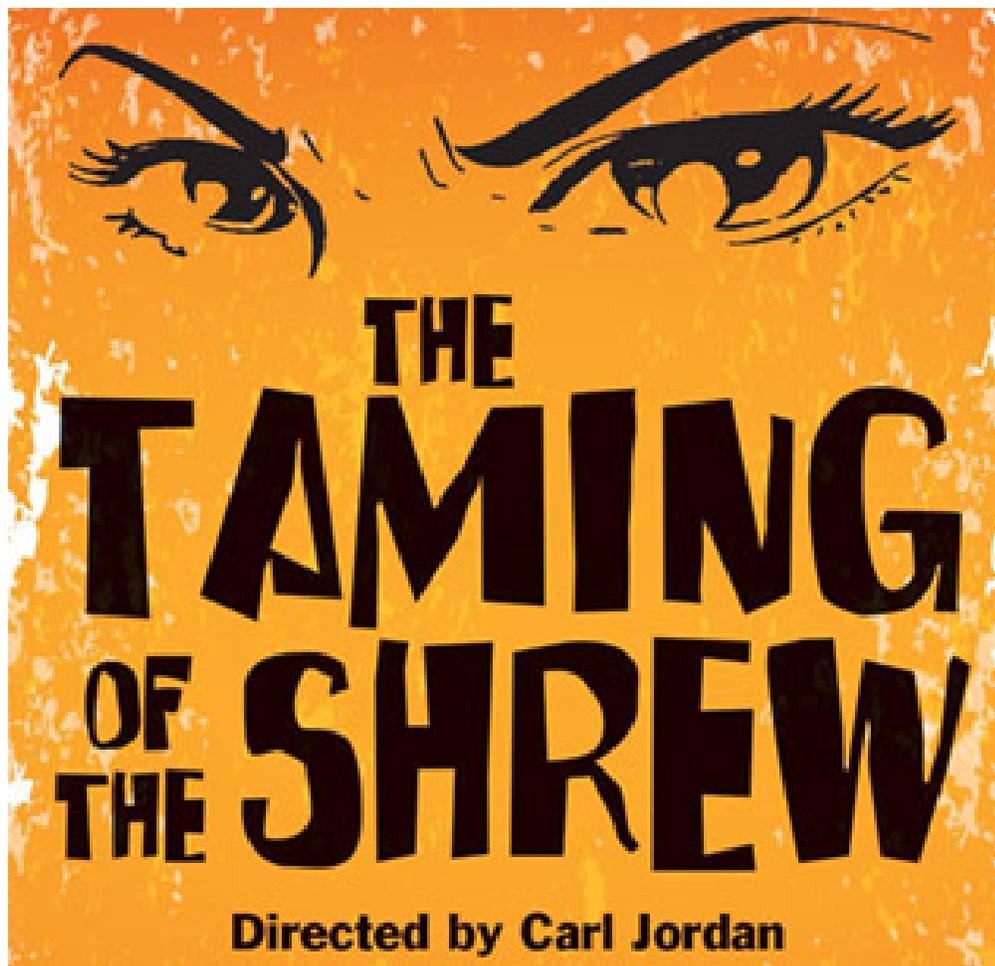


The Curtain Theatre presents
Shakespeare's



Old Mill Park Amphitheatre, Mill Valley, CA
Saturdays, Sundays, and Labor Day Monday
August 23rd to September 14th

2:00 PM

Preshow 1:40

“Frame your mind to mirth and merriment. . . . sit by my side and let the world slip. We shall ne'er be younger.” - from *Taming of the Shrew*

CURTAINTHEATRE.ORG

 **PLAYERS in alphabetical order:**

VINCENTIO	Paul Abbott
TRANIO	Steve Beecroft
CURTIS	Flynn Crosby
GRUMIO	Heather Cherry
PETRUCHIO	Alan Coyne
KATE	Melissa Claire
ENSEMBLE	Georgie Craig
ENSEMBLE	Miranda Craig
HORTENSIO	Seth Dahlgren
LUCENTIO	Derek Jepsen
BIANCA	Juliana Lustenader
PEDANT/PRIEST	Norman MacLeod
BAPTISTA	Tom Reilly
ENSEMBLE	Vicki Siegel
WIDOW	Emily Stone
TAILOR/OFFICER	Matthew Surrence
BIONDELLO	Phil Swanson
GREMIO	GreyWolf
YOUNG ENSEMBLE	Daniel Helmer, Isabella Schlitt

 **BAND**

CONCERTINA	Michele Delattre
GUITAR	Don Clark
FIDDLE	Hal Hughes
FLUTE	Alice Montgomery



 **PRODUCTION**

DIRECTOR	Carl Jordan
STAGE MANAGER	Diane Pickell-Gore
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER	Lisa Immel
CHOREOGRAPHER/PRODUCER	Steve Beecroft
MUSIC DIRECTOR	Don Clark
SET DESIGN	Steve Coleman
COSTUME DESIGN	Amaris Blagborne
COSTUME ASSISTANTS	Melissa Claire, Janice Deneau
WIG DESIGN	Roxie Johnson
PROPERTIES	Janelle Ponte, Vicky Siegel
PUBLICITY	Pat Meier-Johnson
GRAPHIC DESIGN	Mark Shepard
HOUSE/PROD ASST	Michele Delattre, Angelica Macmanus, Summer MacManus

 **DIRECTOR'S NOTE:**

William Shakespeare's play "The Taming of the Shrew" is, at its heart, a love story. It is about two star-crossed soul mates, Kate and Petruchio, who challenge each other to be better than they once were.

When we first meet Katharina Minola she is obviously stuck. She is treated like chattel and is written off by most characters as "an irksome brawling scold," "intolerably cursed" and a "shrew of impatient humor." In earlier generations, Kate was sometimes portrayed as someone who, throughout the course of the play, loses her will and mind. In recent years she is often played with more superficiality, delivering her final speech with a broad wink and nod to the audience, and not believing a whit of what she is saying. I believe, through careful readings, that this is not a play about the subjugation of a woman, but one where at the end, both Kate and Petruchio are free to choose their own lives, with each the better for having found each other.

"The Taming of the Shrew" was thought to be written some time in the 1590's and was played in a comic, farcical style. Shakespeare loved populist entertainment and the Globe theater would include cock fights and jugglers. He loved including popular songs and music of the day. His plays are meant to be roaring fun and highly accessible. While the Curtain Theater's production reverently keeps Shakespeare's text intact, we do include short selections of modern popular tunes, along with some fabulous new material written by the incredible Don Clark and Hal Hughes. Please have fun and enjoy some of the North Bay's most gifted actors perform the Curtain Theater's 2015 production of "Taming of the Shrew." -Carl Jordan

THE COMPANY

Paul Abbott (Vincentio). Paul's theatrical odyssey began nearly 60 years ago on the stage at Park School, still standing just a mile or so from this beautiful amphitheatre in Old Mill Park. He returns for his fifth production with the Curtain Theatre. Last season he portrayed Prospero in "The Tempest." More recently he performed the title role in Marin Shakespeare Company's "Cymbeline." Paul was a member of the prestigious Conservatory Group at the American Conservatory Theatre in 1969-70.

Steve Beecroft (Tranio, choreographer, producer). This is Steve's sixth show in Old Mill Park with the Curtain Theatre. Last summer he played Caliban in "The Tempest." Other major roles with the Curtain include Claudio in "Much Ado about Nothing" and Cookie, choreographer and producer in "Return to the Forbidden Planet," for which he won an award from SF Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle for best featured actor in a musical in 2014. He also was the Pirate King in "Pirates of Penzance" and Skye Masterson in "Guys and Dolls" with Novato Theatre Co. Thank you for supporting theatre in Mill Valley. Enjoy the show!!!

Amaris Blagborne (costume design) has had a lifelong passion for the arts. She received her costume design degree at Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising. Upon graduation she worked in fabric and textile design, before moving into costume design full time. Amaris has worked on many dance and theater productions including: "A Couple of Blaguards," "Crimes of Passion" for Cinnabar, "High School Musical, and others for SYT. "Mikado," "Pirates of Penzance," "HMS Pinnafore," "Most Happy Fella" for West Marin Players. "Oliver Twist" for Marin Theatre Company and over a dozen shows for Pied Piper Productions and North Bay Rep. She has also worked with Carmen Carnes Dance Ensemble, and Roco Dance & Fitness, among others. Amaris is proud and honored to be a part of such an amazing cast and crew for the production of "The Taming of the Shrew."

Heather Cherry (Grumio) After a 25 year rest, this is Heather's fifth - FIFTH!! - play with The Curtain Theater! Thank you Carl and Michele, and Steve and Don, and thank you all for coming to the show: you make live Shakespeare in the redwoods possible! Hope you brought yer dog! (Thank you to PBC and CC!)

Don Clark (music director) has taken part in fifteen of the sixteen summer shows mounted by the Curtain Theatre. A journalist by day, he regularly collaborates on music with spouse Michele Delattre; both play in the Curtain band along with Alice Montgomery (flute) and Hal Hughes (fiddle). He and Hal contributed original music for this production, as well as adapting traditional Italian and pop tunes.

Steve Coleman (set designer) is a longtime artist in Mill Valley and award winning set designer. He is known for his loving, often fantastical creations of everything from small models to the elegant reborn stage at the 142 Throckmorton Theatre.

Alan Coyne (Petruchio). This is Alan's Curtain Theatre debut. Previous roles include Lady Macbeth, a praying mantis, and a space monster made of processed cheese. You can see him next (tonight, perhaps) as Stevie in Good People at the Waterfront Playhouse in Berkeley (Aug 27-Sep 6). He would like to thank his wife, Angela, for keeping him untamed.

Melissa Claire (Kate) is thrilled to be part of this fantastic company. She will be playing Vanda in "Venus in Fur" for Marin Onstage in February. Credits include "As You Like it" (Rosalind), "Clybourne Park" (Betsy/Lindsey), "A Midsummer Night's Dream" (Bottom), "Return to the Forbidden Planet" (Ariel), "Avenue Q" (Lucy/Nicky/Trekkie 2nd), "Noises Off" (Brooke). She is a six time San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle acting nominee and a Best Costume Design award winner (2015) and was the recipient of a directing/acting internship with the Yale School of Drama Summer Cabaret. Thanks to Will for the words, L. Peter for the speech, and Carl for the fierceness.

Georgie Craig (Ensemble Characters) is excited to be performing in her sixth play with the Curtain. Recently, she was seen in the Investigation Discovery series "My Strange Criminal Addiction." Georgie is delighted to be sharing the stage with her daughter, Miranda. When not performing, Georgie is a substitute teacher and freelance writer.

Miranda Craig (Ensemble Characters) is delighted to rejoin the Curtain Theater for her third production. Miranda performed previously in "Much Ado About Nothing" and "Merry Wives of Windsor." Miranda has also performed in "Life of Galileo" and "Our Town." Miranda loves to act and can be seen in Apple and Google ads.

Flynn Crosby (Curtis) is excited to be working with Curtain again having previously worn hats, swords, and masks in "Much Ado About Nothing" and "King Stag."

Seth Dahlgren (Hortensio) is ecstatic to be reuniting with his "Avenue Q" alumni and friends, Carl Jordan and Melissa Claire. He just finished a 6th Street Playhouse production of "Buddy!" The Buddy Holly Story as the Big Bopper! In his spare time he loves composing music, and hopes that he has learned enough from the bard to write the ultimate Klingon Opera. He dedicates his performance to three shrews he grew up with, his biggest fans and supporters, Mom, Amber, and Leah. QaPla'

Michele Delattre (band/production) is a founding member and artistic director of the Curtain Theatre where she happily acts, directs, and plays in the band with her husband, Don Clark. Thanks to everyone for their hard work and love in bringing free Shakespeare to Old Mill Park for 16 years!

Janice Deneau (costume asst) is pleased to be working with Curtain Theatre for the first time, having costumed over 20 shows for Novato a Theater Company. Favorites

include “Lion in Winter,” “As You Like It,” “Return to Forbidden Planet,” “Leading Ladies” and “Fiddler on the Roof.” She would like to thank her family for their love and support. Janice appreciates the opportunity to share her passion for costumes and theatre. Enjoy the Magic!

Daniel Helmer (Young Ensemble) is delighted to join in his third Curtain Theatre production this year and honing a new skill: swashbuckling! A seventh grader at Hall Middle School in Larkspur, Daniel enjoys drawing, computers, and Aikido.

Hal Hughes (band) has worked with music and theater in the Bay Area since the 1970s, with Tumbleweed, Overtone Theater, Nightletter Theater, Subterranean Shakespeare, Masquers, Third Rail Power Trip, North Beach Beckett, and others. He currently plays and records with Gift Horse, Smooth Toad, and Microblind Harvestmen. He’s delighted to be back for his fifth Curtain production.

Derek Jepsen (Lucentio) is making his Curtain Theatre debut. He most recently performed as the Officer in College of Marin’s “Comedy of Errors.” Before that he played Jack in NTC’s “The Bat.” Jepsen’s other roles include Charles in Jane Austen’s “Persuasion,” directed by MaryAnn Rodgers, and prior to that in “The Fox on the Fairway,” directed by Julianna Rees. He has studied Acting and Improv under Dr. Lisa Morse at College of Marin, where he performed in his first show as Hortensio in “Taming of the Shrew,” directed by the legendary James Dunn. He thanks his family and friends for their wonderful support.

Carl Jordan (director) is an award winning freelance director/choreographer/teacher working in the Bay Area. He has twice been awarded the prestigious San Francisco Bay Area Theater Critics Circle Award for “Best Direction,” and twice also for “Best Choreography” of a musical. Last year his “Return to the Forbidden Planet, the Musical” won “Best Entire Production.” Next upcoming shows include, “One Man, Two Guvnors” at Six Street Playhouse, “Venus in Fur” for Marin Onstage, and “Good People” for Masquers Playhouse.

Juliana Lustenader (Bianca) is very excited to be working with Curtain Theatre for the first time. She is a Bay Area native and a proud graduate of San Francisco State University’s Theatre Arts Department. Her most recent productions include “Grey Gardens” (Young Little Edie), “Yeast Nation” (Jan-the-Famished) and “A Wake” (Sunshine). When she is not acting, Juliana enjoys directing, playwriting, songwriting and knitting. Catch her as Sister Leo in Altarena Playhouse’s mega version of Nonsense this October.

Norman MacLeod (Pedant/Priest) trained with York Repertory Theatre in England. Since 1965 he has performed in many local productions. With Curtain Theatre he played Duke Senior in “As You Like It” and Justice Shallow in “Merry Wives of Windsor”. Other recent roles are Sir Anthony Absolute in “The Rivals”; Sir Toby

Belch in “Twelfth Night”; Berenger the First in “Exit the King”; and Antigonus in “The Winter’s Tale”. However, “Taming of the Shrew” remains Norman’s favorite Shakespeare play, ever since he played Petruchio many years ago. Norman thanks his wife, Dianne, for her continued support and forbearance.

Alice Montgomery (band) has been a part of the Curtain Band since its first production in 2000. She has accompanied for Virago theatre as well as several productions for Actors Ensemble in Berkeley including Vicki Siegel’s “Hot Day in Ephesus” and this past year’s production of Walter Halsey Davis’ “Panhandle.” She teaches piano and flute in Oakland and Piedmont.

Diane Pickell-Gore (Stage Manager) is happy to be back at Curtain Theatre for her fifth summer. She has previously stage managed “The Tempest”, “King Stag”, “Much Ado About Nothing”, “The Merry Wives of Windsor” and two productions of “Return to the Forbidden Planet”. She has also stage managed for Marin On Stage, Marin Baroque, Ross Valley Players, Novato Theater Company, Stapleton Theater Company, and Lorraine Hansberry Theatre. On Sunday mornings can be found “stage managing” services at Holy Innocents’ Episcopal Church in Corte Madera.

Tom Reilly (Baptista Minola) is delighted to be working with Curtain Theatre again, having previously appeared in “As You Like It” in 2010 and “The Merry Wives of Windsor” in 2011. He has also recently worked with Town Hall Theatre (“Moon Over Buffalo”), Ross Valley Players (“Impressionism,” “November,” “The Miracle Worker,” “Sabrina Fair”), the New Conservatory Theatre Center (“The Paris Letter”), and the Douglas Morrisson Theatre (“Candide,” “Eurydice,” “Grey Gardens”). He is very happy to be included in such a talented ensemble. This role gives him a new appreciation of the plight of single parents.

Isabella Schlitt (Young Ensemble). This is Isabella’s ninth play and her third Shakespeare play. She loves Harry Potter, pugs, Legos and Nutella, and she would like to be a skydiver and actress when she grows up. Roles include Peaseblossom in “A Midsummer Night’s Dream,” Elephant Bird in “Seussical,” and Alice and the Cheshire Cat in “Alice in Wonderland.”

Vicki Siegel (Ensemble Characters, properties) is very happy to be doing her 8th show with the Curtain. Previous roles have been the Nurse in “Romeo and Juliet,” Trinculo and Gonzala in two productions of “Tempest,” Mistress Quickly in “Merry Wives of Windsor,” Ursula in “Much Ado About Nothing” and a Merchant in her original musical “A Hot Day in Ephesus,” based on “Comedy of Errors.” Other roles have been Lady in Tracy Letts’ “Superior Donuts”; Kate in MacDonagh’s “The Cripple of Inishmaan”; and recently Yussel the Hatter in the Berkeley Playhouse production of “Fiddler on the Roof.” Coming up is another original musical, “The Wife of Bath/Marriage of Sir Gawain” in the not too distant future.

Emily Stone (Widow) graduated from UC Berkeley in 2012 and still lives in Berkeley. This is her first production since 2012, when she played Rosalind in “As You Like It,” and Hedda Tesman in “Hedda Gabler.” It was a good year.

Matthew Surrence (Tailor/Servant/Officer) is happy to return to the Curtain Theatre, where in 2011 he played Pistol, Rugby, and Robert in “The Merry Wives of Windsor.” A playwright as well as an actor and director, Matthew is the author of “The Agony of the Leaves,” a romantic comedy set in Berkeley, and “’06: A Not Entirely Untrue Tale of San Francisco,” about the 1906 earthquake and fire. He sends his love and gratitude to KaRynn for all her love and support.

Phillip Swanson (Biondello). This is Phillip’s fourth time with Curtain Theater, having previously appeared in “Return to the Forbidden Planet” and in the park for “Merry Wives of Windsor” and the world premiere of “A Hot Day in Ephesus.” He has also performed in a number of shows with Santa Rosa’s 6th Street Playhouse and the Novato Theater Company including “The Drowsy Chaperone,” “It’s a Wonderful Life,” “A Christmas Carol,” “Pirates of Penzance,” and as the Dentist in “The Little Shop of Horrors.” He would like to thank Steve Beecroft in particular, for without him Phillip’s return to theater might never have happened.

Grey Wolf (Gremio) I am new to the Curtain park shows but not to Marin stages. I played the Actor in “Woman in Black” for Marin Onstage, Harpagon the titular Miser for Ross Valley. Next are parts in “Medea” for Breadbox Theatre in San Francisco, and I will be again at Marin Onstage in Pinter’s “Dumbwaiter.” I have been fortunate to be Richard III, Hamlet, Oberon, Capulet, Leonato, Cassius; The Player of “Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead,” Thomas in “Lady’s Not For Burning,” Larry in “Inspecting Carol,” Willy in “The Sunshine Boys,” and many parts around the Bay Area. I hope I entertain you well.

 *THANK YOU!*

County of Marin and its Board of Supervisors., City of Mill Valley
Mill Valley Parks and Recreation Department and Arts Commission
Outdoor Art Club

Michael and Chandra Rudd Foundation

Charles Rosenbaum Foundation, UBS

Mill Valley Market, Peet’s Coffee in Mill Valley, Cabaline

Church of Our Savior in Mill Valley

Actors Ensemble of Berkeley, Marin Shakespeare company

Novato Theater Company, Masquers Playhouse, St. Vincent’s School,

Mike Cole, Pam Abbott Enz, Gary Gosner, Matt Higuera

Russell Johnson, Will Lamers, John Leonard, Lesley Scott

The Curtain Theatre is a 501c3 non-profit organization.
