

MARCH 9 - 24, 2024

PRESENTS

\$25.00



HAMLET

■ By William
Shakespeare

■ Adapted and
Directed by
Lou Trapani

THE CENTER FOR PERFORMING ARTS AT RHINEBECK

Cast

Hamlet Yurble
Gertrude Elaine Young
Claudius Jeremy Ratel
Ophelia Katie-Beth Anspach
Laertes Harrison Mark
Polonius Ben Parish
Horatio Cora Colwell
Rosencrantz Jessica Boyd
Guildestern Emily DePew
Marcellus Brigid Slattery
Bernardo Madison Cannella
Player King/Ghost Rik Lopes
Player Murderer/Gravedigger Russ Austin
Player Queen/Osric Michael Brunetti

Production

Produced, Adapted, and Directed by Lou Trapani
Assistant Director and Stand In Janey Langan
Stage Manager Linda Herzlinger
**Assistant Stage Manager, Light Board Operator,
& Projections Operator** Anita Kiewra
Set Painting, Properties, & Sound Operator Marie Weinfurt
Lighting Designer Patrick Bogert
Projection Designer Olivia Michaels Bogert
Costume Designer Heidi Johnson
Ophelia's Dirges Created by Elaine Young
Sound Designer Lou Trapani
Sound Recording Antonio Mazzotta
Choreographer Jordan Stroy
Sword Fight Conceived by Yurble
Sword Fight Coach Erin Hebert

Cast Bios

Yurble *they/them* (Hamlet) is an actor, musician, and stunt performer. Alongside having appeared in over 20 productions held at The CENTER, they have worked as a composer, sound designer, fight choreographer, intimacy coordinator, and pit musician in live theater productions both at The CENTER and throughout the Hudson Valley. Previous CENTERstage credits include *Twelfth Night* (Feste), *Rent* (Angel), *Sondheim on Sondheim*, *Parade* (Tom Watson), *Henry V* (Pistol); Selected additional credits: NY Renaissance Faire - *Robin Hood Scenario* (Ællyn a'Dale); Up in One Productions - *Peter and the Starcatcher* (Betty Bumbrake/Teacher), *Curtains* (Lt. Frank Cioffi), *Ragtime* (Henry Ford); Rhinebeck Theatre Society - *Kinky Boots* (Harry/Angel), *She Kills Monsters* (Orcus).

Katie-Beth Anspach *she/her* (Ophelia) is thrilled to be back onstage at The CENTER! Some favorite past credits include *The Secret Garden* (Martha), *The Wizard of Oz* (Dorothy), and most recently, *Little Women* (Amy March). She's ever grateful to Lou and Janey for their direction, her cast mates and crew for their hard work, and her family for their unwavering love and support.

Russ Austin (Gravedigger) has appeared in, directed, and stage managed many productions at The CENTER. His favorite roles include Edward Rutledge (1776), Boris Kolenkov (*You Can't Take It With You*), and Harry

Hope (*The Iceman Cometh*) Thank you Lou, Janey, Linda, and the entire cast and crew for yet another fantastic experience.

Jessica Boyd (Rosencrantz) is proud to be a part of this invigorating rendition of *Hamlet*! She recently appeared in *Little Women* (Mrs. Hummel/Caroler), *The Wizard of Oz: School Show* (Dorothy), *The Iceman Cometh* (Margie), *The Women of Lockerbie* (Woman Two), *The Tempest* (Alonsa), and *Fiddler on the Roof* (Grandma Tzeitel). Jessica also did character makeup on recent productions: *Cabaret* (bruising), *The Iceman Cometh* (bruising/scarring), and *Fiddler on the Roof* (aging/ghostly makeup). Many thanks to Lou and all involved in this project. Heaps of love to Joe (you are amazing).

Michael Brunetti (Player Queen/Osric) is thrilled to be in his 4th production at The CENTER and is very grateful to work under Lou Trapani. His credits include *Curtains: The Musical*, *Rebel without a Cause*, and Alphonse Mucha in *Bernhardt/Hamlet*. He would like to his family, Linda, Anita, Janey, Lou, and his acting coach Roger Hendricks Simon.

Madison Cannella (Bernardo) is a designer by trade and grateful to spend her free time in the theatre. Previous productions include *Dance Nation* (Sophia). Special shout out to the fools at Definitely Human Theatre who thought it would be a good idea to put her back on stage. Thanks to CENTERstage Productions and the entire *Hamlet* team for a great experience.

Cora Colwell (Horatio) is an actor and voiceover artist who trained at the Neighborhood Playhouse School of the Theatre before relocating to the Hudson Valley. Recent stage roles include Woman 1 in *The Women of Lockerbie*, Mrs. Davis in *Rebel Without a Cause*, Teacher/Reporter in *Speech & Debate*, and Sister James in *Doubt*. Cora will be appearing in Lanford Wilson's *Book of Days* this spring.

Emily DePew (Guildenstern) was last seen on The CENTER stage playing Cora in *The Iceman Cometh* and Mother in *Rebel Without a Cause*. Other favorite roles include Catherine in *Proof*, Stella in *A Streetcar Named Desire* and Poppy in *Noises Off*. Some of her CENTER directing credits include *South Pacific*, *Kiss Me Kate*, and *Seussical*. She is looking forward to directing *Murder on the Orient Express* for CENTERstage this summer. She thanks Lou for this opportunity.

Rik Lopes (Player King/Ghost) began as an actor at the age of 10 and ultimately grew into a director, producer, playwright, and educator. He has been seen at The CENTER as Sam in *Mamma Mia!*, playwright/director for *The Unkindness of Ravens*, and most recently as Scrooge in *A Christmas Carol*. He is grateful to be back on stage after a 3-year hiatus to attend grad school and can be seen next as Mr. Mushnik in *Little Shop of Horrors* at The CENTER in May. He lives in a purple house in Kingston with his partner Fennel and their two ungrateful cats. @rik_edward_lopes

Harrison Mark (Laertes) is a local writer who began his acting journey a little over a year ago in Up in One Productions' adaptation of *It's A Wonderful Life* as Bert. Since then, he has appeared in other local productions including *Twelfth Night* (Fabian), *The Tempest* (Sebastian), *Little Women* (Laurie), and *Cabaret* (Ernst Ludwig). He is excited to be playing Laertes, a role he has been interested in since taking a Shakespeare course in college, and would like to thank Lou, Janey, Linda, and Anita for the opportunity and for all their hard work.

Ben Parish (Polonius) As a native of the midwest, Ben is all too familiar with know-it-alls all up in your business, so it makes sense that he is playing Polonius. He loves the midwest and is only kidding around. Many thanks to the production team, crew & cast, and all those diligent souls who keep the toes tapping and the lights on here at The CENTER. As always, much love to the Archambault family & to Jessica.

Brigid Slattery (Marcellus) is acting in her first production with the CENTER and is excited for the chance to freak out on stage in one of the greatest plays of all time. She plays in a strange traveling band and lives across the river.

Elaine Young (Gertrude) is thrilled to be making her Shakespearean debut. Some previous credits include: *Master Class* (Maria Callas), *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* (Jean Brodie), *Rumors* (Chris Gorman), *The Dresser* (Her Ladyship), *Moon Over Buffalo* (Charlotte Hay), *Sister Act* (Mother Superior), *Young Frankenstein* (Frau Blucher). A true honor to work with this outstanding cast. Heartfelt thanks to Lou, Janey, Linda, Anita and all the players behind the scenes. Love to Peter.

Production Bios

Olivia Michaels Bogert (Projection Design) is the Acting Artistic Director for The CENTER for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck. In addition to the projection design, Olivia was responsible for photography, poster design, and program design for *Hamlet*. In fact, the only reason she included a bio was to ensure the formatting for this program was correct. For Kevin, always.

Erin Hebert (Fight Choreographer) began training in fight choreography during her undergrad years at Yale, training with Yale School of Drama fight choreographer Michael Rossmly. Over the past 4 years, she has established herself as the go-to fight choreographer for the Hudson Valley, having fight choreographed 20+ shows in that time. Favorite credits include *She Kills Monsters*, *Henry V*, *Rebel Without A Cause*, and *Romeo & Juliet*.

Anita Kiewra (Assistant Stage Manager) is an artist and manager of PUF Community Printmaking Studio, Community Development Manager for Hudson River Housing at the Poughkeepsie Underwear Factory. She was Assistant Stage Manager for *Little Women* with Rhinebeck Theater Society, sound board operator for *Twelfth Night*, projection operator for *The Prom*, follow spot operator for many productions at The CENTER. Truly appreciate the opportunity to learn more Shakespeare and theater from Lou.

Linda Herzlinger (Stage Manager) is happy to be doing another Shakespeare Festival. I would like to thank Lou, Janey, Anita, Marie, Patrick and the cast for the wonderful new journey.

Heidi Johnson (Costume Design) is grateful to Lou for inviting her to help costume this great production - a timely tale with a superb cast. Thank you to the many cast members who provided their own wardrobe. Y'all are amazing!

Janey Langan (Assistant Director) is so thrilled to be a part of this production. In 2022 she assistant directed the CENTERstage production of *The Trojan Women* and in 2023 she directed the CENTERstage production of *Rebel Without a Cause*. She has also appeared onstage in 25 productions here at The CENTER. She would like to thank Lou, Linda, Anita and all the cast and team. Don't forget to be awesome and enjoy the show!

Jordan Stroly she/her (Choreographer) is thrilled to have the opportunity to be involved with *Hamlet* for CENTERstage productions! Previous choreographic credits include *Trojan Women*, and most recently, *Cabaret*. Jordan has many credits performing here at The CENTER, including *Sister Act*, *Hello, Dolly!*, *Once*, *A Chorus Line*, *Matilda*, *Mamma Mia*, and many others. Jordan works as a dance teacher here at CENTERstage Dance Studio. Thank you to Lou for this wonderful opportunity, consistent encouragement, and for his belief in me. Thanking everyone here at The CENTER, whether working, volunteering, and attending, who continue to support the arts in order for all of us to have a place for magic to happen. For Kevin always. xoxo.

Lou Trapani (Director/Producer) is the Senior Advisor to The CENTER for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck.

Director's Notes

The action of the play is set at Elsinore, capital of Denmark.

Act One, Scene One, through Act Four, Scene Two, take place during a week in the present year.

Act Four, Scene Three, through Act Five, Scene Two, occur over the course of a few days eight months later.

Lord Olivier has remarked that *Hamlet* is the story of a man who could not make up his mind. According to the conceit of Revenge Tragedy, that most popular of Elizabethan/Jacobean dramatic forms, this is arguable as Hamlet does, indeed, make up his mind, albeit after many interruptions along the way.

It is these “interruptions” that make *Hamlet* a play of our time as they are born of dysfunctions: familial, individual, and societal. And the dysfunctions are myriad: lust, adultery, murder, abuse, and self-harm; emotional distress and mental collapse, coupled with dissembling, greed, and betrayal. All this against the background of an imminent military defeat and an occupation by foreign troops.

A perfect tale for 2024.

Lou Trapani



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COMING SOON

2024: A "bloody good" year at The CENTER!



New black box space

CREATED BY DUANE OLSON,
KEVIN MCCARTHY, &
DENNIS WAKEMAN

The upcoming completion of our intimate new black box theatre heralds a new

chapter for emerging talents and fresh narratives. Transformed from a rehearsal studio, the space is primed for innovation and artistic ventures. The inaugural production, Alexander Pushkin's *The Little Tragedies*, translated and directed by Vera Perry, readies to captivate audiences, infusing the venue with ambition and the essence of the human experience. This premiere paves the way for a future rich with captivating performances and novel artistic expression.

LOOK OUT!!

CENTERstage Productions' *Little Shop of Horrors* is coming May 2024!

With the direction of Cheyenne See, musical direction of Sean Matthew Whiteford, and Choreography by Cedric James, this production is sure to blow you away!

Tickets are already available at **centerforperformingarts.org!**

Get them while you can because this show is sure to sell out!

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—children and adults alike. Plus,

our dance school, summer camps, field trips, and touring shows bring the joy of performance to all.



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COMING SOON CROSSWORD

ACROSS

3. Shire dweller, visiting in April
5. New space, black —
6. Pushkin's "Little ___", Vera Perry's translation
7. RTS presents Eliza's Transformation
9. Up In One's "Guys and ___"
10. Orient Express Crime

DOWN

1. Definitely Human's "Two Gents" NJ setting
2. Money-raising event
4. British slang, quite gory
8. Orin Scrivello, _ _ _ _

