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Michelle Shupe (*Soothsayer, Pompey*) is delighted to be working with The Shakespeare Project in *Antony and Cleopatra*. Michelle most recently appeared 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 Theatre, Lady Chatterly in *Lady Chatterly'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 DC

at The Shakespeare Theater, Studio Theatre, Signature Theatre, Theater J, The Washington Shakespeare Company (former ensemble member) and many others. GO TEAM SHAKESPEARE!



Stephen Spencer (Mark Antony) is pleased to be back on the boards with The Shakespeare Project. As a Founding Member, he's been involved in over 30 plays including *Henry VIII* (Henry), *Macbeth* (Macbeth), *Othello* (Iago), *Twelfth Night* (Orsino), *The Winter's Tale* (Autolycus), *King Lear* (Kent to Ray Wild's Lear), *Timon of Athens* (Timon), and *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* (Thurio). He directed *Henry V* and *The Two Noble Kinsmen*. Recent stage work includes *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom* and *Wait Until Dark* at Chicago's Court Theatre, *Joe Turner's Come and Gone* (Congo

Square/Goodman) and Oak Park Festival Theatre's *Comedy of Errors*. Steve does voiceovers, commercials and industrials and has appeared in over a dozen independent features and shorts in the Chicago market. Recent film: *Public Enemies*, starring Johnny Depp; *Son of America*; *Greg's Leg*; and *Morning Due* (Cannes 2008). Look for Steve this summer as Don Armado in *Love's Labour's Lost* at Oak Park Festival Theatre.



Fredric Stone (Lepidus, Thyreus, Clown) most recently appeared with The Shakespeare Project as Sir Anthony Absolute in *The Rivals*. At the Utah Shakespearean Festival this past summer he appeared in *Henry V* and *As You Like It*, and at Writers' Theatre in *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*. Fred is a founding member of The Shakespeare Project and has appeared *As You Like It*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, in addition to appearing in *Love's Labour's Lost*, *Faust*, *Ghosts*, *The Cricket on the Hearth* and many others. He performed in *The Chosen* at Steppenwolf

Theatre and as Agamemnon in *Trojan Women* at the Goodman Theatre. At Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, he's performed *Love's Labour's Lost* (Boyet), *The Tempest* (Alonso), *Richard II* (Northumberland), *Henry IV Parts I and II* (multiple roles); *Henry V* (multiple roles), *The Winter's Tale* (Camillo) and *The Taming of the Shrew* (Gremio). Other Chicago credits include *Fires in the Mirror* (Northlight), *Beau Jest* (Victory Gardens), *Isn't It Romantic* (Ivanhoe), and work at the Court Theatre, Drury Lane Oakbrook, and Illinois Theatre Center. Broadway and Off-Broadway credits include *All Over Town* and *Awake and Sing* and tours include *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* with Zero Mostel. Mr. Stone also created and performs a one-person Shakespeare show, *Will and Testament* (a life after death comedy) that he tours.

THE SHAKESPEARE PROJECT OF CHICAGO

the world in words

PRESENTS

ANTONY & CLEOPATRA

by William Shakespeare

Directed by
Peter Garino

Assistant Director
Gail Rastorfer

April 24-25, 2010
The Newberry Library
The Wilmette Public Library
The Highland Park Public Library



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
P.O. Box 25126, Chicago, Illinois 60625

Artist Biographies



Melissa Carlson (Cleopatra) In addition to being The Shakespeare Project's Director of Education, Melissa gladly rejoins TSP as an actor where she recently appeared as Hippolyta, Titania and Quince in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and has also played Marina in *Pericles, Prince of Tyre*, Cecily Cardew in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, Joan of Arc and Lady Grey in *Henry VI*, Beatrice in *Much Ado About Nothing*, Katharine in *Love's Labours Lost* and Helen of Troy and Covetousness in *Faust*. Other credits include: *A Midsummer Night's Dream, Short Shakespeare!* (Chicago Shakespeare Theatre), *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Antigone* (First Folio), *Berlin '45*, *Pyretown*, *The Action Against Sol Schumann* (Victory Gardens), *How I Learned to Drive*, *All My Sons* (Illinois Theatre Center), *Dylan* (Seanachai Theatre), *Edward II* (Red Hen), *Richard III*, *Macbeth*, *Romeo and Juliet* (Shakespeare on the Green), *Titus Andronicus*, (Shakespeare's Motley Crew), *Six Degrees of Separation* (Raven Theater), *Tattoo* (Trap Door Theater) and *A Yard of Sun* (Famous Door Theater). She has also worked with Court Theatre, The Lyric Opera, and CollaborAction among others. Television credits include numerous commercials and the CBS series *Early Edition*.



Jeff Christian (Domitius Enobarbus, Artistic Director) leads the company into his eighth season, 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 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*, the outreach program *50 Minute Hamlet*, as well as having staged *King Lear*, *Love's Labours Lost*, *As You Like It* and Somerset Maugham's *The Constant Wife*. Other directing credits include *Mojo Mickybo*, *A Whistle in the Dark* and *Our Father* (Seanachai Theatre Company), *The Skin of Our Teeth* (The Artistic Home), *Proof* and *Driving Miss Daisy* (New American Theater), *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* and *Love's Labours Lost* (Lakeside Shakespeare; Michigan), 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 *Richard III*, *Brutus*, *Proteus*, *Mercutio*, *Oberson/Bottom/Theseus*, *Bassanio*, *Hortensio*, *Buckingham*, *Oliver*, *Amiens*, *Antonio* (*Twelfth Night*), *Richard* (*Henry VI*), *Aegeus* (*In Medea Res*), *Hamlet* in *50 Minute Hamlet*, and one of the four actor/singers in *My Name is Will*. Other acting credits include work with Syracuse Stage, Indiana Rep, Writers' Theatre, Chicago Shakespeare, Milwaukee Rep, Madison Rep, The Women's Project of New York, 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* and Tennessee Williams' recently discovered *The Day on Which a Man Dies* (in Chicago, East Hampton and Cape Cod). He is a member of the Seanachai ensemble, co-fronts the rock band Ingenious Whittler, is a creative consultant for Tessera Publishing, and writes and directs live action and animated sequences for the Emmy Award winning Digital Kitchen. Film work includes *Batman Begins*, *Witches' Night*, *The Express*, *The Poker House*, *Pickman's Muse*, *Helix*, *Cyrus* and *Good People*.



Sean Cooper (Octavius Caesar) has been acting in Chicago for over fifteen years. Theatre credits include *The Crowd You're in With* (Goodman Theatre), *These Shining Lives* (Rivendell Theatre) *The Final Toast* (International Mystery Writers Festival), *Wedding Play* (About Face Theatre), *Honus and Me*, *Dandelion Wine* (Chicago Children's Theatre), *Cradle of Man* (Victory Gardens), *Red Herring* (Northlight Theatre), *Mojo* (Mary-Arrchie) *Eurydice*, *Melancholy Play*, *Mad Forest*, *Book of Days* (Piven Theatre), *Merchant of Venice* (Strawdog Theatre), *A Lesson Before Dying* (Steppenwolf Theatre), *Lysistrata* (Running With Scissors), *H2O*, and *K.* (The Neo-Futurists), and a slew of shows with The Shakespeare Project of

Chicago. His film and television work includes *Whirlybird*, *A Pirate's Life*, *The Malcontents*, and a guest starring role on *The Beast*.



Peter Garino (Philo, Agrippa, Director, Associate Artistic Director) is a founding member of The Shakespeare Project of Chicago and has contributed to over 40 theatrical readings as an actor and director since 1995. This season, he appeared as Thomas and David in *The Rivals* and as Cardinal Wolsey in *Henry VIII*. On behalf of The Shakespeare Project, he has recently facilitated his *Sonnet Workshop* and *Page to the Stage Macbeth* for local public and private schools and colleges. Last season, he appeared as Lord Stanley in *Richard III*, Creon in Jeff Christian's adaptation, *In Medea Res* and directed *Pericles, Prince of Tyre*. Previously he directed Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest* and appeared as Duke Senior and Duke Frederick in *As You Like It*, Don Pedro in *Much Ado About Nothing*, Mortimer in *The Constant Wife*, Rev. Manders in *Ghosts*, multiple roles in *Henry V*, Boyet in *Love's Labour's Lost*, the title role in Jeff Christian's adaptation of *Faust*, Leontes in *A Winter's Tale* and Duncan in *Macbeth*. Peter has worked with the Steppenwolf and Organic Theatre companies and with the Oak Park Festival Theatre and Illinois Shakespeare Festival. Additionally, he has directed readings of *A Woman of No Importance*, *Pericles*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *2 Henry IV*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and his own adaptation of Shakespeare's sonnets and songs, *My Name Is Will*, and *The Rape of Lucrece*. He 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. Peter is a member of Actors' Equity Association, AFTRA and the Screen Actors Guild.



Blake Hackler (Demetrius, Messenger, Mardian, Euphronius) is an actor, writer, and teacher currently living and working in New York City and Chicago. Credits include: Broadway : *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*; Off-Broadway: *Spring Awakening* with Roundabout Theatre Company; *Mirror, Mirror*— Playwright's Horizons; *A Family Affair*, *China Song*, *The Good War*, *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* with York Theatre; *Spring Awakening*, *The Alchemists* with Prospect Theatre. Other New York Credits – *George M*, *Exit the King*, *Stranger*. Regional: Yale Rep, Shakespeare Theatre, ShawChicago, Theatre 7, *The Irish and How They Got That Way* – Mercury Theatre , Chicago; *Summer of 42* – Mill Mountain Theatre; *Babes in Arms* – Ovation. Film: *Roslyn* – winner Chrysler Short Film Competition at Cannes, France. MFA, Yale School of Drama. He is a member of the esteemed BMI/Lehman Engel Musical Theatre Writing Workshop and was the 2009 recipient of the Harrington Award for Excellence in Musical Theatre Writing. He holds faculty positions at Yale University and Roosevelt University.



James Krag (Scarus) was last seen at the Shakespeare Project as Buckingham in *Richard III* and as Adriano in the gender-switched *Comedy of Errors*. Other recent Project appearances include Jaques in *As You Like It* and the title role of *Pericles* directed by Mr. Garino. Jim most recently understudied and appeared as Elyot in *Private Lives* at Chicago Shakespeare Theatre. Last year, he appeared at Victory Gardens as EKO in the Pulitzer Prize nominated play, *The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity*. Other Chicago credits include *Well* at the Next Theatre and *The Trip to Bountiful* at the Goodman, *The Best Man* at Remy Bumpo, *Thyestes* at Court Theatre, and *Pacific* at Steppenwolf. New York credits include the original Broadway production of *Burn This*, *Mill Fire* at the Women's Project, and *Phedre* at the Fisher Center for the Performing Arts. Film and TV credits include *While You Were Sleeping*, *Mercury Rising*, *Molly*, *Prison Break*, *Early Edition*, *ER*, *Ellen*, *Dharma & Greg* and a recurring role on *Missing Persons*. Jim continues to perform *According to Mark*, his solo show of the Gospel of Mark, directed by Jeff Christian. (www.accordingtomark.org)



Jennie Moreau (Charmian) has appeared with The Shakespeare Project in *The Rivals* and as Katherine of Aragon in *Henry VIII*. She has worked on stage, film, and television in the New York and Chicago areas. Her stage appearances in Chicago include the world premiere of *The Day on Which a Man Dies* by Tennessee Williams, *Cradle of Man* at Victory Gardens Theatre, *Wedding Band* at Steppenwolf, and *Fallout* with Canamac Productions. In New York she performed at Second Stage, working with artists such as Lanford Wilson, *The Rimers of Eldritch*, and Lynda Barry, *The Good Times are Killing Me*. She received a Theatre World award for her performance in Lee Blessing's *Eleemosynary*, at Manhattan Theatre Club, (with Eileen Heckart and Joanna Gleason). Other New York theatres she has worked at include Playwrights' Horizons, Minetta Lane Theatre and Manhattan Punch Line. She was an original member of Artificial Intelligence, creating the role of Madeline Monroe, in *Tony n' Tina's Wedding*. Jennie has appeared in various soap operas, independent films, and many commercials.



Corliss Preston (Iras) returns to The Shakespare Project having played Miss Prism in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, Chorus in *Henry V* and Martha Culver in *The Constant Wife*. New York credits: *A Piece of My Heart* (Manhattan Theatre Club), *The Cherry Orchard* (York Theatre Company), *Erotica Project* (Public Theatre), and *The Hired Man* (47th Street Theatre). Regional credits include: The Goodman, The Alley (Houston), Actor's Theatre of Louisville, Denver Center, Yale Repertory, ATC, Missouri Repertory, Baltimore Center Stage, Studio Arena, Cincinnati Playhouse, and the Utah, Alabama, Sante Fe and Oregon Shakespeare festivals. She trained at the Bristol Old Vic Theatre School in England and Indiana University.



Mary Ringstad (Octavia, Diomedes) Previously for The Shakespeare Project, Mary directed *Much Ado About Nothing*, *All's Well That Ends Well*, and *Love's Labor's Lost* and assistant directed *King Lear*. Previous appearances include *The Comedy of Errors*, *As You Like It*, *A Women of No Importance*, *Ghosts*, *My Name Is Will*, the title role in *The Rape of Lucrece*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Julius Caesar*, *Othello*, *Titus Andronicus*, *As You Like It*, *Richard III*, *I- Henry VI*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Edward II*, *Macbeth*, *Taming of the Shrew*, *2-Henry IV* and *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. Mary, who has an MFA in Acting from Ohio University, is an adjunct faculty member at Oakton Community College. Mary also serves on the Board of

Directors for The Shakespeare Project.



Dan Rodden (Mecaeenas, Proculeius) Dan is pleased to make this his fifteenth production with TSP, having most recently played Sir Lucius O'Trigger in *The Rivals*. Other TSP credits: *Henry VIII*, *Richard III*, *The Comedy of Errors*, *Henry VI*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Henry V*, *My Name is Will*, *Love's Labors Lost*, *Henry IV*, *A Woman of No Importance*, *The Winter's Tale*, *The Parvenu*, *Macbeth*, and *All's Well That Ends Well*. He performed as an AEA guest artist as Don Quixote in *Man of La Mancha* at Normandale Community College in Bloomington, MN; *Marrying Terry* with the Nightingale Group; and Felix in *The Odd Couple* at Drury Lane Oakbrook. Other credits: Oak Park Festival Theatre, New American Theater, Drury Lane Evergreen Park, The Aardvark,

Apple Tree Theatre, Pegasus Players, and the IO Chicago. Regionally: Texas Shakespeare Festival, Nebraska Theatre Caravan, Cidermill Playhouse, and Beechwood Theatre Company. You may have also seen him recently in TV commercials for *Gerber Auto Collision* and *Legal Helpers*. Dan lives in Chicago with his lovely wife, actress Gail Rastorfer.

Antony & Cleopatra

Dramatis Personae (in order of appearance)

PROLOGUE*	Corliss Preston
PHILO (<i>Ambassador of Octavius Caesar</i>)	Peter Garino
DEMETRIUS (<i>Ambassador of Octavius Caesar</i>)	Blake Hackler
MARK ANTONY (<i>Triumvir of Rome</i>)	Stephen Spencer
CLEOPATRA (<i>Queen of Egypt</i>)	Melissa Carlson
CHARMIAN (<i>Attendant to Cleopatra</i>)	Jennie Moreau
IRAS (<i>Attendant to Cleopatra</i>)	Corliss Preston
SOOTHSAYER	Michelle Shupe
ENOBARBUS (<i>Friend of Mark Antony</i>)	Jeff Christian
MESSENGER (<i>Attendant to Cleopatra</i>)	Blake Hackler
OCTAVIUS CAESAR (<i>Triumvir of Rome</i>)	Sean Cooper
LEPIDUS (<i>Triumvir of Rome</i>)	Fredric Stone
MARDIAN (<i>Attendant to Cleopatra</i>)	Blake Hackler
AGRIPPA (<i>Friend of Octavius Caesar</i>)	Peter Garino
MECAENAS (<i>Friend of Octavius Caesar</i>)	Dan Rodden
OCTAVIA CAESAR (<i>Sister to Octavius Caesar</i>)	Mary Ringstad
POMPEY (<i>Son to slain Triumvir, Pompey the Great</i>)	Michelle Shupe
SCARUS (<i>Friend to Mark Antony</i>)	James Krag
THYREUS (<i>Ambassador of Octavius Caesar</i>)	Fredric Stone
EUPHRONIUS (<i>Ambassador from Mark Antony</i>)	Blake Hackler
DIOMEDES (<i>Messenger from Cleopatra</i>)	Mary Ringstad
PROCULEIUS (<i>friend to Octavius Caesar</i>)	Dan Rodden
CLOWN	Fredric Stone
SOLDIERS, GUARDS, CITIZENS	The Company

Locations: Alexandria, Rome, Misenum (southern Italy), Athens

* A Prologue to Antony and Cleopatra by Gordon Bottomley (1874-1948)

Running Time: Approximately 2 hours including intermission

A discussion of the play will follow this performance.

All Actors with *The Shakespeare Project of Chicago* are members of Actors' Equity Association.

