

MERCER UNIVERSITY THEATRE
WELCOMES YOU TO THE
2009-2010 SEASON

COMING UP NEXT
AT THE

BACK DOOR THEATRE

THE LUCKY SPOT

BY BETH HENLEY

NOVEMBER 13 & 14 AT 7:00 P.M.

NOVEMBER 15 & DECEMBER 6 AT 2:00 P.M.

DECEMBER 1-5 AT 7:00 P.M.

For more information on the Mercer Players,
visit them on facebook, or go to the website at
http://web.me.com/scotmann1/Mercer_Theatre/Welcome.html

MERCER UNIVERSITY THEATRE
BACK DOOR THEATRE
PRESENTS

AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE
BY HENRIK IBSEN
ADAPTED BY ARTHUR MILLER
DIRECTED BY SCOT J. MANN

OCTOBER 1-3 & 6-10 AT 7:00 P.M.
OCTOBER 4 & 11 AT 2:00 P.M.

TICKETS: \$5

BOX OFFICE OPENS 30 MINUTES PRIOR TO CURTAIN
FOR RESERVATIONS AND INFORMATION, CALL 478.301.2974

AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE

BY HENRIK IBSEN

ADAPTED BY ARTHUR MILLER

DIRECTED BY SCOT J. MANN*

Scenic Design..... Marian Zielinski
Costume Design Shelley Kuhen
Lighting Design..... Zach Broome
Sound Design..... Scot Mann

*Member, Actors Equity Association

CAST

Dr. Thomas Stockman..... Kyle Shook
Catherine Stockman..... Ashley Eckersley
Peter Stockman..... Phillip Banze
Petra Stockman..... Alicia Landrum
Morten Kil..... Chad Sliger
Hovstad..... Matt Roche
Billing Isaac Callahan
Alasken Ross Hardy
Captain Horster..... Bryan Basil

THE TOWN:

The Drunk David Ferrier
Nansen Eric Rice
Henrik Sean Rayburn
Edvard Britt Wall
Hedvig Han Htet
Nicolina Monica Titus

Salem Marcella Murray
 Karolina Kelly Flemister
 Jencia Jan Jones
 Bergitta Brit Ericksen
 Ejlif Ethan Thompson

MERCER THEATRE PRODUCTION STAFF

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 Student Technical Director.....Isaac Callahan
 Stage Manager..... Lauren Lunsford
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 Set Crew.....Isaac Callahan, Britany Chandler, Marcella Murray, Matt Bird,
 Phil Banze, Corbin Parker, Ashley Eckersley, Marian Zielinski, Scot Mann,
 Ross Hardy, Matt Roche, Lauren Lunsford, Kyle Shook, Chad Sliger,
 Eric Malmquist, Brit Wall, Brit Ericksen, Michelle Richards, Alicia Landrum
 Lighting Crew.....Marcella Murray, Matt Bird, Isaac Callahan,
 Brittany Chandler, Zach Broome
 PropsHeather Ziembra
 Costume Crew.....Shelley Kuhen, Marian McHugh, Lauren Parris,
 Evelyn Funderburk, Kelly Flemister, Anna Mae Kersey, Monica Titus
 Hair/Makeup Design.....Ashley Feagin
 Sound Operator.....Amanda Rutherford
 House Manager.....Harley Maddox
 Graphic Design Darlene Murphy

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Isben's *An Enemy of the People* deals with a number of issues particularly relevant to today's world: environmental & health problems versus economic concerns, manipulation of the press, and the courage to stand up for truth in the face of adversity.

Act I, Scene I: Evening, Dr. Stockman's living room

Act I, Scene II: The same. The following Morning

Act II, Scene I: The office of "The People's Daily Messenger".

Act II, Scene II: A room in Captain Horster's House

Act III, Scene I: The following morning, Dr. Stockman's study

WHO'S WHO

Phillip Banze (Peter) is an alumnus of the Mercer Class of 2009. This show marks his tenth performance onstage with Mercer Theatre. His most recent roles include Nick Bottom in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Rick Rickenbacher in Andrew Silver's *The Disciples*, and Dromio of Syracuse in *A Comedy of Errors*. He also served as the student technical director and stage carpenter for the duration of his student career. He currently works as a representative of the National Coalition for the Homeless and the Macon Coalition to End Homelessness, speaking to groups about homeless issues both nationally and locally. Phil would like to thank his amazing friends for their constant support, caring, and passion for their craft. He could not ask for a more talented and fun-loving cast and crew. Fish Swim, Birds Fly.

Bryan Basil (Captain Horster) is a mystery wrapped in an enigma. What is known about him is kept secret for the most part, but we have been able to establish that he is indeed a Mercer freshman majoring in Computer Science. We have received an anonymous tip that this is his first show at Mercer, though past roles have included Ed in *Degas C'est Moi* and Nick Bottom in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. A select number of programs will now self-destruct.

Zach Broome (Technical Director, Lighting Design) is a graduate of Mercer University who is proud to work for the Theatre Department of his alma mater. He is thrilled to be a part of a program that is moving and growing in new, exciting directions. Some of Zach's previous work includes scenic design for Mercer Player's productions of *Stop Kiss* and *Fiddler on the Roof* and puppetry design and construction for *Jabberwocky!*

Isaac Callahan (Billing) is a senior Media Studies major/Theatre minor. This is his fourth time on stage at Mercer. His favorite roles are Mr. Montgomery in *The Richest Man in London* and Fyedka in *Fiddler on the Roof*. He would like to thank all his family and friends for their support and encouragement over the years, as well as his professors for understanding the demands of the theatre. "I am looking forward to a great year. Come hell or high water, we'll put on a great show and have fun doing it... Great man, historic day, blah blah blah – shall I fix you a toddy?"

Ashley Eckersley (Catherine Stockman) is a senior Theatre major/pre-med student here at Mercer. She stage-managed or assistant directed all but one of the shows last year and was seen on stage as "The Mother" in *Rashomon*. She is existentially attached to the theatre and would like to thank all her friends who remind her to breathe. She would also like to thank her parents for putting up with her changing her major from Biology to Theatre. Lauren, you are marvelous, darling! Marvelous! Thanks to Scot for being the director he is and for the chance to be on stage again, and to the cast, "Argh! ... Ah listen to that reverb!"

Brit Erickson (Bergitta) is a freshman on Presidential Scholarship. She has an incurable condition of indecision, but presently she's leaning toward becoming a Political Science major. Her biggest theatrical role was that of the evil stepmother in *Cinderella*. Her hobbies include writing, rhyming, singing, riding, soccer, photography, drawing caricatures for friends, and eating enough sugar to be at risk for diabetes.

David Ferrier (The Drunk) is a third semester student from Hahira, GA. This is his first foray into the theatre.

Kelly Flemister (Karolina, Assistant Stage Manager) is a sophomore Art History major at Mercer. Kelly has been involved in several productions here. Some of her recent roles include Titania in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and Doris/others in *Degas C'est Moi*. She was the Stage Manager for *Graduation Story*, and an Assistant Stage Manager for *Time Flies*. She would like to thank everyone who worked so hard to make this production wonderful; it has been amazing to work with all of you. She would also like to thank her parents and boyfriend for their unwavering support.

Ross Hardy (Alasksen) is a sophomore Philosophy/Creative Writing major. This is his second production at Mercer University. In his spare time, he enjoys playing video games, writing comics, and working with Mercer Radio. He reminds everyone to practice moderation.

Han Htet (Hedvig) is a Psychology major in his senior year. This is his third show with the Mercer Players. His previous roles include the Wigmaker from

Rashomon and Puck from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Han would like to thank the talented cast and crew for fun memories and Scot Mann for giving him another chance at being on stage and doing what he loves. Furthermore, he would like to thank his family, friends, and Hotness for their encouragement and support in all of his endeavors. WHICH DOOR?

Jan Jones (Jensia) is a sophomore English major, and this is her first show at Mercer. She has worked backstage in two productions: *Sweeney Todd* and *Fiddler on the Roof*. She'd like to thank her family and friends for coming to see the show!

Shelley Kuhen (Costume Director) is in her thirteenth season as Mercer Theatre's Costume Director. Her costumes have been seen most recently in our productions of *Fiddler on the Roof*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Rashomon*, *Stop Kiss*, and *A Comedy of Errors*. She is the costume designer for Theatre Macon as well, and her work was seen this summer in *The Producers* and the last season in *Counsellor at Law*, *Footloose*, and *Secret Garden*. Shelley wants to thank her wonderful family for their continual love and support. She also wants to thank her amazing costume crew for their countless hours of hard work and for their encouragement, love, and laughter.

Alicia Landrum (Petra) is a sophomore at Mercer, majoring in Creative Writing and minoring in Theatre. This is her first production with the Mercer Players, and she thinks it has been a beautiful process. Previously, her favorite role was Charlotte in *Charlotte's Web*, if only because the most rewarding sound in the world is a child's voice saying, "My favorite part was when you died!" Her second-favorite role was the fruit group of the food pyramid in Mrs. Thomas' second grade class. Aside from theatre, Alicia loves drumming, writing, playing with critters, jaywalking, destination-less driving, waterfalls and shenanigans. Enjoy the show!

Lauren Lunsford (Stage Manager) is a junior Theatre major, studying Theatre and Voice at Mercer. This is her second year of involvement with the Mercer Players, and she's loved every minute of it. Past roles here include Peaseblossom in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Young Woman in *Degas, C'est Moi*, and Chava in Mercer Theatre and Mercer Opera's joint production of *Fiddler on the Roof*. She spends her waking hours running back and forth between the music and theatre buildings, and though sometimes she wonders what other buildings on campus look like on the inside, she wouldn't have it any other way. She'd like to thank Scot for being patient enough to take on a rookie stage manager, Ashley, Kelly, and Matt for sharing their wisdom and encouragement from their vast experience in this position, and her loving family for remembering her name when they don't see her for ages. She adores this cast! She'd also like to thank God for new and unusual experiences, spectacular assistant stage managers, and dogs like Nora.

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Scot J. Mann (Director) *An Enemy of the People* is Scot's eleventh directing effort at Mercer. As a director, he received a Meritorious Achievement Award for his direction of *Scapin*, by the Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival in 2005. Scot is also an internationally recognized and award winning Fight Director, certified through the Society of American Fight Directors and the British Academy of Stage and Screen Combat. He has choreographed, performed and coached theatrical violence with such companies as The Steppenwolf Theatre, The Alliance Theatre, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, Georgia Shakespeare Festival, and The North Carolina School of the Arts. He has also served as an instructor for the British Academy of Stage and Screen Combat in London, and Stage Combat Deutschland in Freiberg, Germany. As an actor, Scot has appeared with the Georgia Shakespeare Festival, New American Theater, New American Shakespeare Theatre, Atlanta Opera, motion capture talent foActr digital media, and various voice-over recordings for radio, T.V. and the Internet. Scot appeared as a stunt-player and served as tactical choreographer and gun wrangler for the upcoming Sci-Fi movie, *Eyeborgs*, as well as on-set Swordmaster and stunt double for the "Bollywood" epic, *Drona*. Scot is an alumnus of the MFA/PAT program at The Alabama Shakespeare Festival and holds a BA in Communications and Theatre from Mercer University. He thanks Kelly, for her understanding and support, and his magical daughter, Madelyn!

Marcella Murray (Salem) is a junior Biology major. She is also minoring in Chemistry and Theatre. This is the first of Mercer Theatre's productions in which she has been a cast member. However, she has been a part of the set and/or lighting crew for previous productions. Outside of theatre Marcella's hobbies include singing and dancing (badly), studying philosophy, and making her loved ones laugh. She sends her thanks to said loved ones and all who made this production a success.

Sean Rayburn (Henrik) is a freshman at Mercer University, and this is his first Mercer production. His previous roles include Milton in *All in the Timing*, and Sam Craig in *Our Town*. He enjoys playing soccer, writing, and watching movies in his spare time. He would like to thank all the members of the cast and crew as well as his friends and family for their support.

Eric Rice (Nansen) was born in Macon, GA, but has been living in Japan for the past five years. While in Japan, he attended an American High School on an American military base. There he became interested in drama, and by the eleventh grade, he joined the International Thespian Society. Since then he has been interested in plays, musicals, monologues, and has played both minor and major characters. He most often plays the "bad guy," and guesses that this play is no different. Eric is Biochemical Engineering major, but performs onstage for fun.

Matt Roche (Hovstad) is a senior Psychology major at Mercer, and is happy to be involved in his third Mercer Theatre production, *An Enemy of the People*. Previously, he performed in around fifteen shows at Theatre Macon between the ages of 8 and 18. He'd like to thank his parents for their constant support of his theatrical interests, and apologize to any audience members in the first row he may accidentally spit on mid-sentence.

Kyle Shook (Dr. Thomas Stockton) is a sophomore History major with Gender Studies and English Literature minors. He will toot his horn no further except to say how excited he is to be part of such a brilliant cast and crew, and he hopes you enjoy the show.

Chad Sliger (Morten Kiil) is a junior studying Theatre Arts. His recent roles with Mercer Theatre include Perchik in *Fiddler on the Roof*, Horace the Mayfly and The Eunuch in *Time Flies*, and John Birch in *The Disciples*. Chad wants to thank all of his friends, Mom, Dad, John, and especially God for all of their continued love and support! Thank you for coming, and enjoy the show!

Ethan Thompson (Ejlif) is the 11-year-old son of Doug and Kerri Thompson and brother of Evan. He is a 6th grader at Miller Magnet School (Go Mustangs!). Since his first step on stage with Theatre Macon Youth Actor's Company in *Macbeth* earlier this year, he has also appeared in *Counselor at Law*, and Mercer's *Fiddler on the Roof*. Outside of the theatre, he enjoys *Yu Gi Oh!*, soccer, football, reading, video games, and school (yes, school!). Thank you to Meemaw and Big Daddy for taking him to see *Snoopy*, which first drew him to the stage. Thank you to Scot Mann for giving him this chance to work with the Mercer drama program in the Back Door Theatre.

Monica Titus (Nikolina) is a sophomore Music major studying Voice. She is excited to appear in her fourth production here at Mercer. Last year she was involved with Mercer Theatre as well as the university's opera program. She was last seen as Shandel in *Fiddler on the Roof*, and as the Business Woman in *Time Flies*. As an advocate for the environment and social change, Monica hopes that our production of Ibsen's *An Enemy of the People*, as associated with the Caring for Creation conference will shed light on important social issues as well as entertain.

Britt Wall (Edvard) is a sophomore Literature major, and this is his first show with Mercer Theatre. He would like to thank his fellow cast and crew for making him feel welcome as a new addition to the Backdoor Theatre's host of players. Britt was heavily involved in his high school's theatre program, where he mostly worked in the booth, but he is grateful to be able to act for you tonight. He would also like to thank everyone for attending this show, and he hopes that you enjoy!

Marian Zielinski (Scene Designer) is a faculty member in Mercer University's Department of Communication Studies and Theatre. Her recent designs include *Fiddler on the Roof* (set and lighting) and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (set). Marian is also a fiber artist, and a photograph of one of her pieces has been accepted for inclusion in an upcoming book titled *1000 Artisan Textiles*. Be sure to see an exhibit of her work opening in Hardeman Gallery on October 23rd and playing through November. She would like to offer a special thanks to Zach Broome, and to her husband, Frank Macke, for his unconditional support.

Heather Ziembra (Props) is a freshman here at Mercer. She has acted in a few high school performances and hopes to stay involved with the Mercer Players throughout her college career.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Henrik Ibsen wrote this important work in 1882 in response to widespread uproar over his play, *Ghosts*, which was produced that same year. Outraged by his candid treatment of a forbidden subject, syphilis, the Victorian moralists of the day maligned and censored the play, and Ibsen himself, with every medium at their disposal. The press, the church, and governmental agencies across Europe and England all sought to ban its publication and production. As his response, *An Enemy of the People* exposed many of the societal institutions held to be harbingers of the truth at the time; the democratic process, the will of the majority, the press, elected officials, family, all represented by rational and educated people who one would not expect to agree to compromising the health of others for personal gain.

As we approach our own Caring for Creation Conference later this month, I am struck by how this play resonates with a variety of issues relevant to our lives. For example, debate about Global Warming rages on while the polar ice caps visibly recede. Whether, as is argued, it is our constant industrial practice, or a normal cycle of the planet, the thought that one would argue the condition does not exist seems quite daft given the evidence. Yet rational, educated scientists on both sides present opposing sides of the issue. Often, the debates descend into ad hominem attacks by these same individuals while they examine NASA photographs and use them to describe two very different events unfolding. One need only spend a few minutes researching on the Internet to see that the issue has left the realm of science and is now a major political issue. Much of the political dilemma has to do with how much financial and personal sacrifice we might be willing to endure in order to address the environmental problem. The characters inhabiting the world of Ibsen's work this evening wrestle with a similar issue, and you may well hear arguments presented that are happening on campus this very day.

In Ibsen's work from 1882 production, we hear shades of our public debate on health care, public finance, the sanctity of democracy, the distribution of wealth, trade, the environment, and somewhere underneath it all, a basic truth that will require one to make a moral decision based on principle, or personal interest. Ibsen does not allow anyone to turn away.

Scot J. Mann