# **Love's Labours Lost**

by William Shakespeare directed by Mark Harrison

THE PLAYHOUSE THEATRE

### February 14-25

Shakespeare's satirical comedy about passion and indulgences. How do you break a sacred oath with honor?

# Joe Versus The Volcano

by John Patrick Shanley directed by Scott Hafso Music by Scott Hafso and Darcy Phillips

THE MEANY STUDIO
THEATRE

### February 28 - March 11

The world premiere musical comedy based on Shanley's cult-classic film.

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# TOO MUCH WATER



created and directed by KJ Sanchez and cast

THE MEANY STUDIO THEATRE
24TH SEASON
56TH PRODUCTION
JANUARY 31 – FEBRUARY 11, 2001

#### TOO MUCH WATER

created and directed by KJ Sanchez and cast

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Carrie Ann Shepherd Matthew Jaeger

SOUND ADVISOR & SPECIAL EFFECTS TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Jeb Lewis Alex Danilchik

#### CAST

Holly Arsenault Craig Bachmann Jillian Boyd Joanne Brooks Ken Cerniglia Neil Dawson Daniel Eneberg **Bridie Harrington** Kyra Himmelbaum Catherine Ingman Richard Lopez Jenny Mercein Jamie Morgan Ron Simons **Elliot Williams** 

#### **CREW**

Andrea Bonner, James Bretschneider, Heidi Brucker, Stacie Hendrickson, Tyler King, Lenora Lin, Thomas Lin, Addie Mocca, Jamie Playter, Aimal Saidy, Adam Watson, Will Wheat

There will be no intermission.

Too Much Water was first workshoped in collaboration with P3 – Pacific Performance Project. A thousand thanks to Robyn Hunt and Steve Pearson and the participants of P3's summer intensive training program.

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#### **DIRECTOR'S NOTES:**

The idea for *Too Much Water* came to me two years ago while I was playing Ophelia at Actors' Theatre of Louisville in a production of Hamlet directed by Jon Jory. Robyn Hunt was playing Gertrude and as we shared a dressing room, we often talked about Ophelia's journey. I was interested in following her through Elsinore (since almost everything happens to her offstage) and also tracking what happens in her mind, inside her imagination, as she goes mad. With Robyn and Jon's encouragement, Too Much Water was born.

As I researched Ophelia, I found hundreds of web sites, mostly written by teenage girls, devoted to Ophelia and as I read books such as Reviving Ophelia and Ophelia Speaks, I started to understand what a mythic role Ophelia has in the culture of teenage girls today. She has, in many ways, become their Cinderella or Snow White, which, given her "doubtful death" is extremely alarming. I also discovered how many great writers have been compelled by Ophelia's plight: T.S. Elhot, Poe, and Dorothy Parker to name a few.

Why is Ophelia's story so relevant to us today? For me, she speaks to several human experiences: the desire to be the perfect child, to act based purely on love in a world ruled by politics, to do everything you can to help, and yet there is no one to help you and ultimately, to be abandoned. In Shakespeare's play, everyone must deal with Hamlet's "madness" and yet there is Ophelia, truly going mad, yet no one takes care of her.

Too Much Water was written collaboratively (myself, the cast, designers, assistants and stage manager writing together!) using the art of sampling. For the last year I had gathered text that I felt relevant to Ophelia. We then read through all this source material during the first few days of rehearsal and began piecing these sampled texts into a collage of events that spoke to Ophelia's inner journey through *Hamlet*. Our starting point was: What if when we die, we have one last dream before we can move on to the afterlife... What would Ophelia dream of?

### SOURCE MATERIAL

Charlotte Perkins Gilman, Deborah Levy, Anne Sexton, T.S. Elliot, Kay Redfield Jamison, Dorothy Parker, Jeremy Reed, Georges Minois, Gary Soto, Sara Shandler, and others

#### **AUTHORS & TEXTS SAMPLED FROM:**

Shakespeare, Dean Young, Pablo Neruda, Virginia Woolf, The DSM III, Michael Cunningham, Seneca, "The Rules", Simone De Beauvoir, Rogers & Hammerstein, By Her Own Hand, Reviving Ophelia

#### SPECIAL MUSIC BY

Richard Huntley, Ralph Huntley, Three Leg Torso, Daniel Eneberg

ORIGINAL POETRY BY Laura Phillips

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR Tommy Smith

ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER Colin Baynes

VOICEOVER SEQUENCE Wiley Young

LIGHTING Nina Kliorina, Laura Jean Wickman

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PRODUCTION OFFICE Josh Costello, Adam Koplan

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#### SET CONSTRUCTION

Tristan Dalley, Jeff Staver, Matt Smucker, Tress Tracy, Brice Maryman, Roxanne Breen, Erik Gasper, Eric Beauzay

#### COSTUME CONSTRUCTION

Mandi Wickline, Carrie Spradlin, Carrie Witney, Heidi Ganser, Norah Tullman-Kaltenback, Drama 211 lab and Drama 291 students.

#### HOUSE MANAGEMENT

Michael Thompson, Tammie Starwich, Braxton Clement

#### SPECIAL THANKS TO

Ray Houle, Justin Thumler, Richard Hartley, Jon Jory, Anne Bogart, Darron West, Valerie Curtis-Newton, Sarah Nash Gates, Henry, UW Custodial Services, Seattle Repertory Theatre, Intiman Theatre, ACT

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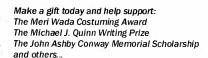
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