Artist Biographies

BARBARA ZAHORA (Co-Director/Co-Adapter, Associate Artistic Director) joined The Project's artistic staff in 2010; she has performed with us since 2005. Last season she adapted and directed *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. As an actor, her favorite roles in Project stagings include Queen Elizabeth I in last season's *Mary Stuart*, Margaret in Jeff Christian's adaptation of *Henry VI Parts 1, 2*, and *3*, and Constance Middleton in *The Constant Wife*. Barbara has been performing in Chicago for more than ten years; her credits include roles at Writers' Theatre, ShawChicago, Chicago Shakespeare, First Folio, Goodman, Illinois Theatre Center, Oak Park Festival, Northlight, Lookingglass and many others. She has also performed at a many respected regional and international venues, including the Colorado Shakespeare Festival and Shakespeare's Globe Theatre in London, where she was part of the International Artistic Residency in 2004. Barbara is also an adjunct faculty member in Roosevelt University's Theatre Conservatory, a voiceover artist, a dialect coach, and a proud member of Actors' Equity Association.

MICHELLE SHUPE (Co-Director/Co-Adapter) most recently dramaturged The Project's readings of *The Tempest* and *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. She has acted with The Project in *Measure for Measure* (which she also dramaturged), made her acting debut with The Project in last season's *Antony & Cleopatra*, and also appeared as Lady Macbeth in The Project's Page to Stage education outreach program. Michelle has also been seen on stage at the Illinois Shakespeare Festival, where she appeared as Titania in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Elizabeth in *Richard III* and Nerine in *Scapin*. Favorite roles include Dionyza in Mary Zimmerman's *Pericles* at the Shakespeare Theatre/ Goodman, Lady Chatterley in *Lady Chatterley's Lover*, for which she was nominated for a Helen Hayes award, and Imogen in *Cymbeline*, for which she was also nominated for a Helen Hayes Award. She has performed in New York at Axis Theater and in Washington, DC at The Shakespeare Theater, Studio Theatre, Signature Theatre, Theater J, The Washington Shakespeare Company (former ensemble member) and many others.

Join Us for Our 17th Season:

Richard II
October 22-23, 2011
Directed by Peter Garino

The Duchess of Malfi
by John Webster
January 21-22, 2012
Directed by Stephen Spencer

The Taming of the Shrew
February 25-26, 2012
Directed by Jeff Christian

Troilus and Cressida
April 21-22, 2012
Directed by Barbara Zahora

Visit www.shakespeareprojectchicago.org for news, casting announcements and more!

THE SHAKESPEARE PROJECT OF CHICAGO

the world in words

PRESENTS

50m. R&J

ROMEO AND JULIET... ...IN FIFTY MINUTES

by William Shakespeare

Adapted by Barbara Zahora, Michelle Shupe and Peter Garino

Directed by Barbara Zahora and Michelle Shupe

September 14, 2011 ▪ The Newberry Library

www.shakespeareprojectchicago.org

P.O. Box 25126, Chicago, Illinois 60625

Romeo & Juliet (in 50 Minutes)

Dramatis Personae (in order of appearance):

GIRL (Juliet) ..... Amanda Catania*
BOY (Romeo) ..... Nicholas Dargis†
MAN..... Peter Garino*
WOMAN ..... Judy Blue*

** - Member, Actors' Equity Association*
† - Equity Membership Candidate

Running Time: Approximately fifty minutes.

Unless otherwise stated, all Actors appearing with The Shakespeare Project of Chicago are members of Actors' Equity Association.

The Shakespeare Project of Chicago gratefully acknowledges the generous contributions made by its valued patrons over the past 16 years. With sincere thanks, we recognize contributors to our 2011-2012 season:

Ann Albert, Anonymous, Sunder & Carolyn Bajaj, Lynn & Aaron Broaddus, Jack & Janet Christian, Deborah Clifton, Brooks Davis, J. Friedman, James & Martha Fritts, Joseph A. Gagliano, In Memory of Margaret D. Garino, Joan J. Golder, C.J. Herhold, Nancy Herzog, Leigh K. Johnson, Art & Kathy Klawans, Arthur Kowitt, John & Regina Kulczycki, Carol E. Lewis, Rhita Lippitz, Kevin & Laura McVey, George & Gerry Messenger, Alice Mills, Marlene Mitchel, Annie Moldafsky, Sydelle F. Nelson, Dawn & John Palmer, Catherine Regaldo, Elanor & Harvard Reiter, Leonard & Elizabeth Ringstad, Mary Ann San Martin, Alfred Saucedo, Jay & Lou Ann Schachner, Patricia M. Shanahan, Christopher & Hisae Shea, M.F. Sherman, Thomas & Felicity Skidmore, Melanie Spitz, Myrna Sylvester, Dick & Mary Woods.

The Illinois Arts Council
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Kraft Foods Foundation Matching Gifts Program
Season of Change Foundation

This program is partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council

Artist Biographies

JUDY BLUE (Woman), a devoted member of The Project, recently appeared at Chicago Shakespeare Theatre in *Romeo & Juliet* (as Lady Capulet), and in *Richard III* and *Winter's Tale.* Other Chicago credits include: *Talking Pictures*, *Blind Date, House and Garden, A Little Night Music, Frank's Home* (Goodman); *Gary* (Steppenwolf); *The Intelligent Design of Jenny Chow*, *To Kill a Mockingbird* (Collaboraction); Elizabeth Berg's *The Pull of the Moon* (16th Street Theater); *The Man Who Came to Dinner* (Drury Lane Oakbrook); *An American Daughter* (Organic/Touchstone); and Chicago Symphony Orchestra's *Welcome Yule!* Regional credits include: *Fool for Love* (B Street, Sacramento); *As You Like It* (Dallas Theater Center); *Merchant of Venice*, *Piaf* (Stage West); *Twelfth Night* (Shakespeare Dallas); *Tender* (Syzygy Theatre Group, L.A.); and *Evita* (Arkansas Repertory Theatre). Other credits include productions with New York's Henry St. Theatre, Apple Tree, Theatre Three, Movement Theatre International and Writers' Theatre. Along with film and commercial work, Ms. Blue is a company member of Syzygy Theatre Group in L.A. and an Associate Artist at Chicago Dramatists.

AMANDA CATANIA (Juliet) is very thankful to be working with The Project once again, following last season's *Merry Wives of Windsor* and *Measure for Measure*. Other recent credits include: *Othello, The Three Musketeers, Comedy of Errors, Charlotte's Web* (Alabama Shakespeare Festival); *Julius Caesar, Catch-22* (Aquila Theatre Company national tour); *Twelfth Night, Much Ado About Nothing* (Aquila Theatre Company); and a staged reading of *The Iliad* (Classic Stage Company). Amanda holds a BFA from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts.

NICHOLAS DARGIS (Romeo) is thrilled and honored to be working with The Project. *Romeo and Juliet* is his favorite play of all time, and this is his second time playing Romeo; he also tackled the role at California State University at Stanislaus. Other memorable roles include Ferdinand in *The Tempest*, aFeatured Fighter in *The Three Musketeers*, Prince Edward in *Richard III* and Claudio in *Much Ado About Nothing*. Nicholas studied acting at Illinois State University, where he received his Bachelor's degree in May, 2010. He'd like to dedicate this particular performance to his hero, his uncle Rick, who never had the opportunity to see Nicholas on stage, but will certainly be in his heart for this and many others to come.

PETER GARINO (Man, Co-Adapter, Artistic Director) is a founding member of The Project and has contributed to over 50 theatrical readings as an actor and director since 1995. This season he will direct Richard II to open The Project's 17th season of theatrical readings on October 22. Last season, he directed The Tempest and Measure For Measure in addition to appearing in Mary Stuart and The Merry Wives of Windsor. Other recent appearances for The Project include Paradise Lost, The Rivals and Cardinal Wolsey in Henry VIII. On behalf of The Project, he has facilitated his Sonnet Workshop and Page to the Stage Macbeth for local public and private schools and universities. Peter has worked with the Steppenwolf and Organic Theatre companies, the Body Politic, Pegasus Players, the Oak Park Festival and Illinois Shakespeare Festival (three seasons). Other previous directing credits for The Project include Antony and Cleopatra, The Importance of Being Earnest, A Woman of No Importance, Pericles (1996 and 2008), The Taming of the Shrew, 2 Henry IV, A Midsummer Night's Dream, and his own adaptations of Shakespeare's sonnets and songs, My Name Is Will, and The Rape of Lucrece. Peter attended the National Shakespeare Conservatory and holds a Master of Fine Arts degree in Acting from Illinois State University and a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Arts from Hofstra University, New York. He is a member of Actors' Equity Association, AFTRA and the Screen Actors Guild. Thanks to Helene and Glen.