



Elizabeth Thompson, Actor

Elizabeth Thompson is an actor now based in Chicago, who is a graduate of Iowa State University. She was a Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival Irene Ryan Acting Award Finalist in 2014 and a member of The Lonely Many ensemble who were named Iowa Artists by the Des Moines Art Center in 2013. Recent credits include Hamlet and Love's Labor's Lost with The Lonely Many, Streetcar Named Desire, Romeo and Juliet and Rent at Iowa State University and work with the Actor's Gymnasium and Circus School in Chicago, IL. Elizabeth recently played Nan in the premiere of My Grandparents in the War, a new play about Alzheimer's and the generation of men and women who served during World War Two.

Matt Foss, Director

Matt Foss is an assistant professor at the University of Idaho. He received a MFA in Acting from Roosevelt University in Chicago and a PhD in Theatre Studies and Directing from Wayne State University in Detroit. Recent credits include Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, Montana Shakespeare in the Parks, American Theatre Company, The Jewish Ensemble Theatre and Tipping Point Theatre. He also performed and trained in Russia as a part of the American Studio of The Moscow Art Theatre School. In 2012, the ISU production of Six Characters received the Kennedy Center's American College Theatre Festival National Award for Outstanding Production of a Play and Outstanding Director of a Play. Foss grew up in rural areas throughout the U.S. following his father's cattle business.

Mary Swander, Playwright

Mary Swander is the Poet Laureate of Iowa and a Distinguished Professor at Iowa State University. She has published widely in all genres, with 13 books to her credit. Her plays include Driving the Body Back, Dear Iowa, Farmscape and Vang which have toured the country and appeared on public television. She performed Farmscape at the request of Secretary Tom Vilsack at the USDA. Swander lives in an old Amish schoolhouse where she grows all her own food. She is the descendent of Irish immigrant who homesteaded in Iowa and handled four generations of intergenerational land transition.

"Map of My Kingdom:" Coming to a place near you!

- **Decorah:** [Sunday, September 7, 2014](#) – 6 p.m. supper, 7 p.m. performance – Washington Prairie Lutheran Church
- **Chariton:** [Thursday, September 25, 2014](#) – 7 p.m – Vredenburg Performing Arts Series
- **Red Oak:** [Sunday, September 28, 2014](#) – 2 p.m. – Wilson Performing Arts Center
- **Cedar Falls:** [Thursday, October 16, 2014](#) – 7 p.m. – Hearst Center
- **Ames:** [Friday, January 23, 2015](#) – 6 p.m. – at the Practical Farmers annual conference (Scheman Building)
- **Orange City:** [Saturday, February 21, 2015](#) – 7:30 p.m. – Place TBD

Discussion will follow each performance. Please contact Lauren Zastrow at lauren@practicalfarmers.org or (515) 232-5661 for more information. If you are interested in bringing the play to a location near you, contact: **Madeleine Russell, Midwest Artist Management:**

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