



59 Blackstone Avenue, Pawtucket RI 02860 | (401) 484-0355 | www.burbagetheatre.org
Jeff Church, *Artistic Director* | Allison Crews, *Executive Director*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

(401)484.0355, jeff.church.jr@gmail.com

**Burbage Theatre Co presents the World Premiere of James Lucey's
WITCHING HOUR: SECRET CELLAR
An Entirely New Installment of the "Witching Hour" Horror Anthology Series**

PAWTUCKET, RI | October 5, 2026 —

Burbage Theatre Co presents the **World Premiere of James Lucey's *Witching Hour: Secret Cellar*, the third installment of Lucey's *Witching Hour* horror anthology series for the stage**, directed by Jeff Church (*Measure for Measure*, *Clyde's*, *An Iliad*, among others), just in time for Halloween.

"Witching Hour: Secret Cellar" is an entirely new play in the "Witching Hour" series, featuring a brand-new frame and three brand-new tales of horror from the mind of James Lucey. *This is not a remount or revision of "Witching Hour Social Club," nor of the production Burbage originally workshopped in 2023–24.* Returning audiences and newcomers alike will encounter **a completely new collection of characters, stories, scares, and surprises.** Lucey himself (*Clyde's*, *The One-Act Play that Goes Wrong*, *Everybody*, *Junk*, among others) returns to the Burbage stage to lead the production alongside a cast of talented local artists featuring both Burbage mainstays and some new faces.

"WITCHING HOUR: SECRET CELLAR" is a special limited engagement, presented for eight performances over two weeks, Thursday through Sunday at 7:30pm, October 22 through November 1 at Burbage Theatre Co's Wendy Overly Studio Theatre.

"Burbage is thrilled to continue producing James Lucey's inventive, original work. James has been a valued collaborator and resident artist at Burbage since our inception. He has developed a unique theatrical voice that, in the case of **the *Witching Hour* series, balances a studied love of horror with an essential sense of humor. At the heart of the *Witching Hour* series is a simple idea: horror is too seldom produced onstage, and the particular possibilities of live theatre make it an extraordinarily exciting genre to explore.**"

"It's also important to be clear that 'Witching Hour: Secret Cellar' is an entirely new play. This is not a remount of 'Witching Hour Social Club,' or a revision of the play we originally workshopped. James has written a brand-new production – including a new frame and three completely new tales of horror – for this third installment. Audiences who have joined us for *Witching Hour* before have no idea what's waiting for them this time around."

"We're especially excited to have James himself back onstage at Burbage, leading us into and through the *Secret Cellar*. Whether you've been with us for every installment or have never seen *Witching Hour* before, this production stands entirely on its own: a new collection of strange, funny, bloody, and genuinely frightening stories built specifically for live performance. That's what has made this series so much fun for us, and we can't wait to find out what James has stored away down there this year."

— **Jeff Church**, *Artistic Director, Burbage Theatre Co*

***WITCHING HOUR: SECRET CELLAR* is a special limited engagement, presented for eight performances over two weeks, October 22 through November 1, at Burbage Theatre Co's Wendy Overly Studio Theatre. All performances begin at 7:30pm.**

*All performances will take place at Burbage Theatre Co's Wendy Overly Studio Theatre
59 Blackstone Avenue, Pawtucket, RI 02860.*

Critics and members of the press are invited to join us for any performance during our first weekend.
You can reply to this email or contact boxoffice@burbagetheatre.org for more information.

World Premiere

WITCHING HOUR: SECRET CELLAR

by James Lucey

directed by Jeff Church

SPECIAL HALLOWEEN EVENT | October 22 - November 1

SYNOPSIS – Deep beneath a big-box store lies the Secret Cellar, a seemingly endless basement storeroom filled with forgotten merchandise, discarded Halloween decorations, strange artifacts, and things better left undisturbed. When an employee ventures downstairs in search of a missing box of zombie makeup, he encounters the cellar’s peculiar caretaker—and discovers that finding what he came for may be his only way out.

The third installment of James Lucey’s *Witching Hour* series, *Witching Hour: Secret Cellar* is an entirely new horror anthology for the stage, featuring a brand-new framing story and three new tales of horror. Inspired by classic horror anthologies like *Creepshow*, *Tales from the Crypt*, and *Are You Afraid of the Dark?*, the series combines genuine scares, practical theatrical horror, and dark comedy to explore the possibilities of horror in live performance.

Praise for James Lucey’s *Witching Hour Social Club*:

“A bump of adrenaline, endorphins, and dopamine... fun and entertaining.”

— The Boston Globe

“Plenty of spooky fun.”

— New England Theatre Blog

“A wickedly good night out this spooky season.”

— EG News

“Thoroughly entertaining...”

— The Independent

“A frightfully fun theatre experience.”

— the poplar review

ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

WITCHING HOUR: SECRET CELLAR

by James Lucey

ENSEMBLE

James Lucey	Randall
Jordan Smith	Ernie
Katie Ryan	Ensemble
Perry Barkett	Ensemble
Allison Crews	Ensemble
Sara McCormick	Ensemble
Aidan Costa	Ensemble
Sofia DaSilva	Ensemble

PRODUCTION CREW

Jeff Church	Director
Trevor Elliott	Production/Set Design
Andrew Iacovelli	Technical Director/Lighting Design
EJ Caraveo	Costume Design
Brittany Costello	ATD/Props

***WITCHING HOUR: SECRET CELLAR* CALENDAR OF PERFORMANCES**

Thursday October 22 at 7:30pm

Friday October 23 at 7:30pm

Saturday October 24 at 7:30pm

Sunday October 25 at 7:30pm

Thursday October 29 at 7:30pm

Friday October 30 at 7:30pm

Saturday October 31 at 7:30pm | HALLOWEEN

Sunday November 1 at 7:30pm



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TICKET POLICY —

"The best bang for your theatrical buck in the Ocean State." — Warwick Beacon

SPECIAL EVENTS PRICES | General Admission — \$25

Group Discounts are available – contact boxoffice@burbagetheatre.org for more info.

Audience, Artist, and Staff Health & Wellness Policy —

Burbage has implemented an *optional masking policy* for our patrons.

While masks are no longer required, you are encouraged to mask if you like.

Burbage will continue to make masks available to our patrons.

We do ask that you remain mindful of your own health and wellness before attending the theatre.

If you begin exhibiting flu-like symptoms or fever that cannot be explained by regular seasonal allergies, we ask that you reconsider attending the theatre.

There is nothing more important to us than your health and safety.

If you must cancel or change your reservation with us, just contact the box office and we'll be happy to exchange your tickets to another performance.