
 RAINBOWSTAGE presents a  production of

Miss Shakespeare



by Tracey Power & Steve Charles



SEPTEMBER 26 - OCTOBER 5

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DIRECTOR ERIN MCGRATH; MUSIC DIRECTOR RENATE ROSSOL; CHOREOGRAPHER RACHAEL MCLAREN
INTIMACY DIRECTOR SHARON BAJER; LIGHTING/COSTUME DESIGNER ANIKA BINDING; SET DESIGNER JULIA ANDERSON
FEATURING DORA CARROLL, JULIA DAVIS, ANDREA DEL CAMPO, HERA NALAM, ELLEN PETERSON, RHEA RODYCH-RASIDESCU, JILLIAN WILLEMS
PHOTOGRAPHER KAYLA GORDON; POSTER DESIGN STARE DESIGN

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MESSAGE FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



I have been working as a professional theatre artist for over twenty years, and this is the first time I have been in a room with only women throughout the creation journey. It's difficult to articulate how rare and precious this time together has been. How empowering, sensual, joyful, heartbreaking, tender, and filled with love. How we have laughed. This time has been one of bearing witness to our shared stories, and growth as artists, women, mothers, and friends. Creating a space in which we can tackle dangerous work safely. How far we have come... and oh how much further we need to go.

This show has been a gift to us, and we are now giving it to you. May it fill you with delight, desire, pride... and maybe a bit of joyful rage.

Here I am!

Erin McGrath

Erin McGrath,
WST Artistic Director



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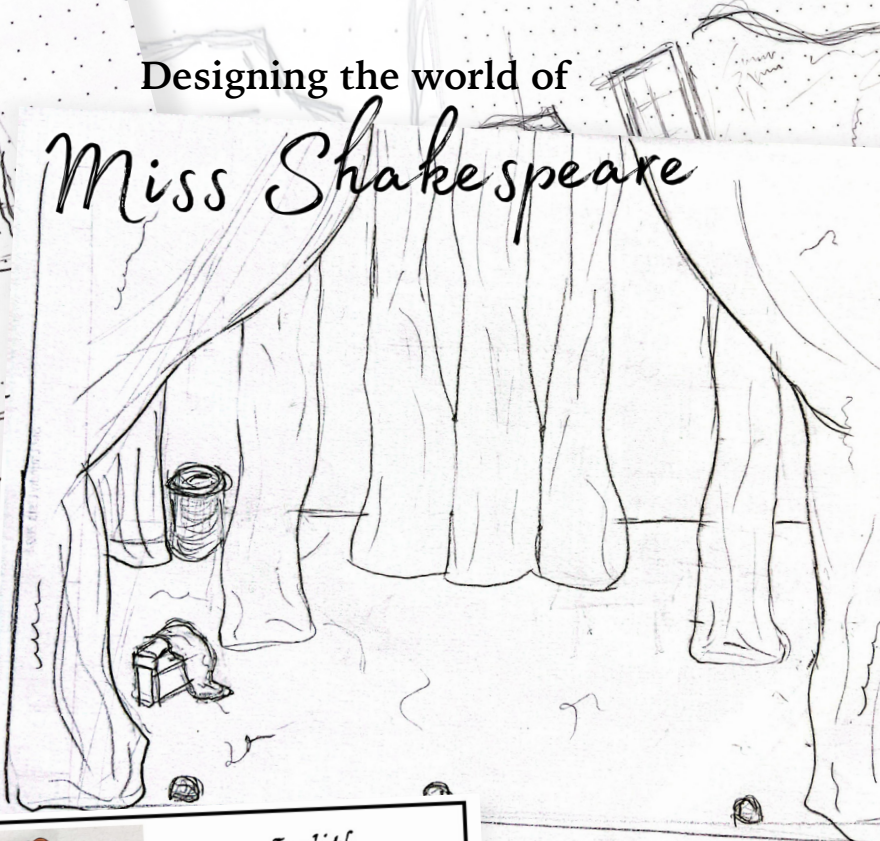
Playwright	Tracey Power
Director	Erin McGrath
Music Director	Renate Rossol
Choreographer	Rachael McLaren
Lighting/Costume Designer	Anika Binding
Set Designer	Julia Cote
Intimacy Director	Sharon Bajer
Stage Manager	Sarah Lamoureux
Assistant Stage Manager	Kyra Krassnigg
Katherine Rose	Dora Carroll
Margaret Moore	Julia Davis
Hanna Storley	Andrea del Campo
Isabel Loxley	Hera Nalam
Judith Shakespeare	Rhea Rodych-Rasidescu
Judith Quiney	Ellen Peterson
Susanna Hall	Jillian Willems
Production Manager	Katherine Johnston
Wardrobe Assistant	Kate George
Props Coordinator	Rachel Baziuk
Sound Technician	Aidan Clarke
Sewer	Kevin Maguire
Scenic Carpenter	Keith Damboise
Bass Player	Glenda Rempel
Puppet Designer	Carrie Costello
Photographer	Kayla Gordon
Poster Design	Stare Design
Program Design	Christine Leslie

MISS SHAKESPEARE IS 2 HRS INCLUDING ONE 15MIN INTERMISSION


Any video and/or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

Designing the world of


Miss Shakespeare



Set Designer Julia Anderson



Judith Shakespeare
Played by Rhea Rodych Rasidescu



Designed by: Anika Binding

Queen
Played by Julia Davis



Shakespeare
Played by Ellen Peterson



Designed by: Anika Binding

Costume Designer Anika Binding

HISTORICAL CHARACTERS

Judith Shakespeare

Judith was William Shakespeare's second daughter and Hamnet's twin sister.

At age 31, Judith married Thomas Quiney, the 26 year old son of a prominent local family. The pair were married in Lent of 1616. Scandal ensued when Thomas' lover gave birth to his son one month after the wedding.

In her father's will, Judith received £150 and a silver gilt bowl, plus additional money if she and her children survived another 3 years. This sum is considerably less than what was bequeathed to her older sister Susanna.

In 1616, shortly after her father passed away, Judith gave birth to a son named Shakespeare. Her other two sons, Thomas and Richard, followed a couple of years later but all three died before adulthood.

A document signed in 1611 by the witnesses of a property sale list Judith Shakespeare, however her signature is merely a mark. It is believed that Judith was never taught to write, however it is likely given her status in society she would likely have been able to read.

Susanna Shakespeare

Susanna was baptised on 26th May 1583, six months after her parents, William Shakespeare and Anne Hathaway, were married. Susanna married John Hall, a physician, at Holy Trinity Church on 5 June 1607. Their only child, Elizabeth, was born on 21 February 1608. It is believed that the family moved into their Stratford home Hall's Croft as soon as it was built in 1613.

Scholars assume that Susanna was educated and literate, as she could at

least write her name and is thought to have composed the memorial epitaph to her mother.

William Shakespeare left Susanna and husband the bulk of his estate and it is believed she was left his papers. It is likely that she had some involvement with the compilation of the First Folio of Shakespeare's works.

CREATIVE TEAM



Tracey Power
Playwright

Tracey Power works across Canada and internationally as a director, choreographer, actor and writer. Previously in Winnipeg she acted in UBUNTU, with director Erin McGrath, and shows she's written that you may have seen are, Chelsea Hotel, The Songs of Leonard Cohen, Back To You; The Life and Music of Lucille Starr, Living Shadows, A Story of Mary Pickford and The Jungle Book. She's the playwright of the award winning play GLORY about the women's hockey team The Preston Rivulettes, and co creator of Hey Viola! about the life of Viola Desmond. She recently directed School of Rock and The Prom for Theatre Under the Stars in Vancouver and directed/co-created Nashville, Music City and Laurel Canyon for the Mayfield Theatre in Edmonton. Tracey continues to create new work for both stage and screen and is the recipient of the Jessie Richardson, Elizabeth Sterling and Betty Mitchel Awards for her work.
www.traceypower.ca



Erin McGrath
Director

Erin McGrath is the Artistic Director of Winnipeg Studio Theatre. She has had the great privilege to direct and perform in major regional theatres across the country. Working with this group of Winnipeg Women to bring Miss Shakespeare to life is a true gift and career highlight. Thanks to Tracey for trusting us with this story. Much love to my gossips.



Renate Rossol
Music Director

Renate Rossol, MMus, BMus, ARCT, is building community through her musical leadership in Winnipeg and abroad as a music director, pianist, vocal coach, and piano instructor. Renate works as a music director and rehearsal pianist and loves developing new works. She has recently music directed for Rainbow Stage (Ma-Buhay! Drafts 3 & 4, 2021/2023), RMTTC (Urinetown, (Lawyer's Play), 2024), Kitchen Party Theatre Festival (Newfoundland; Girls From Away, The Codfather, 2022). She is thrilled to help bring Miss Shakespeare to life!



Rachael McLaren
Choreographer

Rachael is thrilled to be making her theatrical choreographic debut with WST's Miss Shakespeare. Theatre credits include Mamma Mia! Toronto (Ensemble & u/s Ali, Mirvish Prod.), Fame: The Musical (Greta Bell, WST). Rachael's USA based career as a concert dance artist spanned 14 years, 11 as a Principal Dancer with the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. I dedicate this leap to my husband and 3 extraordinary kiddos.



Anika Binding
Lighting/Costume Designer

Anika Binding is an emerging multi-faceted theatre artist. She studied at the University of Winnipeg's Theatre program, and graduated with a BA Honours in Theatrical Design, with specializations in lighting and costume design, stage management, and directing. She has recently designed costumes for Magnus Theatre's Liars at a Funeral, and apprenticed in lighting and projection design with The Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre on among men, The Mountaintop, and The Lehman Trilogy.



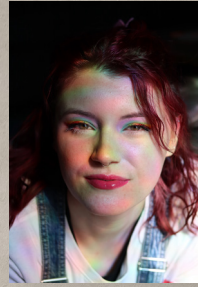
Julia Cote
Set Designer

Julia graduated with a BAH in Design for Theatre and Film (UW), was a part of the 2023/24 Creative Manitoba Mentorship Program. Some of her recent works include Apprentice Designer on Clue (Royal MTC) and End Of The Line (TPM); Scenic Designer on From Up Here (UW); Design Assistant on A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder (DryCold) and Twelfth Night (SIR); Costume Coordinator on Midsummer Night's Dreams and Iago Speaks (SIR).



Sharon Bajer
Intimacy
Director

For Winnipeg Studio Theatre, Sharon performed in Pippin and wrote the all female musical Hersteria, which was a big hit many moons ago. Sharon was Manitoba's first certified Intimacy Director and Coordinator and the recent recipient of ACTRA Manitoba's Woman of the Year Award as well as the Winnipeg Arts Council Making a Mark Award. She is also an actress, playwright, director, producer, coach, mom and adventurous life-liver!



**Sarah
Lamoureux**
Stage Manager

Sarah Lamoureux is a stage manager from Winnipeg, Manitoba. They're excited to make their Winnipeg Studio Theatre debut with Miss Shakespeare. Recent stagemanagement credits include Snow White, (Manitoba Theatre For Young People), Airborn(e) (Alien Dream Production), The Sound of Music (RMTC), On Maronne? (Théâtre Cercle Molière), and Twelfth Night (Shakespeare in the Ruins). Sarah would like to thank their partner Juel and their family for all of their love and support!



Kyra Krassnigg
Assistant Stage
Manager

Kyra is beyond excited to be Assistant Stage Managing Miss Shakespeare with this all-star team. Her recent credits include working with Winnipeg Fringe (2024), A New Musical Workshop (2023), Winnipeg Studio Theatre (2023), MTC (2024) and Dry Cold Productions (2023). Kyra would like to thank Shauldon and Stella for their encouragement and support.

CAST



Dora Carroll
Katherine Rose

Dora is grateful to step back onstage for this fiercely female collaboration. Wearing many hats, she has worked independently & with RMTC, Rainbow Stage, SIR, MTYP, PTE, One Trunk, Dry Cold, Wpg Studio Theatre as a director, producer, actor and instructor. A graduate of The University of Winnipeg; Stratford's Michael Langham Workshop; Founder of Shakespeare in the Pub; Youth Mentorship Manager at Creative Manitoba; member of The Fu Fu Chi Chi Choir; and her favourite role as "mama", Dora is a driven cheerleader for our Winnipeg arts community.



Julia Davis
Margaret Moore

Julia Davis (she/her) is an Inuk actor, born in Churchill, currently residing in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Previous credits include Disney's *The Little Mermaid*, *The Wizard of Oz* (Rainbow Stage), *The Sound of Music* (RMTC/Citadel), *Frozen River/Nikwatin Sipi* (MTYP/YPT), and *The Yeomen of the Guard* (G&S Society of Winnipeg). Julia would like to thank her family and friends for their never-ending support and love!



Andrea del Campo
Hanna Storley

Andrea is tickled to work with such a lively and lovely group of artists! Andrea is a Winnipeg-based performer with credits on every professional stage in the city. She also acts and Intimacy Coordinates for film and tv. Andrea is a proud founding member of the musical improv company, Outside Joke. Catch them this December at Prairie Theatre Exchange in Outside Joke's Christmas Miracle! www.andreadelcampo.com



Hera Nalam
Isabel Loxley

Born and raised in the Philippines, Hera Nalam (she/they) first came to Treaty One Territory at 16 years old. Ever since then she has immersed herself in the local creative platforms all over Winnipeg from music, theatre, film and fashion and is making waves as a true inter-disciplinary artist.



**Rhea Rodych-
Rasidescu**
Judith Shakespeare

Rhea Rodych-Rasidescu (she/her) is a multifaceted theatre artist living and working in Treaty 1 Territory. She received her B.A. Hons. from the University of Winnipeg. Rhea is honoured to share Miss Shakespeare with this incredible ensemble. Thank you Erin, Renate, Rachel, and our entire company for this labour of love. Select credits: Merrily We Roll Along (Dry Cold Productions), Beautiful: The Carole King Musical (Segal/RMTC), and Into the Woods (RMTC).



Ellen Peterson
Judith Quiney

Ellen has been a Winnipeg playwright, dramaturg, actor, producer and visual artist for over 40 years. Her most recent play, None of This is Happening was produced by Theatre Projects Manitoba in October 2022. Other productions include her adaptation of Sense and Sensibility for the Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre John Hirsch Mainstage and The Brink for PTE. She teaches theatre and film at Manitoba Theatre for Young People, and teaches their PlayRoots course in high schools.



**Jillian
Willems**
Susanna Hall

Jillian Willems (She/Her)- Select performance credits include Beautiful: The Carole King Musical (RMTC); Merrily We Roll Along (Dry Cold); Antigone (Sick&Twisted/AA Battery); Cinderella (Rainbow); South Pacific (Rainbow/WSO) Select creative credits include Afterlight (Director/The Keep, Walk&Talk, Rainbow); Into the Woods (Choreographer/RMTC); Hansel & Gretel (Director/MUO); The Snail and the Whale (Director/MTYP); Pippin (Choreographer, WST/ViC); Breaking Up is Hard to Do (Choreographer, Rainbow Stage); American Idiot (Choreographer, WST). This is for the women in my life making big moves both publicly and by candlelight in a tavern.



Rhea Rodych-Rasidescu- Judith Shakespeare
Photo by Kayla Gordon

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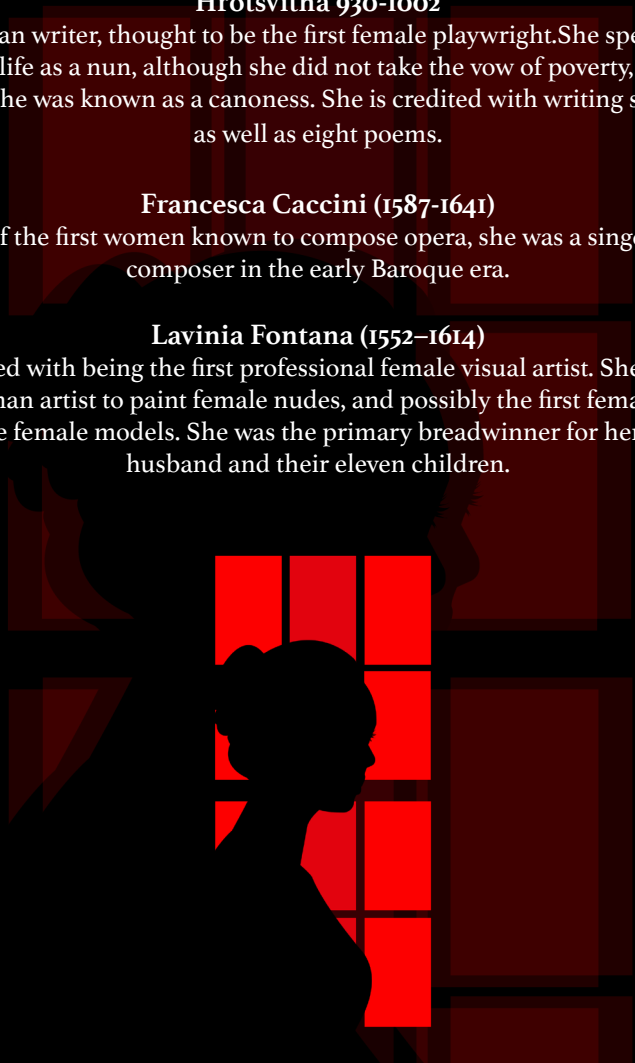
A German writer, thought to be the first female playwright. She spent most of her life as a nun, although she did not take the vow of poverty, which meant she was known as a canoness. She is credited with writing six plays as well as eight poems.

Francesca Caccini (1587-1641)

One of the first women known to compose opera, she was a singer and composer in the early Baroque era.

Lavinia Fontana (1552-1614)

Is credited with being the first professional female visual artist. She was the first woman artist to paint female nudes, and possibly the first female to use live nude female models. She was the primary breadwinner for herself, her husband and their eleven children.



Aphra Behn (1640-1689):

Became one of the period's foremost playwrights. She caused scandal with some of her subjects, her work often alluding to sexual desire. Aphra responded to the accusations of impropriety that the works would not have been criticized if a man had written them. Aphra is remembered in Virginia Woolf's *A Room of One's Own*: "All women together ought to let flowers fall upon the tomb of Aphra Behn...for it was she who earned them the right to speak their minds."



Julia Davis- Margaret Moore
Photo by Kayla Gordon

Margaret Hughes (1660).

Margaret “Peggy” Hughes is thought to be the first woman to ‘trod the boards’ of the British stage, playing the part of Desdemona in the new King’s Company production of Shakespeare’s *Othello*. A beautiful woman, Margaret was as well-known for her romantic dalliances as she was for her performances. She was very confident and aware of the power that her attractiveness gave her, and saw little to be gained from being modest.

Marie Sallé (1707-1756)

Was a pioneering French ballerina and choreographer who made significant contributions to the development of ballet. She was one of the first female dancers to gain recognition as a leading performer and choreographer, helping to pave the way for future generations of female ballet artists.



Eva Le Gallienne (1926)

Founded the Civic Repertory Theatre in New York City to present classics and important foreign plays at low admission prices. Through her productions and translations, she introduced American audiences to the works of Anton Chekhov, Henrik Ibsen, and others; she directed and acted in most of the theatre’s productions.

Lorraine Hansberry (1959):

First Black Woman to have a Play Produced on Broadway. *A Raisin in the Sun* was also named the year’s best by the New York Drama Critics’ Circle. Lorraine passed away from cancer at age 34. Lorraine is the namesake for The Hansberry Project, a theatre company dedicated to celebrating, supporting, and presenting the work of Black theatre artists.

Dora Carroll- Katherine Rose
Photo by Kayla Gordon



Judy Garland (1962)

The first woman to win a Grammy Award for Album of the Year, winning for her live album "*Judy at Carnegie Hall.*"

Dolly Parton (1978)

The first Woman to Win the Country Music Association's (CMA) Entertainer of the Year and went on to become the first woman to own her own record label in 2007.



Andrea Martin (1993)

First Canadian Actress to Win a Tony Award for Best Featured Actress in a Musical: for her role in "*My Favorite Year*".

Julie Taymor (1998)

The first woman to win the Tony Award for Best Director for "*The Lion King.*" She also created more than 100 puppets for the performers winning her the Tony for best costume design as well. *The Lion King* became one of the longest running musicals on Broadway.



Jillian Willems- Susanna Hall
Photo by Kayla Gordon

Lynn Nottage

First & Only Woman to win a Pulitzer Prize for Drama Twice. In 2009 for *Ruined* and again in 2017 for *Sweat*. This puts her in the company of fellow playwrights Tennessee Williams, Thornton Wilder.

Katherine Bigelow (2010)

The first woman to win an Academy Award for Best Director, winning for the film “The Hurt Locker.”



Misty Copeland (2015)

Was promoted to principal dancer at the American Ballet Theatre making her the first African American Performer in that position in the company’s 75 year history.

Kelly Thornton (2019)

2019 becomes the first woman to hold the position of Artistic Director at the Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre in Winnipeg since the company’s founding in 1958.

Hera Nalam- Isabel Loxley
Photo by Kayla Gordon





Andrea del Campo- Hanna Storley
Photo by Kayla Gordon

THERE IS NOTHING EITHER GOOD
OR BAD, BUT THINKING MAKES IT SO.

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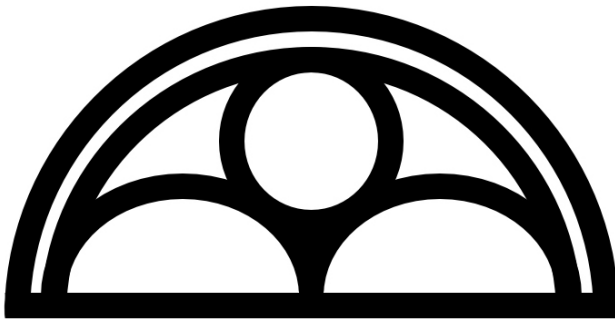
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