Belhaven University Theatre Department Presents

Directed by

JOSEPH FROST

Showing on

SEPT 30 thru OCT 03
7:30 p.m.

OCT 03
2:00 p.m.

Doubt is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York.


Located in
CENTER FOR THE ARTS
835 RIVERSIDE DRIVE
BLACKBOX THEATRE

by John Patrick Shanley
Director’s Notes

John Patrick Shanley was born in 1959, in the Bronx Area of New York City. He was raised Catholic, and many of the themes and ideas of Doubt were born from Shanley’s own education at the hands of Sisters of Charity. “There was a quality of certainty being exercised around me,” he reports, “that something in me was answering with something that felt very powerful called “doubt.” Shanley has written 23 plays, including Danny and the Deep Blue Sea (1983), The Big Funk (1990), Storefront Church (2012), and Outside Mullingar (2014). He has also written several screenplays, including Joe vs. the Volcano (1989) and Moonstruck (1987), which won him an Oscar for Best Writing.

Doubt: A Parable made its Broadway debut in 2004, presented by the Manhattan Theatre Club at the Walter Kerr Theatre, starring Cherry Jones, Brian F. O’Byrne, Heather Goldenhersh, and Adriane Lenox, directed by Doug Hughes, which received the Tony Award for Best Play. The play has since been produced by hundreds of theatres and universities around the country, with major productions in London, Paris, Sydney, Warsaw, Venezuela and the Philippines, as well as an award-winning United States national tour starring Jones. The play won the 2005 Pulitzer Prize for Drama, and in 2008, Doubt was made into a film starring Meryl Streep, Phillip Seymour Hoffman, Amy Adams, and Viola Davis, directed by the author.

Director’s Note

Conviction in the midst of ambiguity. In a play that carries such a significant and serious central issue as the potential abuse of a child, it is natural for us to get entangled in questions of what exactly did happen. But by leaving the ‘answer to the mystery’ out of the play, we are left to consider that the purpose to Shanley’s parable is to ponder the nature of certainty itself, and how we as human beings attempt to either quench our doubts to be able to move forward, or to succumb to the hesitation and confusion that doubt brings.

My first experience with the play was a reluctant one, venturing to New York and having the chance to see a Broadway show, but not really wanting to spend a whole show dealing with the topic of abuse. But I sat in my second balcony seat, and the lights came up on Father Flynn saying, “What do you do when you’re not sure?” The play spoke to something deep within that transcended the specifics of the story at hand and has reached into many parts of my life, where the play’s sermons, its metaphors, and its honesty has impacted me in the years since. I hope our production of this parable does the same for you tonight.

Joseph Frost, director
CAST

Sister Aloysius  Jasmine Calvert
Sister James    Lydia Brandt
Father Flynn    Cedrick Riggs, Jr.
Mrs. Muller     Laina Faul
Understudy      Grace Reeves
Understudy      Blake Freedman

ARTISTIC TEAM

Director        Joseph Frost
Scenic & Lighting Designer  Rebekah Bert
Costume Designer        Becky Freeman
Props Designer          Connor Bingham
Hair & Makeup Designer   Becky Freeman
Sound Designer          Zak Blatche
Stage Manager           Frannie Maas
Assistant Stage Manager  Lizy Hurlbert
Crew

Scenery
Technical Director - Rebekah Bert
Carpenter/Construction Crew - Marie Haynes, Sarah Harris, Sam McFatridge, Elyse Derstine, Amy Ott, Ben Shrader, Christy Robeson, Kyra Smiley, Blake Freedman, Tori Turnbow, Aryelle Tuttle, Grace Reeves, and Alice Bryant

Lighting & Sound
Faculty Advisor - Rebekah Bert
Lighting Crew - Michaela Bowen and Theo Lott
Light Board Operator - Zak Blatche
Sound Board Operator - Zak Blatche

Costumes
Faculty Advisor - Becky Freeman
Stitchers - Alice Bryant, Nicki Lee, Mac Mitchell, Lizy Hulbert, Megan Cash, Sonja Häkkinen, James Kenyon, Morgan Hillman, Lydia Brandt, Madison Parrott and Ashley Reed
Dressers - Lizy Hurlbert and Mac Mitchell

Props
Faculty Advisor - Rebekah Bert
Properties Master - Connor Bingham, Alecia Grey, and Joshua Pirtle

House Management & Box Office
Advisor - Lauren Gunn
House Manager - Lauren Gunn
Box Office Staff - Madison Parrott, Hannah Kenyon, Alexis Shephard, and Aryelle Tuttle
Program Cover & Poster Design - Corrie Hung
Program Layout & Design - Lauren Gunn
ETIQUETTE
Please turn off all cell phones and other devices in consideration of actors and audience members. No photography or video is allowed during the performance. Please check with the house manager if you are interested in any production photos.

THANK YOU!
It is the mission of the
BELHAVEN UNIVERSITY
THEATRE DEPARTMENT
to train servant artists in
the use of the art of theatre
to serve their Community,
their Collaborators, and their Creator.

The Theatre Department at Belhaven University is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Theatre and a member in good standing with Christians in Theatre Arts, Southeastern Theatre Conference, Mississippi Theatre Association, United States Institute of Theatre Technology

Theatre Department Faculty

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