

FROM THE DIRECTOR



Ah... *Hamlet*, one of Shakespeare's most famous plays. You may think you couldn't memorize Shakespeare, but methinks you already have. "To be ____" I am certain you were able to fill in the blank. While most people are able to complete the line above, if asked to expound about the play, the majority would be unable to do so. This is why we are so excited for you to join us in the world of the Danish royals at the castle Elsinore! The play begins during a time of great political upheaval, Hamlet's father has just died, his mother recently remarried—of all people—his uncle, and Hamlet has been called home from college to attend both funeral and marriage. The relationships, heightened emotions, and intrigue of this play resonate beautifully 400+ years later and can help us learn to make better choices, navigate tough times, and be true to ourselves.

This adaptation is set in a modern world of high fashion and social media. Everyone is carefully curating an image, and being watched throughout the production. It is meant to reflect the world we currently live in that is ever connected, yet seemingly disconnected. It is our hope that you will be able to relate to the characters, story, and themes found within this play, and learn something about yourself, our world, and how you can make choices for a better tomorrow. Thank you for your support of Utah Shakespeare Festival and our educational outreach. Enjoy the show!

—Stewart Shelley

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WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S



HAMLET

PRODUCTION STAFF

Director	Stewart Shelley
Sound Designer	Ernesto Salamanca
Scenic Designer	Benjamin Hohman
Props Designer	Marielle Boneau
Costume Designer	ArianMarie Moye
Costume Draper	Diana Girtain
Costume Technicians	Amanada Castanon, Madison Granger
Voice and Text Coach	Evelyn Case
Fight Director	Amie Root

FESTIVAL STAFF

Artistic Director	John DiAntonio
Executive Managing Director	Michael Bahr
Education Director	Katherine Norman
Associate Education Director	Stewart Shelley
Booking Managers	Garrett Elms, Austin Wright
Festival Production Manager	Richard Girtain
Properties Director	Benjamin Hohman
Assistant Properties Director	Marielle Boneau
Electrics Director	Scott Palfreyman
Assistant Electrics Director	Danielle Davis
Costume Director	Jeffrey Lieder
Festival Stage Manager/Artistic Associate	Tanya Searle

TOURING COMPANY

Tour Manager	Kellie M. Beck
Stage Manager	Fiona Misiura
Hamlet	Adam Koda
Horatio/First Player	Blaize Adler-Ivanbrook
Ophelia/Guildenstern/Player/Barnardo	Gianna Porfano
Laertes/Rosencrantz/Player	Darci Ramirez
Gertrude/Marcellus	Abigail Rose Nakken
Claudius/Ghost	Darin F. Earl II
Polonius/Osric/Gravedigger	Isa Guitian

ABOUT THE COMPANY

STEWART SHELLEY • HE/HIM • DIRECTOR

Stewart Shelley is the Associate Education Director at the Festival and has been associated with it, prior to his arrival here, through education for the past 20 years. He has directed many full-length plays and musicals throughout his career in education and community settings. Stewart believes plays are the absolute best classroom resource and is delighted to be bringing *Hamlet* to schools around Utah and the Intermountain West.

KELLIE M. BECK • SHE/THEY • TOUR MANAGER

Beck received a BFA in Theatre Performance-Directing from the University of Michigan and has worked at NYU Meisner, Signature Theater, Philadelphia Orchestra, and more. Credits also include *Ars Nova* on Off-Broadway.

FIONA MISIURA • SHE/HER • STAGE MANAGER

Misiura was the Production Assistant for the Festival's *Jane Austen's Emma The Musical* and *The Play That Goes Wrong* in 2023. She received a BA in Theater and History from Ramapo College of New Jersey and has worked at Urban Stages, United Solo Festival, and American Academy of Dramatic Arts Company to name a few.

ADAM KODA • HE/HIM • HAMLET

Koda's acting credits include productions of *Romeo and Juliet* at Texas Shakespeare Festival and Shakespeare in Delaware Park, as well as *Sense and Sensibility* and *Cinderella* at Pittsburgh Playhouse. He received a BFA in Acting from Point Park University as has been on Showtime's *American Rust*

BLAIZE ADLER-IVANBROOK • HE/HIM • HORATIO/FIRST PLAYER

Adler-Ivanbrook received a BA in Theater and Geology from Colorado College and has acted in productions of *Two Gentleman of Verona* at American Theatre of Actors and *Bliss Street* at Theater for the New City. Other credits include dancing at Laguardia Performing Arts Center.

GIANNA PORFANO • SHE/HER • OPHELIA/GUILDENSTERN/PLAYER/ BARNARDO

Porfano has acted in productions of *We Will Rock You* at Scranton Shakespeare Festival, *A Christmas Carol* at Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, and *Sherlock Holmes Returns* at Hunterdon Hills Playhouse to name a few. She received a BFA in Theatre from NYU and boasts teaching credits from Mayo Performing Arts Center and Scranton Shakespeare Festival.

DARCI RAMIREZ • SHE/HER • LAERTES/ROSENCRANTZ/PLAYER

Previously at the Festival, Ramirez has understudied for productions of *Romeo and Juliet*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *All's Well That Ends Well*. She has also served as dramaturg for *A Raisin in the Sun*. She received a BFA in Acting and a minor in Anthropology from Brigham Young University.

ABIGAIL ROSE NAKKEN • SHE/HER • GERTRUDE/MARCELLUS

Nakken's Festival credits include education tours of *Macbeth* and *Othello*, as well as productions of *Romeo and Juliet*, *Shakespeare in Love*, and *Cymbeline*. Other credits include *Julius Caesar* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at Cincinnati Shakespeare Company, as well as productions at Kentucky Shakespeare and Northern Stage. Nakken received a BFA in Classical Acting and Shakespeare Studies from Southern Utah University.

DARIN F. EARL II • HE/THEY • CLAUDIUS/GHOST

Earl has been in Festival productions of *Timon of Athens* and *Coriolanus* in addition to performing Off-Broadway in *Ye Bear & Ye Cubb*. He received a BA from Rider University. Other acting credits include productions of *A Midwinter's Night Dream* and *Romeo and Juliet* at Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey and *Richard II* at Luna Stage in West Orange, NJ.

ISA GUITIAN • SHE/THEY • POLONIUS/OSRIC/GRAVEDIGGER

Guitian received a BFA in Acting from University of Minnesota. Acting credits include productions of *A Christmas Carol* at Guthrie Theater, *Measure for Measure* at Illinois Shakespeare Festival, and *The Old Man and The Old Moon* at Door Shakespeare, as well as others.