Our next offering, *The Tempest*, employs the theme of filial acrimony, subterfuge and forced exile to the extent that you have to wonder whether there’s an island at all, or whether Shakespeare, in the last play he may have penned alone, was communicating the unfortunate havoc that can be wrought from alienation. Through all the soaring poetry and phantasmagorical language, might we have a poet who really was simply telling us that he was lonely (a word he invented)?

At root we all really just want to be seen and heard and understood in order to connect and feel alive. *Edward II*, our subsequent piece, goes to the heart of these longings. David R. Gammons returns to direct this searing work by Christopher Marlowe, a man who may have been quite close to Will Shakespeare before meeting an untimely end at the tip of a sword through the eye.

Spring will spring as we welcome back Patrick Swanson into our midst with *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, a play often referred to as *A Midsummer’s Night Dream*. While paternal intransigence serves as a catalyst for banishment into the unknown, much mirthful mayhem ensues to our delight. Shakespeare believed in magic. Elizabethans did. We should. Such a willingness might make us available to the secrets and truths that Shakespeare was unfolding before us some 400 years ago. Thanks for being on board.

Every piece in our line-up this next season addresses misunderstandings and betrayals that lead to devastating fallout and crushing circumstances. While we’ve dubbed the season Family Fault Lines, not every exploration of pathos is devoid of mirth, and comic relief will be injected to complete the picture.

If you will forgive the sweeping assessment that all duplicity has its genesis in family relationships, then let’s examine *Hamlet*. Perhaps the most recognizable title in the English language, *Hamlet* is nonetheless immediate, personal, in-your-face. We can’t all relate to the notion of our uncle killing our father and sleeping with our mother, but we can empathize with a young man coming into his own in the face of seemingly insurmountable challenges. Doug Lockwood will direct this production with his incisive and intimate viewpoint, an approach we put a great deal of value on here at ASP.

Being in close proximity and relationship with our audience allows us to explore these works in the moment, night after night and season after season. We’re itinerant, and the very nature of the theatre is ephemeral, and yet we’ve built a body of work that has begun to define and identify us.

After a dozen seasons, we’ve pulled ourselves up onto a plateau of new horizons. While we can look back on our body of work and history of successful productions with pride, we now have an obligation to delve deeper into the material to discover the secrets that this playwright has laid out for us. The closer we get to unveiling the truth behind these secrets, the more we can call ourselves the stewards of the reflection of human nature.

Artistic Director
Resident Acting Company

Steven Barkhimer*
Lydia Barnett-Mulligan*
Marianna Bassham*
Jason Bowen*
Allyn Burrows*
Brooke Hardman*
Jesse Hinson*
Jennie Israel*
John Kuntz*
Paula Langton*
Doug Lockwood*
Marya Lowry*
Johnnie McQuarley*
Sarah Newhouse*
Maurice Emmanuel Parent*
Paula Plum*
Omar Robinson*
Mara Sidmore*
Richard Snee*
Bobbie Steinbach*
Adele Nadine Traub*
Michael Forden Walker*
Robert Walsh*

*Member of Actors’ Equity Association, the union of professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States

photos: Stratton McGrady
HAMLET

by William Shakespeare

directed by Doug Lockwood

October 5 – November 6, 2016
Church of the Covenant, Boston

A brilliant young man discovers himself at the intersection of devastating betrayals. If he acts, when? Hamlet straddles a fault line of family treachery, a chasm stretching out before his conscience. Love is the victim.

"The readiness is all."

"The rest is silence."

---

**Cast Includes:**

Peter G. Andersen (Horatio)
Marianna Bassham* (Gertrude)
Rory Boyd (Marcellus)
Poornima Kirby (Ophelia)
Ross MacDonald* (Claudius)
Alexander Platt* (Laertes)
Omar Robinson* (Hamlet)
Richard Snee* (Polonius)

**Designers Include:**

Scenic: Jenna McFarland Lord
Lighting: Deb Sullivan**
Costumes: David Cabral
Sound: Arshan Gailus**

*Member of the Actors’ Equity Association, the union of professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States
**Member of United Scenic Artists Local 829

Open Rehearsal
Saturday, Sept. 24, 2016
THE TEMPEST

Banishment proves to be a catalyst for opening a window on magic, wonder, and an island that serves as a stage for a tangled journey toward forgiveness. Tight lines snap.

“WE ARE SUCH STUFF AS DREAMS ARE MADE ON, AND OUR LITTLE LIFE IS ROUNDED WITH A SLEEP.”

by William Shakespeare

 directed by Allyn Burrows

December 1, 2016 – January 8, 2017

Willet Hall at United Parish, Brookline

“THE ISLE IS FULL OF NOISES”
“**My father is deceased; come, Gaveston, and share the kingdom with thy dearest friend.**”

**EDWARD II**

by Christopher Marlowe

directed by David R. Gammons

February 22 – March 19, 2017
Charlestown Working Theater, Charlestown

The great-grandfather of Richard II, Edward II showered favor on his treasured friend, Gaveston, leading to bitter resentment from the nobles with fatal consequences.

**Cast Includes:**
- Allyn Burrows* (Lancaster)
- David Jose Castillo (Prince Edward III)
- Nile Hawver* (Kent)
- Jennie Israel* (Isabella)
- Maurice Parent* (Edward II)
- Alex Pollock* (Mortimer)
- Eddie Shields* (Gaveston)
- Stewart Evan Smith (Spencer)

**Designers Include:**
- Scenic: Sara Brown
- Lighting: Jeff Adelberg**
- Sound: Dave Wilson**

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“**Can kingly lions fawn on creeping ants?**”
Dashed expectations force flummoxed lovers into the mystical wilderness where enchantment and confusion await, all for our gleeful benefit.

“Let me play the lion too. I will roar that I will do any man’s heart good to hear me.”

MIDSUMMER NIGHT’S DREAM

by William Shakespeare

directed by Patrick Swanson

May 10 – June 4, 2017

Multicultural Arts Center, Cambridge

Cast Includes:
Jake Athyal (Lysander)
Steve Barkhimer* (Bottom)
Elle Borders (Hermia)
Monica Giordano (Helena)
Johnnie McQuarley* (Oberon & Theseus)
Sarah Newhouse* (Puck)
Paula Plum* (Titania)
Mac Young (Demetrius)

Designers Include:
Scenic: Eric Levenson**
Sound: David Reiffel**

*Member of the Actors’ Equity Association, the union of professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States
**Member of United Scenic Artists Local 829

Open Rehearsal
Saturday, April 29, 2017

Student matinee 10 am
2 pm matinee
3 pm matinee
8 pm

Opening Night 8 pm

7:30 pm

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Summer Youth Intensive

To Learn More, Contact:
Director of Education Programs, Projects, & Partnerships, Mara Sidmore
mara@actorsshakespeareproject.org
Director of Youth Programs, Michael Forden Walker
mfw@actorsshakespeareproject.org

To Receive Our Education Project Brochure, Contact:
Education & Project Associate, Lindsay Williams
lindsay@actorsshakespeareproject.org

Photo: Stratton McCrady
SPECIAL PROJECT: I AM LEAR

As part of Bobbie Steinbach’s Resident Actor Fox Fellowship, she is leading collaborative workshops with women from the ASP company and a number of guest artists. Together, they are devising a piece inspired by Shakespeare’s King Lear, entitled I Am Lear. I Am Lear is a multi-media, movement-based, voice-based exploration of aging, loss, diminishment of power, and the subsequent gaining of clarity, truth and self-knowledge. As part of the devising process, Bobbie and colleagues have been working with community elders from Newbridge on the Charles in Dedham, and Miller’s River Housing for underserved seniors in Cambridge. The project also includes students from Boston University. This year-long devising process will culminate in free public performances of I Am Lear in June 2017.

Devising Team
ASP, Producing Organization
Judy Braha, Director
Allyn Burrows, Advisor
Susan Dibble, Choreographer
Lisa Linder, Photographer
Marya Lowry, Vocal Coach
Bobbie Steinbach, Producer
Adele Nadine Traub, Production Stage Manager
Joyce Van Dyke, Playwright

Cast
Lydia Barnett-Mulligan
Brooke Hardman
Jennie Israel
Marya Lowry
Sarah Newhouse
Mara Sidmore
Sara Stackhouse
Bobbie Steinbach
Lori Taylor
Ally Dawson, BU graduate
Willi Ego, BU student
Linda Perla, BU student
And many wise elder women from Newbridge and Miller’s River senior housing.

Boston University Student Designers
Aubrey Dube, Sound
Sean Anthony Perreira, Videography
Aiden Symes, Projections/art design

Staff
Jen Babcock, Audience Services and Development Associate
Mariana Bassham, Artistic Associate
Gregory Bloomfield, Director of Finance
Sandra Cohen, Director of Graphics & Design
Jennie Israel, Casting
Sarah Newhouse, Artistic Associate
Heather Stern, General Manager
Deb Sullivan, Production Manager
Mia Tavan, Director of Marketing
Michael Forden Walker, Director of Youth Programs
Lindsay Williams, Education & Project Associate

Lead Teaching Artists
Kadahj Bennett
Tom Grenon
Jennie Israel
Poornima Kirby
Gabriel Kuttner
Johnnie McQuarley
Maurice Parent
Paula Plum
Anneke Reich
Lori Shaller
Mara Sidmore
Magda Spasiano
Michael Forden Walker
Lindsay Williams

Board of Directors
David Sandberg, Chair
Nancy Buck
James Burke
Allyn Burrows
Austin de Besche
Patrick Dowdall
G. Neil Harper
Bruce Herrmann
Denise Jillson
Doug Lockwood
Geoff Nunes, Treasurer
Luke Salisbury
Becky Webber, Clerk

Consultants
Joanne Barrett
Public Relations

The ASP Acting Company is sponsored by the Margaret Stewart Lindsay Foundation. Margaret Stewart Lindsay was a citizen of Boston and lifelong supporter of the arts. The Margaret Stewart Lindsay Foundation proudly supports the artists at the Actors’ Shakespeare Project so they can, in turn, inspire us.

Leadership Team
Allyn Burrows, Artistic Director
Kimberly Dawson, Executive Producer
Mara Sidmore, Director of Education Programs, Projects, & Partnerships

Lead Teaching Artists
Kadahj Bennett
Tom Grenon
Jennie Israel
Poornima Kirby
Gabriel Kuttner
Johnnie McQuarley
Maurice Parent
Paula Plum
Anneke Reich
Lori Shaller
Mara Sidmore
Magda Spasiano
Michael Forden Walker
Lindsay Williams

Resident Acting Company
Steven Barkhimer*
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THE 2016-2017 ASP COMPANY

ASP Founding Artistic Director: Benjamin Evett
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All venues, dates, and directors are subject to change due to the itinerant nature of the company.