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Michael R Cohen
michael@aeofberkeley.org



TEMPLE BETH
HILLEL OF
RICHMOND



ACTORS
ENSEMBLE OF
BERKELEY



MULTI-FAITH
ACTION
COALITION

Actors Ensemble of Berkeley &
Mountain View Cemetery Present
a Staged Reading of

**An Afternoon
With Julia**

An Adaptation of
ARCHES, BALANCE AND LIGHT
by Mary Spletter

September 29 & 30 at 2:00PM
Admission is Free and Open to the Public

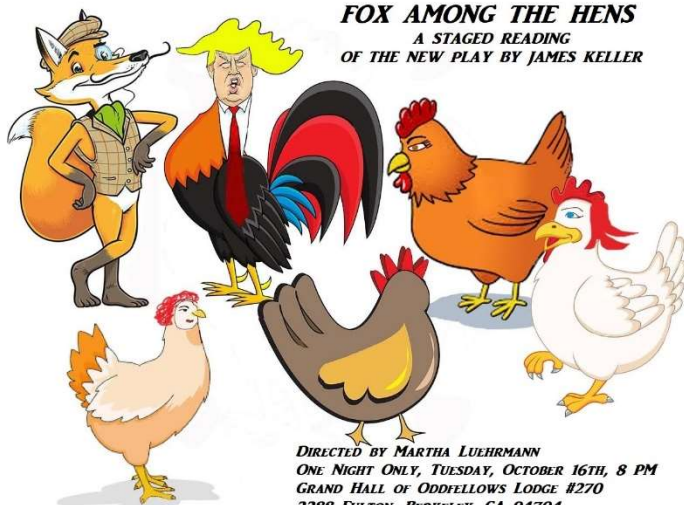


Friends of MOUNTAIN VIEW
CEMETERY

5000 Piedmont Ave,
Oakland, CA 94611

Produced by special arrangement with
Art Age Productions

FOX AMONG THE HENS
A STAGED READING
OF THE NEW PLAY BY JAMES KELLER



DIRECTED BY MARTHA LUEHRMANN
ONE NIGHT ONLY, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16TH, 8 PM
GRAND HALL OF ODDFELLOWS LODGE #270
2288 FULTON, BERKELEY, CA 94704

The Skin of our Teeth by Thornton Wilder
Directed by Michael R. Cohen,
opening January 4th, 2019 at *Live Oak Theatre*



AE thanks **University Cleaners**
1319 University Ave
Berkeley, 94702 (510) 548-1053

A PROUD MEMBER OF
theatre
BAY AREA

The Complete Works of
William Shakespeare
ABRIDGED
AUG 18 to
+LABOR DAY MONDAY SEPT 3
By Long, Singer & Winfield Directed by Crystal Brown

**Saturdays
&
Sundays
4:00pm**

Bringing free
Shakespeare back to
John Hinkel
Park

ACTORS ENSEMBLE
OF
AE
BERKELEY

www.AEofBERKELEY.org
Partially supported by a grant from Berkeley Civic Arts

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

We're so excited to share with you ***The Complete Works of Shakespeare: Abridged!*** It's been a fun and challenging experience expanding this work from its traditional three parts to nine, and I hope you have as much fun watching it as we had rehearsing it!

I suppose I should make a profound, intellectual statement about Shakespeare, about how he's a genius playwright, and single handedly set the bar for Western theatre, but what more insight could I actually add?

Shakespeare definitely spent his time being human. He probably ate too quickly, swore loudly when he stubbed his toe, got the butterflies, burnt his tongue on a hot tea, farted and burped, and hated "that guy". There you go, that's my insight.

I'd like to take some time to thank some folks for their tremendous help in putting together this show. Thank you to our actors for their enthusiasm, and to the board members of the Actors Ensemble of Berkeley for their support. Much much gratitude and thankfulness to Jerome Solberg, Vicki Siegel, and Ayumi Namba for all their hustle and hard working muscle!! Thank you as well to Meryn, Vicki Victoria, Kryss and her daughters, Michael Cohen, Jeff Trescott, and Jesus for their assistance. Finally, thank you audience for your presence, for without which, there would be no show, and we would be sad.

Crystal Brown
August, 2018

Jeanette Sarmiento (Xu Xu) is delighted to return to **AE** where she last appeared in *Blithe Spirit*. Other favorite roles include Frosine (*The Miser*), Amanda Urbane (*The Mystery Plays*) and Costanza (*Enchanted April*). Many thanks to the cast and crew, and to my beloved teachers.

Vicki Siegel (Production, Adaptation) has been a board member of **AE** for many years. **AE** has produced two of her original musicals – *A Hot Day in Ephesus* based on *The Comedy of Errors* and *What Do Women Want: The Marriage of Sir Gawain*. She adapted last year's **AE** production of *The Knight of the Burning Pestle*. Acting credits include Mrs. Candour in *School for Scandal* (15th St. Playhouse), Lady in *Superior Donuts* (Custom Made) and Kate in *The Cripple of Inishmaan* (Masquers). Congrats to this wonderful cast and crew!

Vicki Victoria (Graphic Design) creates graphics, photography and scene painting for various Bay Area theatres. Vicki was last seen in **AE's** *The Protege Of The Mistress* and *The Chalk Circle*. In Sept/Oct she returns to musicals to find her grail in PCT'S *Spamalot*.

Lisa Wang (Kiki) loves to play in John Hinkel Park! Excited to return to the park with Actors Ensemble's annual summer series, Lisa was also seen in past productions at John Hinkel with **AE's** *Pride and Prejudice* and *The Marriage of Figaro*. Other productions this year have included **AE's** *An Enemy of the People*, and CCCT's *The Secret in the Wings*. Lisa also loves improv theatre. She has performed across the nation, and with groups including: BATS Improv, UnScripted, Secret Improv Society, Improv Marin, as well as Hawaii's Improvhi, Kidiotic, On the Spot, and Realprov. Lisa was also a member of the improv group, [The Five Deadly Improvisers](#).

Ian Wilcox (David) was last seen as Horatio/Hamlet in **AE's** *Hamlet*. He trained at AMDA in New York City. He has appeared in Inferno Theatre's *The Tempest*, Theater of Others' *Merchant of Venice*, and will be Sebastian in Ross Valley Players' *Twelfth Night* this Fall.
www.iwilcox.com

Act I is 50 minutes
15 minute intermission
Act II is 45 minutes

2018 Summer Schedule:
John Hinkel Park, 4 pm
August 18th, 19th, 25th, 26th
September 1st, 2nd and 3rd

recently retired from the full-time workaday world...phew! Thanks for supporting community theatre!

Sophia Lanza-Weil (Lala) is pleased to be joining the **AE** family with this production. Previous favorite credits include Emilia in *Desdemona: A Play About a Handkerchief* (The Little Round), and Mercutio in a production of *Romeo + Juliet* directed by the late Paul Ryan Rudd. Off-stage, Sophia plays the role of consultant and community organizer for non-profit social justice organizations. Love and thanks to Des and Osita for being a wonderful, supportive family.

Meryn MacDougall (AD/fight choreographer) is a Bay Area actress that, in addition to fight choreography, works in theatre, film, and voice over. Some of her favorite acting credits include: *King Of The Moon* and *The Fantastiks* with Willows Theatre, *All Wrecked Up* and *Tomorrow's Sound* with Theatre of Yugen, *Twelfth Night* with TheaterCore, and *Pride and Prejudice* with the Oregon Shakespeare Festival. "Thank you to the cast and crew of *Complete Works*. Thank you to my husband and puppy for all the support and love."

www.merynmacdougall.com

Kent Mannis (Kent) began his Bay Area acting career in 1964, playing Squirrel in Hayward Children's Theater production of *Rabbit Who Wanted Red Wings*. After a brief 35-year hiatus from the stage (mostly spent as a lawyer/editor for an Internet info service), he's ecstatic to once again slap on the greasepaint. His performance is dedicated to his beloved kitty Sundy (2002-2018), the bestest cat in the world.

Ayumi Namba (Stage Manager) was born at the South Pole to a Japanese wildlife photographer who mistakenly got on the wrong C130. Having been born into 6 months of perpetual night, she thoroughly enjoys theatre in the afternoon under the light of the sun. She's already SM'd two **AE** shows and ASM'd for both **AE** and TheatreFirst, and is just about to start her senior year of high school, where everything she touches is "lit", whatever that means. *Editors note - Ayumi's secret identity is as the superhero Big Penguin. Whoops, not so secret anymore!*

Meira Perelstein (MeiMei/Victoria Elizabeth) is pleased to be returning to **AE**. She has a B.A. in Theatre Arts from Long Beach State University. Her most recent production was with PCSF at the SF Fringe Festival in *\$wampland*, where she only played four different roles. She has also acted and directed for their 24hr Play Festival and staged readings. At the Shelton Theatre, she played Eunice in *A Streetcar Named Desire*, a production which was nominated for four TBA awards including Best Ensemble. In her spare time, she likes to hang out in her evil volcanic island lair and plot the overthrow of her rival, Big Penguin.

About Actors Ensemble of Berkeley

Actors Ensemble (**AEB**) has been around the block (and just around the corner from you) since 1957, making us the longest-running stage company in Berkeley. Since 1965 we have performed primarily at Live Oak Theatre in North Berkeley. Recently we have also taken the opportunity to bring the magic of theatre to John Hinkel Park, the site of many wonderful performances from the forerunner of Cal Shakes, Shotgun Players, Women's Will, and others over the years. We hope you enjoy the show.

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
Berkeley, California 94701
www.aeofberkeley.org
info@AEofBerkeley.Org



Check out www.AEofBerkeley.Org and subscribe to our email list for

- Staged Readings
- Audition Notices
- Two-for-One Nights and Other Discounts – and More!

Board of Directors

Crystal Brown, Michael R. Cohen, Robert Estes, Jane Goodwin, Bob Gudmundsson, Terry Haley, Martha Luehrmann, Norah Foster, Emmy Pierce, Vicki Siegel, Jerome Solberg, Jeff Trescott, Susannah Wood.

AE Thanks:

Ruth Giron Wong, Katherine Keihn, Vicki Siegel, Jerome Solberg, Nancy Torres and Jeff Trescott for their generous donations in support of our work.

***The Complete Works of William
Shakespeare, Abridged***
by Long, Singer and Winfield
Adapted by Vicki Siegel and Crystal Brown

Cast

In Alphabetical Order

Saskia Bauer.....Cynthia
Patrick Glenn.....Brucewillis
Bruce Kaplan.....Bentley
Sophia Lanza-Weil.....Lala
Kent Mannis.....Kent
Meira Perelstein.....Mei Mei/Victoria Elizabeth
Jeanette Sarmiento.....Xu Xu
Lisa Wang.....Kiki
Ian Wilcox.....David

Staff

DirectorCrystal Brown
Stage ManagerAyumi Namba
Costume Coordinators.....Vicki Siegel and Crystal Brown
Set Design.....Elena Childs
Fight Choreographer.....Meryn MacDougall
Props.....Jerome Solberg, Vicki Siegel, Crystal Brown
...Kryss Thalia, Autumn Cote, Michael R. Cohen, and the cast
Producer & Publicity & Program.....Jerome Solberg
Co-Producer.....Michael R. Cohen
Technical Direction/Hot Dog Coordinator.....Bob Gudmundsson
Concessions Coordinator.....Michael R. Cohen
Graphic DesignVicki Victoria
Photography.....Anna Kaminska
Front of House Assistance.....Pierre Robinson & Pierre Jr.

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Denise Brown and Terri Vargas of the City of Berkeley,
Michelle Dellatre and Curtain Theatre of Marin, Jo Lusk and
Masquers of Point Richmond, Mercedes Baca and Jesus of
The Old Finnish Hall, Daniel Tom and Hanson & Fitch, and
Magali Sainfeld and Haulaway Storage.

Cast and Crew Biographies

In Alphabetical Order

Born and raised in Los Angeles, **Saskia Baur** (Cynthia) has had the pleasure of performing in such diverse roles as First Witch in *Macbeth* with Shakespeare in the Cannery to Karen Weston in the Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle Award winning production of *August: Osage County* at 6th Street Playhouse. She was most recently seen as Agatha in *The Children's Hour* at Ross Valley Players directed by Neiry Rojo.

Crystal Brown (Director) is so excited to share ***The Complete Works of Shakespeare: Abridged!*** This is her second directing opportunity with the Actors Ensemble of Berkeley. When Crystal is not directing adult theatre, she's usually directing children's musicals and teaching devised theatre to her students at Brandeis of San Francisco. Crystal is also an actress, and was nominated for a TBA Award in 2016 for her role as Sister Mary Leo in *Nunsense* with Altarena Playhouse. As an actress, Crystal has worked in London and Vienna performing with various ensembles including the Actor's Ensemble at the Royal Opera House, Misrule Theatre, and Opera Erratica. She has sung with a variety of musical groups in genres ranging from classical to reggae, funk, and jazz. She received her MA in Music theatre from the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama, and is an active board member of Actors Ensemble of Berkeley.

Elena Childs (Set Design) received an MFA in Scene Design from SFSU in 2010, but had been in a self-imposed exile from theatre for more than a handful of years. Because of an (un?)fortuitous event and a gain of a tremendously long "vacation" last year, she returned to the welcoming arms of theatre. She designed the set for **AE's** *Enemy of the People* at Berkeley's Live Oak Theatre earlier this year, and both of last summer's outdoor productions in John Hinkel Park. She wishes to give many thanks and much love to her partner of 10 years, her Sweetness, for lots of patience and assistance.

*Editor's note: **Patrick Glenn** (Brucewillis) couldn't be bothered to write his bio blurb so we asked his mother to write it instead: Patrick has acted with those nice Berkeley people several times, including *The Marriage of Figaro* as the evil Count, and in *Fortinbras* as Fortinbras. He's a handsome and smart boy but he doesn't call his mother enough and he should keep his car cleaner.*

Bruce Kaplan (Bentley, other roles) is delighted to be back in the friendly wilds of John Hinkel Park, where he played one of his bucket-list roles in 2016 as Malvolio in *Twelfth Night*. He's done many shows with **AE**, including *An Enemy of the People* earlier this year, and his very first show ever in 2001. Other favorite roles have been Robert in *Proof* and Candy in *Of Mice and Men*. Bruce has