

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S

The Winter's Tale

DIRECTED BY JEREMY COLE



October 22nd - November 20, 2010



Live Oak Theatre
Home to Actors Ensemble of Berkeley
Berkeley, CA

ABOUT ACTORS ENSEMBLE OF BERKELEY

Actors Ensemble of Berkeley has been around the block (and just around the corner from you) since 1957, making us the longest running stage company in Berkeley. In 1965, AE began performing at the Live Oak Theatre — and has ever since.

Our mission is to enrich, entertain and improve our community through fascinating theatrical works. With social consciousness and an ensemble approach, we provide area residents with opportunities to attend, participate in and be helped through theatre. Our shows will be affordable, our opportunities enjoyable, and our community impact felt year-round.

As Berkeley's only true community theatre company, we depend on our volunteers to bring their energy and creative vision to each play we produce. If you would like to volunteer in our theatre, give us a call or send us an email!

We'd love for you to play a part in our next show!

Actors Ensemble of Berkeley, P.O. Box 663
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Jeremy Cole - Postcard & Poster
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DIRECTOR'S NOTES

The Winter's Tale is one of Shakespeare's late plays, and along with its fellows *The Tempest*, *Cymbeline* and *Pericles*, it is often labeled a "romance." These late plays, which don't follow the strict rules of comedy and tragedy, have been delighting audiences and confounding critics for centuries with their blend of tragic and comic elements.

The Winter's Tale has long been maligned for its bifurcated structure, occurring as it does in two different kingdoms 16 years apart, but a close look shows the brilliance of Shakespeare's plotting: The first half of the play takes place almost entirely in Sicilia, except for a final sequence on the coast of Bohemia. The second half of the play is a mirror image – taking place almost entirely in Bohemia except for the final sequence back in Sicilia. Part One is essentially dramatic, with flashes of humor; Part Two is essentially comic, with flashes of drama. Part One has a King lashing out at his wife and best friend for no reason; Part Two has the other King lashing out at his son, and his best friend's daughter with somewhat more reason. The parallels continue: In Part One, an old statesman is given the task of leaving the infant Perdita to die; in Part Two, an old shepherd raises her as his own, as if atoning for the prior gentleman's sin. Though the tone of the piece shifts from the first half of the play to the second, some things remain constant: the advisors, Camillo and Paulina, for example, are constant moral centers for each kingdom – both honest and honorable – both working to repair this broken world of theirs.

Despite its long reputation as a "problem play," our modern sensibilities may be finally catching up with *The Winter's Tale* – and it has only taken us four hundred years to do it. Where once audiences demanded that plays fit neatly into a given category (tragedies are bloody, comedies are funny, musicals are mindless diversions), they have since come to accept – and even to expect – genres to be co-mingled and re-defined. *Sweeney Todd* is a musical, true, but a dark, dramatic and bloody one, to boot. Martin McDonough's plays are all sinister and uproariously funny at the same time. So please sit back, relax, and enjoy both halves of *The Winter's Tale*. I think you'll agree there's more to it than first meets the eye.

Æ Actors Ensemble of Berkeley

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S

The Winter's Tale

DIRECTED BY JEREMY COLE

October 22nd — November 20th

Cast of Characters in order of appearance

Time , in childhood	—	Jamie Atlas
Leontes , King of Sicilia	—	Richard Aiello
Hermione , Queen of Sicilia	—	Kerry Gudjohnsen
Polixenes , King of Bohemia	—	Stanley Spenger
Camillo , Lord of Sicilia, later of Bohemia	—	Robert Cooper
Autolycus , Lord of Bohemia, later con-man	—	Jaime Lee Currier
Mamillius , Prince of Sicilia	—	Jamie Atlas
Emilia , a lady in waiting	—	Madeleine Hansen
Lady in Waiting	—	Josie Alvarez
Officer of the Court	—	Joseph Hirsch
Jailer	—	David Weiner
First Lord of Sicilia	—	Rhio Ossola
Second Lord of Sicilia	—	Tavis Kammet
Antigonus , Advisor to Leontes	—	Norman Macleod
Cleomenes , Lord of Sicilia	—	Ty Mark Williams
Dion , Lord of Sicilia	—	Paul Dana
Paulina , Advisor to Leontes	—	Holly Bradford
Lady in Court	—	Rachel Siegal
Lord in Court	—	Jaime Lee Currier

The play takes place in two kingdoms of a world not unlike our own
in some earlier time...

There will be one 15 minute intermission

Cast of Characters

in order of appearance

Mariner , a Sicilian seaman	—	David Weiner
Bear	—	Joseph Hirsch
Old Shepherd , a Bohemian	—	Rhio Ossola
Young Shepherd , a Bohemian	—	Tavis Kammet
Time , in adolescence	—	Rachel Siegel
Time , in adulthood	—	Kerry Gudjohnsen
Florizel , Prince of Bohemia	—	Joseph Hirsch
Perdita , Princess of Sicilia	—	Rachel Siegel
Mopsa , a shepherdess	—	Madeleine Hansen
Dorcas , a shepherdess	—	Josie Alvarez
Servant	—	Ty Mark Williams
Shepherd	—	Paul Dana
Shepherd Boy	—	Jamie Atlas
Sicilian Lord	—	David Weiner
Time , in age	—	Norman Macleod

Crew

Director	—	Jeremy Cole
Assistant Director	—	Benjamin Cooper
Costumer	—	Lisa Danz
Assistant Costumer	—	Mengying Wu
Set Designer	—	Norman de Veyra
Lighting Design	—	Bob Gudmundsson
Stage Manager	—	Juliann Halvorsen
Light Operator	—	Benjamin Cooper
Sound Operator & Lighting Effects	—	Krista Bowman Shifra Pride Raffel
Miscellaneous	—	Jerome Solberg

Actors Ensemble of Berkeley is a 501(c)3 non-profit, managed and operated by volunteers and financed by ticket sales and your support. Contributions are greatly appreciated, please see www.AEofBerkeley.Org for ways you can help.

CAST & CREW

Richard Aiello (Leontes) Long-time AE audiences may remember Richard from our productions of *A Delicate Balance* and *Jake's Women* many years ago. Most recently he appeared in David Mamet's *Speed-the-Plow* in Walnut Creek. Richard started training years ago with the late Jim Kirkwood and continues today with Richard Seyd.

Josie Alvarez (Lady/Dorcas) Josie is excited to make her debut with the Actor's Ensemble of Berkeley. Josie graduated from UC Berkeley and recently completed the Summer Training Congress at the American Conservatory Theater. She has appeared in numerous independent projects including a 2010 music video for Bray and the upcoming short film *The Once and Future Bride*. Her most recent Bay Area Theatre credits include Theatre First's *Anton in Show Business*.

Jamie Atlas (Prince Mamillius/Shepherd Boy/Time) This is Jamie's first time working with Actors Ensemble of Berkeley. He was recently seen at Contra Costa Civic Theatre in *Bleacher Bums*, *Over the Tavern*, and (also with Jeremy Cole) *Great Expectations*. When he is not acting, he loves to travel, especially to Europe. He is very excited to be doing Shakespeare for the first time.

Holly Bradford (Paulina) is enjoying the fruits of her labor in her garden. She spends quite a bit of time in the yard pruning, weeding and chasing the squirrels out of the veggie beds. Recent roles: Ella in *Curse of the Starving Class*, Lysistrata in *Lysistrata* and Lady Capulet in *Romeo and Juliet*.

Jeremy Cole (Director) has directed two shows for AE – *Doctor Faustus* and *As It Is in Heaven*. Earlier this year, he made his New York debut, directing *Conviction* off-Broadway at 59E59 Theatres. Next up is Sarah Ruhl's *Passion Play*, here at AE.

Benjamin Cooper (Assistant Director/Props/Lightboard Operator) is so excited to be working in AE's production of *The Winter's Tale*. Ben's been a lifetime fan of the Bard (memorizing his first monologue at age 12). He would like to thank his dad Ian McShane (A.K.A. Robert Cooper) for his inspiration to join theater and his director Jeremy Cole for keeping him going.

CAST & CREW

Robert Cooper (Camillo) is making his debut with the Actors Ensemble. Previous performances include *Much Ado About Nothing* and *Twelfth Night* with Shakespeare @ Stinson; *An Enemy of the People* and *Judgment at Nuremberg* with the late, lamented San Francisco Free Theatre; and *Death of a Salesman* and *The Crucible* with the Pacifica Spindrift Players. It has been a joy to be in this production with his son Benjamin (USAF!), and he would like to dedicate his performance to his wonderful family, thanking them for their love, support...and patience!

Jaime Lee Currier (Autolycus/Lord) Before moving to Berkeley in 2009, Jaime performed Off-Broadway in *Futurity the Musical*, *The Death of Evie Avery*, and *To Save A Drowning Man*. She toured nationally and internationally doing clowning, masking and physical theatre with Imago's FROGZ. Most recently Jaime starred in the Thunderbird's *Agnes the Barbarian*. This winter look for her new sketch troupe, Sketch Comedy Gold. Thanks and love to Eric Hart!

Paul Dana (Puppeteer/Dion/Shepherd) Paul's favorite roles have included Sir Andrew in *Twelfth Night*, Lavache in *All's Well That Ends Well*, and Androcles in *Androcles and the Lion*. Between shows he can be found in standing room at SF Opera and SF Ballet. Paul would like to thank his role model, the late great Janet Johnston.

Lisa Danz (Costumes) is happy to join Jeremy Cole's production of *The Winter's Tale*. This is her second show for Jeremy, having recently costumed *Great Expectations* at Contra Costa Civic Theatre. A three-time Shelley nominee, Lisa studied design at the Fashion Institute of Technology in NYC. Many thanks to her assistant costumer, Mengying Wu.

Norm deVeyra (Set Design) would like to think his sets bring a little magic to the stage, but really he just hopes they stay up as designed. Everything else is a bonus. *The Winter's Tale* marks his 4th AE production. When not in a theater you can probably find Norm working his design "magic" for a residential architecture firm in Palo Alto. Theater is his passion, though, and would like to see just how far he can take it.



CAST & CREW

Kerry Gudjohnsen (Hermione/Time) first saw and fell in love with *The Winter's Tale* 10 years ago. Since then, Kerry has performed in numerous plays/films, largely due to the endless love and support of her family and friends. It was because of their faith that Kerry had the nerve to pursue this theatrical dream. She has appeared with AE previously in *Doctor Faustus*.

Bob Gudmundsson (Lighting) can usually be found backstage during the preproduction period of an AE show. Previous productions include *Blithe Spirit* (set construction), *Curse of the Starving Class* (set design) and *Antigone* (light design). When Bob isn't working for AE, he is the theatre technician, teaching others how to use the facility.

Juliann Halvorsen (Stage Manager) is happy to return to Actor's Ensemble in her second back stage tour. She is grateful to her husband for being so supportive of her busy schedule and the chance to work with such a great group of people that are the "behind the scenes" gurus. The princess of the Poynting vector strikes again!

Madeleine Hansen (Emilia/Mopsa) is a graduate of Sonoma State University; she majored in Theatre Arts with an emphasis in Acting and minored in American Multicultural Studies. Some of her favorite roles include Feste in *Twelfth Night* (Narrow Way Stage), Corrina Stroller in *The House of Blue Leaves* (Role Players Ensemble) and Margherita in *We Won't Pay, We Won't Pay* (SSU).

Joseph Hirsch (Court Officer/Bear/Prince Florizel) has been acting in Bay Area community theater since the age of 10. He last appeared as Stanley in *Broadway Bound* at the Dean Leshner in Walnut Creek. When not on stage, Joseph runs his own business taking dogs out on East Bay trails. Favorite roles include: Peter in *The Diary of Anne Frank*, Tom in *The Glass Menagerie*, and Timmy in *The Subject Was Roses*.

Tavis Kammet (Second Lord/Young Shepherd) is thrilled to be returning to AE having worked with both Jeremy Cole and AE on *Doctor Faustus*. Tavis has his BA in Theatre from University of Exeter and an MA in Performance from University of London Goldsmiths. Tavis has worked with a host of different theatre companies in the bay area and in London. And he spends any free time playing Dungeons and Dragons. Advanced.

CAST & CREW

Norman Macleod (Antigonus/Time) Norman trained as an actor with York Repertory Theatre in England. Since 1965 he has performed in numerous local productions including his appearances with Actors Ensemble as Sir Toby Belch in *Twelfth Night*; as King Berenger the First in *Exit the King* and as The Chorus in *Antigone*. Norman thanks Dianne for her continued support and forbearance during his theatrical endeavors.

Rhio Ossola (First Lord/Old Shepherd) This marks Rhio's first production with Actors Ensemble. He was most recently seen as Magwitch in the CCCT production of *Great Expectations*, and prior work has been with Walnut Creek's Center Rep in productions of *Taming of the Shrew*, *The Crucible*, *Merchant of Venice*, *The Real Inspector Hound*, and *A Flea in Her Ear*. Recently retired from a teaching career, he has worked on the production staff at Cal Shakes and SF Playwrights Foundation.

Rachel Siegel (Lady/Time/Perdita) Recent credits include *The Family Makespace* (Isabel, Diablo Actors Ensemble), *One is For Letters* (Aisha, Woman's Will) and numerous shows with Berkeley Playhouse. This past summer, she attended the California State Summer School for the Arts. In December, she will perform in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Hermia, Berkeley High School).

Stanley Spenger (Polixenes) performed most recently for AE in *Blithe Spirit*. He appeared last summer in *A Hot Day in Ephesus*, a musical based on *The Comedy of Errors*. This summer's was *The Fantasticks*. Also this year he acted and directed in Subterranean Shakespeare's staged reading series.

David Weiner (Jailer/Mariner/Lord) After a forty-year hiatus, David returned to the stage in PLOT's production of *Hello, Dolly!* as Waiter #8. Since then, he has been in many other productions, such as ACLO's *Ragtime* and Chanticleer's *Arsenic and Old Lace*. He can now take "perform in one of Shakespeare's plays" off his bucket list. He dedicates his performance to his family and to his teachers.

Ty M. Williams (Puppeteer/Cleomenes/Servant) was born in Alaska, raised in Fairfield, educated at University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana (book-wise), resides in Vallejo, where he had the fortunate task of being cast twice in *Romeo and Juliet* – once as Mercutio, the other as Tybalt, both dying in glorious fashion.

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ANNOUNCING

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2011 SEASON
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George Bernard Shaw's
Heartbreak House
directed by Robert Estes
January 21 to February 19

Heartbreak House explores those feelings which simmer just below the surface. ***Heartbreak*** is set in a Chekhovian country house just before WWI, the scene of a large dinner party thrown by a vainglorious host, and features a large cast of characters, each of them trying their level best to avoid the numerous elephants in the room – it's only a matter of time before collisionus pachydermus ensues – to comic, and tragic, effect. Leading the way through the sighing stairways and hilarious hallways is Robert Estes, who recently explored with us the goings on in a much different kind of house in Shepard's ***Curse of the Starving Class***. Join with us as we explore the tragicomic inner workings of Shaw's eternal classic, ***Heartbreak House***.

Sarah Ruhl's
Passion Play
directed by Jeremy Cole
West Coast Premiere!
April 22 to May 21

Hailed by The New Yorker as “extraordinary,” “bold,” and “inventive,” Sarah Ruhl's ***Passion Play*** takes us behind the scenes of three communities attempting to stage the death and resurrection of Christ. From Queen Elizabeth's England to Hitler's Germany to Reagan's America, Ruhl's exploration of devotion takes us on a humorous yet unsettling journey filled with lust, whimsy, and a lot of fish. Our own Jeremy Cole, critically acclaimed for his previous work with Actors Ensemble on ***Doctor Faustus*** and ***As It is in Heaven***, as well as our current production of Shakespeare's ***The Winter's Tale***, heads up what is sure to be the most anticipated production of the spring.

More About Our 2011 Season on Back Page

**Do You Know Live Oak Theatre Has Been the
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ANNOUNCING Actors Ensemble of Berkeley's **2011 SEASON**

Alan Ayckbourn's *Communicating Doors* directed by Suzan Lorraine July 22 to August 20

Poopay Dayseer, a twenty-first century Specialist Sexual Consultant, whilst peddling her 'services' to an elderly hotel room client unexpectedly finds herself running for her life. Her flight through a communicating door brings her face-to-face with her own past and Ruella--who apparently died under suspicious circumstances twenty years earlier. Does Poopay's chance meeting and gradual friendship with the remarkable Ruella change the future for both of them--and maybe others? . . . Suzan Lorraine is well known for her work with the Masquers in Point Richmond and the Orinda Starlight Players, and returns to Actors Ensemble (she directed ***Holiday***) to lead us through a time-travel romp of the finest order, framed by Ayckbourn's witty reversal of the rules of time travel – and the battle of the sexes.

John Patrick Shanley's *Doubt: a Parable* directed by Donna Davis October 21 to November 19

"***Doubt*** takes the stuff of headlines and turns it into deeply moving drama." This was Howard Kissel's comment in The Daily News about this play that was the hit of New York's 2005 season.

The search for truth exacts a cost from those who pursue it. Father Flynn's sermon about doubt begets a question in the mind of Sister Aloysius, who then becomes consumed with the need for an answer. Her quest shakes the innocence of Sister James, and threatens the happiness and security of others in her school. John Patrick Shanley's ***Doubt: a Parable*** won a Pulitzer Prize and later earned Oscar nominations for Meryl Streep, Phillip Seymour Hoffman, Amy Adams, and Viola Davis, who played the four leads. Directed by Donna Davis, returning to Actors Ensemble after a long absence, ***Doubt*** is a sophisticated examination of faith, trust, and the ambiguities of truth.

**Season Tickets are Still Only \$45.00
for Four Plays
And Opening Nights are Always 'Gala Nights'**

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Thank You!!