



A DOLL'S HOUSE

by henrik ibsen

Missouri Baptist University Theatre presents

A Doll's House

By Henrik Ibsen

November 6-8, 2020

Audience members are asked to wear a face covering at all times and maintain a minimum six-foot distance from any patrons not in their group. After the performance, please avoid gathering in the theatre or lobby. Please silence electronic devices that may distract your fellow audience members during the performance. No food, drink or smoking is allowed in the Pillsbury Chapel. The restrooms are located in the Mabee Great Hall just outside the auditorium. Please see one of our ushers if you have any questions or special needs. Enjoy the performance—we are glad you're here!

A Note From the Director

Ibsen's *A Doll's House* has long been a fixture in feminist canon- a clarion call to women to reject societal limitations and patriarchal pressures in order to pursue what is best for them. Ibsen denied being a champion of "the woman question," stating during a banquet given in his honor by the Women's Rights League, "I thank you for the toast, but must disclaim the honor of having consciously worked for the women's rights movement... True enough, it is desirable to solve the woman problem, along with all the others; but that has not been the whole purpose. My task has been the description of humanity."

Some critics have taken this to mean that Nora represents all of humankind. However, to separate *A Doll's House* from its story of a woman seeking out her own humanity would be a mistake. It is not instead of, but in addition to this story that we explore the rest of these characters. Some making wrong choices for right reasons or right choices for wrong reasons, but all trapped in a doll's house of society's making.

What we have discovered in this play is a cast of characters, woefully broken, searching for meaning, and all deserving of love and understanding. Even those who seem to be the villains in Nora's story.

I hope that this coming week as you interact with your neighbors, this show will remind you that they are all doing the best they can with what they have. This is, I believe, the real story of humanity in *A Doll's House*.

Kasey Cox

Special Thanks To

Dr. Keith Ross, Dr. Andy Chambers, Dr. Benjamin Lion, Dr. Larry Smith, Steve O'Neal, MBU Communications Department, University Communications

A very special thanks to St. Louis County Department of Public Health for helping us develop a plan to provide safe and healthy entertainment!

The Helmer Apartment, Norway, 1879

Act I.....Christmas Eve Morning

Five-Minute Intermission

Act II.....Christmas Day

Ten-Minute Intermission

Act III.....The Next Evening

Cast

Nora Helmer.....	ELIANA STEELE
Torvald Helmer.....	DANIEL DILWORTH
Christine Linde.....	RACHEL YARBROUGH
Nils Krogstad.....	GREG CARR II
Doctor Rank.....	MICHAEL COX
Anne, the Nursemaid/Nora Understudy.....	SOPHIE KARASE
Helen, the Housemaid/Linde Understudy.....	VICTORIA ZILKE
Porter/Understudy.....	EVAN CLAWSON
Ivar, Emmy & Susannah.....	NOAH, JOBI & KATY COX

Production Team & Crew

Director/Producer.....	KASEY COX
Assistant Director.....	HEATHER VAUGHN
Stage Manager.....	ISABELLE SCHEIBE
Assistant Stage Managers.....	ASHLEY HARRIS, CASSIE SAMPLEY
Tarantella Choreographer.....	CLAIRE WARD
Set Designer/Tech Director.....	JASON STAHR
Master Carpenter.....	BRAD GREMMINGER
Costume Designer.....	SARAH DICKEY
Costume Apprentice.....	ALICIA NEALE
Stitcher.....	BEKAH WILLIAMS
Dressers.....	SUSANNA ENNENBACH, SABRINA FURMAN
Sound Designer.....	JON ZIELKE
Sound Apprentice.....	BRADLEY BLIVEN, BEKAH WILLIAMS
Lighting Designers.....	CLAIRE BAUR, ALLE HEAD
Props Designers.....	CAMERON TYLER, JENNY DUNCAN
Dramaturg.....	EVAN CLAWSON
Child Wrangler.....	LINDSEY PETERS
Fine Arts Events Manager.....	OLIVIA LEEK
Box Office Assistants.....	KAROLINE ORTIZ, JAMONI RICHARDSON

Music & Theatre Scholarship Auditions

Saturday, November 14, 2020, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Saturday, February 6, 2021, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Monday, February 15, 2021, 3-6 p.m.

Auditions are for freshman and transfer students who want to pursue any of the following majors:

Theatre

Musical Theatre

Speech/Theatre Secondary Education

Music

Music Education

Commercial Voice

Vocal Performance

Piano Performance

Music with elective studies in Business

Worship Leadership

Please contact the Fine Arts office at 314-744-5364 to receive more information or to schedule an audition.

THE MBU THEATRE MISSION

MBU Theatre is a Christ-centered program that challenges our students to view their work through a Biblical vantage point. We believe that all truth is God's truth, and therefore all great and truthful works of theatre carry within them glimmers of God's redemptive plan.

Because of this foundation, we believe that storytelling through theatre is a calling worthy of intensive training. Graduates from our theatre program will have knowledge of theatre history; acting methods of Stanislavsky, Chekhov, Meisner, Strasburg, and many others; directing technique; and a variety of design areas. We purposefully want education to be broad, but deep - giving students the opportunity to thrive in a transient job market that requires theatre students to work in a variety of positions.

Additionally, we give students ample opportunity to practice these skills. We produce six shows every year, allowing our students to choose design, tech, or performance in each production, allowing them to tailor their education to their needs.

Cast & Crew Bios

Claire Baur (Lighting Designer) is excited to be in her second season with MBU Theatre. She is thankful for the opportunity to work on this show, and is thankful every day for all the joys theatre brings her and others and cannot wait to see what God has planned for her in the future. Favorite past credits include Molly Aster (*Peter and the Starcatcher*), Chava (*Fiddler on the Roof*), Crystal (*Little Shop of Horrors*), and Peter Pan (*Peter Pan*).

Greg Carr II (Nils Krogstad) is a sophomore Theatre major. He last appeared as Black Stache in *Peter and the Starcatcher* and is looking forward to doing more productions in the future. Some of his favorite roles include Mysterious Man (*Into the Woods*), Kinesias/The Herald (*The Birds*) and Featured Dancer (*The Music Man*). He would like to give a special thanks to this wonderful production team and talented cast. Enjoy the show!

Evan Clawson (Porter/Understudy) is a sophomore at MBU, majoring in Theatre. He last appeared as Lord Aster in *Peter in the Starcatcher*. He thanks the cast and crew for making this a fantastic production.

Kasey Cox (Director/Producer) is the Director of Theatre & Dance at MBU. She is a 2010 graduate of MBU with a degree in musical theatre and a 2014 graduate of Fontbonne University with a master of arts in theatre. Kasey's directing credits include *Peter Pan* (MBU), *Romeo and Juliet* (Acting Out!), *The Odd Couple: Female Version* (Act Two Theatre Company) and *Steel Magnolias* (Kirkwood Theatre Guild). Some of her favorite roles include Sally (*You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*), Rosie (*Bye Bye Birdie*) and Jo (*Little Women: The Musical*). She would like to thank her husband Jordan and kids, Noah, Jobi and Katy, for keeping her house full of joy.

Michael Cox (Doctor Rank) is a sophomore theatre major. He was last seen on stage in *Peter and the Starcatcher* and as Charlie Cowell in *The Music Man* at MBU. He has previously performed in *Mame*, *Chicago*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* as Nick Bottom, *Check Please* as Manny and *Into the Woods* as The Wolf. He wants to thank the cast and production team for a great experience. He hopes that you will enjoy the show.

Sarah Dickey (Costume Designer) has worked with MBU Theatre in many capacities for the past 20 years: as director, assistant director, stage manager, charge artist, lighting designer, costume designer and set designer. Favorite MBU shows include *The 39 Steps*, *The Diary of Anne Frank*, *The Importance of Being Earnest* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Sarah has worked on shows throughout Missouri and Illinois, including *Chicago* (Spotlight Productions), *The Wiz* (St. Louis Summer Players), *Into the Woods* (Acting Out!) and *Singin' in the Rain* (Broadway on the Driveway). A big thanks to this wonderful cast, production team and crew who has worked so hard to bring this show to MBU.

Daniel Dilworth (Torvald Helmer), a senior at MBU, is double-majoring in Theatre and Communication Studies with minors in Public Relations and Journalism. His previous roles at MBU Theatre include MacBeth in Shakespeare's *MacBeth*, Richard Hannay in *The 39 Steps*, Heracles in *The Birds*, and The Purser in *Anything Goes*, among others. He would like to thank his family and beautiful wife for their constant support, and God for blessing him with this opportunity and the ability to glorify Him through theatre.

Susanna Ennenbach (Dresser) is a freshman Theatre major. Previous shows include *Peter Pan*, *Mary Poppins*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Seussical* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* with Dayspring and *Red Herring* with SHARE Productions. She thanks the cast and crew for a great experience with this production.

Sabrina Furman (Dresser) is a Freshman majoring in Speech and Theatre Education. Among her favorite roles have been Rebecca Gibbs (*Our Town*), Annie (*Mary Poppins*), Bird Girl (*Seussical*), Lina Lamont (*Singin' in the Rain*), Stage Manager/Newsie (*Newsies*), Urleen (*Footloose*), and Ursula (*The Little Mermaid*). She is excited to be working on another MBU production and would like to thank her family for their love and support. Philippians 4:13

Brad Gremminger (Master Carpenter) has been working with the MBU team for over a decade. Notable productions include *Guys & Dolls*, *Peter Pan* and *West Side Story*. He has worked as a carpenter and crew member for many shows with Spotlight Productions and Rockwood Summit High School. He thanks his loving wife Theresa for her support.

Ashley Harris (Assistant Stage Manager) is a freshman majoring in Speech and Theatre Education. She is so excited to be part of the MBU Theatre family. One of her favorite roles she has ever played was Mrs. Hubbard in *Murder On The Orient Express* during her senior year of high school. She would like to thank her mother for being her rock and always telling her to push for her dreams no matter how big they may be.

Alle Head (Lighting Designer) is a senior at MBU majoring in Theatre with a double minor in Marketing and Dance. She has previously appeared on the MBU stage as the Witch in *Into the Woods*, Sally in *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown* (Irene Ryan Scholarship Nominee), Erma in *Anything Goes* and Imogene in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*. She is grateful to be a part of such a wonderful cast and crew, and most importantly she is grateful to her Lord Jesus for his faithfulness.

Sophie Karase (Anne/Nora Understudy) is thrilled to be in her second season with MBU Theatre. Sophie is a sophomore and majoring in Musical Theatre, and her previous roles include a Prentiss in *Peter and the Starcatcher*, Pick-A-Little Lady in *The Music Man*, Bird/Priest/Messenger in *The Birds*, and Florinda in *Into the Woods*. She would like to thank friends and family for always supporting her. She thanks God for the gifts he has given her and the ability to share them with others through theatre.

Alicia Neale (Costume Apprentice) is excited to be a part of this show! Alicia is currently a junior majoring in Musical Theatre and minoring in Dance. Her favorite roles include Smee in *Peter and the Starcatcher*, Kaitlyn Parker in *The Future is in Your Tiny Hands* (MBU), Maud Dunlop in *The Music Man* (MBU), and Cinderella's Stepmother in *Into the Woods* (MBU). Alicia would like to thank the cast and crew for their dedication to this production. She would also like to thank her friends and family for their love, patience, and support. Rev. 21:4

Cassie Sampley (Assistant Stage Manager) is a sophomore Theatre major at MBU. Her previous roles include: Mrs. Paroo (*The Music Man*), Rizzo (*Grease*), Daniela (*In The Heights*), Jean Maitland (*Stage Door*), and Clara Eynsford-Hill (*Pygmalion*). She would like to thank the stage management crew for their time and dedication put into this great show! She would also like to thank her family for their constant love and support. Enjoy the show! Prov. 3:5-6

Isabelle Scheibe (Stage Manager) is a graduate of Stephens College with a B.F.A. in Technical Theatre with an emphasis in Stage Management. Her first Theatre experience was "Honk!". She was five years old and has continued to love Theater ever since. After being a performer, Isabelle later found a new love for backstage work, which led her to Stephens College. There she was given many opportunities to stage manage, light design, sound design, & even direct. She also was given the opportunity to work over the summer with Stephens College Summer Stock Theatre in Okoboji Iowa, where the company puts on nine shows in ten weeks, with four of those shows being musicals. During Isabelle's last year at Stephens College she served on the executive board as the Production Stage Manager for the student run Warehouse Theatre. Isabelle is excited to make an impact on the world of theatre and to start this journey at Missouri Baptist University.

Jason Stahr (Set Designer/Tech Director) has been working in professional theater for over thirty five years. He has worked with such local companies as St. Louis Shakespeare, Mid-America Theater, and Hot City Theatre. He is the Director of Stage Services for the Touhill Performing Arts Center at UMSL, and an adjunct instructor in Theatre at MBU. Jason is most proud of being a father of two sons, Zack and Gabe.

Eliana Steele (Nora Helmer) is over the moon to be returning to the MBU stage! She graduated this spring with a major in Theatre and minors in Accounting and Business Administration. During her time as a student, she enjoyed such roles as Lady M (*Macbeth*), Reno Sweeney (*Anything Goes*), and Baker's Wife (*Into the Woods*) onstage, and lighting designer (*Charlie Brown*, *The 39 Steps*) and stage manager (*Little Shop of Horrors*) from the tech booth. This year she is grateful to be directing at Take 3 Christian Theater and Dayspring Performing Arts. Thank you a million times over to my dear MBU theatre family for all the love and treasured memories; to my Savior, for His sacrifice and His faithful, sanctifying work in my life; and to my sweet mom – thank you for loving Nora as much as I do and sharing this process with me. Love you forever, like you for always.

Cameron Tyler (Props Designer) is very excited to be part of this production! He is in his senior year at MBU, majoring in Musical Theatre with a minor in Dance. Favorite past productions include *Billy Elliot* (Muny in St. Louis), *Shrek* (Larry D Clark Summer Repertory Theatre), and *Into the Woods* (Missouri Baptist University). He would like to thank his friends, family, and teachers for helping him achieve his dreams.

Heather Vaughn (Assistant Director) is currently pursuing an M.A. in Teaching in Speech/Theater Education after earning a B.A. in Communication in 2001. Her MBU production credits include *Smoke on the Mountain* (1998), *West Side Story* (1999), *Godspell* (2000), *Myriad: A One-Act Festival* (2019), *The 39 Steps* (2019) and *Into the Woods* (2020). Heather is grateful for the unfailing love and support of her husband and four children and their sacrifices that allow her to follow her passions.

Claire Ward (Tarantella Choreographer) holds a BFA in Ballet Performance from the University of Oklahoma School of Dance, and an MS in Fitness Management from MBU. In 2008, she toured nationally in the Radio City Christmas Spectacular Arena Tour, then danced professionally with companies including Oklahoma Festival Ballet, the Louisville Ballet, Missouri Ballet Theatre, and Common Thread Contemporary Ballet. She is a dance professor and coach at MBU, and a dance/performing arts teacher at Dayspring School for the Arts. Claire's choreographic works include *Mary Poppins*, *Anything Goes*, *The Music Man*, *Napoli*, *The Nutcracker* and *Sounds of Christmas*. She thanks every member of the cast and crew for their hard work and dedication throughout this process, and feels blessed every day to work with such talented artists!

Bekah Williams (Sound Apprentice/Stitcher) is a senior at MBU. Most recently she was the Sound Apprentice for *Song For a New World*, Costume Apprentice for *Peter and the Starcatcher*, Costume Designer for MBU's *The 39 Steps* and Granny/Snow White in *Into the Woods*. She has previously worked with Shatterglass Productions where she participated in over 20 shows in multiple roles including assistant director, choreographer and actress. She is excited to be on this new leg of her journey with such incredible people. She wants to thank her husband, Alex, for his unending support, her family and friends for their encouragement, and her God for His unfailing love. 2 Timothy 1:7 (NKJV)

Rachel Yarbrough (Christine Linde) is a Senior Theatre and Psychology Double major. Some of Rachel's favorite shows she has done are *Into the Woods*, *Caucasian Chalk Circle*, and *Little Shop of Horrors*. Rachel would like to thank her family and friends for their continuous support and grace. She would also like to thank The production team and the cast for all of their hard work!

Jon Zielke (Sound Designer) is a graduate of Washington University, and originally from the Twin Cities, Minnesota. This is his third season with MBU Theatre, working on *Anything Goes*, *The 39 Steps*, *The Music Man* and more. He has designed sound for a variety of productions around St. Louis, and he is thrilled to return to Missouri Baptist to work on this great show!

Victoria Zilke (Helen/Linde Understudy) is a junior Behavioral Science major and Theatre minor. Some of her favorite roles have been the Prophet (*The Birds*), Captain Scott (*Peter and the Starcatcher*) and Bard (*The Hobbit*). She has also worked crew for many productions, including *Anything Goes* and *Into the Woods*. Victoria would like to thank Andrea Robb, Rachel Yarbrough and Kasey Cox for this great opportunity and all the ways she has encouraged growth and learning. She would also like to thank the rest of the cast and crew for being a wonderful and loving family.

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APRIL 2021



LAB THEATRE SEASON

Gruesome Playground Injuries: Daniel Dilworth & Lindsey Peters Senior Capstone
November 21 & 22, 2020

God of Carnage: Rachel Yarbrough Senior Capstone
February 27 & 28, 2021

Desire: Alle Head Senior Capstone
April 5, 2021

Cameron Tyler Musical Theatre Recital
April 25, 2021

Myriad: A One-Act Festival
April 27, 2021