



P.O. Box 16067, St. Paul, MN 55116

Tel. (651) 336-3302

epiphany studio productions

## OVERVIEW OF TRAVELING PLAYS BY EPIPHANY STUDIO PRODUCTIONS

# BEFORE HE WAS POPE LOLEK

## THE PLAY

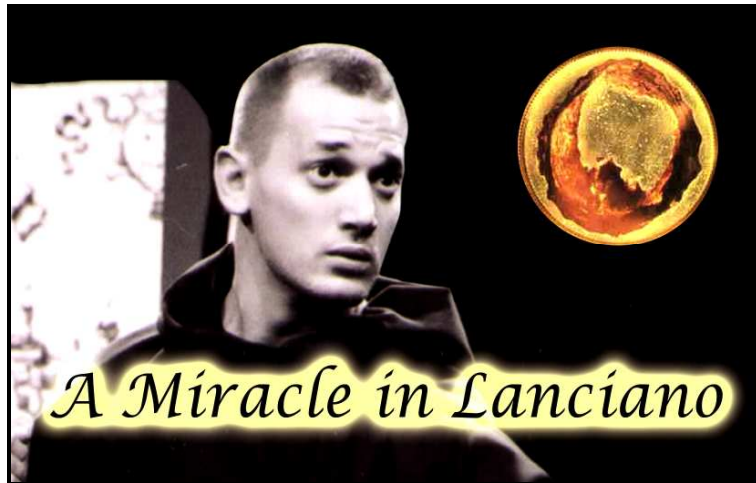
- **Type of Play:** One-man drama in Two Acts  
*(A variety of other characters are incorporated into the play by means of recorded Voiceovers.)*
- **Runtime** = approx. 1hr 30min (includes a 10 minute intermission between Acts)
- **Primary Audience** = Adults / Young Adults  
*(Although this play is written for an adult intellect and attention span, adolescent children and younger tend to remain attentive and are able to get quite a bit out of the performance. This play is definitely suitable for the whole family.)*
- **About the Production:**

LOLEK takes the audience on a journey through the amazing young adulthood of Pope John Paul II (Karol Wojtyla) growing up in Nazi Occupied Poland during WWII. Combining the light-hearted with the tragic, this play offers profound insight into the heart and soul of John Paul II. Act I presents Karol in Krakow during his time at the University reflecting back upon his childhood growing up in Wadowice. We are introduced to his family along with other key figures and experiences during primary and secondary school, which helped to form the future pope both intellectually and spiritually during this time. The loss of two close family members in Act I prepare us for the even greater tragedies that are to come in Act II. During the second half of the drama we are led by Karol through his life under Nazi Occupation, witnessing how the hand of God protected young Karol and prepared him in the midst of great suffering for his future vocation. The play ends with Karol's ordination to the priesthood. A beautiful set, historically accurate costumes, an authentic polish dialect and a moving original musical soundtrack, all add to the artistic and cultural impact of this performance.



- **Type of Play:** One-man, One Act drama  
*(Other characters are incorporated into the drama by means of recorded Voiceovers.)*
- **Runtime** = approx. 50 minutes
- **Primary Audience** = Adolescents / Young Adults / Adults  
*(This play is geared toward adolescent and young adult audiences, although parents and other adults get just as much out of the play as the teens! Due to the intense nature of the performance and content dealing with sexuality, this drama may not be suitable for children younger than 7<sup>th</sup> grade, or 12 years of age.)*
- **About the Production:**

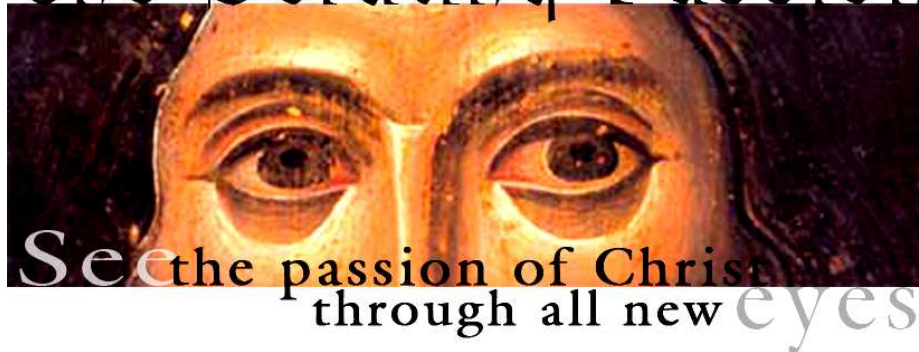
ALESSANDRO is a dynamic and powerful drama that portrays the popular story of the young, modern day Italian teenage martyr, St. Maria Goretti, and the amazing conversion of her murderer, Alessandro, as told from his own perspective. Alessandro murdered Maria after she steadfastly refused his sexual advances out of love for God, love for her purity, and concern for Alessandro's soul. Maria forgave Alessandro on her deathbed and after eight years in prison she appeared to him one night and offered him 14 pure white lilies, one for each stab wound he had inflicted upon her. After Maria's appearance, Alessandro experienced a profound conversion of heart and committed himself to a life of prayer and penance. Alessandro later testified on behalf of Maria's heroic virtue for her beatification and was alive to witness her canonization in 1950 along with her mother, Assunta. Released from prison a few years early, Alessandro spent the rest of his life in a monastery, devoted to St. Maria Goretti and to the cause of chastity and purity. Pope John Paul II declared Maria Goretti a patron of youth. This play incorporates a beautiful mix of chant and sacred music along with contemporary Christian music, reaching out to young people where they're at with a great blend of traditional and contemporary, gripping both their minds and hearts at the same time.



- **Type of Play:** One-man, One Act drama  
*(Two different characters are portrayed during the play – a modern day pilgrim journeying to Lanciano, and a Franciscan friar who is the caretaker of the shrine of the Miracle in Lanciano.)*
- **Runtime** = approx. 60min
- **Primary Audience** = Adults / Young Adults  
*(This play is also suitable for families and children of all ages, although it is written for an adult intellect and interest level. Younger children often do remain attentive during this performance thanks to the visual spectacle involved and the nature of the characters being portrayed.)*
- **About the Production:**

A MIRACLE IN LANCIANO is an intriguing play about the most ancient and on-going Eucharistic miracle in Church history, the Eucharistic Miracle of Lanciano, Italy. In the wake of the Arian heresy in the mid-eighth century – a widespread heresy that denied the divinity of Christ – a priest in the town of Lanciano struggled with doubts about one of the Church's most central doctrines: the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the consecrated host at Mass. One morning, while celebrating Mass for the town's people, before the priest's very eyes the large host became visible flesh during the consecration and the wine became visible blood. The Miraculous flesh and blood species have remained incorrupt for thirteen centuries down to our very day and can still be viewed at the shrine in Lanciano, Italy. In the early 1970s a scrupulous scientific investigation was undertaken to discover the truth about the miraculous nature of the flesh and blood, or lack thereof. The results shocked the scientific community, providing unequivocal empirical evidence for one of the most important doctrines of the Catholic faith. This play is set in modern times as a pilgrim journeys to Lanciano seeking answers to the deepest questions of life. There he encounters a Franciscan friar who helps the pilgrim (a symbol of all humanity) uncover the real 'secret' of that place, the profound meaning of the Eucharistic Miracle in the life of every person. This play has an angelic and uplifting musical underscore, making use of beautiful original recordings from the choir of the cloistered Carmelite monastery in Alexandria, South Dakota, as well as chant from the choir of the International Seminary for the Fraternity of St. Peter in Lincoln, Nebraska. Finally, this play also makes use of multimedia digital projection as a backdrop for the play, adding a unique visual element to the theatrical experience.

# The Scrutiny Passion



- **Type of Play:** Two or Three person, One Act drama  
*(The play was originally written and performed as a three person drama, but it has also been adapted to be performed as a two person drama for ease of travel as well as to offer a lower booking fee option for the show. SCRUTINY may be booked either as the original three person, or as the two person version, and may be booked with a live performance of the musical score or with our recorded soundtrack.)*
- **Runtime** = approx. 1hr 10min
- **Primary Audience** = All Ages  
*(This play includes a brief description of some graphic elements of Jesus' suffering and death.)*
- **About the Production:**

THE SCRUTINY PASSION is an original, collaborative Performing Arts project between Epiphany Studio Productions and the Saint Olaf Catholic Church Worship & Sacred Music Series. This unique play brings to life the Passion of Jesus Christ through the eyes of three gospel figures who were changed forever by their encounter with the Messiah: the Samaritan woman at the well, the blind beggar who was healed by Christ, and Mary, the sister of Lazarus. Acted by international performers, Jeremy & Sarah Stanbary, this play reveals deep insights into the human condition, the mystery of suffering, as well as God's infinite mercy and love, in light of the arrest, passion and crucifixion of Jesus Christ as experienced by the Biblical figures whose stories constitute the "Scrutiny" gospels in the Lenten cycle of Sunday Mass readings. The beautiful and original musical score was composed by Dr. Lynn Trapp, Director of the St. Olaf Worship & Sacred Music Series, as well as Mr. Nicholas Lemme of the Spaghetti Western String Company.

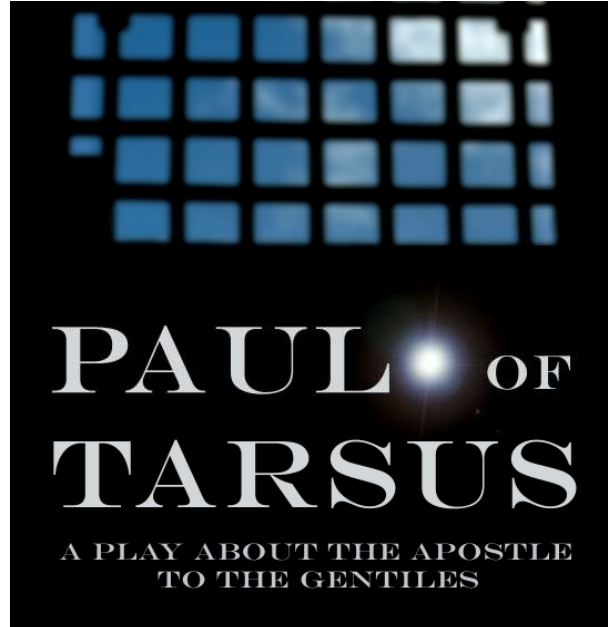


### THE VITAE MONOLOGUES:

- **Type of Play:** Two person, one-act drama (male & female)
- **Runtime** = approx. 60 minutes
- **Primary Audience** = Adolescent – Adult  
*(This play may not be suitable for audiences younger than 12yrs old)*

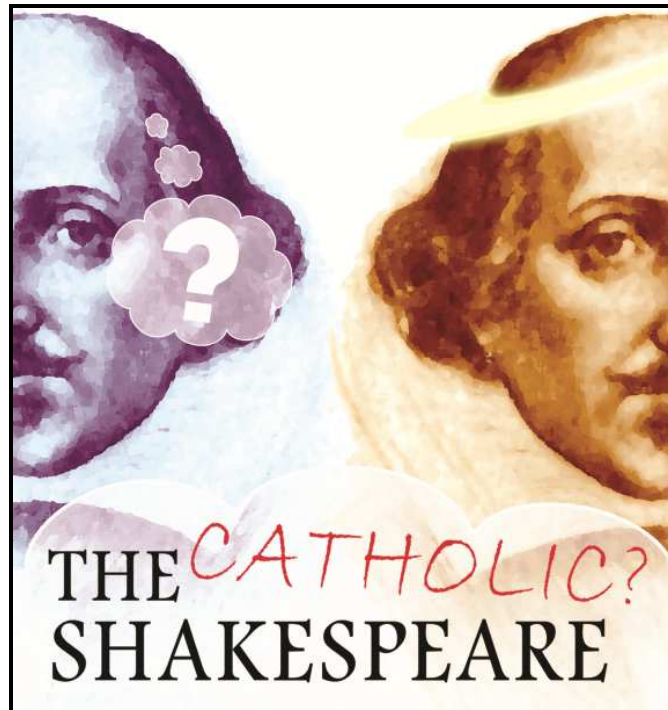
- **About the Production:**

THE VITAE MONOLOGUES is a nationally acclaimed 2-person drama featuring international performers Jeremy and Sarah Stanbary. This 60 minute play is based on eye-opening and compelling true stories of women and men who deserve a voice within our culture, exploring the difficult reality of post-abortion trauma in its many and varied expressions, as well as the healing and forgiveness that's possible after abortion. The gripping true stories portrayed in this play are non-political and non-denominational, speaking to people of all backgrounds and serving as a beacon of light within our culture, engaging audiences to think about the abortion issue from a new and very real perspective. We promise that audiences will be touched and inspired by this play in ways they never expected!



- **Type of Play:** One-man, One Act drama  
*(Other characters are incorporated into the drama by means of recorded voiceovers.)*
- **Runtime** = approx. 1hr 10min
- **Primary Audience** = although written for adults, this play is suitable for all ages
- **About the Production:**

PAUL OF TARSUS is a unique theatrical production about the Apostle to the Gentiles, sponsored by the Cathedral of Saint Paul in St. Paul, Minnesota, as part of their “Year of Saint Paul” festivities in 2009. This inspiring original drama explores the many complexities of the monumental figure of St. Paul: his human weaknesses, his heroic virtues, and his passion for spreading the Gospel at all costs, unto his own martyrdom. PAUL OF TARSUS is not merely a historical drama about the great events in St. Paul’s life, but it’s a play about his own discipleship of Christ and what his discipleship and mission of evangelization means for us in our modern world today, calling each of us to a deeper conversion and personal encounter with Christ.



- **Type of Play:** 2-Person Comedy-Drama
- **Runtime** = approx. 1hr 10min
- **Primary Audience** = suitable for all ages
- **About the Production:**

Get ready to experience Shakespeare like never before! For many decades it has been theorized that Shakespeare held Catholic convictions, or at least was a Catholic sympathizer, during a time when to be Catholic in England was a serious crime, punishable by severe penalties, torture and even death. Evidence for such a claim is said to be found within the pages of his plays themselves. In more recent years the scholarly evidence for such a claim has exploded wide open with English scholars uncovering vast new factual evidence both from history as well as Shakespeare's own writings, revealing the Bard's almost indisputable Catholicism and the fact that he was one of the leading Catholic resistance writers of his time. Shakespeare risked both his career as well as his very life to encourage the down & out Catholics of his time and to try to influence the oppressive regimes with a message of tolerance.

Based on new scholarly research by Clare Asquith and Joseph Pearce, "The Catholic Shakespeare" is a fun, intriguing and interactive 2-person theatrical romp through a variety of Shakespeare's plays (comedies as well as tragedies), exploring Shakespeare's hidden Catholic convictions and coded allegorical writings during one of the most volatile and dangerous periods in England's history.

You won't want to miss this highly entertaining and educational theater production, which will surely give audience members a newfound respect and appreciation for Shakespeare and his brilliance. "The Catholic Shakespeare" is swashbuckling fun for the whole family!