

## DALLAS HUB THEATER

2809 Canton Street  
Dallas, TX 75226

Fri.-Sat.  
August 29-30

Thurs.-Fri.-Sat.  
September 4-5-6  
2008

### The Crash at Crush

#### Cast

Back: Ronnie Giddens (Seamus O'Donnell), Sara Boland-Taylor (Margaret O'Donnell), Tonee "Tone" Bell (Scott Jopin), Adam J. Dietrich (William G. Crush), Meridith Morton (Katherine Reese), Douglas Latham (B. J. Reese). Front: Bobby Maxwell (Marcus Avery), Jonathan Cook (Freddie Scott), Cris Lehman (Jarvis Deane)

#### Other Company Members

(not pictured): Jo Morello (Playwright). Tim Shane (Producer, Director, Designer), Melissa Stuhff (Stage Manager), Elizabeth Davis (Costume Design), Leroy Roper (Backdrop Design), Skip Waters (Technical Consultant)





**A letter from George Pullman: “Dear Mr. Avery, I was shocked and horrified to read your letter about finding a bedbug in one of our Pullman sleeper cars.”**



**Seamus to his daughter Margaret: “Stay away from Crush. He’s bad for you.”**



**Willie to Jarvis Deane: “For posterity! I need a photographer to document the wreck, capture all the excitement! The grandeur! The huge crowds! It will be the biggest event in the history of ... wherever we hold it.”**



**Scott Joplin**



**Willie Crush**



Seamus to Scott Joplin, “Ye’d best be gettin’ back to yer coon town where ye’ll be safe.”



B. J. Reese to his daughter Katherine about Willie: “Don’t encourage him.” Katherine: “Telling him ‘no’ encourages him.” B.J.:” I would rather you don’t see him.” Katherine: “You’re forbidding me?”



Willie: “Reporters here. Dignitaries here, at the point of impact. But 200 feet back like everybody else. The photography platform will be 100 feet back—and nine feet high.” Seamus (not pictured): “If the crash doesn’t kill them, the fall will.”



1. Joplin as a character: "I've come 500 miles to see Mr. Crush. To talk about the big crash."

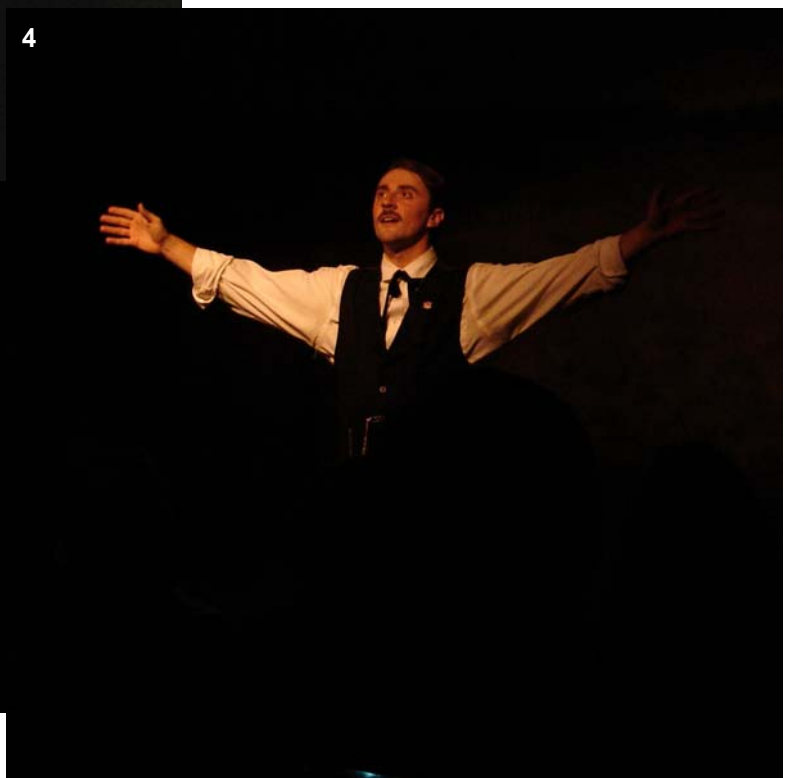
2. Joplin as narrator: "Willie traded ad space with Ringling Brothers for their biggest tent. . . . He decorated every telegraph pole along every inch of Katy track with bright posters."



3. Willie: "You and I, we're pretty much alike, Joplin." Joplin: "How so, Sir?"

4. "A monster crash. . . . Think of it! Headlines in newspapers everywhere. 50,000 people coming to see the wreck."

5. Willie to B.J.: "It's only 10 o'clock and we've got 10,000 people. . . more trains arriving every 12 minutes. Who knows how many will be here by four, for the crash?"



1



**THE BIG DAY ARRIVES:  
SEPTEMBER 15, 1896.**

All is in readiness at the crash site, Some 30,000-40,000 people wait excitedly in the city-for-a-day named Crush, located about 16 miles north of Waco, in West, Texas.

1. Voices: “Here they come!” “Looks like 100 miles and hour!”

2. Willie: “The boilers burst! The trains have telescoped. All twelve cars and both engines, all in a pile. They’re burning. People are pushing in every direction!” B.J.: “WILLIE!”

3. B.J.: “Who’s there?” Seamus (off): “Seamus here. The tents are packed and loaded.” B.J.: “The least of our worries. Any report on injuries?”

4. Katherine: “I’ll decide what’s best for me, Willie Crush. And if I decide you’re the best thing that will ever happen to me. . . .” Willie: “Miss Katherine—”

2



3



4

