

# WITCH



November 9th-25th, 2023

Area 405

Written by *Matt Conner and Gregory Smith*

Directed by *Ryan Haase*

Musical Direction by *Stacey Antoine*

Choreographed by *Ryan Haase & Kristin Riggsby*



*WITCH contains Historically accurate  
Information regarding the execution of witches.*

STILLPOINTE THEATRE

# WITCH

## Production Team

Ryan Haase*	Director, Set/Lighting Design & Choreographer
Stacey Antoine*	Music Director
Kirstin Rigsby	Choreographer
Danielle Robinette*	Hair and Makeup
Kitt Crescenzo*	Costumes
Ben Pierce	Projections
Anna Platis*	Props
Christine Demuth*	Dramaturg
Kateri*	Program
Nolan Cartwright	Poster

## Cast

Amber Wood	Moll Dyer
Caitlin Weaver	Joan of Arc
Christine Demuth*	Rebecca Nurse
Christopher Kabara*	Male Voices
JacQuan Knox	Ma Hawa
Kristen Zwobot	Supreme Witch
Sarah Burton*	Mary Webster
Rachel Blank*	Margaret Hamilton

## Band

Stacey Antoine*	Piano/Conductor
Tanner Shelby	Guitar
Chanel Whitehead	Cello
Joe Pipkin*	Percussion

\*Denotes StillPointe Company Member



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## A Note from the Playwrights

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's 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



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## A NOTE FROM OUR DRAMATURGS

There is magic in reclaiming a name that was once used as a form of oppression. In Stillpointe 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 Hawa, 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 Stillpointe Theatre





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## 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**

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## 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.fracturedatlas.org/stillpointe-theatre-initiative>



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## Biographies



**Amber Wood** is very excited to return to the StillPointe Stage as Persephone in Witch. Previous StillPointe credits include Viva in Pop!, Cathy in L5Y, Marta in Company, Heather Chandler in Heathers, Ilsa 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 (AYTWIT Collective), Squidsbury (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 AYTWIT (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.



**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 (WATCH award winner) Cabaret, Addams Family, CryBaby, Young Frankenstein. DCT: 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



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**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..



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



**Rachel Blank\*** is a Baltimore native who met the founding members of Stillpointe 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 Stillpointe's production of "Urinetown" (ensemble), and has stuck around. She became the managing director of Stillpointe in 2019, where she helped secure our previous home on Maryland Avenue. She was also featured in Stillpointe's productions of "I'll Drink to That!", "Macabaret" (Show Ghoul),"Get Bent", and "Nevermore" (The Whore). [www.rachelblank.com](http://www.rachelblank.com)

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## Production Team

**Ryan Haase\*** (Director) Artistic Director, Stillpointe 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 Stillpointe 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 Stillpointe 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.

**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.

