

The Crew

Producers & Directors	Ellen & Neil Johnson
Set, Lighting & Sound	Micah Johnson Ellen & Neil Johnson, Ben Kammerud, Aaron Maloney Hannah Johnson
Concessions	Pam Kammerud, Cindy Lyon
Grounds	Bernie Beyl, Sue Gavin, Bea Anderson, Rollie Martell
Box Office & Publicity	Sue Mason, Fitzgerald family, Bill Mason
Ushering	Fitzgerald family, cast family

Thank You

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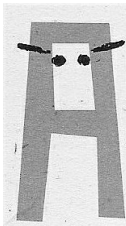
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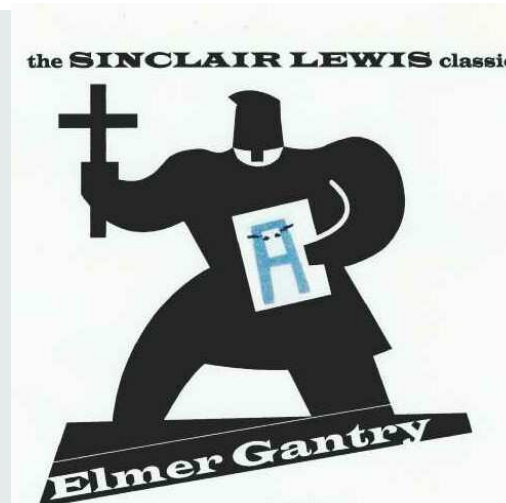
St. Croix ArtBarn

Osceola, WI 54020
PO Box 37 715-294-2787 (ARTS)
STCROIXARTBARN.COM

St. Croix ArtBarn Theatre Presents:
Sinclair Lewis'

ELMER GANTRY

Stage adaptation by Scott Holloway



Thursday & Friday,
October 19 & 20

Thursday through Saturday,
October 26, 27 & 28

7:30 PM

Settings & Time Period

Locales include the hotels, stores, revival tents, trains, streets, and tabernacles of small-town America in the 1920's.

There will be one 15-minute intermission.

Production Notes

Sinclair Lewis wrote *Elmer Gantry* in 1927, creating a public furor. The story centers on Gantry, a traveling salesman, who teams up with Sister Sharon Falconer, an evangelist, to sell religion to small town America in the 1920's. Together, they make enough money to build a tabernacle, and Sister Sharon falls for Elmer. Elmer, is tested by temptations and almost surrenders, but is then wrongly accused by a jilted temptress, Lulu Baines. Sharon stands by Gantry and truth prevails, until both are seduced by fame and blind faith over common sense, and fate deals them both a crushing blow. Lewis' story is noteworthy as it provides well-researched, layered insight into the clash of cultural forces in America in the 1920's when traditional religious believers were deeply disturbed by the gradual inroads made on faith by science and secularism.

Forty years passed before the popular novel was made into an award-winning movie in the 1960's starring Burt Lancaster, Jean Simmons, and Shirley Jones. Another forty years passed before Scott Holloway, Marine-on-St. Croix, was moved to adapt the screenplay to the stage and assume the title role. Before you, fourteen St. Croix Valley residents bring the Lewis characters and story to life in another ArtBarn first. This stage adaptation has been a challenge for all involved but we hope this presentation creates a vehicle for open discussion about religion, ambition, fame, media coverage, evolution, healing, faith—and love. You are invited to interact with the cast in the Revival scenes—and please join the cast in singing the hymns listed on the enclosed program song sheet.

Enjoy the show! Ellen and Neil

Note: A strobe light & smoke machine are used in this production.

The Cast

(alphabetically)

Denise Dellinger: organist

Emma Drury: young girl, deaf

Kris Drury: Gertrude Brown, church committee member;
Lulu's friend, prostitute; choir member

Alan Duball: landlord; workman;
Reverend Charles Brown; choir member

Scott Holloway: Elmer Gantry, conman turned evangelist

Chad Leonard: storekeeper; Mr. Eddington, newspaper
publisher; radio announcer; choir member

Cindy Lyon: Henrietta Olson, church committee member;
young girl's mother; choir member

Jim Maher: Jim Lefferts, Pulitzer Prize-winning
newspaper reporter

Melanie Nelson: Sister Ruth, evangelist; Lulu Baines,
prostitute; Sarah Jones, church committee member; choir
member

Nicholas Piszczek: George Babbitt, businessman &
church committee chairman; Jackson Liedl,
chief of police; choir member

Danette Roberts: Sister Sharon Falconer, evangelist

Lynn Steiner: Sister Rachel, evangelist & music director

Mike Traner: William Morgan, manager

Kathy Trombly-Ferrin: Emily Phillips, church committee
member; choir member