

PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MONTEREY, CA – Monterey Peninsula College Theatre Department's 2016-17 Season continues with

As You Like It

by William Shakespeare

Directed by David Kersnar

November 03 – November 13, 2016

Tickets available from the MPC Theatre Box Office (831-646-4213) or online at www.mpctheatre.com

William Shakespeare's As You Like It

Forced into exile in the Forest of Arden, lovers Rosalind and Orlando become entangled in a beguiling game of love, lust and mistaken identity, turning traditional rules of romance upside down.

Factoid: This is the play with the famous "All the World's a Stage" soliloquy by Jaques.

About the MPC production of As You Like It

As You Like It as a play explores what happens when we shake ourselves from our normal routine. Our characters are cast out of society into what at first appears to be the desolate Forest of Arden. But when an unexpected phenomenon occurs to our banished characters...they wake up to their true purpose. When we get into ruts in our everyday lives we can lose sight of what is truly important...of what really matters. In this digital age everything is available to us at a moment's notice. Even though we can order pizza, office supplies... even tonight's date, with a swipe on our smartphone, are we in fact becoming less connected...less human? That is at the heart of our production here at MPC.

As You Like It at MPC features just that...MPC! Monterey Peninsula College theatre students and alumni from throughout the community exploring together what it means to truly connect...as an ensemble, as a community, as a society, all packed within a Minecraft inspired virtual world that literally comes to life on stage. Our mission is to create a new generation of Shakespeare lovers for the 21st century! ***So get in here and see the Bard rebooted!!!***

About the Director

Director David Kersnar is the new Interim Chairman of the Theatre Arts Department at MPC. David is a founding ensemble member of Chicago's Tony Award winning Lookingglass Theatre Company, and performed, designed and directed with the company since it was founded in 1988. He served as the Lookingglass Artistic Director from 1988 to 1990 and again from 1997 to 2000. Kersnar founded and served as one of the Master Teachers of the Lookingglass Education & Community Programs, and served as its Director from 1992 to 1997. Kersnar has also appeared with the Goodman, Steppenwolf and Remains Theatres in Chicago, the Brooklyn Academy of Music, The Actor's Gang in Los Angeles, and the Touchstone Theatre of Pennsylvania. David has over twenty-five years' experience teaching residencies, camps and classes, including courses for Roosevelt University, DePaul University, University of Chicago, Northwestern University, residencies for children with special needs in Chicago area schools, and workshops for the Lookingglass Studio. Kersnar directed *Iphigenia 2.0* for Next Theatre and *Pulcinella* and *Peter and the Wolf* for Chicago Symphony Orchestra and *Marisol*, *Old Times*, and *Some Girls* for Northwestern University.

Through his diverse experiences as a teacher and professional artist, Kersnar has developed an innovative group process for creating new work. Most recently, David utilized his unique approach as director for the Lookingglass Lab productions of *hush: changing our discrimNation*, *The Young Americans*, and *Un/by/standing*. Kersnar has utilized this technique in facilitating workshops for schools, artistic organizations and businesses. Kersnar founded *Shaking the Tree Interactive Productions*, which uses theatre techniques in non-traditional environments and provides conflict resolution workshops using film and drama role-playing techniques.

David Kersnar's film and television credits include ***U.S. Marshals***, ***Since You've Been Gone, Early Edition***, and ***Turks***. David received his Masters of Fine Arts in Theatre Directing from The Graduate School at Northwestern University and a Bachelor's of Science in Interdepartmental Studies with a focus on Theatre and Performance Studies from Northwestern University School of Communication.

About the Design Team

The Design team includes **David Kersnar** (*Director*), **Doug Ridgeway** (Technical Director & Scenic Design), **Eric Maximoff** (Master Carpenter), **Gloria C. Mattos Hughes** (*Costume Design*), **Laura Cote** (Props Design), **Max Fabian** (Music Director/Composer and Fight Choreographer), **Naiya Biddle** (Assistant Director), and also **John Radley** (Stage Manager).

About the MPC Theatre Charitable Trust

The Monterey Peninsula Community Theatre Company Charitable Trust is an independent 501(c)(3) created to support the MPC theatre program by funding expenses not covered by the State educational budget.

Performance dates & times:

As You Like It previews Thursday, November 3rd at 7:30 PM and opens Friday, November 4th at 7:30 PM. Performances run for two weeks through Sunday, November 13th. Show times are Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 PM and Sundays at 2:00 PM. The full schedule is as follows:

As You Like It performance schedule:

Thursday	November 03	7:30 PM – Preview/Discount Thursday
Friday	November 04	7:30 PM - Opening
Saturday	November 05	7:30 PM
Sunday	November 06	2:00 PM - Matinee
Thursday	November 10	7:30 PM – Discount Thursday
Friday	November 11	7:30 PM
Saturday	November 12	7:30 PM
Sunday	November 13	2:00 PM – Matinee & Final performance

Ticket Prices:

Tickets are \$25 for Adults and \$22 for Seniors at the door, \$15 for Young Adults (16-21) and Military, and \$10 for Children 15 and under. Group discounts are also available for parties of 15 or more.

Adults & Seniors can also purchase tickets 24-hours in advance for \$20 each.

All Tickets to Thursday performances (Preview and Discount Thursday) are \$12.50 each.

**Please Note: Campus Parking is required for Thursday evening performances and is \$2.00
Some kiosks take quarters and others take dollar bills**

Please join us after each performance for a brief talkback with artistic staff, cast and crew members!

Tickets are available from the MPC Box Office on the Monterey Peninsula College Campus at 980 Fremont Street. The Box Office (831-646-4213) is open Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 3:00 – 7:00 PM, and two hours prior to performances. Tickets are also available online at www.mpctheatre.com

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Initial press release only – Press release with photos to follow next week.