

**Michelle Shupe** (Director) most recently appeared with The Project as Elizabeth in *Richard III*. Favorite readings for The Project include: *King John*, *Pericles*, *Duchess of Malfi*, *Revenger's Tragedy*, *King Lear* and Cervantes' *Three Interludes*. She has appeared at various theaters throughout the country, including: Theatre Squared, ShawChicago, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, the Shakespeare Theatre, the Goodman, Illinois Shakespeare Festival, and many others.

**Kraig Kelsey** (Dramaturgy) is very excited to be working with The Shakespeare Project of Chicago. As an actor he has performed locally with City Lit Theater Company, Promethean Theatre Ensemble, Reutan Collective, Pride Films & Plays, Dead Writers Theatre Collective, Metropolis Performing Arts Centre, Citadel Theatre, and BrightSide Theatre. Regional credits include Illinois Shakespeare Festival, Orlando Shakespeare Theater, Texas Shakespeare Festival, Nashville Shakespeare Festival, and The Great American Melodrama & Vaudeville. He is a member of Actors' Equity Association.

**Judy Blue** (Assistant Director) most recently appeared with The Shakespeare Project as Mrs. Tiltyard in *The Roaring Girl*. She appeared in The Project's *Women Beware Women*, *My Name Is Will* and served as assistant director for *Titus Andronicus*. Judy is a proud founding member 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 Theatre, 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 workshopped 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 of 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.

**George Zahora** (Original Music and Sound Design) has been the Project's unofficial in-house sound designer since 2011, and has written music and created sound effects for literally dozens of Project productions including *Richard III*, *Hamlet*, *The Roaring Girl*, *Moby Dick Rehearsed* and divers autres. You may also have heard his work at Oak Park Festival Theatre (where he's an Artistic Associate) or the much-missed Shaw Chicago. In addition to his music and sound work, George is a playwright; his most recent play, *Christmas Comes But Once a Year*, had its world premiere as The Project's 2019 holiday offering, and audiences seemed to like it quite a bit, at least if packed-to-the-rafters attendance and uproarious laughter are anything to go on. George thanks you for supporting The Project and the outstanding Chicago actors it employs, and hopes that his contributions add context and depth to your experience. He's glad you're here today.

#### MEASURE FOR MEASURE

by William Shakespeare  
directed by Erin Sloan  
May 15-21, 2020

THE  
SHAKESPEARE  
PROJECT OF CHICAGO

the world in words

PRESENTS

## ROMEO AND JULIET

by

William Shakespeare

Directed by Michelle Shupe

Assistant Director: Judy Blue

Dramaturge: Kraig Kelsey

Sound Design and Original Music: George Zahora

25th Season

February 21-27, 2020

In Memory of David Bevington

Niles-Maine District Library  
Newberry Library  
Wilmette Public Library  
Highland Park Public Library  
Vernon Area Public Library  
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\* Actors appearing in this performance are members of Actors' Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers.

www.shakespeareprojectchicago.org  
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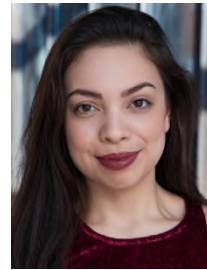
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Michelle Shupe

Artistic Director  
Associate Artistic Director



**Pricilla Torres** (Juliet) is incredibly excited to be a part of the cast of *Romeo and Juliet*. She is a recent graduate of the UW-Stevens Point's BFA Acting Program, where her credits include *Macbeth* (Lady Macbeth) and *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* (Mae Pollitt). This is her first production with The Shakespeare Project of Chicago and she's thrilled to be making her Chicago Theatre debut with this company. She'd like to thank her mom, dad, and brother for always believing in her and most importantly God for His love and blessings."



**Barbara Zahora** (Nurse) most recently appeared with The Project as Queen Margaret in *Richard III*. Over the holidays you may have seen her in her husband George's new play, *Christmas Comes But Once a Year*. Barbara has been part of Shakespeare Project since 2005, and has adapted and directed *Coriolanus*, *Love's Labour's Lost*, *The Winter's Tale*, *All's Well That Ends Well*, *Troilus and Cressida*, and *The Merry Wives of Windsor* for the group, along with *The 50 Minute Romeo and Juliet* with Peter Garino and Michelle Shupe. As an actor, some of her favorite roles with The Project have included Regan in *King Lear*, Elizabeth in *Mary Stuart*, and Constance Middleton in *The Constant Wife*. Other stage credits include *All My Sons* and *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* (American Players Theatre); *Hamlet*, *A Little Night Music*, *Heartbreak House* and *Misalliance* (Writers' Theatre); *You Can't Take it With You*, *Dancing at Lughnasa* and *Mrs. Coney* (Oak Park Festival Theatre); *Arms and the Man*, *The Devil's Disciple*, *Heartbreak House*, *Major Barbara*, *Man and Superman*, *Coward in Two Keys*, *James Barrie's Quartets*, *Candida*, *John Bull's Other Island*, *What Every Woman Knows* (ShawChicago); *The Country Girl* (Illinois Theatre Center); *Marionette Macbeth*, *The Moliere Comedies*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Richard II*, *The School for Scandal*, and *All's Well That Ends Well* (Chicago Shakespeare Theater); *Lady Windermere's Fan* (Northlight Theatre); *A Christmas Carol*, *Wit* (Goodman Theatre); and *Hard Times* (Lookingglass Theatre). Television credits include *Chicago Fire* and film credits include *Operator* and *The Legend of Amba*. Barbara is currently artistic director at Oak Park Festival Theatre, where she will be directing *The Tempest* in the summer of 2020. She is an assistant professor at Roosevelt University's Chicago College for the Performing Arts (CCPA) and a proud member of Actors' Equity. She thanks you sincerely for supporting Shakespeare Project's mission, and for helping us make "the world in words" accessible to everyone.

**Madeline Bunke** (Understudy) is honored to make her debut with The Shakespeare Project of Chicago. She's also delighted to return to the land of *Romeo and Juliet*, having played the Nurse at Citadel Theatre. Other Chicago credits include *The God Committee*, *Love, Loss, and What I Wore* (Oil Lamp Theater), *Peter Pan* (Music Theater Works), *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*, *A Christmas Carol* (Metropolis Performing Arts Center), and Artemisia's Fall Festival. Madeline is a graduate of Lawrence University and is proudly represented by Big Mouth Talent.

**Scott Myers** (Understudy) is thrilled to make his Shakespeare Project of Chicago debut with *Romeo and Juliet*! Recent Chicago theatre credits include *Twelfth Night* (Midsommer Flight), *Murder on the Nile* (Oil Lamp Theater), *Shadows of Birds* (Glass Apple Theatre), and *Proof* (Three Brothers Theatre). Scott holds an MA in Classical Acting from the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA), a BA in Comedy Writing & Performance from Columbia College Chicago, and the Advanced Actor Combatant designation with the Society of American Fight Directors. Scott can be seen next in Teatro Vista's educational outreach production of *Romeo & Juliet* in the role of Tybalt and as the production's Fight Director. [www.ScottMyersActor.com](http://www.ScottMyersActor.com)



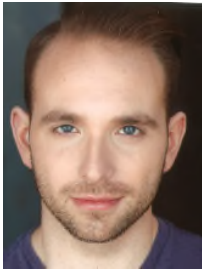
# Artist Biographies



**Tyson Boone** (Romeo) is thrilled to be working with The Shakespeare Project of Chicago. Past Credits include *Romeo & Juliet*, *As You like it*, *Our Town*, *Winnie the Pooh* (Alabama Shakespeare Festival), *Elizabeth Rex* (Oak Park Festival Theatre), *Richard III*, *Macbeth* (Commonwealth Shakespeare Company) *All's Well That Ends Well*, *Antony & Cleopatra* (Virginia Shakespeare Festival), and *Two Noble Kinsmen*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Shakespeare Theatre of NJ). Thank you to family & friends.



**Sir King Castro** (Benvolio) is so excited to be making his debut with The Shakespeare Project of Chicago. Sir King is a sophomore at the Chicago College of Performing Arts, where he is a Musical Theatre major. This being his second professional production, his only other credit is *Macbeth* with Shakespeare at the Castle in Alliance, Ohio. Sir King also pursues fashion design in his free time, which you can check out at [sirkingmakes.com](http://sirkingmakes.com) or @sirkingmakes on instagram. He would like to thank his family for always supporting him along this journey. Love you!

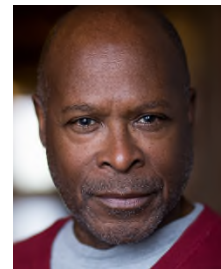


**Matt Gall** (Tybalt) returns to Shakespeare Project after his debut with *Hamlet* in the Fall and last month's *Richard III*. Matt is an Artistic Associate at Oak Park Festival Theatre, where he has appeared in *A Dickens Carol*, *Macbeth*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, and *Hamlet*. Recent Chicago credits include *Boeing Boeing* (Metropolis), *New Country* (Den Theatre), *Design for Living* (PFP), *The Blue Room* (Stage 773), and *The Devil's Disciple*, *Misalliance*, *Major Barbara*, and *Pygmalion* (ShawChicago). Regional credits include *Ah, Wilderness!* (A Noise Within, Los Angeles) and the 2014 national tour of Griffin Theater's *Letters Home*. Matt made his directing debut at 2017's Chicago Fringe Festival with Rozara Sanders' one-woman show, *The Mavens*, and co-directed 2018's *A Dickens Carol* remount. Matt is a New Hampshire native and a graduate of Ithaca College.

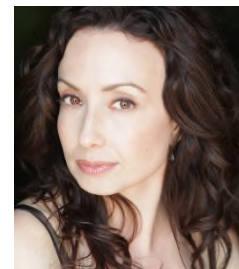


**Peter Garino** (Prince/Peter) is a founding member of The Shakespeare Project of Chicago and has served as Artistic Director since June 2010. He most recently appeared as Polonius in The Project's theatrical reading of *Hamlet*, *Prince of Denmark* and directed *Richard III* for The Project last month. Over the past year, he has been touring his one-man show, *A Portrait of Shakespeare* to Illinois libraries. He recently directed The Project's 2019 holiday show, *Christmas Comes But Once A Year* by George Zahora. This past season, he appeared as Marcus Andronicus in *Titus Andronicus* and as Helicanus in *Pericles, Prince of Tyre*. Previous appearances with The Project include the Duke of Florence in *Women Beware Women*, Duke Senior and Duke Frederick in *As You Like It*, Boyet/Anthony Dull in *Love's Labour's Lost*, Sir Thomas Erpingham and the Duke of Burgundy in *Henry V* and 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). Other appearances for The Project include 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: *The Roaring Girl*, *The Californian Incident*, *Back of the Yards*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Dream Upon Avon*, *A Baker Street Christmas Caper*, *Shakeshafte*, *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*. Other appearances with The Project include Friar Laurence/Lord Capulet in *50-Minute Romeo and Juliet*, Agamemnon in *Troilus & Cressida*, George Page in *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, Cardinal Wolsey in *Henry VIII*, Lord Stanley in *Richard III* and many others. 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. Love to Helene and Glen.



**Charls Hall** (Friar Laurence) is delighted to be debuting with The Shakespeare Project. Previous roles: Gremio in *Taming of the Shrew* and Trinculo in *The Tempest*. Other credits include, Preacher/Ol' Mister in *The Color Purple*, The Mirror in *The Next Fairy Tale*, Father in *The Escape Artist's Children*, Reverend Jones in *Follow*, Cal in *The Little Foxes*, Friar Francis and Leonato in two separate productions of *Much Ado About Nothing*, Puck in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, the triumvirate Ghost of Hamlet's Father, The Player King/Queen and The Gravedigger in *Hamlet*, Nicola in *Arms and the Man*, Charlie in *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged) Revised*, Boyet in *Love's Labours Lost*, The Recruiting Officer in *Mother Courage and Her Children*, Gottlieb Biedermann in *The Firebugs*, Rush Limbaugh in *King Cat Calico Finally Flies Free*, Gertie in *Angels of Lemnos* and Isaac Maxwell in *Faith and The Good Thing*. Charls is a graduate of New York University's School of the Performing Arts, a Movement and Shakespeare Text instructor, a faculty member at Shakespeare and Company and dedicates his performance in memory of Dennis Krausnick, Karen Beaumont and Jonathan Nichols.



**Kelly Lynn Hogan** (Lady Capulet) is honored again be acting with The Shakespeare Project after playing Tamora in last season's *Titus Andronicus*. She holds an MA in Performance Studies from NYU and an MFA from The Academy for Classical Acting at George Washington University, in affiliation with DC's Shakespeare Theatre. For the Project, she co-directed Thomas Middleton's *Women Beware Women* with Michelle Shupe. As an AD for SPC, she has presided over the 2015 productions of *Macbeth* and *The Revenger's Tragedy*, and 2016's *Cardenio* and *King John*. Jeff nominated in 2009 for her acting in Vitalist Theatre's *The Night Season*, she also received critical acclaim for *Mother Courage and Her Children* and *Anna Karenina* as an inaugural founding company member and appeared in their US premier co-production of *Multitudes* with Rasaka Theatre. Also for Vitalist, she associate-produced *The Mill on the Floss* and *The Three Lives of Lucie Cabrol*. For International Voices Project 2015, she directed *The Walrus* by Cuban playwright Laura Liz Gil Echenique. With Chicago's Frump Tucker Theatre Company, she resided as dramaturg and directed productions of *In Perpetuity Throughout the Universe* and *Conduct of Life*. Kelly assistant directed a joint 2007 production of *The Heidi Chronicles* at St. Louis Rep and Cincinnati Playhouse, under the auspices of Michael Haney. As an academic, Kelly has served with multiple appointments as Visiting Instructor for the Dept. of Theatre at Knox College, Galesburg IL, where she directed productions of *Cloud 9*, *Intimate Apparel*, and *Angels in America: Millennium Approaches*. As of 2018, Kelly is a new member of the Actors' Equity Association. Select Chicago

acting credits include: Silk Road Rising, Court, Metropolis, Live Bait, Chicago Dramatists, Body Politic, Piven, ATC, Piccolo, Raven, Aston Rep, Eclectic. Recent Shakespeare include: The Shakespeare Project of Chicago, Oak Park Festival, The Shakespeare Theatre, The ARC, Accidental, Theatre-Hikes, Muse of Fire, Linchpin. Visit [kellylynnhogan.com](http://kellylynnhogan.com) for more information about her acting, directing, teaching, and coaching work.



**Khnemu Menu-Ra** (Paris) has appeared with The Shakespeare Project in *The Californian Incident*, *Moby Dick Rehearsed*, *Pericles*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Coriolanus* and *As You Like It*. A relative newcomer to the Chicago scene, Khnemu has been seen in productions by Artemisia and Chicago Dramatists. Earlier this year, Khnemu made his television debut as a reporter on an episode of *Chicago Med*. In 2015, Khnemu created and was featured in his first cabaret show *Origins of Love: A Shakespearean Cabaret*. Visit him weekly as a Karaoke DJ in River North @Local 22! Thanks to The Shakespeare Project for this opportunity, friends and family all!



**Corliss Preston** (Montague) has participated in numerous readings for The Shakespeare Project. She is currently teaching and coaching Voice-over privately, online and in Vernon Hills at RBJ Productions. She is part of the UV Project exploring immersive performances of Chekhov's plays at the Ragdale Foundation in Lake Forest. She has created, performed and produced a Shakespeare-based CD with collaborators Michelle Shupe and John Slywka called *I Grant I Am A Woman* via Kickstarter (available now at [CDBaby.com](http://CDBaby.com)) which will become both an installation and a multi-media Performance Piece. Acting credits include Chicago: *The Oedipus Complex* (Goodman) and *Old Jews Telling Jokes* (Royal George). *New York: A Piece of My Heart* (Manhattan Theatre Club), *Cherry Orchard* (York Theatre) and *The Erotica Project* (Public Theater). Regional credits: Houston's Alley Theatre, Actors Theatre of Louisville, The Denver Center, Yale Repertory Theatre, Cincinnati Playhouse and the Alabama, Illinois, Oregon and Utah Shakespeare Festivals. For more information, please visit [www.corlisspreston.com](http://www.corlisspreston.com).



**Grace Smith** (Mercutio) is delighted to return to The Project, where she's performed in *A Baker Street Christmas Caper*, *Pericles*, *Shakeshafte*, and *Love's Labour's Lost*. Other Chicago credits include *Mother of the Maid* (Northlight); *On Clover Road* (American Blues); *Plantation!* (Lookingglass); and *MARYSHELLEYSHOW* (Chicago Fringe). Regional: *Peter and the Starcatcher* (City Equity Theatre); *Alice in Wonderland*, *As You Like It*, *A Christmas Carol*, *King Lear*, *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Alabama Shakespeare). Film/TV: *Knives and Skin* and *The World's Astonishing News!* Up next, Grace will be playing Emily Brontë in *The Art of Sisters* (Vision Productions) and Marianne Dashwood in *Sense and Sensibility* (Indiana Rep). Grace is a proud AEA member and represented by Paonessa Talent Agency. Find out more at [GraceSmithActor.com](http://GraceSmithActor.com).



**Randy Steinmeyer** (Lord Capulet) Previous projects with The Shakespeare Project of Chicago include *Back of the Yards*, *The Changeling*, *The Roaring Girl*, and *The Californian Incident*. Mr. Steinmeyer is excited to be working on a Shakespeare play with The Shakespeare Project and director Michelle Shupe.

# ROMEO AND JULIET

## Dramatis Personae

ESCALUS, Prince of Verona..... Peter Garino\*+  
PARIS, a young Nobleman, Kinsman to the Prince ..... Khnemu Menu-Ra\*

Heads of two households at variance with each other:  
MONTAGUE..... Corliss Preston\*  
CAPULET ..... Randy Steinmeyer\*

ROMEO, son to Montague ..... Tyshon Boone

Friends to Romeo:  
MERCUTIO, Kinsman to the Prince ..... Grace Smith\*  
BENVOLIO, Nephew to Montague..... Sir King Castro

TYBALT, Nephew to Lady Capulet..... Matt Gall\*  
FRIAR LAURENCE, a Franciscan ..... Charls Hall\*  
PETER, Servant to Juliet's Nurse ..... Peter Garino\*+

LADY CAPULET, Wife to Capulet ..... Kelly Lynn Hogan\*  
JULIET, Daughter to Capulet ..... Pricilla Torres  
NURSE to Juliet..... Barbara Zahora\*  
APOTHECARY ..... Corliss Preston\*

*Scene:* Verona  
  
Understudies: Madeline Bunke, Scott Myers  
Running Time: Approximately two hours and ten minutes including intermission  
Time permitting, a discussion of the play will follow this performance  
\* Members of Actors' Equity Association  
+ Founding Member, The Shakespeare Project of Chicago

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