

A new Scrooge is redeemed in Clarence Brown Theatre's holiday 'Christmas Carol'

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A new miser will be on stage when "A Christmas Carol" returns to the University of Tennessee's Clarence Brown Theatre for the holidays.

Actor and University of Tennessee theater professor Terry Weber plays Ebenezer Scrooge in the Nov. 28-Dec. 22 Clarence Brown mainstage production.

This is the theater's 12th consecutive performance of Charles Dickens' beloved classic. Running about two and a half hours with an intermission, the play incorporates Dickens' story of ghosts, family and redemption with 77 Victorian-styled costumes, music and a cast of 30.

Weber is also the volunteer artistic director for the local theater group The WordPlayers. His past work at CBT has included roles in "Peter and the Starcatcher," "The Crucible," "Titus Andronicus," and "The Miracle Worker."

Weber may be new to this year's Scrooge, but he's not new to the role. He played the miser in the Clarence Brown 2010 production.

He's the fourth actor to play Scrooge in Clarence Brown's past dozen productions. Last year's Scrooge was UT associate theater professor Jed Diamond. This year, Diamond steps into the role of Marley, Scrooge's miserly partner whose best scene is his first-act appearance as a chain-rattling ghost.

Over the years, "Carol" has become a popular holiday tradition at the theater. The play is faithful to Dickens' story, which he once called "a ghostly little book," published in 1843. The nasty, mean Scrooge must face the cost of his life's actions and behaviors. Ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Future show him what's he's missed, his impact on others and the eternal result.

The play's set repeats the 2017 scenic design that uses a 700-pound, 16-foot-diameter clock. The clock hangs in the stage background to help show the passage of time that's part of "Carol."

"A Christmas Carol" is one of two plays that the Clarence Brown complex presents during the holiday season. Actor David Brian Alley's one-man "The Santaland Diaries" plays at the next-door Carousel Theatre through Dec. 9. Tickets and show times are at clarencebrowntheatre.com.



Photo by Brynn Yeager