

GREENSTAGE PRESENTS

HARD BARD

MACBETH

written by William Shakespeare directed by Ken Holmes

October 8-30 • Thurs-Sun 8pm
2115 5th Ave • Seattle

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**SOMETHING WICKED
THIS WAY COMES**

DIRECTORS NOTE

It's Halloween again, and time for a spooky story. The best Halloween stories don't just horrify, they also make you laugh, so I hope you will forgive us for treating a classic Shakespearean tragedy with a comic touch. Our goal isn't to satirize the play, but to embrace it so fully that we push the plotlines and motivations to the point of crystal clarity.

Of course, finding clarity of plot and motivation in *Macbeth* isn't that simple. Contradictions and ambiguity abound. Mac isn't your typical Shakespearean villain, like Richard III, Edmund, or Iago, who give reasons for their crimes, and relish the evils they commit. Macbeth never justifies his murders – instead he speaks out against his crimes both before and after committing them! The witches offer another conundrum. Do they have supernatural powers or are they just good at messing with people? Whatever powers they might have certainly aren't clear, nor are their motivations.




Ryan Spickard as Macbeth

What is clear is what these characters actually do. The witches give Macbeth ambiguous prophecies which inspire him to reluctantly kill a king. The consequences of that murder take him on a violence-filled journey as he tries to clean up loose ends – only to end up with a bigger mess.


Maybe *Macbeth* is a commentary about seizing political power, or the consequences of greed, or the effects of war on soldiers, or even an indictment of religion. But maybe it's just about a guy who puts too much faith in fortune tellers. Or it's just a big spooky knock, knock joke. Whatever it is, I hope you enjoy it.

– Ken Holmes – Director

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HARD BARD MACBETH

WRITTEN BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE • DIRECTED BY KEN HOLMES

CAST

(in alphabetical order)

Aaron Allshouse	Duncan / Siward
Meredith Armstrong	Witch 2
Patrick Bentley	Bleeding Captain / Porter
Sarah Budge	Witch 3
Janet Cole Hamilton	Witch 1
Erin Day	Macduff
Tom Dewey	Malcolm
Matthew Gilbert	Angus, Lady Macduff
Julia Griffin	Scrub Wench
Sam Hagen	Banquo / Doctor
Annie Hughes	Lennox – a Minor Thane
Mark Mcquinn	Fife / Soldier
Amelia Meckler	Lady Macbeth
Marc "Mok" Moser	Ross – a Minor Thane
Helen Parson	Donalbain / Fleance / Son of Macduff / Young Siward
Aaron Shay	Mentieth – a Minor Thane
Ryan Spickard	Macbeth

DESIGN TEAM

Scenic Designer	Peter Burford
Costume Designer	Janessa Jayne Styck
Lighting Designers	Dave Baldwin and Steve Cooper
Fight Choreographers	Paul Ray and Tom Dewey
Fight Consultant	Ryan Spickard
Properties Designer	Laura Garcia
Blood Effects Designer	Julia Griffin
Puppet Designer	Tony Driscoll
Sound Designer	Helen Parson
Music Director	Mark "Mok" Moser

Songs adapted and arranged by Mark "Mok" Moser

Scenic Painting	Nathan Rodda
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PRODUCTION STAFF

Stage Manager	Eleanor Pawley
Assistant Stage Manager	Gira Kenny
Production Manager	Verhanika Wood
Assistant Production Manager	Jessica Cooper
Technical Director	Victor Steeb
Backstage Crew	Seth Cooper
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ABOUT THE ACTORS



Aaron Allshouse (Duncan, Murderer, Seward) Enjoy the show.



Meredith Armstrong (Witch 1 / Facilities Manager) is jazzed to be working on this wild and wacky production of *Macbeth*! She's made an illustrious career of playing witches (*Henry VI 1&2*) and dead boys (*Henry V*, *Henry VI Part 3*, *Richard III*) for GreenStage and appreciates the opportunity to continue the tradition. When not calling up demons and/or dying horribly, she can be found dialect coaching, writing, bellydancing, baking, and climbing walls of fake rocks. Favorite past roles include Mercutio in *Hose & Britches'* all-female *Romeo and Juliet*, Catherine (*Proof*), Alais (*The Lion in Winter*), Suzanne (*Picasso at the Lapin Agile*), and the Hospice Worker (*As Is*). She loves her husband, her cats, and her shoes—usually in that order.



Patrick Bentley (Bleeding Captain, Porter) is excited to be back for another Hard Bard production with GreenStage. Patrick has previously appeared with the company as Adriana in *The Comedy of Errors*, Dukes Frederick and Senior in *As You Like It*, and as the titular character in last fall's Hard Bard production of *Titus Andronicus*. Prior to venturing out west, Patrick acted and directed with the American Shakespeare Center, where he also earned an MFA in Shakespeare. Earlier this year, Patrick's work in performance theory was featured in the book *Speaking Pictures: The Visual/Verbal Nexus of Dramatic Performance* by Jacquelyn Bessell of The Shakespeare Institute in Stratford-upon-Avon. Patrick hopes that you enjoy the show and that you get lots of blood on your most expensive clothes



Sarah E. Budge (Witch 3) is pleased to be working with GreenStage this fall, not only because *Macbeth* is her favorite play but because she has the great honor of this production being the fourth time she has performed in it. Other credits include Grace DuCharme in *Trout Stanley*, Emilia in *Othello*, Regan in *King Lear*, Helena in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Lady MacDuff/Lennox in *Macbeth*, and Emilia in *The Two Noble Kinsmen*. She graduated from Mary Baldwin College in association with the American Shakespeare Center with a Master of Letters and a Master of Fine Arts in Shakespeare and Renaissance Literature. She would like to thank Ken Holmes for giving her this opportunity and all the actors for all their dedication and tremendous work. Enjoy the show!



Erin Day (Macduff / Artistic Director) is tickled pink to be roaming the fields of Scotland with this incredible cast and crew. Since moving from Washington D.C., she found a home in GreenStage and finds nothing grander than playing with them and with you. Around town, she has performed at Seattle Public Theater, Theatre Babylon, Seattle Fringe Festival, The Washingtonians! and others. She is currently a member of The Midnite Mystery Players and is honored to serve as Artistic Director for GreenStage. Thanks to her amazing family and especially to you. Enjoy the show!



Tom Dewey (Malcolm / Co-Fight Choreographer) is returning to GreenStage for the third time in *Macbeth*. Previous credits include: Oliver in "As You Like It" and 'Every Minor Character (Who Dies)' in *Titus Andronicus*. He is a fight choreographer who just finished doing 9 fights for One Shot Productions' "Troilus and Cressida." Tom Dewey is intended for mature audiences.

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ABOUT THE ACTORS



Mathew Gilbert (Angus, *Lady Macduff*) is so excited to be a part of GreenStage's *Hard Bard Macbeth*. He was recently seen as Paris in GreenStage's *Romeo and Juliet*. Past credits include: Vershinin in *Three Sisters*, (Ghost Light Theatricals), Earl of Salisbury in *King John* (GreenStage) and Raven In *Book-it All Over's Trickster Tales*. *Matthew would like to thank the wonderful cast and crew of Macbeth for an awesome job!*



Julia Griffin (*Scrub Wench / Blood Effects Designer*) This is Julia's first show with GreenStage. After a couple of years being somewhat of a 'GreenStage groupie,' she couldn't be happier to be joining up with such an amazing crew and fantastic show for her premiere GreenStage shindig. Any excuse to make gallons of blood shoot out of any given appendage is always welcomed (um...the corn syrup kind anyway). A graduate of the University of Montana, Julia now finds her home away from home here in Seattle at Theater Schmeater as the company's Artistic Associate and Literary Manager. Her latest projects include directing *An Adult Evening with Shel Silverstien* at Theater Schmeater, Assistant Directing *Trout Stanley* at Balagan Theater with David Gassner, and directing *The Schmee's park show, The Sorcerer's Apprentice*. She gives many thanks to Ken Holmes for letting her get all sorts of bloody, and for just being generally awesome. And to her mama, who is amazing.



Sam Hagen (*Banquo, Doctor*) Sam returns to GreenStage for this *Hard Bard* production of *Macbeth*. He likes the people at GreenStage. They are great people that do genuine, thought-out productions of the greatest plays in the English language. Some of Sam's favorite moments acting in Seattle have been the times he has gotten to use the plural pronoun "we" in reference to a GreenStage production, such as, "We are working hard to bring you some fresh, just off the cart, Shakespeare, folks. I hope you enjoy the show." Sam is also known to drag his feet on turning in things like bios on time and hopes this makes it into the program.



Janet Cole Hamilton (*Witch 1*) is excited to be making her GreenStage debut, having worked as a theatre artist throughout the Puget Sound region with ArtsWest, Civic Light Opera, Renton Civic Theater, Driftwood Players, and many others. Acting credits include *Lady Croom* in *Arcadia*, *Viola* in *Twelfth Night*, *Lenny* in *Crimes of the Heart*, *Meg* in *Brigadoon*, *Helena* Landless in *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, and *Zorah* in *Inspecting Carol*. Directing credits include *Romeo and Juliet*, *Sylvia*, *The Foreigner*, *The Woman in Black*, and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Along with weird sister Meredith Armstrong, Janet co-founded the women's theatre troupe *Hose & Britches*. By day, Janet is production manager for Village Theatre *KIDSTAGE* in Everett, a mom, a belly dancer with The Fuzzy Monkeys, and a lover of all things Scottish, especially her husband and son. Personal mottos, "Duck for luck", and the clan Hamilton motto, "Through."



Annie Hughes (*Lennox*) is appearing in the play you are about to see. You also might've seen her in that one tape, the really sexy one of her... band - The Mongrel Jews - on the internet. She also appeared in yellow tights as *Mercutio* in *Romeo and Juliet* with these crazy fun people. She would like to thank Anna for her continued love and her support of art and for giving yet another reason to do it.



Mark McQuinn (*Fife*) Mark A. McQuinn is a cave-dwelling troglodyte who handwrote his bio in some primitive pre-Sumerian cuneiform script, or very bad handwriting, or both. He has been with GreenStage since some time in the mid '90s. Most recently he has been a lazy bum, but before that he was in *Burien Little Theater's The Lady's Not for Burning*. Just before that he was in *Balagan Theater's Othello*. Now he is quite proud to return to GreenStage with this cast, this crew, and this *Hard Bard* production.

TELL YOUR FRIENDS
ABOUT GREENSTAGE!



ABOUT THE ACTORS



Amelia Meckler (Lady Macbeth / Communications Director) left New York in 1997 and is now what they call a lifer with GreenStage. Favorite GreenStage experiences include Bloody Slave Girl in *Titus Andronicus*, Elizabeth in *Richard III*, Katarina in *The Taming of the Shrew*, Ulysses in *Troilus and Cressida*; and non-Shakespearean turns as Honey in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, Maxine in *The Night of the Iguana*, and Mammoth and Fortune Teller in *The Skin of Our Teeth* as well as directing *Twelfth Night*, *The Merchant of Venice* and *Squish!* Non-GreenStage forays include *Marat/Sade* at Balagan Theatre, and *Creation of the World* and *Kvetch* at Theater Schmeater. This past summer, Amelia's directorial talents were at work in Theater Schmeater's park show, *An Inconvenient Squirrel*.



Helen Parson (Donalbain, Fleance, Son of Macduff, Young Siward / Sound Designer) is delighted to be taking part in her first production with GreenStage. This summer she made her appropriately pointy-eared Seattle debut playing Spock in Hello Earth's *Outdoor Trek: The Naked Time*. Previously she has taken part in many productions at Bennington College, her favorite being a live silent-movie version of *Hamlet* in which she played Ophelia. Her alter egos include mild-mannered guitar teacher and author/artist of the comic book *Strawberry Ghost*. She is also guilty of writing songs and making a lot of music both solo and with her band Princess Seismograph.



Ryan Spickard (Macbeth) A Native to the Northwest, Ryan is a BFA graduate from Cornish College of the Arts and a member of the Society of American Fight Directors as well as the United Stuntmen's Association. He has performed with local theaters such as GreenStage, Theater Schmeater, Balagan Theater, Seattle Shakespeare Company, and Book-It Repertory Theater, as well as appearing regionally with the Idaho Shakespeare Festival and the Colorado Shakespeare Festival. Finally acting again with GreenStage since playing Bassanio in the 2003 production of *Merchant of Venice*, Ryan is overjoyed to be back with the company that started it all. And would like to thank GreenStage for giving him the chance to play one of Shakespeare's most excellent villains. Ryan is also the Co-Artistic Director of Performers' Forge, an organization dedicated to the education and performance of stage combat through action and violence. "When Violence is the Answer, We are the Solution!"



Marc "Mok" Moser (Ross / Musical Director) is a 25-year veteran of Western Washington community theater, and is commensurably tickled to be working with GreenStage again after performing in *As You Like It* this summer. His previous Shakespearean roles include Petruchio, Benedick, Duke Orsino, and Macbeth. Other previous roles include El Gallo in the *Fantasticks*, King Creon in *Medea Knows Best*, Robin Hood in *Bolly'Hood - Men in Churidaar*, and Socrates in *Plato's Symposium*. Mok can be seen in the upcoming web series *The Adventures of Chadwick Periwinkle* and as Pemco's Northwest Profile #51 - The Utility Kilter.



Aaron J Shay (Mentieth) is a graduate of Western Washington University's Theatre Arts program, where he got a concentration in acting and playwriting, and participated in the creation and performance of several devised works during his tenure there. He has also played more traditional roles, such as Dead Body in *The Real Inspector Hound*, and Rocky in *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*, both shows produced at Bellevue College. He also performs with his bands The Lathe Symphonic and The Mongrel Jews, respectively, the latter of which also features his lovely co-star Annie Hughes. Aaron is very glad to be performing with GreenStage and hopes this is not an isolated incident.

ABOUT THE PRODUCTION TEAM

Peter Burford (Set Designer) has been around GreenStage since 2001. He especially likes directing and occasionally designs sets and very occasionally acts as well. Peter is happy to be returning to the Hard Bard after having his set bled on excessively in last year's production of *Titus Andronicus*. He has directed *The Skin of our Teeth*, *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, *The Night of the Iguana*, and *A Touch of the Poet* for GreenStage, and *Betrayal*, *Rosenzrantz & Guildenstern are Dead*, *The Dumb Waiter*, and *The Glass Menagerie* for other theaters around Seattle. Peter is also a software designer with Headlight Software. Congratulations to Shawn and Devin. Hi Alice.



ABOUT THE PRODUCTION TEAM

Jessica Cooper (Assistant Production Manager) is delighted to be returning to GreenStage, after a summer as Stage Manager for *As You Like It*. Jess has been stage managing for 10 years in Ohio, California and Washington. She has worked professionally with the American Conservatory Theater and the Ohio Valley Summer Theater. While earning her BFA in Stage Management and Playwriting from Ohio University, Jess worked on more than 20 productions including *The Gods Are Not to Blame*, *The Laramie Project*, *Marat/Sade*, *The Fourth Sister*, and the world premier of *Fullest Vigour*. When she's not managing stages, Jess works at the Seattle Children's Theater, and will soon complete her MBA in Nonprofit Leadership. Jess would like to thank the cast and crew of *Macbeth* for making violence far more fun than it ever should be. As always, she also wants to thank her husband, Seth, for being in all ways extraordinary.

One of the founders of GreenStage, **Tony Driscoll** (Puppet Design) most recently directed last fall's *Titus Andronicus*. Other GreenStage credits include directing *Twelfth Night* ('92), *Midsummer Night's Dream* ('93), *Titus Andronicus* ('95), *Love's Labour's Lost* ('96), *Cymbeline* ('97), *Richard II* ('98), *The Adventures of Young Will Jones and The Winters Tale* ('00), *Richard III* ('07), and he acted in numerous others. Musically he has performed with The Purdins, Brain Wizard, Baby Gramps, and The Washingtonians. Two and a half years ago, he and his beautiful and amazing partner of 16 years, Erin Day, were blessed with the birth of their son, Emmett "The Imperial One" Anthony "Dooms" Day Driscoll.

This is **Laura Garcia's** (Properties Designer) 18th show with GreenStage and her 2nd show designing bloody props for the Hard Bard series. "I am in blood stepp'd in so far that, should I wade no more, returning were as tedious as go o'er". Notable gigs include directing *The Taming of the Shrew*, assistant directing the Fringe Theater Festivals and stage management and prop design on many, many GreenStage shows (including *MacBeth* w/ Ken in 2001). Other work around town includes Theater Schmeater and ACT. A Seattle native, Laura began her career in NYC, Off-Broadway at The Manhattan Theatre Club. She studied Directing and Acting at Herbert Berghof Studios in NYC when she was but a sweet wee bairn. Laura is the proud mom of 3 beautiful daughters who have grown up backstage with GreenStage! She is also a member of the MacDougall Clan: BUAIDH NO BAS (translation "go see a play")!

In 17 years with GreenStage, **Ken Holmes** (Director / Managing Director) has acted in many productions and directed several as well, including *Henry VI – parts 1, 2 & 3*, *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*, *Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Timon of Athens* and *The Two Noble Kinsmen*. He has put in time as a set builder, designer, accountant, mover, envelope lick, stitcher, delegator, negotiator, and board member. Ken has also been seen on stages all over town in various roles. When not playing onstage or working on grant applications and IRS forms for GreenStage, Ken works as a freelance graphic designer and photographer. A little over a year ago, along with his lovely wife Lisa, Ken entered the wonderful world of parenthood with the birth of their beautiful baby girl, Ruby.

Eleanor Pawley (Stage Manager) is thrilled to make her stage managerial return in GreenStage's *Macbeth* after five years of working as an event manager for dental conferences. She was last seen stage managing *For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow is Enuf* at the Ethnic Cultural Theatre and *Uncle Tom....Deconstructed* for The Conciliation Project. Prior to her career as an event manager she enjoyed stage and production managing in Seattle and New York. She received her BFA in Design Technology from the Conservatory of Theatre Arts and Film at Purchase College, New York.

Victor Steeb is a recent grad from Western Washington University. He is excited to be working with GreenStage as one of his first theater opportunities out of school; previously he was an intern with the Seattle Children's Theater. In his spare time, Victor likes read the great books, like *Bartholomew and the Oobleck* and *The Cat in The Hat*, both by the magnificent Dr. Seuss.

Janessa Jayne Styck (Costume Designer) is a graduate of Illinois Wesleyan University in Bloomington, Illinois where she studied under Tony-nominated Marcia McDonald. 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. This winter Janessa 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. She is very happy to announce the completion of her first venture into costuming for the big screen. *Wolfsbane*, a short steampunk film, is now in post-production. This summer Janessa was proud to spend her third season with GreenStage and is excited to be working with them yet again as they journey into the world of steampunk.

Paul Ray (Fight Coreographer) is thrilled to return to GreenStage. You may have seen Paul's fights this summer in Volunteer Park with Theater Schmeater's *An Inconvenient Squirrel*. Paul also choreographed last year's GreenStage production of *King John*. Paul has been an actor in Seattle for over 20 years and has worked for Seattle Shakespeare Company, Seattle Opera, Theater Schmeater, REact, Driftwood Players, Exchange Theatre, Seattle Public Theatre, and 14/48 to name a few. Paul is an Advanced Actor Combatant with the Society of American Fight Directors and has been working on stage combat and fight choreography for fifteen years. Paul holds a BFA in Acting ('97) from Cornish College of the Arts. Enjoy.

Verhanika Wood (Production Manager) is pleased to be doing her second Hard Bard production in a row with GreenStage. Last year she was the Production Stage Manager for *Titus Andronicus* and is still finding blood. Other work in Seattle includes *The Christmas Carol*, *The Female of the Species*, and *The Lady with All the Answers* at ACT, *On the Town* at the 5th Avenue Theatre, and *Arcadia* with Driftwood Players. She has also worked with The Village Theatre, Intiman and completed the Production Management internship at Seattle Repertory Theatre. She is looking forward to working on *House of the Unholy #4* at the Triple Door and *Iron Curtain* at The Village Theatre. Thanks to her friends and family and GreenStage for letting her play again.



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Thank you for joining us. Enjoy the show!