SWITCHYARD THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S



APRIL 28 - MAY 14, 2023



Switchyard Theatre Company presents



With

Mary K. Rowland Dani Coan Xenon Winslow John Paul Middlesworth

Kimmy Fiorentino Abbe Fralix Nicholas Hopf Randle Kennedy David McEwen Naveed Moeed Michael Parker Scott Renz

Stage Manager Kelly Caniglia Costume and Set Design Aerial Sanders Scenic Carpenter Jim Azarelo

Producer Noelle Azarelo

Director Max Kaufman

The use of recording devices is heartily encouraged!

Switchyard is Online



www.switchyardtheatrecompany.org



@switchyardtc



@switchyardtc

Cast (in order of appearance)

SCOTT RENZ
NAVEED MOEED
DAVID MCEWEN
MICHAEL PARKER
DANI COAN
MARY K. ROWLAND
XENON WINSLOW
JOHN PAUL MIDDLESWORTH
KIMMY FIORENTINO
RANDLE KENNEDY
ABBE FRALIX
NICHOLAS HOPF

Production Staff

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Director's Note

Forgiveness is a dying art, and one that is sorely needed in the world. We're quick to judge, quick to label, quick to dismiss, and quick to put space and silence between us when perceived transgressions take root. But personal and communal healing necessitate allowing each other to be human, to learn from mistakes, and even to transgress. The action does not condemn the individual, and the individual can be worthy of forgiveness, independently of the action. Prospero's journey from hatred to forgiveness is a beautiful one, as she is able to put aside twelve years of struggle and recognize the humanity in the people who threatened her life and the life of her child. "The rarer action is in virtue than in vengeance," she says. If we can all recognize this simple truth, we will have taken an important step towards guiding the world out of the storm.

Scenes and Synopsis

Act 1

Scene 1- A Tempest At Sea

King Alonso of Naples and his court are returning home when hit by a sudden tempest. Despite the Boatswain's best efforts, the ship is wrecked off the coast of a small island and all the passengers are left adrift. A spell cast by the mysterious and magical Prospero, with the assistance of her airy spirit familiar Ariel are the cause.

Scene 2- Prospero's Home on the Nearby Island Miranda is horrified at the tragedy her mother, Prospero, has wrought. Prospero assures her that everyone on board is safe, and it's all part of her plan. She reveals that she was once Duke of Milan, and her brother Antonio conspired with King Alonso to usurp her Dukedom. Prospero and Miranda were set adrift, but survived because the kind and loyal Gonzalo secretly furnished the boat with supplies and Prospero's booksthe source of her magic. We are introduced to Ariel and learn that he had been imprisoned on this island by an evil witch until Prospero freed him- in exchange for serving her. We also meet Prospero's other servant; the vile Caliban. Soon an invisible Ariel arrives having charmed Ferdinand, son of King Alonso, to follow. Miranda and Ferdinand fall in love at first sight. Prospero is secretly thrilled, but intends to test Ferdinand's love before giving over her daughter to marry him.

Scene 3- Another Part of the Island

King Alonso along with his court worry that his son Ferdinand has drowned. Antonio (brother to Prospero) and Sebastian (brother to Alonso) believe it to be a lost cause, while hopeful Gonzalo attempts to convince the king that Ferdinand must be alive. Invisible Ariel puts Alonso and Gonzalo to sleep and during that time Antonio and Sebastian plot to murder King Alonso and Gonzalo so that Sebastian may steal his throne. Ariel awakens the sleeping men leaving Sebastian and Antonio to concoct a tale of drawing their swords to defend the king against a herd of lions.

Scene 4 - Yet Another Part of the Island

Caliban is hauling wood when he spots Trinculo, a jester in King Alonso's court, and believes him to be a spirit sent by Prospero to torment him and hides under his cloak. Trinculo believes that Caliban is a fish, a monster, or possibly a dead islander killed by the storm but finding nowhere else to take cover, hides under his cloak as well. Trinculo's friend Sebastian, a very drunk butler, comes across them and believes the men to be a fourlegged, two-headed fish-creature but quickly discovers his friend. Stephano plies Caliban with liquor, and Caliban believes Stephano to be a god and worships him.

15 minute intermission

Act 2

Scene 1- Prospero's home

Prospero has set the besotted and exhausted Ferdinand to hauling wood in the hot sun. Despite Miranda's pleas to allow her to assist, he stands firm. The two profess their love for each other, and agree to marry. Prospero, invisible, watches with delight.

Scene 2- Another Part of the Island

Stephano, Trinculo, and Caliban are now thoroughly drunk and plot to murder Prospero making Stephano the king of the island, with Caliban and Trinculo his viceroys. Before they can enact their plan, invisible Ariel provokes them to fight, then charms them away with music and leads them on a merry chase through the island.

Scene 3- Yet Another Part of the Island

Alonso, Antonio, Gonzalo, and Sebastian are exhausted by their search. King Alonso has given up hope that his son is alive. The men are interrupted by some of Prospero's servants who lay a magical feast to tempt them. Before they can eat, Ariel arrives as a harpy and chastises Alonso, Antonio, and Sebastian for their sins against Prospero. Good and loyal Gonzalo is spared, and greatly enjoys his supper.

Scene 4- Prospero's Home

Prospero gives her blessing to Miranda and Ferdinand's marriage, but warns Ferdinand that if he harms Miranda, his marriage will be one of misery. Prospero then recalls Caliban's plot against his life and summons Ariel to assist in foiling it. Ariel has led the three drunken men through mud and swamps. Stephano and Trinculo discover beautiful garments near Prospero's cave and decide to take them, much to the dismay of Caliban who wants them to hurry up and kill Prospero. They are foiled again by Ariel, this time appearing as a pack of dogs to chase them further.

Scene 5- Prospero's Home

Prospero gathers the King and his Court, all bespelled, to confront them of their treachery. Prospero greets Gonzalo with joy, and tells the other men that she forgives them but must have her Dukedom restored to her. She also reveals that Alonso's son Ferdinand is safe and engaged to her daughter Miranda. Ariel returns with the Boatswain, who reveals that the ship is fully restored and intact and all his men have survived. Ariel then chases Caliban, Stephano, and Trinculo in to join the others, where they are chastised for their actions, but also forgiven. Alonso's court, along with Duke Prospero and Miranda, make plans to return to Italy, where Ferdinand and Miranda will be the heirs to Alonso's throne. In his final act of magic, Prospero renounces his magic and releases Ariel after one final task- assisting them in returning safely to Milan.







Startup Formation





Compliance

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Who's Who in the Cast



Mary K. Rowland (Prospero) is a Raleigh native who has acted and directed in the Triangle area for many years. She recently retired from teaching communication and theatre at Wake Tech, although she still teaches Storytelling. She

appeared most recently as Hertha Ayrton in *The Half Life* of Marie Curie with Switchyard Theatre Company and Alexandra in *The Velocity of Autumn* at Raleigh Little Theatre. Mary is an avid gardener, regularly entering in the State Fait garden competition.



Dani Coan (Miranda) is excited to be in her second show with Switchyard Theatre Company! Previous noteworthy roles include Daphne in *Present Laughter*, Emily Webb in *Our Town*, and Andrea in *The Life of Galileo*. Her most recent work was

writing and producing her one woman show, *Mosaic*, last year at TheatreFest. Dani would like to thank her family, friends, and boyfriend Phil for the support they've given her through this process.



Xenon Winslow (Ariel) is a Durhambased actor, welder, and construction worker with a lifelong specialty in Shakespeare and the dream of performing at Blackfriars for the ASC. Local credits include lead roles in *Hamlet*

and *Pericles* with Sweet Tea Shakespeare, as well as *Corpus Christi* at St. John's MCC (upcoming). She spends her free time reading and writing about nuclear disasters.



John Paul Middlesworth (Caliban) divides his time on stage between singing in choruses and acting. When he's in a Durham Savoyards show, like the recent Yeomen of the Guard, he gets to do both. He was Bottom in Switchyard Theatre's first

production, A Midsummer Night's Dream. He sometimes can be found at Durham Technical Community College teaching English and Speech.



Kimmy Fiorentino (Prince Ferdinand) is excited to be working with Switchyard for the first time. If she had a nickel for every Shakespearean prince she's played, she'd have two nickels. Which isn't a lot, but it's weird that it happened twice, right?

Aside from Prince Edward in *Henry VI* for Bare Theatre, some other favorite roles include: for Burning Coal, *A Hundred Words for Snow* (Rory), *To Kill A Mockingbird* (Scout), *Life of Galileo* (Virginia); for Sonorous Road Rep, *The Wolves* (#25); and for Raleigh Little Theatre, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* (Voice 5). She would like to thank Stephen for all his support, and for putting up with her crazy schedule these past few weeks!



Abbe Fralix (Trinculo) is a classically trained actor based in Raleigh. Favorite credits include "Byck" in *Assassins* (NCSU TheatreFEST), Macbeth in *Macbeth* (Steadfast Shakespeare), Hermione in *The Winter's Tale* (Sweet Tea Shakespeare),

Elsa in *The Road to Mecca* (Burning Coal). Offstage, Abbe has acted as an adjunct professor, education artist, and freelance dramaturg throughout the Triangle. MFA Shakespeare and Performance, Mary Baldwin University; BFA Musical Theatre William Peace University. Love and thanks as ever to Pat, for loving me at my goofiest. abbefralix.com



Nick Hopf (Stephano) recently moved to the Raleigh area from Staunton, Virginia and is excited to be involved with STC and the local theatre community. He is a Philadelphia native, and is looking forward to being involved in the Triangle

for the next several years. His first exposure with performing the bard's plays was as a graduate student at Mary Baldwin University while studying Shakespeare & Performance. Some of Nicholas' most recent credits while performing in VA include Dr. Sanderson in *Harvey*, Alcibiades in *Timon of Athens*, and Ferdinand in *Love's Labours Lost*. Hopf's passion is in education. His mission is to provide a modern and innovative voice for audiences and students in classical theatre, so that they may appreciate the beauty of these timeless works.



Randle Kennedy (King Alonso) was an extra in *Patch Adams, Mother Couch*, and the Netflix series *Echoes.* He was the girl handler in the very low budget film *Dogs of Chinatown.*



David McEwen (Gonzalo) is thrilled to be playing Gonzalo in *The Tempest* in his first production with Switchyard Theatre. A California transplant from 7 years ago and longtime community theatre veteran, David has acted in plays such as *Proof*, *California Suite, Wait Until Dark, Murder by*

Death, The Nerd, and most recently Tuesdays with Morrie in Fuqua-Varina and Holly Springs. He sends much love to his wife Lisette and their three wonderful boys, whose

collective thumbs-up to make frequent commutes for rehearsals and shows, made his community theatre adventure possible. Thanks to an awesome cast and crew and to you all for supporting local productions!



Naveed Moeed (Antonio) Naveed is a local writer, actor and photographer. He was last seen in the role of Hugo for Switchyard Theatre's production of *Present Laughter*. He occasionally stagemanages productions at the

Communications Department at UNC and most recently read stories for Carolina Pride Alumni Network's production, *The Story of Us.* A current board member at Bare Theatre and Thee Quaker Project (a multimedia storytelling collaboration), he is also a local champion of the Chicago Theatre Standards and is trying to finish writing his first full-length play.



Michael Parker (Sebastian) This is Michael's first show acting with STC, and he is so grateful for the opportunity to work with such a talented director, cast, and production team. Recent roles include Walter Jenkins in *All The Way* (Justice

Theatre Project), Stasiek Eisenberg in Ogrodowa Street, and Edward Bennett in Death by Design (Cary Players). He also recently directed The Verge for Brave New Classics, and A Midsummer Night's Dream for Switchyard Theater Company.



Scott Renz (Boatswain) is thrilled to be making his debut performance with Switchyard Theatre Company. This is Scott's fifth time playing in a Shakespeare production and his 59th stage play

production overall. He has also performed an Abe Lincoln one man show, and if you don't blink, you might catch him in the movie *Ferris Bueller's Day Off.* Scott currently resides in his home by Garner, North Carolina.



Max Kaufman (Director) is very happy to be joining Switchyard for the first time. A Durham native, he has produced both local and touring theatre, dance, and live music events all over North America, with such organizations as BRIC in Brooklyn NY, ODC Dance in San Francisco, and

Mills Entertainment. A multi-instrumentalist and music lover, Max has produced concerts in venues ranging from Cat's Cradle to Madison Square Garden and Red Rocks. He currently serves as the Production Manager for North Carolina Theatre. He is so thankful to be able to devote his life to the creation and support of Art in all its forms.



Kelly Caniglia (Production Stage Manager) is very happy to be working on her second project as Production Stage Manager with Switchyard Theatre Company. A jack of all trades, Kelly loves all aspects of Theatre and has spent

time on stage, backstage, managing the stage and helping to bring more to the stage as a serving Board member for Switchyard Theatre. Kelly's most recent projects include Stage Managing for *Fuddy Meers* and serving as a Mental Health Consultant for Justice Theatre Project and Honest Pint. During the day, Kelly is a Mental Health Therapist with a specialization in Complex Trauma. In her precious spare time, you will likely find Kelly lost in an artistic endeavor or exploring a new hiking trail. Kelly is very proud of the cast and crew of this show and can't wait for the audience to experience it.



Aerial Sanders (Costume/Set Design) was born and raised in Raleigh, NC and a graduate of Shaw University. I got in to wardrobe, costume and set design in 2018 after seeing Marvel's Black Panther. My idol, Ruth Carter really inspired me with the was she visually added to a world

through clothing. I instantly started searching for a company to connect with. I started working with EazeDay Entertainment in January 2019 and have completed countless music videos, short films, commercials, and photoshoots. I love being able to give viewers the visual. Being versatile in set building and wardrobe has really taken my creativity upwards. In the future I hope to design for Marvel and win the academy award for Best Costume Design.



Andrea Zimmerman (Assistant Stage Manager) is a transplant from Virginia where she was active with several community theaters, both on stage and behind the scenes. Locally she is active with the Durham Savoyards, Vocal

Motion, and Stone Soup Theater. Favorite roles include Alice in *I Never Sang For My Father*, Mrs. Bedouin in *Oliver!*, the Maid in *Dracula* and the Giant in *Into The Woods*.



Noelle Azarelo (Producer) is a Durham based director, producer and actor. She is a founding board member of Switchyard Theatre Company and founder of Brave New Classics. She has recently directed for Brave New Classics, Cary Playwrights' Forum, Odyssey Stage, WTFringe, and

Sonorous Roads Theatre. She was extremely honored to receive three Best of Fringe awards and two "Best of" awards from Chatham Life & Style for her production of *He & She* for WTFringe in 2020 and a listing in the Indy Week's "Our Favorite Local Theatre of 2019" for *Serial*, a part of Sonorous Roads' Open Doors.

What's up next at STC



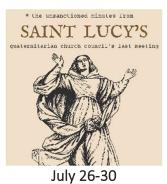
June 10-25 Burning Coal Theatre

OR, by Liz Duffy Adams

Aphra Behn, ex-British spy, will have fame and glory as England's first female playwright if she can just finish her play by sunrise. Free love, politics and historical fiction abound in this doorslamming, quick-changing Restoration farce.

The Unsanctioned Minutes from Saint Lucy's Quaternitarian Church Council's Last Meeting, by Ken Walsh

A prank or a supernatural event? When the statue of their patron Saint Lucy disappears from the tabernacle, it's up to the ladies of the church council to solve the mystery. A fun and heartwarming slice of southern church life, kicking off our first full production of works by local playwrights.



Mettlesome Theatre



July 31-Aug 5 Mettlesome Theatre

Switchyard with the Bard

Are you a young actor with a love of Shakespeare? Join us for our Summer Intensive! In this week-long course, actors will learn how to read and interpret Shakespeare's greatest works while building skills for performing classical texts on stage. Open to rising 10th, 11th and 12th graders, as well as Class of '23 high school grads.

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