

## BENEFACTORS

The Rude Mechanicals would like to thank their benefactors for their support for the 2002-2003 theatrical season.

### PLATINUM

Doug Humphrey, Jaki Demarest

### GOLD

Joshua Engel, Trevor Siegel, J. Calvin Smith, Rachel Zirkin, Stephanie Zirkin

### SILVER

Tom and Connie Berg, Robert and Susan Henry

### BRONZE

Alex Bradley, Judy Davis, Don Juran, Robert Perkins, Richard and Michele Way

## UPCOMING SHOWS

### RICHARD III

February 2004  
Directed by Joshua Engel

### OEDIPUS/ANTIGONE

May 2004  
Directed by Jay Henry

### HAMLET

September 2004  
Directed by Jaki Demarest

# THE RUDE MECHANICALS

Proudly Present

# AS YOU LIKE IT

by William Shakespeare

directed by Elise Berg

produced by Robert Perkins

9/27/03

## Cast, in Order of Appearance:

Orlando, youngest son of Sir Rowland de Boys .....	Paul Davis
Adam, an old servant to Sir Rowland de Boys.....	J. Calvin Smith
Oliver, eldest son of Sir Rowland de Boys .....	Jay Henry
Charles, a wrestler at the court .....	Peter Eichman
Celia, daughter to Duke Frederick.....	Elizabeth Werbos
Rosalind, daughter of Duke Senior .....	Tammy Raistrick
Touchstone, a clown .....	Joshua Engel
Madame LeBeau, a courtier to Duke Frederick .....	Jaki Demarest
Duke Frederick, Duke Senior's brother and usurper .....	Dave Choat
Lord Forrester, a courtier to Duke Frederick.....	Jeff Poretsky
Masked Marauder, a wrestler that challenges Charles.....	Robert Perkins
Duke Senior, a duke in banishment.....	Kevin Hollenbeck
Lord Amiens, lord attending on Duke Senior.....	Peter Eichman
Lady Paige, lady attending on Duke Senior .....	Nell Codner
Lady Singer, lady attending on Duke Senior.....	Alice Davis
Lady Satchel, lady attending on Duke Senior .....	Erin McDonald
Silvius, younger shepherd .....	John Hefner
Corin, older shepherd .....	Robert Perkins
Lord Jaques, lord attending on Duke Senior.....	Sean Eustis
Audrey, a country wench.....	Melissa Schick
Phebe, a shepherdess .....	Rachel Zirkin
Woolite, Sheepish, and Larry, stunt juggling sheep.....	Themselves

so far has been *The Laramie Project* in which she played five different characters. Jessica is making her debut performance with the Rude Mechanicals, and although she is not actually performing onstage, she has enjoyed poking the actors with tazers when they miss their cues. Jessica can't wait to get up on the stage as a Rude!

**Melissa Schick** (Audrey), a procrastinator as always, is writing this bio on a dinner napkin. She is about to start her senior year of high school, and she would like to thank Jessica for being a kickass stage manager and friend. She would also like to confirm the allegations that sheep, in fact, do not seem to care.

**J. Calvin Smith** (Adam) is happy to chew the scenery alongside the Rude Mechs for this fifth production with them. As a fully self-ordained Episkopos of the Paratheo-anametamystikhood Of Eris Esoteric, he wishes to remind both cast and audience members of the significance of the number 5 in all things. This is his fifth RM production, he is now 46 years old, 46 are the two numbers surrounding 5, and is double 23, which is a whole 'nuther sacred number altogether. For those who know him as a Presbyterian, this may seem rather strange, but for those who \*really\* know him the slightest bit, it won't seem strange at all. Much love to God, wife Kim, daughter Sue, and all his wonderful friends on and off the stage for support. The Turtle Moves.

**Elizabeth Werbos** (Celia) feels privileged to have another chance to act with the Rude Mechanicals, and is grateful to Elise for her wonderfully precise direction. This is Lissa's third play with the Rudes.

**Woolite, Sheepish, and Larry** (Stunt Juggling Sheep): Sheep don't care.

**Rachel Zirkin** (Phebe) is so excited to mark two milestones with this performance - her 10th show with the Rude Mechanicals - and her second time in this role (having played it 13 years ago with UMBC's *Shakespeare on Wheels* production of *AYLI*). More recently, she was seen as Cressida in the RM's *Troilus and Cressida* and as Jessica Welles in PGLT's production of *Communicating Doors*. It has truly been a blast this time around, and she would like to especially thank Elise and Yancy for their faith and wonderful direction, to John for making me laugh every time I even get near the stage and - as always - to her soon-to-be husband, Alan - just because!

**Jeff Hersh** (Fight Choreographer) is working in his eighth straight show with the Rude Mechanicals. He has appeared many times on stage with the Rude Mechanicals, most recently as the mighty warrior Ajax in *Troilus and Cressida*. He has quite enjoyed venting hot Shakespearian violence on Peter, Paul, Rob, and anyone else who has been in the general vicinity.

**Kevin Hollenbeck** (Duke Senior) says that "sheep don't care, doo doo do doo!" is actually an anagram of "dodo pees on oreo -- hoot, odd cad!" 'm just saying, is all.

This is the second show for **Erin McDonald-Thompson-Raistrick** (Lady Satchel) with the Rudes, and she is ecstatic to be back with her friends after a difficult separation from them. Even though she is quite busy with Ren Fair on top of this show, she wouldn't be able to bear to be apart from the Rudes again. Erin thanks her god and goddess and her parents, Lisa and Geoff Thompson, and her sergeant father James Raistrick. Erin would also like to thank her friends and her love who she misses. Break a leg and have fun guys! Love you all! Blessed be!

**Robert Perkins** (Corin, Masked Marauder, Producer) wishes that this fine cast & crew realize their hopes and dreams. Until we meet again.

**Jeff Poretsky** (Lord Forrester) Why are the lights pointed the wrong direction, and why am I up here during the ... Oh. Right. Thanks to Alan and Rachel for daring me to read for a role. Thanks to Elise for actually giving me sixty-six plus words to say.

**Tammy "Dice" Raistrick** (Rosalind) is absolutely ecstatic to be playing one of her favorite female Shakespearean roles ever! This is only her second show with the Rudes, her first being *Othello* (playing Bianca). She would love to thank every one in the Rude Mechanicals for their unwavering support and confidence in her. She could have never done this without any of you! Thanks to Bryan for line running and taxi rides. Goddess blessings to all!

**Jessica Reese** (Stage Manager) is a senior at Sandy Spring Friends School who has enjoyed theatre ever since she was an ickle one. She started performing at Glen Echo theatres when she was seven, then took time out from acting and focused on her singing. She has since returned to the stage performing in various middle school, high school and community plays. Whether it just be walking around the stage in a burlap sack, or actually having a one liner, she has enjoyed her work. She also enjoyed stage-managing for *The Physicists*. Her favorite play

## Crew:

Director.....	Elise Berg
Assistant Director.....	Yancy Davis
Stage Manager.....	Jessica Reese
Producer.....	Robert Perkins
Fight Coordinators.....	Jeff Hersh Robert Perkins
Set Design.....	Elise Berg
Set Construction.....	Elise Berg Nell Codner Jaki Demarest Peter Eichman Joshua Engel Jay Henry Robert Perkins
Lighting Design.....	Jay Henry
Lights.....	Patrick Donahue
Special Costume Pieces.....	Alice Davis

*And so, from hour to hour, we ripe and ripe,  
And then, from hour to hour, we rot and  
rot; And thereby hangs a tale.*

*-Jaques, Act II, Scene 7*

## Cast and Crew BIOS:

**Elise Berg** (Director): I love this play, past and present. I'd like to thank William of the Pretty Wit for writing it in the first place, The Globe and The Chamberlain's Company for presenting the first production in (probably) 1599, and whoever finally wrote the whole damned thing down in the Folio edition of 1623. I'd also like to thank my amazing, dedicated cast for putting up with my rambling direction and somehow translating it into exactly what I wanted. You've held up admirably, and I'm proud and grateful. I shall now humbly retreat back behind the curtain for Josh Engel's *Richard III*, and take what's coming to me.

**Dave Choat** (Duke Frederick) is a professional artist who did some theater in college. Rather a long time ago, actually. The college has since been crushed under a glacier or something. Dave is currently living in a partially renovated house that will be finished "real soon now". He is survived by his partner, Diane Donaldson, his son Koob, and too many damned cats. Sometimes he gets to ride the lawn tractor. He practices being evil on Friday nights. Really.

**Nell Codner** (Lady Paige) was born to a roving band of gypsies in 16<sup>th</sup> century Massachusetts. She fought at the Battle of Lexington and Concord and developed the "one if by land, two if by sea" signals used in Boston's Old North Church. Broadening her horizons, Nell ghostwrote the Articles of Confederation and provided first aid to President Lincoln at Ford's Theater. Nell's quest for immortality and world domination was jump-started by auditioning for the Rude Mechanical's production of *As You Like It*, when it became apparent that the political climate was not right to crown herself Empress. Nell has just begun serving a life sentence as a Rude Mechanical.

**Alice Davis** (Lady Singer) is just glad to be here, and thanks everyone for letting her come out to play.

Last seen on the stage in Washington College's production of *Amadeus* as Antonio Salieri three years ago, **Paul M. Davis** (Orlando) is finally returning to the theater. This will be Paul's first Shakespearean effort in over 8 years on the stage. Paul graduated with a B.A. in Drama with Departmental and Thesis Honors in 1999 from Washington College in Chestertown, Maryland. His hobbies include spending time with his family, reading, role-playing games, and playing music. It is rumored

he will be performing at the Maryland Renaissance Festival this year. "Darling I swing everyway..." - Alan Cumming, *Plunkett and Maclean*

**Yancy Davis** (Assistant Director): "San Dimas High School Football Rules!"

**Patrick Donahue** (Lights) did not know he had to write a bio for the play. In fact, he will not know until he actually reads this bio. The Rude Mechanicals are very appreciative of his help with the light board during this production. Thank you, Patrick!

**Peter Eichman** (Lord Amiens, Charles) This is Peter's fifth show with the Rude Mechanicals, and at least the second time he has been asked to fill in a part at the last minute. Unfortunately, as this is a comedy, he doesn't get a chance to kill Jaki. He would like to thank Elise for allowing him to disappear to Michigan (or was that London?) for six weeks in the middle of rehearsals. When not onstage, Peter is a senior at the University of Maryland, studying Linguistics and Philosophy.

**Joshua Engel** (Touchstone) has played clowns and kings in over a dozen Shakespeare plays. Thanks to Elise for this amazing opportunity and to Jaki for helping me get it right.

**Sean Eustis** (Lord Jaques) is a well-known reformed pedagog whose pretensions to greatness have lately resulted in some wonderful Cheerios sculptures. He thanks everyone who attended the speed-shearing contest last month and wants his fans to know that the scarring is "really minor" this year. He still owns two cats. Sometimes he rides his bike. Past roles with the RMs have been as pincushion, serving platter, squeaky chew toy, and coat rack.

**John Hefner** (Silvius) likes football, porno, and books about war. He would like to thank his mother, Elise for having faith in him (let that me a lesson to you), and Andy Serkis, whom John rips off constantly for fun and profit. I mean, eventually. "Phase one, do Gollum voice! Phase two:...! Phase three: profit!"

This is the sixth performance for **Jay Henry** (Oliver) with the Rude Mechanicals, but his first working so closely with Ms. Berg. He'd like to thank the director for the opportunity to play Oliver tonight, and for dragging him kicking and screaming into the world of Shakespeare in general, as well as dragging him not-so-kicking-and-screaming to the altar almost three years ago. Jay would also like to thank his momma and Elvis.