

Shakespeare's trilogy), *Faust* (from Marlowe and Goethe), *The Parvenu* (from Moliere's *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme*), Ibsen's *Ghosts*, Dickens's *The Cricket on the Hearth* and the outreach program *50-Minute Hamlet*, as well as having staged *Cymbeline*, *Twelfth Night*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*, *King Lear*, *Love's Labours Lost*, *As You Like It*, Schiller's *Mary Stuart*, Sheridan's *The Rivals*, Somerset Maugham's *The Constant Wife* and Regina M. Schwartz's adaptation of John Milton's *Paradise Lost*. Other directing credits include *Shining City*, *Mojo Mickybo*, *A Whistle in the Dark* and *Our Father* (Irish Theatre of Chicago, formerly Seanachai Theatre Company), *Romeo & Juliet*, *As You Like It*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* and *Love's Labours Lost* (Lakeside Shakespeare; Michigan), *The Plough and the Stars* (Roosevelt University), *The Skin of Our Teeth* (The Artistic Home), *Proof* and *Driving Miss Daisy* (New American Theater), *Kill Me* (WildClaw) the short film *Still Live*, both parts of *Angels in America* (The Journeymen; co-director and actor, sharing in three Jeff Awards and an After Dark Award), and James Krag's one-man show *According to Mark*. Acting credits with The Project include Iago, Richard III, Brutus, Proteus, Mercutio, Caliban, Oberon/Bottom/Theseus, Ajax, Feste, Enobarbus, Bassanio, Hortensio, Buckingham, Oliver, Amiens, Antonio (*Twelfth Night*), Richard (*Henry VI*), Leicester (*Mary Stuart*), Aegeus (*In Medea Res*), Hamlet in *50-Minute Hamlet*, Satan (*Paradise Lost*), Roughman (*Fair Maid of the West*) and one of the four actor/singers in *My Name is Will*. Other acting credits include work with The Goodman, Syracuse Stage, Indiana Rep, Writers' Theatre, Chicago Shakespeare, Milwaukee Rep, Madison Rep, The Women's Project of New York, Seanachai, Chicago Dramatists, Lakeside Shakespeare, New American Theater, Artists' Ensemble Theater, Illinois Theatre Center, Oak Park Festival, Artistic Home, Bernie Sahlins' production of *Murder in the Cathedral*, three seasons of JR Sullivan's *Hometown Holiday* (as a writer and actor) and Tennessee Williams' *The Day on Which a Man Dies* (in Chicago, East Hampton and Cape Cod). He is a member of the Irish Theatre of Chicago and Lakeside Shakespeare ensembles, co-fronts the rock band Ingenious Whittler, is a creative consultant for Tessera Publishing, writes and directs live action and animated sequences for production houses including the Emmy Award winning Digital Kitchen and teaches directing in Columbia College's Department of Cinema Art + Science, where he was awarded the Excellence in Teaching Award. Film and television work includes *Batman Begins*, *Witches' Night*, *The Express*, *The Poker House*, *Happy Hour*, *The Last Rider*, *Pickman's Muse*, *Helix*, *Cyrus*, *Good People* and Showtime's *Shameless*. Jeff thanks you for your continued support of The Project.

THE  
SHAKESPEARE  
PROJECT OF CHICAGO

the world in words

PRESENTS

## 50-Minute Hamlet

From

*The Tragedy of Hamlet, Prince of Denmark*

By William Shakespeare

Adapted and Directed by Jeff Christian

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

P.O. Box 25126, Chicago, Illinois 60625

773-710-2718

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## WIN A PERFORMANCE OF “50-MINUTE HAMLET”

The Shakespeare Project of Chicago would like to bring its long-running education outreach production of “50-Minute Hamlet” to your high school. Write us a letter explaining why your class would like to see “50-Minute Hamlet” at your school. Please include the name and phone number of your English or Performing Arts teacher. All letters must be received by November 30, 2016. Winners will be announced in December and performances given in early 2017. Adapted by Jeff Christian, “50-Minute Hamlet” presents Shakespeare’s most enduring tragedy. Utilizing just two actors, “50-Minute Hamlet” contains many of The Bard’s most famous lines and speeches while retaining much of his saga’s pathos, poetry and passion. Performances can be given in school auditorium, classroom or other venue at the school. No special lighting or scenery required. All entries should be mailed to:

50-Minute Hamlet Contest  
The Shakespeare Project of Chicago  
P.O. Box 25126, Chicago, IL 60625

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**Christopher Prentice** (Guy) appeared last season with The Project as Leontes in *The Winter’s Tale*, and Mark Antony in *Julius Caesar*. He made his debut with The Project in *The Revenger’s Tragedy* playing Vindici. He also was stage manager for *Darksides*. He toured last season in *50-Minute Hamlet*. Recent credits include a season at Illinois Shakespeare Festival (Beatrice in *Much Ado...*, *Elizabeth Rex*, *Antony and Cleopatra*) after five years as a company member with Canada’s Stratford Festival (Claudio in *Measure for Measure*, *Mary Stuart*, Nim in *Henry V*, Slender in *Merry Wives...*, *The Grapes of Wrath*, *The Misanthrope*, *Bartholomew Fair*, among others). Chicago credits include *Short Shakespeare! Romeo and Juliet* (Mercutio, Chicago Shakespeare), *Robin Hood* (title role, Oak Park Festival), and work with First Folio, Northlight, Next, Chicago Dramatists, Irish Rep of Chicago, Stage Left, Sansculottes, Boxer Rebellion, and New Leaf. A co-founder of Signal Ensemble Theatre, he appeared in *Hamlet* (title role), *The Zoo Story* (Jerry), *She Stoops to Conquer* (Marlow), and *Waiting for Godot* (Gogo), among others, and directed *Old Wicked Songs* (two Jeff noms) and *The Weir* (three Jeff noms). Other regional acting credits include Montana Shakespeare in the Parks (title role in *Macbeth*), American Players Theatre, Milwaukee Rep, and Dallas Theater Center. He trained at the Birmingham Conservatory for Classical Theatre (at Stratford Festival) and, a native Texan, is a graduate of Southern Methodist University in Dallas. Get social with him online at christopher-prentice.com, @PrenticeActor and on Facebook.



**Laura St. John** (Gal) Laura St. John is a founding member of The Shakespeare Project and previously served as The Project’s Director of Education. She originated the role of Gal in *50-Minute Hamlet* in 2002 and is happy to return to today’s production. She is founder and president of Play In A Book. Having spent twenty years as a Teaching Artist serving thousands of students in more than 50 Chicago Public Schools, Laura provides a unique perspective on the connection between literacy and drama. Her materials and curriculum give equal weight to both, and create a truly engaging method to develop reading skills. Laura is a trained actor with a degree in Theatre Performance from Ball State University and she is a member of Actor’s Equity Association, the International Literacy Association, and the Illinois Reading Council. As author of *The Act It Read It Series™* (Play In A Book) and a collaborator on the children’s book *Through the Cracks* (Davis Publications), she is an advocate of an arts-based education. Laura lives in Chicago with her husband and two daughters.

**Jeff Christian** (Adaptor/Director) led the company for eight seasons, having adapted and directed *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, *Henry VIII*, the gender-swapped *The Comedy of Errors*, *In Medea Res* (from Euripides’ *Medea*), *Henry VI* (from