

HAMLET



By William Shakespeare Directed by Ryan Kathman

February 3 - 19, 2017

Fridays and Saturdays @ 8:00, Sundays @ 2:00

New Moon Theatre Company
@ TheatreWorks • 2085 Monroe Ave.

www.NewMoonTheatre.org • 901-484-3467

TIME & PLACE

Elsinore Castle, Denmark, not long after World War II

There Will Be One 10 Minute Intermission

CAST

Ryan Beatty	Young Hamlet
Greg Boller.....	Claudius
Jamie Boller	Rosencrantz
Gene Elliott	Ghost
David Galloway.....	Guildenstern
Ron Gordon.....	Mortician
Jared Graham	Hamlet
David Hammons	Horatio
Mario Hoyle.....	Bernardo/Third Player
Steven Laden.....	Laertes
Faith Lewis	Ophelia
Maggie Luther.....	Gentlewoman/Player
Daniel Pound	Osric/Foley Artist
Billy Pullen	Polonius
Sarah Solarez	Marcella/Mortician 2
Cary Vaughn	Player King/Priest
Shannon Walton	Player Queen/Francesca
Christina Wellford Scott.....	Gertrude

ARTISTIC / MANAGEMENT STAFF

Director.....	Ryan Kathman
Stage Manager.....	Khamyl Browley
Lighting Designer.....	Melissa Andrews
Costume Designer.....	Austin Blake Conlee
Set Designer.....	Chris Sterling
Technical Director.....	Ron Gordon
Banner Construction.....	Ashley Kopera
Set Dressing.....	Donn Leppert
Costume Assistant.....	Charlotte Conlee
Makeup Assistant.....	Katie Suggs
Sound Design.....	Ryan Kathman
Props.....	Chris Sterling, Gene Elliott
Fight Choreography.....	Ryan Kathman
Lighting Engineer.....	Adam Brigance
Sound Engineer.....	Khamyl Browley
Poster Graphics & Design.....	Gene Elliott

New Moon Theatre
Presents

Hamlet

By William Shakespeare
Directed by Ryan Kathman



Upcoming Productions

TheatreWorks

Feb. 24 - 26
Bluff City Tri-Art
Weekend Comedy

March 3 - 5
Pyramid Dance Co.

March 17 - 29
Emerald Theatre Co.
Dupont, MS

The Evergreen Theatre

Feb. 10 - 11
Cazateatro presents
Los Monólogos de la Vagina en Español
(*The Vagina Monologues in Spanish*)

February 25 - March 4
Q&A
Over, Under & Thru the Rainbow

For more information go to www.TheatreWorksMemphis.org

ABOUT THE CAST



Ryan Beatty (*Young Hamlet*) is excited to be in his first production at New Moon! A 6th Grader at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School, he has performed multiple times with Missoula Children's Theatre. He was also the Mayor of Munchkinland in his school's production of *The Wizard of Oz*. He would like to thank his family for all their support and Ryan Kathman for giving him this amazing opportunity!



Gregory W. Boller (*Claudius*) is so excited to be back on stage with NM and this crushingly talented company! He is especially excited to be sharing the stage with his daughter Jamie (Rosencrantz) after 16 years since their last show together! Greg was last seen here as Titus in *Titus Andronicus*. Other performances at NM include *Frankenstein* (The Creature), *Bug* (Goss) and *King Lear* (Kent). Other favorite shows include *All the Way* at POTS (Sen. Eastland & Sec. McNamara), *Best of Enemies* at Circuit (C.P. Ellis), *A Streetcar Named Desire* at TM, *All My Sons* at GCT (Joe Keller), *Richard III* (Richard) and *As You Like It* (Dukes Frederick and Senior) at TM. "Many thanks to Ryan for all the fun! Love and kisses to Laurie, Rae and Jamie for all of their support!"



Jamie Boller (*Rosencrantz*) is thrilled to be making her NM debut with such a stellar cast and crew! She is particularly excited to be back onstage with her favorite actor, her dad, after 16 years. Some of her favorite past credits include: Kate Middleton (*King Charles III*, POTS); Ariel (*The Tempest*, BADA); Richard III (*Richard III*, USC); Ricky Roma (*Glengarry Glen Ross*, USC); Hecuba (*The Trojan Women*, USC); and Zerbinette (*Scapin*, USC). "Hamlet is a profoundly relevant story today, considering our country's present political situation. Indeed, something is rotten in the states... As always, infinite love and gratitude to Mom, Dad, Rae, and Woolf."



Gene Elliott (*The Ghost*) has appeared onstage at several theatres in Memphis. For NM he has appeared as J.D. in *The Rainmaker*, in *King Lear* he played Cornwall for which he won an Ostrander Award in Sound Design, and *Trip to Bountiful*. He enjoyed performing in *Six Degrees of Separation* at TM and at BPAC he appeared in *Plaza Suite*. He has directed many productions for New Moon including *Orpheus Descending*, *Frankenstein*, *Bug*, *Night Mother*, and *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*. When not performing he can be found at Calming Influence Massage and Body-work Salon in Midtown. He has been the business owner since 2007.



David Galloway (*Guildenstern*) is thrilled to be a part of Hamlet and to be on stage with New Moon! His previous credit for New Moon was as Scenic Designer for *Woman in Black*. David holds a BA in Theatre Performance from Freed-Hardeman U and worked for two years towards an MFA in Scenic design before settling in at the Apple Store as a Genius. He also plays guitar and provides some vocals for the pop-punk band ShameFinger. "This one is for Christina, cause she's awesome."

PLEASE turn off all cellular phones, chiming watches or other noise creating devices!

ABOUT THE CAST



Jared Graham (*Hamlet*) is both honored and humbled to be tackling this role, and the theatrical challenge of a lifetime, with such a talented ensemble of performers. He is also thrilled to be working again with NM, where he was last seen as Saturninus in *Titus Andronicus*. Jared received his MFA in Physical Theatre from the Accademia dell' Arte in Arezzo, Italy, where he trained in circus arts, mask-making, clown, and the Commedia dell' Arte. He also holds a BFA in Theatre Performance from the UofM. Over the past few years, Jared has been seen on several Memphis stages and hopes to continue the trend. Most recently, he portrayed Prince Harry in *King Charles III*, at POTS, where he had previously been seen, singing and dancing in the ensembles of both *American Idiot* and *Billy Elliot*. Other local credits include Fighting Prawn and several other characters in *Peter and the Starcatcher*, Martin in *Seminar*, the Proprietor and Lee Harvey Oswald in *Assassins*, all at the Circuit, and as con man Freddy Benson in *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* at GCT. Jared would like to thank Ryan Kathman, for giving him this opportunity to play a dream role as well as having confidence that he could pull it off (fingers crossed). Thanks also go out to his family and friends who have supported his artistic journey all along the way.



David Geoffrey Hammons (*Horatio*) is thrilled to be a part of this show, and would like to thank Ryan for the opportunity. David has appeared in various shows around Memphis, most recently in *Orpheus Descending* with NM. He would like to also thank his family and friends for their continuous support no matter how hard he makes it for them.



Mario Hoyle (*Bernardo/ Third Player*) is extremely excited to be a part of his first NM production! He recently graduated with BFA in Theatre from UT at Chattanooga. He was last seen on the Hatiloo Stage playing Clancy Hope in *Mr. Rickey Calls a Meeting*. Other works include *By the Way meet Vera Stark* (UTC), and *The Good Person of Setzuan* (UTC). He would like to thank NM and Ryan for giving him the opportunity to work on this amazing project. Also would like to thank his Mom and little brothers for their support.



Steven Laden (*Laertes*) is a graduate of Freed-Hardeman U. and somewhat of a newcomer to the Memphis scene. This is Steven's first production with NM. It is a pleasure and an honor to be a part of the theater community and hope to be here for a bit longer.



Faith Lewis (*Ophelia*) is honored to play such an amazing role. She is a Junior, Theatre- Performance Major at UofM. You may have seen her performing as an aerialist for Weightless Aerial Company around town, and touring for circuses elsewhere. Faith was most recently featured in *Measure for Measure* and *MacBeth* at UofM. She would like to thank Ryan Kathman & New Moon for this amazing opportunity and her family & friends for supporting her.



Maggie Luther (*Gentlewoman/Player*) is a senior at St. Benedict at Auburndale High School and is beyond excited to make her NM/Shakespeare debut!! She would like to thank Mr. Kathman for this incredible opportunity to be a part of such an amazing cast and her friends and family for all their support. "Enjoy the show!"

ABOUT THE CAST



Daniel Pound (*Osric/Foley Artist*) is proud to make his return to the Memphis stage after 8 years away. He's been an actor, director, producer, and designer for most of his life. Some of his favorite roles include Garry in *Noises Off*, Friar Laurence in *Romeo and Juliet*, and Ron in *Recent Tragic Events*. He has had a blast with this talented cast and crew. He would like to send special thanks to his wife and two boys at home.



Billy M. Pullen (*Polonius*) wears many hats, but he is first and foremost a teacher who has won national and state honors, including West TN Teacher of the Year. As a playwright, his one-act play *Fallen Short of the Glory* won the Grand Festival Prize in NYC's Theatre Row. His essay on theatre "Allan, the Gray Boy, the Young Man from Atlanta, and Me" will soon appear in the premiere issue of *PLOTS*. Thanks to Ryan and New Moon for this opportunity. Billy teaches IB English and Creative Writing at Germantown H. S.



Christina Wellford Scott (*Gertrude*) is dividing her time between roles as mother of four mostly grown children, actress, singer (Calvary Episcopal) and Upper School English teacher at Hutchinson School. Christina appeared most recently as Camilla in POTS' production of *King Charles III*. She has also appeared in leading roles in *Doubt*, *The Lion in Winter*, and *Hay Fever* at TM, *Long Day's Journey into Night* for 3 Penny Theatre, *King Lear* for NM, and *The Glass Menagerie* for TN Shakespeare. "Thank you, Ryan, for giving me this wonderful opportunity to work with you once again!"



Sarah Solarez (*Marcella/Mortician 2*) is a recent graduate of the UofM, having fulfilled her degree in Theatre Performance. She has portrayed such roles as Lady Macbeth in *Macbeth* and Queen Gertrude in *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*. Sarah has played a wide variety of roles from numerous shows throughout her collegiate career. With a great passion for Shakespeare and theatre, she is pleased to debut her first local performance with an amazing cast, a wonderful director, and the incredible script that is *Hamlet*. Sarah is thankful to every participant in making this show possible and as always: "Gracias a mí familia por siempre apoyándome!"



Cary Vaughn (*Priest/First Player/Prince Fortinbras*) is pleased to be performing in his third Shakespeare production. Previous Shakespearean roles include Malcolm in *Macbeth*, and Posthumus Leonatus in *Cymbeline*. Examples of other productions you could have seen Cary perform include *The Boy from Oz* (Theatre Memphis), *Spamalot* (Playhouse on the Square), and *Debbie Does Dallas the Musical* (Circuit Playhouse). He lives in Memphis with his husband and five heathen cats. "Thanks, Ryan, for the opportunity to work with you as you sit in the director's chair. It's been wonderful."



Shannon Walton (*Player Queen/Francesca*) is joining NM for the first time. She is a Memphis native with a BFA in acting from Southeast Missouri State University. She has been in such productions as *Lend Me a Tenor*, *Keely and DU*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Brighton Beach Memoirs*, *Beautiful in the Extreme*, *Steel Magnolias*, and, most recently at TM, *The City of Conversation*.

New Moon Theatre Company
was formed in 2004 to
produce challenging works.
It's debut production of *Fefu
and her Friends* was a
wonderful success.

New Moon would like to acknowledge the original four founding members, and thank them for their vision, dedication and hard work.

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- New Moon Theatre would like to thank the following, without whom this production could not have succeeded:

Bob Arnold, Bill Short,
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University of Memphis,
Fred Harpell, Germantown
Community Theatre,
Betty Dilley,
Eastern Hale
Women's Theatre Festival,
Karen Moore, Ruby O'Gray



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Texting or viewing texts is not allowed during performance.

Photography or recording devices of any kind are not permitted during the performance.

ABOUT THE CREW

Melissa Andrews (*Lighting Designer*) is a freelance lighting designer and stage manager. Recent credits include *The Laramie Project: Ten Years Later* (lighting designer) with New Moon and *Anything Goes* (stage manager) at Theatre Memphis.

Khamyl Browley (*Stage Manager*) is a senior at Saint Benedict at Auburndale and is planning to attend the University of Memphis to major in stage management. She started getting involved in plays in middle school. In high school she has worked on ten plays. She had the opportunity to be apart of the Levitt Shell Apprenticeship where she gained hands on experience for sound engineering. She is also an intern of the Memphis Music Initiative. She is very excited to be the Stage Manger of *Hamlet* at New Moon Theatre.

Austin Blake Conlee (*Costume Designer*) is a senior BFA student studying Technical Theatre & Design at the University of Memphis where he most recently costume designed *Little Shop of Horrors*. This past year he was nominated for his first Ostrander Award for Best Costume Design for *A Streetcar Named Desire* at GCT (won Best Overall Production). Other recent local design credits include *Haint* currently playing at GCT and *Lettice & Lovage* at New Moon Theatre, as well as *Mame* and *Nine* at Stagedoor Manor in New York. He'd like to thank Gene, Ryan, Faith, Christina, & the rest of the cast and crew for this amazing experience! He'd like to thank Gene, Ryan, Faith, Christina, Katie, MawMaw & the rest of the cast and crew for this amazing experience!

Ron Gordon (*Mortician and Technical Director*) has been taking up space on area stages for over thirty five years picking up four Ostrander Awards along the way. His past service includes stints as Technical Director for Southwest Tennessee Community College, GCT and the Sandbox Players Theatre Co. in Southern Pines, N.C. where he was a founding member. He currently seeks solace in performing technical and set construction magic for cash strapped local theatre companies that can't afford real talent (Ron's words not ours!).

Chris Sterling (*Set Design*) has designed the sets for *Cuddles*, *Haint* (Ostrander winner for Best Set Design), *Bug* and *The Rainmaker*. He has been seen on several local stages over the years, most recently as the Sheriff in NM's production of *The Rainmaker*. He has also appeared in *The Importance of Being Earnest* and *Fallen Angels* at Theatre Memphis; *The Hollow* and *The Mousetrap* at GCT.

T H E J E N I A M



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THE DIRECTOR



Ryan Kathman (*Director*) was honored to get the chance to helm his favorite play for New Moon Theatre and the experience has been more rewarding than he'd hoped. Originally from Omaha, he has worked as an actor, director, teacher, fight choreographer, playwright and dialect coach in Nebraska, Minnesota, Kansas and Tennessee. Directing credits include *Inherit the Wind*, *Go Back for Murder* (GCT), *The Underpants* (Bartlett Repertory Company), *Twelfth Night*

(Lawrence Art Center), *Toward Canterbury*, *Blue Collar Diaries* (Minnesota Fringe Festival) and, in a slightly different take on the Great Dane, *Kung Fu Hamlet* (Theatrix). His original solo adaptation of the play, *One-Ham Manlet*, was recently produced at Theatre Memphis and remains available for touring (www.OneHamManlet.com). Though he has loved his time as part of the Memphis theatre community and as a Theatre/English teacher at St. Benedict at Auburndale High School (where he adapted and directed Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Julius Caesar*, among many other shows), he and his family will be bidding a fond farewell this summer as they return to Lincoln, Nebraska to begin his tenure as an assistant professor of acting/directing at his alma mater, Nebraska Wesleyan University. He wishes to express insufficient gratitude to the cast, crew and production team of *Hamlet*, all of whom took a leap of faith (so to speak) on his concept for this show, but especially to Jenny, Gracie and George, who he forever wears in his "heart's core, ay in [his] heart of heart."

ABOUT THE PLAY

Directors' Note:

It has to be more than a revenge story. There must be a reason, beyond the universal theme of seeking payback, that this particular work of fiction, borrowed heavily from a relatively obscure Nordic legend and a lost Elizabethan play, has held billions of readers and audiences in its sway for over 400 years. Of course, *Hamlet* is many other things rolled into one - a suspense thriller, a tragic romance, a political potboiler, a family drama, a philosophical think piece ... with a sword fight! - but one categorization that has always stuck with me is the fact that, from its first scene to its last, *Hamlet* is a ghost story. The spirit of King Hamlet haunts, both literally and figuratively, every corner of this play and his somber son's troubled mind.

But unlike most Hollywood ghost stories, this play is interested in more than simply spooking or chilling its audience with the presence of a spectral figure in key moments of the action. There is deep consideration of just what it means that this supernatural element has begun popping up in Elsinore castle. Hamlet is endlessly contemplating not just the validity, consequences and implications of his father's spirit's arrival, but also the larger existential questions that it prompts: how can any of us tolerate life? How can we prepare ourselves for the inevitability of death?

It's this quest for answers to life's mysteries that I have always found far more relatable in Hamlet than the theme of vengeance. Personally, I can't really connect to the a prince's obligation to right the wrongs of his father's murder, but I do know what it's like to ponder my own mortality a little. And this theme of desperately seeking, searching or questioning can be seen in so many of the other fascinating characters in the play. In fact, I'd wager everyone who has ever lived has spent at least a little time asking the same kind of Big Questions that Hamlet asks. Questions that pull millions of people the world over into houses of worship every week, hoping to find answers and solace there.

Well then: What if Prince Hamlet has been interested in asking these kinds of questions for a long time? So much so that he decided to dedicate his life to it by enrolling in a seminary in Wittenberg, studying to become a priest? Wouldn't the vows he took toward that vocation further complicate his feelings for Ophelia? What if his commitment to God the Father was compromised by his obligations to the ghost of his father? What if the spirit of King Hamlet actually appeared to his son more often than the mere two moments indicated in Shakespeare's text? And is it possible for the entire action of the play to be contained within the walls of the palace chapel? After all, chapels, churches, temples, mosques, shrines - these are the places we go to ask big questions and hope to find answers. So are theaters.

These are the questions we decided to ask with our production. It's still a revenge story, but it has to be more than that too. You may not leave our "chapel" with any more answers than when you came (most of the characters don't either). But it's important to ask questions. And it's important to do it in the presence of others, because maybe doing so helps us to each feel a little less alone in this world. And maybe that itself is a kind of answer.

Thank you for being here. We hope you enjoy the show!
Ryan Kathman

Theatreworks would like to thank the following arts organizations that offer assistance through grants and arts programs.

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New Moon Theatre's 2016 - 2017 Season

Cuddles

by Joseph Wilde

Oct. 21 - Nov. 6, 2016

Hamlet

by William Shakespeare

Feb. 3 - 19, 2017

Killer Joe

by Tracy Letts

May 5 - 21, 2017

For more info please visit
www.NewMoonTheatre.org

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