

**Jeff Christian\*** (Proteus/Artistic Director) leads the company into his second season, having adapted and directed the outreach program *50 Minute Hamlet* and *The Cricket on the Hearth*, and having staged *King Lear* last May. Other directing credits include *Proof* and *Driving Miss Daisy* (New American Theater), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Lakeside Shakespeare -- Michigan), *Cruise Control* (Artistic Home; also playwright), *Land of the Free* (Artistic Home; written with Mark Ulrich), *Crate Expectations* (Chicago Dramatists; written with Nathan Carver), *Singer & Saw* (Actors' Gymnasium; written with Nathan Carver), the staged reading of *Medea* (Aspect Theatre; also adaptor), and both parts of *Angels in America* (The Journeymen; co-director and actor, sharing in three Jeff Awards and an After Dark Award). Acting credits with TSP include Mercutio in *Romeo and Juliet*, Brutus in *Julius Caesar*, Buckingham in *Richard III*, Bassanio in *The Merchant of Venice*, Antonio in *Twelfth Night* and Hortensio in *Taming of the Shrew*. Other area acting credits include work with Writers' Theatre, Shakespeare Rep, Milwaukee Rep, Madison Rep, New American, Illinois Theatre Center, Oak Park Festival, Artistic Home, and Bernie Sahlin's production of *Murder in the Cathedral*. He recently played 12 characters in the critically-acclaimed production of *The Laramie Project* at Madison Repertory Theatre and Lt. Osborne in Seanachai's After Dark-winning and Jeff nominated production of *Journey's End*, and is a member of both the Seanachai and Lakeside Shakespeare ensembles. Next month he will join the cast of Famous Door's *Speaking in Tongues* at the Theatre Building and will direct Ibsen's *Ghosts* for TSP.

**Will Clinger** (Launce) Will's last Shakespeare Project production was *The Two Noble Kinsmen* in 1999. In addition to acting with numerous local theaters (most recently at the Apple Tree Theater in the Jeff-recommended *Fuddy Meers* and at A Red Orchid Theatre in *Eric Larue*), he has travelled with the Second City National Touring Company, and, as half of the musical comedy team "Clinger and FitzGerald", performed their original revues for extended runs in Chicago, Minneapolis and Milwaukee. He will be playing the title character in Irish Repertory's upcoming production of *A Dublin Bloom*. Will has also acted in a number of television shows, including *The Untouchables*, *Early Edition*, and *America's Most Wanted*. He bears a striking resemblance to Willie B. Famous of the bluegrass band "The Famous Brothers" and the Host of Wild Chicago on Channel 11.

**Freeman Coffey** (Duke of Milan) is pleased to return to The Shakespeare Project for *Two Gentlemen*... having also appeared in *The Merchant of Venice*. His theatre credits include The Goodman Theatre, in *By the Music of the Spheres*, and *Let Me Live*, which won a Jeff award for Best Ensemble. He also has appeared in *Hambone* at Victory Gardens; *Home, Death of the Black Jesus* and *Pill Hill* at Chicago Theatre Company; *Thunder Knocking at the Door* at Northlight Theatre; *East Texas Hotlinks*, *Doolisters Blues*, *Sly of the Blind Pig* at Onyx Theatre; and as Paul Robeson in *Paul Robeson All American* at Indiana Repertory Theatre. Mr. Coffey's voice can be heard in various radio and television commercials. He has appeared on Early Edition and the motion pictures *Hard Ball*, *Home Alone 3*, *Children on their Birthdays* and the soon to be released *Uncle Nino*.

**Kathy Corday** (Silvia) This marks Kathy's debut production with The Shakespeare Project of Chicago, and she is honored to be working the the ensemble. With her recent return to acting, Kathy's resume includes film, television, industrials, commercials, and live performances. She appears regularly on WTTW-Channel 11 as a host of their quarterly pledge specials. She continues to study at The Artistic Home, and would like to thank Kathy Scambiaterra and John Mossman for their expertise and encouragement. She'd also like to thank her husband, Jimmy, for his good humor and unconditional love.

**Roxanne Fay** (Speed) is the former Producing Artistic Director of the Oak Park Festival Theatre. She most recently directed *The Women* for Oak Park's Village Players. This is her second reading with The Shakespeare Project of Chicago.

**John Kishline** (Antonio, Host, Outlaw) has participated in 150 productions as a member of Milwaukee's Theatre X Ensemble since 1972. This work took him often to Europe as well as Japan and 28 of the states and won Theatre X an OBIE in New York. John has written 8 plays and also worked with other theatre companies in Milwaukee, Madison and Rockford as an actor and director. He has appeared in Chicago at the Goodman in Theatre X's *My Werewolf*, and last played Gloucester to Ray Wild's *Lear* for The Shakespeare Project.

**John Mossman** (Valentine) is co-founder of The Artistic Home, where he most recently directed the Jeff Recommended *The Miss Firecracker Contest* by Beth Henley and *Riders to the Sea* by J.M. Synge. He has directed several short films that have won top awards at numerous international film festivals, including *Draggage* and *Jell-Ohh Lady*, for which he received the Best Director of 2002 award at Chicago Community Cinema. He also wrote and directed The Artistic Home-produced short film *Spaceman Dan's 243rd Flight*, currently on the festival circuit. As an actor, he most recently appeared in The Artistic Home's critically acclaimed productions of Arthur Miller's *After the Fall* in the role of Quentin, and as Tripp in *5 Women Wearing The Same Dress*. Other notable roles include *Chicken in Kingdom of Earth*, the title role in *Tom Jones*, Dickon in *The Scarecrow*, Claudio in *Measure For Measure*, Lanx in *Angel City*, Tybalt in *Romeo and Juliet* at Actors' Theater of Louisville, and Jim in *A Glass Menagerie*, with Celeste Holm. In Los Angeles he appeared on television, performed and produced theater at the critically acclaimed Pacific Resident Theater Ensemble, and shadowed noted television Director/Producer Jim Burrows at NBC. He served as a director for the Discovery Channel series *The Internet Coach*, starring RJ Coleman, and has won two Telly Awards, most recently for directing *There's No Such Thing As Crazy*, produced for Evanston Northwestern Hospital. A graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, he is currently an instructor at The Artistic Home as well as at Chicago Filmmakers.

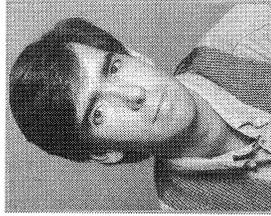
**Gail Rastorfer** (Lucetta/Outlaw) This marks Gail's fourth production with TSP. Other TSP credits include Dot in *The Cricket on the Hearth*, Nerissa in *The Merchant of Venice* and Viola in *Twelfth Night*. She recently played the role of Diana in *Lend Me A Tenor* at Theatre at the Center and last spring she appeared as Rosalind in *As You Like It* at Indiana Repertory Theatre. Chicago credits include: *Twelfth Night* at First Folio Shakespeare Festival, *The Rose Tattoo* at Goodman Theatre, *The Gamester* at Northlight Theatre, and *Murder by the Book* at Drury Lane E.P.

**Tonya Beckman Ross** (Julia) is pleased to return to The Shakespeare Project, where she last appeared as Portia in *The Merchant of Venice*. Other credits include Bessie in *The Ride Down Mount Morgan* (Equity Library Theatre), Milly in *The Dazzle* (Human Race Theatre Company), and most recently in Lyric Opera of Chicago's *Madama Butterfly*. She has appeared at the Cleveland Play House, CATCo, The Purple Rose, Public Theatre of Maine, and as a resident actor at Cleveland Signstage, performing in both spoken English and American Sign Language. Film work includes *Super Sucker*, with Jeff Daniels.

## This Month's Artists



**Jeff Christian\***  
*Proteus*



**Will Clinger**  
*Launce*



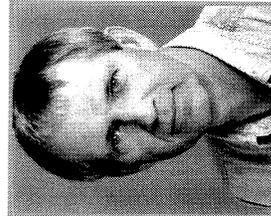
**Freeman Coffey**  
*Duke of Milan*



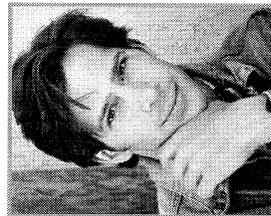
**Kathy Corday**  
*Silvia*



**Roxanne Fay**  
*Speed*



**John Kishline**  
*Antonio, Host, Outlaw*



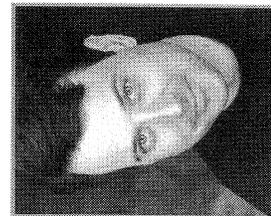
**John Mossman**  
*Valentine*



**Gail Rastorfer**  
*Lucetta, Outlaw*



**Tonya Beckman Ross**  
*Julia*



**Stephen Spencer\***  
*Thurio, Outlaw*



**Mark Ulrich**  
*Eglamour, Panthino*



**Kathy Scambiaterra**  
*Director*



**Ray Wild**  
*1936-2004*

A lover of life, politics, history and theatre, Ray and I connected on many levels.

And even though we disagreed on the merits of many a theatrical production, the ensuing discussion was often more dramatic (and thus enjoyable) than the play itself. However one production with which we found ourselves in complete accord was his passionate take on *King Lear* for our company. Very ill at the time, but buoyed by his fellow actors and an overwhelming desire to assay Shakespeare's brilliant text, Ray blessed us with what I can best describe as the most human Lear I have ever seen. This Lear was his last performance on the stage that he loved so much, and he considered it to be the highlight of his storied career. He wanted me to extend his gratitude to all of you who were able to be part of this experience; and I would like to extend mine to him for teaching me about a multitude of things, most recently about dignity.

- *Jeff Christian*

The Shakespeare Project of Chicago, now in our ninth season, is dedicated to providing to our community - for free - professional performances of the works of William Shakespeare and other great dramatists. We provide these exceptional theatre experiences for audiences and artists alike by maintaining an artistic emphasis on the language of the plays and skill of the actors, all of whom are members of Actors' Equity Association. The Shakespeare Project is funded in part by the revenue from our school programs; by grants from the Illinois Arts Council, a CityArts Grant from the City of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs, and the Seabury Foundation; by the generous support of Friends of the Wilmette Public Library; and of course by the voluntary contributions of our audiences. The Shakespeare Project of Chicago is a not for profit 501(c)3 organization. As such, all donations are tax-deductible and all companies with matching gift programs will recognize their employees' contributions. For further information visit our website at [www.ShakespeareProjectChicago.org](http://www.ShakespeareProjectChicago.org).

\* Denotes Artistic Associates of The Shakespeare Project of Chicago.

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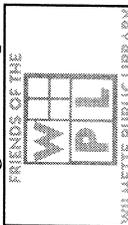
Christopher Wilson

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*The Shakespeare Project of Chicago* is also partially supported by:



and the generous contributions of our program audiences. *Thank You!*

# *The Shakespeare Project of Chicago* *the world in words*

presents

# *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*

*a theatrical reading*

*Directed by Kathy Scambiatterra*

*Stage Manager*  
*Shawn Pace*

2004- March 20: Newberry Library, Wilmette Public Library; March 21: The Artistic Home



All Actors with *The Shakespeare Project of Chicago* are members of Actors' Equity Association the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers.

## Profiles

**Stephen Spencer\*** (Thurio, Outlaw) is a **TSP** founding member and was last seen as Kent in *King Lear*. He played Orsino in *Twelfth Night*, Iago in *Othello* and Timon in *TSP*'s *Timon of Athens*. Prior to that he directed *The Two Noble Kinsmen* and has appeared in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*; *Henry VIII*; *Love's Labor's Lost*; *Henry VI, part 3*; *Henry VI, part 2*; *Henry V*; *Edward III*; *Much Ado About Nothing*; *All's Well That Ends Well*; *Richard II* and *Macbeth*. Steve was in the Jeff Award-winning *The Liquid Moon* at Chicago Dramatists where he's performed in *Judevine*, *Marisol*, *Wingwalkers* and *Robin Hood*. Other Chicago credits include *Season's Greetings* at the Forum; *The Sea* with The Cypress Group and *Limbo Tales* at Café Voltaire. Regional theaters include Florida's Asolo State Theatre and The Ruth Foreman Theatre; the Utah Shakespearean Festival; Wisconsin's Evergreen Theatre and New Jersey's Cape May Playhouse. He toured throughout Russia, starting with Moscow's Leninsky Komsomol Theatre, and performed at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe in Scotland.

**Mark Ulrich** (Eglamour, Panthino) is pleased to be participating in The Shakespeare Project's presentation of *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* where he has previously been seen as Antonio in *The Merchant of Venice*, Albany and Edgar in two different *Lears*, Malvolio in *Twelfth Night*, Edward in *Henry VI, part 3*, Prince Hal in *Henry IV, part 2*. Mark has appeared in *Spite for Spite* at Writers' Theatre of Glencoe, *A Blue Moon* at Chicago Dramatists, *The Gamster* at Northlight, and the Jeff nominated *Descent* with The Aardvark Theatre in Chicago. He is a proud member of Division 13 with whom he appeared in the After Dark award winning *Bloodline*.

**Shawn Pace** (Stage Manager) This is Shawn's fifth show with TSP and he is excited to return. This summer he Stage Managed *Don't Drink The Water* at the Noble Fool Theater and The League of Chicago Theatre's gala at The Goodman. He has been back in Chicago since February and before that he Stage Managed *A Very Old Man With Enormous Wings* (directed by Graciela Daniel and written by 2002 Pulitzer Prize winner Nilo Cruz) and *Wizard of Oz* for Children's Theatre Company's TONY award winning 2002-2003 season. Regionally he has worked for Northern Stage, Rockwell Productions and Arkansas Rep.

**Kathy Scambiaterra** (Director) has directed, acted and taught in Chicago and Los Angeles for over twenty years. In LA, she directed the west coast premiere of *Aven'u Boys* by Frank Pugliese, Sam Shepard's *Angel City*, *A Christmas Carol* adapted by and starring Orson Bean and John Patrick Shanley's *Welcome to the Moon and Other Plays* which was designed by the world renowned urban artist Gronk and for which she received an LA Dramalogue Award for direction. In Chicago, Ms. Scambiaterra began directing at Center Theater where she was an ensemble member for ten years. At Center she assisted Norma Saldívar on Beth Henley's *The Lucky Spot*, co-directed *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* with Dan LaMorte and started a successful workshop series for The Training Center with her direction of Harry Kondoleon's *Christmas on Mars*. Since becoming artistic director of The Artistic Home five years ago, she has directed Clifford Odet's *Waiting for Lefty*, Kondoleon's *Self-Torture and Sirenous Exercise*, *In the Boom Boom Room* by David Rabe and *Angel City* by Sam Shepard. Her most recent direction was of *After the Fall* by Arthur Miller. As an actress, Ms. Scambiaterra has worked on stage, in television and film. In Chicago, she has appeared at Center Theater, Wisdom Bridge, Pegasus Players, Bailiwick Repertory and The Goodman Theatre. Her most recent appearances have been at The Artistic Home in Tennessee William's *Orpheus Descending*, Chekov's *The Boor* and in LA in Pacific Resident Theatre Ensemble's *The Quick Change Room* directed by Orson Bean. Kathy has taught at Center Theater's The Training Center and in LA at the prestigious Carolyn Berry Studio and the Pacific Resident Theatre.

# The Players

(In order of appearance)

Valentine } ..... John Mossman  
 Proteus } ..... Jeff Christian\*  
 Speed, page to Valentine ..... Roxanne Fay  
 Juha, beloved of Proteus ..... Tonya Beckman Ross  
 Lucetta, waiting-woman to Julia ..... Gail Rastorfer  
 Antonio, father to Proteus ..... John Kishline  
 Panthino, servant to Antonio ..... Mark Ulrich  
 Silvia, beloved of Valentine ..... Kathy Corday  
 Launce, a clownish servant to Proteus ..... Will Clinger  
 Thurio, a foolish rival to Valentine ..... Stephen Spencer\*  
 Duke of Milan, father to Silvia ..... Freeman Coffey  
 Outlaws ..... Stephen Spencer\*, Gail Rastorfer, John Kishline  
 Host, where Julia lodges ..... John Kishline  
 Eglamour, agent for Silvia in her escape ..... Mark Ulrich

[Scene: Verona, Milan; & a forest between Milan and Manua]

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