

NEWS NOW

FESTIVAL: Week Three at a Glance

'Albatross' opens at Gloucester Stage

THEATER REVIEW: Salem Theatre Comp

ADVERTISEMENT



Get up to \$2,500 when you roll over your 401k into a TD Ameritrade IRA.

THEATER REVIEW: Salem Theatre Company puts on a powerful production of 'Angels in America'

Share icons for email, print, Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Google+, Pinterest, and a general share icon. Includes buttons for COMMENT (0), Facebook Recommend (0), and Tweet (0).



A scene from 'Angels in America, Part One: Millennium Approaches,' through June 24 at Salem Theatre Company. COURTESY PHoto

» STAY INFORMED



Email Newsletter

Sign Up Today

Sign up for our newsletter and have the top headlines from your community delivered right to your inbox.

▶ LOOK AT THIS

- Two Cards With No Interest for 21 Months Help You Get Out of Debt
- Barb Walters Sits Down With Dr Oz and



A scene from 'Angels in America, Part One: Millennium Approaches,' through June 24 at Salem Theatre Company. COURTESY PHoto

By Keith Powers / Correspondent

Posted Jun. 16, 2016 at 1:27 AM

SALEM

By Keith Powers / Correspondent

Posted Jun. 16, 2016 at 1:27 AM

SALEM

If you go...

WHAT: "Angels in America, Part One: Millennium Approaches"

WHERE: Salem Theatre, 35 Congress St., 3rd Floor, Salem

WHEN: through June 24

TICKETS: \$5-\$25. Visit www.salemtheatre.com or call 781-308-4737

The millennium came, but the apocalypse didn't. To many it sure seemed like it would, when Tony Kushner's "Angels in America" took the theater world by storm 24 years ago.

Kushner's dramatic masterpiece about AIDS and honesty in 1980s New York resonated on many levels. It spoke truth to power — at that time, Republican, fundamentalist, "they had it coming to them" power. Eventually, it brought its message into living rooms and onto small stages everywhere, through repeated revivals, opera retellings, film and television adaptations.

"Angels" has gotten dated, and doesn't speak quite as forcefully as it did. But in the hands of a talented troupe like the Salem Theatre Company under director Catherine Bertrand, it still makes for powerful theater.

"Angels in America, Part One: Millennium Approaches" runs through June 24. It tells the hallucinogenic, stormy tale of two couples — a pair of gay New Yorkers ripped apart by one man's AIDS diagnosis, and a set of Mormons ripped apart by drugs and closeted emotions — pivoting round the compelling, repulsive presence of the notorious right-wing lawyer and belligerent instigator Roy Cohn.

The epic — the troupe is presenting only part one — made the year 2000 seem like the approaching end of times when it was first produced in 1992. The paralyzing fear that AIDS brought to American civilization — not just the LGBT community — did cause lasting changes. Safe sex is no longer just a weird phrase for people who don't want to go "all the way." It's a way of life.

But it did not bring an apocalypse. Those harbingers of the end, along with some now comical predictions of the political era that would do away with the rights of blacks, women, gays — well, that didn't come to pass. Bad things are still happening — and poignant remarks by Bertrand

Leaves Viewers Speechless

- **Hawking Predicts "Smart Pill" as Biggest Event in Human History**
- **Dwayne The Rock Johnson Admits To Using These Two Legal Steroids**
- **Odd Trick To Kill Belly Fat In A Week**
- **Viagra for Your Brain – Double Your IQ and Memory**
- **Melissa McCarthy Uses New Skinny Pill to Drop 50lbs in 35 Days**
- **Have a Blood Clot / IVC Filter – Take This Evaluation**
- **(2016) Banks Feel Cheated When Homeowners Take Advantage of This**
- **This Man Cured His Nasty Nail Fungus in 10 Minutes**

Powered by Newsmax.

» TOP CLICKS

POPULAR

EMAILED

COMMENTED

GET REEL: Actors who MUST stop making movies [Jun. 12, 2016](#)

Concert review: After 10 years away, Dixie Chicks still got it [Jun. 15, 2016](#)

THEATER REVIEW: Inventive choreography makes Reagle's 'Carousel' a riveting show [Jun. 14, 2016](#)

MUSIC SCENE: Ceelo Green show short but funky [Jun. 11, 2016](#)

ASK DOG LADY: Your dog isn't in a Disney movie [Jun. 12, 2016](#)

At Huntington, deaf, gay character is focus of powerful new Craig Lucas drama [Jun. 13, 2016](#)

NORTH BOSTON DIRECTORY

Featured Businesses

[Connor Real Estate](#)
[Concord Animal Hospital Inc](#)
[Barrett Sothebys Realty](#)
[Fair Trade Treasures](#)
[Corinthian Yacht Club](#)

Find North Boston Attractions

Search business by keyword

[Add your business here +](#)

» EVENTS CALENDAR

remembering the LGBT victims in Orlando before the curtain came up reminded everyone of that. But the world did not end.

A superb cast makes those details seem insignificant, and this cast was superb. Alex Deroo (as the dying Prior Walter) handled the most anguished of the roles with intensity. His partner, the beautifully clueless Louis, was played by Isaiah Plovnick with great insight. His speed-rap monologue that opened Act III drained the energy out of the room.

Cameron Scott brought the closeted Mormon Joe Pitt into real focus. Brit Christopher, as his Valium-addicted Mormon wife, who seems to know everything except what reality is, was bright, airy and believable even in her deepest fantasies.

And to prove there wasn't a single caricature in the lot, even Dave Rich's Roy Cohn, easily the most detestable, loathsome human being imaginable, had his moments. When he explains that a man of his station — ruthless, unforgiving political animal — might have sex with men but was not a homosexual, and might have AIDS but it's really liver cancer — in Kushner's unforgettable words, you believe it could be possible.

Multiple minor roles, with lots of overlap, were nicely handled by Adrian Peguero, Jimmy Flaherty, Hannah Wagner, Ted Silva, Maxie Mettler, Catherine Benjamin and Chelsea Borden.

The set was overly complicated — too much choreography needed from the very capable props crew. But Bertrand's direction gave the players all the tools they needed to make the script come alive.

Salem Theatre's "Angels in America, Part One" runs through June 24 in the troupe's home at 35 Congress St., 3rd floor, Salem. For tickets and information visit www.salemtheatre.com or call 781-308-4737.

Keith Powers covers music and the arts for Gatehouse Media and WBUR's ARTery. Follow @PowersKeith; email to keithmichaelpowers@gmail.com

[» Comment or view comments](#)

LATEST LOCAL VIDEOS: HENRY'S WINE CELLAR IN BEVERLY GETS A FACELIFT



» SUGGESTED STORIES

Happy Valley Ventures MA Inc. to hold open house for Gloucester residents

Prosecutors leery of expanding Gloucester Police model for addiction treatment

Region: Flu season a complication in Ebola scare

Moulton boycotts moment of silence for Orlando victims

'Albatross' opens at Gloucester Stage

Prosecution, defense deliver closing statements at Boston Marathon bombing trial

» PROMOTED STORIES

The Fastest Way To Pay Off \$10,000 In Credit Card Debt [LendingTree](#)

An Extremely Brilliant Way To Pay Off Your Credit Cards [LendingTree](#)

Jaw Dropping Child Star Transformations! [Your Daily Dish](#)

Cheaters Exposed By New Website, Look For Yourself [Instant Checkmate](#)

Easy Way to Search for Birth Records Online [Ancestry](#)

The 31 Most Terrifying Pictures On The Internet That You Will Wish You Never Saw [dailybananas.com](#)

Recommended by [Outbrain](#)

FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU
Friday, June 17, 2016						
	Prelude Supper for "From Russia to Rockport"					5:45 pm
Shalin Liu Performance Center						
	Grateful Dead Music Cruise with Northbound Train					7:00 pm
7 Seas Whale Watch						
	Preconcert Talk for "From Russia to Rockport"					7:00 pm
Shalin Liu Performance Center						
	"Albatross"					7:30 pm
Gloucester Stage Company						
More Events »			Add Events »			
Events by eviesays.com						

Done

FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU
Friday, June 17, 2016						
	Prelude Supper for "From Russia to Rockport"					5:45 pm
Shalin Liu Performance Center						
	Grateful Dead Music Cruise with Northbound Train					7:00 pm
7 Seas Whale Watch						
	Preconcert Talk for "From Russia to Rockport"					7:00 pm
Shalin Liu Performance Center						
	"Albatross"					7:30 pm
Gloucester Stage Company						
More Events »			Add Events »			
Events by eviesays.com						

>> Popular Articles and Offers



The 4 Stages to a Heart Attack. Find out if you're at risk



Skin Care for Guys



Skin Care with Natural Ingredients



Get Even Skin Tone

ADVERTISEMENT

>> Popular Articles and Offers



The 4 Stages to a Heart Attack. Find out if you're at risk



Skin Care for Clear & Oil-Free Faces



Get Even Skin Tone




Skin Care with Natural Ingredients

ADVERTISEMENT

TV GUIDE



21 Reasons Poussey is Irreplaceable on Orange Is the New Black



Orange Is the New Black: How [Spoiler]'s Heartbreaking Final Moment...

[Terms of Service](#)

Login with:    

0 Comments powered by: 



Write your comment here

Upload video

Upload image

Submit

Follow

REALTIME

Newest

Connect with Wicked Local Gloucester

Facebook

RSS

Back to top

Site Services

- Work for Us
- Submit your news
- Subscribe
- Ads
- Archives
- Photo reprints
- Terms of Use

Market Place

- Homes
- Classifieds
- Coupons

Community Info

- City of Gloucester
- Gloucester Public Schools
- Sawyer Free Library
- Cape Ann Chamber of Commerce
- Cape Ann YMCA

Communities

- Rockport news
- Essex news
- Manchester-by-the-Sea news
- Ipswich news
- Beverly news
- Salem news

Stay Informed



Email newsletter

Sign Up Today

Sign up for our newsletter and have the top headlines from your community delivered right to your inbox.

