

# SHAKESPEARE SANTA CRUZ

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**SHAKESPEARE SANTA CRUZ ARTISTIC DIRECTOR  
MARCO BARRICELLI ANNOUNCES 2010 SEASON**  
*Shakespeare's Love's Labor's Lost, and Othello to play alongside  
James Goldman's The Lion in Winter*

**SANTA CRUZ, CA** – To follow up his resounding artistic successes of the 2009 season, Shakespeare Santa Cruz Artistic Director Marco Barricelli announces the 2010 season with a slate of three plays exploring themes of love in all of its ramifications.... from first blush, to wrenching jealousy, to familial dysfunction of the highest order. Mr. Barricelli continues to build upon SSC's reputation for producing inventive interpretations of Shakespearean plays while introducing SSC audiences to more contemporary works by American playwrights. In the selection of his third season, Mr. Barricelli states. "It is terribly important to me in building my third season during these economically challenging times that we continue to focus on quality and not take a safe road into theatrical malaise. The boldness of our choices remain paramount; adventuresome offerings that continue to push our capabilities, challenge our audiences, and dig deep into everyone's souls ... these are the markers I used to guide me in selecting this splendid season."

Among the intimate redwoods in the outdoor Sinsheimer-Stanley Glen, SSC will present two contrasting plays by William Shakespeare, the bittersweet, romantic comedy *Love's Labor's Lost* and a masterpiece of revenge, *Othello*. The indoor Theatre Arts Mainstage will be the venue for this drama of personality and political intrigue: *The Lion in Winter* by James Goldman. All three plays will be performed in repertory from July 20 through August 29, 2010. Nothing less than men and women at their best, and worst....

"... when Love speaks, the voice of all the gods  
Make heaven drowsy with the harmony."  
*Love's Labor's Lost*

*Love's Labor's Lost* is Shakespeare's most profoundly Elizabethan comedy, replete with witty debates, dazzling wordplay, and strongly drawn comic characters. This bittersweet romantic, at times hysterically funny, play was written around the time of the playwright's most fecund period (1595), the same year he penned *Richard II*. *Love's Labor's Lost* came to life between the creation of plays like *Taming of the Shrew*, *Romeo and Juliet*, and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Among the

many magnificent speeches in this play is Shakespeare's own treatise on love, spoken by Berowne, arguably the most apt words ever penned to describe this most sublime of human emotions.

The play is set in Navarre, a kingdom evocative of restricted societies devoted to the quest for self-improvement through bookish study. The king's youthfully naive self-imposed command not to allow the distraction of women into the court is all but shattered with the arrival of the Princess of France and her feminine entourage. The men, who had vowed to avoid all women in favor of intellectual pursuits, immediately fall head over heels and begin finding ways to allow the power of love to take its natural prominence over learning and the affairs of state. But the realities of life finally intrude on the revelries, as Shakespeare reminds us of the cyclical nature of death and rebirth.

"I kiss'd thee ere i kill'd thee, no way but this,  
Killing myself, to die upon a kiss."  
*Othello*

Shakespeare has created two masterstrokes with this play: one of his most hateful villains and one of his most poignant tragic heroes. This is a masterpiece of revenge that examines the inner workings of a sick mind with astounding detail and explores how the power of suggestion can transform a perfect love into murderous jealousy. Shakespeare has set Iago's pathological fiendishness against Othello's honesty, love, and integrity. The playwright subverts the racial stereotypes accepted by the audiences of his day to embrace the deception of appearances and the grave danger of assumptions.

*Othello* is unquestionably one of Shakespeare's greatest creations; a towering masterwork sure to set the mind whirling and the pulse racing.

*Henry*, "Give me a little peace.  
*Eleanor*, "A little? Why so modest? How about eternal peace?  
Now there's a thought."

*The Lion in Winter*

The goings-on in *The Lion In Winter* sound as if they should be set in twenty-first century America, rather than 12<sup>th</sup> century Europe: insecure siblings fighting for their parents' attention; bickering spouses who can't stand to be together or apart; adultery and sexual experimentation; the struggle to balance work and family. In this play, replete with some of the most dazzling dialogue ever created for the stage, James Goldman has turned domestic toil into a heightened art form.

Henry II and his wife, Eleanor of Aquitaine, are battling each other mightily to put the son they each see fit on the throne of England. The problem is that they don't agree on which of their three scheming sons it should be. This is the quintessential drama of family strife and competing

ambitions, delivered up with historical and psychological insight, breathtaking language, and delicious biting cleverness.

Subscriptions for the 2010 season of Shakespeare Santa Cruz go on sale in March; single tickets will be available in April. Both the Festival Glen and the Theatre Arts Mainstage are located on the campus of the University of California, Santa Cruz. For more season and ticket information, please visit the SSC web site at <http://www.shakespearesantacruz.org> or call the UCSC Ticket Office at (831) 459-2159.

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SHAKESPEARE SANTA CRUZ  
:30 RADIO/TV PSA  
END DATE: AUGUST 30, 2010

SHAKESPEARE SANTA CRUZ ANNOUNCES ITS TWENTY-NINTH SEASON FEATURING WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S **LOVE'S LABOUR'S LOST** AND **OTHELLO** PERFORMING IN THE OUTDOOR FESTIVAL GLEN, AND JAMES GOLDMAN'S **THE LION IN WINTER** ON THE INDOOR MAINSTAGE. THE SEASON RUNS FROM JULY 20<sup>TH</sup> THROUGH AUGUST 29TH, WITH SUBSCRIPTIONS GOING ON SALE IN MARCH. FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT [SHAKESPEARE-SANTA-CRUZ-DOT-ORG](http://SHAKESPEARE-SANTA-CRUZ-DOT-ORG).