

**LANTERN
THEATER
COMPANY**

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Theater Address

Lantern Theater Company
At St. Stephen's Theater
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**TONY AWARD-WINNING *DOUBT: A PARABLE*
AT LANTERN THEATER COMPANY
JANUARY 15-FEBRUARY 15**

**Production Features Philadelphia Favorites
Mary Martello and Ben Dibble
Together As Never Before in this Searing Drama**

Lantern Theater Company begins the new year with **John Patrick Shanley's** award-winning play *Doubt: A Parable*, running January 15-February 15. The production features Philadelphia veteran actors **Mary Martello** and **Ben Dibble** in a rare appearance together in a drama. Directed by Lantern Associate Artistic Director Kathryn MacMillan, the cast also includes **Clare Mahoney** and **Lisha McKoy**.

Winner of the Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award for Best Play, *Doubt: A Parable* is a suspenseful, timely American drama that grapples with questions of moral certainty – and doubt. Surrounded by the turbulence of the 1960s, Bronx Catholic school principal Sister Aloysius is stoic and severe while parish priest Father Flynn is progressive and popular. When she suspects him of wrongdoing with a troubled student, the stage is set for a clash of authority, tradition, and faith.

“Doubt, both the play and the concept, continues to be timely, and Shanley creates characters of great depth that are as challenging to create onstage as they are interesting,” said Kathryn MacMillan, who is directing the production. “Mary Martello and Ben Dibble are ideal for these roles. Sister Aloysius puts a high value on self-discipline, to the point of coldness. Mary Martello, in contrast, is a raging inferno—she’s boldness, life, heat. Pairing

Mary with Sr. Aloysius will help us hint at the layers between the surface of the character Shanley has created. Ben's character, Fr Flynn, is morally ambiguous, but Ben is warm, charismatic, open. With this casting, we are hoping to explore the deep uncertainties of Shanley's play."

Doubt: A Parable runs **January 15 – February 15, 2015 (press opening: Wednesday, January 21, at 7 p.m.)**. Tickets are \$22 – \$39 and are available online at lanterntheater.org or by calling the Lantern Box Office at **(215) 829-0395**. Discounts are available for seniors 65 and up, groups of 10 or more and U.S. military personnel. \$10 student rush tickets are available 10 minutes before curtain with valid ID; cash only. \$10 industry tickets are available online, by phone or at the box office.

The Cast and Production Team

Kathryn MacMillan (*Director*) has helmed a dozen Lantern productions since 2004, including this season's critically acclaimed production of *Arcadia* as well as recent productions of Jane Austen's *Emma*, *The Beauty Queen of Leenane*, and *The Liar*. She developed Lantern Theater Company's In Conversation audience enrichment series and its *Illumination* Education Program, which has twice been nominated for an Education and Community Service Barrymore Award. MacMillan has received two Barrymore Award nomination for Outstanding Direction of a Play and three Barrymore Award nomination for Outstanding Production of a Play. Recently she directed the acclaimed production of *I Am My Own Wife* at Theater Horizon, which was awarded the 2014 Virginia Brown Martin Philadelphia Award.

Ben Dibble (*Father Flynn*) returns to Lantern Theater Company where he has performed in *Henry V*, *Private Lives*, *Taming of the Shrew*, and *La Ronde*. The recipient of the 2006 F. Otto Haas Emerging Artist Award, he recently won his first Barrymore Award for Best Actor in a Musical, having previously received 13 nominations. In addition to numerous productions at Arden Theatre Company and Walnut Street Theatre, he has appeared locally at The Wilma Theatre, 1812 Productions and Mauckingbird Theatre Company.

Clare Mahoney (*Sister James*) returns to Lantern Theater Company where she recently appeared in *QED*. She has also performed at Delaware Shakespeare Festival in *Hamlet* and *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, for which she was nominated for a Best Actress in a Professional Play for the BroadwayWorld Delaware Theatre Awards. Her other local credits include productions at Walnut Street Theatre, People's Light, and Inis Nua Theatre Company.

Mary Martello (Sister Aloysius Beauvier) is a five-time Barrymore Award-winner for *Body Awareness*, *Candide*, *The Triumph of Love*, *Sweeney Todd*, and *Café Puttanescas* and boasts seven additional Barrymore Award nominations. She has been seen at Lantern Theatre Company in *The Beauty Queen of Leenane* and *Hamlet*, and has appeared in numerous productions at Walnut Street Theatre, Arden Theatre Company, and McCarter Theatre. Martello is the recipient of the 2001 Lunt/Fontaine Fellowship.

Lisha McKoy (*Mrs. Muller*) recreates the role which she performed at Tri Arts Sharon Playhouse. She has appeared in several productions at Kitchen Theatre Company as well as at Theatre for the New City, The Pearl Theatre, and Alice Griffin Jewel Box Theatre, and in the European tour of *Hair*.

Doubt: A Parable brings together the creative team of Lantern Theater Company veterans **Lance Kniskern** (set designer), **Shon Causer** (lighting designer), **Janus Stefanowicz** (costume designer), and **Christopher Colucci** (sound designer).

About John Patrick Shanley

John Patrick Shanley is a Pulitzer Prize-winning American playwright, an Oscar winning screenwriter, and a theatre and film director. The author of more than 23 plays, his play *Doubt: A Parable* won the Pulitzer Prize for Drama as well as four 2005 Tony Awards (including Best Play) and the Drama Desk Award (including Outstanding Play). The screenplay, which Shanley also directed, was nominated for an Academy Award and won the Writers Guild of America Award for Best Screenplay Written Directly for the Screen. Shanley won an Oscar for his screenplay of *Moonstruck* with Nicholas Cage and Cher. He also wrote the screenplay for *Joe Versus the Volcano*, which he directed, and for *Congo*, based on the Michael Crichton book.

About Lantern Theater Company

Founded in 1994, Lantern Theater Company is committed to an authentic and intimate exploration of the human spirit in its choice of classics, modern, and original works. The Lantern seeks to be a vibrant, contributing member of its community, exposing audiences to great theater, inviting participation in dialogue and discussion, educating audience members about artistic and social issues, and employing theatrical language and techniques to enrich learning in the classroom. The Lantern has received 82 Barrymore Award nominations, winning 15 times including the 2009 Barrymore Award for Excellence in Theatre Education and Community Service for its innovative education program, *Illumination*. Lantern

Lantern Theater Company has been in residence at St. Stephen's Theater at 10th & Ludlow Streets in Center City Philadelphia since 1996, managing the performance space and developing it into an affordable multi-purpose performing arts venue. For more information, please visit lanterntheater.org.

2014/15 Season

Lantern Theater Company's 2014/15 season continues with **William Shakespeare's** classic comedy ***The Taming of the Shrew***, directed by **Charles McMahon** (March 19 – April 26, 2015) and **Steven Canny** and **John Nicholson's** ingenious adaptation of **Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's** ***The Hound of the Baskervilles***, directed by **Matt Pfeiffer** and starring **Dave Johnson, Daniel Fredrick** and Damon Bonetti (May 28 – June 28, 2015).

LANTERN THEATER COMPANY'S PRODUCTION OF *DOUBT* FACT SHEET

PREVIEWS: Thursday, January 15 at 7:00 PM
Friday, January 16 at 8:00 PM
Saturday, January 17 at 8:00 PM
Sunday, January 18 at 2:00 PM
Tuesday, January 20 at 7:00PM

OPENING: Wednesday, January 21 at 7:00 PM

PERFORMANCES: Wednesday matinee at 2:00 PM on January 28
Wednesday evening at 7:00 PM on January 21, 28, February 4, 11
Thursday evening at 7:00 PM on January 22, 29, February 5, 12
Friday evening at 8:00 PM on January 23, 30, February 6, 13
Saturday evening at 8:00 PM on January 24, 31, February 7, 14
Sunday matinee at 2:00 PM on January 25, February 1, 8, 15

CLOSING PERFORMANCE: Sunday matinee at 2:00 PM on February 15

LOCATION: St. Stephen's Theater
10th and Ludlow Streets in Center City Philadelphia

TICKET PRICES: Tickets range from \$30-\$56
Student, Senior Citizen and Group Discounts available

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT: Lantern Theater, 10th and Ludlow Streets
Monday-Friday 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM
(215) 829-0395 or lanterntheater.org

PARKING/TRANSPORTATION:

Ample parking is available near the Lantern at a variety of lots and garages. The Autopark at Jefferson (10th & Ludlow), and LAZ Parking (10th & Chestnut), offer discounts to Lantern subscribers. Metered street parking is also available during posted hours.

The theater is accessible by taxi, SEPTA buses and trains, and the PATCO Highspeed line.

ACCESSIBILITY: Open Captioning: Friday, February 6 at 8pm and Saturday, February 7 at 2pm

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Directors in Conversation on Friday, January 23 at 7 PM: Join director Kathryn MacMillan for a pre-show discussion prior to the evening performance.

Artists in Conversation on Sunday, January 25 and Sunday February 1 following the 2PM matinees – Join the cast for a post-show discussion.

PLAYWRIGHT: John Patrick Shanley
DIRECTION BY: Kathryn MacMillan

CAST: Ben Dibble at Father Brendan Flynn
Clare Mahoney as Sister James
Mary Martello as Sister Aloysius Beauvier
Lisha McKoy as Mrs. Muller

DESIGNERS: Set Designer – Lance Kniskern
Lighting Designer – Shon Causer
Sound Designer – Christopher Colucci
Costume Designer – Janus Stefanowicz

PRESS INFORMATION: Deborah Fleischman
(215) 735-7356

TICKET INFORMATION: lanterntheater.org
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SYNOPSIS

Surrounded by the turbulence of the 1960s, Bronx Catholic school principal Sister Aloysius is stoic and severe while parish priest Father Flynn is progressive and popular. When she suspects him of wrongdoing with a troubled student, the stage is set for a clash of authority, tradition, and faith.