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Under the leadership of Artistic Director Barbara Gaines and Executive Director Criss Henderson, Chicago Shakespeare has redefined what a great American Shakespeare theater can be—a company that defies theatrical category. This Regional Tony Award-winning theater’s year-round season features as many as twenty productions and 650 performances—including plays, musicals, world premieres, family programming, and presentations from around the globe. The work is enjoyed by 225,000 audience members annually, with one in four under the age of eighteen. Chicago Shakespeare is the city’s leading presenter of international work, and in touring its own productions across five continents has garnered multiple accolades, including the prestigious Laurence Olivier Award. Emblematic of its role as a global theater, the company spearheaded Shakespeare 400 Chicago, celebrating Shakespeare’s legacy in a citywide, yearlong international arts and culture festival, which engaged more than one million people. The Theater’s nationally acclaimed arts in literacy programs support the work of English and drama teachers, and bring Shakespeare to life on stage for tens of thousands of their students each school year. Over the summer, the company tours a professional production of Shakespeare’s work, free for all, to neighborhood parks across the city. In 2017 the Theater unveiled The Yard at Chicago Shakespeare—with its innovative design that has changed the shape of theater architecture. Together with the Jentes Family Courtyard Theater and the Thoma Theater Upstairs, The Yard positions Chicago Shakespeare as the city’s most versatile performing arts center.

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The holidays are upon us! We have much to be thankful for here at Chicago Shakespeare—our 2018/2019 season is brimming with bold reimaginings of Shakespeare’s plays, acclaimed new work, and extraordinary presentations imported to Chicago from around the world. Beyond our stages, students from 50 area high schools are bringing the Bard to life as part of the Chicago Shakespeare Slam. And today, we have the pleasure of welcoming you to our artistic home as we commemorate the Theater’s 20th Anniversary Season on Navy Pier.

Currently running in our newest venue, The Yard at Chicago Shakespeare, is *Q Brothers Christmas Carol*. This fresh take on Dickens’ classic will have audiences on their feet with a mix of reggae, dancehall, dubstep, and epic rock ballads. Developed as part of the Theater’s new play initiative, it’s a hip-hop wonder that has quickly become a Chicago holiday tradition.

The revelry continues next door in the Jentes Family Courtyard Theater with a musically infused production of Shakespeare’s *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*. The play has been masterfully directed by the incomparable Joe Dowling, who last staged this same title as part of Chicago Shakespeare’s inaugural season on the Pier. Memorably, that production ended with a blessing for our new Courtyard Theater and signified the theatrical consecration of our permanent artistic home in Chicago. Now, two decades later, we are overjoyed to have this historic production once again grace the Courtyard stage—a magical and joyous Shakespearean comedy fit for the holiday season.

Thank you for joining us this season as we mark a special anniversary for our company! Together, we can ensure that Shakespeare’s home in Chicago serves as a global beacon of world-class artistry for generations to come.
CHICAGO SHAKESPEARE THEATER

DECEMBER 6–JANUARY 27

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT’S DREAM

written by WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

directed by JOE DOWLING

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Cast

Fred/Dick Wilkins/Mama Cratchit
JACKSON DORAN*

Scrooge (through December 9)
JOHN HOOGENAKKER*

Marley/Belle/Present/Lil’ Tim
JQ*

Bob Cratchit/Past/Martha Cratchit
POSTELL PRINGLE*

DJ
KIERAN PEREIRA

Understudies never substitute for listed players unless a specific announcement is made at the time of the performance: Jesse Kendall for Scrooge; Jessica Morrison for Marley/Belle/Present/Lil’ Tim, DJ; Cage Sebastian Pierre for Bob Cratchit/Past/Martha Cratchit; and Jake Samson for Fred/Dick Wilkins/Mama Cratchit.

Production Stage Manager
ANGELA M. ADAMS*

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Profiles

JACKSON DORAN
(Creator; Fred/Dick Wilkins/Mama Cratchit)
CHICAGO
SHAKESPEARE: Q Brothers Christmas Carol, Othello: The Remix (Jeff Award - Best Ensemble), Funk It Up About Nothin’ (Jeff Award - Best Ensemble), Short Shakespeare! The Comedy of Errors. CHICAGO: Welcome to Arroyo’s (world premiere, American Theater Company); Gross Indecency: The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde (BoHo Theatre).
REGIONAL: The Merchant of Venice (Notre Dame Shakespeare Festival); The Comedy of Errors, Romeo and Juliet, A Midsummer Night’s Dream, Macbeth, The Taming of the Shrew (Riverside Theatre Shakespeare Festival); The Crucible, A Christmas Carol, Lady Windermere’s Fan (Milwaukee Repertory Theater); I Hate Hamlet (New Court Theatre); Q Gents. OFF BROADWAY: Othello: The Remix (The New York Times Critics’ Pick, Westside Theatre).
INTERNATIONAL: Othello: The Remix (London, Germany, Edinburgh, South Korea, Sydney, Poland, Melbourne, United Arab Emirates, Auckland, Romania); Funk It Up About Nothin’ (Edinburgh, Australia, London); Q Gents (Serbia, Germany).

JOHN HOOGENAKKER
(Scrooge, through December 9) CHICAGO
CHICAGO: Wait Until Dark (Court Theatre); The Iceman Cometh (Goodman Theatre/ BAM); Killer Joe (The Theatre at 2851 Halsted); Retreat from Moscow (Northlight Theatre); Port Authority, Death of a Streetcar Named Virginia Woolf (Writers Theatre). REGIONAL: Escape from Happiness (Milwaukee Repertory Theatre); title role in Hamlet (Illinois Shakespeare Festival); Worksong: Three Views of Frank Lloyd Wright (Missouri Repertory Theatre/Arizona Theatre Company). TELEVISION: Boss, The Girlfriend Experience (Starz); Chicago Fire (NBC); Empire (FOX); Colony (USA); Jack Ryan (Amazon). FILM: Flags of Our Fathers (Warner Brothers); Animals of Errors (Oscilloscope); The Lucky Ones (Lionsgate); Public Enemies (Universal Studios); A Very Harold and Kumar Christmas (New Line Cinema).

JQ (Creator/Director/ Composer; Marley/Belle/ Present/Lil’ Tim)
CHICAGO
SHAKESPEARE: Q Brothers Christmas Carol, Othello: The Remix (Jeff Award - Best Ensemble), Funk It Up About Nothin’ (Jeff Award - Best Ensemble), Othello: The Remix (Metropolitan Opera).
REGIONAL: Othello: The Remix (Oregon Shakespeare Festival) with the Q Brothers and co-created a two-man version of The Two Gentlemen of Verona (Oregon Shakespeare Festival commission/Illinois Shakespeare Festival), and co-created I Heart Juliet (Illinois Shakespeare Festival) with the Q Brothers Collective. JQ is co-host of a health, body care, and shaving vlog called Smallflower TV, with eldest brother TQ.

POSTELL PRINGLE
(Creator; Bob Cratchit/ Past/Martha Cratchit/ Dance Captain)
CHICAGO
SHAKESPEARE: Othello: The Remix, Q Brothers Christmas Carol, Funk It Up About Nothin’.
CHICAGO: The Matchmaker (Goodman Theatre), Long Way Home (Chicago Children’s Choir). BROADWAY: A Free Man of Color (Lincoln Center Theater). OFF BROADWAY: Othello: The Remix (Westside Theatre); LINDA (Manhattan Theater Club); The Urban Retreat (The Public Theater/
KIERAN PEREIRA

**DJ CHICAGO**

**SHAKESPEARE:**
- *Q Brothers Christmas Carol*
  - **REGIONAL:**
  - *Q Gents* (Illinois Shakespeare Festival/Bear Music Festival);
  - *I Heart Juliet, A Midsummer Night’s Dream, Shakespeare’s Amazing Cymbeline* (Illinois Shakespeare Festival); productions with Viterbo University, Illinois State University, New Route Theatre, Heartland Theatre Company.

**EDUCATION:**
- MS in arts technology, Illinois State University.

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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:
Award). As casting director/associate at Jane Alderman Casting, projects included: the television series Early Edition, Missing Persons, Untouchables, 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 former president of the board of the National Alliance for Musical Theatre.

SCOTT DAVIS (Scenic Designer and Costume Designer) CHICAGO SHAKESPEARE: more than twenty productions, including Red Velvet, Madagascar, Shakespeare in Love, The Book of Joseph, King Charles III, Tug of War: Foreign Fire and Civil Strife, Ride the Cyclone, The Little Mermaid, Pericles, Road Show, Shrek the Musical, Othello: The Remix (CST/international tour), Cadre (CST/tour to South Africa, Edinburgh, Vancouver), Beauty and the Beast, Murder for Two; Short Shakespeare! productions of Twelfth Night, A Midsummer Night’s Dream, Romeo and Juliet, Macbeth. CHICAGO: Court Theatre, Paramount Theatre, Steppenwolf Garage, Drury Lane Theatre, Marriott Theatre, Northlight Theatre, Windy City Playhouse. OFF BROADWAY: Ride the Cyclone (MCC Theater), Othello: The Remix (Westside Theatre). REGIONAL: Signature Theatre, Children’s Theatre Company, Utah Shakespeare Festival, Milwaukee Repertory Theater, Asolo Repertory Theatre, Walnut Street Theatre. Mr. Davis is the co-founder of the Chicago-based design firm Aether and Nyx. www.scottadamdavis.com


STEPHEN PTACEK (Sound Designer) CHICAGO SHAKESPEARE: Nell Gwynn; assistant designer for The Tempest, The Little Mermaid, Seussical. CHICAGO: Mies Julie (Victory Gardens Theater); Long Way Home (Q Brothers with Chicago Children’s Choir); The Skin of Our Teeth (Remy Bumppo Theatre Company); The Pride, The Flowers, Stupid Kids, The Young Ladies of... (About Face Theatre); How We Got On (Haven Theatre Company); Killer Angels (Lifeline Theatre); Breach, Roadkill Confidential, Dead Letter Office, The Twins Would Like to Say, God’s Ear, As Told by the Vivian Girls (Dog & Pony Theatre Company); Faster (Side Project Theatre Company). FILM: May Days, What Remains, Some Girls Never Learn. TELEVISION: Brujos. EDUCATION: BA in English, theatre arts, University of Iowa. AWARDS: Non-Equity Jeff Awards for Sound Design 2008, 2014, 2017; Nicholas Meyer Scholarship for Playwriting 2005. Mr. Ptacek is a member of El Is a Sound of Joy, an astromusicological collective, and a company member with Dog & Pony Theatre Company.

MELISSA VEAL (Original Wig and Make-up Design) CHICAGO SHAKESPEARE: wig and make-up designer/head of department until 2016, designing for over ninety-five productions, including Ride the Cyclone, Sense and Sensibility, King Lear, Henry V, Road Show, Gypsy, The Merry Wives of Windsor, Cyrano de Bergerac, The School for Lies (Jeff Award), Sunday in the Park with George, Othello: The Remix (CST/tour), Elizabeth Rex (Jeff Award nomination), Follies, The Madness of George III (Jeff Award), Twelfth Night, The Comedy of Errors, Henry IV Parts 1 and 2 (CST/Royal Shakespeare Company/Stratford-upon-Avon), Rose Rage: Henry VI Parts 1, 2 and, 3 (CST/The Duke on
42nd Street). In 2016 Ms. Veal returned to the Stratford Festival, where she previously worked for ten seasons and received four Tyrone Guthrie Awards. She also received the 2007 Hurckes Award for Artisans and Technicians.

**ANACRON** (Choreographer) CHICAGO SHAKESPEARE: *Q Brothers Christmas Carol*. CHICAGO: Collaboration Theatre Company; The Old Town School of Folk Music; Workshops at Lollapalooza Music Festival; member of Brickheadz Crew.

**REGIONAL:** member of L.A. Breakers.
**TELEVISION:** *Hotwire* (Colette music video); *Safe and Sound* (Capital Cities music video); *America’s Best Dance Crew* (MTV); *Show Us Your Character* (USA Network).
**EDUCATION:** graduate of music business program, UCLA.

Anacron is a professional recording artist, an experiential educator specializing in professional development and relationships, and a United States Ambassador for the Department of State Bureau of Culture and Education.


**CHICAGO:** Until the Flood (Goodman Theatre); Honeymoon in Vegas, Bridges of Madison County, Madagascar, Seussical, The Wizard of Oz, Velveteen Rabbit (Marriott Theatre); Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Smokey Joe’s Cafe (Drury Lane Theatre); The Etiquette of Vigilance (Steppenwolf Theatre Company); A Wonderful Life (Theatre at the Center).

**OFF BROADWAY:** assistant sound design for Go-Go Kitty Go (Theatre B); stage manager for *The Asphalt Kiss* (Lord Strange Company).

**GRETA HONOLD** (Q Brothers Producing Company Manager) is a Chicago-based producer, actor, and arts administrator. Ms. Honold is the director of Steppenwolf Theatre Company’s LookOut Series, a performance series that presents the work of artists and companies across genre and form. She is a graduate of the School at Steppenwolf, received her BA from the University of Chicago, and her MFA in Arts Leadership from the Theatre School at DePaul University, in conjunction with Chicago Shakespeare Theater.

**BOB MASON** (Artistic Associate/Casting Director) is in his nineteenth 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 Sondheim musicals directed by Gary Griffin; *Ride the Cyclone* (CST, MCC, Fifth Avenue/ACT), directed by Rachel Rockwell; *Rose Rage: Henry VI, Parts 1, 2, and 3*, directed by Edward Hall; and *The Molière Comedies*, directed by Brian Bedford. He directed and co-created *Shakespeare Tonight!* with Beckie Menzie, as part of Shakespeare 400 Chicago. Prior to casting, Mr. Mason enjoyed a career as a Jeff Award-winning actor and singer, and has been a visiting educator for the School at Steppenwolf, Acting Studio Chicago, the University of Illinois at Chicago, and Northwestern University.

**RICHARD JORDAN PRODUCTIONS** (Producing Partner) is an Olivier and Tony Award-winning production company under the leadership of British producer Richard Jordan. Based in London, the company was founded in 1998 and enjoys associations with many of the world’s leading theaters and arts organizations. His company has produced over 230 productions, including seventy world premieres and ninety-five US, UK, and Australian premieres by new and established writers, artists, and companies. Richard Jordan Productions’ past productions have won a number of major awards including: the Laurence Olivier Award; sixteen Scotsman Fringe Firsts; seven Total Theatre Awards; two Herald Angel Awards; two Jeff Awards; the Emmy Award; the Off-West End Award; the U.S. Black Alliance Award; the John Gassner Award; the Obie Award; three Helen Hayes Awards; the Tony Award (and eleven other Tony nominations); Drama Desk, Drama League, New York Critics, Broadway.com, and Outer Critic Circle Best New Play Awards. In 2013 Mr. Jordan became the first British producer to have won every notable Broadway and off-Broadway Best
New Play Award. Described by The Stage newspaper “as one of the UK’s most prolific theatre producers” and named seven times in their annual list of the top 100 UK theater professionals, he was the first recipient of the TIF/Society of London Theatre Producers Award. Mr. Jordan enjoys a close relationship with Chicago Shakespeare Theater, with which he has produced: Itsoseng; enroute; A History of Everything; Roadkill; Dickens’ Women; BigMouth; Cadre; Since I Suppose; Circolombia – Acélérè; David Carl’s Celebrity One-Man Hamlet; Fight Night; undreamed shores; the London and New York premieres, Chicago season, and world tours of The Q Brothers’ Funk It Up About Nothin’ and Othello: The Remix, the Chicago world premiere and revivals of Q Brothers Christmas Carol, and the upcoming Us/Them. For more information, please email: info@richardjordanproductions.com.

BARBARA GAINES
(Artistic Director/ Carl and Marilynn Thoma Chair) founded Chicago Shakespeare Theater, where she has directed nearly sixty productions of Shakespeare’s plays. 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-on-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. Ms. Gaines received an Honorary Doctorate of Letters from the University of Birmingham (UK), the University Club of Chicago’s Cultural Award, and the Public Humanities Award from the Illinois Humanities Council.

CRISS HENDERSON
(Executive Director) is the executive director of Chicago Shakespeare and has produced the Theater’s past twenty-nine seasons. 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. He oversaw the Theater’s move to its home on Navy Pier in 1999, and led the recent development of The Yard at Chicago Shakespeare. In 2016 he spearheaded the citywide, yearlong celebration of Shakespeare’s legacy, Shakespeare 400 Chicago. Mr. Henderson has garnered multiple honors, including: the 2013 Cultural Innovation Award from the Chicago Innovation Awards; Arts Administrator of the Year by Arts Management Magazine at the Kennedy Center; recognition in Crain’s Chicago Business “40 under 40”; and the Chevalier de L’Ordre des Arts et des Lettres by the Minister of Culture of France. Mr. Henderson has served on the boards of directors of the League of Chicago Theatres and Arts Alliance Illinois, and for many years as president of the Producers’ Association of Chicago-area Theaters. Mr. Henderson is director of DePaul University’s 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.
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