

Stephen Spencer (Bishop Ely, Fluellen) is a founding member of *The Shakespeare Project* and most recently played Ross, Salisbury & Exton in *Richard II*. He recently appeared in *Season's Greetings* at the Forum Theatre. In Chicago, he originated the title role in *Shakespeare's Robin Hood* at Chicago Dramatists Workshop where he's performed in *Judevine*, *Marisol* and *Wingwalkers*. Other Chicago credits include *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.



Bob Thorson (Canterbury, King of France) debuted with The Shakespeare Project in May playing King Henry in Henry IV, part 1. He most recently appeared as Sagot in "Picasso at the Lapin Agile," directed by Randall Arney, at the Briar Street Theatre. Other Chicago credits include work at Chicago Dramatists Workshop, Victory Gardens and The Body Politic. Bob was a company member at the Cleveland Play House for five years, appearing in over 30 productions there. He also directed Chekov's "Swan Song" at the Play House. Around the country Bob has worked for Princeton Theatre Company in New Jersey, Mountain Playhouse in Pennsylvania, and at theatres in St. Louis, Minneapolis, Chataqua, and New York where he appeared in "The Student Prince" with the Metropolitan Opera company.

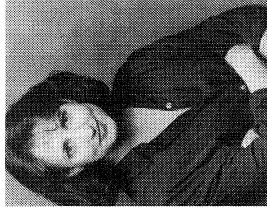


Marcus Vaughn (Bedford, Gower) last appeared as Green and Scroop in *Richard II*, has acted in many readings with *The Shakespeare Project*, and composed and performed the musical accompaniment for *The Tragedy of Macbeth*. Marcus received his B.A. in Anthropology and Theatre from The University of Notre Dame in 1993 and continued his acting studies at The American Academy of Dramatic Arts in New York. Before moving to Chicago he could be seen performing in Las Vegas for a spell. In September he can be seen playing a rather bizarre character in a rather bizarre feature at the Toronto Film Festival.



Christopher Walz (Scroop, Jany, Dolphin) is a long time member of *The Shakespeare Project* and was last seen in *Coriolanus*. Chris recently returned from a tour of Ireland with his bluegrass band, Whiskey Hollow. He is a very successful and well know sound designer around town and a teacher of guitar and voice. In addition to all this, Chris has acted on the stages of the National Jewish Theatre, The Goodman, Marriott Lincolnshire, The Briar Street Theatre, Shakespeare Repertory, Northlight, The Court Theatre, The Absolute Theatre Company and was a founding member and Artistic Director of Terrapin Theatre.

Mara Polster (Chorus, Director, Artistic Director) founded *The Shakespeare Project* in May of 1995 and is a graduate of *The Webster Conservatory of Theatre Arts and Dance* in St. Louis. She has acted on many of the stages here in Chicago and many others across the country.



Favorite acting credits include *The Roads to Home*, *Macbeth*, *Our Town*, *Top Girls*, and more musicals than she cares to name. Since its inception, *The Shakespeare Project* has enabled her to explore these brilliant and timeless works of William Shakespeare as both actor and director, and to provide the same opportunity to other talented artists in Chicago. *The Shakespeare Project* began as a "fire in the belly" and has grown to an object of much pride and promise with little more than a hungry imagination, a tireless love of the words and a brilliant group of actors. As always, *The Shakespeare Project* exists as the grateful commemoration of two fiercely strong souls, Samuel E. LaMacchia (the sower of the seed) and Michael A. Wilson.

The Shakespeare Project Presents **HENRY THE FIFTH**

THE PLAYERS

(IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE)

CHORUS.....	MARA POLSTER
KING HENRY THE FIFTH.....	SCOTT OLSON
CHARLES THE SIXTH, <i>King of France</i>	Bob THORSON
ARCHBISHOP of CANTERBURY.....	Bob THORSON
BISHOP of Ely.....	STEPHEN SPENCER
DUKE of EXETER, <i>UNCLE TO THE KING</i>	Richard SULLIVAN LEE
EARL of WESTMORLAND.....	DENNIS SOOK
MONJOY, <i>A FRENCH HERALD</i>	ANDREW POWDERMAKER
DUKE of ORLEANS.....	RICK CARTER
EARL of CAMBRIDGE.....	ANDREW POWDERMAKER
LORD SCROOP.....	CHRISTOPHER WALZ
SIR THOMAS GREY.....	ROBERT EUSTACE
HOSTESS QUICKLY.....	JUDY BLUE
BARDOLPH.....	DAVID SKIDMORE
NYM.....	RICK CARTER
PISTOL.....	DENNIS SOOK
BOY.....	CONNIE MCGRAIL
JOHN, Duke of Bedford, <i>BROTHER TO THE KING</i>	MARCUS VAUGHN
LEWIS, The Dolphin.....	CHRISTOPHER WALZ
CONSTABLE of FRANCE.....	DAVID SKIDMORE
FLUELLEN, <i>officer in King Henry's Army</i>	STEPHEN SPENCER
GOWER, <i>officer in King Henry's Army</i>	MARCUS VAUGHN
MACMORRIS, <i>officer in King Henry's Army</i>	ROBERT EUSTACE
JAMY, <i>officer in King Henry's Army</i>	CHRISTOPHER WALZ
GOVERNOR of HARLLEUR.....	ROBERT EUSTACE
KATHERINE, <i>daughter of the King of France</i>	CONNIE MCGRAIL
ALICE, <i>a lady attending on Katherine</i>	MARY BECKER
SIR THOMAS of ERPINGHAM, <i>officer in King Henry's Army</i>	Bob THORSON
JOHN BATES, <i>soldier in King Henry's Army</i>	Richard SULLIVAN LEE
MICHAEL WILLIAMS, <i>soldier in King Henry's Army</i>	ROBERT EUSTACE
HUMPHREY, Duke of Gloucester, <i>BROTHER TO THE KING</i>	JUDY BLUE
DUKE of York, <i>COUSIN TO THE KING</i>	ROBERT EUSTACE
DUKE of BURGUNDY.....	ANDREW POWDERMAKER

THE SCENE: ENGLAND; AFTERWARDS FRANCE

THERE will be ONE 10 MINUTE INTERMISSION

The Shakespeare Project would like to say a heartfelt, “**THANK YOU**” to *our many anonymous contributors* and to the following people and organizations for their generous donations at the levels indicated below:

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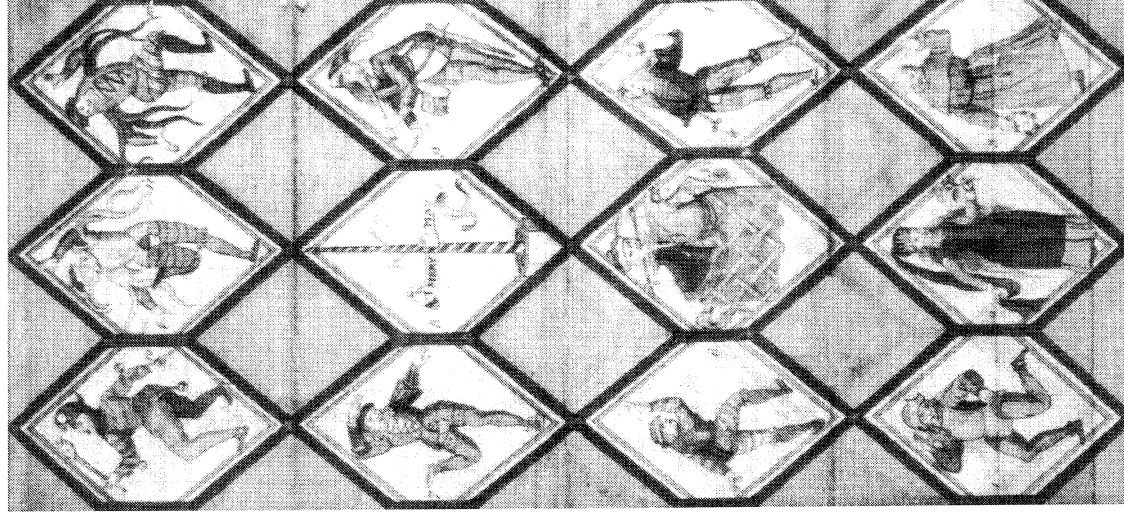
Bess Winakor

Regarding “The Shakespeare Project of Chicago”

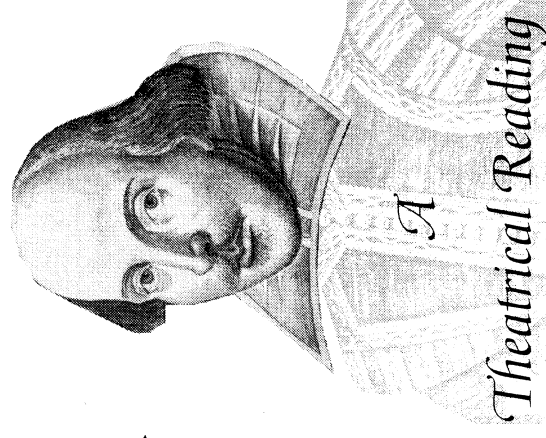
The Shakespeare Project of Chicago is an Acting Ensemble made up entirely of members of Actors’ Equity Association and dedicated to the exploration of the complete works of William Shakespeare and other great dramatists. *T.S.P.* currently presents monthly “Theatrical Readings” of the complete works 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.

Our 1997 Theatrical Reading Series “A History of the English Kings...” has been a source of great pride and excitement for audiences and actors alike. Join us as we take you through the remainder of the Elizabethan history plays in chronological order. Together with our beloved audiences, *The Shakespeare Project* is exploring these fantastic plays while piecing together the puzzle of the European history they represent. All readings are free to the public.

Next month, we begin “The Wars of the Roses cycle” with *Henry the Sixth, Part 1*, performing at three locations: The Berger Park Cultural Center, The Harold Washington Library Center, and The Chicago Cultural Center. Make sure you are on our Mailing List to receive information on performance dates and locations as we push toward the completion of the entire canon - with *Hamlet* in December of 1998- and our first full production, scheduled for the summer of 1998. *T.S.P.* is a nonprofit organization and may receive tax-deductible contributions. If you wish, you may send contributions to *The Shakespeare Project*, 2706 North Albany Street, Chicago, Illinois 60647. For further information or to book a reading, contact *T.S.P.* at 773/252-5433. (Phone and Fax). Email address TSPchicago@aol.com. Website: <http://members.aol.com/TSPchicago>.



The Shakespeare Project
presents



Theatrical Reading

of

The Life of

HENRY THE FIFTH

Directed By:

Mara Polster

Assistant Director: Nancy Nickel

Directing Support Team: Richard Sullivan Lee,
Richard Marlatt, Michelle Sterling, Kristian Schmidt.

“The Shakespeare Project” is sponsored by



COME OUT AND PLAY

All of the actors with *The Shakespeare Project* are members of Actors’ Equity Association, the Union of professional Actors and Stage Managers. All *T.S.P.* presentations at The Berger Park Cultural Arts Center are sponsored by The Chicago Park District. All performances at The Chicago Cultural Center are produced as a Special Project of Equity Library Theatre, for which the actors contribute their talents under a Special Agreement between *T.S.P.*, E.L.T. and A.E.A.