

Everyman

By Anonymous

“Here beginneth a treatise how the High Father of heaven sendeth Death to summon every creature to come and give account of their lives in this world, and is in manner of a moral play.”

SETTING: New Orleans, Mardi Gras

TIME: 2019

SHOW LENGTH: approximately 55 minutes with no intermission

The Cast

Everyman – Chad A. Thomas

Messenger / Strength / Doctor – Gail Hetherington

God/Everyman understudy – Melissa Anderson

Death/Knowledge – Warren Griggs

Fellowship / Kindred / Confession – Josiah Gomez

Cousin / Goods / Discretion – Bakari Prigg

Good Deeds – Laura Martin

5 Wits – Jack Wagner

Beauty/Angel – Hayley Johnson

Creative Team

Director – Karen Baker

Producer – David Harwell

Stage Manager – Becca Westbrook

Assistant Stage Manager – Miles Jones

Assistant Stage Manager – Chris Chiong

Costume Designer – Heather Baumbach w/the costume design class

Assistant Costume Designer/Costume Shop Manager – Seth D’Avignon

Wardrobe Head – Traci Phillips

Wardrobe – Mari Walker

Lighting Designer/board op – Aidan Crowe

Assistant Lighting Designer – Ethan Mitchell

Sound Designer – Whitney Leonard

Sound Board Op – Nick Clifton

Stitchers – Lee Borowski, Dean Nix, Aubrey Northum

Video Production/Streaming – Joey Watson

Music/Tech Adviser – Johnna Doty

Dramaturg – Chad A. Thomas

Marketing Support – Amy Guerin

Marketing Support/Video support – Jesse Hendricks

Special thanks

Shannon Womack, Chris Baker, and Joshua Riddle

Director's Note

Five years ago, I first looked at *Everyman* to direct at UAH. I thought the Medieval Morality play lent itself to a college theatre program and would support the content being taught in classes. We chose different shows that year, but I've always had this play in the back of my mind. This term, because of Covid, we have been challenged with how to produce events that create a learning experience for our students while keeping everyone safe and healthy. I also looked at how we could provide an environment in which the audience would feel comfortable to return to live theatre.

The story of *Everyman* is in almost every culture, from the Dutch *Elckerlijc* to the Buddhist text *Miscellaneous Agama* by Genji Takahashi. Its universal theme of friendship can be seen. With *Everyman* specifically, the addition of good deeds (the loyal friend) required to present to God, while all his "false" friends and worldly possessions flee. In our materialistic mindset, it is a welcome reminder that our good deeds are what truly makes us happy. As a society, we can only be strong when we reach out and help those around us. With the global pandemic, I think that has been tested and placed under a microscope. The pandemic has caused individuals to confront death and assess what is truly important in the world, in our communities, and ourselves.

Karen Baker, Director

The Cast

CHAD A. THOMAS – Everyman

Chad Thomas is an Associate Professor of English (specializing in Shakespeare and dramatic literature) and the program director for Women's and Gender Studies at UAH. In addition to professional acting credits with Shakespeare in Santa Fe, Chad is co-founder and co-artistic director of Huntsville Shakespeare (established 2018). At UAH, his recent directing projects include *Grounded* (2017), *Shakespeare's R&J* (2018), and *The Trojan Women* (2019), and his recent acting projects include Robert in *Proof* (2016), Faustus in *Faustus* (2017), and Tobias in *Neighborhood 3: Requisition of Doom* (2018). This summer, he will direct two Huntsville Shakespeare productions: *Hamlet* and *Othello*.

GAIL HETHERINGTON – Messenger / Strength / Doctor

Gail is a Theatre Performance and English major at UAH. Gail's previous UAH Theatre roles include Tilly Evans in *She Kills Monsters: Virtual Realms*, Anne in *La Cage Aux Folles*, and Last Day Girl in *tempODYSSEY*, and outside of UAH, Gail has been in shows such as Huntsville Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, AMT's *Xanadu*, and The Whole Backstage's *High School Musical*. Gail would like to thank family, friends, Trixie the cat, and everyone from McCoy's Taekwondo America for all their support.

MELISSA ANDERSON – God / Everyman Understudy

Melissa is a Mechanical Design Engineer at Dynetics and a part time mechanical engineering grad student at UAH. She has had several acting credits at the Kentucky Conservatory Theatre including Nibs in *Peter Pan* and Fairy in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Last semester, she had the pleasure of playing Lilith/Lilly in *She Kills Monsters*. She has experience working backstage in several projects as well as a writing credit for *The Girl Project: 2013*. She would like to thank her friends and family for encouraging her to pursue her creative interests.

WARREN GRIGGS – Death / Knowledge

Warren is currently in his junior year. His previous roles include Bart Simpson in *Mr. Burns*, Actor M in *Revolt, She Said, Revolt Again*, Mr. Renaud in *La Cage Aux Folles*, Dead Body Boy in *TempOdyssey*, and Chuck Biggs in *She Kills Monsters: Virtual Realms*. He would like to thank his family for all their support, his girlfriend for all her love, and his roommates for encouraging him. He hopes that you enjoy the show.

JOSIAH GOMEZ – Fellowship / Kindred / Confession

Josiah Gomez is a freshman aerospace engineering major. This is his second show with UAH and he is very grateful for the opportunity to perform. His roles before UAH include 'Mayor Shinn' in *Music Man*, 'Gilbert Blythe' in *Anne of Green Gables*, 'Professor Henry Higgins' in *My Fair Lady*, and 'George Bailey' in *It's a Wonderful Life*. He would like to thank all those who he has been lucky enough to act alongside and have pushed him to improve.

BAKARI PRIGG – Cousin / Goods / Discretion

Bakari Prigg is a graduate of UAH Theatre program specializing in Theatre performance and Technical Design. He is a professional puppeteer trained by Muppeteers of Sesame Street. He is the artistic director of puppet troupe, Under His Strings. He has had the opportunity to work at Sesame Place as a puppeteer performing Elmo, Abby, Oscar, and a character performer as Cookie Monster, Grover, and Snuffy. Bakari has performed various roles with UAH Theatre in such productions as I and You, Threepenny Opera, and How to Succeed in Business. He has done technical work with the production team at Oakwood University Church and Huntsville's IATSE local crew (900) for national Broadway tours such as Book of Mormon, Kinky Boots, Spongebob the Musical, and Sesame Street Live; he has been a part of the touring crew for Shakira's El Dorado World Tour.

LAURA MARTIN – Good Deeds

Laura Martin is an English graduate student at the University of Alabama in Huntsville. She has worked on several productions with UAH theater as both an actress and stage manager. She is thrilled to be returning to UAH theater for their production of *Everyman*. She would like to thank Karen Baker for this opportunity and hopes to work with UAH theater again in the future.

JACK WAGNER – 5 Wits

Jack is a Physics major at UAH. This is his first role with UAH theatre and he is glad to be a part of the production. Before coming to UAH, he played roles in high school productions of *Bye Bye Birdie*, *Flowers for Algernon*, *Barnum*, and *Tarzan*. Jack would like to thank his family, his friends, and the cast and crew of *Everyman* for being so supportive.

HAYLEY JOHNSON – Beauty / Angel

Hayley is a Junior at UAH, and has been featured in several other shows here: *Hurricane Diane*, *The Tempest*, *The Trojan Woman*, and *Mr. Burns*. She is very grateful for this opportunity to play a new type of role and is looking forward to new acting challenges in the future. She would like to thank her friends, Noah and Warren, as well as her girlfriend and stage manager, Becca, for all of their love and support.

The Creative Team**KAREN BAKER - Director**

Karen is a Full Time Lecturer at the University of Alabama in Huntsville. She received her MFA in Directing from the University of Alabama. A couple of her favorite projects include: *Mr. Burns: A Post Electric Play*, *Hurricane Diane*, *Dr. Faustus*, *Eurydice*, *City of Angels*, *Children of Eden*, and *Fefu and her Friends*.

DAVID HARWELL - Producer

David is a Huntsville native and the Director of the Theatre Program at UAH. He received his BFA in theatre at the University of Montevallo and his MFA in scene design from the University of Illinois, Champaign/Urbana. After many years of working in professional theater, he returned to Huntsville and started teaching at UAH in 2005. He is grateful for his colleagues and students who share their deep love of the theatre and who risk it all to pursue this thrilling, dangerous and life-changing work.

BECCA WESTBROOK - Stage Manager

Becca is a Senior at the University of Alabama in Huntsville, majoring in Theatre with a concentration in Performance, as well as a minor in Writing and a cognate in Dramaturgy. This is her first time Stage Managing a production, and is very excited for this new opportunity. She is a registered Actor Combatant with the SAFD, and was a member of the 2019 company of Unto These Hills Outdoor Drama in Cherokee, NC, and the 2018 company of Huntsville Shakespeare for their production of *Twelfth Night* and Staged Reading of *Macbeth*. Some of her favorite UAH credits include Agnes in *She Kills Monsters: Virtual Realms* (2020), Diane in *Hurricane Diane* (2020), and Student 4 (Nurse/Tybalt) in *Shakespeare's R&J* (2018).

MILES JONES – Assistant Stage Manager

Miles Jones is a freshman double majoring in Sociology and Theatre at the University of Alabama in Huntsville. They would like to thank their cat for enduring the many hours away for rehearsals and would like to thank their family for their endless love and support! Miles is looking forward to a wonderful production and cannot wait to progress with the UAH theatre program.

CHRIS CHIONG – Assistant Stage Manager

Chris Chiong is a sophomore at UAH majoring in Biology and hoping to double major in Theatre. This is his first show at UAH and he's very excited to work on it.

HEATHER BAUMBACH - Costume Designer

Heather holds a BFA in Costume Design from The University of North Carolina School of the Arts. She has over 20 years of design and production experience in stage, television, and film, with her credits including The Theater Outlet, The Santa Fe Opera, The Los Angeles Opera, The Cherry Lane Theatre, Fantasy Playhouse Children's Theatre, Renaissance Theatre, Main State Music Theatre, Center Theatre Group, Carsey-Warner Productions, and Comedy Central.

SETH D'AVIGNON - Assistant Costume Designer/Costume Shop Manager

Seth is a sophomore at the University of Alabama in Huntsville majoring in theatre. Seth is very excited to work on the show and is thankful for the experience.

TRACI PHILLIPS - Wardrobe Head

Traci is delighted for the opportunity to work on such an interesting and unique show. Other notable shows she has worked on are UAH's productions of *La Cage Aux Folles* and *The Trojan Women*. She has found working on this show to be an exciting challenge, and she is grateful for the chance to help bring it to life.

MARI WALKER - Wardrobe

Mari Walker is a Freshman at UAH majoring in Computer Science and soon to be minoring in theater. She has not been involved in any UAH productions but is very excited to be a part of this. Their last role would have been the Wicked Witch of the West in their high school production of *The Wizard of Oz*. For obvious reasons they weren't able to but are happy to have another chance to be a part of a play.

AIDAN CROWE - Lighting Designer / Board Op

Aidan is a senior student majoring in Theatre Technology & Design at UAH. He designed lights for the production of *Request Concert*, helped with both lights and sound for *La Cage Aux Folles*, and designed projections for last year's production of *Hurricane Diane*. This summer he will be working with *Unto These Hills* in Cherokee, North Carolina.

ETHAN MITCHELL - Assistant Lighting Designer

Ethan is a sophomore theater and civil engineering major at UAH. He assisted the crew during *La Cage Aux Folles* where needed, helped with *Peace on Earth* at the VBC in 2019, and was an assistant stage manager for

A Raisin in The Sun at Oakwood University in the Spring of 2020. He is very excited for this opportunity to work with this cast and crew.

WHITNEY LEONARD - Sound Designer

Whitney is a junior Theatre Technology major emphasis on sound at UAH. She has been a part of *Mr. Burns*, *Request Concert*, *La Cage aux Folles*, *Hurricane Diane*, *Temp ODYSSEY*, and *She Kills Monsters: Virtual Realms*

JOHNNA DOTY - Music/Tech Advisor

Johnna is a Senior Lecturer for the Theatre Program and Director of Music Technology for the Music Department at UAH. Her work as a Sound Designer and Composer has been heard Off-Broadway and in Regional Theatres throughout the country and internationally. Johnna was a freelance Sound Designer in NYC and an Associate Professor at the Borough of Manhattan Community College before returning to her home state of Alabama. She has enjoyed composing and designing for UAH Theatre for over ten years.

NICK CLIFTON – Assistant Lighting and Sound

Nick is a civil engineering freshman at UAH, and is very excited to be involved in his first show at UAH.

LEE BOROWSKI - Stitcher

Garland Borowski has been involved with theatre productions since he was eight years old. He performed in numerous productions ranging from plays to musicals to ballets throughout his years. He currently dances with Huntsville Ballet as a soloist. In the fall of 2018, Garland enrolled in the University of Alabama in Huntsville, and in spring of 2019 he became a theatre major with a focus in theatre technologies.

DEAN NIX - Stitcher

Dean Nix is a junior at UAH majoring in theatre. This is their sixth performance working with UAH. Other stage management roles include *The Trojan Women*, *She Kills Monsters*, and *La Cage Aux Folles* as an Assistant Stage Manager, and *Hurricane Diane* as the Stage Manager. Dean has also worked as the stage manager for Huntsville Shakespeare's productions of *The Tempest* and *Hamlet*

AUBREY NORTHAM - Stitcher

Aubrey is a senior digital animation student focusing on video game design and development. She first worked with UAH theater animating the final fight scene for *She Kills Monsters*, and is very excited to have a more hands-on role in this show.

JOEY WATSON - Video Production/Streaming

Joey Watson is a faculty member with UAH Theatre. He is also the program coordinator for UAH Film & Media Arts. His most recent feature film, *Which Way There*, is now available on Amazon Prime. Joey received his BA in Theatre and his MA in Communication Media from The University of Memphis and his Ph.D. in Communication Studies from Louisiana State University.

AMY GUERIN – Marketing Support

Amy Guerin is a faculty member with UAH Theatre. She previously taught at Texas A&M University. In 2009, Amy's production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, a collaboration with A&M's Department of Computer Science & Engineering showcasing flying fairy robots alongside human actors, was featured in Wired Magazine. She has also directed *Lend Me a Tenor*, *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*, *The Conduct of Life*, *Bus Stop*, *Measure for Measure*, *An Ideal Husband*, *Tartuffe*, *Machinal*, *I and You*, *Neighborhood 3: Requisition of Doom*, *Twelfth Night*, *The Tempest*, *Request Concert*, and *tempOdyssey*. Amy received her BFA in Acting from the University of Oklahoma, and her MFA in Directing from the University of Houston.