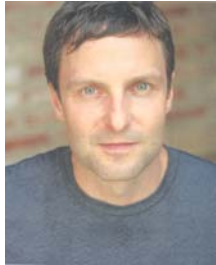




Lesley Bevan (Medea) is happy to return to The Shakespeare Project where she last appeared in *Pericles* and *The Constant Wife*. Favorite Chicago credits include *Othello* (Chicago Shakespeare), the world premieres of *Winesburg, Ohio* and *Pulp* (both with About Face Theatre), *The Berlin Circle* (Steppenwolf), *Red Herring* (Northlight), *The American Plan* (Roadworks), and *Pentecost* (Plan B). Regional credits include *Winesburg, Ohio* (Arden Theatre, Philadelphia), *Pride and Prejudice* (Indiana Rep), and seasons with both the Cincinnati Shakespeare Festival and Wayside Theatre, Virginia. Abroad, Lesley spent two years with *Boom Chicago*, Amsterdam's foremost improvisational comedy theatre. She is a founding member of Lakeside Shakespeare Theatre which brings the bard to Michigan each summer. Lesley appears this fall in *The Bowery Boys*, a world premiere musical at Marriott Theatre, Lincolnshire.



Sean Cooper (Jason) recently appeared in *The Final Toast* (Mystery Writer's Theatre) *Wedding Play* (About Face), *Honus and Me*, *Dandelion Wine* (Chicago Children's Theatre), *Cradle of Man* (Victory Gardens), *Red Herring* (Northlight Theatre), *Mojo* (Mary-Arrchie) *Eurydice*, *Melancholy Play*, *Mad Forest*, *Book of Days* (Piven Theatre), *Merchant of Venice* (Strawdog Theatre), *A Lesson Before Dying* (Steppenwolf Theatre), *Lysistrata* (Running With Scissors), *H2O*, and *K*. (The Neo-Futurists). Other companies he has worked with include Terrapin Theatre, Raven Theatre, and Pegasus Players among others.



Peter Garino (Creon) is a founding member of The Shakespeare Project of Chicago and has contributed to over 40 theatrical readings as an actor and director since 1995. Last month, he directed the first reading of the current season, *Pericles*, *Prince of Tyre*. Last season, he directed Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest* and appeared as Duke Senior and Duke Frederick in *As You Like It*. Previously for The Shakespeare Project he has appeared as 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 and with the Oak Park Festival Theatre and Illinois Shakespeare Festival. Previously he has directed readings of *A Woman of No Importance*, *Pericles*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *2 Henry IV*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and his own adaptation of Shakespeare's sonnets and songs, *My Name Is Will*, and *The Rape of Lucrece*. He 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.



Tiffany Scott (Young Chorus) is thrilled to return to The Shakespeare Project, after having appeared in *As You Like It* last season. Chicago credits include Goodman (*Christmas Carol*, *Finding the Sun*), Chicago Shakespeare (*Two Noble Kinsmen* – Jeff Award nomination, Supporting Actress), Provision (*Beast on the Moon* – Jeff Award nomination, Principal Actress), Apple Tree (*M Butterfly*, *Kindertransport*), TimeLine (*Hauptmann*) and Lifeline (*Jane Eyre*). Regional credits include Berkeley Rep, McCarter, Seattle Rep, American Players Theatre and the Illinois Shakespeare



and Utah Shakespearean Festivals. **Barbara Zahora** (Elder Chorus) is very happy to be playing with The Shakespeare Project again. She has previously performed in several other readings, including *The Importance of Being Earnest*, Jeff Christian's adaptation of Shakespeare's *Henry VI* plays, and W. Somerset Maugham's *The Constant Wife*. Barbara just finished working at Illinois Theatre Center, where she played Georgie Elgin in *The Country Girl*. Other credits include *Dancing at Lughnasa* (Oak Park Festival Theatre); *What Every Woman Knows* (ShawChicago); *Marionette Macbeth* (Chicago Shakespeare at New Victory Theater, NYC); *The 50-Minute Midsummer Night's Dream* (First Folio Shakespeare); *Lady Windermere's Fan* (Northlight Theatre); *The Moliere Comedies*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Richard II*, *The School for Scandal*, and *All's Well That Ends Well*, (Chicago Shakespeare Theater); *A Christmas Carol*, *Wit* (Goodman Theatre); *Misalliance* (Writers' Theatre), and *Hard Times* (Lookingglass Theatre). Barbara has also performed at Shakespeare's Globe Theatre in London, where she was chosen to be part of the International Artistic Residency in 2004. She holds an M.F.A. in Theatre Performance from Roosevelt University and is a proud member of Actors' Equity Association.



Jeff Christian (Aegeus, Adapter, Director, Artistic Director) leads the company into his seventh season, having adapted and directed *Henry VI* (from Shakespeare's trilogy), *Faust* (from Marlowe and Goethe), *The Parvenu* (from Moliere's *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme*), Ibsen's *Ghosts*, Dickens's *The Cricket on the Hearth*, the outreach program *50 Minute Hamlet*, as well as having staged *King Lear*, *Love's Labours Lost* and Somerset Maugham's *The Constant Wife* for the company. Other directing credits include *A Whistle in the Dark* (Seanachai Theatre Company), *Proof* and *Driving Miss Daisy* (New American Theater), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* (Lakeside Shakespeare), the national touring production of the interactive comedy *Sister Bernie's Bingo Bash*, both parts of *Angels in America* (The Journeymen; co-director and actor, sharing in three Jeff Awards and an After Dark Award) and James Krag's touring one-man show, *According to Mark* (which helped raised over \$16,000 for Habitat for Humanity). Acting credits with The Shakespeare Project include Brutus, Buckingham, Proteus, Mercutio, Bassanio, Oliver, Amiens, Richard of York in *Henry VI*, Antonio in *Twelfth Night*, Hamlet in *50 Minute Hamlet*, and one of the four actor/singers in *My Name is Will*. He writes and directs live action and animated sequences for the Emmy Award winning Digital Kitchen, serves as a creative consultant to Tessera Publishing and teaches at The Artistic Home (on whose Advisory Board he serves). Recent film work includes *Batman Begins*, *Witches' Night*, *The Poker House*, *The Express*, *Pickman's Muse*, *Helix* and *Good People*. He earned a BBA in Marketing and a BA in International Relations from The University of Wisconsin.

A discussion of the play will follow this performance.

Mara Polster (Founder, Executive Director) is thrilled to see the Project into its 14th season and is looking forward to next year's 15th Anniversary. Mara most recently adapted and directed *50 Minute Macbeth*, the newest outreach program for The Shakespeare Project's educational arm *50 Minute Shakespeare* -- now scheduling performances in its seventh school year. Mara started The Shakespeare Project of Chicago in May of 1995 and during her tenure as Artistic Director, guided The Project through the entirety of William Shakespeare's canon within the first four years, and over 50 productions. She has directed numerous plays for the project. Favorites include *King Lear*, *Hamlet*, *As You Like It*, *Richard III*, *Timon of Athens*, *Taming of the Shrew*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Julius Caesar* and of course, *Macbeth*. She has played some of the great Shakespearean women, like Emilia, Tamora, Margaret, Paulina, Isabella, Katherine and Lady Macbeth for the Project and has acted on many of the other stages here in Chicago and across the country. She is a graduate of The Webster University Conservatory of Theatre Arts and Dance in St. Louis, Missouri. The Shakespeare Project of Chicago began as the grateful commemoration of Samuel E. LaMacchia and it continues in memory of Michael Alan Wilson and Board Member, Chuck Lippitz.

Laura St. John (Education Director) leads The Shakespeare Project's educational arm, *50 Minute Shakespeare*, into its seventh year. She can be seen regularly as Gal (all the roles except Hamlet) in *50 Minute Hamlet* and in multiple roles (including Lady Macbeth and all three Witches) in *50 Minute Macbeth*. Laura has worked with The Shakespeare Project of Chicago since 1999 performing such roles as Jacquanetta (*Love's Labours Lost*), Lady Macbeth (*Macbeth*), Calpurnia (*Julius Caesar*), 3rd Witch (*Macbeth*), the Player Queen (*Hamlet*) and directing *The Winter's Tale* and *Twelfth Night*. She became Education Director in 2002, overseeing the student outreach programs and fostering relationships with schools throughout the Midwest. Laura is a writer and drama/teaching artist for Reading In Motion, an arts based reading program serving the children of the Chicago Public Schools. She is a founding member of New World Repertory Theatre and a collaborator on the children's book *Through the Cracks* (Davis Publications).

The Players of In Medea Res

Dramatis Personae (in order of appearance)

Young ChorusTiffany Scott

Elder ChorusBarbara Zahora

Medea.....Lesley Bevan

Creon..... Peter Garino

Jason..... Sean Cooper

Aegeus Jeff Christian

SCENE: In a theatre in a library

Running time for this performance is approximately one hour

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

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 The Highland Park Public Library -- Sundays, 2pm

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IN MEMORIAM

*We remember with love the
recent passing of our dear ones:*

Janet Schirn

Phyllis Weiner

*and gratefully acknowledge their
indispensable support.*

In Medea Res

from *Medea* by Euripides

Adapted and Directed by
Jeff Christian

In Medea Res
October 25-26, 2008
The Newberry Library
The Wilmette Public Library
The Highland Park Public Library



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