

Director's Note:

Why direct 12 Angry Men? For several reasons – the first being my attraction to the social commentary of this story. It was written in the 1950's, but the themes continue to ring true for today. Can we as individuals put aside personal prejudices and/or selfish desires to consider the value of another human being? When I watch this story, I always wonder which juror I would be. For me, good theatre should cause some personal introspection, and in small ways, I can identify with each one. Thus my second reason – I wanted the challenge of creating this play to impact the audience, actors, and myself.



When I first submitted this for the 2012 season, it was not chosen. The concern was for the need of 12 men. Would enough audition? There was never a doubt in my mind. I resubmitted for 2013 with the reassurance that plenty of men and talent would show. Auditions were a challenge. With an exceptional turn out, and plenty of new faces, I struggled to find the right mixture. This casted concoction of 12 men couldn't be more ideal. These men work hard; they let me push them, and are uniquely creating each of these jurors. It is my privilege to work with each of them. The biggest challenge we face is finding the softer, more humorous moments amidst volatile anger.

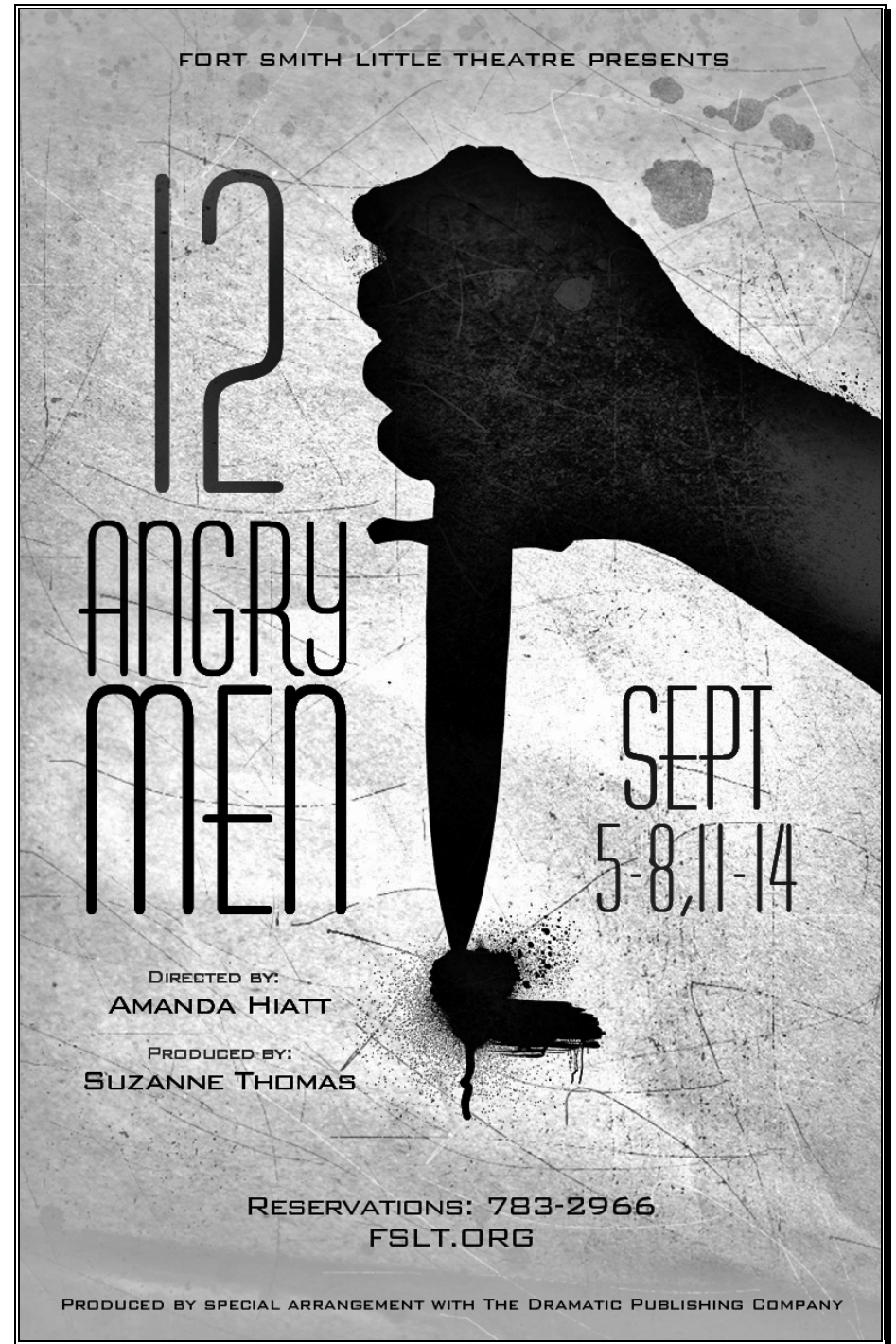
Talent abounds from cast to crew, and in hindsight, I'm glad it wasn't slated for the 2012 season. This show was meant for now.

~ AMANDA ELKINS-HIATT

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

- * **Judge Jim Spears** *for the opening recording*
- * **Western Arkansas Counseling and Guidance** *for set donation*
- * **Chaffee Crossing** *for set donation*
- * **Cliff Hiatt** *for set construction*

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Cast Of Characters:

- **GUARD** ----- **Mr. Woodhouse**
(oops, wrong name - **Chuck Howard**)
Played Mr. Woodhouse in Emma, other than that nothing for the past 25 years...
- **FOREMAN** ----- **Joe Graham**
I became active at FSLT about 2 years ago. Since then I have played a gambler, a postman, and an innkeeper, among many other characters. I am a retired teacher and I did not have as much trouble in my classroom as I have had trying to control these 11 jurors!
- **JUROR #2** ----- **Eric Wells**
Pharmacy Technician by day and Actor by night, I have been in various shows through high school, YAG, and FSLT. Some of my memorable FSLT roles are Daniel in Seven Brides for Seven Brothers, Frederick Fleet in Titanic the Musical, Ned in Little Women, and the "suave" Butler in Emma. I'm excited about being a part of this show, and hopes that everyone enjoys it!!
- **JUROR #3** ----- **Anthony Yates**
In the past few years I have been the single father to a group of musical children, and I designed a ship that met an awful fate. Maybe this time, I can convince this jury I'm right.
- **JUROR #4** ----- **Nathan Stockemer**
This is my fourth in-season production with FSLT, and second consecutive show this season, following Jane Austen's "Emma". This is also my first full-length, non-musical drama, and one of my most challenging, but rewarding roles yet.
- **JUROR #5** ----- **Joseph Samuel Reed**
I am a graduate of Midwestern State University, with a Bachelor of Music Degree in Vocal Performance. This is my first appearance at the Fort Smith Little Theatre. I am an avid fan of Dr. Who.
- **JUROR #6** ----- **Steve Dwiggins**
12 Angry Men is my fourth production at FSLT. I am glad to be back on stage, and thank the entire cast and crew for your support and encouragement.
- **JUROR #7** ----- **Mike Papacoda**
This is my first show with the Fort Smith Little Theatre. My last show was in 1993 and I played Marryin' Sam in "Lil' Abner". I live in Van Buren with my wife Karrie and our two children.
- **JUROR #8** ----- **Wayne Mathews**
This is my fifth show here, and I'm having a blast with this group of men. Thanks to my wife and kids for their support.

- **JUROR #9** ----- **Richard "Dick" Suits**
Began my theatrical career as the youngest child in "The Bird's Christmas Carol", that was in the seventh grade. Since then it took a long time before being Dr. Adler in "Web of Murder". My family thinks I have been a ham all my life. Many thanks to my wife Johnnie for staying up nights waiting for me to come home.
- **JUROR #10** ----- **Brad Kidder, Jr.**
I told Amanda that I wouldn't have to act much if she gave me Juror #3 or #10. My friends say this role as #10 is paramount to type-casting! It has been an honor to work with such a dedicated cast and crew, and such a complex script. Thank you, our patrons, for your continued support of this community theater.
- **JUROR #11** ----- **Joseph Velasquez**
This is my first show of hopefully many more. I thank my wife and babies for putting up with my late nights and "talking funny" throughout the day!
- **JUROR #12** ----- **Brandon Bolin**
12 Angry Men marks my third appearance on the FSLT stage. You may remember me as Gideon in Seven Brides for Seven Brothers in 2009, and as Henry Etches in last year's production of Titanic. I've had such a great time working with such a talented group of men (plus Amanda, of course). You've all made this past month a wonderful experience!

Production Crew:

- * FSLT DIRECTOR ----- **Amanda Elkins-Hiatt**
- * PRODUCER ----- **Suzanne M. Thomas**
- * CO-PRODUCER ----- **Shanna Davis**
- * STAGE MANAGER ----- **Sherry Hester**
- * ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGERS ----- **Robert Montgomery**
----- **& Matt Hutchinson**
- * COSTUME MISTRESS ----- **Kaye Birkhead**
- * COSTUMING STAFF ----- **Clara Jane Rubarth, Kim Kidder,**
----- **Ethel Lloyd, Sue King, Anna Schodowski**
- * PROP. MISTRESS ----- **Shanna Davis**
- * SET DESIGNER ----- **Zack Hiatt**
- * TECH. DESIGNER ----- **Jennie Mathews**
- * GRAPHIC DESIGNER ----- **Aaron Ray**