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### Macbeth

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# MACBETH



by  
William Shakespeare

## CAST & CREW

Duncan, King of Scotland  
Malcolm, his son  
Donalbain, his son  
Macbeth  
Banquo  
Macduff  
Lennox  
Ross  
1st Murderer  
2nd Murderer  
Fleance, Banquo's son  
Captain  
Porter  
Menteith  
Caithness  
Old Seyward  
Young Seyward  
Seyton  
Young Macduff  
1st Witch  
2nd Witch  
3rd Witch  
Lady Macbeth  
Lady Macduff  
Doctor  
Gentlewoman  
Servant  
Old Lady  
Apparitions

Field Drummers

Flute

Paul Smith  
Jamie V. Mayer  
Thomas Wasko  
Wes Warlop  
Stephen Meats  
Kyle McGuffin  
James Taylor  
Whitney Platt  
Jim Campbell  
Bill Sollner  
Jeffrey Carlson  
Clint Dillow  
Stephen Teller  
Thomas Wasko  
Jim Campbell  
Bill Sollner  
Jeffrey Carlson  
Clint Dillow  
Seth Golay  
Elizabeth Gooch  
Melissa Gadow  
Kristina Patrick  
M'Lou Glover  
Elaina Allison  
Janette Mauk  
Laverne Buck  
Lori Bybee  
Frances Lake  
Sasha Allen  
Thomas Edmund  
Becky Evans Young  
Joe Fitzpatrick  
Evan Hoyt  
Juliet Traub  
Neil Bryan  
Derek Sharp  
Gene Ann Evans Young

There will be one intermission of 15 minutes



Director	<b>John Green</b>
Designer	<b>Barry Bengtsen</b>
Musical co-ordinator	<b>Carol Cook</b>
Costumes	<b>Cleasle Wilson</b>
Stage manager	<b>Andy Hause</b>
A.S.M.	<b>Jennifer Hensley</b>
Make-up design	<b>Hope Taj</b>
Lighting design	<b>Tyler Batley</b>
Pyrotechnician	<b>Jason Bailey</b>
Combact advisor	<b>Randy Buchanan</b>
Set construction	<b>Arland Vomhof, Andy Hause</b>
Props	<b>Frances Lake</b>
Publicity	<b>John Frair</b>
Make-up artists	<b>Kelli Cape, Judith Sommerhauser, Christine Van Dyke</b>
Stage crew	<b>Kelly Kirkpatrick, Brian Beeson, Jim Hensley, Auron Newell, David Gilham, Pete Mackey</b>
Lighting operator	<b>Melanie McGuffin</b>
Sound operator	<b>Jeff McConnell</b>
Sound recording	<b>KRPS Studios</b>
Weapons	<b>Department of Technical Ed. PSU</b>

## MACBETH CHRONOLOGY

- 1535** English clergy abjure the authority of the Pope
- 1541** John Knox leads Calvinist reformation in Scotland
- 1545** Council of Trent called by Pope to discuss Reformation and Counter Reformation
- 1554** Catholic Restoration in England under Queen Mary I
- 1558** Protestant Restoration with Accession of Elizabeth I
- 1559** Elizabethan Prayer Book published
- 1564** John Dee, the greatest Elizabethan magician and court advisor, writes *Nonas Hieroglyphia*
- 1566** Death of Nostradamus, French astrologer
- 1567** Murder of Lord Darnley, husband of Mary Queen of Scots and father of James VI of Scotland and I of England
- 1570** Queen Elizabeth I excommunicated by the Pope
- 1572** St. Bartholomew's Day Massacre in Paris
- 1577** Execution of Mary, Queen of Scots
- 1578** James VI of Scotland assumes throne
- 1597** Publication of King James' book *Daemonologie* about witchcraft
- 1598** Building of first Globe Playhouse
- 1603** James VI becomes James I of England
- 1605** Gunpowder Plot
- 1606** Probable date for the writing of *Macbeth*
- 1611** Publication of the Authorized Version (King James) Bible
- 1616** Shakespeare dies; Ben Jonson publishes his *Works*

## BACKGROUND

Macbeth is thought to have been written in 1606 although it was not printed until the First Folio of 1623. The Scottish subject obviously had relevance for King James I, who came to the English throne in 1603 and claimed descent from Banquo. The question of regicide was particularly topical in the wake of the unsuccessful Gunpowder Plot of 1605 in which a group of Catholics attempted to kill the King and his son, Prince Charles.

Shakespeare's major source for the play was Holinshed's *Chronicle* and Macbeth really was King of Scotland, having murdered Duncan in battle in 1040. However, he appears to have been quite an able monarch and ruled for 17 years.

*"... one Makebeth a valiant gentleman, and one that if he had not been somewhat cruel of nature, might have been thought most worthy the government of a realm.*

*On the other part, Duncan was so soft and gentle of nature, that the people wished the inclinations and manners of these two cousins to have been so tempered and interchangeably bestowed betwixt them . . . so should Duncan have proved a worthy king, and Makebeth an excellent captain."*

## FIRST PERFORMANCE

The Elizabethan theatre was divided between the vast open air playhouses such as The Globe, frequented by all sections of society who viewed performances in the afternoon, and the indoor theatres, reserved for the Court and members of the aristocracy, where performances would be staged in the evening by fire and candlelight.

It is usually supposed that *Macbeth* was first performed before James I and his royal guest, King Christian IV of Denmark, sometime during the latter's visit to England - 17 July to 11 August, 1606. Many scholars believe that the performance took place at Hampton Court on 7 August, 1606, one of three occasions when Shakespeare's company acted before the kings. *Macbeth* was



certainly staged at The Globe playhouse on 20 April, 1611 as a record of the performance has survived among the papers of the noted Elizabethan astrologer, Dr. Simon Forman.



An early 16th century woodcut of the opening episode in the *Macbeth* story, from a printed edition of Holinshed's *Chronicles*.

## THE PLOT

Macbeth and Banquo, victorious generals serving Duncan, King of Scotland, meet three witches who prophesy that Macbeth will become king.

Lady Macbeth helps persuade her husband to murder Duncan while he is a guest at their castle and Malcolm, son and heir to Duncan, flees to England.

Macbeth, now king, orders the death of Banquo, whose ghost subsequently appears to him at a banquet.

When the witches warn Macbeth to beware of Macduff, a nobleman who has gone to England, he orders the murder of Macduff's wife and children.

Macduff and Malcolm raise an army against Macbeth

Lady Macbeth commits suicide.

Macbeth is killed by Macduff.

Malcolm is crowned King of Scotland.

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## WITCHCRAFT

In Elizabethan times almost everyone believed in magic, and probably practiced it as well.

The *Elizabethan Act against Witchcraft, 1563*, stated that the penalty for murder by witchcraft or the raising of evil spirits was death, otherwise, witchcraft earned a sentence of one year imprisonment for a first offence.

For subsequent offenses: recovery of stolen goods or seeking to cause murder by witchcraft, life imprisonment; making love charms, life imprisonment and confiscation of property; causing bodily injury, death penalty; destruction of goods and livestock, death penalty and confiscation of property.

A twelve-year-old crippled girl, Agnes Brown, testified on oath that she saw the imp of Joan Waterhouse, whom she accused of causing her lameness: it had, she said, the face of an ape, a short tail, horns, a silver whistle round its neck and carried in its mouth the key of the milk house door.

The Witchcraft Act was finally repealed in England in 1951.

In Scotland, between 1590 and 1680, it is estimated that 4,400 witches were executed, the majority by burning at the stake. The Kirk and the Protestant lords were fierce against witchcraft and torture was legal. The best-known case is that of the North Berwick witches in 1590-92. Among other things they were accused of were worshipping the Devil in a church at night, flying in sieves, raising storms and attempting to murder King James by melting a wax image of him in a fire.

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## THE LAW OF TANISTRY

*"The Prince of Cumberland! That is a step  
On which I must fall down, or else o'erleap,  
For in my way it lies."*

***Macbeth, Act I scene 4***

"Macbeth ruled Scotland from around 1040 AD to 1058 AD, when he was killed and at which time the law of tanistry, in effect from 843 AD, ended. The practice of this law meant that no son of a king on the throne could succeed his father immediately; instead, the first ranking adult member of the nearest or junior branch of the family should, by election, succeed the

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enthroned king, acting, until his own succession, as military leader of all the king's forces (as Macbeth did in the play), and, in turn, that king's successor would be the first ranking adult member of the family. In other words, the line of succession was not direct but alternating and elective between the branches of the "blood royal". Now Macbeth and the woman who became Lady Macbeth were of the royal family and had claim to the throne through this law. In fact, Lady Macbeth, by a former husband who had been killed in battle, had had a son who would have been next in line to the throne had he not been killed by the alternating branch of the family to keep him from that throne. Scottish Kings, as Lady Macbeth and Macbeth both knew from personal experience, sat on the throne in a sea of blood, killing and being killed for the honor of being called king.

One of Shakespeare's contemporaries, Edmund Spenser, wrote of the law of tanistry as it applied in Ireland. Spenser even adds the fact that some believed the law originated in the law of the Danes although others think not. But an eye-opening association to make with this information is that when Shakespeare wrote a play about a Dane, *Hamlet*, he wrote about a prince who did not inherit from his kingly father."

**Elizabeth Nielsen**

***Macbeth: The Nemesis of the Post-Shakespearian Actor***

And when he had opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth beast say, Come and see.

And I looked, and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him. And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth"

**The Revelation of  
St. John the Divine**



[1992]

# M A C B E T H

## P.S.U. Theatre Company 1992 / 93 Season

FALL

*Cabaret* by Joe Masteroff, John Kander & Fred Ebb  
Directed by Barry Bengtsen

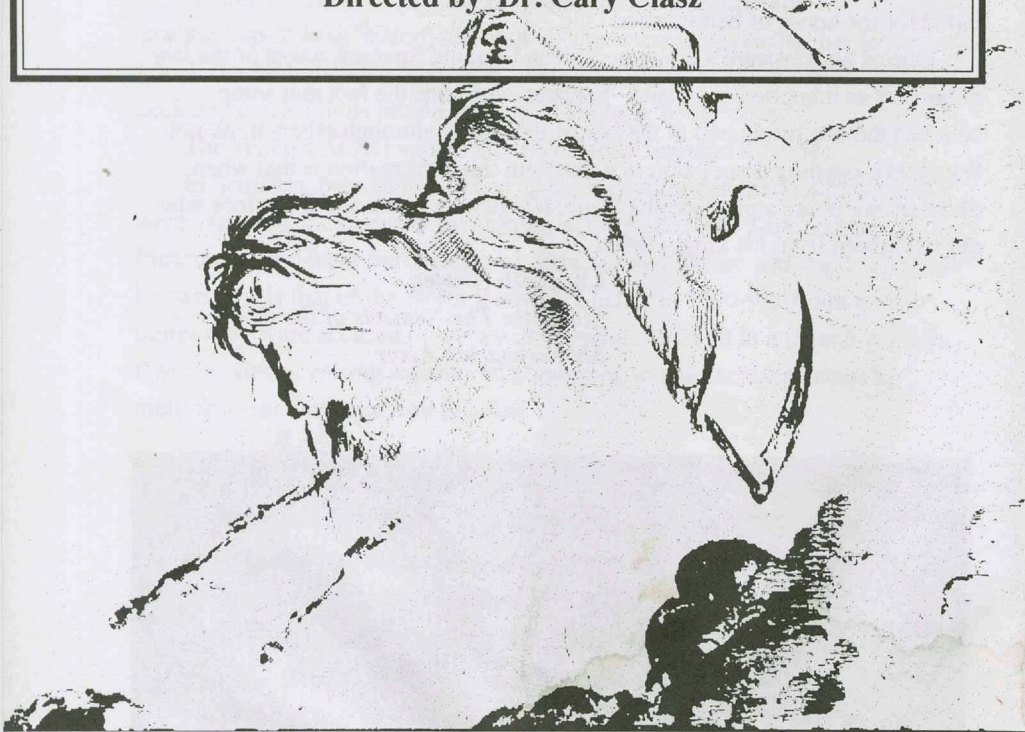
*Salome* by Oscar Wilde

Directed by John Green

SPRING

*The Glass Menagerie* by Tennessee Williams

Directed by Dr. Cary Clasz



### Production Acknowledgements

Dr. Elaine Emmett, Charles Cagle, Mostly Books, KRPS Radio, KOAM TV, Axe Library, Pittsburg Morning Sun, Phil McNew, Theatrical Services, Sam Brown & Son, Russell Rosmait.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY MASTER W.S. - APRIL 23, 1564**