



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Shakespeare Santa Cruz Announces 30th Anniversary Season

Start of three-year history cycle, return of annual holiday musical, and regional transfer distinguishes 2011.

SANTA CRUZ, CA – Today, Shakespeare Santa Cruz (SSC) artistic director Marco Barricelli announced the Company's 30th Anniversary season. In making the announcement, Barricelli said, "To celebrate our first thirty years, I am thrilled to bring back a celebrated production from our past, to embark on a three-year cycle of history plays, and to announce the return of our annual holiday musical co-produced with the UCSC Theater Arts Department. I am also pleased to announce a renewed partnership with Montalvo Arts Center in Saratoga, where SSC last performed in 1992."

SSC's summer season will play July 19 – August 28, and will open with Shakespeare's ***The Comedy of Errors*** directed by **Danny Scheie** in the indoor Mainstage Theater. Scheie was artistic director of SSC from 1993-1995, and currently serves on the faculty of the UCSC Theater Arts Department. In addition, he is a celebrated actor whose most recent credits include *Much Ado About Nothing* at California Shakespeare Theatre and *La Bête*, currently playing at Florida's Asolo Repertory Theatre. According to SSC managing director Marcus Cato, "Danny's production of *The Comedy of Errors* is one of the most popular productions in our history, and really helped establish SSC's reputation for innovative productions of Shakespeare. We produced it in both 1988 and 1993, and I am really excited that our 2011 audience will get to see an updated version of this classic."

The summer season will continue with ***The Three Musketeers*** adapted by Linda Alper, Douglas Langworthy, and Penny Metropulos, based on the novel by Alexandre Dumas, and directed by **Art Manke** (2008's *Bach at Leipzig*). This will be the first production of *The Three Musketeers* by SSC, and will play the Sinsheimer-Stanley Festival Glen. Also playing in the Glen will be Shakespeare's ***Henry IV, Part One***, directed by **Scott Wentworth** (2009's *Love's Labor's Lost*, among other SSC credits). This will mark the start of a three-year cycle of Shakespeare's history plays known as the "Henriad," which will continue in 2012 with *Henry IV, Part Two*, and conclude in 2013 with *Henry V*. Said Barricelli, "The history plays feature some of the most dramatic storytelling in the canon, and I think it will be very exciting for our audience to follow this story over the next three seasons." The summer season will be rounded out by the annual Fringe show, which features SSC's acting interns. The 2011 Fringe show is ***The Brothers Menaechmus*** by Plautus, directed by UCSC Theater Arts faculty member **Patty Gallagher** (2009's *The School for Fiancé(s)*), and will play the Sinsheimer-Stanley Festival Glen.

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After the close of the summer season, SSC's production of *The Comedy of Errors* will transfer to Montalvo Arts Center in Saratoga where it will play an extended run September 9 – 18 in the 1200-seat, outdoor Lillian Fontaine Garden Theatre. SSC and Montalvo Arts Center have a history of collaboration going back twenty years when SSC transferred several productions there during the 1990, '91, and '92 seasons. According to Barricelli, "Renewing our relationship with Montalvo Arts Center is a hugely important development in growing our institution and broadening our reach to audiences outside of Santa Cruz County. This is an exciting first step in what I hope will be a long and very fruitful partnership."

November 19 - 20, SSC will present its second annual benefit performance, *Bard Babes*. Longtime Oregon Shakespeare Festival actor Robin Goodrin Nordli will bring her original, one-woman show to Santa Cruz for two performances that will benefit SSC's education and internship programs. This is after the success of Nordli and Michael Elich's original show *Shakespeare's Labors In Love*, which raised over \$18,000 for SSC programs in 2010.

A Year With Frog and Toad, a co-production with the UCSC Theater Arts Department, will close out the 2011 season November 18 – December 11. *A Year With Frog and Toad* is a family-friendly musical based on the "Frog and Toad" books by Arnold Lobel. The show played 88 performances on Broadway in 2003 and was nominated for three Tony Awards, including Best Musical. The collaboration between SSC and UCSC Theater Arts on a holiday show began in 1997, under former artistic director Paul Whitworth, and continued until 2009 when budget cuts forced a two-year hiatus. "I am really pleased that we can bring the holiday show back this year," said Barricelli. Theater Arts Department Chair David Lee Cuthbert added, "This is a wonderful opportunity for our students to gain experience working with a professional company, and I know it's a tradition loved by the community."

Shakespeare Santa Cruz will hold a 30th Birthday Party on Cooper Street in downtown Santa Cruz on Saturday, April 16 from 1 – 5pm. The event will be free and open to the public. Details are forthcoming.

TICKET INFORMATION

Season tickets (\$70 - \$125) for the 2011 summer season will go on sale March 15. 2010 season ticket holders enjoy a Priority Renewal Period from February 15 – March 14. Single tickets for the summer season (\$33 - \$50) and *Bard Babes* (all tickets \$50) will go on sale May 17, and single tickets for *A Year With Frog and Toad* will go on sale August 9. Discounts are available for youth (under age 18), senior citizens, full-time students, and UCSC staff and faculty. Tickets will be sold through the UCSC Ticket Office at (831) 459-2159, online at shakespearesantacruz.org, or in person at the Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium Ticket Office.

Tickets for *The Comedy of Errors* at Montalvo Arts Center (\$40 – \$60, plus service fees) will be available beginning March 15 at the Montalvo Arts Center ticket office by calling (408) 961-5858 or online at montalvoarts.org. Discounted tickets for 2011 SSC season ticket holders and Montalvo Arts Center members will be available starting February 15.

2011 Season At-a-Glance

The Comedy of Errors

By William Shakespeare • Directed by Danny Scheie
In the Mainstage • July 19 – August 28
At Montalvo Arts Center • September 9 - 18

Featuring two sets of twins separated at birth, mistaken identity, lyrical comedy, and rollicking slapstick, *The Comedy of Errors* is Shakespeare's most popular farce! For our 30th Anniversary, an audience-favorite production from 1988 and 1993 returns, freshly updated and performed by seven actors and a live musician.

The Three Musketeers

Adapted by Linda Alper, Douglas Langworthy, and Penny Metropulos
From the novel by Alexandre Dumas • Directed by Art Manke
In the Glen • July 20 – August 28

"All for one, and one for all!" Follow d'Artagnan's quest to join forces with the Three Musketeers, and battle the blackhearted and malevolent Cardinal of France. Dazzling swordplay, harrowing adventure, and sweeping romance mark this adaptation of the classic novel by Alexandre Dumas, all presented in the dramatic beauty of our outdoor Glen!

Henry IV, Part One

By William Shakespeare • Directed by Scott Wentworth
In the Glen • August 2 – 28

Prince Hal is next in line for the British throne, but while his father, King Henry, is embroiled in an all-or-nothing military battle to save the crown, Hal spends his time in taverns carousing with lowlifes and their ringleader, the pot-bellied and magnetic Sir John Falstaff. Don't miss this electrifying first installment of Shakespeare's "Making of a King" trilogy, which will be continued by SSC in 2012 and 2013!

The Brothers Menaechmus

By Plautus • Directed by Patty Gallagher
In the Glen • August 16 & 23

Often considered the greatest work of the Roman playwright Plautus, *The Brothers Menaechmus* also served as Shakespeare's inspiration for *The Comedy of Errors*. Join us as we shine the spotlight on our acting interns, and enjoy the original tale of hilarious mistaken identity!

Bard Babes

Written and performed by Robin Goodrin Nordli
In the Second Stage • November 19 & 20

In *Bard Babes*, acclaimed actress Robin Goodrin Nordli culminates her experiences of having performed in 50 productions of 28 different plays by William Shakespeare. In this one-of-a-kind revue she gives a humorous, touching and informative look at the pleasures and pitfalls of playing the female side of Shakespeare's canon, from an actor's point of view. *Proceeds from these performances will benefit SSC education and internship programs.*

A Year With Frog and Toad

A co-production with the UCSC Theater Arts Department

Script and Lyrics by Willie Reale • Music by Robert Reale
Based on the books by Arnold Lobel
November 18 – December 11 • In the Mainstage

After a two-year hiatus, our annual holiday musical returns! Based on the beloved "Frog and Toad" books by Arnold Lobel, *A Year With Frog and Toad* follows the story of two great friends as they journey through four, antic-filled seasons. Complete with a jazzy score and live band, this Tony Award-nominated Broadway musical for the whole family is not to be missed!

SHAKESPEARE SANTA CRUZ

Founded in 1981, Shakespeare Santa Cruz is a professional repertory company in residence at the University of California, Santa Cruz. Plays are held indoors on the UCSC Theater Arts Mainstage and outdoors among the redwoods in the Sinsheimer-Stanley Festival Glen, widely regarded as one of the most beautiful settings in which to experience live theatre in the nation. Utilizing professional actors, directors and designers from throughout the country, the Company's season is comprised of three core programs: the summer theatre festival, the Shakespeare to Go touring program, and the annual holiday show (a collaboration with the UCSC Theater Arts Department). The company is led by artistic director Marco Barricelli and managing director Marcus Cato. Visit shakespearesantacruz.org for more information.

UCSC THEATER ARTS DEPARTMENT

The UCSC Theater Arts Department combines drama, dance, critical studies, and theater design/technology offering students an intensive, unified undergraduate program. Combining theory and practice, the program seeks to educate the mind, the body, and the imagination of students. The program stresses the interrelation of dance, drama, and theatrical design and technology as essential to the successful practice of the theater arts in the contemporary world. Visit theater.ucsc.edu for more information.

MONTALVO ARTS CENTER

Montalvo Arts Center is a nonprofit organization dedicated to fostering community engagement through the creation and presentation of multidisciplinary art. By uniting the broadest possible audiences with a global community of artists, Montalvo expands the role of arts and culture as an essential community resource. Located in the Saratoga hills, Montalvo occupies a Mediterranean-style villa on 175 stunning acres, which Senator James Duval Phelan left to the people of California for the encouragement of art, music, literature, and architecture. The organization is also home to the Lucas Artists Programs, which offers facilities and staff supportive of the creative process, state-of-the-art technology and an environment conducive to both individual practice and the energetic exchange of ideas among international and culturally diverse fellows. Visit montalvoarts.org for more information.

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