

Company Photographer: Asher Susswein

SPECIAL THANKS: Michael Gnat, Paula Hoza, Debra Whitfield, Tamara Cashour, Joe Melhado, Asher Susswein.

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PRESENTS

TOMFOOLERIES



THE SIXTH PROGRAM IN OUR MASTERS OF MISBEHAVIOR SERIES

Tra la, it's May, the *farcical* month of May!
Be prepared to giggle, chortle, chuckle and cheer!

Directed by David Seatter

Thursday, May 23, 2019
Ripley-Grier • Studio 212
305 W. 38th St.
New York City

THE SHAW PROJECT presents

TOMFOOLERIES

THE SIXTH PROGRAM IN OUR MASTERS OF MISBEHAVIOR SERIES

Directed by David Seatter

THE FASCINATING FOUNDLING by George Bernard Shaw

Horace Brabazon Drew Bolander*
Mercer Michael Gnat*
The Lord Chancellor David Seatter*
Anastasia Vulliamy Malka Wallick

Scene: Outer Office in the Lord Chancellor's Offices in Chancery Lane, London
Time: Spring, 1909

MACBETH SKIT by George Bernard Shaw

Lady MacBeth..... Paula Hoza*
MacBeth Bennett Pologe
A Messenger David Seatter*

MUSIC AND VERSE

The Verse Problem by Patrick Barlow CK Allen

Song: The Whale (Mopy Dick) by Michael Flanders & Donald Swann
..... Bennett Pologe, accompanied by Tamara Cashour

The Haughty Actor by W. S. Gilbert..... Paula Hoza*

Song: Aida McCluskie – lyrics: C. H. Bovill / Music: Jerome Kern
..... Drew Bolander*, Bennett Pologe & David Seatter*

Song: When the 'Ansom Cabs Was Lined Up On The Rank – Lyrics:
Donovan Parsons / Music: Noel Gay David Seatter*

The Villain Still Pursued Her by Robert Rutherford & Frank Wilcock
..... CK Allen

THE POT BOILER by Alice Gerstenberg

Gus David Seatter*
Thomas Pinikles Sud Bennett Pologe
Mr. Wouldby Drew Bolander*
Mrs. Pencil Debra Whitfield*
Miss Ivory Malka Wallick
Mr. Inkwell Michael Gnat*
Mr. Ruler Darin Earl
Mr. Ivory CK Allen

*Appearing through the courtesy of Actors' Equity Association

The Playwrights:

George Bernard Shaw (1856–1950) – Shaw wrote *The Fascinating Foundling* (and subtitled it “a Disgrace to the Author”) for Elizabeth Asquith, the 12-year-old daughter of Prime Minister H. H. Asquith. She wanted a play to produce at a benefit event for a charity. Published in 1926, it was first played professionally by the Arts Theatre Club in January 1928, and ran for forty-four performances. *Macbeth Skit* was written in 1916 for performance by two actors who had recently appeared in productions of *Macbeth*, Lillah McCarthy and Gerald du Maurier. However, the skit remained unpublished and unperformed during Shaw’s lifetime. In a note written by Shaw in the manuscript, he says du Maurier refused to do the skit, writing, “Gerald would not burlesque himself. Probably he considered himself an ideal Macbeth.” The manuscript is untitled. The name *Macbeth Skit* first appeared when the piece was published in 1960.

Alice Gerstenberg (1885–1972) was an American playwright, actress, and activist. A native of Chicago, Gerstenberg founded several theater companies, determined to make non-commercial theaters where new playwrights could see their plays produced. She was a strong supporter of regional playwrights, especially those writing about Chicago and the Midwest, and also felt it important to give children the opportunity to experience the theater, to act, write, and become involved. Her two most popular plays were *The Pot Boiler* and *Overtones*, the latter still considered a forerunner of the psychological dramas by such playwrights as Eugene O’Neill, who acknowledged its influence on his work. Gerstenberg won the Chicago Foundation for Literature Award in 1938.