



Director's Notes

"...Living is extraordinary."

Mary Delvin, *Walking Shadows*

When I first read *Walking Shadows*, I was struck by this remark above. It kept coming back to me throughout the rehearsal process. The expression "living in the moment," is an easy concept to embrace, however more often than not, outside forces distract us from what is right in front of us. Breaking free of the past, possible guilt and the mistakes we make can be a heavy burden to carry throughout life and prevent us from "living in the moment."

Our past experiences dictate who we are and what we do. This is especially true of Edwin Booth's case: his surname alone would have burdened him with an enormous amount of guilt and shame. The name of Booth will forever be associated with John Wilkes Booth, the man who assassinated Abraham Lincoln. However, before Wilkes killed Lincoln, Edwin Booth was lauded as our nation's most revered actor. He was at the top of his game and his star status was equivalent of say, George Clooney. But on the fateful day of April 14, 1865 Edwin Booth's life and status changed forever.



Rutgers Theatre Company Presents:

Walking Shadows
by William Burton Henline
Directed by Michelle Seaton

April 3rd - May 11, 2010





How did Edwin Booth survive the stigma of the instantly tarnished name of Booth? How did he remove his persona from his brother? How could he move forward without letting his past affect his entire life and prevent him from living in the moment and not looking back in his past?

To be able to explore this story of a man's struggle to break free from his past and live in the moment with hope and dignity was an amazing journey. To be able to explore questions such as: how someone finds the strength to persevere after a horrible experience? How does one find courage to not blame themselves for their past decisions, or the transgressions of those close to them? And finally: how can we believe in hope when our past is always nipping at our heels? These questions have been wonderful to explore and explain through powerful story telling.





Rutgers Theatre Company presents:
Lisa Huberman's

Egyptology

Directed by Michelle Seaton
Dec. 3rd-11th, 2010

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We are living in a world where fear, bullying and judgments can drive a person to do unspeakable things. How can we get past these obstacles to accept our differences?

The company of Egyptology was influenced by:

"He who trains himself to suit everyone will soon whittle himself away." Raymond Hull

We are so accustomed to disguise ourselves to others that in the end we become disguised to ourselves." Francoise Duc de La Rochefoucauld.

"All my life I had been looking for something, and everywhere I turned someone tried to tell me what I was. I accepted their answers too. Though they were often in contradiction and self-contradictory. I was native. I was looking for myself and asking everyone except myself questions which I, and only I, could answer. It took me a long time and much painful boomeranging of my expectations to achieve a realization everyone else appears to have been born with: That I am nobody but myself."
Ralph Ellison "Battle Royal"



