

## Announcing the 2012-2013 Theatrical Reading Season

We are proud and very excited to announce our lineup for our 18th season of free theatrical readings at our four venues: the Newberry Library, Chicago; the Niles Public Library, the Wilmette Public Library and the Highland Park Public Library. The season will open the weekend of October 26-28, 2012 with one of Shakespeare's greatest plays, *The Tragedy of Othello, Moor of Venice*. Last produced by The Shakespeare Project in 2001, the reading will be directed by Artistic Director Peter Garino. Our multi-year exploration of Shakespeare's contemporaries continues the weekend of January 18-20, 2013 when we present Thomas Heywood's, *A Woman Killed With Kindness*. Our post-Valentine's Day offering the weekend of February 22-24, 2013 will be Shakespeare's romantic comedy *Twelfth Night*, directed by former Artistic Director Jeff Christian. The season will culminate the weekend of April 19-21, 2013 when we present the apocryphal history, *The Reign of King Edward III*, attributed to Shakespeare and Thomas Kyd.

Performances will be given on Friday evenings at 7:00PM at the Niles Public Library, on Saturdays at 10:00AM at the Newberry Library and 2:00PM at the Wilmette Public Library. The Sunday performance at the Highland Park Public Library is at 2:00PM. An introduction to each play will commence 15 minutes prior to each performance. Each performance is followed by a discussion with the cast and creative team.

This program is partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency. The Shakespeare Project of Chicago has been providing free performances of the works of William Shakespeare and other great dramatists to Chicago area audiences since 1995. The Project's presentations place an artistic emphasis on the language of the plays and leverage the talents of professional actors, members of Actors' Equity Association. The company's educational programs bring The World in Words to high schools and universities through abbreviated adaptations of Shakespeare's plays and interactive actor-led workshops. Location maps and further information are available at [www.shakespeareprojectchicago.org](http://www.shakespeareprojectchicago.org)

THE  
SHAKESPEARE  
PROJECT OF CHICAGO

the world in words

PRESENTS

## 50-Minute Romeo and Juliet

From

*The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet*

By William Shakespeare

Adapted by Barbara Zahora, Michelle Shupe and Peter Garino

Directed by Barbara Zahora

August 23, 2012

Park Ridge Public Library



[www.shakespeareprojectchicago.org](http://www.shakespeareprojectchicago.org)

P.O. Box 25126, Chicago, Illinois 60625  
773-710-2718

The Shakespeare Project of Chicago gratefully acknowledges *all* of the generous contributions made by its valued patrons over the past 17 years. With sincere thanks, we recognize contributors to our 2011-2012 season:

Francois Alouf, Anonymous, Karin Catania, Jeff Christian, Sheldon & Kayla Cohen, Carol Colby, Brooks Davis, Mr. & Mrs. Ron Denham, Anne Eagleton, Hannah Finston, Patrick Gagnon, Barbara S. Glatt, *In memory of Margaret D. Garino*, Virginia Gibbons, Joan Golder, Phillip & Suzanne Gossett, Christopher & Karen Harris, Chris & Suzanne Henn, Elissa L. Issacs, Kathy Janies, Leigh Johnson, James & Paula Kiefer, Kathryn Klawans, Michael Laird, Donald & Sharen Linder, Vicki & Duane Mellema, George & Gerry Messenger, Marlene Mitchel, 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, The Illinois Arts Council, Season of Change Foundation, Swedish Covenant Hospital, The Ogden International School of Chicago, Kraft Foods Foundation



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Attention educators with an interest in Shakespeare!  
Join us for A FREE performance of The Shakespeare Project of  
Chicago's Education Outreach Productions



### **"50-Minute Romeo and Juliet" and "50-Minute Hamlet"**



Wednesday, Sept. 12, 5:30PM –The Newberry Library  
(60 W. Walton Street, Chicago, IL)

Friday, Sept. 14, 6:30PM - Wilmette Public Library  
(1242 Wilmette Ave, Wilmette, IL)

Admission is FREE

RSVP via email: [outreach@shakespeareprojectchicago.org](mailto:outreach@shakespeareprojectchicago.org) and  
indicate which performance you would like to attend and number of  
reservations.

Running time: approximately 2 hours, including intermission.  
Post-show discussion with actors immediately follows the  
performance.

## Artist Biographies



**Judy Blue\*** (Woman) a devoted member of The Project, recently appeared in *I Am Going To Change The World* at Chicago Dramatists where she is an Associate Artist. She also appeared with Chicago Shakespeare Theatre in *Romeo & Juliet* (as Lady Capulet), and in *Richard III* and *The 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* (Collaboration); 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.



**Matthew Fahey\*** (Romeo) is glad that such things as The Shakespeare Project of Chicago exist and appeared this season past season as Hector in *Troilus and Cressida*, Roderigo in *The Duchess of Malfi*, and Henry Percy in *Richard II*. Previously, for The Project, he played 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) is Artistic Director and a founding member of The Shakespeare Project of Chicago and has contributed to over 50 theatrical readings as an actor and director since 1995. He will direct *Othello*, *The Moor of Venice* to open The Project's 18<sup>th</sup> theatrical reading season in October. He is co-adaptor with Barbara Zahora and Michelle Shupe of The Project's newest education outreach production, *50-Minute Romeo and Juliet*. This past season, he appeared as Agamemnon in *Troilus & Cressida*, Vincentio in *The Taming of the Shrew*, Delio in *The Duchess of Malfi* and directed and appeared in *Richard II*. Previously for The Project, he directed *The Tempest*, *Measure For Measure* and appeared as Sir Amias Paulet in *Mary Stuart*, George Page in *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, and Cardinal Wolsey in *Henry VIII*. On behalf of The Shakespeare Project, he has facilitated his *Sonnet Workshop* and *Page to the Stage*

*Macbeth* for local public and private schools and colleges. Other roles includes Lord Stanley in *Richard III*, Creon in Jeff Christian's adaptation, *In Medea Res*, Duke Senior and Duke Frederick in *As You Like It*, Don Pedro in *Much Ado About Nothing*, Mortimer in *The Constant Wife*, Rev. Manders in *Ghosts*, multiple roles in *Henry V*, Boyet in *Love's Labour's Lost*, the title role in Jeff Christian's adaptation of *Faust*, Leontes in *A Winter's Tale* and Duncan in *Macbeth*. Peter has worked with the Steppenwolf and Organic Theatre companies, the Body Politic, Pegasus Players and with the Oak Park Festival Theatre and Illinois Shakespeare Festival (three seasons). His directing credits for The Shakespeare 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.



**Karen Vance** (Juliet) Karen is a recent grad from Roosevelt University's Chicago College of Performing Arts with a BFA in Acting. This past year Karen was seen on the CCPA stage as Emily Webb in *Our Town* and Stella Kowalski in *A Streetcar Named Desire*. This is Karen's second time working with the Project. Last season she was an intern and was very proud to played Juno and Ariel in their production of *The Tempest*. Karen is an ensemble member with the Inappropriate Theatre Company and has also worked with the Crush Dance Collective. She is thrilled to be able to work with this wonderful company again!

**Michelle Shupe** (Co-Adaptor) is the Dramaturge for The Shakespeare Project of Chicago and recently appeared in the title role in The Project's *The Duchess of Malfi*. She was seen in *Love, Loss and What I Wore* at the Broadway Playhouse at Water Tower Place here in Chicago. Michelle is co-adaptor of The Project's newest educational outreach offering, *50-Minute Romeo and Juliet*. 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, The Washington Shakespeare Company (former ensemble member) and many others.

**Barbara Zahora** (Co-Adaptor, Director) most recently directed *Troilus & Cressida* for The Project in April and *The Merry Wives of Windsor* in 2011. Associate Artistic Director since 2010 and performing with The Project since 2005, Barbara's favorite roles include Queen Elizabeth I in *Mary Stuart*, Margaret in Jeff Christian's adaptation of *Henry VI Parts 1, 2, and 3*, Constance Middleton in *The Constant Wife*, and Gal in *50-Minute Hamlet*. As an actor, other Chicago credits include Writers' Theatre, ShawChicago, Chicago Shakespeare Theater, First Folio Theatre, Goodman Theatre, Illinois Theatre Center, Oak Park Festival Theatre, Northlight, Lookingglass and many others. She has also performed at a variety of places regionally and internationally, such as the Colorado Shakespeare Festival and Shakespeare's Globe Theatre in London, where she was part of the International Artistic Residency in 2004. Barbara teaches in Roosevelt University's Theatre Conservatory as well as being a voiceover artist and a dialect coach. She is a proud member of Actors' Equity Association, and she's very grateful for the opportunities The Shakespeare Project provides in working with her favorite playwright and bringing his work to the public.

**George Zahora** (Sound Designer) has done sound design, in professional and non-professional capacities, for more than 20 years. Since early 2011, it has been his pleasure to be The Project's unofficial resident sound designer; you may have heard his work earlier this season in *The Taming of the Shrew*, *The Duchess of Malfi* and *Richard II*. He hopes his work on *Troilus and Cressida* will deepen and enrich your experience today.

### Welcome!

Since 1995, The Shakespeare Project of Chicago has dedicated itself to presenting free theatrical readings of William Shakespeare and other classic dramatists to Chicago area audiences. The Shakespeare Project of Chicago also offers education outreach programs (such as 50-Minute Hamlet) to local schools.

In our theatrical reading series, our artistic focus is rooted in illuminating the timeless truths found in the words of these great plays. Our audience members value the emphasis we place on the text, opening up a unique experience for them unencumbered by scenery, props, costumes and imposed conceptual conceits. Our four local venues for our theatrical reading series are The Niles Public Library, The Newberry Library, Chicago, The Wilmette Public Library and The Highland Park Public Library.

The company draws its talent from the extraordinary pool of local professional actors. Our mission is to bring "the world in words" to audiences that might otherwise not be able to experience the genius of the greatest dramatist in the English language.

Thanks for coming. And special thanks to Laura Scott and The Park Ridge Public Library for sponsoring our performance here today.

Peter Garino  
Artistic Director  
The Shakespeare Project of Chicago  
[www.shakespeareprojectchicago.org](http://www.shakespeareprojectchicago.org)

## 50-Minute Romeo and Juliet

GIRL (Juliet) ..... Karen Vance  
BOY (Romeo) ..... Matthew Fahey\*  
MAN ..... Peter Garino\*+  
WOMAN ..... Judy Blue\*+

Understudy: Brynne Barnard (Woman)

\* Member, Actors' Equity Association

+ Founding Member, The Shakespeare Project of Chicago

*Running Time: Approximately fifty minutes.  
A discussion will immediately follow the performance*

