

**'23** 

# HAMLET

ADAPTED AND DIRECTED BY JON TRACY

**JUNE 16 - JULY 16** 

# TWELFTH NIGHT

ADAPTED AND DIRECTED BY BRIDGETTE LORIAUX

AUG 4 - SEPT 3

FOREST MEADOWS AMPHITHEATRE AT
DOMINICAN UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN RAFAEL

415.499.4488 www.marinshakespeare.org





## WE ARE MARIN SHAKESPEARE COMPANY

We believe that Shakespeare has the power to transform lives. Whether mind-opening, hilarious, or shattering, Shakespeare shines a light on the universal human themes deep within us all - revealing truths, inspiring excellence, and illuminating personal discovery.

With Shakespeare as our source of endless inspiration, we are a vibrant engine of community engagement, education, and social justice - equally vital on the stage, in classrooms, in prisons, and in the fresh air of the Forest Meadows Amphitheatre.

With the opening of our new Center for Performing Arts, Education, and Social Justice at 514 Fourth Street in downtown San Rafael, we are Setting the Stage for a shining future, with new ways to share important stories, empower new voices, and bring the community together in celebration, enjoyment, and discovery.

Thank you for joining the journey!

## TOGETHER, WE'RE PLAYING FOR GOOD



## LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The land on which the Forest Meadows Amphitheatre and Marin Shakespeare Company's Center for Performing Arts, Education and Social Justice at 514 Fourth Street sit is the unceded ancestral home of the Coast Miwok people.

The Conlan Recreation Center parking lot at Dominican University sits on the site of a former major Miwok village community which the U.S. Geological Survey calls MRN-254.

Artifacts including large projectile points, other tools, pipes, jewelry, mortar and pestles, and human remains have been found on this site. Archeological evidence suggests Forest Meadows was a place of sustained occupation for thousands of years with semi-permanent dwellings and diverse cultural activities.

We encourage you to learn more about the history of this land, and to support the present and future of the Coast Miwok people:

Coast Miwok Tribal Council of Marin

Marin Coast Miwok - Monument Project

Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, Rohnert Part

Museum of the American Indian, Novato



# A MESSAGE FROM MANAGING DIRECTOR, LESLEY CURRIER

Wow! It's been a long few years since we last produced here at Forest Meadows. We've completed major renovations, built a brand new indoor theatre, hired new staff, and rededicated ourselves to "Playing for Good". There's so much going on from events at the 514 Fourth Street theatre, to Kaleidoscope Talks at Forest Meadows – thanks for being here to share it all. We couldn't do it without you!

# A MESSAGE FROM BOARD CHAIR, ANDY GORDON

Marin Shakespeare Company proudly welcomes all of you to the newly renovated Forest Meadows Amphitheater where we will presenting HAMLET and TWELFTH NIGHT this summer. Extensive renovations were completed during 2020 in order to enhance and improve accessibility, safety, acoustics, and comfort for the audience and the actors. The pandemic has presented challenges to us as it has to all theaters across the country. We have faced these challenges and are especially happy to be back and extremely proud to be able to offer you outstanding theatrical productions in the beauty of this outdoor theater.

During the past few years we also were able to construct an amazing new indoor theater located only a few blocks away at 514 4th Street in San Rafael. We will be presenting live theater and other cultural performances at this venue as well as using this space for classes, meetings, rehearsals, and special events consistent with our mission of promoting social change. We invite you to come visit us at our new Center for Performing Arts, Education, and Social Justice.

Warmly,

Andy Gordon
Chair, Board of Directors
Marin Shakespeare Company



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Andrew Gordon, Chair Marilee Eckert, Vice Chair Sheila McClear, Secretary Laurie Nardone, Treasurer

Ben August Anne Yumi Kobori Mark Kushner E. Craig Moody Lynn Oldham Robinett Sandy Zuber

# HAMLET

ADAPTED AND DIRECTED BY JON TRACY

Friday, June 16 at 7:30 pm - Preview <u>Saturday, June 17 – Opening Night</u> Sunday, June 18 5:00 Senior Matinee Friday June 23 at 7:30 pm Saturday, June 24 at 7:30 pm Sunday, June 25, 5:00 Family Day Thursday, June 29 at 7:30 pm (Pay What You Will) Friday, June 30 at 7:30 pm Saturday, July 1 at 7:30 pm Sunday July 25:00 Matinee Thursday, July 6 at 7:30 pm Friday, July 7 at 7:30 pm Saturday, July 8 at 7:30 pm Sunday, July 9 5:00 Matinee Thursday, July 13 at 7:30 pm Friday, July 14 at 7:30 pm Saturday, July 15 at 7:30 pm Sunday, July 16 5:00 Matinee



# TWELFTH NIGHT

ADAPTED AND DIRECTED BY BRIDGETTE LORIAUX

<u> Friday, August 4 at 7:30 pm – Preview</u> <u>Saturday, August 5 – Opening Night</u> Sunday, August 6 5:00 Senior Matinee Friday August 11 at 7:30 pm Saturday, August 12 at 7:30 pm Sunday, August 13, 5:00 Family Day Thursday, August 17 at 7:30 pm Pay What You Will Friday August 18 at 7:30 pm Saturday, August 19 at 7:30 pm Sunday August 20 5:00 Matinee Thursday, August 24 at 7:30 pm Friday, August 25 at 7:30 pm Saturday, August 26 at 7:30 pm Sunday, August 27 5:00 Matinee Thursday, August 31 at 7:30 pm Friday, September 1 at 7:30 pm Saturday, September 2 at 7:30 pm

Sunday, September 3 5:00 Matinee



## KALEIDOSCOPE TALKS

45 minutes before every performance, we will offer a free Kaleidoscope Talk led by a variety of speakers, including actors, directors, scholars, activists, and community members. Talks provide unique opportunities to learn more about the production through multiple perspectives, and audience members are welcome to visit these pre-shows as often as they like. Each talk will be its own entity - Shakespeare is "owned" by everyone, and everyone should have a chance to embrace, examine, critique, and perceive the plays on their own terms, through as many different gateways as we can offer. MSC's Kaleidoscope Talks aim to inspire conversation, debate, and reflection for all who walk through our gates.

## **SCHEDULE OF KALEIDOSCOPE TALKS**

## **SPECIAL EVENTS AT 514 FOURTH STREET**

This summer, we are sharing:

ARC Playreadings
Lady Zen's "Mother of My Voice"

"Juke Joint Jukebox"

Griot Theatre's "Queen of Cubs"

Returned Citizens Theatre Troupe performances

Please vist our new theatre and enjoy these events!

**TICKETS & INFO HERE** 



# BOX OFFICE AND SEATING

The on-site Box Office and Amphitheater open one hour prior to performance. We allow picnicking inside the Amphitheater at that time. All seating is General Admission.

## **PARKING**

Free parking is available in two parking lots: 890 Belle Avenue, the nearest accessible parking; and the lot at Grand and Acacia Avenues outside the Conlan Recreation Center.

## CONCESSIONS

Guests are invited to purchase wine, beer, hot and cold drinks, and snacks at the concessions stand located inside the Amphitheatre near the Picnic Area. We also have MSC T-shirts and Shakespeare for Social Justice sweatshirts available for purchase. You are also welcome to bring your own food and beverages.

## **SEAT CUSHIONS**

Seat cushions are available for a \$1 rental fee. You are also welcome to bring your own cushions or blankets to the theater.

# NO SMOKING OR PHOTOGRAPHY

No smoking or photography of any kind is allowed in the theater. The video or audio recording of any performance by any means is strictly prohibited.

# ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Please turn off all electronic devices including cell phones, and watches.

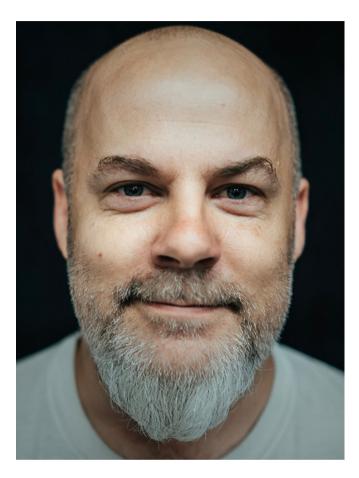
# "HAMLET" TRIGGER WARNING

This production includes depictions of gun violence, mental and emotional trauma, drug use, and suicide.



## A NOTE FROM JON TRACY...

Artistic Producer of the Summer Deason and Director, HAMLET



Jon works internationally as an art and culture producer for theatre and film. A director, playwright, designer, educator, and facilitator, he is the recipient of awards from the Kennedy Center Meritorious Achievement Award, North Bay Artys, Marquee Journalists, Ellys, Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle, and Theatre Bay Area, and has also been honored with the Solano College Theatre Alumni Award. He is a grant recipient from Theatre Bay Area, Shotgun Players' Bridging the Gap, SUI Generis, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

He recently completed a five-year leadership position with TheatreFIRST. He is also Co-Artistic Director of Groundswell: The International Theatre Intensive, a Company Member of both Shotgun Players and PlayGround, and the new Artistic Producer of the Summer Season for Marin Shakespeare Company. Jon is a proud member of SDC, the union for stage directors and choreographers, and the lucky Dad of Evelyn and Jacob. Visit his website at: jontracyplays.com

### **DIRECTOR'S NOTES:**

We put a lot of stock in the impact of Shakespeare's works and the "mirror to nature" that they provide us. We champion these stories so that we might reflect and the best and worst of the human condition.

How best to deliver this impact NOW? Is it possible to find the 400+-year-old comedy in our modern moment? And what would it take to make this tragedy tragic again? What is the correct focus of this "mirror" to reflect our current "nature"?

The brilliant and beautiful creative team has developed a production of Hamlet that explores these questions through their own lived experiences. The play, an adaptation for sure, aims to bring us closer to its original force by pulling it up through the centuries, right up to our current moment.

May this production find its place in the massive library of viewpoints on Hamlet and serve as our distinct reflection on the past, present, and future of Shakespeare's relevance.



## SPOILER ALERT: THE STORY OF HAMLET

Hamlet, the Prince, is home from college to mourn the death of his father, King Hamlet, who died two months earlier. Hamlet grapples with the realities of his newly widowed mother Queen Gertrude's marriage to his uncle, King Hamlet's brother, Claudius, who now has the throne.

A ghost appears to Hamlet's confidant, Horatio, who thinks the spirit has a likeness to the former King. In the midst of this revelation, the ghost appears and reveals that his brother Claudius poisoned him. Hamlet vows to avenge his father's murder. He decides to put on an antic disposition and feign madness.

Meanwhile, Laertes, daughter to the King's advisor Polonius, is set to return to France. Before she leaves, she tells Ophelia, her younger sister, to be weary of Hamlet's affections.

Hamlet's sanity begins to be questioned by all. Claudius and Gertrude are both concerned; Polonius suggests it is Ophelia's rejection of his advances. Claudius and Polonius decide to spy on Hamlet and Ophelia. Claudius further employs Rosencrantz and Guildenstern, two childhood friends of Hamlet, to spy on him further. Hamlet quickly realizes their intentions.

Hamlet utilizes a mysterious troupe of clowns to determine the validity of his father's murder. He will have them perform the very act of murder, killing a king through poison in the ear, which the ghost has claimed. He asks Horatio to watch Claudius' reaction throughout the play. While the court is watching, Claudius is enraged and leaves the play convincing Hamlet that he is the murderer.

Hamlet comes upon Claudius in the chapel, kneeling down to pray. He considers killing him but since Claudius is in mid-prayer, and will therefore go to heaven if he dies, Hamlet decides to wait until Claudius is committing some sin, so that he will go to hell like Hamlet's father before him.

Hamlet meets Gertrude in her room and an argument ensues. When he hears Polonius who is hiding shout for help, he shoots and kills him thinking it is Claudius. The ghost appears to Hamlet to refocus him on the task of killing Claudius.

Claudius demands that Hamlet, Rosencrantz and Guildenstern head for England. Claudius has sent a letter with them (backed up by a phone call) ordering Hamlet's execution during the trip. While at sea, however, Hamlet discovers his planned murder and switches the orders, causing Rosencrantz and Guildenstern to be executed.

#### Hamlet returns.

Meanwhile, Ophelia has gone mad with grief over her father's death. Laertes returns from France and learns it was Hamlet who has killed her father, Polonius. Claudius suggests that Laertes duel with Hamlet and poisons the tip of Laertes foil for a fatal blow. If Laertes loses the duel, Claudius will put poison into a drink for Hamlet. Gertrude enters and announces that Ophelia has drowned.

In the graveyard, Hamlet reminisces on a friend of his whose skull he has found. When the processional arrives with Ophelia's corpse, Laertes and Hamlet argue. A duel is scheduled...



# Philippa Kelly, dramaturg ON OPHELIA

What's not to like about the court of Claudius? It's clean and bright, and no one is unemployed - except for Hamlet. No one is equivocal - except for Hamlet. And no one, it seems, is lonely - except for Hamlet. That is, until you turn your eyes toward Ophelia. This is one of the magical features of Marin Shakes' 2023 production: it asks us - demands of us - to consider what it's like to be Ophelia.

Returning for his father's funeral, Hamlet finds a court where his father's story has literally been buried with his body. King Claudius, dismissing his brother's fate with a single "drooping eye," asks Hamlet to accept the court's new normal, with its patina of health and decorum. But for Hamlet it's "a garden full of weeds:" and we watch as he turns this whole world, with everything it values, on its head. Alone in refusing Claudius' right to reign, Hamlet asks us, the audience, to join him in digging for the unsolved mysteries and untold stories of the soul. In many productions this leaves no room for Ophelia, who has her own thousand heartaches, her own unsolved mysteries. Marin Shakes' production uplifts Ophelia – who is she, and why does she let her lover destroy her?

In our production Ophelia has, instead of a brother, a sister whose freedom is pronounced in comparison with the restrictions forced upon Ophelia herself. Isolated and alone, recruited to others' dramas, in a profound sense she mirrors Hamlet's emotional journey. Yes, Hamlet's father has been murdered; but so has Ophelia's. Hamlet feels alone—but he does have Horatio, to whom, at his death, he entrusts his story. Ophelia has no one—not a mother, not a sister (since Laertes, her sister in this production, spends most of her time in France); not even a gentlewoman with whom to share her worries and sorrows. Horatio has insisted on coming to observe the rites of mourning with his friend. But Ophelia has no one with whom to mourn her father. Derided, mocked, gaslighted by her lover, she's told that he never loved her, and to "Get ... to a nunnery." On Ophelia's grave, her sister and her lover argue as to who loved her more and who misses her most. But where does this leave Ophelia? Ultimately takes the step, makes the choice that Hamlet cannot bring himself to make. And it's only in death that she's pressed to the bosoms of those who have abandoned her.

Abandonment and isolation are among the worst punishments that can be inflicted on a person: which is why communities create prisons, places on the periphery of life. Hamlet tells us that his uncle's court is "a prison." Trapped in rage and despair, denied "funeral rites," he's newly fathered by his uncle, and his mother is now also his aunt. But in this production Hamlet isn't the only creature crawling puzzled and alone "between earth and heaven" – Ophelia is as well. And Marin Shakes' Hamlet23 shines a special light on the story of a woman who, even as she's buried, is subject to the gravediggers' joking speculations about her right to buried within her community at all.

Isolation doesn't just hurt - it can literally kill. Ophelia shows us this.

## A NOTE FROM BRIDGETTE LORIAUX...

Director, TWELFTH NIGHT (See Bridgette's Bio on page 16)

As storytellers we have a tremendous responsibility to our communities, our society and to our audiences. The arts: music, sculpture, paintings, monuments, literature, plays are the only things that survive heartache, epidemics, pandemics, wars, and the like. Plays, whether classical or contemporary teach us, guide us, inspire us to reflect, to be and to do better. Plays enable us to experience something of significance, live, at the same time, together...plays bring us together.

It has been an honor to collaborate with artists from across the Bay Area to work on this Great play we call Twelfth Night...or what you will. As we celebrate the fluidity of gender identity; are in constant conversation about race and equality with our friends, families, and political circles; and as a cohesive collective understand through our personal experiences how our grief and pain can become joy and ultimately through that grief, we discover love unexpected. In all its form and fashion, we find our capacity to love; we find acceptance of others and of ourselves. There is no better time to present this adaptation to you.

My hope is that William Shakespeare's words, written over 400 years ago, will resonate with you, will blanket you, hold space for you. That through music, movement, and a contemporary perspective we will find ourselves in dialogue, asking questions, that may or may not have answers, but hopefully will continue the sacred tradition of experiencing classical theatre in our modern times.





# the story of TWELFTH NIGHT

## TWELFTH NIGHT SYNOPSIS: by PHILIPPA KELLY

- 1. A languishing: In the kingdom of Illyria, Duke Orsino languishes for the love of the Lady Olivia, who's sworn off men for the next 7 years while she mourns the death of her brother.
- 2. Someone else has lost a brother too: a young noblewoman, Viola, has survived a shipwreck and comes to the shore of Illyria. She believes her brother was drowned in the violent storm.
- 3. A match? Duke Orsino is gaga for Olivia. The more she rejects him, the more he wants her!
- 4. A job: Viola goes to work for Orsino in drag: she becomes his page, "Cesario." She falls in love with him.
- 5. Hell is other people: Orsino sends Viola to do his wooing for him. But Olivia falls in love with "Cesario." Viola (disguised as Cesario) loves Orsino, Orsino loves Olivia, and Olivia loves Cesario. (Fun fact: three hundred and fifty years later, Jean Paul Sartre used the very same love triangle for the vision of hell he described in his play, No Exit.)
- 6. Seeking treasure: Olivia's uncle, Sir Toby Belch, is short of cash and tries to match Olivia with his friend, Sir Andrew Aguecheek as a way to finance his own lifestyle.
- 7. A third suitor Olivia's courtier Malvolio, is tricked by his co-workers into thinking his boss has feelings for him. This makes him act very strange indeed.
- 8. In another part of Illyria...Viola's twin brother Sebastian, was not drowned. Saved by his friend Antonio, he sets out across the island carrying money that Antonio has loaned him.
- 9. A duel: Sir Andrew meets Cesario, competing for Olivia, and challenges "him" to a duel.
- 10. A narrow escape: Sebastian appears on the scene and wins a few rounds against Sir Andrew, who thinks he's fighting Cesario.
- 11. An offer of marriage: Olivia comes upon Sebastian, who looks just like Cesario, (They are identical twins, after all!) She pleads with him to marry her, thinking he is Cesario.
- 12. Why not? Sebastian says yes to Olivia. Why not? Olivia is beautiful and rich.
- 13. A prison: Malvolio, locked up as a madman, is visited by Feste pretending to be a priest.
- 14. A revelation: Orsino and Cesario come to Olivia's house. Olivia welcomes Cesario as her new husband. Orsino is furious. Cesario reveals "himself" as Viola; the confusion is sorted out.
- 15. A capitulation: Orsino is happy to marry Viola.
- 16. Who owes the debt? Sebastian's friend Antonio, has also come to town. He's been arrested by the authorities, who have demanded he pay old debts. Thinking "Cesario" to be Sebastian, he's been unable to understand why his generously is not repaid.
- 17. And who pays the debt? Malvolio too has had bad fortune. He hasn't won his intended bride, but this is the least of his worries. He's been imprisoned by his co-workers, shamed and wounded. He ends Shakespeare's last comedy on a mixed emotional note.





## **HAMLET**

By William Shakespeare
Adapted and Directed by Jon Tracy+

## THE CAST

Rinabeth Apostol\* Laertes/Rosencrantz/

Clown Queen

Stevie DeMott Horatio/Guildenstern

désirée freda Ophelia

Bridgette Loriaux\* Gertrude

Nick Musleh\* Hamlet Richard Pallaziol Polonius

Michael Torres\* Claudius/Ghost of

King Hamlet

Lady Zen Clown King

## **ARTISTIC TEAM**

Choreographer Bridgette Loriaux \* Costume Designers Miyuki Bierlein, Luisc

Frasconi

Dramaturg Phillipa Kelley Fight Captain Stevie DeMott Fight Director Dave Maier

Lighting Designer Jon Tracy

Producer Lesley Curri

Properties Designer Joy Gonzale:

Set Designer Nina Ball

Sound Designers - Ben Euphrat, Lady Zer

& Composers

Stage Manager Dawn Marie Kelley \*

tage Manager Assistant Juliann Lathung

Understudy & Storm White Assistant Director





\*Member, Actor's Equity Association, the professional association of actors and stage managers.

+Stage Directors and Choreographers
Society

Marin Shakespeare company is proud to be affiliated with:

San Rafael Chamber of Commerce
Theatre Bay Area
Shakespeare Theatre Association









# TWELFTH NIGHT

## **TWELFTH NIGHT**

By William Shakespeare
Adapted, Directed, and Choreographed by
BRIDGETTE LORIAUX

## THE CAST

Nancy Carlin\* Mariah

Adrian Deane Feste

Stevie DeMott Viola

Justin P. Lopez Antonio

Charisse Loriaux\* Olivia

Johnny Moreno\* Orsino

Robert Parsons\* Sir Toby Belch

Steve Price Sir Andrew Aguecheek

Salim Razawi Sebastian

Michael Gene Sullivan\* Malvolio

Richard Pallaziol Understudy

Storm White Understudy

## **ARTISTIC TEAM**

Nina Ball Scenic Design

Alijah Carter Assistant Stage Manager

Nick Carvalho\* Stage Manager

Lesley Currier Managing Director

Bethany Deal Costume Design

Adrian Deane Dance Captain

Ben Euphrat Sound Desigr

Stephanie Anne Johnson Light Design

Justin P. Lopez Vocal Director

Dave Maier Fight Director

Johnny Moreno Fight Captain

Jon Tracy Artistic Producer

David Warner Composer

Randy Wong-Westbrooke Prop Design

Elena Wright Intimacy Director



\*Member, Actor's Equity Association, the professional association of actors and stage managers.

Marin Shakespeare company is proud to be affiliated with:

San Rafael Chamber of Commerce Theatre Bay Area Shakespeare Theatre Association









## Rinabeth Apostol\*

## Laertes/Rosencrantz/Clown Queen, HAMLET

has appeared in new works onstage at A.C.T., Actors Theater of Louisville, Seattle Rep, TheatreWorks, CalShakes, The Magic, Arizona Theater Company, East West Players, Skirball Center for the Arts, and Berkeley Rep Ground Floor, among others. Post pandemic productions: STARTING HERE, STARTING NOW (SF Playhouse), THE MAGIC LAMP (Presidio Theater), REDWINGED BLACKBIRD (world premiere), FUN HOME (42nd Street Moon), MONUMENT (world premiere, Magic Theater), SMART PEOPLE and THE CHINESE LADY (CapStage) and SOUTH PACIFIC (Billings Symphony). Offstage, you can hear her on Sirius XM/Marvel's UNBEATABLE SQUIRREL GIRL Podcast as Gretchen Campbell. Proud member AEA, SAG-AFTRA. @rbdtwo | rinabeth.com



## Nancy Carlin\*

#### Mariah, TWELFTH NIGHT

last performed at MSC in 1990 as Rosalind in AS YOU LIKE IT. A former company member of A.C.T. and associate artist with Cal Shakes, she has performed and directed in theaters including Berkeley Rep, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Aurora Theater, and Shakespeare Santa Cruz. A theater arts lecturer with UC Berkeley and SJSU, Nancy holds a BA in comparative literature from Brown University and MFA in acting from A.C.T. and is a member of AEA, SAG-AFTRA, and SDC. Ouiser in STEEL MAGNOLIAS for TheatreWorks, directed CLUE for Center Rep and played Anne-Marie in A DOLL'S HOUSE, PART 2 for The Jewel Theater. She co-authored the musical MAX UNDERSTOOD and can be seen in Eleanor Coppola's, LOVE IS LOVE IS LOVE. www.nancycarlin.com



## Adrian Deane

### Feste, TWELFTH NIGHT

has performed in over 30 full-length stage productions, receiving two local nominations for a principal role, three for best ensemble work, and one international festival recommendation for best duo. Appearances include The Edinburgh Festival Fringe in Scotland (2019), the world premier of 2 1/2 BREATHS off-Broadway (May 2022), and the Eugene O'Neill Festival in New Ross, Ireland (WELDED in 2022 and ANNA CHRISTIE in October 2023). Film work includes ONE LONG DAY (2021), for which she received nominations for best lead and best ensemble. Dance includes Blues-Fusion, Ballroom, Noh, Kyogen, and Kabuki. AdrianDeane.com imdb.com/name/nm5113324/



## **Stevie DeMott**

#### Horatio/Guildenstern, HAMLET; Viola, TWELFTH NIGHT

is a devised theater maker, teacher, and actor. She has performed with the American Conservatory Theater, Magic Theatre, TheatreFirst, Word For Word, and Mugwumpin, among others. Favorite roles include May in FOOL FOR LOVE, Sara in STOP KISS, Orlando in Sarah Ruhl's ORLANDO, Lady Macbeth, and Mercutio. Stevie has taught for California Institute of Integral Studies, at Burning Man exploring devising theater under extreme conditions, and for A.C.T.'s YC and Studio programs. She graduated summa cum laude from SFSU with a B.A. in Theatre Arts and Creative Writing, and received her M.F.A. from the American Conservatory Theatre.



désirée freda

## Ophelia, HAMLET

(fka dezi solèy) is a multi-disciplinary storyteller & feminine guide devoted to embodiments of the Divine. when she's not on stage, she can be found communing with nature, creating beauty and holding space for transformative self-healing. désirée is co-founder of we are the new paradigm - a qwoc collective offering event curation, film production, quantum healing and ancestral based practices. you can learn more at newparadigm.podia or on ig @musetothegods.



Justin P. Lopez

### Antonio, TWELFTH NIGHT

is a mixed-race Indigenous, Latino, and Asian actor, singer, writer, and bobamilk-tea enthusiast, who is passionate about new works and loves finding true connection and humanity in each script. As an actor, recent credits include the world premiere of KISS MY AZTEC! at Berkeley Rep, GLASS MENAGERIE at African American Shakespeare Company, and Romeo and Juliet at AASC. As a writer, Justin's work has been recognized by the Bay Area Playwrights Festival, Ashland New Play Festival, Yale Drama Prize, and many organizations around the country, including PlayGround SF, Custom Made Theatre Company, and Town Hall Theatre. Find out what else Justin is up to at www.justinplopez.com



## Bridgette Loriaux\*

Gertrude, Choreographer, HAMLET; Director/Choreographer, TWELFTH NIGHT Credits include: four seasons at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival; NYC off-Broadway show and International Tour of DE LA GUARDA; Vocalist for FUERZA BRUTA; Tamam in Betty Shamieh's, THE BLACK EYED, Magic Theatre; Aerialist for the Beijing Olympic Games; Creator of LA PETITE MORT for Darb1718, Cairo, Egypt; Head of Production: Uneeq Entertainment, Dubai. TheatreFIRST, Anton's Well Theatre Company, SJSU, Shakespeare Santa Cruz at UCSC, and devised BELOVÉD, a one-woman physical theatre experience in Sao Paulo, Brazil.2 1/2 BREATHS a play she wrote, directed, and choreographed premiered off-Broadway on May 19, 2022 at the Chain Theatre NYC.



## Charisse Loriaux\*

### Olivia, TWELFTH NIGHT

is filled with gratitude to make her Marin Shakespeare Company debut. She most recently played Desdemona in OTHELLO at San Jose Stage and has had the honor of working with San Francisco Playhouse, Aurora Theatre Company, Magic Theatre, Crowded Fire Theater, Shotgun Players, Lorraine Hansberry Theatre, Tabia African-American Theatre Ensemble, Teatro Vision, Berkeley Playhouse, and the Oregon Shakespeare Festival. She modeled and collaborated with the world renowned contemporary figurative sculptor, Richard MacDonald on the monument, the Grand Coda which was unveiled in Shenzhen, China. Charisse is a graduate of SJSU and is a company member at Kaiser Permanente Educational Theatre.



## Johnny Moreno\*

#### Orsino, TWELFTH NIGHT

has appeared at theatres including A.C.T., Berkeley Rep, SF Playhouse, San Jose Stage Company, Center Rep, Marin Theatre, Crowded Fire, Thick Description and Pacific Repertory Theater. Favorite roles include lago in OTHELLO, MacHeath in THE THREEPENNY OPERA (TBA Award for Best Actor in a Musical), Ralph Bates in PERIOD OF ADJUSTMENT, Henry Higgins in MY FAIR LADY (BATCC Award for Best Actor in a Musical), Palo in GIBRALTAR, Mortimer in MARY STUART, and Stanley Kowalski in A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE (Dean Goodman Award for Best Actor). Film/TV credits include BETAS, CALLBACK (winner, Chicago Indie Fest for Best Film), UPSIDE OUT with Olympia Dukakis, PARADISE CLUB, and IM STILL HERE with Joaquin Phoenix. M.F.A. from A.C.T.



## Nick Musleh\*

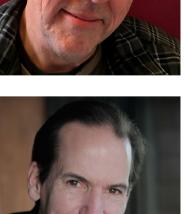
#### Hamlet, HAMLET

Nick is proud to reunite with Jon Tracy for his first production with this inspiring group at Marin Shakes. He served on the Artistic Board and as Shakespeare Workshop Moderator at Theatre West where he created roles in world premieres including OUR MAN IN SANTIAGO, which he premiered Off-Broadway, MOOSE ON THE LOOSE, and AGAINST THE WALL. He directs stage and film including the critically acclaimed LOVE'S LABOUR'S LOST and has several TV credits. He is writer/creator of THE ROSY CROSS series being developed in Europe, has performed in Shakespeare productions throughout the Bay and taught Shakespeare at UCLA and the Broad Stage.



## Richard Pallaziol

Polonius, HAMLET; Understudy TWELFTH NIGHT eagerly returns for his sixth season with MSC, embracing the opportunity to work with these incredible artists. Trained at CSU Long Beach and the American Conservatory Theatre in San Francisco, Richard's extensive experience as a retired professional stage fight choreographer, dancer, actor, and director spans over 400 productions. He takes immense pride in his current position as an actor and instructor with Valley Players in Napa, a remarkable theater company dedicated to empowering women over forty through the theatre arts.



## **Robert Parsons\***

### Sir Toby Belch, TWELFTH NIGHT

was last seen at MSC as Prospero in THE TEMPEST directed by Jon Tracy. Other credits include A.C.T. Magic Theatre, Aurora Theatre, Shotgun Players, SF Playhouse, Marin Theatre Company, as well as appearances at Symmetry Theatre Company of which he is a founding member, Word for Word, TheatreWorks, SF Shakes, San Jose Stage, Cutting Ball, Berkeley Rep and Actors' Reading Collective, also a founding member. Regional and International credits include Ahmanson Theatre, Ford's Theatre, Huntington Theatre Company, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Alley Theatre, Arizona Theatre Company, San Miguel Playhouse, Teatro Santa Ana, and The Sydney Festival in Australia. Film Credits include FREAKY TALES, FAIRYLAND, FREELAND, INTERVIEW WITH TRAVELER #582, and PRUFROCK.



## **Steve Price**

## Sir Andrew Aguecheek, TWELFTH NIGHT

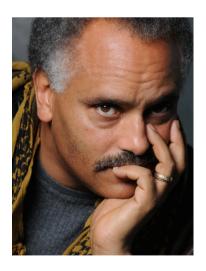
has played many roles with Marin Shakespeare Company including Villuppo in THE SPANISH TRAGEDY, Friar John in ROMEO AND JULIET, Brabantio in OTHELLO, Leonato in MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING, Holofernes in LOVE's LABOUR'S LOST, Polonius in HAMLET, and Escalus in MEASURE FOR MEASURE. Steve is Executive Producer at Ross Valley Players and recently appeared in the role of Frank Butley in NATIVE GARDENS at RVP as well as The Mayor in THE GOVERNMENT INSPECTOR receiving an SFBATCC award for Best Principal Performance in a Comedy, and in the role of Howard Bevans in PICNIC receiving an SFBATCC nomination for Best Featured Performance.



## Salim Razawi

#### Sebastian, TWELFTH NIGHT

is an actor, director, and teaching artist based in the Bay Area. Previous credits include WATER BY THE SPOONFUL at SF Playhouse, DISGRACED at San Jose Stage Company and Romeo in the SF Shakespeare Festival's Educational Tour of R&J. In addition Salim has performed with TheatreWorks, Broadway By the Bay, Altarena Playhouse, Pacific Coast Repertory Theatre, Berkeley Playhouse, Tri-Valley REP, Bay Area Children's Theatre, Tabard Theatre, Livermore Shakespeare Festival, and Golden Thread. When not on stage Salim serves as the casting director for Shotgun Players and directs throughout the Bay. He can also be seen on a featured TEDx talk. SalimRazawi.com



## Michael Gene Sullivan\*

### **Malvolio, TWELFTH NIGHT**

Acting includes A.C.T., SF Playhouse, Theatreworks, Cal Shakes, Denver Center Theatre Company, Marin Theatre Company, Aurora Theatre, African American Shakespeare, SF Shakespeare Festival, and Magic Theatre among many others. For over 30 years Michael has also been an actor, playwright, director, and Collective Member of the Tony award-winning (and never, ever silent) San Francisco Mime Troupe, working on dozens of productions. His award-winning, internationally produced stage adaptation of George Orwell's 1984 makes its Bay Area premiere at Aurora Theatre this Fall. Other plays by Michael include RECIPE at Central Works, and THE GREAT KHAN at SF Playhouse and San Diego Rep. He is a Djerassi playwriting Fellow, alum of the Playwrights Foundation, and Guggenheim Fellow for Drama. michaelgenesullivan.com





## Michael Torres\*

## Claudius/Ghost of King Hamlet , HAMLET

played Caliban in Jon Tracy's adaptation of THE TEMPEST here at Marin Shakespeare a few years back. Also under Mr. Tracy's direction Michael played Agamemnon in his adaptation of THE ILIAD, IN THE WOUND, THE SALT PLAYS, PART 1. In 1996, he co-founded Campo Santo where he originated roles for Dave Eggers, Denis Johnson, Jose Rivera, Jessica Hagedorn, Octavio Solis and more. An award winning actor, Michael has played at The Aurora Theatre, The Shotgun Players, Berkeley Repertory, and TheatreFirst among others. During the pandemic he streamed for Playground DISBELIEF: A CASSANDRA TALE, and played Apollo and El Henry in Herbert Siguenza's EL HENRY for ARC.



## Lady Zen

## Clown King/Co-Composer, HAMLET

Alzenira Santos Amaral de Quezada is a Maestra of Fine Arts with a degree from Stonecoast MFA in Portland, Maine and a J. William Fulbright Scholar in Opera Performance from the University of Arkansas. A TEDx talk alumni, published author, producer, photographer and art director; currently a residence of Mexico collaborating on works around the world.Lady Zen will join Rene Armand for a North American Tour this fall and can be found in performing with their Royal Court Band in Mexico City, Queretaro, Guadalajara, Puerto Vallarta and San Miguel de Allende where they live with their spouse and three amazing cats. Check them out on Instagram etheladyzen.



## Nina Ball

## Scenic Design, HAMLET and TWELFTH NIGHT

Her work has been seen at American Conservatory Theatre, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, California Shakespeare Theater, Shotgun Players, Theatreworks, St Louis Rep, Seattle Rep, and San Francisco Playhouse, among many others. Ball also teaches scenic design at Stanford and is a member of IATSE local 829. ninaball.com



**Jody Branham** 

#### Costume Manager

brings a wealth of experience to the role. She cultivated her sewing skills as a teenager, creating costumes for Renaissance Faires, and later pursued a career in healthcare. However, her passion for theater led her to return to school, earning a degree in Drama and a master's degree in Theatre Arts and Costume Design. Jody has worked as a costume designer, design assistant, and seamstress for various regional, academic, and youth theater productions, as well as ballet. She excels in dramaturgical and visual research to create cohesive and immersive designs. Learn more at JBranhamDesigns.com.



**Alijah Carter** 

### Assistant Stage Manager, TWELFTH NIGHT

is glad to be a part of the management team for this show. Thankful to be a part of this show, and to work with a wonderful team. He hopes everyone enjoys the show!



## Nick Carvalho\*

#### Stage Manager, TWELFTH NIGHT

is excited to work with Marin Shakes for the first time. Recent credits include WHERE DID WE SIT ON THE BUS?, the world premiere of JUSTICE: A NEW MUSICAL, August Wilson's TWO TRAINS RUNNING, and DUNSINANE at Marin Theatre Company; the world premiere of MONUMENT, OR FOUR SISTERS (a sloth play) at Magic Theatre; and productions at Town Hall Theatre. Nick is the Production Manager for El Campanil Theatre. He is an alumni of Diablo Valley College where he advises student stage managers and serves on the Technical Theatre Advisory Board. During his time at DVC, he earned three certificates of merit in stage management from KCACTF. He thanks his partner, Emma for her constant love and support!



## **Bethany Deal**

#### Costume Design, TWELFTH NIGHT

is a costume designer, maker, & coordinator, wig & make up designer, and licensed cosmetologist with her company, Designs by Deal LLC with an MFA in Costume Design/Hair & Make-Up design. She is a costume production supervisor for CSU East Bay, Oakland Ballet and Kaiser Permanente Educational Theater. Her award-winning designs have been seen at Hillbarn Theater, TheatreFirst, Center Rep, BACT, Ray of Light Theater, 42nd Street Moon, Broadway By the Bay, Berkeley Playhouse, Theater of the Others, Garage Theatre, USU & Stockton Civic Theater, OMG, Sierra Rep, and California's Great America. Film/TV includes NOT YOUR YEAR and NORTH BEACH; Salt Lake City 48 Hour Film Project Winner, 2013. @costumegirl\_deal



## **Lesley Currier**

#### **Managing Director**

is Co-Founder of Marin Shakespeare Company, with her husband Robert Currier, Artistic Director Emeritus. A graduate of Princeton University, where she won the annual Theatre Award, she has received Bay Area awards and nominations for Directing and Overall Production, is past President of the Shakespeare Theatre Association, a member of Marin Women's Hall of Fame, recipent of a Lifetime Achievement Award from Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle, and recipient of the Burbage Award for excellence in Shakespeare production worldwide. Lesley founded MSC's Shakespeare for Social Justice program and remains a dedicated Teaching Artist in prisons.



## Ben Euphrat

Sound Design/Composer, HAMLET; Sound Design, Twelfth Night is most often seen on the stage as an actor/musician, but is thrilled to make his sound design debut with MSC for Hamlet and the upcoming Tempest. He's worked either on stage or behind the scenes as a designer or music director with nearly every theatre in the Bay, including and most recently with SF Playhouse, Berkeley Rep, Marin Theatre Company, Shotgun Players, Magic Theatre, ACT, and Theatreworks, among others. His work for TheatreFirst's online season included editing a film he helped make with Lady Zen called What's in a Name, in which he was awarded four international Best Editor awards. More at Beneuphrat.com



## Luisa Frasconi

#### **Costume Designer, HAMLET**

returns to Marin Shakes for her 7th Season, this year as a designer. She last appeared on this stage as Isabella in Measure for Measure, Constance in Three Musketeers, Desdemona in Othello, Juliet in Romeo & Juliet, Phebe in As You Like It, Diana in All's Well That Ends Well, and Helena in A Midsummer Night's Dream. Other recent Bay Area credits include White at Shotgun Players and Cow Pie Bingo at Alter Theater Ensemble. She has also worked at Impact Theatre, Crowded Fire Theatre, Cal Shakes, Aurora Theatre Company and Livermore Shakespeare Festival. Thanks to her two young kids, who lend their Mama to the theatre.



## **Joy Gonzales**

### **Prop Design, HAMLET**

is a prop artisan based in Oakland, CA. She has a BFA in Sculpture from Cal State University Long Beach and a Technical Theatre Certificate from Diablo Valley College. She recently finished a year-long props internship at PCPA (Pacific Conservatory Theatre) and is excited to be working with Marin Shakespeare Company.



## Stephanie Anne Johnson

### Light Design, TWELFTH NIGHT

is a second-generation theatre practitioner whose mother, Virginia Greene Johnson worked with the American Negro Theatre. She is happy to work at MSC for the first time. Johnson has worked as a Lighting Designer for 49 years with Cultural Odyssey, Afro Solo, Ubuntu, Marin Theatre Companhy, TheatreFirst, The Lower Bottom Playaz, SF Playhouse and more. As a visual artist, she has used light and projections as tools for symbolic examinations of African American history. She is a Founding Faculty member at CSU, Monterrey Bay in the Visual and Public Art Department, and has worked on films with Robert Townsend, Pratibha Parmar, and Alice Walker. www.lightessencedesign.com.



## Dawn Marie Kelley\*

### Stage Manager, HAMLET

grew up in Baltimore, MD. She graduated from Towson University with a Bachelor of Science in Theatrical Studies (with a minor in creative writing and film production). Since graduation she has worked as an SM, ASM, PA, and backstage theatrical crew member. Dawn has worked with a number of theater companies and festivals, including but not limited to Baltimore Shakespeare Factory, Capital Fringe (DC), Oakland Theater Project, Bay Area Children's Theater, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, The Reperatory Theater of St. Louis, and Actors Theater of Louisville. She is excited to be working fo the first time with Marin Shakespeare Company.



## Philippa Kelly

#### Dramaturg, HAMLET and TWELFTH NIGHT

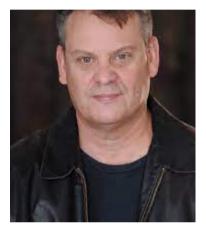
(she/hers) has served for 13 years as Resident Dramaturg for the California Shakespeare Theater, and as Production Dramaturg for many regional theaters, including SF Playhouse, the Magic Theater, the Aurora, the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Play On! Shakespeare, and many others. She has been awarded fellowships from the Fulbright, Rockefeller and Commonwealth Foundations, and grants from the California Arts Council, and the National Endowment of the Humanities. Philippa is Chair and Professor of English at the California Jazz Conservatory and also teaches in the Theatre Department at San Jose State University.



## Juliann Lathung

## Assistant Stage Manager, HAMLET

is excited to be working with Marin Shakespeare Company for the first time as an Assistant Stage Manager. Previous theatre production credits include Assistant Stage Manager and Board Operator at Central Works (Mondragola, The Museum Annex) and Assistant Lighting Designer at San Francisco Playhouse (Indecent). She is currently enrolled at San Francisco State University and is pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Arts.



## **Dave Maier**

### Fight Choreography, HAMLET and TWELFTH NIGHT

is a prolific fight director with over 300 professional credits. He is recognized as a Master Fight Director with Dueling Arts International and is currently the resident fight director at San Francisco Opera and Oakland Theatre Project. He is a five-time recipient of the Theatre Bay Area Award for Outstanding Fight Choreography. Recent and upcoming credits include Romeo & Juliet (African American Shakespeare), King Lear and The Taming of The Shrew (Santa Cruz Shakespeare). Dave is an instructor of theatrical combat at UC Santa Cruz, San Francisco Conservatory of Music, Berkeley Rep School of Theatre, and Studio ACT.



## **David Warner**

#### Composer, TWELFTH NIGHT

is a cellist, violinist, pianist, composer, vocalist, inventor, and makeup artist based in Las Vegas, NV. After studying Music Performance at California State University Fullerton and University Nevada Las Vegas, he went on to freelance and teach. David has performed on stages in 5 countries, played in pit orchestras for multiple musicals, debuted a piece for solo cello in New York, and performed on stage with A-list singers. He holds two patents for instrument design and modification, and has customized instruments that have been played around the world. David Warner currently performs regularly at The Venetian Las Vegas.



## **Storm White**

Understudy, Assistant Director HAMLET; Understudy TWELFTH NIGHT
Storm is a theatre creator born and raised in Oakland, CA. Her directorial credits include CURTAIN CALL (SFSU + ZSpace), ARGENTINA (SFSU + ZSpace), and DIERDE, THE QUEER QUEEN (Aurora Theatre). Some of her performance credits include Eury in DIERDE, THE QUEER QUEEN (Aurora Theatre), Madonna and Anna Politkovskaya in PUSSY RIOT: OR Everything Is P.R. (TheatreFirst), and Sara in SANTA BARBARIANS (Fusion Theatre Project). Her thanks go to her sages and compasses, Frenchie and Margaret, for their wisdom, support, and love.





## Randy Wong-Westbrooke

### Prop Design, TWELFTH NIGHT

is an award-nominated scenic designer born and raised in the East Bay. They have designed sets for A.C.T.'s M.F.A. Program, Shotgun Players, TheatreFIRST, Crowded Fire, Ferocious Lotus, SF Playhouse's Sandbox, New Conservatory Theater, Custom Made Theatre, Cutting Ball, Los Altos Stage Company, Palo Alto Players, Contra Costa Civic Theater, and many other new and independent projects. They have been a scenic art assistant in Oregon Shakespeare Festival's F.A.I.R. Program and a mentee in the USITT Gateway Program. B.F.A. Ithaca College. This Fall they will start their third year pursuing their M.F.A. in Set Design from the UCLA School of Theater, Film, and Television.



## Elena Wright

#### Intimacy Director, HAMLET and TWELFTH NIGHT

is a Bay Area actor, educator, and fight/intimacy director. Elena has designed violence and/or intimacy for SF Playhouse, Chabot College, Left Edge Theatre, The Pear Theatre, Aurora Theatre, College of Marin, Shotgun Players, AlterTheatre, TheatreFirst, Custom Made, Sonoma State University, Landmark Musical Theatre, City Lights Theatre, Role Players Ensemble, Ross Valley Players, Marin Shakespeare Company, and Laney College among others. Elena received their MFA in acting from the University of Washington, and a BS in theatre from Northeastern University and is a teaching candidate with Dueling Arts International.



## 2023 LEADERSHIP and STAFF

#### **LEADERSHIP**

Kris Barrera - Technical Director
Dameion Brown - Artist-in-Residence
Abbey Campbell - Marketing &
Communications Director
Lesley Currier - Managing Director
Robert Currier - Artistic Director Emeritus
Elana Kepner - Education Director
Jon Tracy - Artistic Producer of the
Summer Season
Alejandra Wahl - Shakespeare for Social
Justice Manager

### **ARTISTIC STAFF - 2023 SUMMER SEASON**

Artist in Residence - Dameion Brown Casting Associate - Nick Ishimaru Choreography - Bridgette Loriaux Composing / Sound Design - Ben Euphrat (Hamlet), Lady Zen, (Hamlet), David C. Warner (Twelfth Night) Costume Design - Miyuki Bierlein (Hamlet), Bethany Deal (Twelfth Night), Luisa Frasconi (Hamlet) Directors - Bridgette Loriaux (Twelfth Night), Jon Tracy (Hamlet) Dramaturg - Phillipa Kelly Fight Director - Dave Maier Intimacy Director - Elena Wright Lighting Design - Jon Tracy (Hamlet), Stephanie Anne Johnson (Twelfth Night) Properties Design - Joy Gonzalez (Hamlet), Randy Wong-Westbrooke (Twelfth Night) Set Design - Nina Ball **Set Construction - Rooster Design** Stage Construction - Jeff Palmer Understudies - Richard Pallaziol, Storm White

#### PRODUCTION - SUMMER SEASON

Assistant Technical Director - Jackson Currier
Costume Manager - Jody Branham
Front of House Staff - Abbey Campbell,
Braeden Conti, Alejandro Eustaquio,
Alexandra Fry, Nick Reulbach
Lighting Assistant - Ashley Munday (Twelfth
Night)
Stage Managers - Nick Carvalho\* (Twelfth
Night), Dawn Marie Kelley\* (Hamlet)
Stage Manager Assistant - Alijah Carter
(Twelfth Night), Juliann Lathug (Hamlet)
Tech Apprentices - Miles Doucette, Dav
Forrester, Kalliope Parish

#### **EDUCATION**

Shakespeare for Student Audiences Actors Sylvia Abrams-Woffsohn, Dameion Brown, Eliza Christine, Michelle Drexler, Oscar Woodrow Harper III, Melanie Kibbler, Sumi Narendran, Joel Ochoa **Shakespeare for Student Audiences Artistic Team** Elana Kepner (Director & Adaptor) Frank Cardinale (Stage Manager) Richard Pallaziol (Fight Director) Luisa Frasconi (Costume Designer) Jason Coale & Robert Currier (Set Design and Construction) Jason Coale (Lighting Designer) Lesley Currier (Properties Designer) Summer Camp Manager - Ben Prusiner Teaching Artists: Schools & Summer Camps Jackson Currier, Jamin Jollo, Maggie Lally, Joel Ochoa, Alejandra Wahl, Hannah Woolfenden, Lady Zen

### SHAKESPEARE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

Returned Citizens Theatre Troupe Actors
Tony Cyprien, Aaron Daria, Zoe Gardner,
Anthony Jefferson, Joey Kaufman, Pamela
Anne Keane, Joey Mason, Oscar McNatt,
Juan Carlos Meza, Richie Morris, John
Neblett, Joey Pagaduan, William Palmer,
Markelle Taylor, John Windham
Teaching Artists in Prisons
Stacey Arterburn-Johnson, Dameion, Brown,
Lesley Currier, Suraya Keating, Holly
Natwora, Sharon Huff Robinson, Tina
Rutsch, Marianne Shine, Alejandra Wahl

#### CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION

Architects - John Sergio Fisher, Joe Monteadora Contractors - Oliver & Company Project Manager - Janice Fetzer

#### **BEHIND THE SCENES**

Computer Consultant - Roger Clay
Data Base - Patron Manager, Bloomerang
Photographers/Videographers - Bennet Dahl,
Peter Merts, Ada More, David Wayne White,
Jay Yamada
Ticketing - PatronManager, Purplepass
Web Design - Lundmark Media



## **EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

Education Programs in and after school lead thousands of elementary, middle and high school students into their hearts, onto the stage, and into the spotlight. Our programs are designed to engage and excite students of all ages. We work in partnership with public school teachers to deliver powerful relevant curriculum. We serve low-income families and some of the county's most at-risk youth, with a philosophy that every child should be able to participate regardless of the ability to pay.

#### SHAKESPEARE SUMMER CAMPS

We make Shakespeare fun! 2023 camps for students ages 5 to 19 run June 12 to August 11. Campers will enjoy: Physical games and activities, learning about and performing Shakespeare, making new friends, and skilled and caring Teaching Artists. Student actors explore Shakespeare's exciting characters, language and stories, and each camp culminates in a performance.

Sign up now at <a href="https://www.marinshakespeare.org/summercamps">www.marinshakespeare.org/summercamps</a> or call 415-499-4487.



#### SHAKESPEARE FOR STUDENT AUDIENCES

The 2023 production of MACBETH featured Dameion Brown in the title role at the Center for Performing Arts, Education and Social Justice at 514 Fourth Street. Almost 1,000 students attended performances. Gratitute to the National Endowment for the Arts/Arts Midwest Shakespeare in American Communities and California Arts Council for allowing us to offer these performanes free of charge to schools.

LEARN MORE AT <u>www.marinshakespeare.org/student-matinees/</u>

#### **TEEN TOURING COMPANY**

The Teen Touring Company is a unique opportunity for actors aged 12 – 19 to create and tour a Shakespeare play to schools, senior centers and community organizations. Students work with a professional director and dive into conservatory-style rehearsal and training in voice and text work, acting and movement. This year, we produced "Hamlet," Shakespeare's greatest tragedy, with a contemporary spin.

LEARN MORE AT <u>www.marinshakespeare.org/teen-touring-company/</u>

#### YEAR-ROUND CLASS OFFERINGS

Marin Shakespeare's Classes provide performing arts instruction throughout the year. We provide Creative Dramatics and Shakespeare classes at many local schools. At our new Center for Performing Arts, Education, and Social Justice, we will be offering a full array of classes for all ages. LEARN MORE AT

www.marinshakespeare.org/youth-classes/



## SHAKESPEARE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE



## **PROGRAM HISTORY:**

We believe that access to arts, creativity and self-expression is a human right. Twenty years ago, Marin Shakespeare Company offered its first Shakespeare class at San Quentin State utilizing a ground-breaking Drama Therapy-inspired curriculum that prioritizes emotional intelligence building, self-expression, creativity, teamwork, and appreciation, our programs offer participants an opportunity to re-engage with themselves and their community in restorative, joyful ways. Many participants report this program has helped inspire important and positive change. Since 2003, the program has served 14 California State Prisons and Alameda Juvenile Hall. In addition to Shakespeare, we facilitate programs in Autobiographial Story-telling, Acting for Veterans, Drama for Re-entry where participants "rehearse" how they will "act" when they return home, and we are developing a curriculum in Anger Management.

To build bonds between communities and offer opportunities for cross-cultural exchange, we facilitate Workshops at San Quentin where outside guests and program participantes work collaboratively to explore Shakespearean and human themes. Thousands of community members have attended culminating performances in prisons, offering support and bearing witness to the healing work. The Returned Citizens Theatre Troupe offers actors who have survived incarceration the opportunity to continue creative exploration while educating audiences on the impacts of mass incarceration.

Today, five prisons we have worked in have been permanently shut down, and nationally, rates of incarceration are falling.

### SOME FACTS:

- The U.S. incarcerates more people than any other country on earth.
- With 5% of the worlds population, we have 25% of the worlds incarcerated citizens.
- In 1973, we incarcerated 315,000 people Today, it's about 1.8 million, down from a high of 2.2 million.
- 21 of California's 36 prisons have been built since the early 1980's.
- One out of every four Black males born today will end up in jail or prison if things do not change.
- The rate of incarceration of women is rising twice as fast as that of men.

### **BEYOND THE FACTS:**

What the facts don't articulate is the humanity. When you join us inside a prison for a performance of Shakespeare, original theater, or for a Workshop you come to recognize that the people we incarcerate are just that - people. Each person is unique, each is flawed, and each has gifts. Most have experienced serious childhood trauma. Many have honed skills of resilience, patience and self-reflection. Racism, discriminatory policing, socio-economics, greed, and the lack of investment in communities of color are equally as responsible for mass incarceration as the choices made by individuals. We are all victims of a system of mass incarceration that continues to destroy healthy communities, promote disunity, create barriers to all children realizing their full potential, and weaken our nation.

## WHAT THEATRE CAN DO:

Theater inside prisons heals in many ways. Whether playing one of Shakespeare's great roles or-re-telling their personal stories in creative and dramatic ways, participants discover the power of their words and the impact they have on an ensemble – and their community. We have seen participants drop out of gangs, enroll in GED and college courses, and reunite with family members. They touch base with their true selves, interact deeply with others from different backgrounds, and learn that they can play roles other than "convict" or "criminal." They feel valued, uplifted, and that they have a voice.

Thank you for joining us in "Playing for Good."



## CENTER FOR PERFORMING ARTS, EDUCATION, AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

After 7 years of planning, fundraising, and construction, Marin Shakespeare Company has finally opened its Center for Performing Arts, Education, and Social Justice at 514

Fourth Street in downtown San Rafael.

The Center boasts a 165-seat theatre in a three-quarter thrust configuration, with seating on three sides -- similar to Shakespeare's playhouses. It has an ample lobby which will function as a 40-seat Cabaret performance venue, a large Classroom/Rehearsal Hall, dressing rooms, backstage greenroom space, a Catering Kitchen/Concessions area, and Administrative offices. The large attic provides storage space for costumes, props, and scenery, a luxury for any theatre company.

Marin Shakespare Company expects to fill the Center with performances, classes, and events and welcomes everyone to come explore the new Center.

Donations are still being accepted: for \$1,500 to \$2,500 you can dedicate a theatre chair; for \$5,000 your name will be permanently displayed on the Donor Wall; and there are many opportunities for Naming Rights for different parts of the new Center.

Mostly, though, MSC wants everyone to come to be creative, learn, and build community. We are delighted to be able to provide this space for gathering to explore our shared humanity.







# **ASHLAND TRIP 2023**

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 28 – SUNDAY OCTOBER 1, 2023

2023 PLAYS TO CHOOSE FROM:

"The Three Musketeers"

"Where We Belong"

"Twelfth Night"

"Rent"

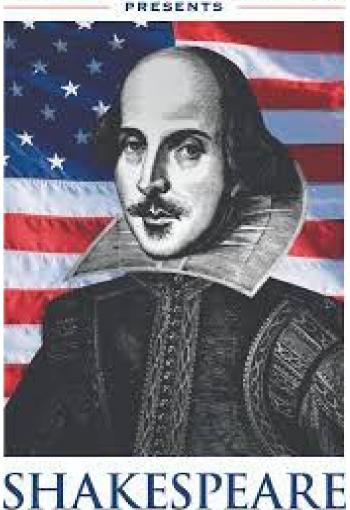
"Romeo and Juliet"

SIGN UP NOW!



# prestigious awards for MARIN SHAKESPEARE COMPANY

## NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS



The National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with **Arts Midwest presents** Shakespeare in American communities, MARIN SHAKESPEARE COMPANY is one of 40 professional theater companies across the nation selected to perform a Shakespeare play with a professional team of actors for middle-and-high-schools and conduct related education for students. In addition, the company was one of seven organizations selected to engage youths within the juvenile justice system with the works of Shakespeare through theater education programs.

We thank the NEA and Arts Midwest for their support of HAMLET and Shakespeare instruction for all youth.



IN AMERICAN COMMUNITIES





# **SPECIAL THANKS**

Dick and Diane Blackman
Lenox and Kili Currier
Robert Currier
Dominican University of California
Frey Winery
Marin Sanitary Service
Peter Parish
Aurora Theatre Company
TheatreFIRST
Costco
Evelyn and Jacob Tracy





# marin shakespeare company CONTRIBUTORS

We are so grateful to those who have contributed to Marin Shakespeare Company's ability to survive and thrive through the pandemic. We applaud the following generous donors who made gifts of \$100 or more between May 16, 2019 and June 15, 2023. Every gift of any amount is greatly appreciated!

#### **ORGANIZATIONAL DONORS**

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