

Mercer Theatre Production Staff

Technical Director Zach Broome
Stage Manager..... Britney DeRosa
House Manager.....Sarah Rousseau
Costume Shop Crew..... Suzanne Doonan, Katie Trotter,
Marie Holliday, Hanna Hyde
Assistant Lighting Designer..... Patrick Mathis
Lighting Hang and Focus Crew.....Cohen Bickley, Ninti Chance,
Britney DeRosa, Hannah Fancher, Braeden Orr,
Leah Parris, Rachel Snapp, Derek Wojcik
Light Board Operator.....Britney DeRosa
Sound Designer.....Britney DeRosa
Sound Technician.....Reid Brown
Set CrewHannah Fancher, Anthony Schmidt,
Ty Downer, John Farrington
Paint Crew.....Hannah Fancher, Anthony Schmidt,
Britney DeRosa
Props ManagerAshley Lowe
Graphic Designer..... Darlene Murphy



With a circulation of over 2,000 playbills on the Mercer Campus, Mercer Theatre playbills are the perfect place to showcase your business or organization! Mercer Theatre productions are well attended by the Mercer and Macon communities, local high schools, and friends and families from out of town. Restaurants may consider offering a discount with presentation of a playbill for matinee crowds looking for a place to eat after enjoying the show!

It's easy to place an ad or become a sponsor!

Contact Darlene Murphy at:
478-301-2974
murphy_dr@mercer.edu

MERCER UNIVERSITY THEATRE
Presents
TOM STOPPARD'S
**Rosencrantz &
Guildenstern
Are Dead**



DIRECTED BY SCOT J. MANN
AT THE
BACK DOOR THEATRE
April 3-5 & 10-12 at 7:00 PM
April 6 & 13 at 2:00 PM

For reservations and information, call
478.301.2974 (M-F, 9am-5pm)
478.207.4170 (Evenings and Weekends)

To request alternative formats of accessible seating due to a disability, please contact
murphy_dr@mercer.edu at least 7 days prior to the event date.

TICKETS: \$5

Box Office Opens 30 Minutes Prior to Curtain



Tom Stoppard's
**Rosencrantz & Guildenstern
ARE DEAD**

Directed by Scot J. Mann

Set Designed by Zach Broome

Costumes Designed by Shelley Kuhlen

Lighting Designed by Marian Zielinski

Wigs and Hair Designed by Laurel Astin

Theatre Policies

Use of cameras and recording devices is not permitted. In addition to being an infringement of copyright laws, it is distracting to the actors, particularly in so intimate a space.

Please turn off all electronic communication devices completely.

To request alternative formats of accessible seating due to a disability, please contact murphy_dr@mercer.edu at least 7 days prior to the event date.

THE CAST

Rosencrantz.....Kevin Kersey
Guildenstern.....Cohen Bickley
The Player.....Charlie Veto
Alfred.....Joseph Black
Claudius.....Braeden Orr
Gertrude.....Hannah Fancher
Hamlet.....Patrick Hamilton
Ophelia.....Katie Clay
Polonius.....John Farrington
Player.....Derek Wojcik
Player/Ambassador/Attendant.....Kevin Culp
Player/Fortinbras.....Ryan Jones
Player/Soldier.....Liam McDermott

Who's Who

Cohen Bickley (Guildenstern) is a junior at Mercer majoring in Theatre. He is thrilled to once again be on stage. This show has been a roller coaster ride throughout, and Cohen has learned so much from it. He is extremely humbled to work with such a talented group of people. Cohen would like to thank Scot Mann for giving him the opportunity to take on such an exciting role. Thanks to Marian Zielinski, Zach Broome, and Shelley Kuhlen for their wonderful skills with the lights, set, and costumes. Thanks for coming out and enjoy the show!

Joseph Black (Alfred) is a senior at Central High School, and plans to major in Mechanical Engineering when he attends Mercer next fall. He previously played the Mad Hatter in *Alice in Wonderland* in Oklahoma, and he assisted in Mercer's 2014 production of *Combustible/Burn* at the Grand Opera House. Joseph would like to extend a special thanks to Scot for offering him the role and the entire cast and crew for making him feel welcome as a high schooler in a collegiate play.

Zach Broome (Technical Director, Set Designer) is pleased to be working his seventh season with the Mercer Theatre Department. Collaborating with Scot Mann, Marian Zielinski, and Shelley Kuhlen keeps Zach on his toes and makes his job exciting and enjoyable. The past seven years and more than twenty-five productions have flown by in the blink of an eye. A few of his favorite Mercer Theatre productions are *Fiddler on the Roof* (Technical Director), *Tartuffe* (Set Designer), *Independence* (Set Designer), *Alice in Wonderland* (Puppet Designer), and *Zastrozzi* (Technical Director/ Actor).

Katie Clay (Ophelia) is a Mercer freshman, double majoring in Psychology and Theatre. This is her second show with Mercer Theatre; earlier this year she appeared as Germaine in Steve Martin's comedy, *Picasso at the Lapine Agile*. Katie thanks her family for being the most awkwardly perfect family in existence. She thanks God for gracing her with such a beautiful and humbling talent. She thanks her friends for always being there for her, even if they don't understand why certain things always happen to them. She's honestly just grateful that she even has friends. Katie would also like to say thank you to her theater family for always being there to make her smile and feel good about who she is. Theatre is her life, and makes life amazing.

Kevin Culp (Player/Ambassador/Attendant) is a 17 year-old freshman from Cumming, GA, majoring in Mechanical Engineering. He has been acting since 7th grade, primarily in musical theatre. He has been in productions of *High School Musical*, *The Sound of Music*, *The Lion, Witch and the Wardrobe* among others. His favorite role was Michael in *The White Room of My Remembering*. Kevin's first role at Mercer was as the Officer in *Tartuffe*. He thanks his friends and family for supporting him, and Scot Mann for giving him this opportunity.

Hannah Fancher (Gertrude) is a sophomore Theatre/Business double major at Mercer University. This is the eighth show with which she has been involved with since arriving at Mercer. Her past roles include Suzanne in *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*, Evelyne in *Love Kills*, Flipote in *Tartuffe*, and Nerissa in *The Merchant Of Venice*. She has also enjoyed the opportunity to work in many technical fields with the other shows. She thanks everyone with whom she has worked in the theatre for helping her to grow as an artist. She gives special thanks to Marian Zielinski, Zach Broome, Shelley Kuhlen, and Laurel Astin for their fantastic work, as well as Scot Mann for this wonderful production.

John Farrington (Polonius) is a former Mercer student pursuing goals outside of university. He previously appeared in *Legacy of Light* and *The Seagull* as well as several other Mercer Theatre productions. He thanks Scot Mann for giving him another chance on stage, and Marian and Zach for making such a beautiful show. He dedicates his performance this time to his father and grandmother; may you two be enjoying each other's company in eternal paradise. The man I am is thanks to you two, and I shall always put you first in my life.

Patrick Hamilton (Hamlet) is the son of Karen and Wayne Hamilton. Patrick studied Political Science and Music at both Macon State and Mercer University. He was last seen on Mercer's stage as Antonio in *The Merchant of Venice*. He also has performed in several productions at Theatre Macon in roles varying from Phil Davis in *White Christmas* to Jim Ferrel in *Titanic*. Patrick thanks his fellow cast members and his entire family for all of their support.

Ryan Jones (Player/Fortinbras) is a junior Environmental Engineering and Spanish major at Mercer University. Ryan first worked with the Mercer Players as Trigorin in *The Seagull*, and has

since been seen in Wesleyan College's production of *Flyin' West* and in *Combustible/Burn* at the Grand Opera House. Ryan thanks director Scot Mann, and the rest of the cast for being such fun to work with. Enjoy the show!

Kevin Kersey (Rosencrantz) admits that there are very few shows that excite him the way this one does! A sophomore Theatre Major at Middle Georgia State College, he plans to become a working actor after graduation. He has done many plays at Mercer; most recently he was seen doing his best Elvis impression in *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*. Before coming to the Mercer stage, Kevin did most of his acting at Theatre Macon, performing with the Youth Actor's Company, of which he is very honored to have been a part. His most notable roles at Theatre Macon include Long John Silver in *Treasure Island*, Bottom in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and Vice Principal Douglass Panch in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*. Kevin would like to thank Scot for this incredible opportunity and guidance over the years, Marian for her perfect lighting design, Zach for his awesome set work, Shelley for her always fantastic costumes, his mom and dad Kathy and Phillip for their love and support, his girlfriend Caroline for being awesome, and the cast and crew for their wonderful work. "I'm not forgetting anything am I...oh well, enjoy the show!"

Shelley Kuhlen (Costume Designer) is in her seventeenth season as Mercer Theatre's Costume Director. Her designs were most recently seen in our productions of *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*, *Love Kills*, *Tartuffe*, *Legacy of Light* and *The Merchant of Venice*. As Costume Designer for Mercer Opera, her creations were seen in their latest productions of *The Magic Flute*, *Iolanthe*, *Indomineo*, and *The Merry Widow*. Also employed by Theatre Macon, Shelley's work was last seen in *The Best Man*, *The Sound of Music*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, and their Youth Actor's Company's production of *Once Upon a Mattress*. She also collaborates with Suzanne Doonan at Riverside Cemetery costuming the Spirits for Spirits in October. Shelley thanks her wonderful family for their continued love and support, for enduring years of her crazy schedules and mood swings, and for their help behind the scenes (which has included being living mannequins when an actor was not available)! She also thanks her amazing costume crew (which includes her daughter Laurel Astin who is responsible for the amazing wig and hair designs) for their countless hours of hard work and for their encouragement, love and laughter.

Scot J. Mann is the Director of Theatre at Mercer. As a director, he received a Meritorious Achievement Award for his direction of *Scapin*, by the Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival in 2005. Scot is also an internationally recognized and award winning Fight Master, certified through the Society of American Fight Directors and the British Academy of Stage and Screen Combat. He has choreographed, performed and coached theatrical violence with such companies as The Steppenwolf Theatre, The Alliance Theatre, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, Georgia Shakespeare Festival, and The North Carolina School of the Arts. He has also served as an instructor for the British Academy of Stage and Screen Combat in London, and Stage Combat Deutschland in Germany. As an actor, Scot has appeared with the Georgia Shakespeare Festival, New American Theater, New American Shakespeare Theatre, Atlanta Opera, motion capture talent for digital media, and various voice-over recordings for radio, T.V. and the Internet. Scot appeared as a stunt-player and served as tactical choreographer and gun wrangler for the Sci-Fi movie, *Eyeborgs*, as well as on-set Swordmaster and stunt double for the "Bollywood" epic, *Drona*. He served as Fight Director for the world premier of *Ghost Brothers of Darkland County*, written by Stephen King and John Mellencamp. Scot is an alumnus of the MFA/PAT program at The Alabama Shakespeare Festival and holds a BA in Communications and Theatre from Mercer University. He thanks Kelly, for her understanding and support, and his magical daughter, Madelyn!

Liam McDermott (Player/Soldier) is a Mercer junior studying Theatre and International Affairs. His previous roles with the Mercer Players include Pablo Picasso in *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*, the title role in *Tartuffe*, and Dr. Octave Landru in *Love Kills*. In addition to his performances, Liam is also a certified Actor Combatant with The Society of American Fight Directors. Liam hopes to pursue a career in acting after graduation. He extends special thanks to Scot, Marian, Zach, Darlene, Shelley, and the entire cast and crew.

Braeden Orr (Claudius) is a senior Theatre and Media Studies double major. He has previously appeared in Mercer Theatre's productions of *Alice in Wonderland*, *Ye Gods*, *The Seagull*, and *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*. He also made an appearance in Middle Georgia State College's production of *Moon Over Buffalo*. In addition to his work in theatre, Braeden has been a background actor in films, working on set with Clint Eastwood, Reese

Witherspoon and Anthony Hopkins. He is also an award-winning independent filmmaker. Braeden thanks his friends, family and fellow cast and crew for their love and support and Scot and Marian for always inspiring him to push further.

Charlie Veto (The Player) is a student at Middle Georgia State working towards a career in Nursing. His last theatre experience was playing Riff Raff in Theatre Macon's production of *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*. Charlie gives endless thanks to Scot for giving him the chance to perform in his favorite play, to his sister Rachel for believing in him, and to Shelley for everything she shared with him.

Derek Wojcik (Player) is a senior Theatre/Philosophy double major at Mercer University. This is his second show, previously appearing as Schmendiman in *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*. Derek is grateful for the opportunity to work with such a talented group of people, and wants to thank everyone for the learning experience.

Marian Zielinski (Lighting Designer) has been on the theatre faculty of Mercer University for thirty-two years. Most recently, she directed *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*. She completed her B.A. from the State University of New York at Buffalo and her M.F.A. from Illinois State University. Professionally, she designed costumes and scenery for The Illinois Shakespeare Festival and the Shawnee Theatre. Marian has written and presented conference papers on the arts in Germany, Japan, Denmark, Italy, Sweden, Poland, British Columbia, and Great Britain. She is also an award-winning fiber artist, whose art quilt, *Goodnight, Sweet Prince* was accepted into the prestigious juried Quilt National '13 exhibit at the Dairy Barn in Athens, Ohio and is currently on exhibit in Riffe Gallery in Columbus, Ohio through April 13, 2014. Another of her art quilts, *Beckoning of Night* will open at The Cafritz Foundation Arts Center in Silver Springs, Maryland and will be on exhibit April 3 through May 9, 2014. Her art quilts have also been published in *Fiber Art Now*, *Quilting Arts Magazine*, *Quilt National 2013: The Best of Contemporary Quilts*, *1,000 Artisan Textiles*, and as the cover design for *Communicology: The New Science of Embodied Discourse*. An avid swimmer and painter, Marian lives in Macon with her husband, Dr. Frank Macke. She dedicates this work to Frank for his love and inspiration.