



WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY THEATRE PRESENTS

John Proctor *is the* Villain

by Kimberly Belflower
directed by Sharon Andrews

February 4-5 & 10-12, 2022 at 7:30 PM
February 6 & 13, 2022 at 2:00 PM

Tedford Stage



WAKE FOREST
UNIVERSITY

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

In our quest for new writers and plays that resonate with the times and the world we live in, we found *John Proctor is the Villain*. This fast paced deeply insightful play in which a group of small town high school students grapple with big world issues of sex and power, fit just right.

A colleague shared this play with me when I was directing *The Crucible* for WFU Theatre in the fall of 2019 because of its relationship to Arthur Miller's play and its iconic hero, John Proctor. Miller wrote *The Crucible* as an allegory for the McCarthy Hearings in the 1950's and created John Proctor as an ultimate hero who refuses to sacrifice his good name to save his life. With the Me Too movement exploding and sexual abuse happening close to home the idea of John Proctor as a hero is seriously challenged by an honor's English class in a small town in Georgia.



Kimberly Belflower (pictured above), the writer of *John Proctor is the Villain*, grew up in a small town in Appalachian Georgia and knows intimately the world in which the play is set. She generously met with the cast on a recent Zoom call and with a sheepish smile admitted that one of the characters in the play is pretty much her. Kimberly is a 2019 – 2022 Fellow in Playwriting at Emory College.

We are fortunate to be able to produce this timely play by this talented writer.

Wake Forest University Theatre presents

JOHN PROCTOR IS THE VILLAIN

by Kimberly Belflower

February 4-6 & 10-13, 2022

Director

Sharon Andrews

Scenic Designer

Mary Wayne-Thomas

Costume Designer

Clare Parker

Lighting Designer

Kevin Frazier

Sound Designer

Vir Gupta ('25)

Stage Manager

Chris Cates* ('22)

CAST

CARTER SMITH.....	Elliot Lerner ('12)
SHELBY HOLCOMB.....	Elinor Grage*
BETH POWELL.....	Sarah Cadena*
NELL SHAW.....	Ekkiosa Olumhense*
IVY WATKINS.....	Jordi Keller ^{s*}
RAE LYNN NIX.....	Georgia Orchid ^{s*}
MASON ADAMS.....	Yaser Salamah ^{s*}
LEE TURNER.....	Ian Davis-Huie*
BAILEY GALLAGHER.....	Lainey Drake ^{s*}
LUKE ADAMS.....	Will Landau*
ISAAC.....	Patrick Fenlon
MINDY.....	Anna Kitts
AGNUS.....	Bailey Hardegree

*Anthony Aston Players member

^sPresidential Scholar in Theatre

SETTING

Spring Semester, Junior year, 2019

Helen County High, the only high school in a one-stoplight town in northeast Georgia

John Proctor is the Villain was developed at the Ojai Playwrights Conference:

Robert Egan, Artistic Director/Producer

Selections from *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller are included in the script for *John Proctor is the Villain* with express permission of The Arthur Miller 2004 Literary and Dramatic Property Trust.

Produced by special arrangement with and all authorized performance materials supplied by
WILLIAM MORRIS ENDEAVOR ENTERTAINMENT, LLC

INFORMATION

In consideration of everyone in the theatre, especially the cast who have rehearsed for weeks, please observe the following:

- ♦ Audience members must wear a mask while inside the building including the entire performance.
- ♦ Turn off and put away your cell phone or any device that might ring, buzz, or light up.
- ♦ If you are anticipating the need to be contacted during the performance, leave your name and seat location with the box office staff and the box office number with the person who may need you; the box office number is 336-758-5295.
- ♦ Laptops are not allowed; pens and paper are great alternatives for taking notes.
- ♦ Copyright laws prohibit recording in any format of any performance. Flash photography can be especially hazardous to performers and a distraction to the rest of the audience.
- ♦ Eating and drinking (other than water) are never allowed inside the theatre.

Thanks, and enjoy the show!

The show runs approximately 2 hours WITHOUT an intermission.

You did it.

Your support has made it possible to fully fund and create the new James Dodding Scholarship for Theatre. Next academic year we'll meet the first James Dodding Scholar, and your generosity will impact generations of Wake Forest Theatre students to come. We can't thank you enough.



#MeToo MOVEMENT

In revisiting *The Crucible* for our production of *John Proctor is the Villain*, it is necessary to examine recent cultural tidal waves which have changed the conversations around what it means to be a survivor of sexual assault and how to support survivors. The #MeToo Movement forever changed the conversation surrounding sexual assault both nationally and globally. Today we would like to provide a brief timeline of critical events in the #MeToo Movement which informed our production.

#MeToo Timeline

- 2006: Activist Tarana Burke founds a nonprofit to support survivors of sexual assault and calls it “Me Too,” a phrase she coined after hearing a young girl’s survivor story at a youth camp. In the moment she could not bring herself to say “me too” in support of the young girl, but today she stands behind thousands of women who have found solace and support as a result of her work.
- October 2017: The #MeToo movement trends on Twitter after Alyssa Milano uses the hashtag to share her survivor story and encourages others to do the same to prove the universality of the problem.
- May 2018: Harvey Weinstein turns himself into New York authorities to face rape charges after denying allegation after allegation following the sweep of “#MeToo”.
- July 2018: The Atlantic publishes an article claiming 25 political careers across party lines have been ended as a result of sexual misconduct allegations. Donald Trump remains in the Presidential office despite numerous allegations against him.
- September 2018: Dr. Christine Blasey Ford comes forward as the accuser of then-Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh who allegedly assaulted her when they were in high school. He now serves on the Supreme Court despite her testimony.
- February 2019: Pope Francis acknowledges in conversation with a reporter the sexual abuse of some nuns by priests following years of investigation into these claims. That same month, 380 Southern Baptist leaders and volunteers face sexual assault and misconduct allegations following the findings of a decades-long investigation. There are more than 700 survivors as a result of this systematic abuse.

This is the climate we join our characters in when the play begins in March 2019. We hope you will join us as we reckon with the effects sexual assault and the #MeToo movement continue to have on our lives at both a personal and global scale.

Trigger Warning: Themes of sexual assault, what it means to believe women, and how to heal as a survivor will be present in *John Proctor is the Villain*. No violence will be portrayed on stage.

--Lainey Drake ('22)

SAFE OFFICE

If at any time you find yourself triggered by scenes displayed in this performance or desire to seek support for related experiences, please be advised of 24/7 Campus Resources available through the SAFE Office.

24/7 Confidential Help Line: 336.758.5285

For urgent concerns, a provider with the Safe Office is available after hours and on weekends.

The Safe Office provides confidential crisis response and on-going support services to Reynolda Campus students for concerns related to interpersonal violence, including sexual misconduct, relationship violence, and stalking. The Safe Office also serves as a liaison to campus and community resources, offers educational programming, and provides confidential consultations for concerned students, parents, faculty, and staff.

PRODUCTION STAFF

Director of Theatre.....	Jonathan Christman
Technical Director.....	Thomas Williams
Costume Shop Manager.....	Alice Burton Barsony
Assistant Costume Shop Manager, Draper, & Wardrobe Manager.....	Clare Parker
Sound Design Mentor & Sound Supervisor.....	Jeff Sherwood
Audience Services Coordinator.....	Leslie Spencer
Academic Coordinators.....	Lara Ianni, Richard Williams
Assistant Stage Managers.....	Lydia Evans ^{§*} , Fuyuan Zheng*
Properties Head.....	Sarah Cadena*
Assistant Lighting Designer.....	Nicole Liu*
Associate Sound Designer.....	Patrick Cheon
Head Electrician.....	Chris Cates*
Electricians.....	Nehemya Gugs, Rachel Lin, Reese Fan Nicole Namath, Lydia Evans ^{§*} , Evan Souza ^{§*} Nicole Liu*, Abigail Franke*
Scene Shop Assistants.....	Vir Gupta*, Cat D’Arcangeli, Drew Skilton Riley Shanaghan*, Tommy Taylor
Sound & Lighting Shop Assistants.....	Chris Cates*, Nehemya Gugs
Carpenters.....	Grace Goldman, Spencer Clapp, THE 150 Class
Painters.....	Riley Shanaghan*, Nicole Liu*, Dawn Zhong
Stitchers.....	Ashanta Akins-Collier, Tatiana Bicalho Isabelle Merrifield, Emily Patten, Hannah Riley
Wardrobe, Hair, & Makeup Assistant.....	Ananya Bali*
Light Board Operator.....	Reese Fan
Sound Board Operator.....	Harry Apazidis
Photographers.....	Ken Bennett, Bill Ray III Katie Fox, Zac Anderson ^{§*}
Production Artwork Designer.....	Sean Jones ^{§*}
Social Media Managers.....	Zac Anderson ^{§*} , Chris Cates*, Lainey Drake ^{§*}
House Managers.....	Hope Peterson (‘17, MS ‘18) Devin Collins, Julia Jiang, Adarian Sneed ^{§*}
Box Office Staff.....	Zac Anderson ^{§*} , Carol Arkalji, Jen Carroll Katie Dietrich [§] , Sean Jones ^{§*} Isabelle Moore, Adarian Sneed ^{§*}
Ushers.....	Anthony Aston Players, WFU Dance Company APO service fraternity, Theatre & Dance students

*Anthony Aston Players member

§Presidential Scholar in Theatre

SPECIAL THANKS

Paisley Holland
Robyn McNally
Roz Tedford

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY THEATRE DONORS

January 1, 2021-December 31, 2021

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Linda Jones ('69)
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Calvin & Flora[‡] Milans
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Sally Millett[‡]
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The Shirley Family
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[‡] Wake Forest alumni

SHE LOVES ME



She Loves Me

*Music by Jerry Bock, Lyrics by Sheldon
Harnick, & Book by Joe Masteroff*

directed by J.K. Curry

April 1-2 & 7-9 at 7:30 PM

April 3 & 10 at 2:00 PM

Harold C. Tedford Stage

Tickets:

\$15 adults,

\$12 senior citizens,

\$7 students

336.758.5295 theatre.wfu.edu

Spring Student Choreographic Concert

*Directed by Chris Martin
& Brantly Shapiro*

April 21-23 at 7:30 PM

April 24 at 2:00 PM

Harold C. Tedford Stage

Tickets: \$15 adults,
\$12 senior citizens, \$7 students

336.758.5295 theatre.wfu.edu

