About CST

CST is a global theatrical force, known for vibrant productions that reflect Shakespeare’s genius for storytelling, language, and empathy for the human condition. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Barbara Gaines and Executive Director Criss Henderson, CST is dedicated to creating extraordinary productions of classics, new works, and family programming; to unlocking Shakespeare’s work for educators and students; and to serving as Chicago’s cultural ambassador through its World’s Stage Series. CST serves as a partner in literacy to Chicago Public Schools, working alongside English teachers to help struggling readers connect with Shakespeare in the classroom. His words are brought to life on stage for 40,000 students from across the Midwest every year. Each summer, 30,000 families and audience members of all ages welcome the free Chicago Shakespeare in the Parks tour into their neighborhoods across the far north, west, and south sides of the city. Reflecting the global city it calls home, CST is the leading producer of international work in Chicago, and has toured its plays to Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe, Canada/North America, and the Middle East. Throughout 2016, CST spearheaded the international arts and culture festival, Shakespeare 400 Chicago, a yearlong, citywide celebration of the playwright’s 400-year legacy. In fall 2017, CST opens its third year-round performance space, The Yard, on its Navy Pier campus.

The Theater’s tradition of excellence and civic leadership has been honored with numerous national and international awards, including the Regional Theatre Tony Award, three Laurence Olivier Awards, and eighty-five Joseph Jefferson Awards. CST is proud to take an active role in empowering the next generation of literate, engaged cultural champions and creative minds. CST’s work with Chicago Public School students and teachers was recognized by the White House in 2014 with the National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award. Among its many international engagements, CST participated in the Royal Shakespeare Company’s 2006 Complete Works Festival and was selected to represent North America at the Globe to Globe festival as part of London’s 2012 Cultural Olympiad.

Welcome

Dear Friends,

Welcome to Chicago Shakespeare Theater for Madagascar — A Musical Adventure! We are so pleased to present this new musical for family audiences as the first production of our exciting 2017/18 Season.

Family programming at our Theater is a tradition we hold dear, and we delight in producing plays of the highest quality for our youngest audience members. Our hope is that today’s performance serves to introduce children to the diverse world of the performing arts, sparking a lifelong love of theater.

Madagascar is one of the many plays Chicago Shakespeare will produce this season. In the fall, we open The Yard, our third, year-round performance space here on our Navy Pier campus. Over the course of a single year, we stage as many as nineteen different productions here on Navy Pier and on tour to schools, neighborhood parks in Chicago, and stages around the world. As you are about to witness, our Theater is not only home to Shakespeare; we also develop new plays and musicals, stage other great classics, and host some of the world’s most renowned international theaters and artists.

We hope you’re ready to “Move it! Move it!” today, and that you’ll be back soon for more! For a family-friendly introduction to the Bard this summer, we invite you to come see Romeo and Juliet—on tour across the city, free for all, through Chicago Shakespeare in the Parks.

Paulita A. Pike
Richard W. Porter*
John Rau
Nazneen Razi
Ingrid Rzany
Lance Richards
Glenn R. Richter*
Sheli Z. Rosenberg*
John W. Rowe*
Robert Ryan
Carole B. Segal
Harvey J. Struthers, Jr.
Sheila G. Talton
Marilynn J. Thoma*
Gayle R. Tilles
William J. Tomazin
Donna Van Eekeren
Priscilla A. (Pam) Walter
Ray Whitacre
Ava D. Youngblood
* Executive Committee members

Barbara Gaines
Artistic Director
Cari and Marilynn Thoma Endowed Chair

Criss Henderson
Executive Director

Steve Solomon
Chair, Board of Directors
Chicago Shakespeare’s home on Navy Pier is expanding in exciting ways. Just outside our doors, a crescent-shape structure is already in place—connecting our existing two theaters to a third, year-round performance venue, The Yard.

With its innovative, flexible seating configurations, this new theatrical platform can adapt to a wide range of artistic visions, with the potential to surprise patrons on every visit.

Our three-theater campus will enable us to offer more productions, extend runs of successful shows, and greatly increase our service to students.

Here, workers are on the The Yard lobby staircase, which will lead up to entrances for all three Gallery levels in the theater.

Each of the nine, 35,000-pound “seating towers” are being assembled, level by level, inside The Yard. Together, they create a radically new, adaptable performance arena.

OPENS FALL 2017
Follow the build online at www.chicagoshakes.com/yard
SALUTE TO SPONSORS

Chicago Shakespeare Theater is proud to recognize the partnership of our leading contributors, whose visionary support ensures that Shakespeare lives in Chicago today and for generations to come.

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The Malott Family Student Access Fund
Ray and Judy McCaskey Education Chair

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For more information about how you can support our work on stage, in the community and around the world, please contact Brooke Flanagan, Managing Director for Development and External Affairs, at 312.595.5581 or bflanagan@chicagoshakes.com.

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UP & COMING

DRUID’S
WAITING FOR GODOT
A World’s Stage production from Ireland by Samuel Beckett
• directed by Garry Hynes
May 23–June 3, 2018 • CST’s Courtyard Theater
Ireland’s most prestigious theater ensemble returns with a universally acclaimed interpretation of Beckett’s seminal work.

RED VELVET
by Lolita Chakrabarti • directed by Gary Griffin
December 1, 2017–January 21, 2018 • CST’s Courtyard Theater
This multi-award-winning play transports audiences to the turbulent backstage world of London’s Theatre Royal in the mid-1800s. In taking the stage as Othello, a black actor sends shock waves across the city—challenging a society reluctant to change.

SHORT SHAKESPEARE!
A MIDSUMMER NIGHT’S DREAM
by William Shakespeare • adapted & directed by Jess McLeod
February 3–March 10, 2018 • Saturdays at 11:00 am & 2:00 pm The Yard at Chicago Shakespeare
This 75-minute abridgment introduces Shakespeare’s magical comedy to family and school audiences. One night, four lovers find themselves lost in a forest. When the Fairy Court finds them, hijinks and hilarity ensue until dawn.

SCHILLER’S
MARY STUART
in a new version by Peter Oswald • directed by Jenn Thompson
February 21–April 15, 2018 • CST’s Courtyard Theater
One will rule. One will fall. Two resolute rulers—Queen Elizabeth I of England and Mary, Queen of Scots—struggle for the throne and the fate of two nations.

MACBETH
by William Shakespeare • adapted & directed by Aaron Posner and Teller
April 25–June 24, 2018 • The Yard at Chicago Shakespeare
The famed creative duo Aaron Posner and Teller (of Penn & Teller) return for a magical take on “the Scottish Play,” following their success with Chicago Shakespeare’s sold-out production of The Tempest.

DRUID’S
WAITING FOR GODOT
A World’s Stage production from Ireland by Samuel Beckett • directed by Garry Hynes
May 23–June 3, 2018 CST’s Courtyard Theater
Ireland’s most prestigious theater ensemble returns with a universally acclaimed interpretation of Beckett’s seminal work.

CHICAGO SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARKS

ROMEO AND JULIET
adapted & directed by Marti Lyons
July 26–August 27, 2017 • FREE FOR ALL
The most tragic, beautiful love story in Shakespeare’s canon comes alive in this 75-minute abridged production touring to 18 neighborhood parks across Chicago this summer.

THE TAMING OF THE SHERW
by William Shakespeare • adapted & directed by Barbara Gaines
additional dialogue by Ron West
September 16–November 12, 2017 • CST’s Courtyard Theater
Artistic Director Barbara Gaines re-examines Shakespeare’s notorious “battle of the sexes” with an all-female company, set in 1919 on the eve of the passage of the 19th Amendment.

LA COMPAGNIE DU HANNETON’S
THE TOAD KNEW
A World’s Stage production from France • by James Thierrée
September 19–23, 2017 • The Yard at Chicago Shakespeare
Teasing and twisting audiences’ imaginations with astonishing theatrical creations for nearly two decades, cirque nouveau master James Thierrée’s newest creation features dancers, high-wire artists, and musicians—creating an intoxicating world evocative of Salvador Dalí and Tim Burton.

TEATRO LÍNEA DE SOMBRA’S
AMARILLO
A World’s Stage production from Mexico • directed by Jorge A. Vargas
October 17–29, 2017 • The Yard at Chicago Shakespeare
One of México’s most celebrated and forward-thinking ensembles visits as the largest international engagement of the inaugural Chicago International Latino Theater Festival—Destinos.
Cast

Understudies never substitute for listed players unless a specific announcement is made at the time of the performance: Dawn Bless for Gloria; Ciera Dawn for Gloria; Rachel Hafell for Animal Control/Fossa, Rico, Ensemble; Will Herndon for Alex; Katie Hunter for Skipper, Zelda/Old Lady/Maurice, Ensemble; Ron King for Marty; Garrett Lutz for Melman; Sam Shankman for Kowalski, Mason/Fossa, Ensemble; Rainey Wright for Private/Mort, Candy/Lynn Lemur, Ensemble; and Travis Austin Wright for King Julien/Ship’s Captain, Zeke/Lars Lemur/Police Officer/Fossa/Ensemble.

Musical Numbers

IT’S SHOWTIME
WILD AND FREE
BEST FRIENDS
RELAX, BE COOL, CHILL OUT
GRAND CENTRAL
PENGUINS’ SEA SHANTY
WELCOME TO ME
I LIKE TO MOVE IT
STEAK
SEA SHANTY (REPRISE)
LIVING IN PARADISE
BEST FRIENDS (REPRISE)
THE KING OF MADAGASCAR
TOGETHER FOREVER
MOVE IT (REPRISE)

Musicians

Music Director/Conductor/Keyboard
JERMAINE HILL

Keyboard
JULIA SCHADE ARMSTRONG

Woodwinds/Contractor
SEAN McNEELY

Percussion
ETHAN DEPPE

All Musicians are members of the Chicago Federation of Musicians, Local 10-208.

Production Stage Manager
DEBORAH ACKER*

Assistant Stage Manager
(through July 30)
KEVIN GREGORY DWYER*

and

Stage Manager (beginning August 2)
DENNIS J. CONNERS*

*denotes member of Actors’ Equity Association.
Profiles

JORDAN BROWN (Alex) returns to Chicago Shakespeare Theater, where he appeared in Shakespeare Tonight! Other Chicago credits include: Wonderful Town, Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike. Chicago Night Award nomination for Best Supporting Actor. Musical, A Christmas Carol (Goodman Theatre); By the Water, White Guy on the Bus (Northlight Theatre); Iphigenia in Aulis (Court Theatre); The Pitmen Painters (TimeLine Theatre Company); and In the Company of Men (Profiles Theatre). Off Broadway credits include Claudio in Much Ado About Nothing (Theatre Row in the Beckett Theatre). Regional credits include A Skulk in Connecticut (Center Stage). Television credits include Sirens (USA) and Crisis (NBC). Mr. Brown can also be seen playing the role of Kirt in NBC's first web series, Bobby & Day. He is a graduate of the University of the North Carolina School of the Arts.

GILBERT DOMALLY (Marty) makes his Chicago Shakespeare Theater debut. Other Chicago credits include: Jesus Christ Superstar; Hairspray, The Little Mermaid (Paramount Theatre); The Wiz (Kokandy Productions); Next to Normal (BoHo Theatre); Dessa Rose, and The Wild Party (Bailiwick Theatre). Mr. Domally received his BFA in musical theatre from the Chicago College of Performing Arts at Roosevelt University.

LEAH MORROW (Skipper/Ensemble) makes her Chicago Shakespeare Theater debut. Other Chicago credits include: Madagascar (Marriott Theatre); James and the Giant Peach, ...Superman, The Musical (Drury Lane Theatre); Mary Poppins, The Producer (Avenue Q Jeff Award nomination); Barnum, A Grand Night for Singing, and The Christmas Schooner (Mercury Theatre). Regional credits include Once Upon a Mattress, and 9 to 5 (Fireside Theatre). Ms. Morrow is a graduate of Columbia College Chicago.

TONY CARTER (Kowalski/Ensemble, through August 20) makes his Chicago Shakespeare Theater debut. Other Chicago credits include: Saturday Night Fever (Drury Lane Theatre); Cabaret, Nice Work If You Can Get It (Theatre at the Center); A Midsummer Night’s Dream (First Folio Theatre); 3SM (Circle Theatre); High Fidelity (Refuge Theatre Project); and Guys and Dolls (Music Theatre Works). Regional credits include productions with: Utah Shakespeare Festival, PCPA: Pacific Conservatory Theatre, Oregon Cabaret Theatre, Utah Festival Opera, and Pickleville Playhouse. Mr. Carter received a BFA in musical theatre from Southern Utah University.

LISA ESTRIDGE (Gloria) returns to Chicago Shakespeare Theater, where she appeared as Sour Kangaroo in Seussical. Other Chicago credits include: Sour Kangaroo in Seussical, Seaweed in The Little Mermaid, and Dynamite in Hairspray (Drury Lane Theatre). She teaches beginning acting at The School of Performing Arts in Naperville, and sings lead vocals and manages her band, Chi-Town Soul. Ms. Estridge holds a BFA from Adepri University and an MFA from the University of Washington’s Professional Actors Training Program. www.chitownssoul.com.

GARRETT LUTZ (Mason/Fossil/Ensemble) returns to Chicago Shakespeare Theater, where his credits include Chicago Shakespeare in the Parks Twelfth Night and Short Shakespeare! Macbeth.

RON KING (Zeke/Lars Lemur/Officer/Fossil/Ensemble) returns to Chicago Shakespeare Theater, where he appeared in Shakespeare in Love. Other Chicago credits include: Saturday Night Fever (Drury Lane Theatre); Mamma Mia! (Paramount Theatre); Bat Boy (Griffin Theatre); Rent (Theo Ubique Cabaret Theatre); and Schoolhouse Rock Live! (Emerald City Theatre). Regional credits include productions with: Milwaukee Repertory Theater, Forestburgh Playhouse, and Riverside Theatre (Iowa City). Mr. King received his BFA in media and performing arts from Savannah College of Art and Design.

STEPHEN SCHELLHARDT (Melman) makes his Chicago Shakespeare Theater debut. Other Chicago credits include productions with: Marriott Theatre, Writers Theatre, Drury Lane Theatre, Mercury Theatre, Northlight Theatre, Lyric Opera of Chicago, Chamber Opera Chicago, Goodman Theatre, and the Ravinia Festival. Regional credits include: Little Women (Bristol Riverside Theatre - Barrymore Award nomination); Cinderella, The Full Monty (North Carolina Theatre); and Fiddler on the Roof (West Virginia Public Theatre). National tour credits include Alvin Boyz. Mr. Schellhardt is an artistic associate and company member at BoHo Theatre, where he recently directed Urinetown. He has been a faculty member at Northwestern University’s National High Professional Actors Training Program.

ALAN BROWN (Abe) returns to Chicago Shakespeare Theater, where he appeared in Seussical. Other Chicago credits include: Once Upon a Mattress (Northlight Theatre); Cinderella: After the Ball (Northlight Theatre); The Reckoning of Kit & Little Boots (BoHo Theatre). Mr. Brown is a graduate of The School at Steppenwolf.

LEAH MORROW (Skipper/Ensemble) makes her Chicago Shakespeare Theater debut. Other Chicago credits include: Madagascar (Marriott Theatre); James and the Giant Peach, ...Superman, The Musical (Drury Lane Theatre); Mary Poppins, The Producer (Avenue Q Jeff Award nomination); Barnum, A Grand Night for Singing, and The Christmas Schooner (Mercury Theatre). Regional credits include Once Upon a Mattress, and 9 to 5 (Fireside Theatre). Ms. Morrow is a graduate of Columbia College Chicago.

MASHA AND SONIA (A Midsummer Night’s Dream) returns to the Chicago Shakespeare Theater. Other Chicago credits include: The Legend of Georgia McBride (Cardinal Stage Company). Television credits include Chicago Med (NBC) and ABF (FOX). Mr. Holland received the Kingsley Colton Award at The Kennedy Center in 2003 and received his BFA in theatre performance from Virginia Commonwealth University.

LISA ESTRIDGE (Gloria) returns to Chicago Shakespeare Theater, where she appeared as Sour Kangaroo in Seussical. Other Chicago credits include: Sour Kangaroo in Seussical, Seaweed in The Little Mermaid, and Dynamite in Hairspray (Drury Lane Theatre). She teaches beginning acting at The School of Performing Arts in Naperville, and sings lead vocals and manages her band, Chi-Town Soul. Ms. Estridge holds a BFA from Adepri University and an MFA from the University of Washington’s Professional Actors Training Program. www.chitownssoul.com.

STEFANIE NORDONE (Candy/Lynn Lemur/Ensemble) returns to Chicago Shakespeare Theater, where she appeared in The Little Mermaid. Other Chicago credits include: Mamma Mia! (Marriott Theatre); Crazy for You, Bye Bye Birdie, White Christmas (Drury Lane Theatre); Xanadu (American Theatre Company); The Wild Party, Thoroughly Modern Milie, and Spring Awakening (CCPA at Roosevelt University). Regional credits include: 42nd Street, Big River, Legally Blonde, The Sound of Music (The Little Theatre on the Square); Guys and Dolls, Boeing Boeing, Footloose, and Cabaret (Timber Lake Playhouse). Ms. Nardone received her BFA in music theatre from the Chicago College of Performing Arts at Roosevelt University.

CEREA DAWN (Animal Control/Fossil/Ensemble) makes her Chicago Shakespeare Theater debut. Other Chicago credits include: Jesus Christ Superstar, The Little Mermaid (Paramount Theatre); The Mutilated (A Red Orchid Theatre); You Can’t Take It With You (Northlight Theatre); Other Than Honorable (American Blues Theater); Cinderella, Cynthia (FWD Theatre Project); and Next to Normal (BoHo Theatre Ensemble). Television and film credits include Chicago Fire (NBC) and Pitch Perfect (Brownstone Productions). Ms. Dawn received her BFA acting from Emerson College and is a graduate of The School at Steppenwolf.

RON KING (Zeke/Lars Lemur/Officer/Fossil/Ensemble) returns to Chicago Shakespeare Theater, where he appeared in Shakespeare in Love. Other Chicago credits include: Saturday Night Fever (Drury Lane Theatre); Mamma Mia! (Paramount Theatre); Bat Boy (Griffin Theatre); Rent (Theo Ubique Cabaret Theatre); and Schoolhouse Rock Live! (Emerald City Theatre). Regional credits include productions with: Milwaukee Repertory Theater, Forestburgh Playhouse, and Riverside Theatre (Iowa City). Mr. King received his BFA in media and performing arts from Savannah College of Art and Design.

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School Institute (Cherub Program) for more than ten summers, and is a founding member of the Chicago Artists Chorale. Mr. Schellhaas is an Associate of Carnegie Mellon University’s School of Drama and a five-time Jeff Award nominee.

SAM SHANKMAN
(Kowalski/Ensemble, beginning August 23) makes his Chicago Shakespeare Theater debut. Other Chicago credits include: Gerald in Elephant and Piggie: We Are in a Play, Snail in A Year with Frog and Toad, Landon in The 86th Annual Waa-Mu Show: Beyond Belief, Freddy in My Fair Lady, Willie Bounce in The Hundred Dresses, and Balloony (Northwestern University). Mr. Shankman’s regional credits include: Spring Awakening, Speech and Debate, and Footloose.

HOLLY STAUFFER
(Zelda/Old Lady/Maurice/Ensemble) returns to Chicago Shakespeare Theater, where she appeared in The Wizard of Oz. Other Chicago credits include: Mary Poppins (Mercury Theatre); Beaches, Billy Elliot, Crazy for You, world premiere of Hazel (Drury Lane Theatre); I Love Lucy Live! (Broadway Playhouse); Closer Than Ever, Falsettos (Porchlight Music Theatre); The Water Coolers (Jeff nomination - Lakeshore Theater); world premiere of The Beverly Billies (Theatre at the Center); and productions with: Marriott Theatre, Ravinia, Drury Lane Theatre, and Paramount Theatre. Ms. Stauffer received her BFA from Illinois Wesleyan University.

ADRIENNE STORRS
(Rico/Ensemble/Dance Captain) makes her Chicago Shakespeare Theater debut. Other Chicago credits include: Saturday Night Fever, Smokey Joe’s Cafe (Drury Lane Theatre); West Side Story (Paramount Theatre); Anything Goes, Cats (Marriott Theatre); A Disappearing Number (TimeLine Theatre); and HeliDrivers of Daytona (Royal George Theatre). Regional credits include: Chicago (Welk Resorts Theatre); Elf: The Musical (Theatre Under the Stars); and Elf: The Musical (national tour). Ms. Storrs attended the British American Drama Academy in London and received a BA in theatre from University of Southern California.

KEVIN DEL AGUILA
(Book) is an acclaimed actor, writer, and director in New York City. He is an Emmy Award-winner and writer of the animated PBS show Peg + Cat, the book writer of the hit off-Broadway musical Altar Boyz (New York Outer Critics Circle Award), Lucille Lortel, Drama Desk Award nominations), and recipient of the Heideman Award for his play The Greekest of Tragedies (Actors Theatre of Louisville). Other works include: his middle-aged super hero musical The Astonishing Return of the Protagonists! (2013 NAMT Festival); A Touch of Rigor Mortis (NY Fringe); and his stage adaptations of the DreamWorks film Madagascar, another O&H production. Kevin has appeared in 7 Live, both of which toured nationally and played engagements at Radio City Music Hall. As a book writer and lyricist, Mr. Del Aguilas has been commissioned to write many stage adaptations of children’s books for Theatreworks USA that have premiered Off-Broadway, including Click Clack Moo (Lortel nomination for Best Musical, Drama Desk Award nomination for Lyrics) and Skippyjon Jones (Lortel Award Nomination). Mr. Del Aguilas has written for several children’s television shows including: Peg + Cat (PBS); Henry Hugglemonster (Disney Jr.); Zack and Quack and The Wonder Pets (Nick Jr.). He has collaborated on many film projects including the teen comedy Band Dorks and the romantic comedy Cupidity. Mr. Del Aguilas has also had the privilege to write and direct one of the New York Philharmonic’s famed Young People’s Concerts at Lincoln Center.

GEORGE NORIEGA
(Original Music & Lyrics) is a multi-grammy Award-winning and Emmy-nominated producer/songwriter with a myriad of Billboard Top Ten Hits in many different genres, including albums that have sold over 30 million copies worldwide. He is the owner of Cutting Cane Productions/Studio/Publishing, and his list of collaborations include: Maná, Shakira, Draco Rosa, Carole King, Timbaland, Phil Ramone, Ricky Martin, J Lo, Gloria Estefan, Dolly Parton, Juanes, Paloma Faith, Haash, Ednita Nazario, Gilberto Santa Rosa, Raquel Sofia, and Pedro Capó, among others. Mr. Noriega is the recipient of the 2000 Grammy Award for Best Latin/Tropical Producer for his work on Gloria Estefan’s Alma Caribeña; and has been nominated for several other awards, including: the 2004 Latin Grammy Award for Recording of the Year as producer of Mas Y Mas by Robi Draco Rosa, a 2011 Emmy for his collaboration with Shakira on a project for Nickelodeon; four more Latin Grammy Award nominations in 2013; and the Grammy Award that year for Album of the Year for his work as Producer on Draco Rosa’s Vida. Mr. Noriega’s latest production in 2015 was an album entitled Cama Incendiada for the iconic Mexican Rock/Pop band Maná, which won went on to win the Latin Grammy Award for Best Rock/Pop Album, and debuted at #1 on Billboard’s Top Latin albums. Mr. Noriega has written and/or produced for pop/rock/ latin artists, for TV and film, for live theater (Dreamworks and Nickelodeon), for Nashville-country artists, and for live shows in Las Vegas. Mr. Noriega is a graduate of the University of Miami with a bachelor’s degree in music.

JOEL SOMEILLAN
(Original Music & Lyrics) is a Grammy-winning Cuban-American producer and songwriter. Over the last 25 years he has worked with the top Latin artists in the industry, including: Gloria Estefan, Jon Secada, Thalia, Chayanne, Obie Bermudez, Carlos Ponce, and many more. Mr. Someillan has earned numerous Gold and Platinum album credits along with two Latin Grammy awards: the first in 2001 for Best Engineered Album (Thalia’s Arrasando), and the second in 2005 for Best Pop Vocal Album (Obie Bermudez’ Todo El Año). The following year another of Mr. Someillan’s productions was Grammy-nominated for Album of the Year (Chayanne’s Cautivo). Based in Miami, FL, Mr. Someillan continues to write and produce for artists, film, television, and stage shows. His innovative style and penchant for pop-inspired hooks can be heard in every song and composition he works on.

RACHEL ROCKWELL
(Director/Choreographer) returns to Chicago Shakespeare Theater, where her directing credits include Shakespeare in Love, Ride the Cyclone (Jeff Award for Best Director), The Little Mermaid, Shrek, the Musical, Beauty and the Beast, The Adventures of Pinocchio, The Emperor’s New Clothes, and Short Shakespeare! productions of Romeo and Juliet and The Taming of the Shrew. Ride the Cyclone premiered off-Broadway in 2016 at MCC, and was named to the Best Theatre of 2016 list by The New York Times. Ms. Rockwell also directed October Sky at The Old Globe, which won the Craig Noel Award for Best Musical, and the world premiere of Diary of a Wimpy Kid for the Children’s Theatre Company Minneapolis. Other Chicago directing/choreography credits include: Brigadoon (Jeff Award - Best Musical and Best Choreography, Goodman Theatre); Billy Elliot (Jeff Award for Best Choreography); Ragtime (Jeff Award - Best Musical and Best Director), West Side Story, Oliver!, Sweeney Todd, The Sound of Music, Miss Saigon (all Jeff nominated for Best Musical); and south of the border, Latin America, songs for pop/rock/latin artists, for TV and film, for live theater (Dreamworks and Nickelodeon), for Nashville-country artists, and for live shows in Las Vegas. Mr. Someillan has written and/or produced for pop/rock/latin artists, for TV and film, for live theater (Dreamworks and Nickelodeon); for Nashville-country artists, and for live shows in Las Vegas. Mr. Someillan is a graduate of the University of Miami with a bachelor’s degree in music.

JERMAINE HILL
(Music Director) makes his Chicago Shakespeare Theater debut. Other Chicago music directing and arranging credits include: Ragtime (Griffin Theatre); Billy Elliot (The Other Theatre Company); The Geffile Fish Chronicles (Chicago Musical Theatre Festival); Bonnie & Clyde and Godspell (Actors Training Center). Regional and international credits include work with: the
Chicago Symphony Chorus, the Aldeburgh Festival, the Orchestra of St. Luke’s, The Lost Colony, Opera Ithaca, Capitol Theatre, and Royal Caribbean Productions. Mr. Hill received degrees in vocal performance from Ithaca College and the New England Conservatory.

SCOTT DAVIS (Scenic Designer) has designed over twenty productions for Chicago Shakespeare Theater, where his credits include: Shakespeare in Love, The Book of Joseph, King Charles III, Tug of War: Foreign Fire & Civil Strife, A Q Brothers’ Christmas Carol, Seussical, Cynano de Bergerac, Shrek the Musical, Cadre (CST, South Africa, Edinburgh), Othello: The Remix (CST, London, Germany, Edinburgh, South Korea, Sydney, Poland, Melbourne, Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Auckland), Cadre (CST, South Africa, Edinburgh, Vancouver), Beauty and the Beast, Murder for Two, and Short Shakespeare! productions of Twelfth Night, A Midsummer Night’s Dream, Romeo and Juliet, and Macbeth. Other Chicago credits include productions with: Court Theatre, Paramount Theatre, Steppenwolf Garage, Drury Lane Theatre, Marriott Theatre, Noble Theatre, and Windy City Playhouse. Off-Broadway credits include: Ridic the Cyclone (MCC Theater) and Othello: The Remix (Westside Theater). Regional credits include productions with: Signature Theatre, Children’s Theater Company, Utah Shakespeare Festival, Milwaukee Repertory Theater, Asolo Repertory Theatre, and Walnut Street Theater. He is co-founder of the Chicago-based design firm firm Aether and Nyx.

www.scottadamdavis.com

JESSE KLUG (Lighting Designer) returns for his nineteenth production at Chicago Shakespeare Theater, where his credits include: Pericles (Jeff Award nomination), A Q Brothers’ Christmas Carol, Seussical, Cynano de Bergerac, Shrek the Musical, Cadre (CST, South Africa, Edinburgh), Othello: The Remix (CST, London, Germany, Edinburgh, South Korea, Sydney, Poland), Murder for Two, How Can You Run with a Shell on Your Back?, and The Three Musketeers. Other Chicago credits include productions with: Marriott Theatre, Goodman Theatre, Broadway in Chicago, Victory Gardens, Shattered Glass, The Signature Theatre Company, Steppenwolf Theatre Company, Paramount Theatre, Court Theatre, Writers Theatre, and Northlight Theatre. Off-Broadway credits include: The Elaborate End (Jeff Award nomination) and Henry Hewes Award Nomination), The Screwtop Letters (Westside Arts and national tour), Romulus (Guggenheim Museum), and The Hourglass (NYMF). Regional credits include productions with Milwaukee Repertory Theater, The Old Globe, American Players Theatre, Indiana Repertory Theatre, Arizona Theatre Company, Geffen Playhouse, Asolo Repertory Theatre, and Shakespeare Theatre Company. Mr. Klug is a Jeff Award winner and nineteen-time nominee.

SHAWN SAGADY (Projection Designer) returns to Chicago Shakespeare Theater, where his credits include: The Little Mermaid. Other Chicago credits include: stop., reset., and Brigadoon (Goodman Theatre). Broadway credits include: All the Way (American Repertory Theatre), Leap of Faith, and Memphis. Off-Broadway credits include: stop., reset., The Mound Builders, Emotional Creature (Signature Theatre Company); By the Way, Meet Vera Stark (Second Stage Theatre); and Father Comes Home from the Wars (The Public Theater). He has worked on the national tours of Mamma Mia! and Julius Caesar. Regional credits include: Fingertips, The Great Society (Seattle Repertory Theatre), A Wrinkle in Time, Measure for Measure, American Nixon (Oregon Shakespeare Festival), Battle Back Back Back (Old Globe); and Carmen (La Jolla Playhouse).

SARAH ROSS (Lemur & Penguin Puppet Designer) has served as a prop artist for many productions at Chicago Shakespeare Theater, but with the recent completion of her CST design debut. Chicago-area credits as a freelance scenic, properties, costume and puppet designer include work with:

American Blues Theater, The Joffrey Ballet, The Second City, Paramount Theatre, Renaissance Theaterworks, Shattered Globe, The Marriott Theatre, and Writers Theatre. She has received multiple Jeff Award nominations for her scenic, costume and puppet designs, and was nominated for best scenic design in this year’s Footlight Players Awards in Milwaukee. Mr. Ross is an ensemble member with American Blues Theater, and member of Local USA 829 and the Society of Properties Artisans and Managers. This fall, she will join the faculty at University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point teaching scenic and properties design, and scenic art.

RAY NARDELLI (Sound Designer) returns for his thirteenth production at Chicago Shakespeare Theater, where his credits include: Shakespeare in Love, The Tempest, Sense and Sensibility, Road Show, Gypsy, Sunday in the Park with George, Follies, As You Like It, King Lear, The Wizard of Oz, and Romeo y Julietta. Other Chicago credits include productions with: Goodman Theatre, Steppenwolf Theatre Company, Court Theatre, Northlight Theatre, Drury Lane Theatre, Geffen Playhouse, Victory Gardens Theater, and Writers Theatre. Off-Broadway credits include: LookingGlass Alice (New Victory Theatre). Broadway credits include: The Addams Family, All Shook Up, and The Light in the Piazza. Regional credits include productions with: McCarter Theatre, The Old Globe, Guthrie Theater, Dallas Theater Center, Long Wharf Theatre, Milwaukee Repertory Theater, Hartford Stage, Alliance Theatre, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Alley Theatre, Notre Dame Shakespeare Festival, Shakespeare on the Green, and Skylight Opera Theatre. Mr. Nardelli has received four Jeff Awards and seven additional nominations.

RICHARD JARVIE (Wig & Make-up Designer) has designed wigs and make-up for: Shakespeare in Love, Love’s Labor’s Lost, King Charles III, and Short Shakespeare! Romeo and Juliet since returning to join Chicago Shakespeare Theater’s production staff. He also designed wigs for Chicago Shakespeare’s inaugural season on Navy Pier, as well as for many of the company’s early productions at the Ruth Page Theatre. Mr. Jarvie has spent twenty-eight years with the Lyric Opera of Chicago, eleven of them as the wig master and make-up designer. Other Chicago credits include productions with: Goodman Theatre, Court Theatre, Steppenwolf Theatre Company, and Drury Lane Theatre Oakbrook. Regional and international credits include productions with: the Tom Patterson Theatre in Stratford, Ontario; supervising wigs and make-up; Guthrie Theater (wig master); Alliance Theatre, and McCarter Theatre. Opera credits include productions with: Atlanta Opera, San Francisco Opera, Hawaii Opera, Chicago Opera, San Diego Opera, and the Spoleto Festivals of Charleston, South Carolina and Italy. Television credits include the History Channel and wigs for Bozo the Clown.

MATT DEITCHMAN (Orchestrator) returns to Chicago Shakespeare Theater, where his credits include: Tug of War: Foreign Fire & Civil Strife, Road Show, Seussical, Shrek the Musical and Murder for Two. Mr. Deitchman is an actor, composer, music director, and multi-instrumentalist, whose recent Chicago credits include: The Man Who Murdered Sherlock Holmes (Mercury Theater); La Révolution Francaise (FWD Theatre Project); The Who’s Tommy (Paramount Theatre); Wonderland (Chicago Children’s Theatre); Spring Awakening, October Sky, Hero (Marriott Theatre); A Musical, Into the Woods (The Hypocrites); The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee (Drury Lane Theatre and Griffin Theatre); Parade (BoHo Theatre); and She Kills Monsters (Steppenwolf Garage). Mr. Deitchman is a graduate of Northwestern University.

ERICKA MAC (Associate Director/ Choreographer) returns to Chicago Shakespeare Theater, where her associate director/choreographer credits include Ride the Cyclone and Disney’s The Little Mermaid. CST performing credits include Cat in the world premiere of The Adventures of Pinochio and Bird Girl/Mrs. Mayor in Seussical! The Musical. Other Chicago choreography credits include: Parade (Writers Theatre); Mamma Mia, How Can You Run with a Shell on Your Back?, and Schoolhouse Rock Live! (Marriott Theatre). Other Chicago performing credits include: Elise in Showboat, Postcard Dancer in Oklahoma! (Lyric Opera of Chicago); and Victoria in Sweet Charity (Writer’s Theatre); Ms. Shields in A Christmas Story (Paramount Theatre); Aldonza in Man of La Mancha, Mae West in Mae West (BoHo Theatre); and Velma Kelly in Chicago (Peninsula Players). Mr. Jarvie has spent twenty-eight years with the Lyric Opera of Chicago, eleven of them as the wig master and make-up designer. Other Chicago credits include productions with: Goodman Theatre, Court Theatre, Steppenwolf Theatre Company, and Drury Lane Theatre Oakbrook. Regional and international credits include productions with: the Tom Patterson Theatre in Stratford, Ontario; supervising wigs and make-up; Guthrie Theater (wig master); Alliance Theatre, and McCarter Theatre. Opera credits include productions with: Atlanta Opera, San Francisco Opera, Hawaii Opera, Chicago Opera, San Diego Opera, and the Spoleto Festivals of Charleston, South Carolina and Italy. Television credits include the History Channel and wigs for Bozo the Clown.

JESUS PEREZ (Costume Designer) makes his Chicago Shakespeare Theater debut. Chicago-area credits include Madagascar (Marriott Theatre), The Polar Express at Union Station (Rail Events Production), and productions with: Light Opera Works, Porchlight, Beverly Arts Center, Circle Theater, and The St. Ignatius’ Harlequins. Mr. Perez is the resident designer at Rocky Mountain Repertory Theater. He is the recipient of two Non-Equity Joseph Jefferson Awards, an Ovation Award, and a BroadwayWorld.com award. Mr. Perez is the artistic director and co-founder of Chicago Kids Company.
DEBORAH ACKER (Production Stage Manager) has stage managed the past twenty-eight seasons at Chicago Shakespeare Theater. Other stage management credits include: 'Puttin’ on the Ritz' (National Jewish Theater); Six Degrees of Separation, Driving Miss Daisy, I’m Not Rappaport (Briar Street Theatre); The Nerd (Royal George Theatre); and A... My Name Is Alice (Ivanhoe Theatre). She has production managed extensively throughout Chicago, and has also provided lighting designs for: the Apollo Theatre, Candlelight Dinner Playhouse, Chicago Shakespeare Theater’s Team Shakespeare, the Museum of Science and Industry, Some Like It Cole (tour), and Pump Boys and Dinettes in Branson, Missouri.

KEVIN GREGORY DWYER (Assistant Stage Manager, through July 30/Stage Manager, beginning August 2) returns to Chicago Shakespeare Theater, where his credits include: Short Shakespeare! Romeo and Juliet, King Charles III, Othello, and CPS Shakespeare! A Midsummer Night’s Dream. Other Chicago credits include: First Look 2015: I’ll Get You Back Again, This Is Our Youth, Leaping Up, Lord of the Flies (Steppenwolf Theatre Company); and Dutchman/TRANSit (American Blues Theater). National tour credits include the first and second national tours of The Book of Mormon. Other Chicago credits include: The Two Gentlemen of Verona, Coriolanus (Commonwealth Shakespeare Company); Betrayal, Private Lives, Captors (Huntington Theatre Company); Shooting Star and The K of D (Adirondack Theatre Festival). Mr. Dwyer received his BA in stage/production management from Emerson College.

DENNIS J. CONNERS (Assistant Stage Manager, beginning August 2) is a resident production stage manager at Chicago Shakespeare Theater, where he has stage managed over ten productions, including: King Charles III, Othello, Ride the Cyclone, King Lear, The Little Mermaid, A Q Brothers’ Christmas Carol, and Othello: The Remix. Other Chicago credits include: Appropriate, Disconnect (Victory Gardens Theater); Fried’s Last Supper (Teatro Luna); Lara’s Revenge (CRTC Productions); Mr. Chickee’s Funny Money, The Houdini Box, Goodnight Moon (Chicago Children’s Theatre); Ethan Frome, Peter Pan: A Play, Lookingglass Alice, Fedra: Queen of Haiti, The Arabian Nights, Clay (Lookingglass Theatre Company); What Once We Felt (About Face Theatre); Dangerous Beauty and In the Bubble (American Music Theatre Project). Off-Broadway credits include Clay (Lincoln Center Theater) and Lookingglass Alice (New Victory Theater). Regional credits include: Clay (Kirk Douglas Theatre, Kansas City Rep) and Lookingglass Alice (Alliance Theatre). Mr. Connors is a graduate of Northwestern University, where he has served as adjunct lecturer in stage management and currently serves as a stage management mentor.

BOB MASON (Artistic Associate/Casting Director) is in his eighteenth season as CST’s casting director, where his credits include over one hundred productions and thirty-two plays in Shakespeare’s canon. In addition to numerous productions with Barbara Gaines, other productions of note include: a host of Sonheim musicals directed by Gary Griffin; Rose Rage: Henry VI, Parts 1, 2 and 3, directed by Edward Hall; and The Molière Comedies, directed by Brian Bedford. He recently directed and co-created Shakespeare Tonight! with Beckie Menzie, as part of Chicago Shakespeare’s Shakespeare 400 Chicago festival. Prior to casting, Mr. Mason enjoyed a career as a Jeff Award-winning actor and singer (and has a website), and as a casting director for the School at Steppenwolf, Acting Studio Chicago, the University of Illinois at Chicago, and Northwestern University.

RICK BOYNTON (Creative Producer) focuses on current and future artistic planning and production, as well as the development of all new plays, musicals, and adaptations for CST. Projects include: The Book of Joseph, Ride the Cyclone (CST, MCC), Sense and Sensibility (CST, Old Globe), Cadre (co-director) (CST, Johannesburg, Grahamstown, Edinburgh, Vancouver); Othello: The Remix (Chicago, London, Germany, Edinburgh, South Korea, Sydney, Poland, Melbourne, Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Auckland, National Alliance for Musical Theatre’s Festival of New Musicals 2015, off Broadway); Funk It Up About Nothing (CST, Edinburgh, Australian tour, London); A Flea in Her Ear (CST, Williamstown Theatre Festival); The Three Musketeers (CST, Boston, London); The Emperor’s New Clothes, The Adventures of Pinocchio (now licensed by Rodgers and Hammerstein Theatricals); Murder for Two (at CST, followed by New York and national tour); and The Feast: an intimate Tempest (in collaboration with Redmoon). Former artistic director of the Marriott Theatre and multiple Jeff Award-winning actor, he has starred in productions nationally, including CST’s production of A Flea in Her Ear as Camille (Jeff Award, After Dark Award). As casting director/associate at Jane Alderman Casting, projects included: the television series Early Edition, Missing Persons, Untouchable, and ER; the films While You Were Sleeping and Hoodlum, among others; and numerous national tours. Mr. Boynton has lectured at his alma mater Northwestern University, and is the past president of the board of the National Alliance for Musical Theatre.

BARBARA GAINES (Artistic Director/Carl and Marilynn Thoma Endowed Chair) founded Chicago Shakespeare Theater, where she has directed more than thirty-two plays in Shakespeare’s canon. Honors include: the 2008 Tony Award for Outstanding Regional Theatre; the prestigious Honorary OBE (Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire) in recognition of her contributions strengthening British-American cultural relations; and Joseph Jefferson Awards for Best Production (Hamlet, Cymbeline, King Lear, and The Comedy of Errors), and for Best Director (Cymbeline, King Lear, and The Comedy of Errors). Ms. Gaines has directed at the Royal Shakespeare Company in Stratford-upon-Avon, Lyric Opera of Chicago, and The Old Globe in San Diego. As the cornerstone production of Shakespeare 400 Chicago, the 2016 international celebration of Shakespeare’s legacy, she created a world premiere Shakespeare history cycle, Tug of War, including the rarely staged Edward III. Gaines received an Honorary Doctorate of Letters from the University of Birmingham (UK), the University Club of Chicago’s Cultural Award, the Public Humanities Award from the Illinois Humanities Council, and the Spirit of Loyola Award. Ms. Gaines serves on The Globe Council (Shakespeare’s Globe, London).

CRISS HENDERSON (Executive Director) Chicago Shakespeare Theater’s executive director, has produced CST’s past twenty-eight seasons, and developed the citywide, yearlong celebration through 2016 of Shakespeare’s legacy, Shakespeare 400 Chicago. Under his leadership, CST has become one of the nation’s leading regional theaters and one of Chicago’s most celebrated cultural organizations, honored with the 2008 Tony Award for Outstanding Regional Theatre, as well as multiple Laurence Olivier and Joseph Jefferson Awards. Mr. Henderson has garnered multiple honors, including: the 2013 Cultural Innovation Award from the Chicago Innovation Awards; the Arts Administrator of the Year by Arts Management Magazine at the Kennedy Center and the Chevalier de L’Ordre des Arts et des Lettres by the Minister of Culture of France. He was named among the top 40 business people under the age of 40 in Crain’s Chicago Business. He serves as president of the Producers’ Association of Chicago-area Theaters and is director of the MFA/Arts Leadership Program, a two-year graduate-level curriculum in arts management training created through a joint partnership between Chicago Shakespeare Theater and The Theatre School at DePaul University.
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Executive Director

ARTISTIC

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Creative Producer

GARY GRiffin
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