

Background to the Play

Pendle Hill, Lancashire, 1670. England is at the height of the Protestant Reformation but in this barren, poverty-stricken spot Catholicism is still being practiced and old superstition about witchcraft still abound. *Pictures of Clay* tells the story of Anne "Mother Chattox" Whittle, Elizabeth "Old Demdike" Southern and Demdike's granddaughter Alizon Device, who are tried for witchcraft and testify against each other to try and save their own lives. Grave-robbing, witchcraft rituals and the struggle to crush Catholicism provide a richly-textured background to this dark tale of fear, suspicion, hatred and betrayal.

This Play was first presented in the Studio at the Royal Exchange Theatre, Manchester, on the 8th June 2005.

The playwright comes from Burnley.

The dates of our next production are
21st—24th November 2007
See local press for details

Stage 2 Downham Presents;

PICTURES OF CLAY

A Story about the Lancashire Witches

By Sharif Samad



Downham Village Hall

Thursday 12th July 2007 7.30pm 2007

Admission £5 (including tea and biscuits)

Cast

Chattox	Lucy Scott
Demdike	Glen Purchase
Alizon	Rachel Ruddock
Rodger	Eddie Bootle
Clara	Rachel Humphreys
Richard	Karl Barnsley

Readings by Rachel Scott, taken from, 'Pendle Witches' by Richard Catlow

The action is continuous, almost as if the play is a single train of thought.

The play takes place in, Reid Hall, Newchurch Graveyard, Reid Hall gardens, the Malkin Tower, a stone pit at Gouldshey and Lancaster Castle gaol.

Stage Manager

Kate Taylor

Set Construction

Dan Bradbury

Gerry Purchase

Lighting and Sound

David King

Properties

Elizabeth Wrigley

Costumes

Margaret Smith

Continuity

Stella Barnes

Publicity

Rachel Scott

House Manager

Pat Hargreaves
and Team

Directed by Lucy Scott and Kate Taylor

We would like to give thanks to every one involved for their help in our debut production, and for the support given to us by you, the audience.