

GREENSTAGE

Shakespeare in the Park

TIMON of ATHENS

by william shakespeare
directed by ken holmes

all shows @ 8:00 P.M.

Volunteer Park

July 9 & 10

Gasworks Park

July 16 & 17,

Lincoln Park

July 23, 24, 30, 31,

Aug 6 & 7

Gasworks Park

Aug 13 & 14

Seward Park

Aug 20 & 21

Volunteer Park

Aug 27, 28,

Sept 3, 4 & 5



206.748.1551 ♦ www.greenstage.org

Director's Notes

Timon is an amazing play for many reasons. It is generally accepted to be an unfinished play and was included in the Shakespeare folio of 1623 due to sheer luck. There were copyright problems with *Troilus and Cresida*, and Timon was the eleventh hour replacement. It was never performed in Shakespeare's lifetime and wasn't performed as is until the early 1800s.

But it is much more than just a nearly forgotten rough draft. The theatrical structure is excellent, the action is fast paced and the characters are rich and vibrant. About all that is needed in the script is a final clean up of line headings and stage directions. Inconsistencies that directors will usually ignore anyway.

We are going against tradition by casting a woman in the role of Timon, but I think this works well given there are very few gender specific roles in the play. There is also a large quantity of talented female actors in Seattle and it would be a shame to keep them out of the play due to tradition. I believe strongly in keeping Shakespeare's plays intact and not burdening them with concepts, and I feel this approach will not detract from the story or Shakespeare's text.

The play is set in a vague middle eastern place and time. I wanted a lavish look and feel to the show to contrast Timon's wealth in the first half with his (her) misanthropy in the second half. (It also allows us to have the feast scene on the ground, instead of having to drag tables and chairs all over the parks.)

Synopsis

The play opens at the house of Lord Timon, a gracious Athenian who never hesitates to help out those in need. Hearing that a friend has been jailed for being in debt, Timon pays the debt. Learning that one of his servants wants to marry but is short of money, Timon loans it to him. At about this time the ill-tempered philosopher Apemantus shows up who rails at Timon for his excessive generosity and his inability to see the true nature of the flatterers around him.

Flavius, Timon's steward, informs his master that the coffers are empty and of his imminent financial ruin. Even now Timon doesn't worry. He has plenty of friends, most of whom he'd helped in the past. He sends out his own servants to collect on old dues from his friends. But every last "friend" turns his back on Timon.

Timon then invites his "friends" to another banquet. Thanking them for their sympathetic remarks about his plight, he bids them eat. They uncover the dishes and are astonished to find bowls containing nothing but water, which Timon throws in their faces and drives them from his home.

Destitute and embittered, Timon departs into the forest while loyal Flavius gives the other servants the last of his own money and sends them sadly on their way.

While in the woods, Timon is visited by several Athenians, who he curses and chases away. When the Senators of Athens come to visit, pleading for Timon to return to Athens to lead them against the invading army of Alcibiades, Timon is almost swayed until he sees through their mock sincerity. Timon offers no help and leaves the Senators to their own devices in the war.

At the end of the play Alcibiades invades Athens, but to avoid slaughter, the Senators plead with him to enter peacefully. News comes of Timon's death and Alcibiades takes the Senate's offer and enters Athens as their new leader.

TIMON OF ATHENS

Cast

Timon of Athens - A wealthy Lord	Erin Day
Flavius - steward to Timon	Linda Lombardi
Apemantus - a churlish philosopher	David J. Dodge
Alcibiades - an Athenian Captain	Stephen Loch
Lucullus / ensemble - a flattering lord	Amelia Meckler
Lucius / ensemble - a flattering lord	Eli Simons
Sempronius / ensemble - a flattering lord	David Nochimson
Flaminius / ensemble - servant to Timon	Mark McQuinn
A Poet / ensemble	Tara Jensen
A Painter / ensemble	Barzin Akhavan
A Jeweler / ensemble	Ellen Dessler
A Merchant / ensemble	Rachel Horner

Various servants, strangers, bandits, senators, amazons, a fool and an old Athenian played by the ensemble.

Production Staff

Director	Ken Holmes
Stage Managers	Mike Berry
Costumes	Angie Stutting
Props	Laura Garcia Tony Driscoll
Choreography	Anna Maria Gutierrez
Music	Mark McQuinn
Production Manager	Linda Lombardi

Timon of Athens Biographies

Barzin Akhavan (Painter/Ensemble) is proud to be making his GreenStage debut in this production of *Timon of Athens*. A recent graduate of Western Washington University, he lavished many roles and productions he was involved in. His favorites include Jerry in *Betrayal* and Caliban in *The Tempest*. Barzin would like to give “much love” to the cast, Alycia, mom, dad, and especially Ken for giving him the opportunity to get away from his wretched day job.

Mike Berry (Stage Manager) A native of Humboldt County California, Mike has appeared in productions of *Grease* as Danny Zuko and *Frankenstein* as the Creature. He has also been seen in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* and *Jesus Christ Superstar* at Ferndale Repertory Theater. This is his first experience working behind the scenes. Thanks to Anjeli because nothing ventured is nothing gained. Special thanks to John for new-found inspiration. No thanks to Mark for taking him from us all.

Erin Day (Timon) There are few things Erin loves as much as Shakespeare, however, two things that come to mind are playing in the parks and the fine folks of GreenStage. In addition to five seasons with GreenStage, she has worked with Alice B., Theatre Babylon, and in the Seattle Fringe Festival, as well as being a proud member of The Washingtonians. Erin would like to dedicate this show to her mom and dad who saved her from “Timon’s cave” by instilling in her the firm belief that unconditional love shall ultimately prevail. Many thanks to all of you - enjoy the show.

Ellen Dessler (Caphis/Ensemble) This is Ellen’s first full blown Shakespearean production, but not the first time she’s played a gypsy whore (Deafira in Jeff Resta’s *Pirates of Lesbos* and Bianca in Paula Vogel’s *Desdemona*). A graduate of the University of Washington, Ellen has worked with New York’s Circle in the Square in their workshop program as well as Princess Tours, Alaska as saloon showgirl, Molly Fewclothes. Seattle audiences might recognize her as Officer Friendly from *Little Boy Goes to Hell: the Epic Rock Fable* (now available on CD!) and as Counselor Troi in *Star Trek: The Musical*. Other shows include *The Nerd*, *How I Learned to Drive* and *The Heidi Chronicles*.

David J. Dodge (Apemantus) This is David’s thirteenth Shakespearean adventure that he has undertaken with the wonderful world of GreenStage. He was last seen portraying King Richard in their production of *Richard II*. Other roles with the company include Lysander in *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, Costard in *Love’s Labor’s Lost*, and Belarius in *Cymbeline*.

Laura Garcia (Props) I am very excited to be working with GreenStage again this summer (outdoors is my favorite way to see Shakespeare). *Timon* is a very special play, with a wonderful group of actors and as always I’m proud to be a part of “this thing they call GreenStage”. It’s great to be working with Mark, Erin, Dave and Linda again and Ken as director since he gave me my first shot at Stage Managing last summer’s show *The Two Noble Kinsmen*. Special thanks to my three beautiful daughters (hugs & kisses!) who always support me in my

endeavors, and Love to Joe (my rock) & Mom for helping me when I need them. Budaih No Bas!

Anna Maria Gutierrez (Choreographer) Anna Maria greatly enjoys creating diverse dances for GreenStage as well as working with such a charming and gifted cast. She staged a Morris dance in last summer's *The Two Noble Kinsmen*, and a Flamenco dance in the summer '97 production of *Love's Labour's Lost*. This year she hopes that you, the audience, will enjoy our Dance of the Amazons. By the way, Anna Maria is a ballet dancer, so GreenStage gives her the golden opportunity to break all the ballet rules.

Ken Holmes (Director) has been working with GreenStage since 1993. Most of his participation has been on the stage, acting in fourteen of the seventeen productions that have taken place since he joined the company, and directing two. Favorite GreenStage roles include Jaques in *As You Like It*, Aaron in *Titus Andronicus*, Cloten in *Cymbeline*, and Bottom in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. He has also been seen in *Under Milkwood* at Centerstage and as Albany in Stepping Stone's production of *King Lear*. Ken is also a proud member of the Washingtonians.

Rachel Hornor (Servilius/Ensemble) *Timon of Athens* marks Rachel's debut with GreenStage. As both musician and actor, Rachel has performed in a wide variety of shows including *Oleanna*, *Measure for Measure*, *The Fantasticks*, *The Fiddler On The Roof*, and *Damn Yankees*. Most recently, Rachel appeared in *Something's Afoot* with the Burien Little Theatre and *The Pirates of Penzance* with the Seattle Gilbert and Sullivan Society. Rachel received her B.A. in Acting from Whitworth College. Rachel has sung with both The Dickens Carolers and the Seattle Symphony Chorale and frequently performs with the Taproot Theatre Company's Nightcap Comedy Improv.

Tara Jensen (Poet/Ensemble) This is her first production with GreenStage and says the experience has been...whelming. She was last seen as Rita in *Prelude to a Kiss* with the Driftwood Players. When not performing she juggles books for the Edmonds School District.

Stephen Loch (Alcibiades) graduated from Binghamton University in 1997, capping his academic career there as Dogberry in *Much Ado About Nothing* and playing various roles in *The Learned Ladies* at Cidermill Playhouse (Endicott, NY). Stephen presently lives and works in Seattle where he has appeared as Solanio in *The Merchant of Venice*, Bagot in *Richard II* (GreenStage) and in *Balance*; an original production presented at this year's Seattle Fringe Festival. Most recently he played Mr. Mell in the Cidermill's *The Play's the Thing* for which he was named Best Supporting Actor of the Season by the local press.

Linda Lombardi (Flavius) *Timon of Athens* marks Linda's one-year anniversary with GreenStage and although there have been times when she's wanted to run away, she is very proud to work with such a passionate, dedicated and intelligent group of artists. Shows with the company include *The Two Noble Kinsmen*, *Richard II*, and *The Bind* in this year's Fringe Festival. She can also be

seen in this summer's production of *The Comedy of Errors*. She is a member of the Board of Directors; serving as Production Manager. Linda is a graduate of Hofstra University where she was seen as Thaisa/Diana in *Pericles*, Fleance in *Macbeth*, The Wigmaker in *Rashomon*, and as the title role in *Miss Julie*. Thanks to Ken for giving her this chance but this one's for Royston for being a true friend and inspiration. Enjoy the show and, as always, Nolite te bastardes carborundum!

Mark A. McQuinn (Flaminius/Ensemble) Mark was recruited by GreenStage as a tin whistle player (because he did not know that musicians do not work for free). When it was noted that Mark could memorize, recite, and rant pretty well, he was given lines. He most recently ranted in GreenStage's Fringe Theatre production of *The Root of Chaos*. He has never been a porn star.

Amelia Meckler (Lucullus/Ensemble) is excited to rejoin GreenStage, but more excited to be in front of the audience this time. A graduate of Hofstra University in NY, Amelia moved to Seattle in '97 and is finding it agrees with her. Previous roles include Diana in *Absent Friends*, Clytemnestra in *Iphigenia*, and Gert in *The SeaHorse*. Special thanks to all the new friends here in Seattle (and Linda) and to family who probably won't get to see this, but offer the best support. "The unexamined life is not worth living."

David Nochimson (Sempronius/Ensemble) David most recently appeared as Dale Harding in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* at the late, lamented Belltown Theatre Center. Other notable performances include Bruce in *Marie and Bruce* at Odd Duck Studio, Mr. Brown (who can moo!) in *Swimming in Seuss* at the Union Garage, Valerio in *Leonce and Lena* at AHA! Theatre, and Frank in *Kvetch* at New Mercury Theatre. He is pleased to be spending the summer under the sun and stars with these fine people.

Eli Sklov Simons (Lucius/Ensemble) Eli loves his family, his two elderly cats and Tim's Chips.

Angie Stutting (Costumes) Angie is pleased to be making her first foray into theatre with GreenStage and the cast and crew of *Timon of Athens*. She is extremely grateful for everyone's advice and help and would like to thank Ken for giving a weaver her first shot at costuming.

GREENSTAGE

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GREENSTAGE

Coming attractions

Fall 1999

VOLPONE (or the fox)
by Ben Jonson

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October 29 - November 20

Fri & Sat @ 8 • Sun @ 7 • Thur Nov 18 @ 8

PAY WHAT YOU CAN

tell the world that Tom Smith is a Rock Star, Lisa is a Goddess, and send her best wishes to Paul and Anastasia.

Tom Smith (Director) has worked as a freelance director for almost ten years, directing locally at Theater Schmeater and Tacoma Little Theater, and nationally at American Southwest Theater Company, Lyric Opera of Kansas City, and The Kennedy Center. Tom recently won a Seattle Footlight Award for his direction of *The House of Blue Leaves* (Theater Schmeater) and the Richard Odlin award for direction and choreography of *The Little Shop of Horrors* (Tacoma Little Theater).

Sharon "Shay" Troupe (Luce/Courtesan) was born and raised in South Shore, Massachusetts. The daughter of an English teacher and a Shakespeare fanatic, she didn't share the same passion for the work until she realized they were plays after all. She's been acting since childhood and has studied theatre at Emerson College in Boston, the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley, CO and the T. Schreiber Studio in New York City. This is her first show in Seattle and she is delighted and honored to be a part of this troupe.

Lisa Viertel (Adriana) Lisa is thrilled to be back for her third season with GreenStage. Past roles include Helena in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Audrey in *As You Like It* and Metellus Cimber in *Julius Caesar*. She is a member of the Board of Directors and recently directed *The Root Of Chaos* for GreenStage and the Seattle Fringe Festival. Other favorite roles include Jo in *Low Level Panic* at AHA, Tracy in *Kiss it All Goodbye* at the Re-bar, Masha in *The Seagull* for SteppingStone Productions and Ruth in *The Woods* at The Fritz in San Diego. Special Thanks to Bunny who ROCKS and to Anthony and Bart. I miss you.

Comedy of Errors Biographies

Terence Ariz (Dromio of Ephesus) this is Terence's second GreenStage appearance, having performed in last season's *The Two Noble Kinsmen* as Palamon. Terence has also performed in numerous roles for Everett Historic Theatre, Richland Players and Columbia Basin College in Pasco - including Andrew in *I Hate Hamlet* and Daniel Kaffee in *A Few Good Men*. Terence is currently working on perfecting his perpetual motion machine. He is also on record as having discovered zinc. Have I written enough yet?

Josh Beermen (Dromio of Syracuse) comes to us from North Carolina and has been working in the Seattle area for about two years. Some credits include Skeeter in *The Root of Chaos*, Polpolch in *Marat/Sade*, Cliff in *The Woolgatherer*, Mercutio in *Romeo and Juliet* and Sir Henry Green in *Richard II*. He is very happy to be making his fourth run with GreenStage. He'd like to thank his wonderful wife for putting up with his Monkey Jumping life and wish her a Happy Birthday. This is for you, Stacey.

Jason Engstrom (Antipholus of Syracuse) has just recently returned to Seattle after leaving Missouri Southern State University where he studied Theatre. While in college, he had lead or major supporting roles in many productions including *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, *The Seagull*, *The Middle Ages* and others.

Stephen Grenley (Duke Solinus/Officer) is very happy to be spending the spring and summer with GreenStage. In recent years, he has been seen around the Seattle area in such roles as Gratiano in *The Merchant of Venice* at Northwest Shakespeare Ensemble; Peter Quince in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and Sir Toby Belch in *Twelfth Night* at Wooden O; and, most recently, as LeBeau in Bathhouse Theatre's production of *You Like It*. Some may also remember him as Ebenezer Foster Scrooge in *Citizen Scrooge*, three Christmases running at Unexpected Productions, as well as a decade plus in Seattle TheatreSports. He likes puppets.

Linda Lombardi (First Merchant/Angelo/ Assistant Director) has been working with GreenStage for the past year; most recently serving as Production Manager on their Board of Directors. Shows with the company include *The Two Noble Kinsmen*, *Richard II*, *The Bind* and as Flavius in this summer's *Timon of Athens*. She is a graduate of Hofstra University where she was seen as Thaisa/Diana in *Perciles*, Fiancee in *Macbeth*, The Wig-maker in *Rashomon*, and as the title role in *Miss Julie*. Enjoy the show and, as always, Nolite te bastarades carborundum!

Jason Marr (Antipholus of Ephesus) has apparently been bitten by the GreenStage lure again after recently finishing Dave Dodge's *The Bind* with them in The Seattle Fringe Festival. He worked with them in *Richard*

// and *The Two Noble Kinsmen* last summer. And, like a flying fish, he'll most likely end up hopping in their boat again and loving every minute of it.

Scott Nath (Aegeon/Pinch) comes to GreenStage fresh from the '99 Fringe Festival production of *Sexy Plays and Silly Plays*. Before moving to Seattle Scott toured for two seasons with The Shenandoah Shakespeare Express.

Beth Peterson (Luciana) is a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin, where she received her MFA in Theatre. Favorite roles at UT include Rosalind in *As You Like It* and Frankie in *Frankie and Johnny in the*

Claire du Lune. Following her work at UT, Beth was a company member of the Burt Reynolds Theatre, where she had the opportunity to take master classes from Jose Quintero, combat from Society of American Fight Directors President Drew Fracher, and special workshops with Mr. Reynolds, Ann Margaret, Charles Nelson-Reilly and John D'Aquino. Beth was an instructor of Theatre and Speech at Blue Mt. Community College, and currently teaches part time at Bellevue Community College. She has continued her combat training with Geoff Alm in Seattle, and has appeared as an actor in Seattle area productions, including Natasha in Renton Civic Theatre's production of *Rough Crossing*. Regional Work

includes Grandma in *Lost in Yonkers* and Rosemary in *Picnic at Wyoming* Summer Stock, and Deirdre in *I Hate Hamlet* at Old Lyric Repertory Company in Logan, Utah.

Sauda V. Porter (Balthazar/Second Merchant) is a Seattle native. She has been acting for 22 short years and is blessed to be coming up on the 23rd year. She is a student at the U.W., double majoring in American Ethnic Studies and English. Some of the other productions Sauda has been in were *Purlic Victorious*, *The Tribute* and *The Rise and Rise of Daniel Rocket*.

Darcy Pratt (Sound Effects/Aemelia) A recent transplant from Boston, Darcy is making her GreenStage and Seattle debut with this production. She's very excited about working with GreenStage, and getting back to Shakespeare, having previously portrayed Lady Capulet in *Romeo and Juliet*, and directed a production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* with the Dionysian Stage in Quincy Mass. Other favorites include: Martha in *The Children's Hour*, Myra in *Hayfever*, Gwendolyn in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, and Heidi in *The Heidi Chronicles*. She'd like to thank Scott, Madeline and Paris.

Laura "Bunny" Seagraves (Stage Manager) is proud to stage manage her fifth production for GreenStage. She has done some other stuff here and there, when not working at the Green Tortoise Hostel. She would like to

Comedy of Errors

Cast

(in order of appearance)

Aggeon/Pinch Scott Nath

Duke Solinus/Officer Stephen Grenley

1st Merchant/Angelo Linda Lombardi

Antipholus Of Syracuse Jason Engstrom

Dromio Of Syracuse Josh Beerman

Adriana Lisa Viertel

Luciana Beth Peterson

Dromio Of Ephesus Terence Artz

Antipholus Of Ephesus Jason Marr

Balthazar/2nd Merchant Sauda Porter

Luce/Courtesan Shay Troupe

Aemelia/Sound Effects Darcy Pratt

Production Staff

Director Tom Smith

Asst. Director Linda Lombardi

Stage Manager Laura "Bunny" Seagraves

Costumes Deborah Sorensen

Props Tony Driscoll

Production Manager Linda Lombardi

Ken Holmes

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

The first thing people ask me when I tell them that I am directing a Shakespeare is "What are you going to do to it?" I tell them "I'm going to do the play." "Yeah, but what are you going to do to it?" "I'm not doing anything to it. I'm doing the play as written." "But aren't you going to do anything to it—you know, like set it in war-torn France, or in the 1950's at a sock-hop or anything?"

I am delighted to tell you that I am one of a handful of directors that believes if it ain't broke, don't fix it. Comedy of Errors is one of Shakespeare's most endearing plays; ain't easy to understand, physical in its comedy. Because of this, I don't feel the need to impose anything on the script that isn't already in the text.

Visually, the play will not be strictly Elizabethan: most of the costumes will be pulled from the 20th Century. It's not to make some sort of statement about the play—it's just a visual look I find appealing for the show. We will also include live sound effects to heighten the physical comedy and punctuate certain moments: again, less so to make a statement than to highlight elements of the text. The way I see it, when you're working with the greatest playwright of all time, why monkey around with his play?

It is a great honor to direct Shakespeare's earliest play and, in my opinion, his funniest. I hope this is the first Shakespeare your whole family will understand and that you will walk away and read more of his plays on your own. And I hope you will encourage your friends and acquaintances to support this production during its run.

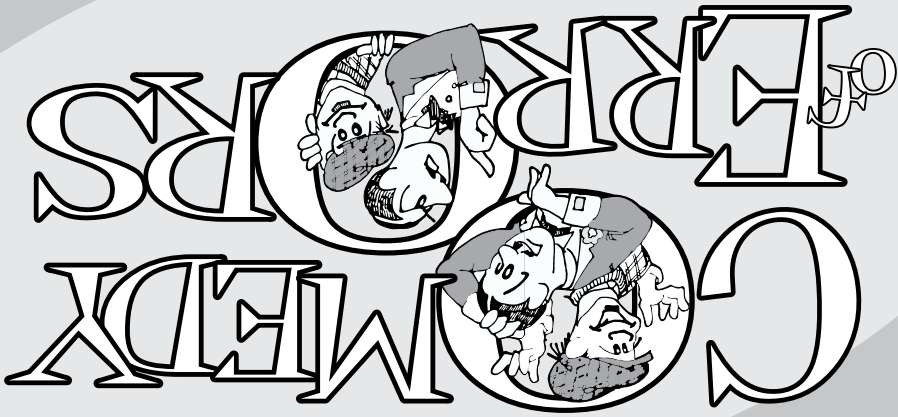
SYNOPSIS

A five-act comedy by William Shakespeare, first performed in 1592-93 and first published in the First Folio of 1623. The play, Shakespeare's shortest, was based on Menæchmi by Plautus. Aegeon, a merchant of Syracuse, is arrested in Ephesus and, unable to pay the local ransom, is condemned to death. He tells the duke, Solinus, his sad tale: years earlier he and his wife had been shipwrecked with their infant sons, identical twins, and a pair of infant slaves, also identical twins. The parents, each with a son and a slave, were rescued but then permanently separated. Antipholus of Syracuse, the son raised by Aegeon, has for five years been seeking his mother and brother, and Aegeon has been seeking him. Aegeon's story wins from Solinus a day's respite to raise the ransom money.

Meanwhile, Antipholus of Syracuse and his slave Dromio have arrived in Ephesus, not knowing that his brother Antipholus of Ephesus and his brother's slave, also named Dromio, are already there. A series of misidentifications ensues. Antipholus of Syracuse is entertained by his brother's wife and woos her sister; he receives a gold chain meant for his brother and is chased by a goldsmith for nonpayment. He and his slave hide in a priory, where they observe Aegeon on his way to execution and recognize the priory's abbess as their mother Aemilia. The two separated families are reunited, and Antipholus of Ephesus pays his father's ransom.

GREENSTAGE

Shakespeare in the Park



by Bill Shakespeare

Directed by Tom Smith

All shows @ 3:00 P.M. (except as noted)

Lincoln Park • July 31, Aug 1, 7 & 8

Lyndale Park • Thur Aug 5, 7pm

Gasworks Park • Aug 14 & 15

Seward Park • Aug 21

Kept Canterbury Faire • Aug 22

Volunteer Park • Aug 28, Sept 4, 5 & 6

Snoqualmie Falls Forest Theater • Aug 29 (\$13)

An Hysterical Comedy of Mistaken Identities

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