FROM THE DIRECTOR



Shakespeare's cycle of English history plays follow a devastating upheaval in English rule and its consequences over generations. From the royal court to the dingiest tavern, from battlefields across England to towns under siege in France, the vicious fight over who should have the crown irrevocably alters the nation and its people.

Over the course of this epic series, characters from anonymous soldiers to historical monarchs question their system of government, the reasons they fight, and the moral code they follow. They test friendships, loves, alliances, faith.

The king of this production, *Henry IV*, came to the throne by means which rattled the nation. Did his predecessor, his cousin Richard II, abdicate the throne, or did Henry take it from him? Not even the people in the room when it happened could say for certain. As a result, when we drop into this story, Henry is an embattled ruler facing dangerously dissatisfied English nobility and active military conflict on the borders of Scotland and Wales. Rebellion is stirring.

Turns out, however, that Shakespeare's buried the lead. While his father is contending with a fracturing country, the teenage Prince of Wales, Hal, is enjoying his own rebellion. Running with a crowd of thieves and their ringleader, the entertaining and all-embracing Sir John Falstaff, Hal holds the wider world at arm's length... until the summons from his father.

Hal is young. The country's need never should have been his burden. But as the vanguard of a younger generation handed the mistakes and division of his elders, he can't ignore the state of his country forever. Will he serve? Where does his moral compass point, when no one truly has an answer? How Hal chooses to answer the call—to carve out his own way to lead, and to live—becomes the origin story of one of England's most beloved kings.

-Marcella Kearns

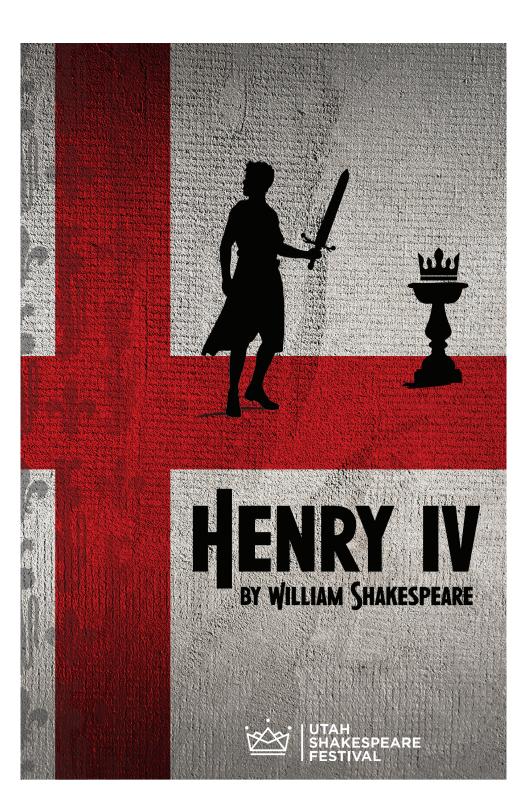


Special thanks to Seth Seegmiller

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PRODUCTION STAFF

Costume Designer Diana Girtain Voice and Text Coach Evelyn Carol Case Fight Director Amie Root

Director Marcella Kearns Scenic Designer Benjamin Hohman Props Designer Marielle Boneau Costume Technicians Amanada Castanon, Madison Granger

FESTIVAL STAFF

Artistic Director John DiAntonio Executive Managing Director Michael Bahr Education Director Stewart Shelley Education Programs Manager Sophia Gryzwacz Booking Managers Garrett Elms, Mallory Blue 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 Jeffrev Lieder Festival Stage Manager/Artistic Associate Tanya J. Searle

TOURING COMPANY

Tour Manager Darin F. Earl II Stage Manager Fiona Misiura

King Henry IV/Peto/Traveler Kenneth Miller Falstaff/Northumberland/Glendower Calvin Adams Hotspur/Gadshill/Traveler/Sheriff Elijah Eliakim Hernandez Lancaster/Poins/Mortimer/Douglas Adam Koda Worcester/Bardolph/Traveler/Carrier Anna Rock Westmorland/First Traveler/Hostess/Vernon Sierra Miguela Tune

Prince Hal Lucas Prizant

ABOUT THE COMPANY

MARCELLA KEARNS • DIRECTOR

Kearns is the Artistic Associate of Forward Theater Company and the former Education Director of Milwaukee Shakespeare. Her directing credits include Milwaukee Chamber Theatre, Third Avenue PlayWorks, First Stage, and Door Shakespeare, among others. She has taught at First Stage's Young Company, Marquette University, and University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. She was a Fulbright Fellow and is a member of Actors' Equity Association.

DARIN F. EARL II • HE/THEY • TOUR MANAGER

After performing in last year's Hamlet tour and Othello the year before, Earl II is now serving as tour manager. Previously he was also in the Festival's 2024 and 2023 main stage seasons, and received the Michael and Jan Finlayson Actor Award. Other acting credits include productions of Ye Bear & Ye Cubb off-Broadway, and A Midwinter's Night Dream, Romeo and Juliet, and more at Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey. He received a Bachelor of Arts from Rider University.

FIONA MISIURA • SHE/HER • STAGE MANAGER

Misiura is returning as stage manager, having filled this role for Hamlet last year. Previously at the Festival, she was assistant stage manager for Much Ado About Nothing in 2024 and the production assistant for Jane Austen's Emma The Musical and The Play That Goes Wrong in 2023. She has also worked at Urban Stages and United Solo Festival as a stage manager, and American Academy of Dramatic Arts Company as a production stage manager. Misiura received a Bachelor of Arts in Theater and History from Ramapo College of New Jersey.

CALVIN ADAMS • HE/HIM • FALSTAFF/NORTHUMBERLAND/GLENDOWER

Joining the tour for the first time, Adams' acting credits include Hamlet and A Midsummer Night's Dream at Montana Shakespeare in the Parks, A Christmas Carol at Guthrie Theater, and Romeo and Juliet at Park Square Theatre. He received a Bachelor of Fine Arts from University of Minnesota/Guthrie Theater Training Program.

ELIJAH ELIAKIM HERNANDEZ • THEY/THEM • HOTSPUR/GADSHILL/TRAVELER/ SHERIFF

Hernandez performed in Twelfth Night and Romeo and Juliet at Wisconsin Shakespeare, and Hamlet and The Tempest at Tennessee Shakespeare Company. This is their debut at the Festival. They received a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Performance at University of Texas, Rio Grande Valley.

ADAM KODA • HE/HIM • LANCASTER/POINS/MORTIMER/DOUGLAS

Koda is a returning actor, having played Hamlet in last year's tour. Some other productions have included Romeo and Juliet at Texas Shakespeare Festival, Sense and Sensibility at Pittsburgh Playhouse, and Twelfth Night at The Playground Theatre in London. Koda received a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Point Park University and has been in American Rust on Showtime.

KENNETH MILLER • HE/HIM • KING HENRY IV/PETO/TRAVELER

Joining the tour for the first time, Miller performed in The Last White Man at Next Act Theatre, The Merry Wives of Windsor and Henry IV at Door Shakespeare, and The Merchant of Venice and Othello at Shakespeare at Notre Dame. He boasts teaching credits at First Stage, Carthage College, Northern Illinois University, and more. Miller received a Master of Fine Arts from Northern Illinois University and a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Millikin University.

LUCAS PRIZANT • HE/HIM • PRINCE HAL

A first time tour member, Prizant acted in The Comedy of Errors and As You Like It at Montana Shakespeare in the Parks, Romeo and Juliet and A Midsummer Night's Dream at Oak Park Festival Theatre, and A Christmas Carol at Richmond Shakespeare Festival. Television and film credits include Paper Girls, Chicago Fire, and Save Face. He has taught at Montana Shakespeare in the Parks and received a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Acting from University of Cincinnati.

ANNA ROCK • SHE/HER • WORCERSTER/BARDOLPH/TRAVELER/CARRIER

This is Rock's first time on this tour. She has been in A Midsummer Night's Dream and The Comedy of Errors at Shakespeare and Company, The Taming of the Shrew at Texas Shakespeare Festival, and The Tempest at The Rooted Voyageurs. The actor boasts teaching credits from Shakespeare and Company, Story Pirates, and Lost Nation Theater. She received a Bachelor of Arts from Sarah Lawrence College.

SIERRA MIGUELA TUNE • WESTMORLAND/FIRST TRAVELER/HOSTESS/VERNON

Tune performed in A Midsummer Night's Dream and Othello at TheatreWorks and The City Dog and the Prairie Dog and ROY G. BIV at Creede Repertory Theatre. This is her debut at the Festival. She received a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre and Dance form University of Colorado, Colorado Springs.