STUDIO EAST PRESENTS SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARK 2023

william shakespeare's

the Comedy of errors

live at juanita beach park

TREE!

JUNE 9: 6:30pm JUNE 10: 2pm & 6:30pm JUNE 11: 2pm

Directed by Julie Grant • Assistant Directed by Matthew Triplett www.studio-east.org

COMEDY OF ERRORS

By William Shakespeare

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Antipholous of Ephesus Antipholus of Syracuse Dromio of Ephesus Dromio of Syracuse Adriana Luciana Duke/Ensemble Egeon/Ensemble Aemilia/Officer/Ensemble Balthasar/Courtesan/Ensemble Angelo/Ensemble **Pinch/First Merchant** Luce/Ensemble Second Merchant/Town Crier/Ensemble

Vada Chambers Meredith Triplett Noa Hamudot Chelsea Inagawa Charlie Bovey Lily Luedke Tanish Telukunta Reason Israel Lily Bauer Rachel Kelley Hugh MacDonald Mason Jenks Rory Luedke Om Mutagi

ARTISTIC & PRODUCTION TEAM:

JULIE GRANT, Director MATTHEW TRIPLETT, Assistant Director

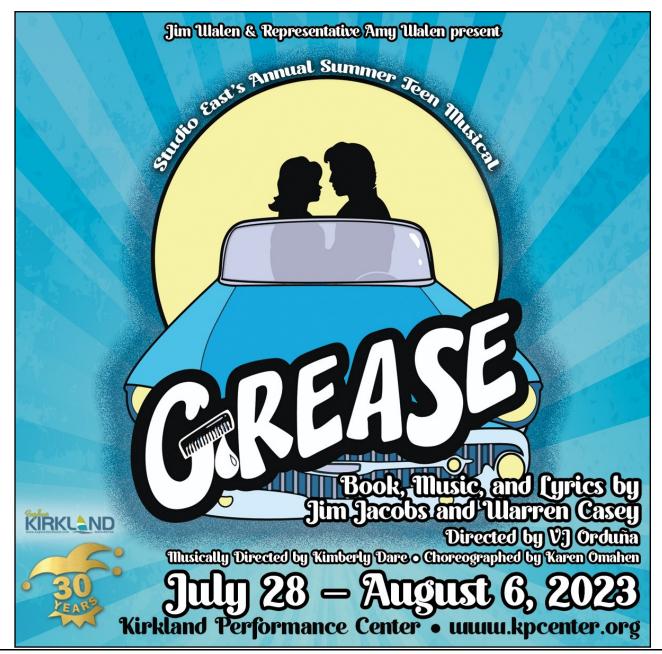
KATIE HART, Stage Manager

REASON ISRAEL, Music Director

ERIK EAGLESON, Set Design & Technical Director

LANI BROCKMAN, Costume Designer

CASSIE FITZGERALD, Production Manager



Studio Philosophy

Studio East is founded on the belief that the performing arts can make a difference in the lives of our children. Children who learn and practice the discipline, dedication, and teamwork required by the craft of theater develop skills that will be valuable assets throughout their lives, no matter what career they choose to pursue.

Mission Statement

Studio East works to create confident, compassionate, responsible young people through training in the art and craft of theater.

Welcome Home

We define inclusivity with two words: welcome home. The entire Studio East organization creates and supports an environment that embraces individuals from any background, culture, identity, orientation, or ability and strives to foster a sense of real belonging. Our hearts, minds, and doors are open to ALL.

Land Acknowledgement

Studio East acknowledges that we reside on the traditional lands of the first inhabitants of Seattle: The Coast Salish People which includes, but is not limited to, the Duwamish, Stillaguamish, Snoqualmie, Suquamish, Muckleshoot, and Tulalip Tribes. We extend our respects to the Coast Salish Peoples, their Elders – past, present, and emerging – for their wisdom and we acknowledge their everlasting connection to the land, waters, and culture.

Special Thanks: Laurence "larz" Nefzger, The City of Kirkland, and Explore Kirkland.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES:

The Comedy of Errors may be known as one of Shakespeare's silliest and most delightful plays, but it is also a story that takes us to the heart of who we are as humans: the desire to be known, the yearning for home (whether that is a place or a person), and a profound sense of our interconnectedness. The errors of the title are not just about mistaken identity, but also about a miss-step in Time and Relationship to Self and Others. As derived from the Latin errare, the word means to wander or be led astray. Or as the Century Dictionary of 1897 says, "An error is a wandering from truth, primarily in impression, judgment or calculation, and by extension of the idea, in conduct; it may be a state." Each character has a moment of "wandering from truth" whether that is a self-truth that originates from an internal state, or a more obvious external wandering. Each can result in a shattering of what was known and understood about the life of that character. "Losing oneself to find oneself is a frequent and powerful theme in Shakesperean drama, and especially the comedies" (Shakespeare After All by Marjorie Garber). Darkness as well as light weaves throughout the story. The play begins with the possibility of death, and ends with reconciliation and reunification of long-lost family. In between there is indeed, silliness and delight, as well as a healthy dose of confusion as the individual lives of the characters spin out of control. The tie that binds it all together is a constant movement towards self-knowledge, transformation, and restoration of harmony within relationships as well as the internal and external world of the characters.

One of the constant delights of the play is that the audience is always aware of the "errors" happening in real time. They are always "in on the joke" and as such, can follow the unfolding of the twisting path to the final reconciliation of self and family. We invite you all to keep track of the errors as they present themselves, and perhaps even to take a guess at how many will occur throughout the play. We also invite you to partake in fish-tossing, juggling, and the joy of co-creating the world of the *Ephesus Maritime Festival and Street Faire*!

As we wander together through the world of *The Comedy of Errors*, may we all share in the experience of "losing is finding, confusion the path to sanity; the stern edicts of the law may give way to mercy; and madness and dream offer a path to transformation" (Garber). ~Julie

PS. I'd like to offer gratitude to the cast and to Studio East. After a 10-year absence from directing, it has been a great gift and blessing to work with such remarkable and generous artists once again. In particular, I deeply appreciate Matthew and Katie for their remarkable collaboration. As Sebastian says in TN, "thanks, thanks, and ever thanks".

SYNOPSIS:

The Acting Troupe of the *Ephesus Maritime Festival and Street Faire* presents the story of 2 sets of twins (both named Antipholus and Dromio) separated from each other during a storm at sea. One set travels home with Egeon of Syracuse, while the other eventually lands in the port city of Ephesus. The mother, Aemilia, is seemingly lost to them all. Many years later Antipholus of Syracuse sets off with Dromio to find her brother and mother and eventually arrives in Ephesus. Egeon follows his daughter, and also arrives in Ephesus, only to find that he will be put to death unless he can pay the fee to save his life. None of the characters know that the two sets of twins are in the same city at the same time. Along the way, we meet merchants, a goldsmith, a courtesan, officers, musicians, household servants, an Abbess, and the Duke. We also meet Antipholus of Ephesus's wife Adriana and her sister Luciana. And then there's Pinch. You'll just have to meet him to understand how he fits into the story! Will the errors resolve? Will the twins be reunited? Join us as the confused townsfolk mistake one set for the other until the very last moments of the play.

MEET THE CAST



Lily Bauer



Charlie Bovey



Vada Chambers



Noa Hamudot



Chelsea Inagawa



Reason Israel



Mason Jenks



Rachel Kelley



Lily Luedke



Rory Luedke



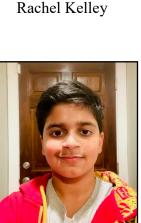
Tanish Telukunta



Hugh MacDonald



Meredith Triplett



Om Mutagi

Lily Bauer (Aemilia/Officer/Ensemble) age 17, previous credits include *Annie* and *Frozen*, *Jr*. This is her first Studio East production. When not onstage, she loves reading and storytelling. She thanks her family and Domi, her Irish dance teacher.

Charlie Bovey (Adriana) age 17, is a junior at Redmond High School. Previous shows include Baker's Wife in *Into the Woods*, Maria in *The Sound of Music* and Mrs. Peacock in *Clue*. She would like to thank her family and friends for their endless support!

Vada Chambers (Antipholus of Ephesus) age 17, is a junior at LWHS. She is a longtime Studio fan and has participated in so many of their camps she's lost track of which ones. She'd like to thank her dad, who performed as Dromio of Ephesus when he was in high school - she likes to think getting cast as Antipholus means she's the boss of their dynamic.

Noa Hamudot (Dromio of Ephesus) age 15, attends LW High School. Previous performances are *Into The Woods* (Little Red), *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Logainne), *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown* (Blanket), and *Legally Blonde* (Paulette) just to name a few. They would like to thank their family, fellow cast members, and Studio East for making this an amazing experience.

Chelsea Inagawa (Dromio of Syracuse) age 19, is a senior at Issaqauh High School and is thrilled to be attending NYU's Tisch School of Drama to pursue a BFA in acting in the fall. Previous credits include George Balanchine's *The Nutcracker* (x4), '*Twas the Night* (Vixen), *Into the Woods* (Witch), *The Wiz* (Yellow Brick Road), *Quilters* (Various, Soloist), & 25th Annual... (Dance Captain, Olive & Marcy u/s). She would like to thank her family, Charlie, and the studio for their unwavering support.

Reason Israel (Egeon/Ensemble) age 17, attends Cedar Park Christian High School. Previous credits include *Trapped, Broadway's Back!, The Man Who Came To Dinner* and *Much Ado About Nothing.* Reason also attends Studio East's year long Intensive. Reason also loves singing and playing the violin. He thanks his family, friends, and teachers.

Mason Jenks (Pinch/First Merchant) is a 9th grader at Woodinville High School were he recently performed in the musical *Curtains*. Mason made his Main Stage debut in *Hello Mrs*. *Piggle Wiggle* with Studio East in 2nd grade and has made Studio East his home ever since. He is excited for this new Shakespearean experience and is grateful to the staff, his friends, and family for their support. **Rachel Kelley** (Balthasar/Courtesan/Ensemble) age 15, a sophomore at LWHS, is thrilled to be in her 11th Studio East show! Last summer she was Don Pedro in *Much Ado*. Other favorites include '*Twas the Night* (2016, 2018-2020), *Legally Blonde* (LWHS) and *Three Musketeers* (LWHS), and tech for '*Twas 2022, James and the Giant Peach*, and *Mamma Mia*. Thanks for watching the show!

Lily Luedke (Luciana) age 15 (she/her), is thrilled to perform in her third Shakespearean production at Studio East! She is a Running Start junior at Bellevue College. When she's not onstage, Lily enjoys reading, swimming, and walking her dopey dog. A huge thank you to the *Comedy of Errors* cast, crew, & team, and enjoy the show!

Rory Luedke (Luce/Ensemble), age 13, is thrilled to be in her second Shakespeare show with Studio East! In her free time, Rory likes to make and eat cookies, read, swim, play with her siblings, and spend time with animals. She hopes you enjoy the show!

Hugh MacDonald (Angelo/ensemble) age 13, past productions include *Ready! Player! Wonderland!* (Old White Knight), *The Wrestling Season* (Willy), '*Twas the Night* (Rudolph), *Mamma Mia* (ensemble), and much more. When he is not onstage or doing tech, he is preparing to audition for another show. Hugh thanks his family and the whole creative team.

Om Mutagi (Second Merchant/Town Crier/Ensemble) age 13, attends Timberline Middle School. Om was part of the previous Studio East productions '*Twas the Night, The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* and *James and the Giant Peach*. Outside of Studio East, Om enjoys playing guitar, arts and craft, Marvel and video games. He loves his two dogs, Tuffy and Luna.

Tanish Telukunta (Duke/Ensemble) age 18, is in their second Studio East production, but they are familiar with acting as they have acted in numerous other productions. They also do choreography at Backstage. They would like to shout out to all the cast, tech, Matthew Triplett and Julie Grant for their constant support and commitment for helping make this production alluring.

Meredith Triplett (Antipholus of Syracuse) age 18, is a senior at the International Community School and she is planning to attend the University of Oregon in the fall. She would like to thank her family and friends for supporting her. Also, Julie, Katie, Matthew, the cast, and everyone else who contributed to making this show an incredible experience.

ABOUT THE ARTISTIC TEAM

JULIE GRANT (Director) – MFA, MA, MSW: In her 23-year career as an AEA professional actor, Julie performed at major regional theatres throughout the West Coast and Midwest, including Oregon Shakespeare Festival, A Contemporary Theatre, Milwaukee Repertory Theatre, Sacramento Theatre Company, Seattle Children's Theatre, American Player's Theatre, Group Theatre, Seattle Repertory Theatre, Bathhouse Theatre, and Pioneer Square Theatre. As a freelance teacher and coach since 1985, she has worked with actors from grade school through college, focusing primarily on Shakespeare, Vocal Production, and Tools for Artist Well-being, including 15 summers with the Studio East YAPI program. In addition to The Comedy of Errors, directing and script adaptation credits include A Midsummer Night's Dream, Much Ado About Nothing (2), Hamlet (2), Romeo and Juliet, Lunatic Love, Almost Here: A Journey of Self-Discovery, and The Journey. Julie is a co-creator of The Resilience Project: Exploring Mental Health through the Arts, and was a member of the Eastside Youth Mental Health Council from 2017-2018. She has a small therapy practice and joyfully spends time as an audition coach, guest teaching artist, and dramaturg.

MATTHEW TRIPLETT (Assistant Director) (He/Him) is a Studio East alumni and a five-year veteran of the Studio Shakespeare show. He has directed several shows with the Studio's ArtReach program, including *Much Ado About Nothing* at Kirkland Middle School. He is honored to return to the Mainstage Shakespeare program as an assistant director. He'd like to thank Simon Pringle for inspiring his love of Shakespeare and especially Katie and Julie for being such an incredible team. Thank you for the opportunity, Julie!

ERIK EAGLESON (Set, Lights, Sound Designer & Technical Director) has designed and built all Mainstage shows for the last six years at Studio East. He has also built and designed sets for Centerstage Theater, Iam8bit, and Events on the Edge. Love to his wife Abby, son Ezra, and his Families!

LANI BROCKMAN (Costume Designer) is the Founding Artistic Director at Studio East where she directs, teaches and works with a fantastic team full of talent and passion for children's theater! In addition to being the founding Artistic Director, Lani jumps at the chance to costume shows when needed. Recent shows include *The Wizard of Oz, Charlotte's Web, I Never Saw Another Butterfly* and *Hammered*.

KATIE HART (Stage Manager) is a stage manager, actor, and lighting and sound designer in the Seattle Area. She is thrilled to join Studio East for the fourth time after *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Quilters*, and *Into the Woods*. Katie is a lifelong Shakespeare fan and is thrilled to add *Comedy of Errors* to her lifetime achievement list. Much love to her wonderful husband Joe!

CASSIE FITZGERALD (Production Manager) recently received her Masters in Arts and Culture Management and Marketing from University of Denver. Cassie has worked at Second Story Rep, The Phoenix Theatre, The Fifth Avenue, Seattle Public Theatre, and Seattle Musical Theatre. She loves watching the kids at Studio East learn and grow over the course of a production(s) and is looking forward to many more. Love always to her husband James.



Studio East's 2023-2024 Season kicks off with two classic stories about friendships, old and new.



Thank you to our sponsors for making our '22-'23 season possible!

