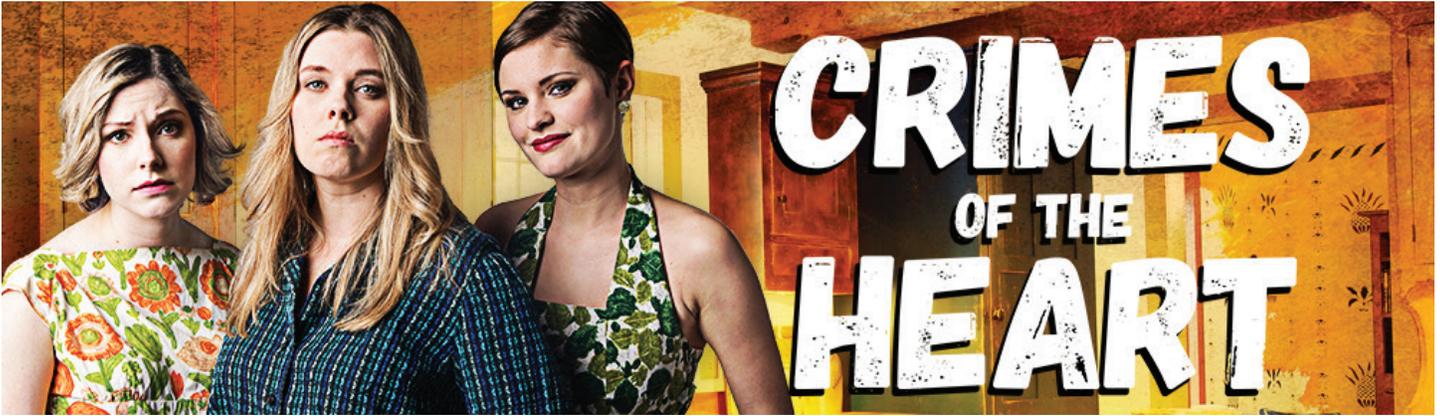


Village Theatre

Production Preview Guide



Winner of the 1981 Pulitzer Prize for Drama, this Southern gothic comedy tells the plight of three sisters in 1975 rural Mississippi. Babe has just shot her husband, apparently because she didn't like his looks. Meg is back in town after a failed attempt in the music business. And poor Lenny – in the midst of it all, everyone has neglected her 30th birthday. Thrown back together for the first time in years, these dysfunctional sisters are forced to find a way to change their luck and repair their family, as well as their lives. Honest, with a healthy dose of witty humor, *Crimes of the Heart* is a moving portrait of family love.

THE PURPOSE OF A PRODUCTION PREVIEW GUIDE:

Many people have different ideas about what material is appropriate, both for themselves and their families. This production preview guide is provided to give you the necessary information to determine if the content of our production is suitable for you and your loved ones. Please be aware that this document is provided with the intent of full-disclosure, and therefore contains plot spoilers. Also, because all of our productions are locally produced, there may be cases where minor changes occur as the director prepares the show for the stage. In such cases, this guide will be updated accordingly. Once the show is open and on stage, there will be no further changes.

SCRIPT CONTENT DETAILS:

- **Language:** The language in this play is somewhat harsh and representative of the times. There is one use of a harsher swear word and several uses of the words “damn,” “Goddamn,” and “God” as an expletive.
- **Violence:** There is no actual violence depicted on stage, but the plot centers around one of the sisters (Beth), who has shot her husband, prior to the time when the show begins. There is also a reference to the death of the sisters' mother, a suicide in which she hanged herself as well as the family cat. It is also revealed that Beth's husband has been abusive, although details are not provided.
- **Sexual Content:** There is much talk about sexual activity throughout the show, although nothing is depicted on stage. One character has been having an affair with a young black boy, and is terrified of being discovered. Another character is known for her promiscuity, and her seductions are often discussed. There is also discussion in the play about one character who is a virgin.
- **Drugs/Alcohol:** There are references to characters drinking throughout the show, and some characters may smoke false stage cigarettes. These instances will be mild, and are not prominent storyline.
- **Other:** This show does include discussion on racial issues in Mississippi in the mid-70s, including one girl who has slept with a black boy, which is considered to be a great scandal in this place and time.