

Mailing Address

Lantern Theater Company
P.O. Box 53428
Philadelphia, PA 19105-3428

Theater Address

Lantern Theater Company
At St. Stephen's Theater
10th & Ludlow Streets
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Box Office

215.829.0395

Administrative Office

215.829.9002

Email

email@lanterntheater.org

Web

www.lanterntheater.org

Press Contacts:

Canary Promotion, 215.690.4065,
Megan Wendell, megan@canarypromo.com
Rose Mineo, rose@canarypromo.com

High-res production photos available now at:

www.canarypromo.com/lantern

View the release online: <http://bit.ly/lisiPlc>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 8, 2014

**Lantern Theater Company Presents a Limited Return
Engagement of Philadelphia Actor/Playwright Anthony
Lawton's Adaptation of C.S. Lewis' *The Screwtape Letters*,
May 27 – June 15, 2014**

PHILADELPHIA – [Lantern Theater Company](http://www.lanterntheater.org) closes their 20th anniversary season with a limited return engagement of Philadelphia actor/playwright **Anthony Lawton's** multimedia adaptation of **C.S. Lewis'** classic novella *The Screwtape Letters*. Featuring Lawton as demon Screwtape and **Sarah Gliko** as his sinuous secretary Toadpipe, *The Screwtape Letters* runs **May 27 – June 15, 2014**. [Full schedule including special events is below.]

In a dark corner of Hell's bureaucracy sits mid-level demon Screwtape, scratching out letters to his nephew, Wormwood, filled with advice on how to corrupt a human soul. Gleefully, Screwtape catalogs the list of human frailties upon which Wormwood is to prey – war, lust, debauchery, decadence, and all sorts of wickedness. Anthony Lawton's rollicking adaptation turns C.S. Lewis' revered classic into a sumptuous multimedia event with music, dance, and infernal unpredictability.

Persuaded by several friends, including J.R.R. Tolkien, **C.S. Lewis** (1898-1963) converted from staunch atheist to Christian in his mid-twenties. Following his conversion, he wrote several books which still sell millions of copies all over the world today. Most of these works were colored by his experience as a Christian, including works of Christian apologetics (*Mere Christianity*), satire and fiction (*The Screwtape Letters*, *The Great Divorce*, *The Space Trilogy*, *Till We Have Faces*), and children's fantasy (*The Chronicles of Narnia*).

Anthony Lawton's adaptation uses Lewis' words as a springboard to explore the philosophical and visceral landscape of Hell, incorporating tap dancing, fire-eating and whip-work amidst Screwtape's poetic letters. Lawton, who also stars as Screwtape, has cultivated a long-term artistic partnership with the Lantern that has included recent productions of his C.S. Lewis adaptations *The Screwtape Letters* and *The Great Divorce*, his adaption of Shel Silverstein's *The Devil and Billy Markham*, his autobiographical play *Heresy*, and the world premiere of his original play *The Foocy*, which received five 2005 Barrymore Award nominations, including Best New Play.

Screwtape's dutiful secretary Toadpipe will be played by Philadelphia actress **Sarah Gliko**, last seen at the Lantern as Clarice in David Ives' *The Liar*. She recently joined Lawton for a presentation of *The Screwtape Letters* at Passage Theatre in Trenton, NJ. Other local stage

appearances include The Wilma Theater (*Don Juan Comes Home From Iraq*), Arden Theatre Company (*Parade*, *Charlotte's Web*), The Bearded Ladies Cabaret (*My Dinner With Dito*), Walnut Street Theatre (*Around the World in 80 Days*, *Love Story*, *The Ugly One*), Inis Nua Theatre Company (*Pumpgirl*), and Act II Playhouse (*John & Jen*).

The creative team includes scenic designer **Lance Kniskern**, costume designer **Jillian Keys**, and lighting designer **Amanda Jensen**, with projections by **James Doolittle**.

[*The Screwtape Letters*](#) runs **May 27 – June 15, 2014 (press opening: Wednesday, May 28, 7 p.m.)**. Tickets are \$20 – \$38 and are available online at lanterntheater.org or by calling the Lantern Box Office at **(215) 829-0395**. \$10 student rush tickets are available 10 minutes before curtain with valid ID; cash only. Additional discounts are available for seniors, groups of 10 or more and U.S. military personnel. Lantern Theater Company is located at St. Stephen's Theater, 10th & Ludlow Streets in Center City Philadelphia.

2014/15 Season

Lantern Theater Company will open its 2014/15 season with *Arcadia* by Tom Stoppard, directed by Kathryn MacMillan (September 25 – November 2, 2014); followed by *QED* by Peter Parnell, directed by M. Craig Getting (November 20 – December 14, 2014); *Doubt: A Parable* by John Patrick Shanley, directed by Kathryn MacMillan and starring Mary Martello and Ben Dibble (January 15 – February 15, 2015); William Shakespeare's *The Taming of the Shrew*, directed by Charles McMahon (March 19 – April 26, 2015); and closing with Steven Canny and John Nicholson's adaptation of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, directed by Matt Pfeiffer (May 28 – June 28, 2015).

The Screwtape Letters
FACTS

<p>Performances:</p> <p>Tue, 5/27 7 p.m.</p> <p>Wed, 5/28* 7 p.m.</p> <p>Thu, 5/29 7 p.m.</p> <p>Fri, 5/30 8 p.m.</p> <p>Sat, 5/31 8 p.m.</p> <p>Sun, 6/1 AIC 2 p.m.</p> <p>Wed, 6/4 7 p.m.</p> <p>Thu, 6/5 7 p.m.</p> <p>Fri, 6/6 8 p.m.</p> <p>Sat, 6/7 8 p.m.</p> <p>Sun, 6/8 AIC 2 p.m.</p> <p>Wed, 6/11 7 p.m.</p> <p>Thu, 6/12 7 p.m.</p> <p>Fri, 6/13 OC 8 p.m.</p> <p>Sat, 6/14 8 p.m.</p> <p>Sun, 6/15 2 p.m.</p> <p>*Opening Night</p>	<p>Dates: <i>The Screwtape Letters</i> May 27 – June 15, 2014 Preview on May 27 Opening night is Wednesday, May 28, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Theater: Lantern Theater Company At St. Stephen’s Theater 10th & Ludlow Streets Philadelphia, PA 19107</p> <p>Prices: Adults: \$20-\$38 Students: \$10-\$28 \$10 student rush tickets available 10 minutes before curtain with valid ID; cash only</p> <p>Special discounts are available for seniors and groups of 10 or more.</p> <p>Tickets: Phone: (215) 829-0395 Online: www.lanterntheater.org</p> <hr/> <p><i>The Screwtape Letters</i> Limited Return Engagement By C.S. Lewis Adapted by Anthony Lawton</p> <p><u>Cast</u> (<i>in alphabetical order</i>) Sarah Gliko Toadpipe Anthony Lawton Screwtape</p> <p><u>Production Team</u> Production Manager Meghan Jones Scenic Designer Lance Kniskern Costume Designer Jillian Keys Lighting Designer Amanda Jensen Projection Designer James Doolittle</p>
--	---

AIC – post-show, Artists: In Conversation (FREE) | OC – Open Captioned Performance