

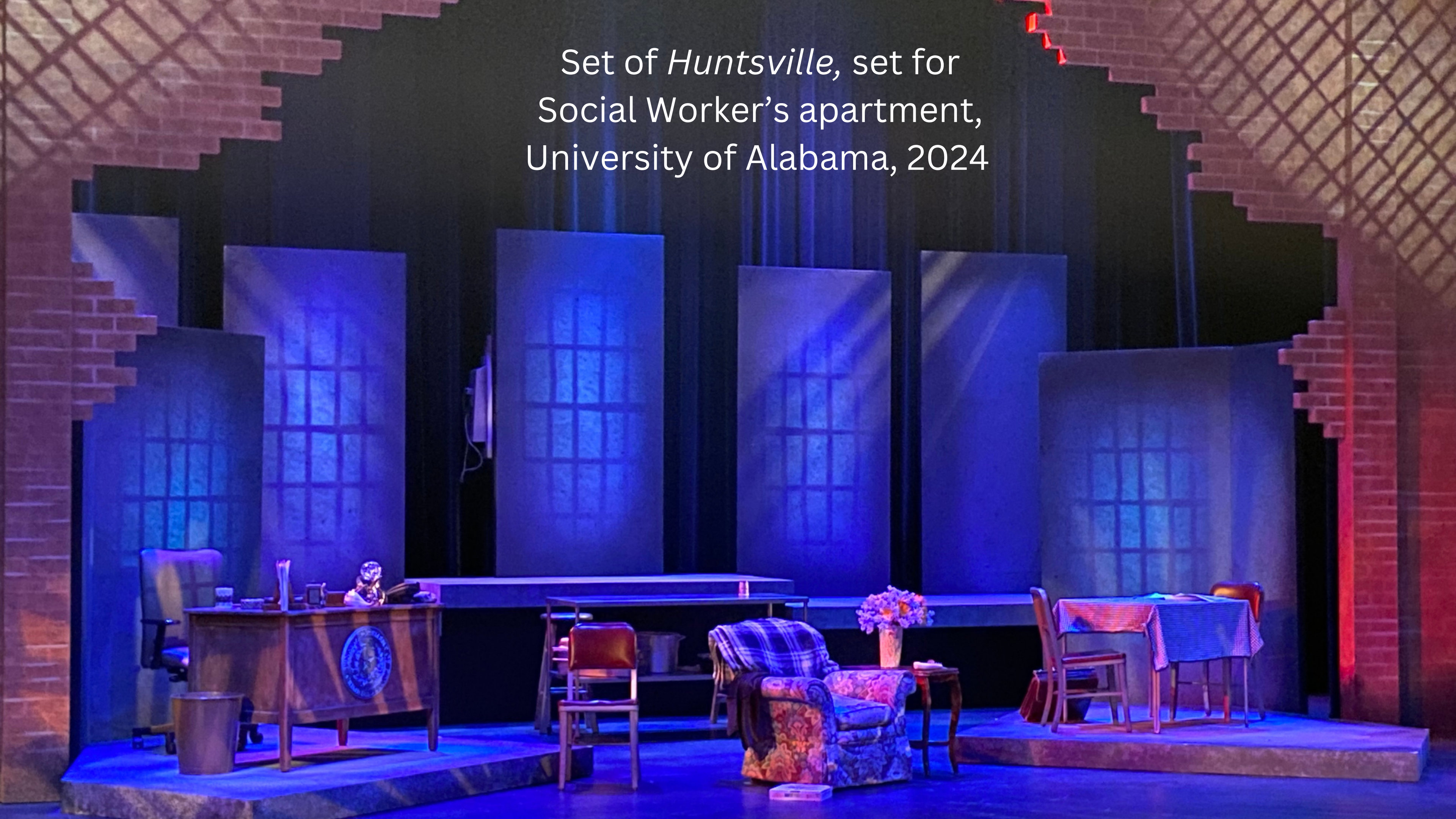


Huntsville
by Paul Hufker

Synopsis:

A prison chef has made 217 last meals for death row inmates. But his 218th wants to eat dirt. Warden won't allow it. If he can't have his dirt, he will haunt the prison. But they found footage of him on the other side of town during the murders. Is he innocent? He **wants** to die anyway. Can he be saved? Can anyone on death row be saved? Based on real events, *Huntsville* examines how food and prisons collide in this intense, thought-provoking, and moving piece, which asks: what is the value of a last meal when everyone gets "Texacuted" anyway?

Set of *Huntsville*, set for
Social Worker's apartment,
University of Alabama, 2024



CHARACTERS (3M, 2W)

CHEF (inspired by real person) An inmate, the prison chef, male, white, (you may consider another ethnicity – black might be useful, though this real person was white) 40's

JES (inspired by real person) James Edwards Smith, death row inmate, male, black, 30's

MAD (inspired by real person) Robert Madden, death row inmate, male, white 30's

WARDEN - Prison Warden, female, white, 40+

SOCIAL WORKER - Female, white 30's



Huntsville
prison death
chamber



Welcome to
Huntsville





Huntsville is winner of the 2016 *Himan Brown Award*, through Brooklyn College, and the 2023 *New Voices Theatre Festival New Play Competition* at the University of Alabama.

It was produced at the University of Alabama, Fall 2024



Creative Team

Paul is a 2023 *New Voices* Residency winner from the University of Alabama, a 2018 Eugene O'Neill Prize Semi-Finalist, a 2016 Great Plains Theatre Conference invited playwright, a 2015 and 2016 *Himan Brown* Award winner (through Brooklyn College), a 2016 O'Neill Conference semi-finalist, a 2016 American Theatre in Higher Education Excellence in Playwriting Award finalist, a 2015 Jerome Fellowship finalist, a 2014 Princess Grace Award semi-finalist, and a 2011 O'Neill Conference semi-finalist. His writing collaborations have been produced in NYC, throughout the US, and in Toronto, Canada, as well as at MIT, the Museo Jumex in Mexico City and the Serpentine Gallery in London. His plays have been published by *Masque and Spectacle* magazine as well as *Next Stage Press*. He is currently a full-time Assistant Teaching Professor at Rutgers University, in their Writing Program, and a proud graduate of Webster University where he received his BFA in theatrical performance.



Benny Lumpkins, Jr.



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