

Letter from the Music Director

It has been my esteemed honor to serve as the musical director for *Crowns*. Tonight you will hear a variety of sacred African-American music performed by an incredibly talented cast. From spirituals to ballads, from traditional gospel to quartet and big band, there is something for everyone. I hope you enjoy the polyphonic rhythms and improvisational vocal techniques employed by our cast. To Carole Rogers and our “mutual friend” who shall remain anonymous: Thank you for this wonderful opportunity. My sincere prayer is that our efforts are commensurate to the rich heritage and integrity of the Fort Smith Little Theatre. To the cast and crew: Thank you for putting up with my “changes” and “Ah Hah Moments.” You all allowed me to use your voices as beautiful, dynamic colors to paint what is hopefully a brilliant musical masterpiece on the canvas of this awe-inspiring production called *Crowns*. To God be the Glory!

—Thomas James

Crowns

By Regina Taylor

Adapted from the book by Michael Cunningham and Craig Mayberry



Fort Smith Little Theatre

June 3-12, 2010

Director Carole Rogers

Musical Director Thomas James

Produced by Special Arrangement with Dramatists Play Service

CROWNS was originally produced by the McCarter Theatre Center, Princeton, New Jersey and by Second Stage Theatre, New York City
CROWNS was originally commissioned by the McCarter Theatre Center and was developed with the assistance of the Sundance Institute Theatre Laboratory
CROWNS by Regina Taylor is presented by arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc. in New York

CAST

The Man Reginald Moore
Yolanda Jasmine Kimble
Mabel Natasha Renae Brown
Jeanette Adrienne Gibson
Velma Alisha Reese
Wanda Leah James
Mother Shaw Delores Richardson

CREW

Director Carole Rogers
Music Director Thomas James
Producer Angela Covey
Stage Manager Mary Beth Koprovic
Set Construction James Rogers & Billy Rogers
Milliner Terry Jennings
Wardrobe Kaye Birkhead, Clara Jane Rubarth, Janet La Force
Props Cecelia Woods McDonald, CeTreiva Whitmore,
..... Cena Whitmore
Lighting Design Rebekka Stoltz
Lights & Sound Mike Tickler
Lighting Assistant Kayla Godwin
Back Stage Crew Zack Callahan, A.J. Godwin

SPECIAL THANKS

St. James Baptist Church
Dr. Nassir Adjei
Bruce Birkhead
Rham Cunningham
TJames Printing Services
Paula Sharum

MUSICIANS

Thomas James Keyboard
DeAdrian Hinkle Percussion
Jaivin Glover Percussion

CROWNS MUSICAL NUMBERS

1. Where I Belong – Yolanda
2. In the Morning – Mother Shaw and Ensemble
3. Ain't That Good News – Mother Shaw
4. When the Saints Go Marching In – Mother Shaw and Ensemble
5. Marching to Zion – The Man and Ensemble
6. Oh Lord I'm Waiting on You – The Man and Ensemble
7. I'm on the Battlefield – Mother Shaw
8. That's All Right – Ensemble

INTERMISSION

9. One of Them – Yolanda
10. I Will Trust In The Lord Till I Die – Mother Shaw
11. If I Could Touch the Hem of His Garment – The Man
12. His Eye is on the Sparrow – Velma and Mabel
13. When I've Done the Best I Can – Velma
14. Just a Closer Walk – Instrumental
15. I'm Gonna Roll On – The Man
16. Mary Don't You Weep – The Man and Ensemble
17. Wade in the Water – Ensemble
18. Ain't Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me Around – Jeannette and Ensemble
19. Tis the Ole Ship of Zion – Mother Shaw and Ensemble
20. Take Me to the Water – The Man
21. I've Got Joy Like a Fountain – Yolanda
22. This Joy – Ensemble
23. Amen – Ensemble
24. I Gotta Crown - Ensemble