

PRISON PERFORMING ARTS PRESENTS

MARGARET ATWOOD
hagseed

ADAPTED FOR
THE STAGE BY
STACIE LENTS



PRISON
Performing
ARTS

TUESDAY-THURSDAY, MAY 17-19, 2022
NORTHEAST CORRECTIONAL CENTER

Special Thanks

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NORTHEAST CORRECTIONAL CENTER

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 Clay Stanton, *DWOM*
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HAG-SEED

BY MARGARET ATWOOD

ADAPTED FOR THE STAGE BY STACIE LENTS

ACTING ENSEMBLE

FELIX	Michael Campbell
8HANDZ.....	Luke “Catfish” Scammell
TONY.....	Bobby James
SAL.....	Vincent S. Gallati
MIRANDA.....	Miranda Jagels Félix
ANNE-MARIE	Alicen Kramer-Moser
LONNIE	Rachel Tibbetts
BENT PENCIL.....	William J. Whaley
LEGGs.....	Earl W. Redmond
WONDERBOY.....	Jacky Wong
ENSEMBLE.....	James D. Baldwin, Michael Etchison, Jeffrey Pollard

ARTISTIC ENSEMBLE

Director	Lucy Cashion
Stage Manager	Terry L. Smith
Assistant Stage Managers.....	Arnold Dobson, Richard Hill, Donald Ray Ueligger
Production Intern,.....	Reed McLean
Visiting Scholar.....	Beth Charlebois
Sound Design/ <i>The Tempest</i> Filming.....	Lucy Cashion

Costume/Prop/Set Design and Coordination - Michael Campbell, Reed McLean, Rachel Tibbetts

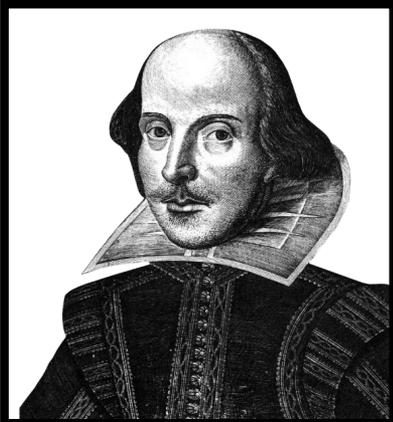
Airbrush — Michael Krallman

Chief Carpenter — Christopher Simmons

Props Build — Curtis Campbell, Michael Campbell, Andrew Gile,
Michael Krallman, James Morland, Jacky Wong

Cover Art — Xavier

Summary of *The Tempest*



William Shakespeare



Margaret Atwood

Hag-Seed by Margaret Atwood and adapted for the stage by Stacie Lents is a modern-day adaptation of William Shakespeare's *The Tempest*. While it's not necessary to know the story of *The Tempest* to understand the play you're about to see, it is helpful. *The Tempest* begins when a magician and the rightful Duke of Milan, Prospero, conjures a storm which wrecks a passing ship. On board are his brother Antonio, who usurped Prospero's dukedom; Alonso, the King of Naples and Antonio's accomplice; Gonzalo, Alonso's counselor and old friend of Prospero; and Alonso's innocent son, Ferdinand. All become stranded on Prospero's isolated island, and Alonso fears his son Ferdinand has died. The only other inhabitants of Prospero's island are his daughter, Miranda; Ariel, a magical spirit enslaved by Prospero; and Caliban, who lived on the island before Prospero.

With Ariel's help, Prospero leads the castaways on many magical misadventures to enact his revenge. In the end however, Prospero learns mercy. He forgives his brother Antonio, who returns the dukedom to Prospero. Ferdinand and Miranda fall in love to the delight of both their fathers. Ariel is freed at last. They all return to Milan and Caliban regains his island. Notice what similarities in the story and characters you find between Shakespeare's play and ours.

Meet the Artists

JAMES D. BALDWIN (Ensemble) I am from Iowa, you know, one of those idiots out wandering around. I served in the U.S. Army Reserves and went to Iraq in 2005. I am a jack of many trades but a master of none. I am constantly seeking to learn more, and PPA is a great benefit. As I moved a lot while growing up, that hindered any previous opportunity to consider acting or drama classes in the past. So while I'm new to PPA, I am excited for the future.

MICHAEL CAMPBELL (Felix) For the last 22 years or so I have operated a graphics shop for NECC's Restorative Justice Program. I am originally an underground cartoonist from San Francisco, heavily influenced by R. Crumb and that cast of characters who inked "Zap Comix", "Last Gasp" and other low-brow publications. This is my 16th production with PPA! I have played everything from a Witch in *Macbeth* to Polonius in *Hamlet* to Doc in *Mr. Roberts*. I would like to thank everybody at PPA for these chances to become a well-rounded artist.

LUCY CASHION (Director) is a St. Louis-based theatre artist specialization in experimental collaborative creation. She is a guest-director and teaching-artist with Prison Performing Arts, where she has co-directed several productions with Artistic Director Rachel Tibbetts, including *The Rover* by Aphra Behn and *Antigone*, a collaborative creation between PPA participants at the Women's Eastern Reception, Diagnostic, and Correctional Center and Saint Louis University's Theatre & Dance Program. She also facilitated another devised work between SLU Theatre & Dance and the W.E.R.D.C.C.'s PPA participants in which the collaborating artists created a new play about Joan of Arc; *Saint Joan of Arc* premiered at the Kranzberg Arts Center, presented by Saint Louis University. Lucy is an Associate Professor of Theatre at SLU and has been teaching and directing in the University's Theatre and Dance Program since 2015. Most recently at SLU, she directed *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. She is also the founding Artistic Director of Equally Represented Arts, a St. Louis-based experimental theatre company. With ERA she has written, directed and designed several original productions including as *Trash Macbeth*, Shakespeare's tragedy as a feminist critique of American consumerism, and *Oedipus Apparatus*, Sophocles' play deconstructed and reassembled according to an Ancient Greek physics textbook. She is workshopping a new play titled *The Brechtfast Club*, a Brechtian adaptation of John Hughes 1985 film, with ERA this summer and directing Nikolai Gogol's *Government Inspector* at SLU in the Fall. Lucy received her MFA from Columbia University in the City of New York.

Meet the Artists

BETH CHARLEBOIS (Visiting Scholar) is Professor of English at St. Mary's College of Maryland where she teaches Shakespeare and courses in both early modern and contemporary drama and literature. This year marks her third sabbatical working with PPA after serving as Scholar in Residence with Agnes Wilcox at WERDCC and NECC in 2007-8 and 2014-5. During her last sabbatical and Agnes's final year with PPA, they conceived and wrote *Hip Hop Hamlet* in collaboration with 27 incarcerated actor-writers at NECC.

ARNOLD DOBSON (Assistant Stage Manager) This is my first play. I'm from St. Louis, MO where I'm the sixth of eight children. I joined PPA hoping to gain experience in both the field of acting and being a team player. I am the father of one son, whom I'm very proud of. He has inspired me to do more at my old age. So I would like to thank him very much for inspiring and supporting me spiritually doing this journey. With this experience that I'm obtaining here in PPA, I hope that it helps lead me to continue on with this program and to be better in my decision making. Last but not least, I would like to thank my nephew "Lil" Ron and Mrs. Branstetter for convincing me to join PPA.

MICHAEL ETCHISON (Ensemble) was born in Poughkeepsie, New York, I was raised in Owego, a small town. I have been in several plays including *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *The Music Man*, *The Sound of Music*, *Oklahoma*, and *A Memory of Two Mondays*. My wife, Cheryl, and children, Daniel, Nathaniel, Rachel, and Michelle, live in Wisconsin. I enjoy creative writing, theatre, and music.

MIRANDA JAGELS FÉLIX (Miranda) is a proud St. Louis theater artist, originally from Madrid, Spain. A graduate of Saint Louis University Fine and Performing Arts department (SLU,) Miranda was part of a year-long collaboration between SLU and Prison Performing Arts. She was asked to assist in a writing workshop at the Women's Eastern Reception, Diagnostic and Correctional Center in Vandalia, Mo in support of a co-production of *Antigone*. This production played both at SLU with a student cast, which Miranda was part of, and then at WERDCC with an incarcerated cast. *Antigone* was re-mounted by ERA/SATE and she performed in that professional production as well. The collaboration between PPA and SLU introduced Miranda to the former and gave her the opportunity to perform as Patricia in *A Memory of Two Mondays* and as Mollie the horse in *Animal Farm*. Both plays were performed at Northeast Correctional Center with an incarcerated cast. She is thrilled to be back and grateful to have another great opportunity to collaborate with PPA.

Meet the Artists

VINCENT S. GALLATI (Sal) I am 67 years old and I've been incarcerated for the last 42 years. I am not much of a people person, in fact, you could say I'm the lone wolf type. This is my first play, several of the guys I worked with in MVE were doing plays and talked me into giving it a shot. I'm glad they did.

BOBBY JAMES (Tony) I am 59 years old. I live in the Springfield, MO area and will be going back on my release. I have four children (three living), and three grandchildren. I like camping, fishing, and drag raced motorcycles for three years. I also like karaoke and have been singing for about 25 years now. I have been an actor with PPA for six years. My first play was *Julius Caesar*, and *The Tempest* was my second, and now I'm hooked. It's been really fun entertaining others. It's the support of all that comes to each performance that helps keep us going. Thank you.

ALICEN KRAMER-MOSER (Anne-Marie) is thrilled to be making a PPA debut with such an exciting piece. She is a Graduate of St. Louis University, with a BA in Theatre and a MA in English Literature, where she was able to study and examine multiple of Margaret Atwood's works! Recent Credits include the current touring company of *Say Something Do Something* at Metro Theater Company, Irina in *Moscow!* (ERA), Creon in *Antigone* (ERA/SATE) and Eva Jackson in *The Rimers of Eldritch* (SLU). Alicen is a Co-founder and Co-Artistic director of Poor Monsters, a theater company dedicated to highlighting the voices of gender minorities through experimental recreations of classic works. She would like to thank this lovely cast and crew for their warm welcome and encouragement.

STACIE LENTS (playwright) is a Professor of Theater and the Director of the Theater Program at Fairleigh Dickinson University as well as a professional playwright and actor. Her plays have been licensed in the United States, Canada, the UK and Thailand. Her play *College Colors* was published by Theatrical Rights Worldwide in 2021 after premiering at Crossroads Theater in 2016. Other plays include *Henry's Law*, *Laugh out Loud (cry quietly)*, and *Fire Exit*, all published by Playscripts, Inc. Her stage adaptation of Margaret Atwood's novel *Hag-Seed*, a commission from Prison Performing Arts as part of their New Plays Initiative, will premiere in Missouri in May. A previous PPA commission, *Run-On Sentence*, was nominated for a St. Louis Theatre Circle Award for Outstanding New Play in 2019. Prof. Lents wrote the book and lyrics for *Daisy in Disguise*, which ran off-Broadway through Vital Theatre

Meet the Artists

Company. Excerpts from her plays have been anthologized in *Contemporary Scenes for Twentysomethings* and *In Performance: Contemporary Monologues for Men and Women (Teens)*, published by Applause. Henry's Law, a play about bullying, was included in Backstage.com's list of 15 Must-Read Plays for Tweens and Teens. As an actor, Stacie has performed regionally and in New York; she originated the one-woman play *Six Hands* by the late Eric H. Weinberger, the role of Besie in Eugene O'Neil's rediscovered play *Bread and Butter* at New York's Provincetown Playhouse, and the role of Joan in *100 Years* by Richard Dresser. She has been awarded the FDU University Distinguished Award for Teaching (2020) and the FDU Becton College Award for Outstanding Teacher of the Year (2014). She is a member of the Dramatists Guild of America, Actors' Equity Association, and SAG-AFTRA. She received her MFA from Rutgers, Mason Gross School of the Arts and her BA from Yale University.

REED MCLEAN (Production Intern) is a senior at Saint Louis University (SLU) studying Musical Theatre Performance and Economics. In addition to her involvement with PPA, she is a SLU Green Theatre Captain, which is a new initiative sponsored by the Broadway Green Alliance to develop greener theatre practices for a sustainable future. Reed is also the founder of *Make Dark Days Brighter* (@makedarkdaysbrighter on Instagram and Facebook), which is a health and wellness initiative for fine and performing artists at SLU and the surrounding metropolitan area. Many thanks to Lucy Cashion and Rachel Tibbets for the opportunity to collaborate with PPA!

JEFFREY POLLARD (Ensemble) I was asked to write a biography, so here it is: I was a bad boy who grew into a bad man, which landed me in prison. And it is here where I reflected on just how messed up I actually was. Also it is here where I grew mentally + emotionally mature enough to admit my sins, and repent for those sins I perpetrated upon innocent people. Prison Performing Arts helped me to grow into the man I am today. Unfortunately I cannot take back any of the pain that I caused people during my bad boy/man reign. But please know this, I am honestly sorry for the hurt + pain I caused, and since my awakening I have lived as one who will never intentionally harm anyone again. Truly, Former Victimizer, Jeffrey

EARL W. REDMOND (Leggs) I am having a lot of fun.

Meet the Artists

LUKE “CATFISH” SCAMMELL (8Handz) I am 27 years old and am from Nixa MO. I am now a college student. I’m also a lifelong artist, but this is only my second experience with performance art. I’ve drawn, tattooed, painted, done graffiti, and airbrushed for years. I’m quite shy, but PPA has helped me try and be more outgoing and confident. It is an invaluable outlet and experience.

TERRY L. SMITH (Stage Manager) This is my sixth performance. I enjoy PPA. The program allows me to learn something totally different than what I was used to, something that I would have thought that’s out of my realm, and I’m looking forward, as well, to many more.

RACHEL TIBBETTS (Lonnie/Artistic Director) has worked in arts education since 2000 as an Education Associate and Assistant Director of Education at the Delaware Theatre Company in Wilmington; and Arts Partners Program Administrator and Assistant Arts Education Director at Young Audiences of St. Louis. She been with PPA since 2005. Rachel received her B.A. in Theatre from Oklahoma State University. She is a graduate of the Community Arts Training Institute at the St. Louis Regional Arts Commission and the Good Multiplier Fellowship; mobilizing women and people of color to lead change by promoting equity and civic engagement. Rachel is a member of the Slightly Askew Theatre Ensemble, a St. Louis area based professional theatre company committed to highlighting the work of women artists. Rachel works in the community as an actor and director, working with ERA Theatre, The Midnight Company, R-S Theatrics, Young Liars, West End Players Guild, Shakespeare Festival St. Louis, Tennessee Williams Festival, and Mustard Seed Theatre. Favorite roles at NECC include Candy Starr in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest* and Agnes in *A Memory of Two Mondays*.

LONALD RAY UELIGGER (Assistant Stage Manager) I enjoy being a part of the cast and crew of PPA. We have a lot of fun, but we men have grown as an ensemble and have challenged ourselves to work together for one common, unselfish goal: to entertain others. I was born and raised on a farm in Northwest, Mo., married my high school sweetheart. We raised three boys and are on our 36th year of marriage. My boys married their high school sweethearts after they got their degrees. My boys and their wives are raising my cherished grandbabies. The two oldest are girls, and the last six are boys.

Meet the Artists

WILLIAM J. WHALEY (Bent Pencil) Youngest of 3 siblings. Born in Ft. Worth, Texas. I was the more rambunctious one. Never met my real father but was raised by my step-father who was prior military. We moved around a lot but mainly grew up in Wisconsin. I'm a father of 3 and am prior military myself. I enjoy helping others and am proud to be a part of the arts program with NECC.

JACKY WONG (Wonderboy) As a curious person I am fascinated by what I will obtain from this life. In all I do I strive for perfection and I am wise enough to know there is more to it than what one can display. Challenges often make me scared, but I love the rewards when obstacles are conquered. This experience is about learning my potential for the stage. I am a visual artist and have contributed often to the artwork on the sets and drops for PPA.

Up Next



THE TAMING OF THE SHREW(S)

Based on the play by William Shakespeare
Adapted by Katharine Cognard-Black
Revised and edited by Elizabeth Charlebois
Co-directed by Rachel Tibbetts and Elizabeth Charlebois

Thursday, June 30, 2022

Women's Eastern Reception, Diagnostic and Correctional Center

1:00pm (12:30pm check-in) / 6:00pm (5:30pm check-in)

RSVP deadline: Monday, June 6, 2022

Please visit www.prisonperformingarts.org/rsvp to complete your online RSVP.

The first collaboration between PPA and Washington University's Prison Education Project, "The Taming of the Shrew(s)" is an original adaptation of Shakespeare's play that gives audiences three very different interpretations of the complex relationship between Katherine and Petruchio as an over-the-top comedy, a tragedy of abuse, and a genuine love story. Three Katherines and three Petrucchios vividly demonstrate how we understand the nature and extent of Katherine's "taming" is all up to actors and audiences to define!

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In Memory of George Lombardi





BUILDING SECOND ACTS THROUGH THE ARTS

PRISON PERFORMING ARTS

Prison Performing Arts is a multi-discipline, literacy, and performing arts program that serves justice-involved adults & youth and returning citizens at Hogan Street Regional Youth Center, Missouri Eastern Correctional Center, Northeast Correctional Center, St. Louis City Justice Center, St. Louis City Juvenile Detention Center, St. Louis County Juvenile Detention Center, Transition Center St. Louis, Women's Eastern Reception, Diagnostic and Correctional Center, and with the Family Court's Detention Alternatives Program.

SUPPORT PPA

If you enjoyed today's performance, please consider making a donation on our website to support artistic opportunities for justice-involved adults & youth and returning citizens in Missouri. We are grateful for your support.

<https://www.prisonperformingarts.org/support-us>

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www.prisonperformingarts.org

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