

ACTORS ENSEMBLE of BERKELEY
LIVE OAK THEATER



BY
**WILLIAM
SHAKESPEARE**

DIRECTED BY
**SHARON HUFF
ROBINSON**

www.aeofberkeley.org

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

The aspect of Shakespeare that fascinates me the most is how subversive he is. As many historians have pointed out, Richard III is pretty much a piece of Tudor propaganda, created perhaps to suck up to Queen Elizabeth , who was the granddaughter of Henry VII (the conquering Richmond of the play). Sure, Richard is evil - A hunchback, a spider, a toad. But he's so much fun! - So much more fun than any of his victims.

Shakespeare wants us to question the nobility of the nobility, wants us to question the goodness of the good. Richard's post-feudal world is cynical and fatalistic, and a little bit wild and crazy. I've set the story in the 1920's because the world post- WWI was also a crazy and cynical time, when social boundaries became fluid and people began seriously questioning the rights of rulers to rule. Anyone with a plan could be king, and Richard is a man with a plan.

Sharon Huff Robinson

**ACTS I-III IS APPROXIMATELY 1 HOUR AND 15 MINUTES
15 MINUTE INTERMISSION
ACTS IV AND V ARE APPROXIMATELY 1 HOUR**

**PERFORMED FRIDAYS/SATURDAYS AT 8 P.M.
OCTOBER 19TH - NOVEMBER 17TH, 2012
SUNDAY MATINEE NOVEMBER 11TH AT 2 P.M.**

ABOUT ACTORS ENSEMBLE OF BERKELEY

Actors Ensemble of Berkeley has been around the block (and just around the corner from you) since 1957, making us the longest-running stage company in Berkeley. In 1965, AE began performing at the Live Oak Theatre — and has ever since.

Our mission is to enrich, entertain and improve our community through fascinating theatrical works. With social consciousness and an ensemble approach, we provide area residents with opportunities to attend, participate in and be helped through theatre. Our shows will be affordable, our opportunities enjoyable, and our community impact felt year-round.

As Berkeley's only true community theatre company, we depend on our volunteers to bring their energy and creative vision to each play we produce. If you would like to volunteer in our theatre, give us a call or send us an email! We'd love for you to play a part in our next show!



Actors Ensemble of Berkeley
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Check out www.AEofBerkeley.Org and subscribe to our email list for:

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- And More!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Alan Barkan, Robert Estes, Jose Garcia, Jonathan Gordon, Margaret Gudmundsson, Bob Gudmundsson, Colin Johnson, Martha Luehrmann, William Martinelli, Vicki Siegel, Jerome Solberg, Stanley Spenger, Matthew Surrence, Kim Stewart

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Vicki Siegel
Gustavo Delgado
Shu Ping Guan
Jon Farrell
Jose Garcia
The City of Berkeley
Helen Slomowitz
Bishop O'Dowd High School
San Francisco Shakespeare Festival
Douglas Morrison Theatre
Jo Lusk and Masquers

Pat Hirabara in the Live Oak
Recreation Center

Actors Ensemble thanks Andrew Bell of Oakland for his loan of the chaise lounge. The piece will be available for purchase after our production is finished. Andrew can be contacted at 510-839-5579.

Dedicated to the memory of Pamela (Marsh) Markmann, actress and artist

CAST (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

CATESBY	Reuben Alvear
YOUNG YORK/CITIZEN	Francois Barrilleaux
DUCHESS OF YORK	Maureen Coyne
HASTINGS/OXFORD/PRIEST	Edward Kimak
BRACKENBURY/ARCHBISHOP/MESSENGER	Tom Flynn
BUCKINGHAM	Paul Jennings
RICHMOND/MURDERER 1	Erik Johnson
ELIZABETH	Alexia Marquis
MARGARET/CITIZEN	Mary Jo Price
PRINCE EDWARD/DORSET/SERVANT 1	Casey Roos
RICHARD	Stanley Spenger
RIVERS/TYRELL/BLUNT/NUN	Alicia Stamps
CLARENCE/CARDINAL/LORD MAYOR	Peter Townley
EDWARD/STANLEY	Jeff Trescott
ANNE/MURDERER 2/SERVANT 3	Brandice Thompson

PRODUCTION CREW

DIRECTOR	Sharon Huff Robinson
STAGE MANAGER	James Banh
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER	Molly Isenberg
SET DESIGN	Human Fiction
COSTUME DESIGN	Sophia Thorsen
LIGHT DESIGN	Alecks Rundell
PROPS	Ann O'Connell
SET CONSTRUCTION	Norm De Veyra, Gustavo Delgado, Alecks Rundell, Pete Townley, Tom Flynn, Casey Roos, Stanley Spenger, Jeff Trescott
SOUND EFFECTS	Sharon Huff Robinson
GRAPHIC DESIGN	Norm De Veyra and Jamie Wei
PHOTOGRAPHY	Anna Kaminska
PROGRAM	Jamie Wei
PRODUCER	Jerome Solberg

CAST AND CREW BIOGRAPHIES (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

REUBEN ALVEAR (CATESBY) Reuben is an avid baseball fan, and hopes to do more world traveling, as he's visited Brazil and Ireland in the past two years. He is pleased to be in this production, and sends his undying love to his wonderful and supportive family in Texas. His previous credits include Macbeth, Twelfth Night, The Merchant of Venice, The Lion In Winter and Almost, Maine.

JAMES BANH (STAGE MANAGER) James Banh has been a stage manager for many years doing live performance, plays, music shows and events with Kearny Street Workshop of San Francisco, Locus Arts, Hyphen Magazine and RAMA. When he is not behind the scenes at night, he is a school teacher by day. James is thrilled and delighted working with Sharon Huff on this epic Shakespeare play. It's a first for him to do a Shakespearean play!

FRANCOIS BARRILLEAUX (YOUNG YORK/CITIZEN) is currently a 7th grader at the Oakland School for the Arts (OSA) in the Theatre emphasis. Most recently Francois played Tommy in Ah Wilderness with Role Players Ensemble, Arty in Lost in Yonkers at the Chanticleers Theater and Gavroche in the OSA production of Les Miserable.

MAUREEN COYNE (DUCHESS OF YORK) recently played in Lend Me a Tenor with Chanticleers in Castro Valley, and several new short plays with the Fringe of Marin. Other shows with Actors Ensemble include Wilder's The Matchmaker and Anouilh's Antigone. She is delighted to be working with Actors Ensemble again.

CAROLYN DAY (DRAMATURGY) jumped at the chance to do dramaturgy for the Actors Ensemble production of Richard III and has previously worked with them on their productions of Arcadia and A Hot Day in Ephesus. She has been a long time Shakespeare enthusiast and spent the past summer as an Artistic Learning intern for the California Shakespeare Theater. Carolyn has a BA in English from UC Davis.

EDWARD KIMAK (HASTINGS/OXFORD/PRIEST) fell in love with acting while spending hours mesmerized by Sid Caesar and Milton Berle during TV's Golden Age. Originally performing in the Chicago area, he has studied acting at Studio ACT in San Francisco and appeared in Actors Ensemble's staged reading of Enrico IV. He has also been active in Playwrights' Center of San Francisco, appearing earlier this year in Scheherazade XII, a collection of eight one-act plays. Edward is very grateful to Sharon and AEofB for the opportunity to perform Shakespeare (or de Vere or whoever it is).

TOM FLYNN (BRACKENBURY/ARCHBISHOP/MESSENGER) Tom is happy to return to Actors Ensemble, where he appeared in Inherit the Wind some years ago. Recent roles include De Mille in Sunset Boulevard at CCMT, FDR in Annie at Diablo Theatre Co., and the Bishop in St.Joan at CCCT. Tom is on the Board of Oakland-based Stagebridge, America's oldest senior theatre company.

HUMAN FICTION (SET DESIGN/GRAPHICS) Human Fiction (Set Design/Graphics) HF (Norm De Veyra and Gustavo Delgado) are part of a design collective aiming to make cool stuff.

PAUL JENNINGS (BUCKINGHAM) Paul is delighted to be working with Actors Ensemble. He has worked extensively in Northern California, appearing primarily in Shakespeare productions (44 productions of 26 of the plays), and has worked with Berkeley Rep, Cal Shakes, Shakespeare, ETC (Co-founder), Pacific Repertory Theatre, Shakespeare at Stinson, and many other companies. Recent roles include Falstaff in *The Boar's Head* with Theatre Pub, and the title roles in *Richard III* at Shady Shakespeare, and *Macbeth* with Subterranean Shakespeare.

ERIK JOHNSON (RICHMOND/MURDERER 1) Erik Johnson is a senior at UC Berkeley where he is majoring in Theater and Performance Studies. In his free time, he enjoys skateboarding, djing, and acting like a small child. He hopes one day to pursue a career in professional theater, if the NBA doesn't pan out. Thanks to his loving friends and family for supporting all of his dreams, and for raising what he is sure was a very difficult child.

ALEXIA MARQUIS (ELIZABETH) A native San Franciscan and Bay Area actress, Lexi Marquis is pleased to be once again directed by Sharon Huff, having previously worked for her in *Henry V*. An alumna of Cornish College of the Arts, Lexi has worked in theater and independent films. Her latest short film "Nora" will be appearing in film festivals this month. She has thoroughly enjoyed her time with Actor's Ensemble and hopes you enjoy the show!

MARY JO PRICE (MARGARET/CITIZEN) is excited to be in her first show at AE of Berkeley. She is particularly excited to be working with Sharon Huff again, with whom she co-founded San Francisco's Theatre Forté about 20 years ago. MJ was most recently seen as Sandra in *Stretch Marks*, *Growing into Motherhood*, in San Francisco. She holds an M.F.A. in Performance from SFSU.

SHARON HUFF ROBINSON (DIRECTOR) has been acting and directing in the Bay Area for twenty five years. As an actor, she most recently was the Queen in Shakespeare's *Cymbeline* for San Francisco Shakespeare, as well as playing Lady Macbeth in the company's school tour. As a director, she has done staged readings for Subterranean Shakespeare, directed an all-female *Henry V* for Theatre Forte, and most recently, directed *Lysistrata* for the Quixotic Players. This is her first show with Actor's Ensemble.

CASEY ROOS (PRINCE EDWARD/DORSET/SERVANT 1) is excited to be in her first show with the Actors Ensemble. Most recently she has performed as Helena in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Fraulein Schneider* in *Cabaret*. She is currently a freshman in UC Berkeley's fall extension program, and she hopes to declare a double major in Theater and Biochemistry in the spring.

ALECKS RUNDALL (LIGHTING DESIGN) I am happy to be working with Max and the rest of talented production crew. I am grateful to the Actors Ensemble for supporting fabulous live art, especially *Journey of Light*, a *Glo-Opera*, which recently played

the SF Fringe Festival this past September. Please support AE of Berkeley for their contributions to community art. And Love to Priscilla.

STANLEY SPENGER (RICHARD) founded Subterranean Shakespeare 25 years ago, and was artistic director for 15 years. He was a founding member of Shotgun Players as well, and played Shylock in its critically acclaimed production of Merchant of Venice. For AE, he's appeared in LUV, Uncle Vanya, Doctor Faustus, The Winter's Tale, and Blithe Spirit, among others. Around the Bay Area, he has performed for North Bay Shakespeare, Impact Theatre, The Curtain Theatre, Shakespeare at Stinson, and The Berkeley Shakespeare Festival.

ALICIA STAMPS (RIVERS/TYRRELL/BLUNT/NUN) Alicia is excited for her debut with Actors Ensemble. You've previously seen her in SF Shakes' Touring productions of Macbeth (Banquo/Lady Macduff) and The Tempest (Sebastian/Trinculo) as well as productions of A Midsummer Night's Dream (Bottom/Pyramus) and Much Ado About Nothing (Dogberry/Friar) with Woman's Will. She holds a BFA from Cornish College of the Arts and is a Resident Teaching Artist at SF Shakes. Thanks to everyone who came out to support and enjoy the show!

PETER TOWNLEY (CLARENCE/CARDINAL/LORD MAYOR) Peter Townley is a newcomer to AE of Berkeley, and a new resident in the Bay Area. He moved here a few short months ago to study at A.C.T.'s Summer Training Congress and has decided to stay awhile. This summer and fall he has also worked locally with Quixotic Players and the Playwright's Center of San Francisco.

JEFF TRESMOTT (EDWARD/STANLEY) moved to the Bay Area in 1981 with 17 acting friends who became the core of the Theatre of the Blue Rose. Over the next 15 years he learned his craft, appearing in over 60 TBR productions. Since then he has performed with various Bay Area theatres, including the Willows, Lamplighters, Lafayette Town Hall, Shotgun Players, and Actors Ensemble of Berkeley.

BRANDICE THOMPSON (ANNE/MURDERER 2/SERVANT 3) Brandice recently arrived from Washington State and is excited for her first role in the Bay Area with AE of Berkeley! Since arriving, she has completed the Summer Training Congress at ACT and played Miranda in the Quixotic Player's reading of The Tempest. Some of her recent favorite roles have been Ariel from The Tempest, Emily from Our Town and the three woman roles in Crime and Punishment.

SOPHIA THORSEN (COSTUME DESIGN) This performance of Richard III is Sophia Thorsen's first time playing the role of Costumer. She has been involved in a number of productions, such as The Good Doctor, Anything Goes, Into the Woods and the dramatic version of Les Miserables in which she played Eponine. After a very long break playing the parts of business owner and mother (her favorite role to date), Sophia is very excited to be stepping back into the theatre.

JAMIE WEI (GRAPHICS/PROGRAM) Jamie is a Bay Area native and recent UC Berkeley graduate. She has designed several programs for AE and is excited to be part of the AE family!

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FALL IMPROV AT AE: Three veteran improv groups, *Shakespeare's Stepchildren*, *The Streetlight People*, and *Fully Improvised*. | *Sunday Oct. 28th, 7 p.m. \$10 suggested donation*

STAGED READING: THE SPOTTISH CLAY: MACBETH IS DRESSED TO KILL, an adaptation of Macbeth featuring Macbeth and Lady Macbeth as the same person - find the Iago within!, adapted and directed by Matthew Surrence. | *Tuesday Oct. 28th, 8 p.m., \$5-\$10 sliding scale*

STAGED READING: RICHARD II by Shakespeare, directed by Robert Estes - poses the opposite question to Richard III - when can be a leader

be "too nice", as Richard II is bedeviled by his Machiavellian adversary, Bolingbroke. | *Wednesday Nov. 7th, 8 p.m., \$5-\$10 sliding scale*

STAGED READING: HENRY VI, PART 3 by Shakespeare, directed by Alecks Rundell - war, family dissolution, and madness in the prequel to Richard III. | *Sunday, Nov. 11th at 7 p.m. \$5-\$10 sliding scale*

STAGED READING: THE FINAL TRIAL OF RICHARD III/THE QUEENS OF FRANCE. Directed by Carol De-Chaine Reyes. Two celebrated one acts, by Mary Schaller and Thornton Wilder. In the former the Jury is the audience as Richard is put on trial. | *Wednesday, Nov. 14th, 7 p.m. \$5-\$10 sliding scale*



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