

MERCER UNIVERSITY THEATRE
COMING UP NEXT
AT THE
BACK DOOR THEATRE
CINDERS

BY JANUSZ GLOWACKI

FEBRUARY 18-20 & 23-27 AT 7:00 P.M.
FEBRUARY 21 & 28 AT 7:00 P.M.

Written by Polish playwright, Janusz Glowacki, while in exile as a Polish Dissident, this play examines survival under tyrannical authority. This bold, Kafkaesque comedy is set in a girls' reform school in Warsaw, 1984, where a documentary is being filmed of the school's production of *Cinderella*.

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
PRESENTS

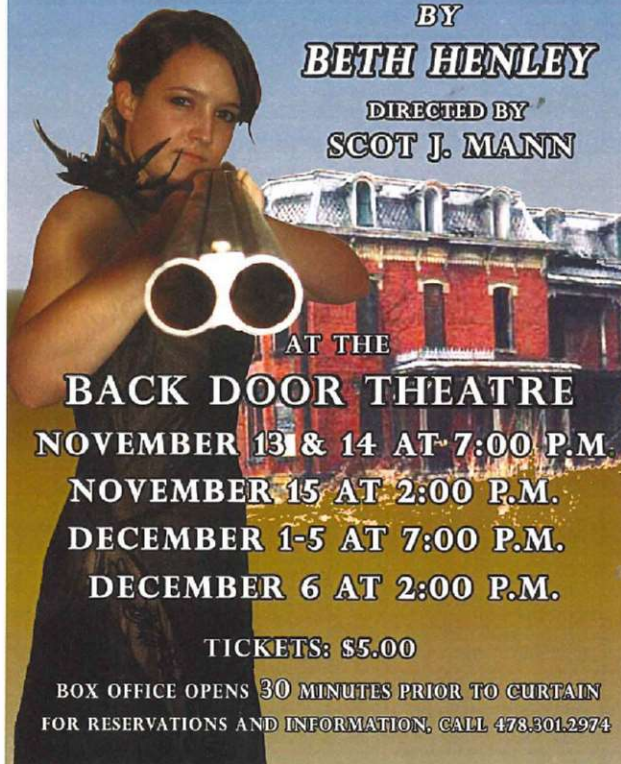
THE LUCKY SPOT

BY

BETH HENLEY

DIRECTED BY

SCOT J. MANN



AT THE

BACK DOOR THEATRE
NOVEMBER 13 & 14 AT 7:00 P.M.
NOVEMBER 15 AT 2:00 P.M.
DECEMBER 1-5 AT 7:00 P.M.
DECEMBER 6 AT 2:00 P.M.

TICKETS: \$5.00

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

THE LUCKY SPOT

BY BETH HENLEY

DIRECTED BY SCOT J. MANN*

Scenic Design.....Zach Broome
Lighting Design.....Marian Zielinski
Costume Design.....Shelley Kuhen
Sound Design.....Isaac Callahan, Scot Mann*
Dance Choreography.....Kelly Martin*
Fight Director.....Scot Mann*

*Member, Actors Equity Association

CAST

Cassidy Smith.....Abby Howd
Turnip Moss.....Britt Wall
Reed Hooker.....Isaac Callahan
Whitt Carmichael.....Kyle Shook
Lacey Rollins.....Lauren Lunsford
Sue Jack Tiller Hooker.....Emma Stitt
Sam.....Chad Sliger

Pulitzer Prize winning playwright, Beth Henley, takes us to Christmas Eve, 1934, the low point in the American Depression in Pigeon Louisiana. Reed Hooker is out to change his fortunes by creating a dance hall called The Lucky Spot in a house he won in a poker game. With the early release of his wife from prison, the volatile Sue Jack, and the gathering complications where dreams, passions, and jealousies collide, The Lucky Spot may be torn apart before the first customer arrives. The action is fast, with moments of true tenderness in this Henley dramedy populated with the quirky and memorable characters for which she is known.

MERCER THEATRE PRODUCTION STAFF

Technical Director.....Zach Broome
Student Technical Director.....Isaac Callahan
Stage Manager.....Kelly Flemister
Assistant Stage Manager.....Harley Maddox
House Manager.....Ashley Eckersley
Sound Operator.....Marcella Murray
Set Crew.....Isaac Callahan, Marcella Murray, Matt Bird,
Brittany Chandler, Britt Wall, Phil Banze, Kelly Flemister,
Emma Stitt, Abby Howd, Sara Beth Stitt.
Lighting Crew.....Marcella Murray, Travis Gibson
Prop Crew.....Kelly Flemister, Scot Mann, Isaac Callahan,
Shelley Kuhen, Marcella Murray
Costume Crew.....Shelley Kuhen, Marian McHugh, Lauren Parris
Hair/Makeup Design.....Ashley Feagin
Gun Wrangler.....Matt Roche, Harley Maddox
Graphic Design.....Darlene Murphy

WHO'S WHO

Zach Broome (Scenic Designer/Technical Director) is an alumnus of Mercer University who, three years ago, returned to his alma mater in a professional capacity. He now performs some of the most rewarding work he can fathom. When economic times are at their worst, supporting the arts becomes a difficult task for most individuals and organizations. Zach is proud to be part of a department that continues (often against all odds) to bring a diverse blend of theatrical material to the Macon and Mercer communities. Furthermore, he is thrilled that you, the audience, continue to support the arts in your community.

Isaac Callahan (Reed Hooker) is a senior Media Studies major / Theatre minor. This is his fifth show at Mercer, with favorite roles including Mr. Montgomery in *The Richest Man in London*, Fyedka in *The Fiddler on the Roof*, and Billing in *An Enemy of the People*. He is so glad to have this role and the chance to get in his first fight (even though it is staged.) He would like to thank Scot for the opportunity (and combat training), Kelly for teaching him some sweet dance moves, and Shelley and Ashley for making him a beaten up 40 year old. And of course, "thanks to the rest of the cast – you guys are amazing and I'm okay with our family tree not forking; it brings us closer."

Ashley Eckersley (House Manager) is a senior Theatre major on the Pre-Med track. You may recognize her name from the last show, *An Enemy of the People*, as Catherine. She would like to thank Scot for giving her a little time off, and a few others for making sure she took it.

Kelly Flemister (Stage Manager) is a sophomore Art History major at Mercer. Kelly has been involved in several productions, with recent roles including Titania in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Doris/Others in *Degas C'est Moi*, and Karolina in *An Enemy of the People*. She would like to thank everyone taking part in this production for being their wonderful, hard-working selves, and for reminding her to live, laugh, and not spend inordinate amounts of time worrying about all of the little things. Kelly thinks that a better group could not be asked for and is honored to be working with them. She would also like to thank her family and friends for their unending support.

Abby Howd (Cassidy Smith) is a sophomore Theatre Major. She'd like to thank Scot and her cohorts in this production for providing her with another chance to experience all the joys of being pregnant without the whole "nine months of back-breaking discomfort" and for showing her just how profoundly rock-awesome our theatre program at Mercer is with the illimitable dedication, support, and talent displayed by all. She'd also like to express endless gratitude to God, all of her family, and her Stud for putting up with all the recent "drama" in her life.

Shelley Kuhen (Costume Director) is in her thirteenth season as Mercer Theatre's Costume Director. Her designs have been seen most recently in our productions of *An Enemy of the People*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Rashomon*. She is also Costume Designer for Mercer Opera where her creations were seen in their latest production of *Elixir of Love* as well as last season's *Egisto* and *Amahl and the Night Visitors*. She is also employed by Theatre Macon, and her work was seen in this summer's production of *The Producers* as well as last season's *Counselor 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.

Lauren Lunsford (Lacey Rollins) is a junior Theatre major at Mercer, and considers herself very lucky to have had a taste of almost every aspect of Mercer Theatre thus far. She is thrilled to get to learn and grow with such a fun character and wouldn't trade this cast and crew for anything! She'd like to thank Scot for taking off the training wheels; and God for coffee, her awesome thespian parents, and her brother, who never fails to set the bar for her in his own comedic roles. Thanks for supporting Mercer Theatre, and enjoy!

Harley Maddox (Assistant Stage Manager) is a sophomore Theatre Major and English Minor. She would like to thank Scot for giving her the chance to learn something new every night at rehearsals. She would like to thank the AMAZING cast and crew for making her laugh constantly and for being her family away from home. You guys are the best! She would also like to thank her parents for everything else. She wants everyone to enjoy the show and have a super awesome holiday season!

Scot J. Mann (Director) *The Lucky Spot* is Scot's twelfth 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 for 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!

Kelly Martin (Dance Choreography) is a recognized Actor Combatant with the Society of American Fight Directors (SAFD), and the British Academy of Stage and Screen Combat (BASSC), as well as a proud member of Actor's Equity and SAG. Kelly works primarily as a freelance actor and stunt person/fight and dance choreographer. She is thrilled to be returning to Mercer after co-choreographing *Fiddler on the Roof*, and most recently staged the violence for *The Smiles* and *Suena* for Georgia State College. Regional Theatre credits include New Stage Theatre, Mill Mountain Theatre, Southern Arena Theatre, The Alabama Shakespeare Festival, and Georgia Shakespeare Festival. Many thanks to the cast and crew, and to Scot for all of your love and support.

Marcella Murray (Sound Operator) is a junior Biology Major and Chemistry and Theatre Minor (One of these things is not like the others...Much love MOM AND DAD!). This is her first time running sound and she is so grateful for the opportunity to experience and learn yet another aspect of theatre. She counts it among her many blessings to be around such wonderfully kind and entertaining people. She thanks Scot, the cast, and her fellow crew members for making this worth the sleep deprivation. Happy Thanksgiving/Christmahan-ukwanzaakah/Winter Holiday everyone! Oh, and enjoy the show! *Don't use your phone! I hear the cast is scrappy...and that they own guns.

Matt Roche (Crew) is a senior Psychology major who's trying to spend as much time as possible at the Back Door Theatre, despite the amount of work he has to do before he graduates in the spring. He's happy to get a chance to gun wrangle and work tech for a show, as he's usually on stage rather than behind the scenes. You may have seen him as Hovstad in *An Enemy of the People* earlier this year or as Demetrius in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. He'd like to thank Scot for trusting him with the shotgun, and his mom for knitting those sweet mittens at the last minute. Flying fish fly, cormorants swim for short periods of time.

Kyle Shook (Whitt Carmichael) is a Sophomore English Literature and Gender Studies double major. This is his fifth production with Mercer Theatre and he couldn't be more excited to be working with such a fantastic cast and crew. If he has captivated your attention enough to read this far into his bio, he would like to shamelessly tell you to enjoy the show and have an excellent holiday season.

Chad Sliger (Sam) is Junior Theatre major at Mercer University. He has played in *The Disciples* as John Birch, Horace the mayfly in *Time Files*, Perchik in *Fiddler on the Roof* and Morten Kil in *An Enemy of the People*. He would love to thank his parents, brother, all of his friends, and God for the unconditional support and love that he is undeniably thankful for. Thank you all for coming and enjoy the show!!!

Emma Stitt (Sue Jack Tiller Hooker) is a Junior psychology major thrilled to be making her Mercer Theatre debut and her first foray on stage in a non-singing role. She is so thankful for her witty cast-mates, the awesome crew, and to Scot for the chance to play her most demanding part yet. Thank you, too, for coming and please enjoy yourselves at *The Lucky Spot*.

Britt Wall (Turnip) is a sophomore English major who is getting his secondary education certification at Mercer University. This is his second show with the Mercer Players, and he is thrilled to be a part of this show. He would like to thank his fellow cast and crew for a great time, and he would like to thank everyone who is attending the show for their support of Mercer theatre. Britt enjoys writing, theatre, competition in any form, and the History Channel. He thanks his family and friends for their love and support, and he hopes that everyone has an excellent experience with Mercer theatre's production of *The Lucky Spot*.

Marian Zielinski (Lighting Designer) is in her 28th season designing for Mercer University Theatre. Some of the highlights of her tenure include set designs for *The Night of the Iguana*, *Beyond Therapy*, and *Under Milk Wood*. In recent years, she has also directed for Mercer Theatre including *Waiting for Godot*, *The Illusion*, *How I learned to Drive*, *The Good Doctor* (which toured to Japan), *The Three Sisters*, and most recently, *Time Files*. She has designed professionally off-off Broadway, and for Music Theatre Louisville, The Shawnee Theatre, and the Illinois Shakespeare Festival. Marian is a avid fiber artist and painter, and she currently has an art show titled *Bonds, Bodies, Braids, and Other Mysterias of Nature* on display in Hardeman Gallery through the 20th of November. There is a reception from 4:00-6:00 p.m. on November 15th, to which you are cordially invited. She dedicates this work to the man who is her Muse and her inspiration—her husband, Frank Macke.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Hope. We've been looking for it, lately. We've elected a president in search of it. We're looking for it with reports of every economic indicator in the news. On our own campus we work for it with our conferences and community efforts. And, in the Back Door Theatre, we work long hours, fight back the literal floods of water from the walls, and practice the craft of Theatre focused on the hope of opening night. The characters that inhabit *The Lucky Spot* are living in the midst of The Great Depression in Pigeon, Louisiana, a place that can certainly use a degree of hope to keep moving forward!

Playwright Beth Henley has always presented us with characters that defy categorization. Just when you think you have them figured out as a gothic southern stereotype, they surprise us with their choices. A comedy in the Theatre is a generator of hope. Beth Henley's humor is often dark, but from this darkness we find ourselves engaging in the eternal hope of the characters she weaves for us. They struggle, scheme, gamble, risk all for love, and touch us with their strength and emotional resilience. We admire their courage and wisdom, and, hopefully, take a little of that with us after curtain call.

Scot J. Mann
Assistant Professor/Theatre Director, Mercer University
Fight Director, Society of American Fight Directors
Certified Teacher, British Academy of Stage and Screen Combat.