

# An Examination of Grief

This beautifully written show, modeled after the Greek style of drama and aimed at catharsis, hits its target, albeit sometimes painfully.

*The Women of Lockerbie* is the story of a husband and wife searching for closure in the hills of Scotland where their son died in a fiery plane crash seven years before. The crash was a result of a terrorist bombing which killed all of the 259 passengers as well as many Scottish citizens in the ground below. The women of the small Scottish town of Lockerbie, where the tragedy took place, are looking for closure as well, but in a different way.

Madeline Livingston, played by Lorraine Knox, tells the story of her grief with such gripping conviction and pain that you feel as though you're seeing someone's pain so personally you should look away, but instead you become a part of it and long for the same closure she does. Bill Livingston, played by Tim Johnson, in stark contrast, holds back on the emotional outpouring to the dismay of his wife; but he, too, gives the audience pointed glimpses into his personal pain.

The Livingstons had no trace of their son to bury after the crash, so their search for closure is a search for some small piece of their son. Olive, played by Teresa Bower, and two of her fellow women from the town, played by Bridget Bogdon and Carolyn Miller, search for closure as well, but by helping to heal the hurt caused by hatred and give love in it's place.

The women follow the Livingstons into the hills for the night, trying to calm Madeline's mad ravings and looking to sway a stubborn American official who wants to incinerate the clothes from the flight's victims



## Curtain Call KATHLEEN CHRISTIAN

**THE WOMEN OF LOCKERBIE**  
Friday-Saturday, May 4-5 &  
11-12 • 8 p.m.  
Sunday, May 6 & 13 • 2:30 p.m.  
ACPL Auditorium  
900 Library Plaza • Fort Wayne  
Tix.: \$10-\$15, 260-622-4610

instead of sending them back to their families. The women of Lockerbie tell their stories of the horror they witnessed the day of the crash – bodies in their houses, body parts in the street and their own personal losses from the ground. They speak without emotion, burdening the audience with the feelings they don't express.

The emotional burden is overwhelming and painful at times, as if you are forced to experience loss and tragedy that you never imagined. Maggie Kole Hunter, as Hattie, narrates with enthusiasm the final moments of pain that happen offstage before the light breaks through the clouds and Todd Staszak as George, the stubborn American official, delivers the missing piece that the Livingstons have been seeking.

For most, loss is a subject well visited already in their lives, and this show will reawaken those feelings and maybe dredge up something long put away. Director Lauren Nichols had provided a grief counselor after the show for questions that will inevitably come up.

*The Women of Lockerbie* delivers its emotional blows in unexpected ways but completes the cycle of grief and delivers a feeling of purging. This is a show about ugliness and hatred that is filled and replaced by beauty and love. Expect to use the tissue they provide in the program.

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## Now Playing

**IN THE HEIGHTS** — A Tony Award-winning classic musical at Niswonger Performing Arts Center, Van Wert, Ohio, 7:30 p.m. Monday, May 14, \$16-\$46, www.npacvw.org/events.php 419-238-6722

**MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING** — Shakespeare's comedy presented by Manchester College on the grassy mall in the center of campus (or in Wampler Auditorium in event of rain), Manchester College, North Manchester, 6 p.m. Friday-Saturday, May 11-12 and 3 p.m. Sunday, May 13, free, manchester.edu

**NONSENSE JAMBOREE** — Sister Mary Amnesia goes country in this comedy at Bearcreek Farms, Bryant, 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, May 10-12, \$20 (show and meal), 997-6822.

**PLAIN AND FANCY** — A musical comedy at the Round Barn Theatre at Amish Acres, Nappanee, call for times, May 14-Oct. 20, \$6.95-\$45.16, 800-800-4942, www.amishacres.com

**THE TALES OF BEATRIX POTTER** — The Fort Wayne Ballet family series brings the book to life with ballet followed by an interactive party with the characters at the Auer Center for Arts & Culture, Fort Wayne, 10 and 11:30 a.m. Saturday, May 12, \$10, 422-4226, www.fortwayneballet.org/beatrice\_potter.htm

**WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF?** — George and Martha's dysfunctional marriage is at the heart of this drama from Edward Albee, Rated R, at First Presbyterian Theater, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, May 11-12 and 18-19 and 2 p.m. Sunday, May 20, \$15-\$24, 422-6329, www.firstpres-fw.org/the\_arts/theater

**WOMEN OF LOCKERBIE** — A powerful drama inspired by a true story about the women of Lockerbie at Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, May 11-12 and 2:30 p.m. Sunday, May 13, \$10-\$15, 622-4610, allforonefw.org



presents



May 4-6 & 11-13, 2012

This timely and beautiful piece of theater looks at one town's real-life response to the evil of terrorism. **Rated PG-13 for subject matter.**

Performances at the Allen County Public Library Auditorium  
CALL 260.622.4610 for tickets

## Calendar • Stage & Dance

## Asides

### AUDITIONS

**DREAMGIRLS (JULY 28-AUG. 12)** — Auditions for Civic Theatre production (four women, six men and ensemble; African-American cast with a few Caucasian roles) at Arts United Center, Fort Wayne, 6-10 p.m. Sunday, May 13 (advance sign-up required), 422-8641 ext. 226 or ewadewitz@fwcivic.org, www.fwcivic.org

**EL PHANTISMO (JULY 19-21)** — Auditions for fast-paced comedy written by former Jay County High School drama teacher Tony Howell at Arts Place, Portland, 6:30 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, May 21-23, JayCountyCivic@gmail.com

**ADVENTURES OF HUCK FINN (OCT. 5-8)** — Auditions for Fort Wayne Youththeatre production at Arts United Center, Fort Wayne, 4-6 p.m. Tuesday-Wednesday, Sept. 4-5, 422-6900, www.fortwayneyouththeatre.org

**THE SNOW QUEEN (DEC. 14-16)** — Auditions for Fort Wayne Youththeatre production at Arts United Center, Fort Wayne, 4-6 p.m. Tuesday-Wednesday, Nov. 6-7, 422-6900, www.fortwayneyouththeatre.org

**ANANSI THE SPIDER: HERO OF WEST AFRICA (APRIL 19-22, 2013)** — Auditions for Fort Wayne Youththeatre production at Arts United Center, Fort Wayne, 4-6 p.m. Tuesday-Wednesday, March 5-6, 2013, 422-6900, www.fortwayneyouththeatre.org

### INSTRUCTION/CAMPS

**RIISING STAR SUMMER CAMP** — Fort Wayne Youththeatre summer camp for children entering grades 3-12, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Mondays-Fridays, June 18-29, culminating in a full production at First Presbyterian Theater, \$300, 422-6900, www.fortwayneyouththeatre.org.

**HUNTINGTON UNIVERSITY SUMMER THEATRE YOUTH CAMP** — Summer camp for children entering grades kindergarten thru 12, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Mondays-Fridays, June 25-July 14, culminating in productions of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, \$185 (\$210 after June 6), 359-4257, www.huntington.edu/theatre.

## Planning Calendar

### MAY

**MAMMA MIA!** — The musical comedy about a young woman on the eve of her wedding trying to discover which of her mother's past lovers is actually her father, a Broadway series production at the Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, 2 p.m. Sunday, May 20, \$30.50-\$65, 424-5665, www.fwembassytheatre.org/events\_broadway.htm

**STATE FAIR** — A Rodgers and Hammerstein classic musical at the Round Barn Theatre at Amish Acres, Nappanee, call for times, May 29-July 7, \$6.95-\$45.16, 800-800-4942, www.amishacres.com

### JUNE

**ALIVE & DEAD IN INDIANA** — A mythological and comedic look at the many people who have called Indiana home. Based on the stories of Fort Wayne native Michael Martone. Presented by Civic Theatre at Arts United Center, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m. Friday, June 1; 2 p.m. Sunday, June 3; 7:30 p.m. Thursday, June 7; 8 p.m. Saturday, June 9; 2 p.m. Sunday, June 10, \$24 adults, \$20 seniors, \$16 students (early bird discounts available thru Tuesday, May 31), 424-5220, www.fwcivic.org

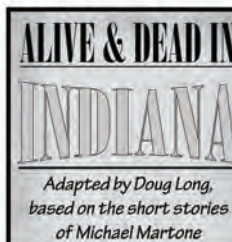
## 3rd Annual Northeast Indiana Playwright Festival



June 1-3, 2012  
Arts United Center  
Fort Wayne

Workshop & discussions with Michael Martone

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June 1 - 10, 2012

Civic  
theatre



## Althea's Well

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3rd Annual  
Northeast Indiana  
Playwright Festival

June 2 - 9, 2012

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