



We are such stuff
As dreams are made on

THE TEMPEST

BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE
DIRECTED BY CHAD THOMAS

Notes from the Director

As a play, *The Tempest* exhibits a real and profound sense of anxiety about issues related to knowledge and learning. Prospero's paramount triumph is his capacity to educate Miranda, and one of his overriding regrets is his inability to educate Caliban effectively. He values his books (symbols of knowledge) even higher than his Dukedom, which directly led to the coup d'état that resulted in his banishment. Among the secondary characters there is a similar interest in learning and knowing: Miranda wants to know the world, Ferdinand wants to know Miranda, Alonso wants to know the fate of Ferdinand, and Gonzalo blames the ills of mankind knowing too much. For this production, we use this attentiveness to knowledge to explain Prospero's seemingly supernatural abilities. If Prospero were alive today, what would be his most likely vocation? An engineer, of course; thus, we have attempted to situate Prospero's talents within the context of technology. As a result, the technical elements in this production become more significant than in many productions of Shakespeare's plays.

Additionally, my casting choices reflect a similar sense of self-consciousness. In choosing actors for several roles, for example, I follow a practice from Shakespeare's time and have employed cross-gender casting; as a result, many women are playing roles intended as male characters, which is a decidedly modern take on a theatrical tradition employed in Shakespeare's time (when males played all the parts). Almost without exception, the women I cast in men's roles decided to play their characters as male (rather than change the gender of the character). It's a tremendous challenge for an actor to play a different gender, yet gender-bending is one of the explicit (and transgressive) pleasures found in so many of Shakespeare's plays, that these women's decisions seemed to make sense, and I am extremely satisfied with the work of those actors who have elected to play gender-crossed parts.

Another challenge for a modern production comes in Act 4, which includes a masque scene that is typically edited from contemporary performances. In the 17th century, masque was a popular type of performance, especially among the elite class that highlighted spectacle and music. Its characters were broadly drawn representations from antique mythology or personifications of otherwise abstract ideas. Because there is no corollary for modern theatre-goers, I faced a decision about how to present this scene for audiences in present-day Huntsville. So, instead of treating the masque like an opera or a music video (both valid choices, which I discussed with my talented designers), I settled on staging the scene like a drag show, with overblown representations of gender, a camp sense of humor, and a highly stylized manner of performance. While it isn't a literal drag show, it nevertheless gives the flavor of one, and the masque has ended up being one of my favorite moments in the production; I hope you enjoy it, too.

Thank you for attending UAHuntsville's second foray into local Shakespeare, and I thank you sincerely for your continued patronage.

Chad Thomas
Asst. Professor

The Tempest

by William Shakespeare

ACT I – SCENE I

Aboard the royal ship of the King of Naples

ACT I – SCENE II

At Prospero's home

ACT II – SCENE I

On the island

ACT II – SCENE II

On another part of the island

INTERMISSION – 15 minutes

ACT III – SCENE I

At Prospero's home

ACT III – SCENE II

On the island

ACT III – SCENE III

On another part of the island

ACT IV

At Prospero's home

ACT V

At Prospero's home a few moments later

The CAST



Shannon Graham (Prospero)

Shannon Graham received her MA from the English Department at UAHuntsville and presently teaches acting for the Communications Arts Department. She has had the pleasure of directing numerous productions with UAHuntsville since 2006, including the premier of *Four Spirits* by Sena Jeter Naslund, *A Doll's House* by Henrik Ibsen and *Crumbs from the Table of Joy* by Lynn Nottage. She is the regional coordinator for *Poetry Out Loud*, a high school recitation competition that takes place yearly across the United States. She would like to thank all the cast members for their patience and all who have given their time and support: cast members, Birdie, Trish, and Aisha Richardson. Most of all, she would like to thank her Mother, “whose honor cannot be measured or confined” (5.1.135-36). Sometimes, only the words of Shakespeare will do.



Marilyn West (Miranda)

Marilyn is so excited to have her first experience with Shakespeare! She is a recent graduate of UAHuntsville, where she received a music degree and a minor in theatre. Marilyn has been involved in several shows with UAHuntsville, including roles like Julie Burl in *Where the Great Ones Run*, and Dot in *Sunday in the Park With George*. She continues to perform in the Huntsville community. To my friends, family, and teachers: thanks for the support and unwavering encouragement. Enjoy the show!



Aerial Gill (Ariel)

Aerial Gill is currently a senior B.A. English major at UAH due to graduate in 2013. Recently a Musical Theatre major at Shorter University, she has always enjoyed performing Shakespeare and is thrilled to be playing such a fun part with such a great cast. Thanks to everyone for making this production possible!



Megan Tompkins (Caliban)

Megan Tompkins is a senior History major at UAH with a Theatre minor. She has enjoyed being a part of the theatre program here, and has appeared in past productions such as *The Rimers of Eldritch*, *Autobahn*, and, most recently, *Where the Great Ones Run*. She also appeared in last year's production of Shakespeare's *The Comedy of Errors* where she made her first appearance as a drunken, womanizing goldsmith and is thrilled to have the opportunity to take it up a notch as Caliban. She assures her mother that this is not a trend. Megan would like to thank Chad, Susan, Harwell, and her husband Scott for having such incredible confidence in her. Enjoy the show!



Joel Cobbs (Ferdinand/Mariner)

Joel is a senior majoring in English with the Technical Writing Cognate. His first play was the 2011 UAH production of *Sunday in the Park With George* and this is his first attempt at Shakespeare. He spends his spare time writing and working. He would like to thank Dr. Thomas for giving him this opportunity.



James Lawlor (Alonso/Nymph)

The Tempest is James's second production with UAH Theatre, after *The Consul* last fall, and eleventh overall after a four-year career with the Whole Backstage Community Theatre in Guntersville, AL. James was a biochemistry and math major at UAH and was often seen performing in the Concert and Chamber choirs. He would like to thank Chad for giving him his first opportunity to perform Shakespeare; his stage manager, Birdie, for tempting him into auditioning; and his amazing family, friends, and coworkers who make it all worth it.



Mandy Hughes (Gonzalo/Juno)

Mandy L. Hughes is a graduate student in UAH's Department of English. She earned a B.S. in Communications & Theatre and a B.B.A. in Management & Entrepreneurship from the University of North Alabama, where she appeared in and worked on many productions. You may have seen her locally in shows such as UAH's *Where the Great Ones Run* or Renaissance Theatre's *The Rocky Horror Show*. After working on the production side of last year's *The Comedy of Errors*, she is thrilled to be treading the boards in *The Tempest*. She sends love and thanks to Chad, David, Birdie, the cast and crew, and most of all to V, S, X, and our patrons.



Adam Perry (Sebastian/Nymph)

Adam is a senior majoring in Communication. This is his third major production with UAHuntsville Theatre. Adam would like to thank his family and friends for supporting him, and his fellow actors for being amazing to work with. He would also like to thank Alpha Psi Omega Theatre Honor Society for their amazing work this season.



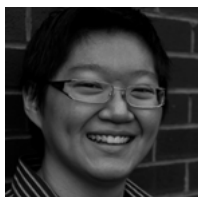
Adam Schneider (Antonio/Nymph)

Adam Schneider is a student of Theatre and Psychology here at UAH. He has performed in productions with the Drury Lane Troupe at Drury University in Springfield, MO, with roles in *A Few Good Men*, and the *Student Directed One Acts*. Excited to be a part of this production, this is his first role at UAH. He would like to thank Shakespeare, his family, and our Director and Crew for all their hard work.



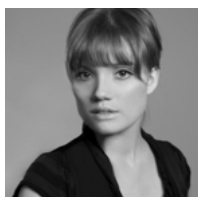
Adam Ebner (Francisco/Reaper)

Adam Ebner attended Lee High School. He pursued a college degree at the age of sixteen and after two years, he joined the U.S. Army where he served three years of Active Duty. He is back in college at UAH pursuing a degree in Optical Engineering and serving as a reservist in the U.S. Army. His interests include photography, music, and running. *The Tempest* is his first play.



Kelsey Thacker (Adrian/Ceres/Mariner)

This is Kelsey's first production at UAH, although she has previously worked with the Theatre Department doing tech work. A senior sociology major, Kelsey is also the treasurer for the UAHuntsville GSA and a member of Alpha Kappa Delta. She would like to give an enthusiastic "thank you" to Dr. Thomas for including her in *The Tempest*.



Raye Bonham Carter (Trinculo)

Raye is thrilled to perform with UAH for the second time. After a five year hiatus from performing Shakespeare, it's wonderful to be back! She has never played a man before, so this is a new and ridiculously fun experience for her. Her previous credits include Maggie Saunders in *Lend Me a Tenor!*, Woman in *Autobahn*, Elaine Harper in *Arsenic and Old Lace*, Helena in *All's Well That Ends Well*, Aunt Mary in *How I Learned To Drive*, Beulah Binnings in *Orpheus Descending*, Helena in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Dejanira in *The Mistress of the Inn*, Chorus in *The Vagina Monologues*, Belinda Bunker in *Season's Greetings*, and the Prince in a panto *Cinderella*. She would like to thank her father, mother, brother, and sister for putting up with her theater rants, her mother-in-law, father-in-law, and sister-in-law for allowing her into the family, and her sainted husband for his love and support. Thank you all for supporting the arts at UAH and enjoy the show!



Marylyn Coffey (Stephano/Mariner)

Long ago and far away, Marylyn contemplated acting professionally, but was distracted by love and work (i.e., reality). Nevertheless she's performed in various capacities over the years at play readings, *Posey Peep Shows*, and other local events. She sang in the chorus of the Huntsville Opera Theater, and had fun doing props for *La Boheme*. When she started work toward an English master's, she had to take a "remedial" Shakespeare course and was reminded of how much she had always loved his comedies, so playing Stephano is a wish come true! Marylyn is married to Russell Davis, an actual magician who will NEVER give up his books. She thanks him and her kind friends for putting up with her antics.



Matthew Hammond (Boatswain/Reaper)

Matt is a junior at UAHuntsville studying History and Social Science and this is his first performance with UAHuntsville Theatre. He has been out of theatre for several years and is happy to have been welcomed by his fellow actors. He would like to thank his stage manager, Birdie, for pushing him into this, Chad for giving him the chance, and his friends and family for their support.



Midori Roman (Ship-Master/Iris)

This is Midori Roman's first production with the UAH Theatre Department. However it is not her first production as she was a member of Columbia Campus theatre's productions back in high school. She is delighted to be a part of *The Tempest* and hopes to continue being part of UAH Theatre Department's productions.



A Bright New Boise
October 2012 - UAH Theatre

The PRODUCERS



Dr. Chad Allen Thomas – Director

Chad is delighted to be able to work with UAHuntsville's talented pool of actors, technicians, and designers for a second time. He previously directed *The Comedy of Errors* in collaboration with UAHuntsville Theatre, and Chad's credits include work with The Theatre Collective (Ann Arbor, MI), Impulse Productions (Denton, TX), Setkani Encounters (Brno, Czech Republic), and Shakespeare in Santa Fe (Santa Fe, NM). In addition to a Ph.D. in English from the University of Michigan, Chad earned Master's degrees in English and Theatre from the University of North Texas and a BFA in Acting from the University of New Mexico.



Susan Guthrie - Consultant in Voice, Movement, and Poetry

Susan Guthrie is a stage director and dance/fight choreographer. She is a Humanities Scholar and Master Teacher in Voice and Speech and Verse Literature. Susan has served on college and university faculties and she is a 2012-2013 Guest Artist in Theatre and Communications at UAHuntsville – joining *The Tempest's* artistic staff and teaching as guest artist in acting classes and performance workshops. She is a Teaching Artist for the National Endowment for the Arts, the Poetry Foundation, New York State Alliance for Art Education, and the Alabama State Council for the Arts; plus an individual artist for many state arts councils. Ms. Guthrie is the author and artist of *The Huntsville Shakespeare Project* now in its third year. Susan is also the Artistic Director of *Twelfth Night*, The Theatre Company in New York. She is the author of *Shakespeare in the Classroom* and *The City Shakespeare Projects; The Schoolchildren's Blizzard, and The Teacher's Poetry Companion*. She lectures and coaches throughout the country for Poetry Out Loud. Ms. Guthrie is a poet with readings in Chicago and New York, but most honored to have been inducted into Alabama's Coweeta Poets.



Birdie Jones - Stage Manager

This is Birdie's fifth production with the UAH Theatre Department, past shows including *Sunday in the Park with George* where she was nominated for a Kennedy Center Scholarship for stage management. She spent this past summer in Cherokee, NC stage managing for the Mountainside Theatre's productions of *Unto These Hills* and *A Cherokee Family Reunion*. She is the president of Alpha Psi Omega Theatre Honor Society and has served in the past as Treasurer. When not organizing rehearsals and chasing actors with sticks, she performs with the UAH wind ensemble, knits, and writes. She sends all her love and appreciation to her cast, crew and especially to her director. And to her family and husband... thanks for loving me doing what I'm doing as much as I love doing it.



Eric McCowan - Assistant Stage Manager

Eric McCowan was last seen as Alex in UAHuntsville's *A Bright New Boise* and as Dromio of Ephesus in UAHuntsville's *A Comedy of Errors*. He has also appeared in productions in the Huntsville community. Eric is happy to be working behind the scenes on *The Tempest* under the tutelage of the great Birdie Jones!



Trisha Stacey - Assistant Stage Manager/Props Mistress

Trisha Stacey is a senior at UAH, and will be graduating in December with a Bachelor's in English and a Theatre minor. She has enjoyed working with UAHuntsville Theatre and has been a part of several productions. She was Mavis in *The Rimers of Eldritch*, chorus in *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, and Balthasar in *The Comedy of Errors*. This is her first time working the tech side of things and also her first time doing props. She is grateful for the opportunity to be a part of an amazing Theatre department with wonderful, talented directors!



David Harwell - Designer

David is the assistant professor of theatre at UAHuntsville. He received his BFA in theatre at the University of Montevallo and his MFA in scene design from the University of Illinois, Champaign/Urbana in 1991. After many years of professional theatre in NYC, Boston, and regionally, he is happy to be back in Huntsville, his hometown. He started UAHuntsville Theatre in 2005 and serves as its director.



Daniel Bullard - Sound Board Operator

Daniel is a local musician and audio engineer. He is currently completing his senior year at UAHuntsville pursuing a major in music technology. Daniel plays trumpet for both the UAH Jazz and Wind ensembles. When not attending classes, Daniel works full time as a sound engineer for the UAHuntsville A/V department and runs live audio at events around North Alabama. In his free time, Daniel enjoys making music with friends, hiking, and cooking.



Scarlett Chandler - Costume Designer

Scarlett is a senior at UAHuntsville, and will be graduating in December with a Bachelor's in English with a minor in Theatre. This is her second theatre tech project, as she is usually found onstage, but she is so excited to be working on *The Tempest* as the costume designer. She is the secretary of Alpha Psi Omega and has been involved with their Reader's Theatre productions such as *Killer Joe*, *The Crucible*, and *Talking With*. Scarlett would like to thank David Harwell and the UAHuntsville Theatre program for this opportunity.



Taylor Acker - Composer

Taylor Acker is pursuing an Electrical Engineering major and Music Technology minor at UAH. He is also an aspiring composer. Taylor would like to thank everyone involved with *The Tempest* for welcoming and allowing him to be a part of this great production.



Blake Rhoades - Projection Designer

Anthony Blake Rhoades is an artist who lives and works in Huntsville, AL. He has helped with the video design on multiple UAHuntsville plays including *Little Shop of Horrors* and *Sunday in the park with George*. Blake has a B.A in studio art from UAHuntsville and is currently working on a B.F.A in Photography. Blake organized and runs a local collective **mindopenart.com**. You can see his work at **AnthonyBlakeRhoades.com**.



Johnna Doty - Sound Design

A graduate of the University of Montevallo in music, Johnna earned a sound design MA from Boston University in 1994. She has worked professionally in NYC and regionally, and was an assistant professor at the City University of New York - Borough of Manhattan Community College. A native of Florence, Alabama, she now resides in Huntsville and is a lecturer at UAHuntsville in theatre and music technology.



Jessie Brown - Makeup/Hair Artist

Jessica Brown is a sophomore studying accounting. This is her second play where she has assisted with hair and makeup. She enjoys helping backstage as an outlet for her creative side. She is estatic about helping with more plays in the future.



Tara Jones - Makeup/Hair Artist

Tara is a freshman at UAH and this is her first theatre tech project. Usually she can be found playing flute in the pit orchestra. For this production, she is seeing theatre in a whole new light as a makeup artist. She would like to thank David Harwell and her big sister in Alpha Omicron Pi, Scarlett Chandler, for giving her this opportunity.

The CREW

Director:	Dr. Chad Thomas
Producer/Designer:	David Harwell
Consultant in Voice, Movement, and Poetry	Susan Guthrie
Stage Manager:	Birdie Jones
Assistant Stage Managers	Trisha Stacey Eric McCowan
Sound Designer:	Johnna Doty
Sound Board Operator:	Daniel Bullard
Props Mistress:	Trisha Stacey
Costume Designer:	Scarlett Chandler
Makeup/Hair Artist:	Jessy Brown Tara Jones
Projection Designer:	Blake Rhoades
Light Board Operators	Phillip Betts David LaFont
Composer	Taylor Acker
Special Thanks:	Cynthia Brasher Donna Lamp Lyndsey Torok Daniel Schenker Patricia Kiley Will Ruiz Joel Cobbs Susan Altman Tom Gray

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ANGEL

Heather Bossard

SHOW-STOPPER

Drs. Henry and Gaylen Pugh
Lee and Sherrie Rhoads
Ms. Jodi Stephens
Dr. Louis Weiner
Dr. Robert E. James

PRODUCER

Patricia Ferrier Kiley

DIRECTORS

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