



EDUCATE. INSPIRE. CONNECT.

The Stage Production The Feature Film The Streaming Series



***The true story of Laura Keene,
the first most powerful woman of the
American Theater.***

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Who was Laura Keene?

Laura Keene was born in obscurity on July 20, 1826 in Winchester England. At the age of 24 with two young daughters, and her husband in prison for a heinous crime, Mary Taylor became Laura Keene, and made her stage debut at London's Theatre Royal Lyceum, (which is still operating). The next year, leaving her children to the care of her mother, she went to New York to star in *The Will*, produced by James William Wallack.

Within two years, Laura Keene became a producer and theatre manager touring shows and operating theaters in New York, Baltimore, San Francisco, and Philadelphia.

In 1854, she was paid \$30,000 (the equivalent value today is \$120 Million) to manage theaters and perform in San Francisco and throughout California.

She built The Laura Keene Varieties Theatre (today it is known as The Winter Garden Theater) in NY for her production of *The Seven Sisters*, a musical that featured extravagant sets and ran 253 performances, a remarkable record for the time. It was also the site of her most successful and historic play, *Our American Cousin*, which she produced and starred in. Laura Keene toured the show for 5 years throughout the north during the Civil War.

On April 14, 1865, at the last minute, she decided to add a special benefit performance of *Our American Cousin* at Ford's Theatre in Washington to celebrate the end of the Civil War.

It was a fateful decision. Only a few hours later, President Abraham Lincoln would be assassinated watching Laura Keene on stage.

JOIN THE KEENE TEAM!

The Stage Production

The Feature Film

The Streaming Series

The story of Laura Keene will be produced as a one woman play, a major feature film, and a streaming mini-series.

1. The stage production of *Laura Keene* will premiere at London's Theatre Royal Lyceum, which is where she appeared for the first time in 1836 as a student of her aunt, Elizabeth Yates, and Madame Vestris a major actress and wife of actor Charles Mathews. It will also include a partial re-enactment of ***Our American Cousin***, including the assassination of President Lincoln and escape of John Wilkes Booth. The production will then move to New York, Los Angeles and finally to Washington D.C. The play will be promoted as limited run.
2. The feature film, *The Life of Laura Keene*, will be produced in coordination with the stage production schedule. The screenplay has been completed. We are in discussion with directors, investors and major studio distribution is underway.
3. We have completed the miniseries adaptation of the play ***Our American Cousin*** to be available for streaming 12 months following the release of the film.



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Before there was Susan B. Anthony...

Before there was Elizabeth Cody Stanton...

Before there was Betty Friedan...

Before there was Gloria Steinem...

There was Laura Keene!

Laura Keene was the first woman actor to get equal pay.

Years later when asked why she became an actress, she said that as a woman and a single mother of two, she believe the stage was the best way for her to support equal rights for women.

The project will be monetized across all three content distribution platforms. The play will also be available for licensing to educational institutions.

For additional information and status, please contact:

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