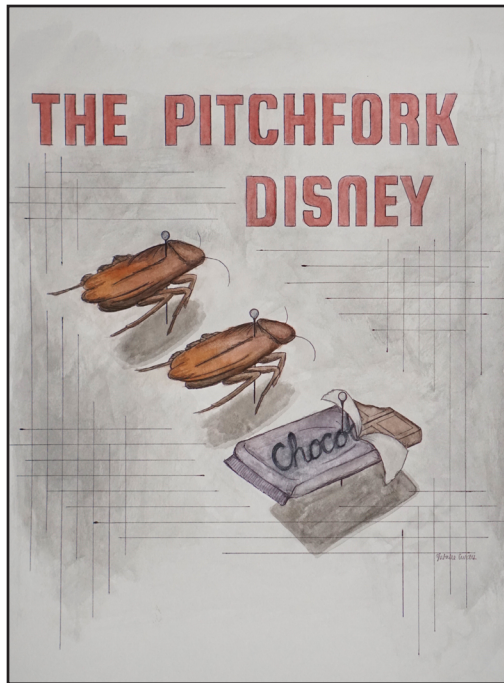
What is going on in Toyland? Mother Goose has flown the coop and no one knows where to find her. She's left Silas Barnaby in charge and the children are excited he's called off school, but his niece and

nephew keep having accidents, and who are these bumbling assistants he's hired? Will Barnaby marry Mary Quite Contrary, or will he kick the Widow Piper and her children out of their shoe house? Something is seriously wrong with the toys being made, but can it be fixed in time for Christmas? And Little Miss Muffet, Jack and Jill, and the other nursery rhyme characters aren't even rhyming. Can Tom Tom, the Piper's Son and all the rest figure out what's going on and help save Toyland?

Based on the classic operetta, this family-friendly comedy will feature music, dances, narrow escapes, disguises, physical humor, and silly puns. Fun for all ages!

directed by Ron Zank

Wells Theater  
850 East Broadway



February 22-25, 2018

## The Pitchfork

Disney

by Philip Ridley

7:30 p.m. Thurs.-Sat.

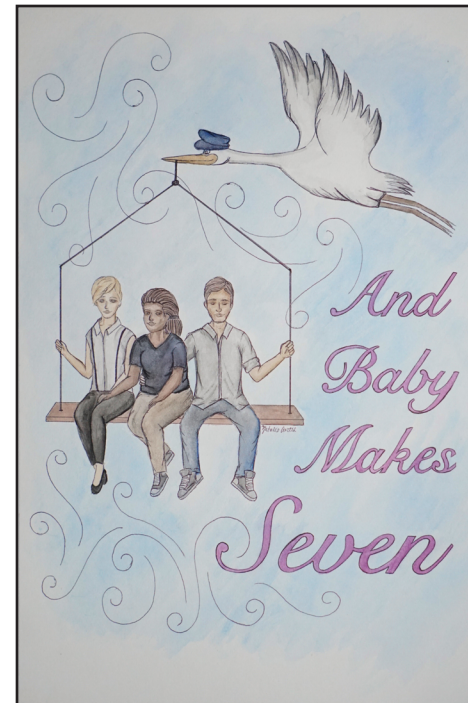
2 p.m. Sun.

The Pitchfork Disney marked the arrival of a new and disturbing brand of contemporary drama known as “in-yer-face.” Ridley’s dreamlike vision of

a post-apocalyptic world will be certain to challenge and leave the audience unsettled. Extremely adult material. Not recommended to anyone under age 14.

directed by Doug Rankin

Fusion Theatre  
230 South Main Street



April 19-22, 2018

## And Baby Makes Seven

by Paula Vogel

7:30 p.m. Thurs.-Sat.

2 p.m. Sun.

This 1984 comedy was written when the playwright “still had the energy to envision a queer utopia.” Consequently, the action follows the queer threesome Anna, Ruth and Peter as they embark upon parenthood...a

journey that begins with killing off their imaginary children.

directed by Vanessa Campagna

Wells Theater  
850 East Broadway

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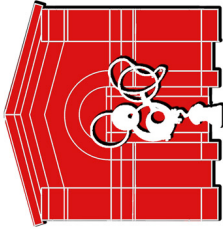
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