

The Shakespeare Project of Chicago
the world in words
presents

The
10th Anniversary Season
2004-05

Macbeth

by *William Shakespeare*

Directed by Mara Polster
Saturday, October 30, 2004
The Newberry Library-10am
The Wilmette Public Library-2pm
And Sunday, October 31, 2004
The Duncan YMCA Chermín Center for the Arts- 2pm

The Parvenu

adapted by *Jeff Christian from*
Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme
by *Molière*

Directed by Jeff Christian
Saturday, November 20, 2004
The Newberry Library-10am
The Wilmette Public Library-2pm
And Sunday, November 21, 2004
The Duncan YMCA Chermín Center for the Arts- 2pm

The Winter's Tale
by *William Shakespeare*

Directed by Laura St. John
Saturday, February 12, 2005
The Newberry Library-10am
The Wilmette Public Library-2pm
And Sunday, February 13, 2005
The Duncan YMCA Chermín Center for the Arts- 2pm

Directed by Peter Garino

Saturday, April 23, 2005
The Newberry Library-10am
The Wilmette Public Library-2pm
And Sunday, April 24, 2005
The Duncan YMCA Chermín Center for the Arts- 2pm

by *Oscar Wilde*

Please join our email list for updates:

www.shakespeareprojectchicago.org

50 Minute Hamlet, adapted by Jeff Christian from William Shakespeare

August 2004 – June 2005

Various schools throughout the Chicago area

The Shakespeare Project of Chicago
the world in words

presents

The
Winter's Tale

a theatrical reading

Directed by
*Laura St. John**

Stage Manager
*Tom Hagglund**

February 12, 2005: The Newberry Library & The Wilmette Public Library,
February 13, 2005: Duncan YMCA Chermín Center for the Arts



All Actors with *The Shakespeare Project of Chicago*
are members of Actors' Equity Association
the union of professional actors and stage managers.

This Month's Artists



Peter Garino*
Leontes, Old Shepherd



Nathan M. Hosner
Dion, The Clown, Gentleman



Linda Kimbrough
Paulina



Ian Novak
Archidamus, Sicilian Lord, Florizel



Dan Rodden
Polixenes, Cleomenes, Gentleman



Abigail Rose St. John
Mamillius, Time



David Skidmore*
Camillo, Antigonus



Stephen Spencer*
Jailer, Officer, Mariner, Autolycus



Kim Wade
Hermione, Perdita



Laura St. John*
Director, Emilia

A discussion of the play will follow this Performance!

You are all welcome. Please stay, meet the cast, and share your ideas and questions.

About The Shakespeare Project of Chicago

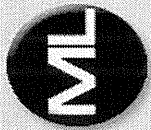
The Shakespeare Project of Chicago began in 1995, providing free public performances of the complete works of William Shakespeare, offering several performances of one play per month at various public venues. From that time, our mission became to meet three goals: (1) To provide to our community, free or easily affordable professional performances of the works of William Shakespeare and other great dramatists; (2) To create the opportunity for professional actors to explore this great literature; and (3) To provide exceptional theatre experiences for audiences and artists 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.

We made our public debut with *Macbeth* in 1995, and in little over three years, completed William Shakespeare's canon with *Hamlet* in December of 1998. Our 1997 Season: The History of the English Kings, traversed the entirety of the great Elizabethan history plays in chronological order including *King John*, *Edward II* (by Christopher Marlowe), *Edward III* (an apocryphal play), *Richard II*, both parts of *Henry IV*, *Henry V*, all three parts of *Henry VI*, and ending with *Richard III*. (we saved *Henry VIII* for 1999) To date we have performed well over 50 plays and again, William Shakespeare's canon in its entirety.

In 1999, adding to our five theatrical reading offerings, we presented our first fully realized production, *Hamlet*, opening in March of 1999. We also produced our first original adaptation, of *My Name Is Will*, (an exciting dramatic adaptation of William Shakespeare's sonnets and songs by Artistic Associate Peter Garino), debuting as a reading in 1999 and then as a full production in 2000. Our original adaptation (also by Peter Garino) of Shakespeare's dark narrative poem, *The Rape of Lucrece* was performed in 2001 and we began development of our newest adaptation, *50 Minute Hamlet* in 2002, which we produced for its first fully realized production in 2003. This production of *50 Minute Hamlet*, adapted and directed by Jeff Christian (appointed Artistic Director in August of 2002) is now performing regularly at Chicago area schools and is available for booking for the 2005 school year.

Kicking off our Tenth Anniversary Season (which we have dedicated to our friend Chuck Lippitz), we first revisited The Tragedy of *Macbeth* -- a destructive tale of ambition that sadly never loses its power and relevance, then took a wild ride through French farce with *TI Parvenu*. Today, in honor of our classic "love" holiday set in the overwhelming chill of winter, we bring you Shakespeare's chillingly dark romance, *The Winter's Tale*, and hope you will join us in April for Oscar Wilde's scathingly witty comedy, *A Woman of No Importance*, directed by Peter Garino. We are honored to continue our partnerships with The Wilmette Public Library, The Newberry Library and The Duncan YMCA Chermn Center for the Arts and look forward to working with them to fulfill our mission by offering exciting, free performances of the works of Shakespeare and other great dramatists. Maintaining an artistic emphasis on the language of the plays and skill of the professional actors, all of whom are members of Actors' Equity Association. And our Education Program furthers this mission by bringing age-appropriate Shakespearean productions to the children of Chicago area schools. We sincerely appreciate your continued attendance, enthusiasm and financial support.

The Shakespeare Project of Chicago's tenth season is funded in part by the revenue from our school programs and program advertisements; by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council; by the generous support of Friends of the Wilmette Public Library; and of course by the voluntary contributions of our audiences. Please know that The Shakespeare Project of Chicago is a not for profit 501(c)(3) organization. As such, all donations are tax-deductible. Visit our website at www.ShakespeareProjectChicago.org.



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Laura St. John,
Director of Education
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The Players

(In order of appearance)

Archidamus, a lord of Bohemia..... Ian Novak

Camillo, a lord of Sicilia..... David Skidmore*

Polixenes, King of Bohemia..... Dan Rodden

Leontes, King of Sicilia..... Peter Garino*

Hermione, Queen to Leontes..... Kim Wade

Mamillius, young Prince of Sicilia..... Abigail Rose St. John

Antigonus, a lord of Sicilia..... David Skidmore*

Paulina, attendant on Hermione, wife to Antigonus..... Linda Kimbrough

Emelia, attendant on Hermione..... Laura St. John*

Another lord of the Sicilia..... Ian Novak

A Jailer/Officer/Mariner..... Stephen Spencer*

Cleomenes, a lord of Sicilia..... Dan Rodden

Dion, a lord of Sicilia..... Nathan M. Hosner

An Old Shepherd..... Peter Garino*

A Clown..... Nathan M. Hosner

Time..... Abigail Rose St. John

Autolycus, a rogue..... Stephen Spencer*

Florizel, Prince of Bohemia..... Ian Novak

Perdita, daughter to Leontes and Hermione..... Kim Wade

Three Gentlemen..... Nathan M. Hosner, Ian Novak, Dan Rodden

Scene: Sicilia and Bohemia

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

All Actors with The Shakespeare Project are members of Actors Equity Association.

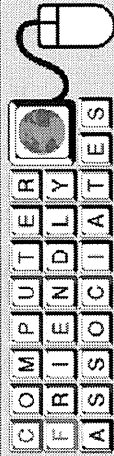
Profiles

Peter Garino* (Leontes, Shepherd) is an Artistic Associate with TSP and has been a company member since 1995. He has worked locally in Chicago with the Steppenwolf Theatre Company, Organic Theatre Company, Body Politic Ensemble, Pegasus Players, Absolute Theatre Company and regionally with the Oak Park Festival Theatre and Illinois Shakespeare Festival. Peter has appeared in over 30 TSP staged readings and he has directed readings of *Pericles*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *2 Henry IV*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *The Rape of Lucrece*. In April 2000, his adaptation of Shakespeare's sonnets, *My Name is Will* received a full production by TSP at Oakton Community College. This season for TSP, Peter appeared as Duncan in *Macbeth* and will direct *A Woman of No Importance* by Oscar Wilde in April. Peter is a partner in Ten November with Chicago playwright Leigh Johnson. He directed Johnson's Vietnam trilogy, *The Khe Sanh Bagman* at the Center Theatre in 2000. Currently, he is helping prepare Johnson's new play, *Lefties*, for its Chicago premier later this year.

Nathan M. Hosner (Dion, Clown, Lord, 2nd Gentleman) is very pleased to be returning to The Shakespeare Project, where he was last seen playing Cleonte in *The Parvenu* and prior to that as Malcolm in *Macbeth* and Oswald in *Ghosts*. Recent credits include Edmund in *King Lear* and Duke Frederick in *As You Like It* at the Illinois Shakespeare Festival, Jason Posner in *Wir* at The BoarsHead Theatre, and a role on *As The World Turns*. Nathan was lucky enough to escape the blustery cold of Chicago last winter by playing Jack Worthing in *The Importance of Being Earnest* and a variety of Shakespearean roles as a member of the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art's graduate company on the inaugural voyage of the Cunard ocean liner Queen Mary 2.

Linda Kimbrough (Paulina) has performed at most of the theaters in the Chicago area over her career. Last season she appeared at Chicago Shakespeare Theater (as Elinor in *King John*), the Shubert Theater (with Brian Bedford in *The Moliere Comedies*), and at the Goodman Theater (as The Woman in *The Play About the Baby*). She has been a volunteer for CHRIS radio for the past 18 years, reading the newspaper to the visually and neurologically handicapped. She can be seen in the recently released *Spartan* playing opposite Val Kilmer.

Ian Novak (Archidamus, Lord, Florizel, 3rd Gentleman) is pleased to return to The Shakespeare Project where he appeared in *Macbeth*, *All's Well That Ends Well*, *Romeo & Juliet* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Other credits include productions at The Stratford Festival of Canada, Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, Goodman Theatre, Apple Tree Theatre, Live Bait Theater, Lifeline Theatre, Bailiwick Repertory, and The Griffin Theatre where he is an active company member. He is a graduate of The Conservatory for Classical Theatre Training at The Stratford Festival of Canada as well as the Conservatory of Theatre Arts at Webster University.



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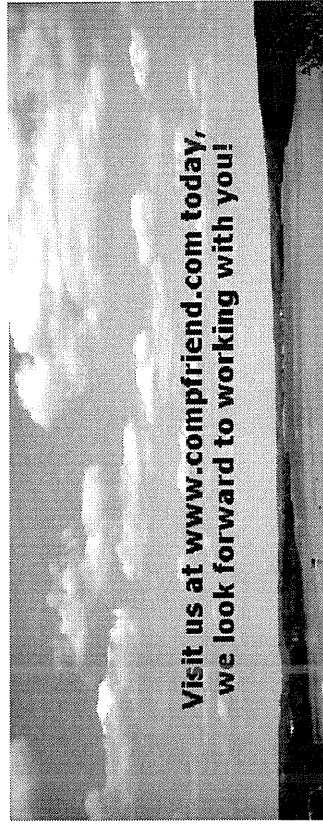
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FUN FACTS ABOUT SHAKESPEARE...

- The average American's vocabulary is around 10,000 words. 15,000 if you are REALLY smart. Shakespeare had a vocabulary of over 25,000 words.
- Shakespeare was a very curious person. He was a keen observer of the world around him. Shakespeare would later rely on scenes remembered from his childhood, common country customs and popular entertainments as raw material for his plays.
- The words "assassination" and "bunco" were invented by Shakespeare. If you say "taught it off" you are also quoting Shakespeare. Other inventions included "pale" and "bedroom."
- Shakespeare was a keen observer of the world around him. Shakespeare would later rely on scenes remembered from his childhood, common country customs and popular entertainments as raw material for his plays.
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MATCH THE ANSWER TO THE QUESTION...

- > Who did Shakespeare marry?
- > Which comedy, often billed as a "dark comedy", is generally considered Shakespeare's best?
- > In which play does a man named Lorenzo love Jessica, the daughter of Shylock?
- > In which play is Lady Macbeth the villain?
- > What character instructs Hamlet to "revenge his foul and most unnatural murder"?
- > What is the name of King Lear's youngest son?
- > Who is the villain of *Macbeth*?
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- > What character instructs Hamlet to "revenge his foul and most unnatural murder"?
- > What is the name of King Lear's youngest son?
- > Who is the villain of *Macbeth*?

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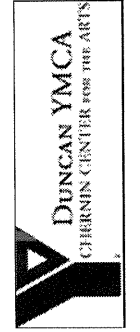
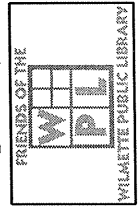
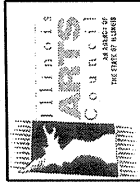
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The Shakespeare Project is partially supported by the following



Profiles

Dan Rodden (Polixenes, Cleomenes, 2nd Gentlemen) This is Dan's fourth production with TSP. Other TSP credits: *The Parvenu*, *Macbeth*, and *All's Well That Ends Well*. Other credits include New American Theater, Drury Lane Oakbrook, Drury Lane Evergreen Park, Aardvark Theatre, Apple Tree Theatre, Pegasus Players, and the ImprovOlympic. Regionally: Texas Shakespeare Festival; Nebraska Theatre Caravan; Cidermill Playhouse, and Beechwood Theatre Company. Special thanks to his lovely wife Gail Rastorfer with whom he lives and sometimes gets to see.

Abigail Rose St. John (Mamilius, Time) Abigail made her professional debut as Boy Macduff and An Aparition in The Shakespeare Project's Tenth Anniversary opener, *Macbeth*. Abigail is in her kindergarten year at the Chicago Waldorf School.

David Skidmore* (Camillo, Antigonus) was last seen opening The Shakespeare Project's Tenth Anniversary Season as Banquo in *Macbeth*, in The Shakespeare Project's 2003 Holiday adaptation of Charles Dickens' *The Cricket on the Hearth* and can be seen regularly as Hamlet in The Shakespeare Project's school production of *50 Minute Hamlet*, the role which he developed for the 2002 season's premier theatrical reading of the piece. David has appeared in such diverse roles as the Hunchback in NOWtheatre's *Signal to Noise*, Hally in *Master Harold and the Boys*, C.K Dexter Haven in *The Philadelphia Story*, Jesus in *The Medieval Mystery Cycle*, Philoctetes in Seamus Heaney's *The Cure at Troy* and Sidney in *Smash*; an adaptation of one of G.B. Shaw's novels in Milwaukee Chamber Theater's annual Shaw Festival. In addition to serving as TSP's Board President, David is a longstanding Artistic Associate and has been involved in nearly every production, performing such roles as Lear's Fool, Puck, Iago, Cassio, Petruchio, Troilus, Dogberry, Hotspur, Henry VI, Romeo and Hamlet in TSP's premier full production in March of 1999; and directing *Richard III* and *Macbeth*. David grew up in Madison, Wisconsin; received his BA from Brandeis University in Boston and MFA in Acting from Temple University in Philadelphia, and studied acting and improvisation for five years at the Piven Theatre Workshop. In addition to his professional acting and directing pursuits, David has recorded drama for Wisconsin Public Radio and has been hired to read testimony in federal court trials. David is currently manager of client services for Interbrand Wood Healthcare, a branding consultancy for the healthcare industry.

Stephen Spencer* (Autolycus) was pleased to open The Shakespeare Project's Tenth Anniversary Season in the title role of *Macbeth*. He most recently created the role of Austin in Congo Square Theatre's critically acclaimed and Jeff Recommended world premier play, *The House That Jack Built*, by Javon Johnson. As a founding member of The Shakespeare Project of Chicago, he has so far appeared in 23 plays of the Canon (some, like *Macbeth*, more than once!), including *Othello* (Iago), *Twelfth Night* (Orsino), *King Lear* (Kent to Ray Wild's Lear) and *Timon of Athens* (Timon). Last year he played Thurio in *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*. He directed *The Two Noble Kinsmen*. On other Chicago

Profiles

stages he played Tom in Arthur Miller's, *The Ride Down Mt. Morgan* with ELT. He originated the role of Paul in the Jeff Award Winning *The Liquid Moon* at Chicago Dramatists where he's performed in *Judevine*, *Marisol*, *Wingwalkers* and the title role in *A Fancypuffl Historie of Robyn Hood*, as well as numerous staged readings in their Saturday Series. Other Chicago Credits include *Season's Greetings* at The Forum, *The Sea* with The Cypress Group and *Limbo Tales* at Cafe 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. Love always to Brenda and Keely.

Kim Wade (Hermione, Perdita) was last seen in the world premiere of *Affluenza!* at Victory Gardens Theater. Other credits include *Unspoken Prayers*, *Door to Door*, *Voice of Good Hope* and *Danny Bouncing*. Originally from Louisville, Kim has worked throughout the country in a wide variety of venues including the Kennedy Center with Uta Hagen in Washington D.C. She is a graduate of The Second City Training Center and has toured with several improvisational companies including Chicago's *Comedysportz* where she was a company member for three years. Kim was also an actor combatant in *Babes with Blades* and a member of Footsteps Theater where she performed in the all female *Twelfth Night* and *Deeper Shade of Blue*. Film/television credits include Silent Witness, Cupid, and the independent feature film *Numinmata*. Her favorite role thus far is the one she is currently working on: the mother to 8 week old twins.

Tom Hagglund* (Stage Manager) *The Winter's Tale* marks Tom's fifteenth production with the Shakespeare Project, having stage managed *Macbeth*, *King Lear*, *Romeo & Juliet*, *Twelfth Night*, *Julius Caesar*, *The Rape of Lucrece*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Othello* (twice!), *Richard III*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *My Name Is Will*, *The Tempest* & *All's Well That Ends Well*. Recent credits include stage managing Red Hen/Chicago Jewish Theatre's entire past two seasons of plays. At the Theatre Building he ran *The Return of Herbert Bracewell*, *A Ritual of Faith* & Famous Door's *Hellcab*. He has worked with the Lyric Opera, Aspect Theatre, LJPJ's *Khe Sanh Bagman* & ELT's *Dreams of Baby*. Tom was the Technical Director of the St. Nicholas Theatre (Laurie Metcalf was the phone receptionist then) & has worked on numerous productions at Court Theatre, Piven Theatre, Ballet Entre Nous, Mordine & Company, Wisdom Bridge, the Chicago Opera Theatre, the Trinity Irish Dancers, the Forum & Indiana's Theatre at the Center, and he will stage manage "Bold Girls" this spring for Seanachai Theatre at Victory Gardens. Tom is proud to have been named an Artistic Associate of The Shakespeare Project and has been a member of Actors' Equity since 1976.

Marlon St. John (Musician) is pleased to be assisting in The Shakespeare Project's *The Winter's Tale* and to have opened this tenth anniversary season providing music for *Macbeth*. He contributed original music to 2001's production of *Twelfth Night*.

Profiles

Laura St. John* (Emelia and others/Director) was pleased to open The Shakespeare Project's Tenth Anniversary Season last fall as Lady Macbeth and can be seen regularly as "Gal" (better known as every role except Hamlet) in The Shakespeare Project's school production of *50 Minute Hamlet*, the role which she developed for the 2002 season's premier theatrical reading of the piece. Laura has worked with The Shakespeare Project of Chicago since 1999 and became their Education Director in 2002. Through her work with TSP and other projects, she hopes to bring the arts to as many kids as possible. Laura is a Drama Artist with Reading-In-Motion- a drama based reading program servicing the children of the Chicago Public Schools. She is a founding member and Director of Children's Programs at New World Repertory Theatre and a collaborator on the children's book *Through the Cracks* (Davis Publications). Also with the Project, Laura has directed and played the role of Maria in December of 2001's *Twelfth Night*. Other TSP roles include Calpurnia (*Julius Caesar*), 3rd Witch (*Macbeth*), and the Player Queen (*Hamlet*).

Jeff Christian* (Artistic Director) leads the company into his third season, having adapted and directed the outreach program *50 Minute Hamlet*, Moliere's *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme* (presented as *The Parvenu*) Ibsen's *Ghosts* and Dickens's *The Cricket on the Hearth*, as well as having staged *King Lear*. Other directing credits include *Proof* and *Driving Miss Daisy* (New American Theater), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* (Lakeside Shakespeare; Michigan), the national touring production of the interactive comedy *Sister Bernie's Bingo Bash*, *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), *A Walk in the Woods* and his adaptation of *Medea* (Aspect Theatre), 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 Brutus in *Julius Caesar*, Buckingham in *Richard III*, Proteus in *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*, Mercutio in *Romeo and Juliet*, Bassanio in *The Merchant of Venice*, Antonio in *Twelfth Night*, Hortensio in *Taming of the Shrew* and Hamlet in *50 Minute Hamlet*. Other acting credits include work with Writers' Theatre, Chicago Shakespeare, Milwaukee Rep, Madison Rep, The Women's Project of New York, New American Theater, Illinois Theatre Center, Oak Park Festival, Artistic Home, Bernie Sahlin's production of *Murder in the Cathedral*, and Lt. Osborne in Seanachai's After Dark winning and Jeff nominated production of *Journey's End*. He is a member of both the Seanachai and Lakeside Shakespeare ensembles, co-fronts the rock band Ingenious Whittler, has appeared in a number of independent films and recently worked on Christopher Nolan's *Batman Begins*. He earned a BBA in Marketing and a BA in International Relations from The University of Wisconsin and is currently performing in *The Grapes of Wrath* at Syracuse Stage and Indiana Rep.

Mara Polster* (Founding Director) During her tenure as Artistic Director, Mara guided The Shakespeare Project through over 50 productions and the entirety of William Shakespeare's canon, directing such plays as *Hamlet*, *King Lear*, *As You Like It*, *Richard III*, *Timon of Athens*, *Taming of the Shrew*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Macbeth*, *Julius Caesar* and playing many great Shakespearean women, like Emilia, Tamora, Margaret, Paulina, Isabella, Katherina and Lady Macbeth. Mara has acted on many of the stages here in Chicago and many others across the country. Mara is a graduate of The Conservatory of Theatre Arts at Webster University in St. Louis and her work with The Shakespeare Project of Chicago began as the grateful commemoration of two fiercely strong souls, Samuel E. LaMacchia and Michael Alan Wilson, and now continues commemorating our beloved Chuck Lippitz.