



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CHESAPEAKE SHAKESPEARE COMPANY PRESENTS INTERACTIVE PARODY

THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (ABRIDGED)

Baltimore, Md. (Feb. 19, 2020) – Chesapeake Shakespeare Company continues its 2019-2020 Season with the interactive parody of Shakespeare's works, *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)*, directed by CSC Founding Artistic Director Ian Gallanar. *Complete Works* runs Mar. 6-29, with previews Mar. 4-5, and press night Mar. 6.

Complete Works, by Adam Long, Daniel Singer, and Jess Winfield, is a fast-paced, crowd-pleasing comedy with three actors creatively reenacting and merging 37 Shakespeare plays in 97 minutes. Highlights include *Titus Andronicus* as a cooking show, *Othello* through a rap song, and the record for shortest production of *Hamlet* at 43 seconds. First staged in 1987 at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe and holding the record for longest-running London play (for nine years), *Complete Works* has a reputation for entertaining both Shakespeare lovers and haters with its inclusion of pop culture, audience participation and inventive interpretation of the Bard's works.

"*Complete Works* is a way for us to bite the hand that feeds us," says Ian Gallanar, Director and CSC Founding Artistic Director. "It is a chance for us to not take ourselves too seriously. It is a funny show and we have funny actors performing it."

Complete Works features three actors who perform as themselves, often improvising to incorporate pop culture and local references. The three actors performing CSC's production are CSC Resident Acting Company Members Gregory Burgess and Elliott Kashner, and Helen Hayes Award Winner Matthew R. Wilson.

The Complete Works of Williams Shakespeare (Abridged) opens Friday, Mar. 6, with previews Mar. 4 and 5, and closes Sunday, Mar. 29. For more information, visit www.chesapeakeashakespeare.com or call the box office at 410-244-8570. Press night is Friday, Mar. 6. Tickets are \$19-\$53.

PRODUCTION INFORMATION

The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)
By Adam Long, Daniel Singer, and Jess Winfield
Directed by Ian Gallanar

CAST LIST *(in alphabetical order)*

Gregory Burgess* – Self

Elliott Kashner* – Self

Matthew R. Wilson – Self

* *Chesapeake Shakespeare Company Resident Actor*

WHERE:

Chesapeake Shakespeare Company is located at 7 South Calvert Street, Baltimore, MD 21202. The theatre is located two blocks north of the Inner Harbor. Parking is available for the discounted rate of \$5 at the Arrow Parking covered lot on 204 East Lombard Street. The theatre is also accessible using the FREE Charm City Circulator and is located on the Purple Route. For more detailed information about directions, parking, and public transportation, click [here](#).

DATES AND TIMES:

Wednesday, Mar. 4, at 8 p.m. *PREVIEW*

Thursday, Mar. 5, at 8 p.m. *PREVIEW*

Friday, Mar. 6, at 8 p.m. *OPENING NIGHT*

Saturday, Mar. 7, at 8 p.m.

Sunday, Mar. 8, at 2 p.m.

Friday, Mar. 13, at 8 p.m.

Saturday, Mar. 14, at 8 p.m.

Sunday, Mar. 15, at 2 p.m.

Thursday, Mar. 19, at 7:30 p.m.

Friday, Mar. 20, at 8 p.m.

Saturday, Mar. 22, at 8 p.m.

Sunday, Mar. 22, at 2 p.m.

Thursday, Mar. 26, at 7:30 p.m.

Friday, Mar. 27, at 8 p.m.
Saturday, Mar. 28, at 2 p.m.
Saturday, Mar. 28, at 8 p.m.
Sunday, Mar. 29, at 2 p.m.

TICKETS:

Tickets can be purchased by ordering online at ChesapeakeShakespeare.com, calling 410-244-8570, or visiting the Box Office in person. Tickets range from \$19 to \$53, with discounts are available for groups of ten or more, active duty military, seniors, and anyone age 25 or younger. For more information or to purchase tickets, click [here](#).

DIRECTOR AND ACTOR BIOS

Ian Gallanar (Founding Artistic Director and creator of CSC's A Christmas Carol original adaptation) In addition to founding the Chesapeake Shakespeare Company in 2002, Ian has worked as a professional actor, director, and writer for more than 150 professional productions. He has directed 40 productions for CSC. Previously, Ian has served as Artistic Director for the National Theatre for Children, Minnesota Shakespeare in the Park, and the Repertory Theater of America. Ian is a proud member of the distinguished National Theatre Conference and the Dramatists Guild of America; a Helen Hayes Tribute Award, Telly Award, and Howie Award (Howard County Arts Council) winner. He is the recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, where he is a Member of the College of Fine Arts Advancement Council. He is President of the international Shakespeare Theatre Association, an organization for professional Shakespeare companies around the globe.

Gregory Burgess, a member of CSC's Resident Acting Company, has performed in CSC's productions of *Henry IV, Parts 1 & 2*; *The Winter's Tale*; *The Fantasticks*; *Richard III* (2017 and 2012); *Anne of the Thousand Days*; *Wild Oats*; *A Christmas Carol* (2014-2018); *Titus Andronicus* (2015); *The Importance of Being Earnest*; *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (2014 and 2010); *As You Like It*; *The Merry Wives of Windsor*; *The Taming of the Shrew* (2017 and 2013); and *The Merchant of Venice*, among many others. His training includes The Martin Blank Studio, the Shakespeare Theater, and Howard University.

Elliott Kashner is a member of CSC's Resident Acting Company, and previously appeared in *She Stoops to Conquer*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Othello*, *Romeo and Juliet*, and *Wild Oats*. Regional credits include *Book of Joseph* (Everyman Theatre). Other local credits include *Junie B. Jones is Not a Crook* (Adventure Theatre); *The Burn* (The Hub Theatre; Helen Hayes Nomination: Outstanding Supporting Actor); *Nightfall with Edgar Allen Poe* (Molotov Theatre Group); *Doubt: A Parable* (Quotidian Theatre Company); and *The Misanthrope* and

The Bacchae (WSC Avant Bard). Elliott is Institutional Giving Manager at Everyman Theatre and holds a Bachelor of Science in Economics. www.elliottkashner.com

Matthew R. Wilson returns to CSC having previously directed *Much Ado about Nothing* (2015). He is a two-time Helen Hayes Award winner and seven-time nominee as an actor, director, playwright, and fight director. Acting credits include *Swimming with Whales* (1st Stage; HHA Outstanding Lead Actor); *Second Shepherds' Play*, *Comedy of Errors*, and *Henry IV, Part 1* (Folger Theatre); *Comedy of Errors* and *Scapin!* (Baltimore Shakespeare Festival); *Shear Madness* (Kennedy Center); *Hairspray* and *Pirates of Penzance* (Shenandoah Summer Music Theatre). TV credits include *House of Cards* and *As the World Turns*. Matt teaches at The George Washington University's Corcoran School of the Arts & Design. He holds an MFA from ACA, and a PhD from UMD. MatthewRWilson.com

ABOUT CHESAPEAKE SHAKESPEARE COMPANY

Founded in 2002 with the goal of producing “Shakespeare that’s not stuffy”, Chesapeake Shakespeare Company (CSC) is dedicated to bringing the plays of Shakespeare and other classic playwrights into the lives of as many people as possible in ways that are personally meaningful, educationally inspiring, and theatrically compelling. Our mission is to engage our communities in the exploration of what makes Shakespeare so timeless and relevant while strengthening the connection between audience and artist. In 2012, Chesapeake Shakespeare Company acquired the Mercantile Safe Deposit and Trust Company building in downtown Baltimore, renovating it into a modern Globe Theater for indoor performances, while continuing to produce outdoor Shakespeare every summer at the PFI Historic Park in Howard County. The organization regularly serves 30,000+ people annually through artistic projects and community engagement initiatives, and vibrant and continually growing education activities. CSC’s education program includes both an extensive matinee series, camps, classes, and in- and out-of-school residencies.

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