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10-1-2012

But Not Destroyed: The Story of Calvin Fairbank

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TAYLOR UNIVERSITY'S

Touring Company

PRESENTS

But Not Destroyed.

The story of Calvin Fairbank



A new play by Indiana
playwright William Gebby

Reflections of the Playwright

Beginning in 1844 and ending in 1870, forty-four persons were imprisoned in The Kentucky State Penitentiary for the crime of helping African-Americans escape from slavery.

These forty-four individuals included men and women, Northerners and Southerners, whites and blacks. They came from every walk of life, but held one thing in common: the belief that The Declaration of Independence's assertion that "all men are created equal" superseded The Constitution's accommodation of human slavery.

Calvin Fairbank was the most famous of these prisoners. Behind Kentucky State Penitentiary's stone walls, this Methodist minister was robbed of 17 years of his life; received thirty-five thousand cuts from a rawhide-whip; and faced death from jailors, disease, and overwork.

The question arises: "How could such a thing happen in Christian America?"

The answer lies in the fact that, although antebellum America was founded on Christian principles, many of its laws flew directly in the face of Almighty God. It was perfectly legal to keep black men and women in chains and treat them as animals. It was criminally illegal to help them gain their freedom and accept them as brothers and sisters.

Rev. Calvin Fairbank, however, believed we must obey God rather than man. When he found people being held in bondage, he courageously and whole-heartedly turned law-breaker to set them free.

A century after Fairbank's release from jail, another freedom-fighter, Martin Luther King, Jr., wrote: "one has a moral responsibility to disobey unjust laws."

Those of us living in 21st century America would do well to remember those words—and Calvin Fairbank's life.

~William Gebby

The Cast

CALVIN FAIRBANK.....	*BRADEN SPEAR
DANA TILTON.....	*TAMARA PEACHY
LEVI COFFIN.....	*RYAN MALONEY
KATIE COFFIN.....	*JESSICA KOLOIAN
LAURA S. HAVILAND.....	LEXIE OWEN
CAPTAIN NEWTON CRAIG.....	TERRANCE VOLDEN
MALE NARRATOR.....	*CAM COOPER
FEMALE NARRATOR.....	CHARNELL PETERS

SETTING

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

TIME

1829 TO 1898

The Production Staff

DIRECTOR.....	*TRACY MANNING
SCENIC DESIGNER.....	TERRANCE VOLDEN
STAGE MANAGER.....	*RYAN MALONEY
CHARGE SCENIC ARTIST.....	*ESTHER NEEL
LIGHTING DESIGNER.....	CLAIRE HADLEY NATE RANDOLPH
TECHNICIANS.....	*SARAH SAWICKI CLAIRE HADLEY
COSTUMES.....	*KATHRYN IRWIN *TARYN DUNTON
PROPERTIES MASTER.....	KACEY HEINLEIN
POSTER DESIGN.....	*RYAN MALONEY AND KELLY WERNER
HOUSE MANAGER.....	JOSHUA KEY

Upcoming Taylor Theatre Productions

Godspell

February 15-17, 22-24

The Curious Savage

April 26-28, May 3-5

For tickets and more information about Taylor Theatre please contact Judy Kirkwood at 765-998-5289 or jdkirkwood@taylor.edu