



MACBETH

THU

4/20

7 PM

FRI

4/21

7 PM

SAT

4/22

7 PM

THU

4/27

7 PM

FRI

4/28

7 PM

SAT

4/29

4 PM

Three witches tell the Scottish general Macbeth that he will be King of Scotland. Encouraged by his wife, Macbeth kills the king, becomes the new king, and kills more people out of paranoia. Civil war erupts to overthrow Macbeth, resulting in more death.

Buy Tickets Online: tower.booktix.com

GENERAL ADMISSION \$12

RESERVED \$15

SENIORS / STUDENTS \$5

SHAKESBEER \$45



120 S. Kansas Ave
Weslaco, TX 78596

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Director's Notes: William Shakespeare, as a writer, can cause an actor/actress to experience a whirlwind of emotions. Over the years, my feelings for The Bard have evolved from dislike/boring to love/exciting. My goal for this production was to provide the audience with a fantastic theatrical experience, while providing a bit more appreciation for his text that has often been difficult to understand.

Life is a strange and fickle thing. It is a lot easier to say that you hate something rather than taking the time to work at understanding what it is about if you don't like. I didn't like Shakespeare because it made me feel like I was not smart enough to understand his writing. I'm so grateful to all the staff I had at The University of Minnesota because they were the first people to tell me, "See, you do have what it takes to understand this stuff." It was not easy! I can say that with 100% confidence. It was a lot of frustration, stress, anger, and, especially, tears.

Sometimes to get the best things in life, one has to work hard to achieve what it is they want. In my experience, the reward at the end of all that work is very much worth it! I hope our story of Macbeth will give you a greater appreciation for William Shakespeare's words. If nothing else, I hope it provides you with wonderful entertainment for a day.

Much love,

Rolando Martinez



About the Director: Rolando Martinez is happy to share his directorial premiere with the RGV. He has directed minor scenes, short plays, and has assistant directed many times. After graduating, he spent 15 years in the industry within the cities of Minneapolis, New York, Los Angeles, and Chicago. He was fortunate to have had work as an actor through different parts of the country. His training consists of graduating from the U of M/Guthrie Theatre BFA Acting Program and the Second City's Improv for Actors in Chicago. Some of his credits include "Cymbeline", Macbeth", "Midsummer Night's Dream", "Romeo and Juliet", "Crashing the Party", and "Lorca in a Green Dress". One of the coolest experiences he had was being able to act out the role of "Richard the Third" on Shakespeare's Globe Stage when he studied in London.



About "The Bard" :

William Shakespeare was a renowned English poet, playwright, and actor born in 1564 in Stratford-upon-Avon. His birthday is most commonly celebrated on April 23rd, which is also believed to be the date he died in 1616.

Shakespeare was a prolific writer during the Elizabethan and Jacobean ages of British theatre (sometimes called the English Renaissance or the Early Modern Period). Shakespeare's plays are perhaps his most enduring legacy, but they are not all he wrote. Shakespeare's poems also remain popular to this day.

Altogether, Shakespeare's works include 38 plays, 2 narrative poems, 154 sonnets, and a variety of other poems. No original manuscripts of Shakespeare's plays are known to exist today. It is actually thanks to a group of actors from Shakespeare's company that we have about half of the plays at all. They collected them for publication after Shakespeare died, preserving the plays in what is known as the "First Folio" (referring to the size of the paper used). It contained 36 of his plays, but none of his poetry.

Shakespeare's legacy is as rich and diverse as his work; his plays have spawned countless adaptations across multiple genres and cultures and have had an enduring presence on stage and film. His writings have been compiled in various iterations of "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare", which include all of his plays, sonnets, and other poems. William Shakespeare continues to be one of the most important literary figures of the English language.



About the Play :

In its depiction of a man who murders his king and kinsman in order to gain the crown, only to lose all that humans seem to need in order to be happy—sleep, nourishment, friends, love—*Macbeth* teases us with huge questions. Why do people do evil knowing that it is evil? Does Macbeth represent someone who murders because fate tempts him? because his wife pushes him into it? because he is overly ambitious? Having killed Duncan, why does Macbeth fall apart, unable to sleep, seeing ghosts, putting spies in everyone’s home, killing his friends and innocent women and children? Why does the success of Macbeth and Lady Macbeth—prophesied by the witches, promising the couple power and riches and “peace to all their nights and days to come”—turn so quickly to ashes, destroying the Macbeths’ relationship, their world, and, finally, both of them?

In earlier centuries, Macbeth’s story was seen as a powerful study of a heroic individual who commits an evil act and pays an enormous price as his conscience—and the natural forces for good in the universe—destroy him. More recently, his story has been applied to nations that overreach themselves, his speeches of despair quoted to show that Shakespeare shared present-day feelings of alienation. Today, the line between Macbeth’s evil and the supposed good of those who oppose him has been blurred, new attitudes about witches and witchcraft are being expressed, new questions raised about the ways that maleness and femaleness are portrayed in the play. Like so many of Shakespeare’s plays, *Macbeth* speaks to each generation with a new voice.

By Barbara Mowat and Paul Werstine
Editors of the Folger Shakespeare Library Editions

🌀 Dramatis Personae 🌀



Pedro Mendoza – “Macbeth” Pedro Mendoza was trained professionally in Stage and Film, at The American Musical and Dramatic Academy in Los Angeles, CA. He was nominated for Best Actor in the Rio Grande Valley at the 2022 South Texas International Film Festival and recently appeared as a guest spot on NBC's hit police drama Chicago PD. His life goal is for his talent to be held on the same level as his Hollywood heroes: Robert De Niro, Al Pacino, Jack Nicholson, Daniel Day Lewis, and Marlon Brando just to name a few. Shakespeare is where Pedro sharpens his skills and Macbeth has been a real test of his abilities. Enjoy the show.



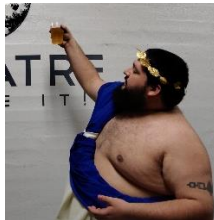
Erin Adame – “Lady Macbeth” Erin Adame is originally from the DFW area and moved to the RGV in 2003. She has been an active participant in Tower Theater productions since 2018 including “Boeing Boeing”, “Playing Doctor”, “Much Ado About Nothing”, “Romeo and Juliet”, “Trail to Oregon”, and several Improv shows. In many ways, Tower is her second home. She is supported by her amazing husband Jay and her three crazy children Bella, Brady and JJ, as well as her mom Mary and her brothers Brink and Grant.



Neil Shuford – “Macduff” Neil has been doing Theatre for over 30 years. His first big break was the role of a munchkin in a local production of "The Wizard of Oz" when he was 4. Ever since that fateful performance, Neil has immersed himself in anything theatrical that he can weasel his way into. Aside from Theatre, his favorite hobby is loving his amazing and supportive fiancée Erica who is incredible at lowering his blood pressure when it's the highest.



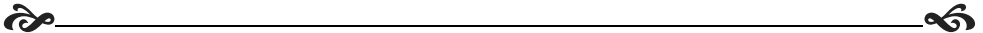
Lou McGinnis – “Banquo” Lou McGinnis is a 20 year old actor and artist who has been acting at the Tower Theater since about 2016. Growing up in Weslaco, Lou has performed in shows during high school and after as well, being in many plays, Shakespeare or otherwise and growing as an actor in our small community Theatre group. Lou enjoys long walks on the beach, drawing, and HATES acting. They will be attending the Joe Kubert School for Cartoon and Graphic Art this upcoming fall in New Jersey. Wish Lou a good last show at the Tower, everyone!



Dakota Monk – “First Witch” Dakota was living la vida loca ‘til he got a message. Upon a carrier pigeon a distress message from a dear friend. Bewildered by what he had read, he hopped on his fellow steed and rode down the road. Arriving to the doors of thine tower, burst down the doors, and entered with lots of fear. "I was one year from retirement. One more won't hurt."



Janette Hooton – “Second Witch” Janette Hooton is proudly debuting her theatrical career as “Witch 2”, where she’s allowed to reveal a secret version of her real self when her family disobeys her instructions at home. When not fantasizing about how easy life could be if her family would just follow her instructions, Janette is a loving wife and mother who enjoys commercial acting, fishing and laying around the house.





Scarlett Hooton – “Third Witch” Scarlett Hooton is an American, teen actress known for her role as Clair in "The Massacre on Halloween Night" and is widely recognized for her recurring role as Junior Reporter for the City of McAllen (2019-2022). She can be seen in numerous commercials and is a well-established actress in the performing arts community. In addition to her role in Macbeth, Scarlett is currently starring in a local project being filmed in the RGV and is preparing for another leading role in an upcoming feature film to be shot this summer.



Carter Copeland – “Malcolm” Carter Copeland (Malcolm) has a Bachelor’s Degree in Theatre Performance. He has performed in several dinner theaters at St. Paul Lutheran Church and during the last season of the Pan American Summer Stock, he played Howard in the University of Texas Pan American’s production of “Moon Over Buffalo”. He lives in Weslaco, Texas with his lovely wife, Lauren. This is his first ever performance at the Weslaco Tower Theater.



Kyle Castillo – “Donalbain”, “Angus”, “Waiter”, “Young Siward” My name is Kyle Castillo. I am an actor at the Weslaco iTheatre and a film actor. I've done plays such as “Border Zone” (2017), “The Election” (2018), “That's Not How I Remember It” (2019), “Border Zone” (2023) and this play “Macbeth”. I love to play guitar, sing and write songs. My dream job is to become a professional musician, and hopefully make living on what I do best. Acting too became a thing that I loved to do when I was 14 years old and I'm still loving it til this day. This pretty much sums everything up about me and looking forward to doing more plays and films.





Juven Sanchez – “Ross” I am an aspiring Actor, Writer, Director.



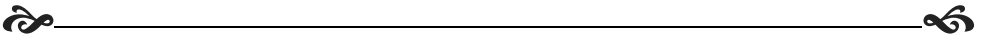
Anthony Lewis – “Duncan”, “Messenger” Originally from Dallas, Anthony Lewis has lived in The Valley since he was ten. He studied Theater and English at Wabash College in Crawfordsville, Indiana before beginning his teaching career in Lyford, but let's not talk about that, and then Edinburg where he has taught Reading for the past 15 years. This is his fourth year with Willi'n in Weslaco. Last year he aided in the death of the play's protagonists, this year it is his character's death that propels the play's protagonists forward-progress! May he be the protagonist next year...or the antagonist!



Guillermo Ochoa - “Porter”, “Siward” I'd like to thank the Tower for having me back, this my 5th Shakespeare play. This is the most fun I've had on a play in a pretty good while so thank you all. Also I'll do my best not to screw up.

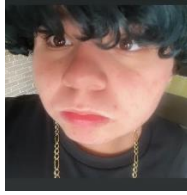


Brittany Gruhot – “Captain”, “Lady Macduff” Brittany Gruhot has been acting for about 5 years, and yet this is her first time participating in the Weslaco Shakespeare Festival! She is beyond excited to pay tribute to the Bard, and thanks the director Rolando greatly for the opportunity. In her free time, Brittany loves to write and watch cartoons.





Abel Gonzalez Del-Toro – “Lennox” Abel Gonzalez Del-Toro is a writer, actor, and director from South Texas. Currently, he is in pre-production for his first English feature, a supernatural horror called “The Butcher of Bleeker Street”. He has been cast in 3 plays at the Pharr Community Theatre and was the male lead in “Come Back Little Sheba”.



Evan Losoya – “Seyton” Hi, I'm Evan. I'm 14 years old. I love to sing and perform so much. 2 years ago, I had my first solo for “All Together Now” where all the theater people get together and put on a show. The first play I did here at the Water Tower Theatre was “The Border Zone.” It was so amazing and I enjoyed the experience. I'm so thankful to be in this play and happy I get to act with these wonderful and talented people.



Jando Elizondo – “First Murderer” A Valley native who began acting in 2013, Jando can go from playing a rugged cowboy to a smooth-talking businessman in the blink of an eye. With a face that's been described as "handsome with a hint of mischief". Jando has been a part of a couple of productions including "The Border Zone" at the iTheatre. When not on set he can be found practicing his accents and plotting the downfall of big government.



Eli Martinez – “Fleance” Eli is a 14-year-old student at Weslaco Pike Middle School. This is his first play, and he is pretty excited.



Alejandro Pena – “Second Murderer” From tabletop games to improv to being part of stage plays; my humble start in Theatre is only recent. Yet, I strive and have grown through my parts in all. With my heart and passion, I catch peoples' attention as I show all through manners of action and art. I am driven to follow through with projects as I was taught here in Water Tower Theatre. Always committing to the bit.



Amanda Adams – “Gentlewoman” Amanda Adams hails from Mcallen, but started her Theatre adventures at EHS in '96, which led her Theatre interests into secondary education as she attended the University of Pan American. This is her first involvement with the Tower Theatre. She would like to thank Rolando Martinez for the chance to Assist in his Direction. Even more so, thanks to the cast for being Freaking Amazing!



Orlando Campa – “Hecate”, “Doctor” Orly is a Writer, Producer, and Actor who has been blessed enough to participate in multiple productions in the RGV since 2007. This is Orly's second participation with “Will'n in Weslaco” and has enjoyed absolutely chewing the scenery as “Hecate” then playing it straight as the “Doctor”. He'd like to thank Rollie for giving him the space to discover the Magic was inside him all along, Bryan for being too Canadian to say no to, and the Cast for bringing that energy to their performances. Peace! The Charm's wound up.



Charles Olguin – “Macduff's Son” Hello. I'm a High school student representing Weslaco High and I'm playing the son of Macduff. (This is his first play)



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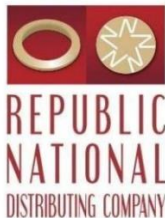
*Improving Communities
One Theatre at a Time*

Assistant Director – Amanda Adams
Stage Manager – Orlando Campa
Property Master – Orlando Campa
Costume Head – Orlando Campa

Will'n in Weslaco would like to thank the following sponsors:



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Special thanks to: Weslaco Museum, Weslaco Mayor Joe V. Sanchez Public Library, iTheatre at the Water Tower, Daniel Mendez, and Jaime Cuellar



Will'n in Weslaco

*The South Texas Annual Shakespeare Festival
15 - 29 April 2023 - Macbeth*

The “Will’n in Weslaco” South Texas Shakespeare Festival is happy to be sharing Shakespeare’s works to the community, whether they are residents of the City of Weslaco, from other parts of the Rio Grande Valley, other parts of Texas, and even further.

We thank you for your support in making this annual festival a success for the fourth year now. The festival ends with our “Shakesbeer” craft beer competition on April 29th.

SHAKESBEER

