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The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged)

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TAYLOR UNIVERSITY'S
Mitchell Theatre
PRESENTS

THE COMPLETE WORKS OF
WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE
{ABRIDGED}

WRITTEN BY ADAM LONG,
DANIEL SINGER,
& JESS WINFIELD
In 2010 Taylor University and the Theatre department lost one of its most beloved and talented graduates, Jason Francis. Jason contributed so much to Taylor theatre while he was a student. He built sets, sewed costumes, taught novices how to do authentic make-up, and was an assistant director. He was equally comfortable backstage or in the limelight and was always aware of both his gifts and his limitations as an artist. He seized every opportunity, large and small, to hone his craft, and he brought his fellow actors with him on his journey toward excellence. In his honor a scholarship fund has been initiated which will be awarded to an incoming student majoring in theatre. Currently, there are no theatre scholarships available to new majors. Linda, Jason’s wife, described the initiative this way:

"I would like to let you know one special way we can all remember and honor Jason. Jason LOVED Taylor and one of his dreams was to get his MFA and return there as a professor of Theatre. His own professor, Ollie Hubbard, passed away several years ago and it inspired us to make the move to Nebraska and start working on his dream. The dream will not be fulfilled in the way we all hoped but we are setting up a scholarship in his name."

We need to raise $20,000 and the interest off that will be given as a scholarship every year to one promising and eligible theatre student. In this way, Jason will still be supporting young artists in his favorite field year after year.

Our goal is to reach the $20,000 mark by March of 2012 so that a scholarship recipient can be awarded in the ’12-’13 academic year. Will you consider partnering with us in raising the $20,000 needed to fund this scholarship? If you choose to participate financially, please make your check payable to Taylor University and write “Jason Francis Memorial Scholarship” in the memo line.

If you wish to be receipted for your contribution please use the enclosed envelope. Fill in the information and mark the gift receipt box. Your will be receipted for the value above the cost of normal admission, $10 for students and $12 for adults. Thank you for your help in this endeavor.
THE CAST

**Braden Spear**
Junior Braden Spear is a theatre arts major from North Smithfield, Rhode Island. He enjoys reading comic books, playing soccer and snowboarding. Braden played Dickon in *The Secret Garden*, the title role in *Hippolytus* and had roles in *A Streetcar Named Desire* and *The Count of Monte Cristo* last season. Braden is also currently involved in the traveling theatre company's show *We Will Not Be Silent*.

**Tim McDermott**
This is Tim’s 17th Taylor Theatre production. He appeared in *The Count of Monte Cristo*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *Hippolytus*, *The Crucible*, and *Taming of the Shrew*. He also appeared in two student directed shows, *The Boys Next Door* and *All In The Timing*. Tim served as stage manager and properties master. He is a senior political science and philosophy major and enjoys reading and listening to Sufjan Stevens.

**Ryan Maloney**
Ryan is a senior studio art major from Upland, Indiana. He is also minoring in psychology. He is in the current traveling company show *We Will Not Be Silent* and appeared in *A Streetcar Named Desire* and *The Count of Monte Cristo* last season. Ryan also held the position of Charge Scenic Artist on several productions. He enjoys leisurely walks, organizing, and coffee night.

THE STAGE MANAGER

**Taryn Dunton**
Taryn is a sophomore majoring in Theatre Arts and Spanish who calls San Diego, California home. She is part of Taylor’s Traveling Theatre Company and most recently was seen in *Witness for the Prosecution* as Janet Mackenzie. Outside of theatre, Taryn works for Taylor’s Admissions CREW and enjoys watching "The Office". She thanks David for trusting her with this show and for all the hard work put into it by the cast and crew! It has been a wonderfully unscripted, fast-paced adventure.

THE PRODUCTION STAFF

Director / Technical Director.........................................................*David Phillips*
Managing Artistic Director.........................................................*Tracy Manning*
Scenic Designer...........................................................................Esther Neel
Stage Manager..............................................................................Taryn Dunton
Lighting Designer.........................................................................Todd Naevesstad
Master Electrician.........................................................................Chris Vroon
Electricians.................................................................................Austin Stoltzfus
Sound Technician........................................................................Daniel Kasper
Properties Masters.....................................................................Kenna Howat
Costumes....................................................................................Emily DeMeester & Kathryn Irwin
Makeup/Hair.................................................................................Christi Kroll
House Manager............................................................................Joshua Key

SPECIAL THANKS

**Ryan & Kelly**
(Marketing and Publicity)
Taylor University
Housekeeping and Maintenance

*Denotes Alpha Psi Omega Membership
National Dramatic Honor Society*
FROM THE DIRECTOR

I’ve always been aware of God’s gift of humor. In preparing to mount this production, I realized more and more how God uses humor to improve the quality of our lives. Humor allows us to connect and enrich relationships with others, relieve stress, and help us heal. Medical research supports that laughter can help relieve pain, bring happiness, increase antibody-producing cells which boost the immune system, reduce levels of stress hormones, exercise the diaphragm and abdominal muscles, provide a good cardiovascular workout, and provide many other positive effects.

Throughout this process, there have been many circumstances which have created opportunities to laugh: irony, wit, misunderstandings, surprise, and pain. The three men whom you will see performing and the stage manager have been a continual source of joy and laughter and have enriched my life through the rehearsal period. I encourage you to look for those whom God has placed in your life, who bring the gift of laughter, and thank Him and them for that gift.

“Someday we’ll all look back on this and laugh.” Today is that day. After much growth, through the rehearsal process with my cast and crew, I hope that today, you will be blessed with laughter. I know that not everyone will find everything funny, but it is our hope that everyone will find something funny. And you’ll laugh. Not just sympathy laughter, but deep, rich laughter that improves the quality of your life. This production is in honor and celebration of the life and passion of Jason Francis. You can read more about him in this playbill. Jason blessed many lives with laughter, myself included. Although our interactions were brief, God blessed the short time with deep conversation and laughter. It is my prayer that this production in his memory will be a blessing to you. Thank you for your support. I invite you to laugh with us until you hurt, and that you hurt until you cry – in a good way. May God bless you today with the gift of laughter.

THE 2011-2012 THEATRE SEASON

We Will Not Be Silent
By William Gebby
October 14, 15

A Christmas Carol, the Musical
Music by Alan Menken
Lyrics by Lynn Ahrens
Book by Mike Ockrent and Lynn Ahrens
Based on the story by Charles Dickens
November 11-13, 18-20, December 2 & 4

Proof
By David Auburn
February 10-12, 17-19

Noises Off
By Michael Frayn
April 27-29, May 4-6
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