

Leon Theatre presents

THE

CURIOUS

Savage

by John Patrick

2.24 at 7pm

2.25 at 2 & 7pm

www.LeonTheatre.com



DIRECTOR'S NOTES

What do Ted Lasso and The Curious Savage Have in Common?

Two things: A dart board and a beautiful, life giving sense of curiosity

I don't know if you have seen the TV series Ted Lasso (on Apple TV) but one of my favorite scenes in the show involves Ted (who reminds me a lot of Mrs. Savage) throwing darts for some pretty large stakes against a pompous windbag Rupert (perhaps a Titus Savage type character?).

Ted Lasso: Mae... what do I need to win?

Mae: Two triple 20's and a bullseye.

Rupert Mannion: *[chuckles]* Good luck.

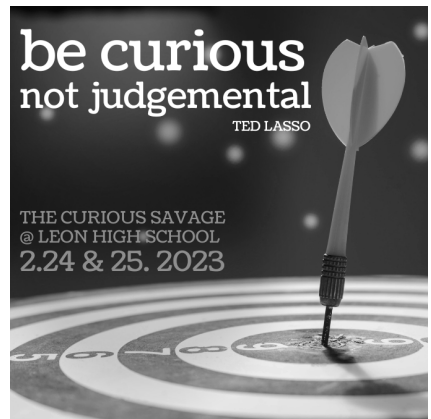
[pause]

Ted Lasso: You know, Rupert, guys have underestimated me my entire life. And for years, I never understood why. It used to really bother me. But then one day, I was driving my little boy to school and I saw this quote by Walt Whitman, and it was painted on the wall there. It said, **"Be curious, not judgmental."** I like that. *[throws a dart and hits his first triple 20]* So I get back in my car and I'm driving to work, and all of a sudden it hits me. All them fellas that used to belittle me, not a single one of them were curious. You know, they thought they had everything all figured out. So they judged everything, and they judged everyone. And I realized that their underestimating me... who I was... had nothing to do with it. **'Cause if they were curious, they would've asked questions.** You know? Like, "Have you played a lot of darts, Ted?"

[throws another dart and hits his second triple 20] To which I would've answered, "Yes, sir. Every Sunday afternoon at a sports bar with my father, from age 10 until I was 16 when he passed away." *[pause]* Barbecue sauce.

[throws his third dart and hits the bullseye; crowd cheers wildly]

Good game, Rupert.



Ted Lasso has mastered the art of curiosity, and so has Mrs. Savage. It's something I'm actively working on in my own life. I constantly remind myself that every one of us is in the murky middle of our stories. The purpose of a story is for the characters to change. Given space and grace people can change their minds, plans, dart games, and sometimes things change in the blink of an eye or in one dark moment when the lights go out. When we judge and put someone in a box based on what we see or hear, or even just one moment of their story (or one social media post), we aren't being curious.

Judging is taking a person or situation and thinking that we have enough evidence to make a final decision. We'll never have all the information on a person or situation. The best thing we can do is keep asking questions, genuinely listen to someone else's story, and attempt to understand them with curiosity and gracious assumptions. Fear is usually what leads me to make quick judgments. Fear can warp our lives and hold us back, attempting to keep us "safe." Being curious requires courage, and it takes a brave kind of "savage"ness to ask hard questions or to continue moving forward in a story when you're unsure of the outcome. Fears can prevent us from living out our most beautiful stories, or from hearing other people's stories, particularly when they differ from our own. Fear causes us to judge quickly and listen and learn slowly. Can we all strive to be savagely curious?

None of us knows our entire story, or anyone else's, because it isn't finished. We're all in the middle, and it often feels like Mrs. Paddy turns out the lights on us. In our final scene on stage, my goal was to convey there's always more to every story. There can be wholeness, healing, growth, and beauty that lasts forever beyond our finite walls. I need to know that beyond Jeff's shame, Florence's sadness, Fairy's fears of being overlooked, Hannibal's failure, Mrs. Paddy's anger, the Savage's greed, and Mrs. Savage's loneliness, there is a garden of loveliness for each of them, blooming with life. I see myself in each of these characters, and I crave the curiosity to see the view beyond the limiting walls. I hope this show makes you bloom with curiosity as well.

Remember to stay curious.

lea marshall, february 2023



The Curious Savage

By John Patrick

Act I

Scene 1: At night

Scene 2: The next morning

Act II

Scene 1: That night after dinner

Intermission

Act II

Scene 2: A few night's later

Act III

Scene 1: A few minutes later

The scene is the living-room of The Cloisters.

There will be one fifteen minute intermission.

Produced by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, inc.

A decorative border of grey-toned leaves and branches surrounds the text on the page.

Dr. Emmett: Colin Kirkpatrick

Miss Willie: Lauryn Smith

Mrs. Ethel P. Savage: Grace Myatt

Senator Titus Savage: George Andrew Moore

Judge Samuel Savage: Michael Barker

Lily Belle Savage: Isabella Hanselman

Florence Williams: Maggie Giles

Fairy May: Kai Wright

Jeffrey: Lance Sellars

Hannibal: Noah Ruis

Mrs. Paddy: Jaila Williams

Stage Manager: Mills Schaefer

Assistant Stage Manager: Olivia Viker

Technical Director: Sid Schoffel

Assistant to the Director: Cecilie McGrew

Backstage Ninjas:

Cathryn Sproul & Leah Whiting

A decorative border of various leaf shapes in shades of gray surrounds the text. The leaves are scattered around the edges of the page, with some larger leaves and some smaller ones, creating a natural, organic frame.

Lighting (& Water Fountain) Genius :
JP Evans

Sound Design:
Gabe Brown

Wig & Hair:
Angela Das, Courtney Ford

Make Up:
Kingston Meggie, Violet Marsh, Kayla Seay

Costume Team:
Leah Whiting, Kanari'l Tolbert, Elizabeth Perry,
Dominic Angello

Props:
Nick Hiers, Leah Whiting, Ava Sears,
Dominic Angello, Elizabeth Perry, Marci Dover

Set:
Mills Schaefer, JP Evans, Leah Whiting, Lily Telfer

Intermission Snacks:
Sarah Howard

Technical Team:
Courtney Stokes & Kaia Schnippert

CURIOUS CAST



COLIN KIRKPATRICK is a Leon Senior who is overjoyed to play the part of Dr. Emmett in *The Curious Savage*. He is a part of Leon's Thespians and has been featured in previous Leon productions such as *The Play That Goes Wrong* (Max/Cecil Haversham) and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Peter Quince). Outside of school, Colin is an avid filmmaker, often posting his work on his YouTube channel Fresh Shrimp Productions. Colin would like to thank his theater teacher Mrs. Marshall for constantly pushing him to be the best actor he can be, his Mom and Dad for their everlasting love and support, and his close friends who have stood by him through everything. Colin would like to say to everyone, "We will make it."

LAURYN SMITH (Miss Willie) is a junior at Leon High School and is an avid member of Leon's Thespians, and chorus. Lauryn is beyond excited to be apart of the exceptional cast and crew bringing *The Curious Savage* to Leon's stage. She appreciates the story, as well as the love that each resident at *The Cloister's* has for one another, and could not have asked for a better cast tasked with the act of bringing these characters to life. She has been in previous Leon productions of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *ODDportunities*, and *Beauty and the Beast*. She was also seen in Stage 11's productions of *Tuck Everlasting* and *Footloose*, as well as Quincy Music Theatre's *Into the Woods* (Stepmother). Her love for performing has certainly grown over the past year with the help from Mrs. Marshall and Mrs. Peck, she would like to thank them personally for allowing her the space to grow, and for their constant support. Lauryn thanks her friends Mallory and Mahlon for never failing to make her feel loved. She would like to tell everyone that "you, like the moon, are not only beautiful when you are whole but in all of your fractions and phases and white ivory pieces" - Beau Taplin





GRACE MYATT is very grateful to be able to play the role of Mrs. Savage. She has participated in two previous Leon shows as Puck in 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' and the Stage Manager in 'The Play That Goes Wrong'. She is also involved in Thespians, Pierian, Tri-M, Capital Singers, Melodears Choirs. and English Honor Society. She would like to thank her mom, her dad, and every

friend and family member who has supported her: "Don't condemn your audience before you give them a chance to be kind" (The Curious Savage).

GEORGE ANDREW MOORE (or as Mrs Marshall would call him GAM GAM) is beyond excited to play Titus in The Curious Savage. He's been in previous Leon plays, such as A Midsummer Night's Dream and ODDportunities. When not on stage he's a member of Thespians, Tri-M, and one of four captains for the Leon swim team. Andrew also has a love and passion for film, he finds himself often working in production crews on multiple short films shot around Tallahassee. If Andrew could shout out anyone, he'd choose his mom, dad, brother, grandma, grandpa, and every friend that has loved and supported him (and a very special shout out to Grace and Keen). This show is such a treat and Andrew has had nothing but fun working on it. Finally Andrew would like to end by saying, "Make sure to drive safe."



MICHAEL BARKER is portraying the part of Samuel Savage and while this is his first theater performance he is excited to be a part of this truly special show. He is also involved in Leon's Thespian Troupe and Chess Club, He wants to thank his Mother and Father and his friend Luke Wamble for supporting during this time. He would like to tell each and everyone of you, "I will drink up all your stories and pour some of my own".



ISABELLA HANSELMAN is a freshman and excited to be playing Lily Belle in her first ever non-musical play. She was recently in Leon's summer production of Beauty and the Beast as Chip. She is involved in Thespians, Chorus, and the Lion Steel program at Leon. She is grateful to be a part of this wonderful show, learning so much from her fellow cast members and directors. Isabella would like to thank her family for supporting her through everything,

her friends for cheering her on, and Mrs Marshall for giving her a chance to be a part of this amazing production. She would like to leave with you words from Alice in Wonderland, "The secret, Alice, is to surround yourself with people who make you smile. It's then, and only then, that you'll find wonderland."

KAI WRIGHT is excited to play Fairy May in The Curious Savage. They recently were in Beauty and the Beast at Leon High School. They are also involved in Thespians, film class at YAT & voice act in their free time. They wish to thank their friends and family for their overwhelming support and love & they want you to know "you look very pretty today!"



LANCE SELLARS (Jeff) is the son of Kelly Cullen and Bradley Sellars and is incredibly excited to be a part of this amazing process. He has previously been in Beauty and the Beast (LeFou), A Midsummer Night's Dream (Demetrius), Anastasia (Count Leopold), and Tuck Everlasting (Featured Dancer). He is also in some of Leon High School's Choirs such as Capital Singers, Madrigals, and Mane Event. He is so excited to bring this

beautiful show to life. The story and message is incredibly touching and this has become Lance's favorite show, and character that he's played. He'd like to thank his family for supporting him and his passion for theatre and girlfriend/stage manager girlfriend, for making sure he's always pushing himself to be the best he can be Oh... and of course MRS. MARSHALL!!! (You thought I forgot about you didn't you?). One thing he says that also means I love you (and it's because of this show), is "you have a nice seat".

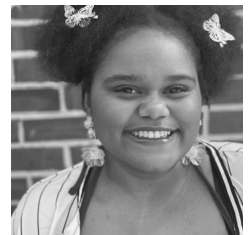
NOAH RUIS (Hannibal) is very excited to be performing in his first non-musical play. You may have seen him recently in: A Christmas Carol (Johnny Brighton), Into the Woods (Rapunzel's Prince), Beauty & the Beast (Beast), Tuck Everlasting (Miles understudy), Forever Plaid (Sparky), or Anastasia (Dmitry). Outside of theatre, he also participates in Capital Singers/Madrigals here at Leon and studies classical voice with Peter Pursino. He would like to thank his girlfriend Maggie, his family, his friends, and everyone else in his life who has continued to support his endeavors; along with Lea Marshall for the honor of working with her again on such a brilliant play. He would like for everyone to know "not all who wander are lost."



MAGGIE GILES is thrilled to be portraying Florence in Leon's production of The Curious Savage. She has previously been seen as Babette (Beauty and the Beast), the Mae Tuck u/s (Tuck Everlasting), Rapunzel (Into the Woods), and Fan Scrooge (A Christmas Carol). Maggie is vice president of Leon Thespians, the soprano two section leader for Leon's Melodears, and President of Leon's chapter of the National English Honor Society.

Maggie has learned so much from this process and is so grateful to tell this beautiful story. She would like to thank her little brother Drew and parents for cheering her on always. Her teachers Mrs. Peck and Mrs. Marshall for helping her find her voice and passion again. And her cast mates, especially her boyfriend Noah Ruis, for constantly inspiring her with their work. She would like everyone to know that, in the wise words of Winnie the Pooh, "I'll bring you tea and honey until you feel like you again."

JAILA WILLIAMS is thrilled to be portraying Mrs. Paddy in Leon's production of The Curious Savage. She has starred in two previous Leon productions, such as Mrs. Potts (Beauty and the Beast, and Peaseblossom (A Midsummer Night's Dream). Jaila is also heavily involved in Leon chorus as a Soprano in Capital Singers, Alto two section leader in Melodears, and a Tenor in Mane Event. Jaila is beyond excited to show



everyone her love and passion towards theatre and the arts through her performance. Jaila would like to give a special shout-out to her chorus teacher Mrs. Peck and theatre teacher Mrs. Marshall for always pushing her to be the best she can be, and giving her the opportunities to showcase her talents. She would also like to thank her beautiful mother for supporting her the past 17 years.

MILLS SCHAEFER is a senior at Leon High School who is absolutely thrilled to be stage managing their 4th show. They are a senior at Leon. Along with theatre, they are also heavily involved in Leon Chorus. They are a member of Capital Singers and a section leader for both Melodears and Mane Event. A few of their previous performance roles include Luke in Lightning Thief, Tuck Everlasting, Shrek, A Christmas Carol, Lily in Anastasia, and Belle in Beauty and the Beast. They would like to thank Ms. Marshall, for putting up with them and giving them so many amazing opportunities. They would also like to thank their boyfriend, Lance, for also putting up with them and supporting them unconditionally. They would like to ask everyone "Did you eat today?"

OLIVIA "VIA" VIKER is thrilled to have the opportunity to work as Assistant Stage Manager for The Curious Savage! She's worked backstage for Leon's production of A Midsummers Night's Dream and fully intends to work more with Leon Theatre. She's a part of Thespians and Concert Orchestra run by the incredible Dr. Sahely. Olivia would like to thank her father most importantly for always pushing her to do her best, showing up to everything, and being the most supportive role model in her life. The words she cherishes and wants everyone to hear are "I'll always support you."

CECILIE MCGREW (Director's Assistant) is so excited to be working on The Curious Savage! She has previously been in Romeo and Juliet (Juliet), The Lion King (Timon), and Everything I Need to Know I Learned by Being in a Bad Play (Narrator). She is also involved in Leon's Student Government. She would like to give a huge shoutout to the entire cast and crew for being so incredibly talented and hardworking. If she were to say one thing that also means "I love you", it would be "I'm here if you need to talk."

WILLIAM KONTOS (special guest character) is very excited to be performing in his first show with Leon High School! William is a first grader at SAST and a student at Young Actors Theatre. He was recently seen as Tiny Tim in A Christmas Carol. He loves singing, acting, and playing looney tunes video games with his brother. He says, "Thank you Mrs. Marshall for letting me be a part of this show!"



THANK YOU

- Tabitha Peck and her Technical Theatre students
- Mike Mock and his construction students, who crafted our double door
- Quincy Music Theatre, for their assistance with costumes and props
- Young Actors Theatre, for providing plants and the final costume we needed
- Target Print & Mail, for printing numerous items for our set, including the stunning William Morris wallpapered walls
- Blue Water Cooking Company (Martin Schaefer), for preparing a delicious Cast/Crew Dinner
- Kelly Greisl and Home Depot, plus Leon parents for loaning us plants
- Bev Lewis, for providing acting coaching, moral support, props, set dressings, jewelry, and a breathtaking garden fountain
- Leon's exceptional administration team, for their unwavering support of all our arts programs, and to all Leon teachers and staff members who have support and attend our shows to help our students shine brightly on stage (and in the classroom)
- Parents and family members with trucks, without whom we could not have transported our props and equipment on and off stage
- And last but certainly not least, to theatre students & Thespian Troupe #1429. Your courage in telling stories on and off stage is truly inspiring, and we appreciate your willingness to listen to each other's stories so beautifully... we all belong to each other.

