

ST·LOUIS SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**ST. LOUIS SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL RELEASES CAST & SCHEDULE for
9TH SHAKESPEARE IN THE STREETS
in the HISTORIC IMMIGRANT NIEGHBORHOOD of BEVO MILL**

“WINDS OF CHANGE”

Based on Shakespeare’s *The Comedy of Errors*

Written by Deanna Jent and Directed by Adam Flores

SEPTEMBER 22, 23 & 24 at 8 PM

near the intersection of Morgan Ford and Gravois

Free to attend.

September 12, 2022 -- “*Winds of Change*”, the ninth and latest new work from the St. Louis Shakespeare Festival’s (Tom Ridgely - Producing Artistic Director) Shakespeare in the Streets initiative, will open on Thursday, September 22, 2022 and run through Saturday September 24. The world premiere play is based on Shakespeare’s *The Comedy of Errors* and is the culmination of a year of story collection and community conversations in the historic **Bevo Mill neighborhood**. The Festival worked with residents, community organizations, businesses and refugees that have found a home in the South City neighborhood to create a weekend celebration in partnership with Oasis International Ministries.

The free performances will begin at **8 p.m. near the intersecion Morgan Ford and Gravois Rd.** The large stage which includes four replica Wind Mill blades was constructed on the Mordan Ford side of the park at this well known intersection which is home to the Bosnia and Herzegovina memorial Sebilj of St. Louis and across the street from Oasis International and Das Bevo. Audiences will sit on the street which will be blocked off between Walsh and Gravois.

Winds of Change is written by St. Louis playwright and Drama Desk nominee **Deanna Jent**, directed by **Adam Flores** the Festival’s Manager of Community Engagment and Education. They are joined on the creative team by **Dunsi Dai** (Set Designer), **Michele Siler** (Costumes) and **Bryant Powell** (Lighting

Designer). **Colin McLaughlin** (Music Director) and **Noah Laster** have composed original music for the production well as lead the company of actors.

THE COMPANY

Ashwini Arora as LUCIANA
Molly Burris as DROMIA of the Red Cross
Hannah Geisz as DROMIA of Bevo)
Noah Laster as ANTIPHOLUS of Red Cross)
Hady Matta as AEGON (Immigrant and Oasis International Staff)
Youssef Matta as Youssef
Colin McLaughlin as ANTIPHOLUS of Bevo
Brenda Morrison as BARBARA (Bevo Resident)
Christina Rios as EMILIA (Bevo Resident)
Rosario Rios-Kelley as MEG (Bevo Resident)
Carly Uding as ADRIANA
Mark and Joani Akers as MARK AND JOANI AKERS (founders of Oasis International)
Father Mitchell Doyen as FATHER MITCH (St. John the Baptist Catholic Church)

The production will feature **Nadja Kapetanovich** performing and dancing a traditional Bosnian Lullaby “Spavaj Sine” with accompaniment and accordion music by **Edo Maajka**. The longtime community theater of Bevo - **KTK Productions** will perform a brief history of Bevo interlude featuring Amie Bossi, Billy Busch, Matthew Lewis, Andrew Miller, Emily Miller, Jake Singer and Mike Singer.

The show art was created by the design agency Visitor Assembly in collaboration with the Bosnian-American Photographer [Aida Hasanović](#) and photo from “Sending Love Back Home” series.

The performances will take place September 22, 23 and 24 at 8 p.m. outside on Morgan Ford Rd in front of Long Middle School. The shows are free to attend and open to everyone, guests are encouraged to bring chairs and blankets for seating. Outside food and drink is welcome and will also be available for purchased on and near the site from Bevo Mill restaurants and bars. More details at stlshakes.org

Shakespeare in the Streets: Bevo Mill is made possible with generous support from the Jim & Merry Mosbacher and the Incarnate Word Foundation. Additional program support by Pershing Charitable Trust, The Strive Fund, Biggs Family Charitable Foundation, Clean Uniform Company, Regional Arts Commission of St. Louis and the Missouri Arts Council.

SHAKESPEARE IN THE STREETS HISTORY

Shakespeare in the Streets is an internationally-recognized program that celebrates local stories and takes high-quality professional arts directly to those who may not otherwise experience it. A Festival playwright, designer, and director spend a year conducting conversations and research in a community. The playwright draws directly from the stories shared to write an original play, inspired by the neighborhood, and based on the work of Shakespeare. With Festival resources, the community then comes together to perform the new play in a weekend-long outdoor celebration.

- The Ville (2021)
- 24:1 x Brussels (2019)
- Downtown St. Louis (2018)
- Maplewood (2016)
- Old North (2015)
- Clayton (2014)
- The Grove (2013)
- Cherokee Street (2012)

ARTISTIC TEAM

Deanna Jent (Playwright) is a Professor of Theatre at Fontbonne University. Her play *Falling* won the Kevin Kline award for Best New Play of 2011 and was nominated for a Drama Desk Best Play award following its Off-Broadway run in 2012. *Falling* is published by Dramatists Play Service and continues to be produced nationally and internationally. Her adaptations of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* and C.S. Lewis's *Till We Have Faces* have been performed at theatres around the country. Other plays include *Bosnian/American: The Dance For Life*, *Imaginary Jesus* and *Six Sisters*. She was the artistic director of Mustard Seed Theatre company from 2007-2019, and has directed for the Illinois Shakespeare Festival, New Jewish Theatre, Shakespeare Festival St. Louis Touring Company, The Orange Girls and ACT Inc. She was named "Best Director of a Musical by the St. Louis Theatre Circle for Mustard Seed Theatre's productions of *All is Calm: The Christmas Truce of 1914* and *Godspell*. She has a BFA from Illinois Wesleyan University and a PhD from Northwestern University.

Adam Flores (Director) is an actor, director, producer and educator based in St. Louis for over a decade. He holds an MFA in directing from Baylor University, and a BFA and teaching certification from Fontbonne University. As an actor, he has performed with over a dozen local professional companies including the Shakespeare Festival St. Louis as part of the Shakespeare in the Streets program in both *New World* and *Blow, Winds*. As a founding resident artist of Mustard Seed Theatre he worked in many capacities including helping produce and direct "Bosnian American: The Dance for Life," a community-engaged project with the Bosnian community of St. Louis. In 2015, Flores acted as a local line producer for the "Every 28 Hour Plays" a collaboration with the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, the One-Minute Play Festival, and the St. Louis community in response to the Ferguson movement. He began as a theatre educator teaching in the Parkway School district. Later he was Assistant Professor of Theatre at Fontbonne University. He recently also was lead Teaching Artist for the Festival's Shake 101 teaching residency for the past two years.

KTK Productions is the shortened representation of K's Theatrical Korps. KTK began as a living memorial to a local drama teacher, Fred Kuppinger. He was affectionally known as "Mr. K" to all who knew him. KTK has been performing in the South St. Louis City area since its inception in 1982. We are currently located at St. John the Baptist Catholic Parish on Delor. We currently produce three productions per season and also provide a children's summer program. We are open to participants of all ages, backgrounds, ethnicities and all levels of experience. We strive to embody the "ensemble spirit" which means respect for all and to create a family atmosphere. If you think that this might interest you, please contact us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ktkproductions1, our website at kurtainkall.org, by email at ktktheater@gmail.com or by our ticket line: (314) 351-8984.