

LEWIS vs. FREUD

C.S. LEWIS
MEETS
SIGMUND
FREUD
IN

FREUD'S LAST SESSION

By Mark St. Germain

A co-production with
Atlanta's Legacy Theatre

 **ACU** THEATRE
transforming artists

AUGUST 13-15, 2015
FULKS THEATRE

fall production

FREUD'S LAST SESSION

By Mark St. Germain

Suggested by The Question of God by Dr. Armand M. Nicholi, Jr.

Originally produced at Barrington Stage Company, Pittsfield, Mass.

Julianne Boyd, artistic director; Richard M. Parison Jr., producing director

Off-Broadway Production produced by Carolyn Rossi Copeland, Robert Stillman and Jack Thomas



SPOTLIGHT (\$1,000 or more)

Doss Alexander

Nelson Coates

Tim Covington

Jack and Ann Griggs

Adam and Donna Hester

DiAnn L'Roy

Johnson & Johnson

Bill and Elaine Lawrence

Catherine and Eric

Piepenbrink

Jack and Karen Rich

Rodney and Debra Rogers

Kerry and Bob Stemen

David and Karen

Swearingen

Dan and Pat Vickers

Kay Williams

ONSTAGE (\$500)

Josh and Kim Blann

Bonneau Family

Curt and Patricia Cloninger

Conrad Hester and Sarah

Vartabedian

Hutton and Paula Jones

Legacy Theatre

(Mark and Bethany Smith)

Jeremy and Dawne Meeks

Joe and Kaye Price-Hawkins

Darryl and Anne Tippens

Tim and Karen Yarbrough

FRONT ROW (\$250)

American Electric Power

Samantha and Hab Adkins

Dr. and Mrs. F.T. Barfield Jr.

Frank and Karen Butler

Jack and Barbara Covington

Elizabeth Cummins

Rob and Robin Eddins

Sandy and Clay Freeman

Brian and Rendi Hahn

Clay Hale

Robert and Lauren Hance

George and Martha Heady

Lisa Lawrence Holland

Tom and Pebbles Lee

Carol McCann

Jeff and Jan Patterson

Gary and Ann Varner

LIGTS UP! 2015-16 event is scheduled for Sat., Feb. 20th.

LIGTS UP! is our annual theatre fundraiser. This year LIGTS UP! 2016 will be in February, but donations may be made this calendar year. We would love to have you join us for our gala event on February 20th -- a return to our elegant dinner theatres of the past!

Cast

(in order of appearance)

Sigmund Freud Adam Hester
C.S. Lewis Mark Smith

Freud's Last Session will be performed without an intermission.

Time: September 3, 1939

Place: Freud's study, 20 Maresfield Gardens, Hampstead,
northwest London

Production Staff

Director / Set Designer Gary Varner
Costume Designer Sandy Freeman
Technical Director Andrew Wheeler
Stage Manager Ryce Garren
Sound Design Beth Lake
Box Office Rachel Ross
House Manager / Patron Services Donna Hester
Program Design Ryce Garren
Program / Publicity Adam Hester
Theatre Administrative Coordinator Linda Kemp

Acknowledgments

Freud's Last Session is produced by special arrangement with
Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York

Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) - providing ushers for
tonight's performance

Larry Wheeler, Hardin Simmons University Theatre

Cast



Mark Smith (C.S. Lewis) is a 1998 graduate of ACU with a BA in Theatre. Last year he received ACU's Distinguished Alumni Citation. He is the Artistic Director and co-owner, along with his wife, Bethany, of The Legacy Theatre in Atlanta, GA--now in its 10th season. Regional directing credits include the Southeastern Premiere of Alan Menken and Tim Rice's *King David*, and the World Premieres of *Going with Jenny* by Thomas Ward, *Vintage Hitchcock: A Live Radio Play* by Joe Landry, recently published by Playscripts, Inc., and *Rocket Boys: The Musical*. Favorite Legacy directing credits include *Jane Eyre*, *Pippin*, *Tarzan*, *Chicago*, and *Xanadu*. He and his wife, Bethany, have two beautiful boys: Desmond and Xavier.



Adam Hester (Sigmund Freud) reprises tonight's role for this co-production with Atlanta's Legacy Theatre. Following this production at ACU, he and Mark Smith will perform their respective roles of Freud and Lewis in Atlanta. Hester has also played the title role in *Julius Caesar* for the Abilene Shakespeare Festival, Bottom in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at the Oklahoma Shakespeare Festival, Dromio in *The Comedy of Errors* at the South Houston Shakespeare Festival, Peasblossom in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at the Houston Shakespeare Festival and Victor Velasco in *Barefoot in the Park*, Michael in *The Fourposter*, Scapino in *Scapino* and Selsdon Mowbray in *Noises Off!* all at the ACU Theatre. This summer he workshopped a new musical, *After Zoey*, that he co-wrote with his daughter, Jenavene, in New York City. He has directed professionally at the New York Musical Theatre Festival (*Mother Divine*), for Atlanta's Legacy Theatre and the Oklahoma Shakespearean Festival. At ACU, he serves as a professor of Theatre. He is married to Donna Hester.



Gary Varner (Director) is a professor of theatre at ACU where he is responsible for all aspects of technical theatre. Gary was on the production team of the original production of *Freud's Last Session* that premiered at Barrington Stage prior to its Off-Broadway run. His design credits include *Les Miserables*, *Parade*, *Smokey Joe's Café* and *Ragtime* at the Paramount Theatre. *Metamorphoses*, *Jane Eyre*, *The Hunt*, *Jekyll and Hyde* and *Rabbit Hole* represent a few shows he has designed for ACU. Gary won the Design Excellence Award at American College Theatre Festival for his design of *The Hunt*. He also directs and teaches improvisation and children's theatre at ACU. Gary was one of the founding members of the Pollard Theatre in Guthrie, Okla. He has worked as Production Manager for the Oklahoma Shakespearean Festival and Creed Repertory Theatre in Creede, Colo.

ACU THEATRE SEASON TICKET SUBSCRIBERS BY YEARS

The ACU Theatre would like to thank our long-time season subscribers, particularly the ones who have been with us since we began season tickets 25 years ago. Their support is much appreciated.

25 YEARS

Margaret Basquette
Jerry & Peggy Drennan
Thomas Howell
Dave Merrell
Gwen White
Kay Williams
Jamie Villegas

15 YEARS AND OVER

Karen Hendrick
Paul & Raye Lakey
Sharon & Ken Perry
Marianna Rasco
Carolyn Thompson
Pat West

20 YEARS AND OVER

Tony & Barbara Ash
Scott & Julie Brown
Mary Carroll
Anita Ferguson
Everett & Nancy Ferguson
Mel & Jan Hailey
Mel & Nancy Hartline
James McCoy
Royce & Pam Money
Gary & Debbie Oliver
Marshall Parham
Charles & Bonnie Sheppard
Jim & Lane Trietsch

10 YEARS AND OVER

Randy & Cherry Bivone
Margaret Bolding
Nadine Davis
Art & Susan Green
Pam Hale
Norma LaBarthe
Adria & Bernard Kastner
Scott & Linda Kemp
Dottie Korman
Debbie & Tim Lिलlick
Ronald & Cary Owens
Samoa Pepper
Ray & Heidi Pettit
Pamela & Mark Pollock
Greg & Cynthia Powell

Jeanene Reese
Jack, Karen & Julie Rich
Janet & Albert Robillard
Charlene Shewmaker
Tracy Shilcutt
Jeri Skaggs
Carolyn Strain
Slade & DavaLynn Sullivan
Wayne & Diane Terrell
Lorin & Patsy Watson
Tom & June Wideman
Allen & Mary Wright
Judy & Wynant Wilson

It is not too late to purchase season tickets for the 2015-16 season as there are five shows remaining. Purchasing season tickets will save you money (\$13 per person), secure you the best seats and support our theatre. Contact our box office to purchase.

STATEMENT OF MISSION

The Abilene Christian University Department of Theatre is committed to providing quality training and opportunity for the disciplined theatre artist in a nurturing environment that models Christian values.

UP NEXT:

2015-16 ACU THEATRE SEASON



A musical based on the stories of P.L. Travers and the Walt Disney Film
Original music and lyrics by Richard M. Sherman and Robert B. Sherman
Book by Julian Fellowes
New songs and additional music and lyrics
by George Stiles and Anthony Drewe
Co-created by Cameron Mackintosh
Directed by Kari Hatfield
Choreography by Melissa Zarembo

Based on the classic Disney film, *Mary Poppins* is the story of a mysterious nanny who magically appears at the Banks household in Edwardian London to care for Jane and Michael Banks. Adventure abounds as she whisks them away to meet dancing chimney sweeps, shopkeepers and an array of colorful characters. Featuring an irresistible story, eye-popping sets and costumes, breathtaking dance numbers and beloved songs such as the Academy Award-winning "Chim Chim Cher-ee," "A Spoonful of Sugar," "Feed the Birds," "Step in Time" and "Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious." You'll have a "Jolly Holiday" with Mary and discover a world where "Anything Can Happen" if you let it!

October 16-17, 2015, at 8 p.m.

October 18, 2015, at 2 p.m.

Abilene Civic Center | Suitable for all ages



By Lauren Gunderson
Directed by Adam Hester

Anthony arrives unexpectedly at classmate Caroline's door, carrying a beat-up copy of Walt Whitman's poetry and an urgent assignment from their English teacher. Homebound because of illness, Caroline hasn't been to school in months but she is as quick and sardonic as Anthony is athletic, sensitive and popular. When these two let down

their guard and share their secrets, this seemingly mundane poetry project unlocks the much deeper mystery that brought them together.

November 16-21, 2015

Fulks Theatre, 7:30 p.m. | Talkback every performance

Recommended for ages 13 and older



By Neil Simon
Directed by Adam Hester

You want funny? Don't miss Neil Simon's love letter to his years as a young writer for Sid Caesar's "Your Show of Shows." Capturing the hilarity and heart of television's glory days, *Laughter on the 23rd Floor* is one of Simon's funniest and most touching comedies. Prepare yourself for sidesplitting laughter!

February 5-6, 12-13, 19-20, 2016
Fulks Theatre, 7:30 p.m. | Talkback on February 12
Recommended for ages 13 and older



By Joan Holden
Based on *Nickel and Dimed, on (Not) Getting by in America* by Barbara Ehrenreich

Can a middle-aged, middle-class woman survive when she suddenly has to make beds all day in a hotel and live on \$7 an hour? Maybe. But one \$7-an-hour job won't pay the rent: she'll have to do back-to-back shifts as a chambermaid and a waitress. This isn't the first surprise for acclaimed author Ehrenreich, who set

out to research low-wage life firsthand, confident she was prepared for the worst. Joan Holden's stage adaptation is a focused comic epic shadowed with tragedy.

March 3-5, 2016
Culp Theatre, 7:30 p.m. | Talkback every performance
Recommended for ages 16 and older



Book by Doug Wright
Lyrics by Amanda Green
Music by Trey Anastasio and Amanda Green
Based on the documentary film by S. R. Bindler and Kevin Morris
Directed by Kari Hatfield

Inspired by true events... For 10 hard-luck Texans, a new lease on life is so close they can touch it. Under a scorching sun for days on end, armed with nothing but hope, humor and ambition, they'll fight to keep at least one hand on a brand-new truck for a chance to

win it. In the hilarious, hard-fought contest that is *Hands on a Hardbody*, only one winner can drive away with the American Dream.

April 8-9, 15-16, 22-23, 2016
Fulks Theatre, 7:30 p.m. | Talkback on April 15
Recommended for ages 13 and older

Notes

From the Playwright

In his book *The Question of God*, Dr. Armand M. Nicholi Jr., writes, "Did Freud and Lewis ever meet? The possibility is tantalizing. After Freud immigrated to England ... [a] young Oxford professor visited Freud during this time but has not been identified. Might it have been Lewis?"

His speculation sparked this play.

In 1939, the year in which the play is set, Dr. Sigmund Freud is at the end of a long and brilliant career, and professor C.S. Lewis has begun to build his own.

Born in 1856 in Freiberg, Moravia, Freud received his first doctorate degree in medicine in 1881. Five years later, he married Martha Bernays and established his own private practice. The writings he became famous for began with *Studies on Hysteria* written with Joseph Breuer, published in 1893, the year Freud's daughter Anna was born.

The early 1900s brought the publication of *The Interpretation of Dreams*, *The Psychopathology of Everyday Life*, *Three Essays on Sexuality*, and the beginning of his relationship with Carl Jung which deteriorated with their disagreements about the nature of the unconscious. Their friendship ended in 1913 when Freud's *Totem and Taboo* was published. Later books included *The Ego and the Id*, *Civilization and Its Discontents* and *Moses and Monotheism*. Internationally known in his lifetime, Freud's career caused much controversy, but his importance as the founding figure of psychoanalysis is undeniable and lasting.

Clive Staples Lewis was born in Belfast, Ireland, in 1898. At the time of this play, professor Lewis had yet to write the masterpieces he is most remembered for, including *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe*; *The Screwtape Letters*; or his influential writings on Christianity including *Mere Christianity*, *Surprised by Joy* and *The Four Loves*. These books have sold millions of copies and continue to be read and beloved.

Lewis' conversion from atheism to theism took place when he was 33 years old.

On Sept. 3, 1939, the date of their meeting in *Freud's Last Session*, Freud was 83 years old and Lewis was 41. Though Lewis was half Freud's age, the clash between these two men is timeless.

