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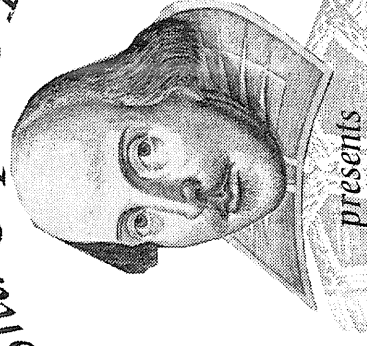
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The Shakespeare Project



presents

A "Theatrica I Reading" of

William Shakespeare's

Antony and Cleopatra

Directed by Steven Young

Assistant Director and Stage Manager:

Connie McGrail

Directing Support Team: Hollis Huston and Michelle Sterling,

Presented: March 13th, 14th, & 15th, 1998



This program is
partially sponsored
by a grant from the
Illinois Arts Council



The Shakespeare Project of Chicago is partially supported by the Chicago Park District; by a CityArts 1 grant from the City of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency; the Chicago Public Library/ Harold Washington Center; and the voluntary contributions of our audiences. All actors with *The Shakespeare Project* are members of Actors' Equity Association the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers.

Director's Notes:

Antony and Cleopatra is a tremendous story of love and betrayal. But what I find particularly compelling is the clash of one generation overtaking another and Antony and Cleopatra's ascension from temporal to deific status.

In Caesar's quest for world dominance, we are presented with a new age of conservatism and sexual repression that flies in the face of the wanton sexuality and sensual indulgence of the protagonists.

Antony, a veteran warrior who has lost his taste for the battle field, is obligated to do the bidding of a leader half his age. Cleopatra, who has relied upon seduction as a tool of diplomacy, is faced with an adversary that has no interest in her physical wares. The era of Antony and Cleopatra has passed. The image of who they were is bigger than reality.

We know them only by reputation. Shakespeare never provides an example of their former glory; only the memory and the struggle to retain it. We are rooting for the image of what they were in the past. Their greatness resides in the ethereal world of memory and to live can only tarnish the legend. Death is the means by which immortality is achieved. In death, Antony 'conquers self', Cleopatra defies Caesar, the two become one, and they are no longer engaged in the act of becoming their image-they are it! It is ironic that in Caesar's attempt to squelch the two, his plan backfires and he ends up contributing to their mythic status.

The play's sensibilities are far more Elizabethan than they are Egyptian or Roman. Shakespeare portrays the bond between Antony and Cleopatra through a duality of opposites; animal passion and tenderness, political intrigue and trust, manipulation and partnership, domination and weakness, fear and love, and masculine and feminine virtues. Through them we are enlightened to the complexities of generational struggle, love, the demands of glory, leadership, retirement, and the nature of the ethereal.

I thank *TSP* for the opportunity to work on this production. Thank you for coming and please tell your friends about *The Shakespeare Project*.

- J. Steven Johnson

Regarding "The Shakespeare Project of Chicago"



The Shakespeare Project of Chicago is an Acting Ensemble made up entirely of members of Actors' Equity Association and dedicated to the exploration of the complete works of William Shakespeare and other great dramatists. *TSP Chicago* currently presents monthly "Theatrical

Readings" of the complete works of Shakespeare that achieve a clarity usually only accomplished by fully producing the plays. Established as a vehicle to enable Chicago's professional actors to explore great literature while working in the company of others with like experience and interest levels, these exceptionally skilled performers have previously been seen on the stages of The Goodman Theater, Steppenwolf, Shakespeare Repertory, Northlight Theatre, The Court Theater, and many other great stages in the Chicago area and around the country.

Since November of 1995, *The Shakespeare Project of Chicago* has been performing our trademark "Theatrical Readings" at various Chicago locations: January's presentation of *King Lear* marked the beginning of our 1998 Theatrical Reading Series, which promises three free opportunities each month to see twelve of the greatest plays of Shakespeare's canon. This year, we expand our audience to include the patrons of the Lincoln Park Cultural Center located at 2045 North Lincoln Park West, while enthusiastically continuing to serve our audiences at The Berger Park Cultural Center and The Chicago Public Library/Harold Washington Center. Next month we present Shakespeare's pastoral comedy *As You Like It* on April 17th, 18th, and 19th at our three locations, with a special Shakespeare's Birthday Celebration performance on April 22nd at Oakton Community College, 1600 East Golf Road in Des Plaines. Stay with us as we push toward the completion of the entire canon -with *Hamlet* in December of 1998. All readings are free to the public.

TSP Chicago is a nonprofit organization and may receive tax-deductible contributions. If you wish, you may send contributions to *The Shakespeare Project of Chicago*, 2706 North Albany Street, Chicago, Illinois 60647. To receive information on our performance dates, times and locations each month fill out a card as you enter or leave the performance and you will be put on our mailing list. For further information or to book a reading, contact the *TSP Chicago* office at 773/252-5433. (Phone and Fax). Email address TSPchicago@aol.com. Be sure to visit our Website for monthly updates at <http://members.aol.com/TSPchicago>.



David Skidmore (Octavius Caesar) was last seen with *The Shakespeare Project* as Don Adriano de Armado in *Love's Labor's Lost* and prior to that as the King of France and Oswald in *King Lear*, Orsino in *Twelfth Night*, Clarence in *Richard III*, in the title role of *Henry VI* in parts 2& 3, Hotspur in *Henry IV*, part 1 and Romeo in *Romeo and Juliet*. He recently returned from Milwaukee Chamber Theatre, where he appeared in *The Cure at Troy* and in their 15th annual Shaw Festival. David has also appeared professionally in such roles as Hally in *Master Harold and the Boys*, Dexter Haven in *The Philadelphia Story*, and Malcolm in Shakespeare's *Macbeth*. David grew up in Madison, Wisconsin, received a BA from Brandeis University in Boston and an MFA in Acting from Temple University Philadelphia. He thanks his wife Kori for all her support.

Steven Young (Director) *ANTONY AND CLEOPATRA* is the second production Steven has directed for *The Shakespeare Project*. Last fall he directed *HENRY VI, part 2* and is happy to be working with the company again. His other directing credits include *MAD FOREST* at the Milwaukee Rep., *DON'T DISAPPOINT CAPTAIN JANUARY* at American Blues, *THE TRIUMPH OF LOVE* at the Boulevard Ensemble, *SMALL TOWN GIRL* for the Playwright's Studio Theatre, *OLIVER-Eastlight Theatre Company, THE MOUSE TRAP* at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, *ANNIE* for the Bertha Frank Performing Arts Center, *HAMLET* and *ROMEO & JULIET* for The New Tradition Theatre Company, *TAMING OF THE SHREW* for the Summer Nights Festival, *THE 15 MINUTE HAMLET* at the Illinois Shakespeare Festival, *LYSISTRATA* for the U of Minnesota-Duluth, *MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING, THE SEAGULL*, and *THE SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL* at Illinois State University and *RICHARD III, OEDIPUS THE KING, ROMEO & JULIET*, and *A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM* for the People's Theatre. In 1996 Steve was selected as an alternate for the New York Drama League's Director's Fellowship. As a playwright, he has just completed his latest work called *THE RESURRECTIONISTS*.



Connie McGrail (Assistant Director/Stage Manager) is a company member of *The Shakespeare Project* and last appeared as Cordelia in *King Lear* in January and prior to that as Olivia in *Twelfth Night*, Katharine in *Henry V*, Perdita in *The Winter's Tale* and varied roles in *Richard III*. Other Shakespearean credits include *Romeo and Juliet* (Juliet), *King John* (Prince Henry), *The Tempest* (Miranda), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Peaseblossom), and *All's Well That Ends Well* (Diana). She has been seen locally with Northlight Repertory, Illinois Theatre Center, The Cypress Group, Alternative Shakespeare Co., and the Drury Lanes, and regionally with Peninsula Players (Door County, WI), Midland Theatre (KC, MO), Purple Rose Theatre (Chelsea, MI), and Florida's Asolo Theatre. Earlier this season, she directed Montini Catholic High School's fall production of *Our Town*.

The Shakespeare Project of Chicago takes this opportunity to say a very special thank you to our beloved "founding father", Phil Martini, former Program Coordinator of the Berger Park Cultural Center. Phil was instrumental in encouraging the foundation of our company, supporting us through the earliest and (we hope) most difficult phases of our development and promoting us tirelessly to The Chicago Park District and all of the community. Now that Phil is dancing his way into another assignment for the Park District, we wish to express our unending appreciation for the special support that he has offered us and to shout from the rooftops our undying love!!! **Bon Voyage Phil.** We appreciate the exceptional care and skill that you bring to your work and want you to know, *The Shakespeare Project of Chicago* will be forever grateful!



The Shakespeare Project PRESENTS *Antony and Cleopatra*

THE PLAYERS

(IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE)

CLEOPATRA, QUEEN of EGYPT.....	KATHERINE CONDIT
MARC ANTONY, ONE TRIUMVIR of THE ROMAN EMPIRE.....	TERRY HAMILTON
CHARMIAN, ATTENDANT to CLEOPATRA.....	MARA POLSTER
A MESSENGER of CAESAR'S.....	ANDREW POWDERMAKER
SOOTHSAYER.....	LANCE RETALLICK
DOMITIUS ENOBRABUS, FRIEND to ANTONY.....	PETER GARINO
OCTAVIUS CAESAR, ONE ROMAN TRIUMVIR.....	DAVID SKIDMORE
M. AEMILIUS LEPIDUS, ONE ROMAN TRIUMVIR.....	ANDREW POWDERMAKER
A MESSENGER of CAESAR'S.....	LANCE RETALLICK
MARDIAN, A EUNUCH, ATTENDANT of CLEOPATRA.....	LANNY LUTZ
A MESSENGER of ANTONY'S.....	GEOFF CALLAWAY
SEXTUS POMPEIUS.....	JONATHAN RAYFIELD
MENAS, FRIEND to POMPEY.....	LANCE RETALLICK
A SOLDIER of POMPEY'S.....	ANDREW POWDERMAKER
AGRIPPA, FRIEND to CAESAR.....	LANNY LUTZ
OCTAVIA, SISTER to CAESAR.....	JUDY BLUE
A MESSENGER of ANTONY'S.....	JONATHAN RAYFIELD
EROS, FRIEND to ANTONY.....	GEOFF CALLAWAY
SCARUS, FRIEND to ANTONY.....	ANDREW POWDERMAKER
THYREUS, FRIEND to CAESAR.....	LANCE RETALLICK
DERCETAS, FRIEND of ANTONY'S.....	LANCE RETALLICK
GUARD of ANTONY'S.....	JONATHAN RAYFIELD
GUARD of ANTONY'S.....	JUDY BLUE
PROCULEIUS, FRIEND to CAESAR.....	GEOFF CALLAWAY
GUARD of CAESAR'S.....	LANCE RETALLICK
GUARD of CAESAR'S.....	LANNY LUTZ
DOLABELLA, FRIEND to CAESAR.....	ANDREW POWDERMAKER
CLOWN.....	PETER GARINO

THE SCENE: IN SEVERAL PARTS of THE ROMAN EMPIRE
THERE will be ONE 10 MINUTE INTERMISSION



Judy Blue (Octavia) for TSP: Regan in *King Lear*, Viola in *Twelfth Night*, Lady Grey in *3-Henry VI*, Hero in *Much Ado*, Titania in *Midsummer*, Nurse in *Romeo & Juliet*, Portia in *Merchant of Venice* (to name a few). Judy was Viola in Shakespeare Festival of Dallas' *Twelfth Night*, Portia in *The Merchant of Venice* at Stage West and Phebe in *As You Like It* at the Dallas Theater Center. In Chicago, roles include Desiree in *A Little Night Music* at The Goodman and Arlene in Apple Tree's *Baby*. She has appeared opposite Timothy Busfield in *Fool For Love* at B Street Theatre in CA and favorite roles include *Evita* and *Piaf* and also Alice and Elizabeth in the world premiers of Jack Heifner's *Homefires* and Horton Foote's *Valentine's Day*. Other theaters include Baltimore Theatre Project, Movement Theatre Intn'l, Henry Street New Federal Theatre in New York.



Geoff Callaway (Eros, Proculus, Messenger) Geoff is very happy to be a part of *Antony and Cleopatra*, his debut with *The Shakespeare Project of Chicago*. As an actor, Geoff has performed at Shakespeare Repertory, Ivanhoe, and New American Theatres. He has directed plays at the Calo, Ivanhoe, Owatonna, and Northwestern University Theatres, where he earned a Master's Degree in Performance Studies. As a Fight Arranger, and member of the S.A.F.D., Geoff has directed fights for over two dozen professional shows here in the Midwest, and as the resident Fight Choreographer for the late lamented Iowa Shakespeare Festival.



Katherine Condit (Cleopatra) is delighted to be making her first appearance with *The Shakespeare Project of Chicago*. She is a graduate of Northwestern University with a BA in Art History and attended United States International University in the MFA acting program. Although a native Evanstonian, Katherine has spent the better part of her professional life working in New York, Europe, and "on tour" for the past 15 years. Some favorite credits include: B'way - *Chess*, Off-B'way - *Box Office of the Damned II*, Second City Chicago - *Canterbury Tales* (The Wife of Bath), Goodman Theatre - *Riverview*, Attic Theatre - *Strider*, Old Town Theatre SD - *The Front Page* (Mollie), USIU - *Julius Caesar* (Portia), *Much Ado About Nothing* (Beatrice). On tour: *A Chorus Line* (Val), *CATS Zurich and Vienna* (Grizabella), and *Joseph...Dreamcoat* (Narrator Cover). Currently, Katherine teaches acting at Lake Forest Country Day and is Artistic Director of the *cobalt ensemble theatre*.



Peter Garino (Enobarbus, Clown) is a long-standing member of *TSP* and a member of its Board of Directors. He has appeared as an actor in over 15 *TSP* Theatrical Readings and directed the *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Pericles*, and 2 *Henry IV*. Favorite roles include Marc Antony in *Julius Caesar*, Banquo in *Macbeth*, and Capulet in *Romeo and Juliet*. His adaptation of Shakespeare's Sonnets and Songs, *My Name is Will*, was given a reading by *TSP* at the Chicago Public Library/Harold Washington Center last fall. Other professional credits include work with the Steppenwolf Theatre, Organic Theatre, Body Politic Ensemble, Oak Park Festival Theatre, Hofstra Shakespeare Festival (1974-77) and the Illinois Shakespeare Festival (1981-84.)



Terry Hamilton (Marc Antony) Past *TSP* roles include *Richard III*, York in *Henry VI, parts 2 & 3*, and Kent in *King Lear*. Other Chicago credits include the Claudius and The Ghost in the critically acclaimed Power Tap/Rivendell production of *Hamlet* and Doc in the Power Tap production of *Mister Roberts*. Mr. Hamilton had the pleasure of playing the endearing rogue Norman in Alan Ayckbourn's searing comedy *Table Manners*, and the cold selfish Geoffrey in *Absurd Person Singular* at the Mountain Playhouse in Pennsylvania. His career has spanned 31 years and over 100 productions, including Broadway, off-off Broadway, regional, summer stock, Dinner Theatres, industrial films and National commercials. Mr. Hamilton has studied with Lee Strasberg and Sonia Moore in New York, and Shakespeare with Peter Forster here in Chicago.



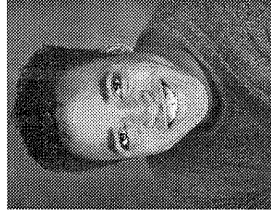
Lanny Lutz (Agrippa, Mardian) is pleased to be making his first appearance with *The Shakespeare Project of Chicago*. He received a BA from Yale (Liberal Arts) and an honors diploma from the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art (awarded the Bancroft Gold Medal). He's played leading roles Off and Off-Off Broadway and in Los Angeles, Kansas City, Omaha, and Chicago (National Jewish Theatre and Summer Nite). Favorite parts performed include *Tartuffe*, Greenwald in *Caine Mutiny* and Lenny in *Doubles*. Years ago he was featured as a bad guy on *General Hospital*.



Mara Polster (Charmian) has appeared with *TSP* as Margaret in *3-Henry VI*, Chorus i *Henry V*, Paulina in *The Winter's Tale*, Isabella in *Measure for Measure*, Dionysa in *Pericles*, Katherine in *The Taming of the Shrew*, Lucetta in *Two Gents*, Jessica in *The Merchant of Venice* and Lady Macbeth in *TSP*'s very first public performance. Most recently outside *TSP* land, Mara played She/Agnes in *I Do, I Do* at the Evergreen Theatre, Ronnie Hayhurst in *The Roads to Home* at the Eclipse, and Edna Patrick and Ma'am White in *Freedom Bound* at the Indiana Repertory Theatre. Other favorite roles include Lady Macduff in *Macbeth*, Miranda in *The Tempest*, Emily in *Our Town*, and Edna the Terrorist in *Top 40 Terror* at the long lost Theatre Project Company in St. Louis. Mara has also performed in musicals all across the country including *Candide*, *Gypsy* and *Dolls*, *Evita*, *A Little Night Music*, *Oklahoma*, *Brigadoon*, *Best Little Whorehouse*, *Sweet Charity*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *The King and I*, *Zorba*, and so on.



Andrew Powdermaker (Lepidus, Scarus, Dolabella, et al) is excited to be performing with *The Shakespeare Project* again. Past roles for *TSP* include: Somerset in *1-Henry VI*, Montjoy in *Henry V*, Justice Shallow in *2-Henry IV*, and Angus and the Porter in *Macbeth*. With Equity Library Theatre, Andrew has played Lieutenant Osborne in *Journey's End*, and Ligarius and Lucilius i *Julius Caesar*. Originally from Philadelphia, favorite roles include: Lysander in *Midsummer Nights Dream* at the Chestnut Hill Shakespeare in the Park, and Warren in *Moon Over the Brewery* in the Walnut Street Theatre's showcase studio. Andrew recently completed work in the film *Last Call*. Look for it in the Chicago Film Festival next year.



Jonathan Rayfield (Pompey, Messenger) is extremely happy to join *TSP Chicago* for this presentation of *Antony and Cleopatra*. He was last seen in *TSP*'s *Love's Labor's Lost* as Longaville. In the past several years, he has premiered *Big River* in Pittsburgh; performed the roles of The Stage Manager in *Our Town* and Oberon in Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at West Virginia Repertory Theatre; and in Dallas he was featured in the world premiere of *Slim* at the Soul Repertory Theatre. J. Rayfield is only recently rejoining the Chicago theatre scene, where he was last seen in *Ain't Misbehavin'* at the Touchstone Theatre. While here he intends to finish writing two plays in progress, and some time this spring he will workshop his own *Darjeeling Tea*.



Lance Retallick (Soothsayer, Menas, Thyreus, Dercetas, et al) graduated from Wayne State University in Detroit with an M.F.A. in acting as a member of the Hilberry Repertory Theatre, performing in over a dozen productions, including *The Grapes of Wrath*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, and *The Importance of Being Earnest*. Other work in Detroit area theatres includes: *Mass Appeal*, *The Foreigner*, and *A Christmas Carol*, *The Good Times Are Killing Me* and the original production of *The Half-Life of Karen Silkwood*. Recently Lance was seen in *Greater Tuna* at New American Theatre in Rockford.