

**HARD BARD™**

THREE WEEKS ONLY!

# CARDENIO

A Very Grave Love Story  
by Shakespeare...

with a little help from his friends. His dead friends  
directed by TONY DRISCOLL

NOVEMBER 2-17

THURS-SUN 7:30 PM

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GREENSTAGE.ORG

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**WARNING:** Contains material that some people may find objectionable. Apparently we don't. Probably not appropriate for children, but hey, they're your kids. There will be blood, the front row (at least) is a splash zone. Don't say we didn't warn you.





## Director's Note



In the past "Hard Bard" installments we have taken plays that, for lack of a better term, have been considered 'revenge tragedies', and by adding a couple of extra gallons of blood, turned them into, for lack of a better term, 'comedies'. Cardenio is different. Based on characters from Cervantes "Don Quixote", Cardenio reads much more like one of Shakespeare's later romances. Think *Cymbeline* with a ghoulish twist.

There are various reasons why it was not included in Shakespeare's Complete Works. Many scholars don't believe he could have/would have written such a play. After repeated readings, I'm convinced he's in there somewhere. Perhaps a collaboration with Fletcher or Middleton. Who cares? I'm no scholar, nor have I ever claimed to be an expert at anything. All I know is that this is the play that GreenStage has chosen for their "Hard Bard" program this year, and that I am the one honored with the task of bringing it to life, or perhaps putting it to death. Encasing it in a tomb so thick with blood that no one dares to unearth it again.

If you enjoy the show{and we sincerely hope you do}, please tell your friends. If you do not enjoy the show, please feel free to tell your enemies. In fact, tell them to sit in the front row and wear white. We at GreenStage and this amazing and talented cast and crew will do our best to make them all feel a part of something very special.

*Love and Kisses,  
Tony Driscoll*

## Synopsis

The play opens as the Tyrant has completed a bloody and successful overthrow of Govianus' throne. The Tyrant quickly announces that he has chosen Govianus' fiancée, the Lady, as his queen. Govianus is more distressed with the loss of his love than the loss of his kingdom. However, the Lady refuses the Tyrant, despite pressure from her father, Helvetius. Govianus and his Lady are placed under house arrest while the Tyrant plots other ways to win her hand.

Meanwhile in the house of Anselmus, Govianus' brother questions whether his wife is really true. To test her fidelity, Anselmus asks his best friend, Votarius, to attempt to woo her. Anselmus' Wife soon falls for Votarius and recruits her serving woman, Leonella, to help her hide her affair. Unfortunately, Leonella's lover, Bellarius, is sworn enemy of Votarius, so Leonella easily backstabs her cheating mistress.



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# HARD BARD CARDENIO

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directed by TONY DRISCOLL

## CAST (in alphabetical order)

Aaron H.R. Allshouse	Tyrant
Meredith Armstrong	Leonella
Geb Brown	Bellarius
Anthony Duckett	Anselmus
Matthew Gilbert	Govianus (Cardenio)
Julia Griffin	Blood wench
William Li	Memphonius
Tyler Lockwood	Votarius
Mark A. McQuinn	Musician/ensemble
Amelia Meckler	Wife
Michael Ramquist	Helvetius
Eli Sklov Simons	Sophonirus
Nicole Vernon	Lady

## Production Team

Stacey Hansen	Stage Manager
Janessa Jayne Styck	Costume Designer
Peter Frost	Set Designer
Megan Gott	Lighting Designer
Hannah Lemberg	Lighting Design Assistant
Max Pagel	Properties Designer
Julia Griffin	Effects Designer
Ryan Spickard	Fight Director
James W. Enns	Blood Wrangler
Annie Rose Hughes	Light Board Operator
Chris Garland	Sound Board Operator
Emily Stranski	Wardrobe Manager
Mary Nelson Brown	House Manager
Michelle Rodriguez	Production Manager

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# **HARD BARD** **CARDENIO** A Very Grave Love Story

## About the actors



**Aaron H.R. Allshouse**

Tyrant  
Enjoy the show!



**Meredith Armstrong**

Leonella  
Meredith is thrilled to be making her third Hard Bard appearance, and this time (spoiler alert) she actually gets to die! Favorite past credits include Elmire (*Tartuffe*, SecondStory Rep), Catherine (*Proof*, Renton Civic Theatre), Mercutio (All-female *Romeo & Juliet*, Hose & Britches), and of course the Duchess and Witch 2 ("Hard Bard" *The Revenger's Tragedy* and *Macbeth*, GreenStage). She holds a BA in theatre from Western Washington University and studied with the National Shakespeare Conservatory in New York. Outside of the theatre, Meredith is a writer (as Maia Strong) and a bellydancer with The Fuzzy Monkeys with aspirations as an aerialist. Thanks to Tony for the chance to get bloody! Love to Erik, Astrid, and Gunnar!



**Geb Brown**

Bellarius  
Geb Brown is absolutely hemorrhaging excitement at being part of the bloody good fun that is *Cardenio*. Geb was most recently seen this summer in GreenStage's *Henry VIII*. Other recent roles include Butch Honeywell in *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot* (Ghost Light Theatricals) and GL Mitchell in *Riding The Bull* (New Amerikan Theatre) He can also be heard in the latest expansion for NCSoft's popular game Aion, Aion: Ascension, voicing a multitude of characters. Geb wants to thank his amazing and talented fiancée Alysha for all her support.



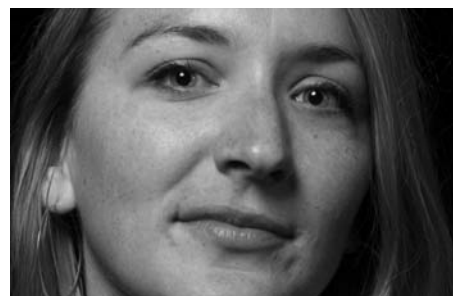
**Anthony Duckett**

Anselmus  
Anthony is excited and delighted to return to the parks, ahem, stage after collaborating with GreenStage as Arthur in *King John* and Trinculo in *The Tempest*. Recently, Anthony performed with Open Circle Theatre in *Arcana* and the *Eat My Shorts* short play festival. Other recent credits include Cain in *Creation of the World and Other Business* at Theater Schmeater, and Nelson in *End Days* at Seattle Public Theater. He has also been seen locally on the stages of Book-It Repertory Theater, Second Story Rep, Theater Simple, ACT, Stone Soup Theater, Eclectic Theater, and more. Anthony is a 2008 Cornish grad and loves bowling, shower singing and general mischief.



**Matthew Gilbert**

Govianus (*Cardenio*)  
Matthew is thrilled to be in this show with such a wonderful cast! He was last seen in Seattle Shakespeare Company's Wooden O production of *Twelfth Night* as Sebastian. Since Graduating with a BA from The London Academy for Musical and Dramatic Arts in 2007, Matthew performed with companies such as Stone Soup Theatre, Second Story Rep, Wooden O, and of course GreenStage. He would like to say thank you to his friends and family for their love and support through his theater adventures! Enjoy the Blood!!!



**Julia Griffin**

Blood Wench / Effects Design  
Julia is very grateful to be back in the bloody business of GreenStage's Hard Bard. *Cardenio* will mark Julia's third HardBard, after designing the effects for *Revenger's Tragedy* and *Macbeth* as well as gracing the stage as Macker's blood wench. When she is not elbow deep in gorey goodness, she serves as Theater Schmeater's Casting Director and one of the Artistic Associates. Much thanks to the lovely people of GreenStage for asking her back for another bloody adventure and huge thanks and appreciation her Theater Schmeater family.



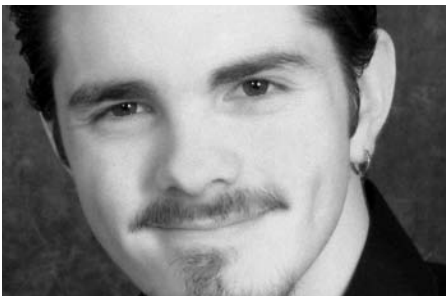
## About the actors



### William Li

Memphonus

William has been eager to take part in his first GreenStage production. A University of Washington graduate, he has played in the School of Drama's productions of *A U Dubber Night's Dream* and *Rough Magic*. He has appeared most recently in Seattle Experimental Theater's improvised long form shows *Where No Man Has Gone Before* and *The Journal*, as well as Sound Theatre Company's *The Illusion*. In December, he can be seen in Wing-It Production's *It's Your Wonderful Life*, an improvised Christmas story.



### Tyler Lockwood

Votarius

Tyler is the resident Leprechaun of Seattle, as well as an actor having appeared most recently in last year's Hard Bard production of *The Revengers Tragedy*. Past favorite roles include Puck in *Midsummer Night's Dream*, Hedda Gabler's Judge Brack, and the crazed Dentist from *Little Shop of Horrors* Dr. Orin Scrivella, DDS. He also wanted you to know that if you go looking for his gold, you will end up cursed. So ... don't.



### Mark A. McQuinn

Musician/ensemble

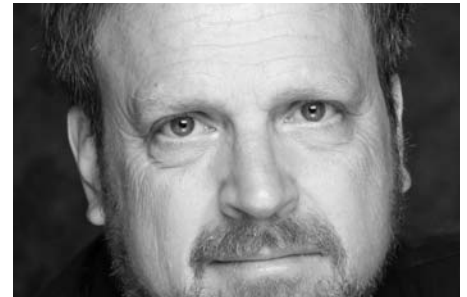
Mark A McQuinn has been playing with and/or for GreenStage since sometime last century, and isn't tired of it yet. He has felt privileged to be in this show, in this cast, and working with this director (again). He thanks and credits/blames his wife Alison for allowing him to dedicate his life to increasingly eccentric and ridiculous forms of goofing off. And the occasional bit of theatre. Enjoy the show!



### Amelia Meckler

Wife

Amelia began working with GreenStage as a Stage Manager for *Richard II* ('98). With GreenStage: HARD BARD appearances as Lady Macbeth and the original Blood Wench along with summer performances as Elizabeth *Richard III*, Katarina *Taming of the Shrew*, Ulysses *Troilus & Cressida*; non Shakespearean forays as Honey ... *Virginia Woolf?* and Maxine *Night of the Iguana*. She has directed three times for GreenStage and for Theater Schmeater. Amelia spent time on the GreenStage Board of Directors as President and Treasurer, as staff Communications Director and is currently the Company Manager. She has also worked with other Seattle theaters such as Theater Schmeater, Balagan, Macha Monkey and others. Love to Dad for always being supportive. Amelia believes live theater is a vital part of community and the human condition. Go see a play.



### Michael Ramquist

Helvetius

*Cardenio* is Michael's third production with GreenStage and he is sooo happy to be working with this wonderful family of artists again! Michael is also excited to be preparing for the role of Brutus in a contemporary web-based adaptation of *Julius Caesar* and *Anthony and Cleopatra* called *Cleanthony and The Caesars*. The projected 20 part film-noir style series is being produced by Inside Out Shakespeare based in Tacoma. Expect to see a few familiar faces and many local places! Michael wishes to thank everyone in the GreenStage family for making the sacrifices necessary for us all to be here tonight. Enjoy the show!



### Eli Sklov Simons

Sophonirus

Since joining this group in 1992, Eli is proud to have acted in over twenty GreenStage productions, often making music as well. Favorite roles include, Feste (1992); Peter Quince (1993/1994); Pandarus (2001); Hortensio (2002); Pistol/Britaine (2005); Frair Laurence (2010) and most recently as Thomas Cranmer in *Henry VIII*, directed by Theresa Thuman, this last summer. Thank you so much to our awesome Director, Tony Driscoll, our amazing (and hardworking) cast and crew, you, our lovely audience, and my friends and family. Especially you Mom and Dad!

## About the actors



**Nicole Vernon**

Lady

Nicole chooses gluttony as the vice characteristic of her nosedive into her third *Hard Bard*. Last seen wielding a bat in *The Revenger's Tragedy*, other GreenStage credits include *As You Like It* (Celia), *Hard Bard Titus Andronicus* (Lavinia), and *Twelfth Night* (Viola)-both the "Tiny" and full sized version. You may occasionally find her sporting an attractively fluffy pair of bloomers with *The Eclectic Cloggers*. Love to Mr. Waffles. Oh, yeah, and Erik. And all of you!

## About the production team

### **Tony Driscoll**

Director

Tony is one of the founding members of GreenStage. With them he has directed numerous shows including *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Twelfth Night*, *Love's Labours Lost*, *Richard II*, *Richard III*, *Winters Tale*, *Cymbeline*, and the original "Hard Bard" production of *Titus Andronicus*. He has also performed with such diverse groups as *The Washingtonians*, *The Purdins*, *Brain Wizard*, and *Uncle Ned's Family-Style Petting Zoo*. To support his theatre habits he has done everything from singing telegrams to commercial fishing in Alaska. His greatest accomplishment however is and always will be his amazing son, Emmett Anthony "The Imperial One" "Doomsday" Driscoll. Love to Erin.

### **Stacey Hansen**

Stage Manager

Stacey is bloody well excited to be working on her first production with GreenStage with such a brainy and fun cast and crew. Previous favorites include *Mystery of Edwin Drood*, *Noises Off*, and *Wizard of Oz*, as well as recent works with *Lucia Neare's Theatrical Wonders*. Big love and much gratitude to her leading man, MGM.

### **Janessa Jayne Styck**

Costume Designer

Janessa Jayne Styck is a midwest native and graduate of Illinois Wesleyan University in Bloomington, Illinois. Since her relocation to Seattle in 2007, Janessa has been privileged to design for such theatre companies as *Book-It Repertory Theatre*, *Seattle Musical Theatre*, *GreenStage*, *Wooden O*, and *Youth Theatre Northwest*. In January of 2010 she was honored to have her design for GreenStage's summer production of *Comedy of Errors* named Best Costumes of 2009 by the West Seattle Weisenheimer arts blog. Early

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## About the production team

2010 also saw Janessa's first venture into costuming for the big screen. *Wolfsbane*, a short steampunk film, was exhibited at the 2011 Seattle True Independent Film Festival (STIFF). Janessa was flattered to be chosen as the People's Choice Nominee for the 2011 Gregory Award of Outstanding Costume Designer. A long time lover of Halloween, Janessa is excited to be back for her third Hard Bard show

### **Peter Frost**

Scenic Designer

Peter Frost feels so privileged to be working once more with this fantastic, dedicated, and talented cast and crew. Peter is a local scenic designer whose work has been seen at Village Theatre KIDSTAGE, Seattle Public Theatre, Annex Theatre, Theatre Schmeatre, and Gesamtkunstwerk. Peter is a graduate of the University of Puget Sound with a BA in theatre arts.

### **Hannah Lemberg**

Lighting Design Assistant

Hannah is assisting with lighting design for *Cardenio*, her first GreenStage production. She has worked with North Seattle Community College's Theater (stage manager and lighting designer), San Francisco's Cutting Ball Theater (assistant stage manager), and has taught through the education department of ACT and San Francisco Shakespeare Festival. She holds an MA from the Shakespeare Institute, UK, and is excited to be working on one of the period's bloody, lesser-known plays.

### **Max Pagel**

Properties Designer

Max Pagel is very excited to be working with GreenStage for the first time. Having recently found his love for properties design, through work at Seattle Public Theatre he is happy to continue working on something he loves.

### **Julia Griffin**

Effects Designer / Blood Wench

See cast bios.

### **James W. Enns**

Blood Wrangler

James is thankful to be involved in another GreenStage production. In previous seasons he has functioned as house manager and substitute stage manager for *Twelfth Night*, house manager for *The Comedy of Errors*, stage manager for *King Henry VIII* and assistant stage manager/blood wrangler for the Hard Bard production of *The Revenger's Tragedy*. He is a recent graduate of Western Washington University where he studied History and Political Science with an emphasis in International Relations. He would like to thank his family and friends for supporting him throughout the years. Go see a play!

### **Annie Rose Hughes**

Light Board Operator

Annie is pleased to work with GreenStage once again. You might have seen her in their productions of *Romeo and Juliet* as Mercutio, or Lennox in *Hard Bard Macbeth*. She is happy to help light their way this year!

### **Mary Nelson Brown**

House Manager

Mary wrote this bio 'cause Ken Holmes badgered her to do it. She loves to write, but hates referring to herself in the third-person and otherwise approaches the task with trepidation. Now in her third year as House Manager for GreenStage's Hard Bard production, Mary is seriously wondering whether anyone seeing this show would actually ever think to themselves, "Ya know, Shakespeare's the best! These actors are great, I love all the blood, the director and crew get major props, BUT! WHO exactly is sending me those reminder emails, brewing the nightly coffee and purchasing those gluten-free protein bars?" Sure. Anyway, you'll find Mary somewhere around the lobby; she's the cheerful-but-confused one who looks like she might be doing something useful.

### **Michelle Rodriguez**

Production Manager

This is Michelle's first time working with GreenStage as a production manager and first time working on their Hard Bard show, though she has spent three

summers with them stage managing for their park shows. She received her BA in theatre at the University of Southern California, but she fled the sunlight and returned to Seattle, where the rain washes her car so she doesn't have to. Michelle spends most of her time behind the scenes stage managing and has worked locally for such companies as Burien Little Theatre, Centerstage Theatre Arts Conservatory, SecondStory Repertory, and ReAct. She is also a production manager at Burien Little Theatre and is currently stage managing their production of *A Tuna Christmas*. Enjoy the blood bath!

### **Erin Day**

Artistic Director

In 1994 Erin moved to Seattle, and was cast as Thaisa in GreenStage's *Pericles*. That experience; the intimate relationship of actor, text, audience and the elements brought her back to the company again and again. She has performed with GreenStage in numerous productions, both indoors and out, as well as Seattle Public Theatre, Theatre Babylon, One World Theatre, Seattle Fringe Festival, The Washingtonians!, and most recently joined the company of The Midnight Mystery Theatre. It has been her honor to witness and be part of GreenStage's 24th season. Thank you and see you next summer.

### **Ken Holmes**

Managing Director

This fall marks Ken's 20th year working with GreenStage. In that time with the company he has acted in many shows, directed a few, built props, sewn costumes, designed sets, counted money, checked the mail, and various other tasks. Ken also works at other theaters now and then, and was most recently seen in Sound Theatre Company's production of *The Foreigner*. When not working on GreenStage or other theatre projects, Ken works as a graphic designer and photographer, and stay-at-home dad. He thanks his lovely wife Lisa for putting up with his theatrical antics. Enjoy the show!

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