



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Shakespeare Santa Cruz Announces 2012 Summer Season

New play makes world premiere in Festival Glen.

SANTA CRUZ, CA – Today, Shakespeare Santa Cruz (SSC) artistic director **Marco Barricelli** announced the Company's 2012 summer season, including the premiere of a new play commissioned by SSC. Barricelli said, "I am truly excited about this news and proud to continue the SSC tradition of creating new work that other theatre companies will be able to add to their repertoire. It's another way in which SSC is both serving the local community, as well as leaving an imprint on the regional theatre world."

At the same time, UCSC Arts Division Dean **David Yager** announced a deepened commitment to SSC on the part of UC Santa Cruz. According to Yager, "We have just celebrated the successful 30-year anniversary of Shakespeare Santa Cruz, and the University has dramatically upgraded its long-term support for SSC, which I believe, demonstrates our shared commitment to the future of the program. I am extremely excited about the upcoming season, and I look forward to new collaborations between SSC and the Theater Arts Department for the benefit of our students, faculty, and the community."

SSC's summer season will play July 24 – August 26, and will open with Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* directed by **Marco Barricelli** in the indoor Mainstage Theater. One of Shakespeare's most popular and beloved comedies, *Twelfth Night* was previously produced by SSC in 1986, 1996, and 2005. Barricelli, who will make his SSC directing debut with this production said, "This is one of our most requested titles, and I'm looking forward to presenting this enchanting play indoors. I think the intimacy of the Mainstage Theatre will give our audience a new appreciation for this unique piece."

Opening in the Festival Glen will be the world premiere of *The Man In the Iron Mask*, a new play written by SSC associate artist **Scott Wentworth**, based on the works of Alexandre Dumas. *The Man In the Iron Mask* was commissioned by SSC as the sequel to 2011's highly successful production of *The Three Musketeers*. Wentworth, a leading actor and director at the Stratford Shakespeare Festival in Ontario, adds playwright to his list of SSC credits, which include actor (2009's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Julius Caesar*) and director (2010's *Love's Labor's Lost*, 2011's *Henry IV Part One*). *The Man In the Iron Mask* will be directed by **John Sipes**, who previously directed *Julius Caesar* (2009) at SSC, and is a faculty member at the University of Tennessee and a Company Member of the Clarence Brown Theatre.

Playing in repertory in the Festival Glen will be the SSC debut of *Henry IV, Part Two*, directed by **Scott Wentworth**. This production continues the cycle of history plays begun in 2011 with *Henry IV, Part One*. The

cycle will conclude in 2013 with *Henry V*. "I am really excited to be bringing our audience the continuation of two stories this season," says Barricelli. "I think this provides the opportunity to engage on a deeper level, and come with us on a journey that lasts beyond just one evening or one summer. In particular, I'm thrilled to be producing *Henry IV, Part Two* for the first time ever at SSC." Adds SSC Managing Director Kyle Clausen, "The great thing about these stories is that audience members who were with us last season will revel in watching the stories continue, while new audience members can enjoy the plays with no prior knowledge." The summer season will be rounded out by the annual Fringe show, which features SSC's acting and production interns. The 2012 Fringe show is *The Mandrake* by Niccolo Machiavelli, translated by Wallace Shawn, and will play the Festival Glen.

After the close of the summer season, SSC's production of *Twelfth Night* will transfer to Montalvo Arts Center in Saratoga where it will play September 8 – 16 in the 1200-seat, outdoor Lilian Fontaine Garden Theatre. This continues a partnership with Montalvo Arts Center begun in 2011 when *The Comedy of Errors* transferred for an extended run. "It was thrilling for us to bring the great work we're doing in Santa Cruz to a new audience in Silicon Valley," says Clausen, "The feedback we received from audience members was overwhelmingly in favor of continuing this partnership. We see this as an important avenue for expanding our reach and also diversifying our revenue streams. As we enter year two, we will be looking to increase awareness, financial support, and attendance at the performances in Saratoga." Yager agreed, "We are actively pursuing new corporate and foundation relationships to help ensure the future of Shakespeare Santa Cruz, as well as continuing the partnership with Montalvo Arts Center. With that said, we need your support. Long-term funding from the community will continue to be an essential component of the success of Shakespeare Santa Cruz."

Barricelli will host a season preview event at Bookshop Santa Cruz on Tuesday, June 5, beginning at 7:30pm. The event is free and open to the public. An announcement regarding SSC's annual fall benefit performances and holiday co-production will be made later this spring.

TICKET INFORMATION

Season tickets (\$72 - \$130) for the 2012 summer season will go on sale March 14. 2011 season ticket holders enjoy a Priority Renewal Period from February 14 – March 13. Single tickets (\$15 - \$50) for the summer season go on sale May 15. 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. Groups of 10 or more are eligible for special rates and opportunities, and can reserve tickets beginning February 14 by calling the SSC group sales office at (831) 459-3160. More information and a full calendar of performances can be found at shakespearesantacruz.org

Tickets for *Twelfth Night* at Montalvo Arts Center will be available beginning May 1 at the Montalvo Arts Center ticket office by calling (408) 961-5858 or online at montalvoarts.org.

2012 Season At-a-Glance

Twelfth Night

By William Shakespeare • Directed by Marco Barricelli
July 24 – August 26 • UCSC Mainstage Theater
September 8 - 16 • Montalvo Arts Center (Saratoga, CA)

Shipwrecked on the coast of Illyria, and fearing that her brother has drowned, Viola disguises herself as a man. In short order, she falls in love with the neighboring Duke Orsino – who loves the Lady Olivia – who loves the disguised Viola! Mistaken identity. A hilarious love triangle. The most enchanting of Shakespeare's comedies. It's been seven years since *Twelfth Night* has graced our stage, so don't miss the return of this highly-anticipated masterpiece!

A World Premiere!

The Man in the Iron Mask

By Scott Wentworth • Directed by John Sipes
Based on the works of Alexandre Dumas
July 25 – August 26 • Sinsheimer-Stanley Festival Glen

The Musketeers are back! Only older. Aramis, Porthos, Athos and D'Artagnan, long since retired from their heroic endeavors, reunite in a final pursuit of glory to oust King Louis and replace him with his twin brother, the man in the iron mask. Join the Musketeers for one last mission, filled with fantastic feats, daring adventure, and broad humor. Written by SSC Associate Artist Scott Wentworth, Santa Cruz audiences will be the first to see this world premiere!

Henry IV, Part Two

By William Shakespeare • Directed by Scott Wentworth
August 7 – 26 • Sinsheimer-Stanley Festival Glen

Our old friend Sir John Falstaff returns, in all his bawdy and riotous glory! But while Falstaff is carousing with his degenerate comrades, Prince Hal must prove to his dying father – King Henry – that he has what it takes to become King. In *Henry IV, Part Two*, Shakespeare has given us a profound tale of rebellion, shifting loyalties, and what it means to leave youth behind. . . all the while celebrating that which we hold most dear: life itself.

This second installment in our "Making of a King" trilogy is one of Shakespeare's greatest plays. Don't fret if you missed Part One, each of these chapters stands on its own. And stay tuned for 2013's exciting conclusion to this powerful story!

The Mandrake

By Niccolo Machiavelli
Translated by Wallace Shawn
August 21 & 22 • Sinsheimer-Stanley Festival Glen

Niccolo Machiavelli's 16th century comedy is brought to life for the 21st century by playwright Wallace Shawn. Featuring our talented acting interns, this Fringe Show is full of commedia dell'arte antics, rich characters, and crazy plot twists!

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 Kyle Clausen. Visit shakespearesantacruz.org 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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