

Winthrop University
College of Visual and Performing Arts
Department of Theatre and Dance
Present

Spring 2007 Season

To Gillian on Her 37th Birthday
by Michael Brady
Johnson Theatre 11-15 April

Spring One-Act Festival*
Johnson Studio Theatre 16-19 April

Student Choreography Showcase*
Johnson Theatre 20-22 April

The Department of Theatre and Dance
is accredited by
The National Association of Schools of Theatre
and
The National Association of Schools of Dance

Johnson Studio Theatre

Messiah on the Frigidaire

by John Culbertson
Adult Language

March 28-31, 2007, 8 p.m.
April 1, 2007, 2 p.m.

RESERVATIONS:
Call 803-323-4014 or
e-mail boxoffice@winthrop.edu

TICKETS:
Wednesday & Thursday
\$10 General Public/ \$5 Winthrop ID
Friday - Sunday
\$15 General Public/ \$8 Winthrop ID
LIMITED SEATING



PRESENTED BY:

WINTHROP UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE

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Messiah on the Frigidaire

By John Culbertson

Director	Meagan Douglas
Stage Manager	Heather Ireland
Assistant Stage Manager	Alex Bifareti
Scenic Designer	Matthew Taylor
Costume Designer	Lindsey Richardson
Lighting Designer	Christine Jacky
Sound Designer	Taylor Thornburg
Faculty Supervisor	Annie Laurie Wheat

Cast

Dwayne Hightower	Steve Lancaster
Lou Ann Hightower	Dannielle M. Reid
Betsy Gridley	Jessica Francis
Larry Williamson	Brian Jones
Preacher Hodges	Ryan Roberts
Woman	Amber Baragona
Boy	Jackson Charles
Stranger	Stephen Jones

Setting: The Hightower's trailer, Elroy, South Carolina

There will be a fifteen minute intermission

Patrons are advised that this play contains adult material

In compliance with Winthrop University policy, we ask smokers to use the designated area across the driveway from the front of Johnson Hall.

Production Staff

Properties Master	Luna Burgess
Light Board Operator	Meredith Zobel
Running Crew	Julie Hammond
House Manager	Russell Luke
Poster Design	Bara Bolton
Lobby Poster Design	Austin Herring

Acknowledgements:

Austin Herring, Courtney Blake, and Everett and Beth Douglas

Director's Note

What would you do if the image of Jesus suddenly appeared on your refrigerator tonight? Would you scream? Pray? Laugh? Call up the local news team? Would you see it as a sign from God or as a weird joke?

These are precisely the questions that are asked from the front porch of a trailer in Elroy, South Carolina – perhaps not the most glamorous of places for the King of Kings to show up. But nevertheless, there he is, or so it seems. And everyone has a different idea as to why. Mix southerners, religion, and commerce, and you have the makings for a hilarious play.

However, author John Culbertson has said, “I want people to see this play as more than a comedy. It really is a litany of things we do to one another in the name of religion.”

Indeed, through funny characters and a wacky plot, *Messiah on the Frigidaire* makes a comment on this very subject: on the difference between faith and chicanery, between honesty and hypocrisy. And while the play makes no pretense at explaining the ways of God to man or at telling people what to believe, it modestly – and humorously – invites us to ask ourselves just what the truth might be. Perhaps God is closer than we think. Perhaps everything that claims to be God, isn't. And some things that look nothing like God, are.