

i'll tell it once one time because it
deserves to be told and then
never again

but i've prevented it
we've been here for a long time
wash it off

but
heard
bash

by neil labute

we've all got secrets

Launching its 5th anniversary season
the vestige group presents
bash: Three Plays
By: Neil Labute

Iphigenia in Orem

Directed by: Susie Gidseg
Young Man: Aaron Black

Gaggle of Saints

Directed by: Bastion Carboni
Sue: Helyn Rain Messenger
John: Hunter Smith

Medea Redux

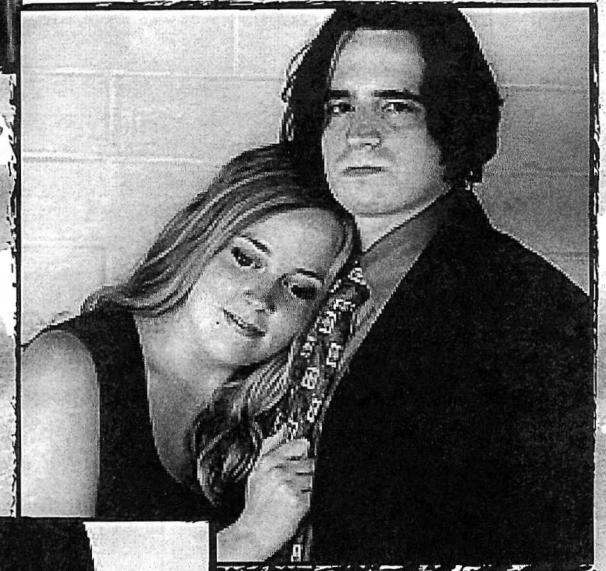
Directed by: Bastion Carboni
Woman: Jen Brown

PRODUCTION TEAM

Directors: Susie Gidseg and Bastion Carboni
Stage Manger: Dawn Humphrey
Lighting Design/Board Operator: Courtney DeGinder
Set Design: Dawn Humphrey
Sound Design: Jen Brown
Original Music: Ben Wright
Box Office Manager: Dawn Humphrey
Postcard and Program Design: Lizzie Bond
Costume Design: Jen Brown

Produced through special arrangement with Broadway Play Publishing Inc. The script to this play may be purchased from B P P I at BroadwayPlayPubl.com
Originally produced by Eric Krebs and Stephen Pevner

the vestige group is a sponsored project of the Greater Austin Creative Alliance, a non-profit arts service organization, working to advance, connect and celebrate Austin's creative life. This project is funded and supported in part by the City of Austin through the Cultural Arts Division.



DIRECTORS' NOTES

We all have secrets that we are afraid to tell people. Secrets that get inside of us and drive us mad. Secrets which once unleashed, are out of our control. Bash is about those secrets. It is about what is said and unsaid, what is hidden and revealed. For our 5th Anniversary Season, we are proud to return to the playwright that began it all for us, Neil LaBute. When Jen and I began the vestige group in 2005, we had no idea that 5 years later we would return to LaBute for our 5th Anniversary Season. LaBute's topics are dark, but his subjects are everyman, which is the most moving thing about his characters. This is what keeps drawing the vestige group back to LaBute's haunting words. Thank you to all the audiences that have stuck with us and grown with us over the past five years. We look forward to creating even more innovative works in the years to come.

Enjoy the Show,

Susie Gidseg
Director

Shock value is generally a tactic better left to comedy. However, when used in response to this concept we have of deceptive simplicity, this tendency we have to "humanize" by assuming that there are complicated, rational processes to undesirable actions, it's a puissant reminder that we in fact do not always know what we "know". The truly horrifying aspect of Bash is the way the characters' actions simply stride the line between logic and instinct. We're watching the aftermath, their equivocations and their explanations, but in the moment these people behaved the way they did with a crystalline primal clarity. Brrr. Enjoy.

Bastion Carboni
Director

CAST & CREW

Susie Gidseg (Director: Iphigenia in Orem) is the co-founder of Orasi Productions in Norman, OK and the co-founder & co-artistic director of The Vestige Group. Susie currently works as the Social Media Director/Content Manager for the Greater Austin Creative Alliance, serves on the B. Iden Payne Committee and is a BFA Dramaturgy Graduate from the University of Oklahoma. Her credits include: Halfway to Beautiful, Cloud Tectonics, Autobahn, Fat Pig (regional premiere), The Muses: Memories of a House I-III (world premiere), My Name is Art (Best of Fest FronteraFest 2007), Anton in Show Business, Brilliant Traces, The New Jersey Book of the Dead, Marisol, Gorilla Man, Touch (B. Iden Payne Nominee Best Director for a Drama), Lonestar, Texas and di{verge}: an original play with songs for Elan Productions (ArtSpark 2008). Susie was also the guest director for City Theatre's Heidi Chronicles. Susie thanks Aaron for tackling such a big project with intelligence and awareness, and her family and her boyfriend for their constant support.

Bastion Carboni (Director: Gaggle of Saints, Medea Redux) is the Artistic Director of Poison Apple Initiative and a critic for The Austinist. His plays have been produced by The Vestige Group, Da!, Theatre Collective, Poison Apple Initiative and Unheard Voices. Recent direction credits: Spilled Milk, A Matter of Taste, and No Exit (Poison Apple Initiative). Recent stage credits: Orpheus- Eurydice (Different Stages), Man With Scar Tissue- Marisol (The Vestige Group), Charlie- No One Else Will Ever Love You (Conspire Theatre), Man #3- I Google Myself (Capital T Theatre).

Dawn Humphey (Production Manager, Set Design) has a BA in Theatre and Dance from the University of Wyoming where she studied management and theatrical design. Prior to moving to Texas she worked in numerous productions at UW, as well as positions at Western Washington University and the Theater at Lime Kiln in Lexington, Va. She also toured for a year with Up With People, performing and working in various technical jobs in the US, Canada and Europe. While in Texas, she has performed and managed stages at the annual Flipside Festival outside of Austin, and is a founding member of the vestige group. She has been involved in every vestige production to date in varying roles including stage manager, set/properties designer, box office manager, and media design. Since its founding, she has also served as the company's financial and business manager.

Courtney DeGinder (Lighting Design) is the Kevin Bacon of Austin technical theater. Known for her ability to light where other lighting designers fear to tread, she has the remarkable ability to think on her feet, wire a dimmer switch from scratch and always has a 100-foot extension cable in the trunk, just in case. She got her start as a lighting assistant in Bass Concert Hall, mostly because she was skinny enough to fit in the "boom chair" and was not afraid of heights. Later, after a stint learning how to become a biotech geek, she landed back in the Austin theater scene and has been involved ever since.

Benjamin Wright (Songwriter) is an actor, writer, performer and composer living in Austin Texas. He received a B.A. In Theater from UCLA, and went on to receive an M.A. in advertising from UT. Benjamin has taken the stage with the Vestige Group as The Gorilla Man in The Gorilla Man, and as Rex B. Mason, Texas Ranger in his first written play, Lonestar, Texas: A Popcorn Throwing Rock Country Musical. He has also thrown himself into the Austin Musical Theater scene performing roles such as Rudolph in Yellow Tape Construction Company's The Ultimate Christmas Musical: The Musical, and King Arthur in The Getalong Gang's production of Arthuriosis.

Lizzie Bond (Designer) is a rambunctious Austinite and graduate of the University of Texas Advertising school. By a simple twist of fate, she landed herself as vestige's own in-house designer, and created the flyer for Bash: Three Plays, which Neil LaBute himself even said, "I think the card is great!" She also designed the flyer for vestige's last performance: Lonestar, Texas: A Popcorn Throwing Rock Country Musical. She loves working with vestige group and looks forward to creating more awesome artwork for their upcoming shows. If you would like Ms. Bond to help create your next flyer, logo, tshirt, or any other design needs, please contact her at lizziebond@gmail.com.

Aaron Black (Young Man) is happy to be performing for the 2nd time with The Vestige Group. His previous roles in Austin include Aubespine in Mary Stuart for Austin Shakespeare, Hamlet in City Theatre's production of Hamlet, and Benny in Vestige Group's award winning production of Touch by Toni Press Coffman. He also wrote the play Hotel Morocco, which debuted at Fronterafest this year. Aaron has many teachers to thank for his accomplishments, including his mother, Peggy Black; Elizabeth Kemp; Susan Aston; Betsy Ballard; Randy Hemphill, Arthur Penn, Penny Allen, and Dr. Clifford Reed. Aaron would also like to thank you for continuing to support live theatre in Austin.

Hunter Smith (John) is enjoying his last year here in Austin after graduating from the University of Texas Dept. of Theatre and Dance this past May. There he performed in various roles: Egeus and Mustardseed in A Midsummer Night's Dream, General Ivolgin and Prince Sholokhov in The Idiot, and Aaron McKinney in the Laramie Project: Epilogue, among others. Hunter will be moving to San Diego this September to seek more theatrical and film opportunities for acting as well as stunts. He has thoroughly enjoyed his time in Austin, and it has become his home. He will be sad to leave behind the Greenbelt, Eeyore's Birthday, and Freebirds. But most of all he will miss his family and friends who have helped him come so far from his dorm days. He would most like to thank his Mom and Dad, sister Natalie, and darling Rosanna for all their love and support.

Helyn Rain Messenger, (Sue), is proud to be performing with the Vestige Group and all these wonderful actors. Most recently, you may have seen her in The Getalong Gang Performance Group's production of Steven Gridley's Post-Oedipus at the BLUE as the Messenger. She would like to thank the ladies at the Vestige Group, the good folk of the Creative Alliance and Bash.

Jen Brown (Woman, Sound Design) majored in acting with a minor in sound design at The University of Oklahoma. She founded the vestige group with Susie Gidseg after moving to Austin. Selected acting credits include: Lonestar TX (Donna), No Exit (Inez), Gorilla Man (Mom), A Matter of Taste (Sadie), Stop Kiss (Sara - B. Iden Payne Nomination), Brilliant Traces (Rosannah), Anton In Show Business (Joby), Fat Pig (Jeannie). Aside from acting, Jen is a model, director & sound designer and has designed such shows as The Heidi Chronicles, Stop Kiss, Brilliant Traces, Lion in the Streets, The Laramie Project and more. Jen would like to thank the den of men, especially her Matthew, as always her amazing family & beyond brilliant cast and crew; and then a special thanks to her fellow cap-metro warriors for not paying any mind to the girl w/ the tape recorder passionately whispering to herself.

STAY TUNED FOR UPCOMING SHOWS

Muses IV: Memories of a House
Summer 2010

di{verge}: An Original Play with Songs
Fall 2010

Contact Us: Join in the fun!

- thevestigegroup@hotmail.com
- www.vestigegroup.org

the vestige group staff:

Vestige Group Co-Artistic Directors: Susie Gidseg and Jen Brown

Production Manager: Dawn Humphrey

Technical Director: Courtney DeGinder

Musical Director: Benjamin Wright

Marketing Director: Lizzie Bond

the vestige group would like to thank

The Greater Austin Creative Alliance for the performance space, Wyatt
Brand, Neil LaBute, and Our Family and Friends
