

THE SHAKESPEARE PROJECT OF CHICAGO <i>the world in words.</i> 23 <sup>rd</sup> Season		
<b>AS YOU LIKE IT</b>	By William Shakespeare Directed by J.R. Sullivan	10.20 → 10.25.2017
<b>CORIOLANUS</b>	By William Shakespeare Directed by Barbara Zahora	01.12 → 01.16.2018
<b>WOMEN BEWARE WOMEN</b>	By Thomas Middleton Directed by Michelle Shupe & Kelly Lynn Hogan	02.23 → 02.27.2018
<b>MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING</b>	By William Shakespeare Directed by Peter Garino	05.04 → 05.08.2018

**2017-2018 Performance Schedule:**

**Fridays at 7:00PM** - The Niles-Maine District Library, 6960 W. Oakton Street, Niles, IL (Pre-registration required)

**Saturdays at 10:00AM** – The Newberry Library, 60 W. Walton, Street, Chicago, IL

**Saturdays at 2:00PM** – Wilmette Public Library, 1242 Wilmette Avenue, Wilmette, IL

**Sundays at 2:00PM** – Highland Park Public Library, 494 Laurel Avenue, Highland Park, IL.

**Mondays at 6:30PM**- Vernon Area Public Library, 300 Olde Half Day Road, Lincolnshire, IL

**Tuesdays at 7:15PM** – Mount Prospect Public Library, 10 S. Emerson Street, Mount Prospect, IL

Admission is FREE, seating is limited. All performances are preceded by an introduction to the play that commences 15 minutes prior to curtain.

**THE SHAKESPEARE PROJECT** OF CHICAGO

*the world in words*

PRESENTS

# My Name Is Will

*A Dramatic Adaptation of Shakespeare's Sonnets and Songs*

Adapted and Directed by  
**Peter Garino**

Original Music by Chris Walz

**23<sup>rd</sup> Season**

February 12, 2018

Allied Arts Club of LaGrange



All actors with The Shakespeare Project of Chicago are members of Actors' Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers.

[www.shakespeareprojectchicago.org](http://www.shakespeareprojectchicago.org)

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# Artist Biographies



**Judy Blue** is counted as one of the many proud founding members of The Shakespeare Project of Chicago, in which she has appeared in countless readings, the touring *My Name Is Will* and the four-person *50-Minute Romeo and Juliet*. Judy has appeared numerous times at Chicago Shakespeare Theater, Goodman Theatre, Steppenwolf, as well as Writers Theatre, Drury Lane Oakbrook, CollaborAction, and Theatre at the Center among others. A veteran of many tours she has also appeared across the country at B Street Theatre (Sacramento), Syzygy (LA), Henry Street (NYC), Dallas Theater Center, Theatre Three (Dallas), Arkansas Repertory Theatre, Stage West and Casa Manana (Fort Worth). She has workshoped

new plays as both director and actor with Chicago Dramatists for over 25 years, and most recently directed Chicago playwright Mia McCullough's *Impenetrable* at Clockwise Theatre and Jayme McGhan's *Life In A Sandcastle* for Concordia University. Television roles include *Chicago Med* and *Chicago PD*, and her audio book narration includes the Sleuth Sisters mystery series, and the award-winning Myrtle Clover series. Judy is an Artistic Associate Chicago Dramatists, and Syzygy Theatre, and coaches lawyers in communication skills through Chicago Litigation Consultants. She is a proud member of AEA and SAG-AFTRA.



**Joe Lehman** is delighted with another chance to play with The Shakespeare Project. He regularly works with Greenbrier Valley Theatre, the state professional theatre of West Virginia and Classical Kids Live!, an organization dedicated to introducing young people to classical music through theatre. Joe is a proud member of Actors' Equity and has appeared with Drury Lane Oakbrook, Michigan Shakespeare Festival, Light Opera Works, Theatre at the Center, Marriott Theatre, Stage One, Meadow Brook Theatre, Little Theatre on the Square, Springer Opera House, First Folio, Oak Park Shakespeare and Shaw Chicago among others. More details at [www.joe-lehman.com](http://www.joe-lehman.com). Thanks for your support of live theatre!



**Megon McDonough** made her debut with The Shakespeare Project last October playing Amiens in *As You Like It*. She also composed and performed original music for the show. Megon is probably best known for her work as an inaugural member of The Four Bitchin Babes along with Christine Lavin, which allowed Megon's wit and folk sensibilities to comment on the ups and downs of everyday life. Perhaps not surprisingly, she is also an accomplished comedic actress having appeared in numerous theater productions including, Pump Boys and Dinettes, Beehive and a box office record-breaking starring role in *Always Patsy Cline*. She, in fact, classifies her music as folk/cabaret, citing her love of theatre and

jazz as the reason for the unusual mix. She was inspired to play the guitar and sing after watching The Beatles on Ed Sullivan and wrote her first song at age eleven. (Folk lovers may remember a 17-year-old Megon opening for such acts as John Denver, Steve Martin and Harry Chapin in the 70's.). Ever since, her mantra, "Live to Sing and Love to Sing" has guided her artistic evolution. This Renaissance Woman is also an accomplished voice coach, songwriting teacher at The Music Institute of Chicago, Music Director for Unity Northwest Church and inspirational coach and speaker in her spare time. She began recording at age 14, and has over 20 CDs to her credit. For all things Megon, please visit [www.megonmegon.com](http://www.megonmegon.com)



**Christopher Prentice** was seen most recently with The Project in *As You Like It* and *Shakeshafte*. Previous work with The Project includes *Berowne*, *Philip the Bastard*, *Leontes*, and *Mark Antony [JC]*. Other credits with The Project: include *The Changeling*, *The Revenger's Tragedy*, *50-Minute Hamlet*, and *Darkside* (stage manager/assistant director). Other appearances in *AYLI*: both Court Lords (#2 again), 2nd Forest Lord, Dog-head Guard (in the surrealist Stratford prod, 2010), Le Beau, Jaques, William (again), and Jaques de Boys. Chicago credits: Signal Ensemble Theatre (co-founder): *Hamlet*, *The Zoo Story*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, *Waiting for Godot*, *Landslide*, *Much Ado About Nothing*; Chicago Shakespeare Theater; Northlight; Next; Boxer Rebellion; New Leaf; and Sansculottes. Regional:

Illinois Shakespeare Festival (including *Beatrice* in *Much Ado*), Montana Shakespeare in the Parks (title role in *Macbeth*), American Players Theatre, Milwaukee Rep, and Dallas Theater Center. For five years he was a member of the acting company at Canada's Stratford Festival. A native Texan, he is a graduate of Southern Methodist University in Dallas.

**Peter Garino** (Adaptor/Director) is a founding member of The Shakespeare Project of Chicago and has served as Artistic Director since June 2010. In the current season, he played Duke Senior and Duke Frederick in *As You Like It* and will play the Duke of Florence in Thomas Middleton's *Women Beware Women* in February. He recently directed John Kishline's *Dream Upon Avon* and Rowan Williams' *Shakeshafte* for The Shakespeare Project. This May he will direct *Much Ado About Nothing*. Last season, he appeared as Boyet/Anthony Dull in *Love's Labour's Lost*, Sir Thomas Erpingham and the Duke of Burgundy in *Henry V* and as Tackleton in Charles Dickens' *The Cricket on the Hearth*. Peter directed the Chicago premier of Tom Stoppard's *Darkside* (Incorporating *The Dark Side of the Moon* by Pink Floyd). Recent appearances for The Project include the Bard in *Cymbeline*, Camillo in *The Winter's Tale*, the title role in *The Tragedy of Julius Caesar*. Lord LaFew in *All's Well That Ends Well* and Antonio in *The Merchant of Venice*. Other directing credits for The Shakespeare Project include: *King John*, *Cardenio*, *The Revenger's Tragedy*, *King Lear*, *The Fair Maid of the West*, *The Reign of King Edward III*, *A Woman Killed With Kindness*, *Othello*, *The Tempest*, *Richard II*, *Measure For Measure*, *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 has worked with the Steppenwolf and Organic Theatre companies, the Body Politic, Pegasus Players and with the Oak Park Festival Theatre and Illinois Shakespeare Festival (three seasons). 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 proud member of Actors' Equity Association, and SAG-AFTRA. Peter serves as chair for the English in Action's Shakespeare Committee in Chicago.

**Chris Walz** (Composer, Musician) is an accomplished vocalist, guitar player and actor. He holds a degree in theatre from Syracuse University and has lived in Chicago since 1988 and worked both as a musician and an actor. He played the lead role in *Woody Guthrie* in the national tour of *Woody Guthrie's American Song* and is a founding member of The Shakespeare Project of Chicago. Chris has taught in the US and Europe, including at the Sorrento Guitar Camp in Canada. He toured the world with the bluegrass band Special Consensus as a lead singer and guitarist, contributing three original songs to the repertoire. Since returning home, Chris has continued to work as a musician, teacher, composer and lyricist. He has taught at the Old Town School of Music since 1996.

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Understudy: Laurie Carter Rose