

## Hard Times for Truth

*Applying the Insights of René Girard in a Post-Truth World*

October 21-22, 2017

Loyola University Lake Shore Campus and Lookingglass Theatre, Chicago



**Free Workshop on Saturday, October 21, 1-5 pm**  
**Crown Center Lobby, Loyola Lake Shore Campus**  
Reserve a seat by emailing [mjunius@ravenfoundation.org](mailto:mjunius@ravenfoundation.org).



Andrew McKenna  
Loyola University

### Hard Times for Truth

In these hard times for truth, Andrew McKenna and Heidi Stillman examine Charles Dickens' novel, *Hard Times*, and the crisis of difference between truth, facts, and lies.



Heidi Stillman  
Lookingglass Theatre

*They say that truth is the first victim of war; it often falls victim to ideological polemics as well, where each side is scandalized by its adversary's discourse and responds in kind. Scandal is a mimetic trap, ensnaring its beholders in shrill denunciations of the violence they reprove. René Girard's ideas show how mimetic rivalry reduces relations to a zero/sum contest of winners and losers, between whom there is no objectivity but violence itself.*

—Andrew McKenna



Vanessa Avery  
Denison University

### Hot Times for Scandal

When truth falls on hard times, scandal finds fertile ground. Vanessa Avery and Stephen McKenna apply the mimetic insight about desire, rivalry and violent doubles to escalating conflicts in the workplace, politics, and the media.



Stephen McKenna  
Catholic University of America

**Lookingglass Theatre, Chicago**  
**Sunday, October 22, 2 pm**

This production of Charles Dickens' novel, *Hard Times*, is adapted and directed by Heidi Stillman. Post-show discussion with Heidi Stillman and Andrew McKenna. Tickets can be purchased at [LookingglassTheatre.org](http://LookingglassTheatre.org).