

For Immediate Release:



JACKSON— New Stage Theatre opens 61st season with *Mrs. Christie* by Heidi Armbruster in Jackson September 8 – 20, 2026. Experience the mystery of the real-life disappearance of Agatha Christie in *Mrs. Christie* by Heidi Armbruster at New Stage Theatre in Jackson, Mississippi. Performances September 8 – 12, 15, 17 - 19 at 7:00 p.m., matinees September 13 and 20 at 2:00 p.m and a special weekday matinee on Wednesday, September 16 at 1:00 p.m. Tickets are on sale now! Reserve yours today and to be a part of this unforgettable world premiere! Ticket prices are \$35.00 with discounts available for students, senior citizens, military, and groups. Tickets can be purchased at the box office, charged by phone by calling the theatre at (601) 948-3533 Ext 223, or ordered online at www.newstagetheatre.com. This production is sponsored by the Eudora Welty Foundation. Security provided and patrols during performances. *Recommended for ages 13+*.

In 1926, famed author Agatha Christie vanished for 11 days, reappearing without explanation. The real-life case of the “Missing Mrs. Christie” became a tabloid sensation, but the reasons behind her disappearance remain unknown. Now, 100 years later, a devoted superfan stumbles upon the clues that could finally crack the case, launching a coming-of-age journey of memory and self-discovery – with the thrill of a good old-fashioned mystery.

“*Mrs. Christie* is the perfect production to open New Stage Theatre’s Real. Reimagined. Remarkable. 61st Season,” said Francine Thomas Reynolds, Artistic Director. “Agatha Christie is, quite simply, a cultural phenomenon. Considered the best-selling novelist of all time, her work has been translated into more than 100 languages and has inspired countless adaptations for the stage, film, and television.

This year, as we mark 50 years since Christie’s passing, Heidi Armbruster’s *Mrs. Christie* invites us to look beyond the mysteries and meet the remarkable woman behind them. Filled with twists and turns worthy of one of Christie’s own novels, the play is at once funny, surprising, and deeply moving—a fascinating exploration of grief, love, creativity, and the mysteries of the human heart.

I know our audiences will be thrilled to see the Queen of Crime come alive on the New Stage stage—every bit as mysterious, complex, and compelling as the unforgettable characters she created.”

Director Topher Payne says, “At one point in the play, Ashia’s character describes doing “old things in a new way,” which is really what we’re doing here. It’s everything we crave in a classic Christie detective tale, presented in the style of a grand old theatre. But when the modern world literally steps into the story, it becomes something altogether new and unexpected.”

Payne goes on to say, “The play so beautifully captures why we love to read mysteries- the joy of collecting clues and motives, knowing they’ll lead to a satisfying conclusion. And if it’s frustrating for us not to always get that in real life, imagine how it felt for Agatha Christie.”

Featuring standout performances by Kerri Courtney Sanders as Agatha Christie (Brandon, MS), Herman J.R. Johnson as Williams/Collins (Terry, MS), Ashia Benford as Lucy (Brandon, MS), John Howell as Monsieur (Jackson, MS), Eric Eaton as Archie (Ridgeland, MS), Reese Overstreet Nancy/Chloe (Ridgeland, MS), Jo Ann Robinson* as Jane (Pearl, MS) and RaKaela Thompson as Charlotte/Mary (Pearl, MS).

**Actors’ Equity Association Member*

Event Details

Location: New Stage Theatre 1100 Carlisle St. Jackson, MS 39202

Dates: September 8-12, 15, 17-19, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

September 13 & 20, 2026 at 2:00 p.m.

September 16, 2026 at 1:00 p.m.

Tickets: \$35; \$30 Seniors/Students/Military Available at 601-948-3533 Ext. 223 & www.newstagetheatre.com

Discount Nights

STUDENT RUSH DISCOUNT: One hour prior to curtain for any performance, students with a current academic ID may purchase an available seat for \$14. Limit one ticket per ID.

Production Staff

Director

Production Stage Manager

Production Manager/ Lighting Designer

Technical Director/Scenic Designer

Costume Designer

Properties Designer

Costume Assistant

Carpenters

Topher Payne

Rachel Boudreaux

Anna Dunbar

Richard Lawrence

Aryana Gaines

Tyler Russell

Katie Mayan

Dave Ellis, Jimmy ‘JR’ Robertson