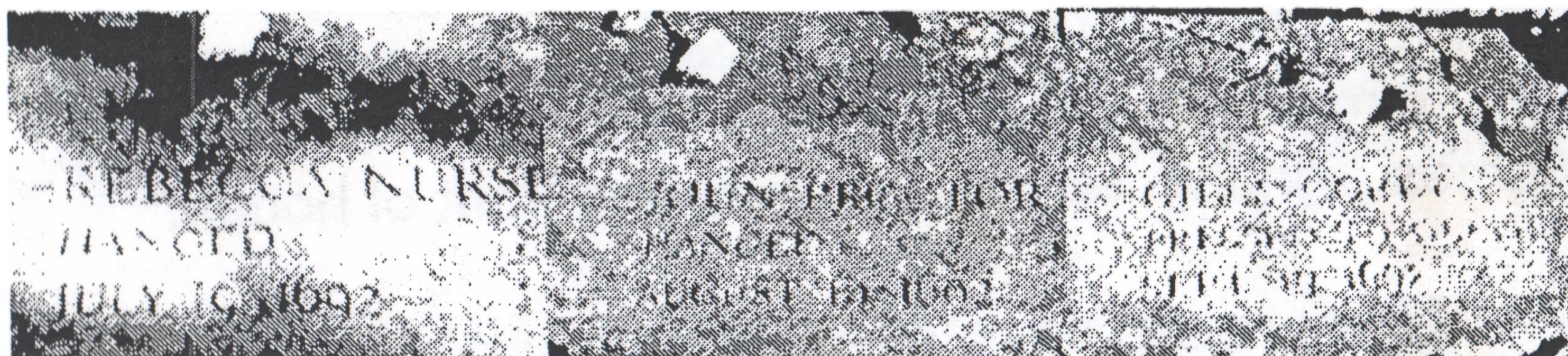




# THE CRUCIBLE



Rebecca Nurse

John Proctor

Giles Corey

by Arthur Miller

Directed by Martin Key

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2009



Leeds Arts Centre is a prestigious amateur theatre group founded in 1945. We are a friendly society, working together to maintain the high standards for which our productions are known. We produce four plays each year at the Carriageworks, as well as organising workshops to help members to develop their acting, directing and production skills.

We offer opportunities to all who are interested in becoming involved with any aspect of drama, including acting, directing, stage management, props, designing, costumes, lighting, sound, publicity and front of house.

### **New members are always welcome**

If you are interested in acting, directing, designing or making scenery or costumes, helping backstage with stage management or props, or lending a hand with publicity, then why not speak to one of our members front of house this evening, or in the theatre bar after the show?

You can also write, with contact telephone number, for further information to:

The Secretary, Leeds Arts Centre  
c/o The Carriageworks  
Millennium Square, Leeds LS2 3AD  
or e-mail us at: [publicity@leedsartscentre.org.uk](mailto:publicity@leedsartscentre.org.uk)

To find out more about the activities and forthcoming productions of the Leeds Arts Centre visit our website at:

[www.leedsartscentre.org.uk](http://www.leedsartscentre.org.uk)



## **DIRECTOR'S NOTES**

The grave stones shown in the cover photographs still exist today. The real Rebecca Nurse, wife of Francis, was accused of being a witch and hanged on 19<sup>th</sup> July 1692; the real John Proctor, farmer and husband of Elizabeth, was also condemned for witchcraft and hanged 19<sup>th</sup> August 1692; the real Giles Corey was pressed to death 19<sup>th</sup> September 1692. In Arthur Miller's story Rebecca and Proctor were hung together on the same morning and Giles Corey was pressed to death some time before but for the same reason Elizabeth describes in Miller's play i.e. he refused to answer his indictment "...aye or nay and so died Christian under the law."

From the search for witches in Salem, Massachusetts in 1692 to the search for communists in the Department of State launched in 1950 by Senator Joe McCarthy: Arthur Miller's play 'The Crucible', published in 1953, tells the story of the former but was inspired by the latter.

The graves of those accused of witchcraft in the theocratic society of 17<sup>th</sup> Century Salem are still to be seen and Miller uses many of their names in his play (see examples above). The critical themes of Intolerance, Hysteria and Reputation mould the storyline in this society where, if anything does not belong to God, it belongs to the Devil and dissent is not merely unlawful, it is associated with satanic activity. While hints of witchcraft abound, the protagonist John Proctor desires to preserve his reputation rather than testify against Abigail with whom he has committed adultery. In his trial he cries, "I have given you my soul; leave me my name!" At the end of the play however, Proctor redeems himself and makes a heroic choice to go to the gallows to die with integrity rather than sign a false confession to witchcraft.

Martin Key



# Cast

Betty Paris	Flo Milner
Rev Samuel Paris	Alan Wright
Tituba	Stephanie Hutchinson
Abigail Williams	Joanne Groves
Susanna Walcott	Camilla Asher
Ann Putnam	Rachel Robinson
Thomas Putnam	Edwin Barraclough
Mercy Lewis	Emily Goldie
Mary Warren	Kat Tanney
John Proctor	Paul Fox
Rebecca Nurse	Mary Nelson
Giles Corey	Barry Green
Rev John Hale	Ed Corbett
Elizabeth Proctor	Pip Tibbetts
Francis Nurse	Tony Nelson
Ezekiel Cheever	Simon Twine
Marshal Herrick	Tim Cragg
Deputy Hopkins	Nick Blackshaw
Judge Hathorne	Gerry Armytage
Danforth	Peter Sandles
Sarah Good	Pam Wilson
Voice Martha Corey	Pam Wilson

**We would like to thank Emma Romans of *Betty Brown Wigs* of York for supplying some of the wigs for this production**



# Production Team

Director/Designer	Martin Key
Production Manager	Rich Francis
Asst Director/Prompt	Debs Sandles
Stage Manager	Steve Fryatt
ASM	Faye Stephens
Backstage crew	Members of LAC
Set and Lighting Design	Martin Key
Set Construction	Steve Fryatt, Peter Sandles & members of LAC
	<b>Thanks to ITV Yorkshire for their support</b>
Props	Keith Huckfield/Denise Davies
Set Dressing	Denise Davies/Doreen Parker
Costumes	Pauline Ratcliffe & members of LAC
Original music & sound recording	Yaron Hollander
Research of the Psalm	Dr. Tim Raymond
Sound recording of the hymn	Congregation of St Peter's Church Rawdon
Sound operation	Richard Key & Adil Rauf
Lighting	Peter Waddicor
Poster design and artwork	Dave Gannon
Poster Photography	Dave Robbins, Martin Key & Liz Key
Front of House Managers	Joyce King & Christine Wilson

**The Running time of this production is approximately  
2 hours 45 minutes; there will be one interval of fifteen  
minutes during which the bar will be open.**



## **FURTHER FACTS FROM THE DIRECTOR**

It is interesting to note that soon after the fever died down Parris was voted from office, walked out in the highroad and was never heard of again. Legend has it that Abigail turned up later as a prostitute in Boston and Elizabeth Proctor married again four years after Proctor's death. Many farms owned by victims were left to ruin and for more than a century no one would buy them or live on them.

The jury prayed for forgiveness from all who had suffered and twenty years after the last execution surviving victims and relations of the dead were offered government compensation.

(Historical facts from the Salem Website, Arthur Miller website and Notes by Maureen Blakesley 1992)

Martin Key

The programme for this production was produced with the kind assistance of

**Lewis Francis Blackburn**  
solicitors

14-16 Paradise Square Sheffield S1 2DE  
0114 272 9721

### **Duwood Design**

Kitchen, bedroom & bathroom installations  
From design to completion all building works undertaken.  
Joinery works, Granite w/tops, Flooring and tiling.  
Contact **Peter Sandles** on **0785 3155920**



## **SOCIETY PATRONS 2008/2009**

Audrey Barker  
Shirley Broadbent  
Graham Greensit

George Barker  
Denise Davies  
Joyce King

Burkitt Vernelle Training & Consultancy

Leeds Arts Centre would like to thank its Patrons for their continued support.

New Patrons are always welcome, to find out more, visit our website [www.leedsartscentre.org.uk](http://www.leedsartscentre.org.uk), write to

Public Relations & Liaison, Leeds Arts Centre  
c/o The Carriageworks  
Millennium Square, Leeds LS2 3AD  
or e-mail us at: [publicity@leedsartscentre.org.uk](mailto:publicity@leedsartscentre.org.uk)

## **Advertising & Sponsorship**

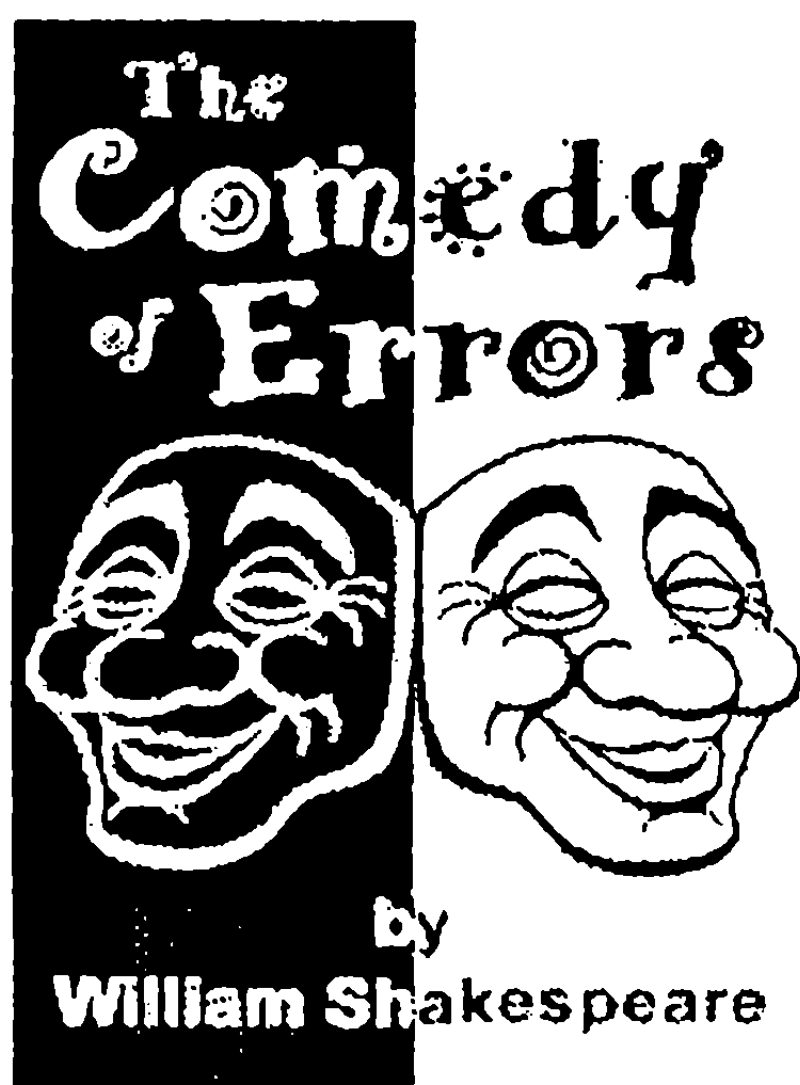
Leeds Arts Centre is a member of the Leeds Civic Arts Guild, and is a registered charity and non-profit making organisation. We are currently looking for companies and organisations that would benefit from advertising in our programmes or sponsoring our productions.

To find out more, contact:

The Publicity Officer, Leeds Arts Centre  
c/o The Carriageworks  
Millennium Square, Leeds LS2 3AD  
or e-mail us at: [publicity@leedsartscentre.org.uk](mailto:publicity@leedsartscentre.org.uk)



**FORTHCOMING PRODUCTIONS  
AT THE CARRIAGEWORKS**



**The Comedy of Errors**

Wed. 6<sup>th</sup> to Sat. 9<sup>th</sup> May 2009

by William Shakespeare  
designed and directed by  
Malcolm Brown

w/c 15<sup>th</sup> June 2009

**The House of Bernada Alba**

by Federico Garica Lorca  
directed by Amy Dutton

The next Leeds Civic Arts Guild  
production at the Carriageworks

**Strangers on a Train**

**Presented by Limelight Drama Group**

Wed 25, Thur 26 & Sat 28 February 2009