

WORLD PREMIERE

STILLPOINTE THEATRE

NOV 9 THRU NOV 25

5'10"

5'8"

5'6"

5'4"

5'2"

5'0"

4'10"

4'8"

WITCH

A NEW MUSICAL

BY MATT CONNER AND
STEPHEN GREGORY SMITH

DIRECTED BY RYAN HAASE
MUSICAL DIRECTED BY STACEY ANTOINE
STILLPOINTETHEATRE.COM

WITCH



Written by *Matt Conner and Gregory Smith*

Directed by *Ryan Haase*

Musical Direction by *Stacey Antoine*

Choreographed by *Ryan Haase & Kristin Rigby*



WITCH contains *historically accurate*

information regarding the execution of witches.



STILLPOINTE THEATRE



Accomplices in witchcraft

Production Team

Ryan Haase*	DIRECTOR
Stacey Antoine*	Set/Lighting
Kirstin Rigby	MUSIC DIRECTOR
Danielle Robinette*	CHOREOGRAPHER
Kitt Crescenzo*	Hair and Makeup
Ben Pierce	COSTUMES
Anna Platis*	PROJECTIONS
Christine Demuth*	DROPS
Kateri*	DRAMATURG
Nolan Cartwright	PROGRAM
	POSTER

<u>Cast</u>	
Amber Wood	Moll Oyer
Caitlin Weaver	JOAN OF ARC
Christine Demuth*	Rebecca Nurse
Christopher Kabara*	Male Voices
JacJuan Knox	Ma Dama
Kristen Zwoboc	Supreme Witch
Sarah Burton*	Mary Webster
Rachel Blank*	Margaret Hamilton

<u>Band</u>	
Stacey Antoine*	PIANO/CONDUCTOR
Tanner Shelby	Guitar
Chanel Whitehead	Cello
Joe Dipkin*	PERCUSSION

*denotes Stillpointe Company Member

Gratitudes and blessings

StillPointe Theatre would like to extend our deepest gratitude who helped make this production a success:

Area 405

Central Baltimore Partnership

The Voxel

The Baltimore Rock Opera Society

Greyhound Tavern

Broom Donors

Work Prints

Our Donors

Lovely Lane United Methodist Church

About the Company

Stillpointe Theatre is a volunteer organization that believes that all work deserves compensation. With your continued support, we will be able to give back to Baltimore and its deserving artists, as we journey on in our endeavor for a permanent home.

Please consider a donation and become part of the with craft brewing in Charm City:

<https://fundraising.fracturedactas.org/stillpointe-theatre-initiative>

A spell from the Authors

In 2016, we set out to write a musical involving stories of mythical women such as Hecate, Baba Yaga, Circe, and more. We were anticipating the first woman President getting elected that Fall, and were writing a show imagining the daily attacks that she would undoubtedly be under, and the name she would most likely be called. Then she didn't win, and everything changed. So the play changed. Then the #metoo movement swept the world, and that also changed the play. I decided to ask the women in my life about their experiences in the day to day world, and their words changed the play. We recorded the Cast Recording, and I remembered what I loved the most, as almost always, the incredible score by Matt Conner. When Director Ryan Haase asked me if he could read 2018's *Witch* script, I sent it to him, warning him that it felt very "2018". I asked if I could try a rewrite, and he thankfully said yes - and 48 hours later, I had a working draft. We are grateful for a second chance to a show that we had frankly written off as something to remain on the shelf. What *Witch* has become now is an important conversation with an audience, and an introspective and interactive meditation on the power of words. Thanks to Stillpointe Theatre trust and development of local work.

I hope you all find your inner *Witch* at this performance, and take your broom and put it to work. Let's fly!

Matt Conner and Stephen Gregory Smith - October 31, 2023

The Alluring Lore

Dramaturgical Background

There is magic in reclaiming a name that was once used as a form of oppression. In Stillpoint Theatre's world premiere of *WITCH*, seven women emerge from the shadows and do just that. They are Mary Webster, Margaret Hamilton, Joan of Arc, Rebecca Nurse, Moll Dyer, Ma Hava, and a mysterious woman known as Fiona or "The Supreme," who leads the group in weaving their stories. The women are all different, from various times and places, yet they have one thing in common; They all share the name witch. As the musical progresses, we learn that those who were condemned as witches throughout history included outsiders, healers, those who defied gender norms, those who didn't live up to Hollywood's standards of beauty, those who inspired jealousy in others, and older women. Being seen as witches had devastating consequences for all of these women in life, yet they choose to reclaim and embrace their forced identities and form their own coven, traveling through time to tell their stories and offer us both warning and hope for the present day.

For more information on the history of witchcraft, witch hunts, and the historical figures portrayed in *WITCH*, please follow [this google document link](#) to view our production's dramaturgical research.

Christine Demuth, resident dramaturg for Stillpoint Theatre

Meet the Witches



Amber Wood is very excited to return to the StillPointe Stage as Persephone in *Witch*. Previous StillPointe credits include *Viva* in *Pop!*, *Cathy* in *£5¥*, *Marta* in *Company*, *Heather Chandler* in *Heathers*, *Ulsa* in *Spring Awakening*, and *Tom* in *Murder Ballad*. Baltimore Area Credits include *Cordelia* in *Falsettos* (REPStage), *Maureen* in *RENT* and *Sheila* in *Hair* (ArtsCentric). B.F.A. Musical Theatre, Ithaca College. M.S. Education, Johns Hopkins University. Many thanks to my Panda, my fam, and anyone and everyone who continues to support theater.



Caitlin Weaver is thrilled to be working with Stillpointe again! Credits include *Lyra and the Ferocious Beast* (True Penny Collective), *Nevermore* (Stillpointe Theatre), *Variety Show the Musical Play* (AYTWT Collective), *Squidbury* (Truepenny Collective), See Also (Submersive Productions), *Love and Information* (FPCT), *Lizzie* (Guerrilla Theatre Front), *Welcome to Shakesville* (BROS), *Urinetown* (Stillpointe Theatre), *Mesmeric Revelations of Edgar Allen Poe* (Submersive Productions), and *Office Ladies* (Acme Corp.). She is a proud member of the Submersive Collective and the AYTWT (Are You Thinking What I'm Thinking) Collective. She has a BFA in Acting from Towson University and is happy to call Baltimore her home now.

*Death, double, death and trouble
For being and useless babble*

*denotes Stillpointe Company Member

Meet the Witches



Christine Demuth* is thrilled to be performing as Sabrina in *WITCH*. As a Stillpointe Company member, she serves as the resident dramaturg and has performed in many productions including *Grey Gardens* (Little Edie), *Pop! Who Shot Andy Warhol* (Valerie Solanas), and *Nevermore* (Elmira). Christine has also performed at many other theatre companies over the years including, Folger Theatre, Baltimore Center Stage, and Rep Stage. She'd like to thank the Stillpointe company for giving her an artistic home. She'd also like to thank her personal coven-Frankie, Lily, Emily, Max, and Amelia, for making her life so magical.



Christopher Kabara* (He/Him) Stillpointe: *Get Bent*, *I'll drink to that*, *Urinetown*. Silhouette stages: *Lightning Thief*, *Cinderella*, *She Loves Me* (*WITCH* award winner) *Cabaret*, *Addams Family*, *CryBaby*, *Young Frankenstein*. *DCC*: *Sideshow*. *3rd Wall*: *Legally Blonde*. *Toby's* : *Young Frankenstein*. Big love to everyone who hugs me, laughs with me, and comes out to play! Venmo: @top8her

*denotes Stillpointe Company Member

Meet the Witches



JacQuan Knox is thrilled to be making her Stillpointe Theatre debut! She is a 2020 graduate from Morgan State University having majored in Theatre Arts. A local Baltimorean, and Associate Education Director at The Hippodrome Theatre by day, JacQuan is a passionate singer, actor, teaching-artist, and theatergoer. Most recent credits include *Baltimoratory* (Shirley Chisholm), *Lizzie: The Musical* (Alice Russell), *Welcome to Shakesville* (Betty), *Blues for an Alabama Sky* (Angel).



Kristen Zwobot is thrilled to be working with Stillpointe again after being seen as Mother in *Nevermore* this past spring. Favorite onstage roles include: bare (*Conejo Productions: Nadia*), Joseph...*Dreamcoat* (Chesapeake Music Hall: Narrator), *Great American Trailer Park Musical* (Spotlighters: Pickles), *Shovel in the Dirt* (Stillpointe: Cecile), prog metal version of *Sweeney Todd* (Landless: ensemble – Helen Hayes nomination) and *Kennedy Center's Broadway: A New Generation* (soloist w/Marc Shaiman and Scott Wittman). Many thanks to her co-star in life, Brett, and her greatest production so far, son Brooks, for their support..

Meet the Witches



Sarah Burton* is thrilled to be returning to the Stillpoint stage! Other Stillpoint credits include *I'll Drink to That*, *Pop!* (Edie), *Heathers* (MacMamera), *Spring Awakening* (Thea), and *Urinetown* (Hope). She would like to thank Ryan, Stacey and everyone at Stillpoint who continues to put so much into making theatre magic.



Rachel Blank* is a Baltimore native who met the founding members of Stillpoint while at Towson University. Rachel spends her days in ad tech, but during her spare time, she is an avid film reviewer, a mother of three furbabies, and hosts the randomly timed travel blog, "Does This Hotel Have Bed Bugs?". In 2018, she was cast in Stillpoint's production of "Urinetown" (ensemble), and has stuck around. She became the managing director of Stillpoint in 2019, where she helped secure our previous home on Maryland Avenue. She was also featured in Stillpoint's productions of "I'll Drink to That!", "Macabaret" (Show Ghoul), "Get Bent", and "Nevermore" (The Whore). www.rachelblank.com

*denotes Stillpoint Company Member

Meet the Production Team

Ryan Haase* (Director) Artistic Director, Stillpoint Theatre. Baltimore Center Stage: *That Face*, *The Container* (scenic designer); *Next to Normal*, *Bus Stop*, *The Rivals* (associate director). Regional—Baltimore Shakespeare Festival, *Rhymes With Opera*. Other—Co-creator of Stillpoint Theatre and designed and directed—*35MM A Musical Exhibition*, *The Bubbly Black Girl Sheds Her Chameleon Skin*, *Little Shop Of Horrors*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Vanishing Point: A New Musical*, *Assassins*, *Grey Gardens: The Musical*, *Spring Awakening*, *POP!*. Original compositions for musical theater include—*Rep Stage: Dorian's Closet*; *New York Theatre Barn: Ryan White: The Musical*; *Shovel in the Dirt: A Grave Diggers Musical*, *The Quest of the Ziz Bird*, *Jack and the Beanstalk: The Story of Daisy the Cow*, *Cool: Songs from an Untrained Writer*, *Dorian's Closet*. Awards—Best Scenic Design in a Professional Theater for *Vanishing Point: A New Musical* and *Caroline, Or Change*; Best Direction of a Musical in a Professional Theater for *Vanishing Point: A New Musical*, and *Assassins*. Education—BA: Towson University (Theater Design and Production).

Kristin Rigsby (Choreographer) is excited to be back working with Stillpoint after choreographing their production of "Spring Awakening". Favorite projects include "Brightstar" (Annapolis Summer Garden Theatre 2022 Ruby Griffith Winner), *Sister act*, and *The Addams Family*. When she is not choreographing she may be found working at Toby's Dinner Theatre hosting the dinner hour and floating around as a stage crew member. She would like to thank Ryan for having her back and her husband Patrick for all his support.

*denotes Stillpoint Company Member

Meet the Production Team

Ben Pierce he/him (Projections) is a freelance designer and director in the Baltimore area. Some of his directing highlights include: *Wrong Disease* (film), *Single Carrot Theatre*; *Eurydice* at *The Warehouse Performing Arts Center (WPAC)*; *SOTR A* *Midsummer Night's Dream* at *WPAC*; *Bare: a Pop Opera* at *The Edge Theatre Company*. With a degree in Theatre Design from *Winthrop University*, he worked in the Greater Charlotte area for twelve years before moving to Baltimore in 2019. Some of his most memorable designs include: Scenic Director: *Welcome to Funktopia* (2021), *Hellhounds on My Trail* (2022), *Starlove* (2022), *The Dark Tower Salon* (2023) at the *Voxel*; Scenic & Lighting Designer: *On the Verge* at *WPAC*; Scenic, Projection & Lighting Designer: *Ripcord* at *WPAC*; All Designs: *SOTR A* *Midsummer Night's Dream* at *WPAC*.

