

DANIEL BOONE: OUR FINEST FRONTIERSMAN

“Danny Russel brings a lot to his portrayal...this fine actor offers an historically accurate interpretation.”

— Indianapolis Star

Legendary pioneer and pathfinder, intrepid adventurer, market hunter, wilderness scout, master woodsman, expert marksman, Indian fighter, militia leader, surveyor, land speculator, judge, sheriff, coroner, elected legislator, merchant, tavern keeper, prisoner of war — Daniel Boone led one of the most eventful lives in American history. Love of exploration, skill in the outdoors, facility with native peoples, and dignity in the face of danger made him a folk hero.



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The story of Daniel Boone is the story of America—its ideals, its promise, its romance, and its destiny.

Danny Russel's theatrical tour-de-force uncovers the complex character of a man whose astonishing life was far stranger and more fascinating than the myths surrounding him. He initially spent months researching and compiling the show during visits to Pennsylvania, Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, Kentucky, southern Indiana and Missouri—traveling more than a thousand miles to learn where and how Boone lived, hunted, fought, and dreamed of the next frontier.

In 1784, John Filson published a chronicle detailing Boone's absolutely amazing life and his crucial role in Westward Expansion. The book made him instantly famous and in this compelling portrayal, we find Boone reliving years filled with adventure, hardship and danger — losing two sons and a brother

in his attempts to settle Kentucky, rescuing his kidnapped daughter, surviving a court-martial and later acquitted of treason, as well as defeating a Shawnee siege through pure courage and cunning.

Mr. Russel has carefully constructed the show's format to separate fact from fiction, and the experience he delivers proves to be exciting for the Boone aficionado and novice alike. Our hero is depicted as a natural leader whose exploits amply justify his larger-than-life reputation.



In fact, Boone would be a significant figure even if he hadn't fought alongside George Washington in the French and Indian War, or led Abraham Lincoln's grandfather into Kentucky, or cut the Wilderness Road through the Cumberland Gap, or served in Virginia's General Assembly with Thomas Jefferson, or inspired James Fenimore Cooper to write *The Last of the Mohicans*, or had his portrait painted by John James Audubon, or been immortalized by Lord Byron in the epic poem "Don Juan."

Of himself, Boone said this: "Many heroic exploits and chivalrous adventures are related to me which exist only in the regions of fancy. With me the world has taken great liberties, and yet I have been but a common man." Yet no mere commoner represents the American spirit — its lust for exploration and adventure, its

dreamy idealism, its rugged and stubborn individualism, its unwavering sense of purpose — better than the legendary Daniel Boone.

In addition to his illustrious acting career and numerous tours, Mr. Russel is a four-time grant recipient honored by the Indiana Arts Commission for theatrical excellence. "Daniel Boone: Our Finest Frontiersman" is a dynamic portrait of a true American trailblazer.