

PRE-SHOW IN-THE-KNOW

TITLE

All My Sons by Arthur Miller.
Directed by Kip Williams.

CURRICULUM LINKS

Standard English, Module C: Texts and Society Elective 1:
Exploring Interactions

Links to HSC Drama Topic 3: Tragedy. *Death of a Salesman*
also by Arthur Miller

Links to HSC Advanced English Module C: Representation
and Text, Elective 1: Representing People and Politics text
The Crucible also by Arthur Miller

ABOUT THE PLAY

After his first play was a failure on Broadway, Arthur Miller had said *All My Sons* would be his 'final shot' at playwriting, if this play were to fail, he would write plays no more. The play took two years to write and was a commercial success. Miller then went on to write *Death of a Salesman* and *The Crucible*, two of the most significant plays of the Twentieth Century.

They look like a mid-century American success story. He runs the business, she runs the home, and their son will inherit it all. But there is something rotten in the Keller household and secrets have a way of getting out.

John Howard and Robyn Nevin bring to life one of the great dramatic marriages, that of Joe and Kate Keller in Arthur Miller's classic about the corruption of the American Dream. Forged by a master craftsman, every word and every action in *All My Sons* has a consequence.

In the years following World War II, the Kellers wait for their MIA son Larry to turn up alive. No matter how unlikely his return, Kate cannot give up hope.

A compelling portrait of flawed, captivating characters, *All My Sons* was Miller's first major success as a playwright in 1947. Today, its politics and its impact remain as relevant and devastating as ever.

CAST AND CHARACTERS

Bert - Toby Challenor
Sue Bayliss - Anita Hegh
Joe Keller- John Howard
Jim Bayliss - Bert LaBonte
Frank Lubey - John Leary
George Deever - Josh McConville
Kate Keller - Robyn Nevin
Ann Deever - Eryn Jean Norvill
Bert - Jack Ruwald
Chris Keller - Chris Ryan
Lydia Lubey - Contessa Treffone

STYLE

Tragedy
Realism
American Drama

RUNNING TIME

2 hours and 15 minutes including interval

THEMES AND IDEAS

The American Dream
Individual responsibility versus responsibility to a wider society.
Guilt, blame and atonement
War
Idealism and pragmatism