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NEW MOON THEATRE COMPANY

Look Away

A Civil War Zombie Tragedy



Written by Stephen Briner
& Zac Cunningham

Directed by Gene Elliott
& Robbie Phillips

Oct. 21 - Nov. 6, 2011

Fridays & Saturdays @ 8 pm, Sundays @ 2 pm

Theatreworks, 2085 Monroe Ave. in Overton Square
Box Office 274-7139 or 484-3467 www.NewMoonTheatre.org

ABOUT THE CAST



Andrew Chandler (*William*) is jumping out of his skin to get this project in his clutches and really sink his teeth in (is that enough zombie reference?). He has been a regular participant at the Memphis Zombie Massacre for the last several years, and was lucky enough to help zombify Jacob Marley in *A Christmas Carol* at Theatre Memphis in 2010. "Much thanks to Gene and Emily for asking me to come on board, to Duane

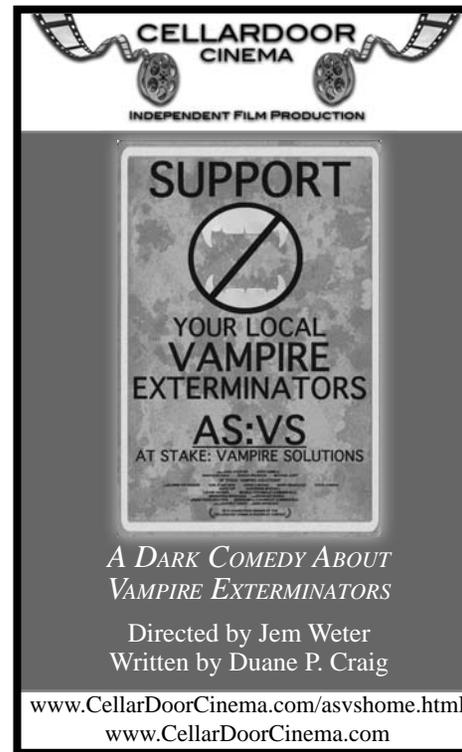
for all your expertise, to all the wonderful cast members for allowing me to take artistic liberties with your selves, and an abundance of thanks to my wife and sons for letting me stay out past my bedtime."

Gene Elliott (*John*) has been a member of NM since 2006. He most recently appeared in *Plaza Suite* at BPAC. He has directed many productions with NM including *Night, Mother, Some Things you Need to Know Before the World Ends, Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead, and The Maids*. Gene owns and operates a massage salon, Calming Influence here in midtown. After this production he is really going to need a massage himself! He does want to thank this wonderful cast and crew. "You guys are the best, I am so honored that you chose this project!"



David Hammons (*Yankee Soldier*) began performing in the theatre in 1989. He has performed in past NM productions of *Empire Builders, Look Away, Trouble in Mind & Loot*. "I hope to continue working with everyone from New Moon; they have truly helped revive my love for theatre. Thank you for letting me act again."

Heather Malone (*Abigail*) is making her first appearance with NM. She lives in North Mississippi and performs with many theatres in that area including DeSoto Family Theatre, Kudzu, and Panola Playhouse. Some favorite roles include Annie Sullivan in *The Miracle Worker*, Hedy LaRue in *How to Succeed*, and most recently as Louise/Gypsy in Germantown Community Theatre's *Gypsy*. She has never been in a play with zombies before and couldn't be more excited about it!



Theatreworks would like to mention the following arts organizations that offer assistance through grants and arts programs.

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COMMISSION

New Moon Theatre would like to thank the following, without whom this production could not have succeeded:

Eugene Katz,
Theatre Memphis,
Mark Rutledge,
Central Christian Church, Playhouse on the
Square, University of Memphis,
Fred Harpell,
Mike Hanrahan,
Jonathan Wilson,
Duane Craig

ABOUT THE PLAY

*While we seek mirth and beauty and music light and gay,
There are frail forms fainting at the door;
Though their voices are silent, their pleading looks will say
Oh hard times come again no more!*

It is February, 1865, mere months before General Lee surrenders his troops at Appomattox. General Sherman's troops have captured Savannah and put Atlanta to the torch. Now the Federals march towards Columbia, South Carolina, the capital of the first state to secede from the Union. Confederate forces, having faced defeat at the Battle of Rivers' Bridge, now retreat towards Columbia, where they plan to make a final, desperate stand. Both armies are weary, their ranks thinned by battle and disease. Sicknes holds high carnival, claiming far more lives than combat. And now, a new plague looms on history's horizon.

Not far from the city stands the Walker Plantation. The once lush cotton fields have languished since the war destroyed the South's infrastructure and the blockade made trade impossible. Inside, the Walker family steels itself from the impending invasion. Stragglers, some perhaps refugees, others perhaps deserters or runaways, bivouac on the outskirts of the plantation. So far, they have kept to themselves.

By February 17, the city will be cinders.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Having mounted this production three times, you begin to learn a lot about fake blood, zombie lore and weird tricks of the trade. It's been great fun and we are very proud of this production and all the amazing hard work each person involved has freely given.

As you've seen on the poster, this is a "Director's Cut" of the original script. Zac and Stephen were generously open with letting us tinker with their work (a very trusting thing for authors to do). We hope we have honored their work by trying to stay true to the basic intent of the piece, while putting our own spin on it. We made this process a very collaborative endeavor. We workshopped the play with numerous individuals and with the cast. Each person involved brought something wonderfully unique to the experience. I know each person enjoyed the process of being hands on and having a voice in the work. I know I personally have never had an opportunity to explore a piece of work like we've done. It was a very rewarding experience and we hope everyone here tonight enjoys the play as well.

Thank you Zac Cunningham and Stephen Briner!!

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ABOUT THE CAST



Robbie Phillips (*Rose*) joined the NM board after appearing with Gene in Bartlett Performing Arts production of *Plaza Suite*. She has studied acting at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in New York City, Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland and she did her graduate studies at SUNY Stone Brook in Performance and Directing. Robbie has performed and directed over forty productions nationwide. Since moving to Memphis in 1997, she has appeared in several showcases at Playhouse on the Square.

Bernard Rule (*Lijah*) is a wandering vagrant that set his bag down in Memphis back in '93. He is reprising his role of Lijah from the 2007 & 2009 productions of *Look Away*. Bernard has extensive experience as a cameraman for PBS and other independent projects. He is psyched to be hanging out with his old friend Lijah and NM wouldn't have it any other way!



Gregory Szatkowski (*Hank*) is a junior performance major at the University of Memphis. This is his first production with NM. He is excited to be a part of this production. Some of Greg's recent productions include Dick Cheney in *Stuff Happens* and Duke of Buckingham in *Richard III*. "Thanks to the cast and crew for your hard work. Break legs!"

Amy Van Doren (*Sarah*) serves on the NM board as treasurer. She attend Mississippi State in Accounting. Her theatre training, however, started at a much younger age. Amy is currently working on her MBA and Masters of Finance. Some of her past credits include *Death and the Maiden*, *MacBeth*, *Tell Me You Love Me*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Gigi*, *The Ribbon Mill*, *Into the Woods*, *Ruthless*, and more. Amy wants to thank her husband Jeff for putting up with never seeing her for long periods of time and always being strong. "I love you always."



New Moon Theatre Company was formed in 2004 to produce challenging works. It's first debut production of *Fefu and her Friends* was a wonderful success.

New Moon would like to acknowledge the original four founding members, and thank them for their vision, decation and hard work.

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Pam Goss
Eastern Hale
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COMPANY BOARD MEMBERS

Emily Burnett has her associates in Speech and Theatre from Northwest MS Community College. There, she participated in many of the productions such as *Crimes of the Heart* for which she won an "Allie" award. She has appeared most recently in *Gypsy* and with New Moon (NM) she has been in productions of *'Night, Mother* and *Death of a Salesman*.

Zac Cunningham has appeared with NM in *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*, *The Maids*, and *Lone Star*. He also produced, wrote and performed in *Look Away*. When he's not working on a production he can be found performing with his band Bloody Foot of Rock.

Gene Elliott received a B.A. in theatre from Eastern Kentucky University. He appeared most recently in Plaza Suite. Gene has directed such productions as *'Night, Mother, Some Things You Need To Know Before The World Ends, Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead, The Empire Builders* and *The Maids*. Some of his past acting credits include *Looking For Normal* at Circuit Theatre and in *What The Butler Saw* with NM.

William Henry most recently appeared with NM in *Some Things You Need To Know Before The World Ends*, and *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*. He is a rising senior at U. of M. pursuing a B.F.A. in Theatre Performance. His University credits include *Twelve Angry Jurors, Dark of the Moon* and *Back of the Throat*.

Don McCarrens was recently sworn in as a deputy sheriff in Southaven, something he's very proud of. He is a very dedicated and hard working member of NM. He has performed with NM in the 2009 production of *Look Away*, as well as *Loot, The Empire Builders* and *Trouble in Mind*.

Robbie Phillips recently joined the NM board after appearing with Gene in Bartlett Performing Arts production of Plaza Suite. Robbie has been involved with theatre since receiving her ... at ... She took a hiatus from theatre for several years and is ecstatic to be back on the boards.

John Reed appeared in NM's production *Rosencrantz & Guildenstern Are Dead*. He has published poetry in publications such as *Poetry* and *The Parts Review* and in the anthologies *Ten Poets* and *Ravishing DisUnites: Real Ghazals in English*.

Amy Van Doren joined NM's board after appearing in *Death and The Maiden* and in her most recent role she was covered with blood, fighting zombies in *Look Away*. Some of her other acting credits include *Macbeth, The Ribbon Mill*, and *Outskirts of Heaven*.

Sylvia Wilson has been a member of NM for over six years. An extremely hard worker, she most recently appeared with Emily Burnett in *'Night, Mother*. Sylvia excels in each area she chooses and NM is lucky to have her. Some of her past acting credits include *The Birthday Party, Mug in The Empire Builders, Trouble in Mind*. Eventually Sylvia will talk us into doing *Elvis, the Rock Opera*.

ABOUT THE ZOMBIE HORDE



Lisa Ault is excited to make her debut with New Moon Theatre Company. She was last seen in GCT's production of *Gypsy* and *A Christmas Carol* at Theatre Memphis. Some of her other recent credits include *All Shook Up, Oklahoma, Evita, Fiddler on the Roof, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Annie*, and *Annie Jr.* (musical director).

Sam Eldred is jumping in with both feet into something he has recently found love for: Theatre! Most recently becoming a crew member for another local theatre group, FreakEngine Productions, he's found the love of arts and decided to try being on the stage. Taking on the role of a zombie for this production gave him a perfect chance for a debut.



Kirk Mason has appeared in local independent films. Some of the titles include *Ringside* and *DHB* with Boxroom Productions. He enjoys art, music and films. Kirk would like to thank all his family and friends.

Samantha Mason is joining her father Kirk on stage for the first time. She has appeared in *Ringside* and *DHB* with Boxroom Productions, a local independent film company. She enjoys theatre, art and music. Sam would like to send out her love to all her wonderful family and friends.



Kevin Phillips is stepping on stage for the first time. He works in the security and I. T. industry. Kevin enjoys computer 3D modeling, playing drums and gardening. He would like to thank his beautiful wife Robbie for helping him get involved in this production.

Mystie Watson is making her debut with the NM as a zombie and is somewhat new to the Memphis Area theatre all together. She has many credits behind her, including a B.A. in Theatre from the UT, Knoxville, and loves musical theatre most of all. This opportunity sounded like a lot of fun and she was excited to jump in and join the group's production and meet more theatre lovers in the area.



New Moon Theatre

Presents

Look Away

A Civil War Zombie Tragedy

by **Zac Cunningham &
Stephen Briner**

Directed by **Gene Elliott &
Robbie Phillips**



**Please turn off all cellular phones,
chiming watches or other noise
creating devices.**

Texting or viewing texts on cell phones is not
allowed during performance.

Photography or recording devices of any kind
are not permitted during the performance.

SCENES

Act One: *1865 on a Southern Plantation house in S. Carolina*

Act Two: *Same location, moments later*

• *There will be one 15 minute intermission* •

CAST

In order of appearance

Lijah.....Bernard Rule
William.....Andrew Chandler
Yankee Soldier.....David Hammons
Zombies.....Lisa Ault, Sam Eldred, Kirk Mason,
Kevin Phillips, Mystie Watson, Sam Mason
Hank.....Gregory Szatkowski
Sara.....Amy Van Doren
John.....Gene Elliott
Rose.....Robbie Phillips
Simon.....Jimmy Patterson
Abigail.....Heather Malone

ARTISTIC / MANAGEMENT STAFF

Directors.....Gene Elliott, Robbie Phillips
Stage Manager.....Sylvia Wilson
Lighting Designer.....Mike Hanrahan
Fight Choreographer.....Sean Carter
Fight Captain.....David Hammons
Sound Design.....Jeff Rust
Lighting Engineer.....Sylvia Wilson
Sound Engineer.....Lisa Ault
Set Construction.....Gene Elliott,
Robbie Phillips, Kirk Mason, Kevin Phillips,
Jeff Rust, Sylvia Wilson, Amy Rust
Makeup Design & Effects.....Andrew Chandler
Specialty Makeup.....Duane Craig,
Andrew Chandler
Costumes.....Sylvia Wilson, Lucy Williams
TheatreWorks Manager.....Fred Harpell
Poster Graphic.....Chris Paradis
Program & Poster Design.....Gene Elliott