

Artist Biographies

BARBARA ZAHORA (Director/Co-Adapter) has been The Project's Associate Artistic Director since 2010; she has performed with The Project since 2005. Last season she adapted and directed *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. As an actor, her favorite roles for The Project include Queen Elizabeth I in last season's *Mary Stuart*, Margaret in Jeff Christian's adaptation of *Henry VI Parts 1, 2, and 3*, and Constance Middleton in *The Constant Wife*. Barbara has been performing in Chicago for more than ten years; her credits include roles at Writers' Theatre, ShawChicago, Chicago Shakespeare, First Folio, Goodman, Illinois Theatre Center, Oak Park Festival, Northlight, Lookingglass and many others. She has also performed at a many respected regional and international venues, including the Colorado Shakespeare Festival and Shakespeare's Globe Theatre in London, where she was part of the International Artistic Residency in 2004. Barbara is also an adjunct faculty member in Roosevelt University's Theatre Conservatory, a voiceover artist, a dialect coach, and a proud member of Actors' Equity Association.

MICHELLE SHUPE (Co-Adapter) is the Dramaturge for The Shakespeare Project of Chicago and recently played title role in *The Duchess of Malfi* for The Project. She was seen in *Love, Loss and What I Wore* at the Broadway Playhouse at Water Tower Place in Chicago. This past summer, she appeared as Gal in The Project's *50-Minute Hamlet*. Last season, she dramaturged The Project's readings of *The Tempest*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor* and *Mary Stuart*. She has acted with The Project in *Measure for Measure* (which she also dramaturged). Michelle made her acting debut with The Project in 2010 in *Antony & Cleopatra*. She previously appeared as Lady Macbeth in The Project's *Page to Stage Macbeth* education outreach program. Michelle has been seen on stage at the Illinois Shakespeare Festival, where she appeared as Titania in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Elizabeth in *Richard III* and Nerine in *Scapin*. Favorite roles include Dionyza in Mary Zimmerman's *Pericles* at the Shakespeare Theatre/ Goodman, Lady Chatterley in *Lady Chatterley's Lover*, for which she was nominated for a Helen Hayes award, and Imogen in *Cymbeline*, for which she was also nominated for a Helen Hayes Award. She has performed in New York at Axis Theater, and in Washington, DC at The Shakespeare Theater, Studio Theatre, Signature Theatre, Theater J, TheWashington Shakespeare Company (former ensemble member) and many others.

GEORGE ZAHORA (Sound and Music Design) Designed the sound for *The Duchess of Malfi* this season. Last season, he designed sound for *The Tempest* and sound and music for *50-Minute Romeo and Juliet*. Over the past 20 years George has logged time behind the mixing board for roughly two dozen non-Equity productions. He is always happy to take time away from his day job, which involves lots of intensive tinkering with electronics and computer equipment, to do sound design, which involves lots of intensive tinkering with different electronics and computer equipment...and he's proud to support the skilled, professional actors that The Project invariably attracts.

Our 17th Season continues...

The Taming of the Shrew

February 25-26, 2012

Directed by Jeff Christian

Troilus and Cressida

April 21-22, 2012

Directed by Barbara Zahora

Visit www.shakespeareprojectchicago.org for performance locations and times

THE
SHAKESPEARE
PROJECT OF CHICAGO

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PRESENTS

50M R&J

ROMEO AND
JULIET...



...IN FIFTY
MINUTES

by William Shakespeare

Adapted by Barbara Zahora, Michelle Shupe and Peter Garino

Directed by Barbara Zahora

February 15, 2012 ▪ Oakton Community College

www.shakespeareprojectchicago.org

P.O. Box 25126, Chicago, Illinois 60625

773-710-2718

Romeo & Juliet (in 50 Minutes)

GIRL (Juliet)Amanda Catania*
 BOY (Romeo) Matthew Fahey*
 MAN..... Peter Garino**+
 WOMAN.....Judy Blue**+

* Member, Actors' Equity Association

+ Founding Member, The Shakespeare Project of Chicago

Running Time: Approximately fifty minutes.

Actors appearing with The Shakespeare Project of Chicago are members of Actors' Equity Association.



The Shakespeare Project of Chicago gratefully acknowledges the generous contributions made by its valued patrons over the past 16 years. With sincere thanks, we recognize contributors to our 2011-2012 season:

Francois Alouf, Anonymous, Karin Catania, Jeff Christian, Sheldon & Kayla Cohen, Brooks Davis, Mr. & Mrs. Ron Denham, Hannah Finston, Patrick Gagnon, Barbara S. Glatt, *In memory of Margaret D. Garino*, Virginia Gibbons, Phillip & Suzanne Gossett, Christopher & Karen Harris, Chris & Suzanne Henn, Elissa L. Issacs, Kathy Janies, Leigh Johnson, Kathryn Klawans, Michael Laird, Donald & Sharen Linder, Vicki & Duane Mellema, George & Gerry Messenger, Margaret L. Moses, Edward W. Muir, Jr., Daniel Pinkert & Freddie Greenberg, Dawn & John Palmer, Marina C. Phelps, Elizabeth Pollace, Gail Rastorfer, Catherine Regalado, Mary Ringstad, Julian & Lu Ann Schachner, Regina Schwartz & William A. Davis, Eric & Jill Schiller, *In honor of Florence Haggan Sheridan & Megan Gibbons Glasgow*, *In memory of John F. Sherman*, Felicity & Thomas Skidmore, Jack & Joan Spatafora, Melanie J. Spitz, Richard Strier & Camille Bennett, Dick & Mary Woods, Barbara & George Zahora

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JUDY BLUE (Woman), a devoted member of The Project, recently appeared at Chicago Shakespeare Theatre in *Romeo & Juliet* (as Lady Capulet), and in *Richard III* and *Winter's Tale*. Other Chicago credits include: *Talking Pictures*, *Blind Date*, *House and Garden*, *A Little Night Music*, *Frank's Home* (Goodman); *Gary* (Steppenwolf); *The Intelligent Design of Jenny Chow*, *To Kill a Mockingbird* (Collaboraction); Elizabeth Berg's *The Pull of the Moon* (16th Street Theater); *The Man Who Came to Dinner* (Drury Lane Oakbrook); *An American Daughter* (Organic/Touchstone); and Chicago Symphony Orchestra's *Welcome Yule!* Regional credits include: *Fool for Love* (B Street, Sacramento); *As You Like It* (Dallas Theater Center); *Merchant of Venice*, *Piaf* (Stage West); *Twelfth Night* (Shakespeare Dallas); *Tender* (Syzygy Theatre Group, L.A.); and *Evita* (Arkansas Repertory Theatre). Other credits include productions with New York's Henry St. Theatre, Apple Tree, Theatre Three, Movement Theatre International and Writers' Theatre. Along with film and commercial work, Ms. Blue is a company member of Syzygy Theatre Group in L.A. and an Associate Artist at Chicago Dramatists.

AMANDA CATANIA (Juliet) is very thankful to be working with The Project once again, following last season's *Merry Wives of Windsor* and *Measure for Measure*. Other recent credits include: *Othello*, *The Three Musketeers*, *Comedy of Errors*, *Charlotte's Web* (Alabama Shakespeare Festival); *Julius Caesar*, *Catch-22* (Aquila Theatre Company national tour); *Twelfth Night*, *Much Ado About Nothing* (Aquila Theatre Company); and a staged reading of *The Iliad* (Classic Stage Company). Amanda holds a BFA from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts.

MATTHEW FAHEY (Romeo) is glad that such things as The Shakespeare Project of Chicago exist and played Henry Percy in this season's *Richard II* and also appeared in *The Duchess of Malfi*. Last season, he played the title role in *50-Minute Hamlet* and appeared as Ferdinand in *The Tempest*. Matthew has worked with such theatres as the Court Theatre, Colorado Shakespeare Festival, Notre Dame Shakespeare Festival, Shakespeare on the Green, The Second City, Free Associates, Drury Lane Evergreen Park, Theatre Banshee, Chicago Theatre Works, Steppenwolf for Young Adults, Victory Gardens, ImprovOlympic and Organic Theatre Greenhouse among others. In 2005 he had a featured role in the award winning short film *The Call of Cthulhu*. He is a proud member of Actor's Equity Association.

PETER GARINO (Man, Co-Adapter) is a founding member and Artistic Director of The Project and has contributed to over 50 theatrical readings as an actor and director since 1995. This season he appeared in *The Duchess of Malfi* and directed *Richard II* to open The Project's 17th season of theatrical readings. Last season, he directed *The Tempest* and *Measure For Measure* in addition to appearing in *Mary Stuart* and *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. Other recent appearances for The Project include *Paradise Lost*, *The Rivals* and Cardinal Wolsey in *Henry VIII*. On behalf of The Project, he has facilitated his Sonnet Workshop and Page to the Stage Macbeth for local public and private schools and universities. Peter has worked with the Steppenwolf and Organic Theatre companies, the Body Politic, Pegasus Players, the Oak Park Festival and Illinois Shakespeare Festival (three seasons). Other previous directing credits for The Project include *Antony and Cleopatra*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *A Woman of No Importance*, *Pericles* (1996 and 2008), *The Taming of the Shrew*, *2 Henry IV*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and his own adaptations of Shakespeare's sonnets and songs, *My Name Is Will*, and *The Rape of Lucrece*. Peter attended the National Shakespeare Conservatory and holds a Master of Fine Arts degree in Acting from Illinois State University and a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Arts from Hofstra University, New York. He is a member of Actors' Equity Association, AFTRA and the Screen Actors Guild. Thanks to Helene and Glen.