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#### Bienvenue!

It is my great pleasure to welcome to you to the University of Louisiana at Lafayette and the Department of Performing Arts' production of Anthony Clarvoe's, *The Living*.

It is an exciting time to be part of UL Lafayette Performing Arts! In the midst of a 'Renaissance of the Arts,' the Department continues its rich history of providing high quality theatre and dance events and welcomes three new artist/ teachers to the faculty. With unequaled commitment to high artistic standards and to providing our students with high-quality pre-professional training, the faculty of the Department of Performing Arts is excited to welcome the addition of twenty-two new freshman and transfer Theatre and Dance students! We are proud to say that their co-curricular production work—which extends classroom training to hands-on experience, contributes to the success of tonight's performance!

Reflecting the University's commitment to the Performing Arts, our renaissance can also be seen in the facilities on campus. The Burke-Hawthorne Theater is nearing completion of its multi-million dollar renovation and will see its inaugural performance in the Fall of 2009. McLaurin Hall Dance and Theatre Training Studios, home of the Performing Arts, is wrapping up phase-one of a multi-year, multi-phase, multi-million dollar renovation—and already the changes to the facility are wonderful to behold. Even here in Fletcher Auditorium, the theatre space you are in now, the renovations completed this summer attest to the commitment and support for the Performing Arts from the College of the Arts, and especially, Dean, Gordon Brooks.

This theatre season, we continue our newly established tradition of presenting provocative, challenging, and socially relevant works. Balancing out our training and focusing on the presence of the actor, *The Living* is an ensemble piece that speaks directly to issues of social relevance, as well as to the role of theatre in today's society.

As you can see, there is much to be excited about! On behalf of the Department's faculty and students, I would like to thank you for joining us tonight and for supporting the Performing Arts at UL Lafayette. I invite you to join us November 20-23, 2008 as we present the 17th annual *State of La Danse!*; a provocative evening of Classical Ballet and Modern Dance pieces from the works of our rich faculty and guest choreographers.

If we can be of any service to you, or if you would like to find out more about the Theatre and Dance programs, our 'Renaissance of the Arts,' or about underwriting a Performing Arts event, please give us a call at 482-6357 or stop into McLaurin Hall and visit us in person. We would love to meet you!

We are glad you are here to celebrate our Renaissance with us! Enjoy the Show!

Nyalls Hartman Chair, Performing Arts.

#### Director's Notes

I have been captivated by Anthony Clarvoe's *The Living* since I first read it, 13 years ago. I was moved then and am moved still by its simple straight forward manner, and the great sense of the human condition it portrays. I remain captured by the world of the play and the high cost the loss of life has on the integrity of the play's central characters. It is a powerful socially poignant human drama.

Written in 1993 and centered in England at the time of the great plague of 1665, *The Living* has moved in and out of social and political relevance since its premiere. Presenting us with a view of life and a struggle for survival that reflects our modern era, the play focuses on the survivors of the plague and the lessons learned from its devastation. Dealing rationally with the actual numbers of epidemic cases, the play's statistician, John Graunt, points out the fatal dilemma caused by the under reporting of plague cases and the Court's (government's) inaction in addressing timely prevention; actions that resulted in an inability to stop the plague from spreading before it infected most all of London and much of England.

Originally commenting upon our own Government's insufficient response to the growing HIV/AIDS epidemic back in 1993, the play once again has resounding relevance. Two months ago the CDC reported at the World AIDS Conference that the United States has been under reporting new HIV/AIDS infections by some 40% annually for the last 15 years. But more than being just about the HIV/AIDS epidemic, *The Living* expands our understanding of what constitutes a plague; offering that any and all wrong action—be it thought or deed, can become a plague on humanity if it is allowed to fester and not addressed early enough to be stopped.

In the London of 1665 presented in the play, the Court takes action against the plague by steadfastly protecting and preserving its own wellbeing, wealth, world dominance, and hierarchical social structure. They are consumed by false values and, loosing sight of the real objective, preserve the 'riches' of the Nation—the City of London itself, not its people. In the USA of today, when our own Government is using its precious resources to save its 'riches' by addressing the economic losses of Big Business, while the people of our nation lose their homes and can't afford medical care, John Graunt's desire to be of use in a plague, "should this ever happen again," is hauntingly realized.

In *The Living*, the central characters learn that in order to preserve the value of life, one must *live* a life of value and that in order to preserve a civilization, one must first preserve its humanity. Perhaps here in the present, yet again, we must learn as they did in the time of the plague, that the value of "London" is not our riches, but our humanity.

# The Living Anthony Clarvoe

<u>Directed By</u> Nyalls Hartman Technical Designs By
Travis Johnson

Costume Designs By
A. Laura Brody

Vocal Coach Sara Birk

#### Characters

Sarah Chandler John Graunt Dr. Edward Harman Mrs. Elizabeth Finch Sir John Lawrence Lord Brounker Rev. Vincent Man 1 Rev. Mills, Paul, Lawrence's Clerk. 1st Constable, Robert Man 2 Dr. Goddard, Jamey, Bill Man 3 Mr. Sawyer, Brounker's Clerk, Constable 2, Andrew

Katie Lamson Clayton Shelvin Peter Falcone Greta Trosclair Michael Cato Brian Egland David Huynh Hendrick Matthysen

Derrick Turner

Elizabeth Satterly

# London, England 1665 and the Present

This performance will include a 10 minute intermission. The use of flash photography or video cameras is prohibited! Production Rights courtesy of Broadway Play Publishing, Inc.

## Who's Who in The Cast & Crew



Michael Cato - Sir John Lawrence

Michael Cato, a 22 year old native of Bainbridge, GA, has made Louisiana his home for five years. He is a senior at UL Lafayette majoring in Performing Arts with a concentration in theatre. His stage credits include UL Lafayette's productions of *Sherlock Holmes*, *The Exonerated*, *Grease*, and *Hamlet*. His community theatre work includes *Hound*, in which he was a member of the original cast, as well as *The Fantasticks* and several straight plays.



Kristy Chiasson - Stage Manager

Kristy Chiasson is a senior at UL Lafayette where she is majoring in Performing Arts with a concentration in both dance and theatre. Her stage managing experience includes UL Lafayette's An Evening of Dance and Carmen produced by UL Lafayette and the Acadiana Symphony Orchestra. Her performance experience includes UL Lafayette's State of LA Danse, Sherlock Holmes, and Othello as well as Hound at Cite des Arts. She is a native of Lafayette, and hopes

to be a key player in further developing Lafayette's local theatre community.



Brian Egland - Lord Brounker

Brian Egland is a 21 year old native of Breaux Bridge. He is in his fourth year at UL Lafayette where he is a major in Performing Arts with a concentration in theatre. His stage credits include UL Lafayette's productions of *The Laramie Project*, *The Exonerated*, and *How I Learned to Drive*. He has also appeared in the productions of *Jitney, Mississippi in the Face of Emmett Till, Love Can't Be Real*, and *The Exile of Joe Gagliano* at Cite des Arts. Brian plans to

continue his studies at UL Lafayette and follow the opportunities as they unfold.



Peter Falcone - Dr. Edward Harmon

Peter Falcone is a theatre student in his second year at UL Lafayette since transferring in 2007. Born in Long Island, NY, but raised in Atlanta and Louisiana he grew up in an enviornment conducive to the arts. Peter acted in a number of plays at his former university, LSUA. Such roles include Marvin Holahan in Landscape of the Body, Antonio in Twefth Night, and several others. He anticipates a very fulfilling experience playing the part of Dr. Harman in this falls

production of *The Living*. Peter hopes to eventually write, direct, and act professionally in film and theatre.



Jenna Fontenot - Props Master

Jenna Monique Fontenot is a junior in the Performing Arts Theatre program. She has focused on aspects of design and production. In 2007 she as stage manager for UL Lafayette's production of *The Laramie Project* and *How I Learned to Drive*. Also, in 2008 Jenna assumed the role of set designer and props master for the student directed production of *Closer*. Jenna is looking forward to working with everyoe this year and gaining more knowledge and experience.



David Huynh - Rev. Vincent

David Huynh is an 18 year old native of Lafayette, LA. He is a freshman Performing Arts major, and has been in productions of *Guys and Dolls* and *Waiting for Godot*. David appreciates the huge effort on the part of everyone in the department to produce this show, and is eagerly awaiting his next audition for a UL Lafayette production.



Katie Lamson - Sarah Chandler

Katie Lamson is a senior in the Department of Performing Arts. She was most recently seen in UL Lafayette's production of *The Laramie Project*. Katie's interests expand to all areas of theatre including acting, directing, and playwriting. Katie has been able to use her experience at UL Lafayette as a playground for theatrical experimentation, and she greatly appreciates the support and encouragement she has received from the faculty, her fellow

students, and most importantly, her very patient husband, Gannon. Graduating in May, Katie plans on spending a few years at home with her children, Kaiser and Genevieve, while remaining active in the Lafayette theatre scene.



Sarah Hitchcock - Costume Assistant

Sarah Hitchcock is a senior at UL Lafayette where she is majoring in Performing Arts with a concentration in Theatre. Sarah was recently seen in *Closer* as Alice directed by Ms. Sarah Gauthier. She has also been seen in *Hound* as Dr. Mortimer, in *The Murder Room* as Susan, and in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* as Hermia at Cite' des Arts.



Hendrick Matthysen - Man 1

Hendrick Matthysen, a junior at Lafayette High School, has appeared in *Waiting for Godot* and *The Problem*. He has studied theatre at the New Orleans Center for the Creative Arts and currently attends the Lafayette Parish Arts Academy. He plans to attend UL Lafayette and major in Theatre.



Elizabeth Satterly - Man 3

Elizabeth Satterly is a sophomore at UL Lafayette. She is a Performing Arts major concentrating in theatre. Her performances at UL Lafayette include *The Laramie Project* and this fall's production of *The Living*. She has also appeared in *Proof, Noises Off, Seussical*, and many other plays at the Opelousas Little Theatre. After she graduates, she plans to take at least one year off to join the Peace Corps before pursuing her passion as an actor.



Clayton Shelvin - John Graunt

Clayton Shelvin is a Performing Arts major with a concentration in theatre. His stage credits include *Godspell*, *Auto de' Fe*, *The Mansion*, and *The Living*. Clayton has directed *The Exonerated*, *Phoro Sex*, and *A Dumb Show* at UL Lafayette. Clayton was selected in 2007 as a participant to the American Theatre Wing's Springboard Program in New York City and in 2006 with Chicago's Collegiate Broadway program. Clayton has also performed in UL Lafayette's *Evening of* 

Dance. Clayton currently teaches at Elite School for Performing Arts, and plans to direct and teach after completeing his Masters Degree.



Nathanael Trahan - Asst Stage Manager

Born and raised in Youngsville, LA, Nathanael attended Assembly Christian School from age three until graduation in 2005. Nathanael participated in many of the school's musicals productions. At age 14 Nathanael decided to be an extra in his first movie, where he met the casting director, who would later become his employer. Nathanael began attending UL Lafayette in May of 2005, and will graduate with a Bachelors of Fine Arts.



Greta Jane Trosclair - Mrs. Elizabeth Finch

Greta Jane Trosclair is a junior at UL Lafayette majoring in Performing Arts with a concentration in theatre. She is secretary of Alpha Psi Omega theatre honor society. Greta performed in UL Lafayette's production *How I Learned to Drive*. She has greatly enjoyed her studies at UL Lafayette and can not wait to apply them to the opportunities ahead.



Derrick Turner - Man 2

Derrick Turner is an 18 year old native of Morgan City, LA. He is a freshman at UL Lafayette where he is a major in Performing Arts with a concentration in theatre. His stage credits include Morgan City High School productions of *Give My Regards to Broadway*, *Phantom of the Soap Opera*, and *Night Before Christmas*. Derrick plans to continue his studies in theatre and begin to work with music.



#### Nyalls Hartman - Director

Nyalls Hartman is an Associate Professor of Theatre, currently serving as Chair of the Department of Performing Arts. An SSDC Theatre Director, Nyalls was the Founding Artistic Director of The People's Repertory Theatre Company, a company committed to Theatre of Social Action. Teaching and directing for over 20 years, Nyalls is a committed educator and working professional whose academic and artistic interests include the Experimental Theatre, Theatre of Social Conscience, Solo Performance, and Farce. Honored to be recognized for his accomplishments as one of the United States' most respected teachers, Nyalls has been acknowledged for excellence as a distinguished educator in the Who's Who Among America's Teachers 2002, 2003, and 2004.



Travis Johnson - Technical Designer

Prior to coming to UL Lafayette, Travis Johnson studied at the Moscow Art Theatre, was technical director for Stages Repertory Theatre (Houston, TX). In addition to serving as technical director Travis has provided many scenic design for Stages Rep (Always...Patsy Cline, Castro's Beard) as well as, Main St. Theatre (Houston, TX) and Unity Theatre (Brenham, TX) Now at UL Lafayette, he teaches Stagecraft, Fundamentals of Design, Lighting design, Scenic Design, Theatre Workshop and provides design and technical direction for Departmental Productions.



A. Laura Brody - Costume Designer

A. Laura Brody received her BFA in Theatre/Costume specialization from Scripps College in 1989 and received her MFA. in Costume Design from Cal Arts in 1992. Prior to coming to UL Lafayette, Laura spent 18 years as a costumer, costume creator and designer. Now at UL Lafayette, she will teach Costume Design and Construction, Introduction to Theatre and Makeup. She also will be designing costumes for productions in the Dance and Theatre Department.



Sara Birk - Vocal Coach

Sara Birk received her BA in Fine Arts from Alfred University and she completed her graduate studies at University of Montana. Prior to coming to UL Lafayette, Sara spent her time in Missoula, Montana as an actor, director, stage manager and educator. Now at UL Lafayette, she teaches Acting I, Intro to Theatre, and Activities in Dramatics.

#### **Production Staff**

Director
Scene/Light Designer & TD
Costume Designer
Vocal Coach
Prop Master
Sound Designer
Stage Manager
Asst Stage Manager
Asst Costume Designer
Master Electrician
Light Board Operator
Sound Board Operator
House Manager
Asst Box Office Manager
Deck Crew

Set Build Crew

Light Hang Crew

Prop Run Crew Costume Build Crew

Costume Run Crew

Ushers Poster Designer Nyalls Hartman Travis Johnson A. Laura Brody Sara Birk Jenna Fontenot Amanda Baker Kristy Chiasson Nathanael Trahan Sarah Hitchcock Caroline Randall Jeremy Drewery Kayla Martin Kristina Marshall Jacqueline Leblanc Amanda McBride, Ana-Alicia Scott, Joel Tauzin Amanda McBride, Myles McGinn, Ana-Alicia Scott, Joel Tauzin Wade Bergeron, Raven Chatman, Jeremy Drewery, Myles McGinn Kelli Blanchard, Amanda Caldwell Kelli Blanchard, Amanda Caldwell, Jacqueline Leblanc, Sophie Theriot Alyse Abshire, Stanley Duhon, Megan Laque Kenneth Gabriel, Martin Smith

### **Faculty and Staff**

Donny Broussard

Nyalls Hartman, MFA

Justin Bates, MFA Camille Bulliard, MFA Marie Broussard, BFA Kenneth L. Jenkins, MFA Travis Johnson, MFA

A. Laura Brody, MFA Kristi Carr, BFA Danny Devillier, MA Sara Birk, MFA Jennifer Potter Associate Professor, Theatre
Department Chair
Asst Professor, Theatre
Asst Professor, Theatre
Asst Professor, Dance
Asst Professor, Dance
Asst Professor, Theatre
Technical Director
Theatre Instructor
Adjunct Instructor, Dance
Adjunct Instructor, Dance
Adjunct Instructor, Theatre
Administrative Assistant
Department of Performing Arts

#### Acknowledgments

The UL Lafayette Department of Performing Arts would like to graciously acknowledge the following individuals and organizations that have contributed their time, energy, and support to the 2008 production of *The Living*.

Gordon Brooks - Dean of the College of the Arts, Donny Broussard, Grace Boullion, the Student Government Association, UL Printing Services, UL Custodial Services and Physical Plant, the Parents, Families, Employers of all the cast members, the Department of the Performing Arts, and our student workers.





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This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF). The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for a response by a regional KCACTF representative, and selected students and faculty are invited to participate in KCACTF programs involving scholarships, internships, grants and awards for actors, directors, dramaturgs, playwrights, designers, stage managers and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for inclusion at the KCACTF regional festival and can also be considered for invitation to the KCACTF national festival at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC in the spring of 2009.

Last year more than 1,300 productions were entered in the KCACTF involving more than 200,000 students nationwide. By entering this production, our theater department is sharing in the KCACTF goals to recognize, reward, and celebrate the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.