

TWELVE ANGRY JURORS



by
Reginald
Rose

Fri	Nov 9	8 PM
Sat	Nov 10	8 PM
Sun	Nov 11	3 PM MATINEE
Thu	Nov 15	8 PM
Fri	Nov 16	8 PM
Sat	Nov 17	8 PM

First Congregational
Church of Somerville
89 College Avenue



Director's Note

Twelve ordinary people, suddenly faced with the power of life and death.

Twelve strangers in a hot, cramped, run-down room, struggling with each other and their private agendas and, ultimately, their own consciences.

“Look at the kind of people they are! You know them.”

“I’ve known a few who were pretty decent, but that’s the exception. Most of them, it’s like they have no feelings. They can do anything.”

“He’s got to burn!”

“It should not be a personal thing.”

“There is something personal!”

“Please... have some compassion!”

Reginald Rose gave us our first look at that room 50 years ago with *Twelve Angry Men*. Since then, some things have changed about juries, but when I first read this play 25 years ago I recognized that room. Compassion and brutality, apathy and reason and empathy and hate and fear... those things hadn't changed much.

Tonight, another 25 years later, they still haven't changed much. Juries aren't all-male anymore, but they are still twelve strangers in a room, struggling with each other and themselves with all the passion and power and pettiness we're capable of.

I'm proud to have the opportunity to invite you into that room tonight. I hope you find it as familiar, and as illuminating, as I do.

— Dave Policar

Produced by special arrangement with
THE DRAMATIC PUBLISHING COMPANY of Woodstock, Illinois

NOTICE: No smoking inside the building. Flash photography is not allowed during the performance. Please silence your cell phones, pagers, and other electronic devices.

Cast

Juror 1 (Jury Foreman)	Kerri Babish
Juror 2	Rowan McVey
Juror 3	Charlotte Keys
Juror 4	John Olson
Juror 5	Ari Herbstman
Juror 6	Laurie Brackett
Juror 7	Laurent Castellucci
Juror 8	Sonya Joyner
Juror 9	Andy Lebrun
Juror 10	Jason Merrill
Juror 11	Hector Defaz
Juror 12	Santiago Rivas
Guard	Brie Frame



Juror #1



Juror #2



Juror #3



Juror #4



Juror #5



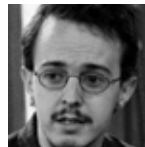
Juror #6



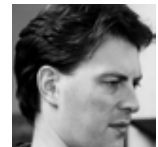
Juror #7



Juror #8



Juror #9



Juror #10



Juror #11



Juror #12



Guard

Scene

A run-down jury room in a courthouse in mid-summer.

About the Play

Reginald Rose's *Twelve Angry Men* is best known for its first film adaptation in 1957, starring Henry Fonda as Juror 8 and other notable actors like Jack Warden, Jack Klugman, Ed Binns, John Fielder, Ed Begley, Lee J. Cobb, Martin Balsam, and E.G. Marshall. It proved a commercial disappointment but a lasting critical success, nominated for several Academy Awards and named one of the best 100 films of the past century by the American Film Institute.

However, the original screenplay was actually broadcast on the CBS television program *Studio One* three years earlier. A kinescope of that performance, missing for years, was discovered in 2003.

The film was remade for television in 1997, with Jack Lemmon taking on the role Fonda made famous. Although several modifications and modernizations were made for that production, most of the action and dialogue proved timeless and was preserved unchanged. The film has also become a cultural icon, inspiring countless homages in television shows, movies, and other popular media.

The 1957 film was notable for its use of a single set for almost all the action, and for the use of camera angles to shorten the depth of field between actors, giving the show a distinctly claustrophobic feeling. That theatrical feel inspired several stage adaptations, from the 1964 London production to an ongoing national tour starring Richard Thomas and George Wendt (currently running in Detroit, MI).

Tonight's performance of this classic play has been titled *Twelve Angry Jurors* to reflect the presence of both male and female jurors. It has been adapted from several different screenplays and staged productions, and modified to reflect the jurors' genders and a more modern setting.



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About the Playwright

Reginald Rose (December 10, 1920–April 19, 2002) was an American film and television writer most widely known for his work in the early years of television drama.

Born in Manhattan, Rose briefly attended City College, now part of the City University of New York, before serving in the U.S. Army in 1942-46, where he became a first lieutenant. He sold his first teleplay, *Bus To Nowhere*, in 1950 to CBS's live dramatic anthology program *Studio One*, for which he wrote *Twelve Angry Men* four years later. This drama was inspired by Rose's service on just such a trial.

The Internet Movie Database quotes Rose's memories of this experience: "It was such an impressive, solemn setting in a great big wood-paneled courtroom, with a silver-haired judge, it knocked me out. I was overwhelmed. I was on a jury for a manslaughter case, and we got into this terrific, furious, eight-hour argument in the jury room. I was writing one-hour dramas for Studio One then and I thought, wow, what a setting for a drama."

Rose received an Emmy for his teleplay and an Oscar nomination for his 1957 feature-length film adaptation. Rose wrote for all three of the major broadcast networks of the 1950-1980 period. Rose's work is marked by its treatment of controversial social and political issues. His realistic approach helped create the slice of life school of television drama which was particularly influential in the anthology programs of the 1950s.

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Staff

Producer/Technical Director	Jo Guthrie
Director	David Policar
Technical Consultant	Drea Brandford
Set Design	Elizabeth Hunter
Lighting Design	Giles Hall
Light Board Operator	Shelley MacAskill
Sound Design	Neil Marsh
Props/Costumes/Makeup	Renée Johnson
Makeup	Crystal Kaloostian
Stage Manager	Shelley MacAskill
House Manager	Chris DeKalb
Assistant House Manager	Beckie Hunter
Promotional Design	Gilly Rosenthol
Ad Sales Coordinator	Heidi Clark
Ad Sales	Ari Herbstman
Photographer	Matt Ringel
Webmaster	Neil Marsh/Gilly Rosenthol
Master Carpenter	Brie Frame
Set Construction	Paulo Ruffino
Rehearsal Assistant	Shelley MacAskill

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Biographies

Kerri Babish (Juror 1) hates writing bios—but she really likes acting. She is excited to be back on stage after over a year's absence. She is also pleased that her wedding does not conflict with this production. (Hi, Mike!)

Laurie Brackett (Juror 6) This is Laurie's second show with T@F and she's having a great time. When not in the jury room, she works full-time and is a mom to three teens (yikes). Many thanks go to her husband, kids and her own mom for all their patience, support and encouragement.

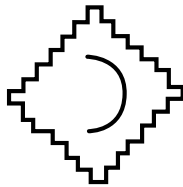
Laurent Castellucci (Juror 7) After a youth involving dance, comedy, and theatre, Laurent Castellucci made a noble attempt at being a responsible adult. He failed and by 2004 had

once again found himself wandering stages reading lines from scripts. Now that Fate has deposited him in Boston, he found the nearest place to indulge this unsavoury habit.

Heidi Clark (Ad Sales Coordinator) pictures those poor jurors pacing back and forth; she had a way better time out shopping 'n noshing, uh, I mean pitching ads to Somerville's exciting businesses and best haunts.

Hector Defaz (Juror 11) This is Hector's first appearance with T@F. He started his acting career in 2003 performing in plays such as: *Rhinoceros* and *The Visit* and films such as: *Yalie*, *The Game Plan*, *Milk and cookies*, *Blackjack*, and *Bachelor #2*. Originally from Brooklyn, NY. he started as a singer. In Boston, he found his

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passion for acting, and started his training with brilliant acting teachers such as Danielle Fauteux-Jacques, John Simmons and John Robert Powers Acting School. Hector is very excited to work with this wonderful and talented cast and crew and looking forward to future productions. Enjoy the show!

Chris DeKalb (House Manager) is happy to be back for another T@F production. He has been helping out behind the box office and concession stand for far too many shows to count, yet they still ask him back. He is the editor of the Cambridge Movie News (cambridgemovies.com) and works as a project manager at Books24x7.com.

Brie Frame (Guard/Master Carpenter) This is kind of Brie's second show with T@F, after her debut with *C'est Levine* this summer. Again, she has an invented staff position and again, she's kind of in the cast. She's kind of bad about getting her bio in promptly, but at least she's kind of having fun.

Jo Guthrie (Producer/Technical Director) dreams of a theatrical endowment and revels in the adventurous dreams of her fellow cast and crew who, along with our

dauntless director, have brought you tonight's entertainment. Little did she know her childhood hobby would bring her such happiness in her middle age! She is so pleased you've come to enjoy it.

Giles Hall (Lighting Designer) is working on his second show with T@F, having solved the riddle during *C'est Levine* this summer of depicting the magic of the fireflies. He works in bioinformatics.

Ari Herbstman (Juror 5) is thrilled to be a part of his third production with T@F, and is very excited for his first non-military role. Previous deployments include the Russian Soldier (*Arms and the Man*) and the Guard (*Shakespeare Lives!*). He would like to thank his parents for his continuing love of theatre. Another scar!

Beckie Hunter (Assistant House Manager) is a founder of T@F and a member of First Church. She started acting like an old lady in *Arsenic & Old Lace* in high school, and has grown into the role in real life. She produced six shows for T@F, including *The Margaret Ghost*. When not at the theater, she helps run the teaching center at Harvard.



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Elizabeth Hunter (Set Design) has designed sets for *Arms and the Man*, *Festival@First 3* and *The Margaret Ghost*. She is the founding Artistic Director of T@F and has directed and acted in several T@F productions. This year she has been at home with a new baby, but she is looking forward to returning to direct *Much Ado About Nothing* in Spring 2008.

Renée Johnson (Props/Costumes/Makeup) is proud to be part of the T@F family. Now entering her 3rd year and 7th show with the group, she thinks they're stuck with her for good. Renée's the one responsible for this summer's emo masterpiece and Baz Luhrmann homage, *Passed Hordes*. Check out her side project www.pmrp.org

Sonya Joyner (Juror 8) is thrilled and excited to be returning to the stage in *Jurors* with T@F. Credits include: *Dryope in Common* (Lotis) with Essayons Theatre Company; *River Of Babylon* (Samantha) with Playwright's Platform; *The Vagina Monologues* (Hair) with V-Day Dorchester; *Rhinoceros* (Firewoman) with TheatreZone; *Far Away* (Guard)

with Zeitgeist Stage Company; and many SLAMBoston performances with Another Country Productions. Sonya has also worked in many short films, corporate videos and television commercials as well as appearing in several television and feature film productions such as *Brotherhood*, *Fever Pitch*, *Underdog*, *The Game Plan*, and soon to be released *Gone Baby Gone* and *The Great Debaters*.

Crystal Kaloostian (Makeup) is happy to have returned for another T@F show, as she has made many friends and is excited at the prospect to showcase more of her work. She has recently done more makeup work for a small independent short, theater, and personal photography. She thanks her friends and family for their support and love.

Charlotte Keys (Juror 3) recently returned to the stage after a 30 year absence, playing Catherine Petkoff in T@F's spring production of *Arms and the Man*. Her original stage appearances were mostly musical comedy at the Oconee Community Theater in Seneca,

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SC (now in its 36th year). In this particular production she is trying very hard not to take the expression “Break a Leg” literally. Charlotte is a librarian and the Director of University Library Technology at nearby Tufts University.

Andy Lebrun (Juror 9) This is Andy’s second (consecutive!) show with Theatre@First. You may not recognize him from the last show; this character is significantly younger (75 years old as opposed to 450 when he played *Zombie Shakespeare*). Eventually, he may even get to play a character who is less than double his own age!

Neil Marsh (*Sound Design, Webmaster*) has been with T@F from the beginning. He’s wanted to do this show since he read it in junior high English class because he feels a strong connection to its message that everyone must fight for justice, especially in a society where others are quick to judge and hard to convince that they may be wrong. He’s also the

founder of the Post-Meridian Radio Players. They just performed their third live Halloween show: *Tomes of Terror II*, and are creating an original series *Red Shift: Interplanetary Do-Gooder*.

Shelley MacAskill (Rehearsal Assistant/Light Board Operator) is pleased to be involved in her second T@F show. She will be glad for the respite between the end of *Jurors* and the start of the spring show to finally watch Monday Night Football and some episodes of *House*. Yes, she really needs to buy herself a TiVo.

Rowan McVey (Juror 2) was heavily involved in community theatre in her undergrad days as an actor and director. After ten years away, she was curious to know: can she still act? You be the judge! (And she’ll be the juror.)

Jason Merrill (Juror 10), a T@F regular, asked his 9-month old daughter to write his bio. She said “Bababa dada zzzzt eeeee!” which we think means, “Daddy has been on stage and directed, but his

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best production is me!” When not changing diapers, he works on the GNU C++ compiler for Red Hat.

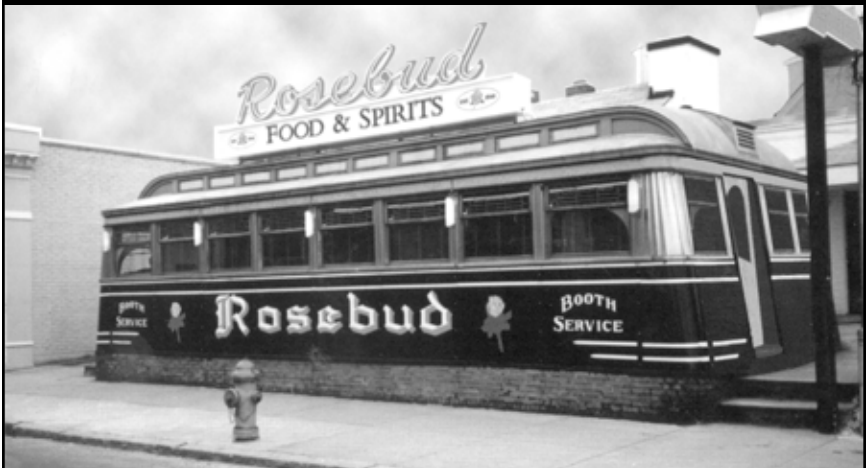
John Olson (Juror 4) John works at ITA Software (we’re hiring), sings at First Church Somerville (services Sunday at 10), and acts with T@F. This is his eighth show, and his first as a homeowner. He’d like it to be his last as a single, gay man. Can you help?

Dave Policar (Director) is pleased beyond his ability to articulate to be directing his first full-length play. He thanks Theatre@First and First Church for the opportunity, his partner and dog for putting up with several months of absences and anxiety, and most of all his amazing, passionate cast and crew for making it happen.

Santiago Rivas (Juror 12) This is his fourth performance with T@F and third working with Dave. On stage, he’s been a womanizing bartender from Shakespeare, a suave vice-president of the 1930s, and an Italian captain of the 1840s. Off stage, he has survived the Grand Canyon, Mt. Fuji, and a lightsaber duel with his lovely wife. Did he mention that he’s in advertising?

Gilly Rosenthal (Promotional Design) By day a mild-mannered graphic designer, by night Gilly slips on her mask and tights and becomes...well, a graphic designer in a mask and tights. She has designed the logos and promotional material for many of T@F’s shows. She has also appeared onstage in several T@F shows, including this summer’s *Scripted*.

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Congratulations to all the cast and crew! Break a head leg!

—Elizabeth

Big hugs to all of you serving jury duty.

—Mare

Dadda dadda dadda dadda da da da da dadda dadda! (Translation: Go, Juror 10!)

—Alice

Best wishes for a great run!

—Mr. & Mrs. C

Jason: You may be Juror 10, but you'll always be #1 to me!

Druid, Dark Vision, Mio Caro, revolutionary, RA: revel in the ephemeral, fellow slaves!

—MF

Dave, thank you for asking.

—Jo

Crew, thank you for investing your time and energy in yet another dream.

—Jo

Welcome to new faces, welcome back to old, and break a leg to all!

—Andrea

Cast, thank you for putting yourselves up there and making us all look good.

—Jo

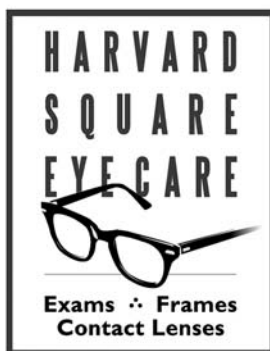
Hey #9! We know you're #1!
—The official Andy Lebrun fan club

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T@F is a non-profit organization hosted by the First Congregational Church of Somerville. All donations are tax-deductible and held in a fund dedicated to Theatre@First. You'll receive a membership card, and have your name listed in our programs unless you prefer to remain anonymous. These are the four levels of membership:

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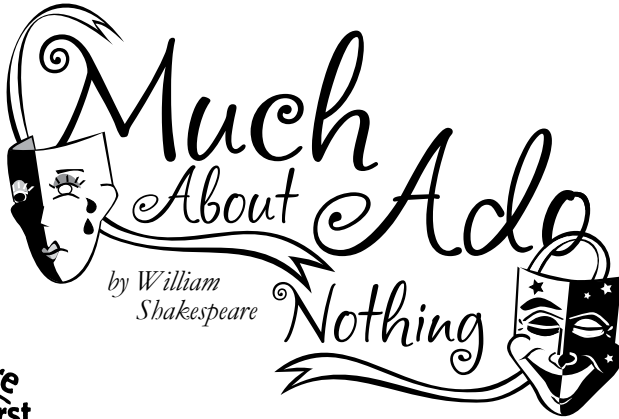
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Special Thanks

Theatre@First and the production team of *Twelve Angry Jurors* extend their heartfelt thanks to the following wonderful folks:

Rev. Molly Baskette and the members of First Church for hosting us

The ninja strike team from Arisia for their help with the lights

Regis Donovan for her tea, ear, and truck

Unity Church, for extra rehearsal space

Our advertisers, for their generous support of the arts

Our dedicated and tenacious team of volunteers, including various members of the cast and crew. Thank you for building our sets, distributing flyers, working the box office, selling snacks, ushering and generally making these shows happen.

And everyone who helped us after the program went to print

We also thank our friends, families, and all the members of our audience. Without your support of the Arts, we wouldn't be here.

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