

Production Manager Andrew Crabtree
Costume Designer Linda Phillips
Stage Manager/Costume Assistant Liz Runge
Assistant Stage Manager Rachel Kessler
Fight Director (Second Shepherds' Play) Kevin Robinson
Music Director/Director Scott Maynard
Director Victoria Shepherd

Special Thanks To...

Erik Buchanan, Robin Duczek, Dayle Elder, Pat Harvie, Diane Jakacki, Dr. David Klausner, Andrew Reeves, Dr. Jennifer Roberts-Smith, Kevin Robinson, Devin Upham

Friar Bacon & Friar Bungay



This Elizabethan comedy tells of a young Prince, a maiden, two Friars and the lessons they learn about power.

March 11 – 27, 2005

Poculi Ludique Societas
Presents

Two Christmas Plays:

Officium Stellae &

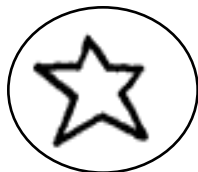
The Second Shepherds' Play



December 2– 5, 2004

Evenings 7:30 pm
 Matinees 2 pm

Two Christmas Plays: Officium Stellae



Directed by Scott Maynard

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| Magi 1 | Iain Campbell |
| Magi 2 | Andrew Crabtree |
| Magi 3 | Sarah Namer |
| Herod | Jason Boyd |
| Angel/Custos | Sabrina Roberts |
| Mary | Babs Hopkinson |

There will be a 10 minute intermission.

Officium Stellae—Notes

The Officium Stellae or 'Rite of the Star,' enacts the story of the Three Kings visit to Herod's court, their adoration of the Christ child and their redirection home by the angel. The "drama" was composed for the cathedral church of Nevers in the eleventh century, and is the first such liturgical play in which Herod appears. It was intended to be presented within the liturgy, following the ninth responsory of Matins on Epiphany. Some basic stage directions indicate how the play fits into the service: the bishop summons three of the clergy,

ing program at the Canadian College of Film and Television in Victoria, BC. During her experience, she was cast in several projects for the film-making class, and was also recruited for roles in local independent films.

Now residing in Toronto, she is jumping into the entertainment business. Whether it be acting, singing or song-writing, Sabrina is comfortable on stage, in studio and in front of the camera.

She is happy to be working with PLS and enjoys the challenges that come with classical performances.

Liz Runge: Stage Manager, Costume Assistant

Liz is the PLS's work-study student and is currently pursuing her M.A. in medieval studies. She is relieved not to have been dragged on stage, and has embraced her costuming and stage managing duties with fervor.

Victoria Shepherd: Director - Second Shepherds' Play

Victoria holds a B.A. in English and Drama at U of T. She is pleased to be returning to PLS where she has previously directed *The Widow's Tears*, *The Nativity (York Cycle)* and *Annas And Caiphus (York Cycle)*. She has appeared as an actor for the PLS in *A Looking Glass for London and England*, *No Wit, No Help Like a Woman's*, *The Wandering Scholar From Paradise* and as a very pregnant Nature in *The Woman In the Moon*. Recent directing credits include the Alumnae Theatre's acclaimed production of *Tennessee Williams' Summer And Smoke* and the Toronto Irish Players' award winning production of *The Mai*.

Victoria would like to thank Brent for his love and support, Vivien for being her greatest inspiration, and a tireless and talented cast and crew for pulling this show together.

Ozan Tekcan: Joseph

Ozan was born in Istanbul-Turkey and started acting in high school. After finishing high school He took acting courses in the University and in some acting studios in Istanbul and worked with some private theatre companies. He has appeared in different plays (*Comedy of Errors*, *Collage of Nazim Hikmet Poems*, *Kadinlik Bizde Kalsin* etc.) In January 2004 he came to Toronto to continue his acting career. He is attending acting courses in New school of Drama. *Second Shepherd's Play* is his second show in Toronto with PLS and he is very happy with being in this production.

Years at the Alumnae Theatre, where she has been ubiquitous since 1985. Most recently, she lurked among the Tourists for last season's Lettuce & Loveage. With the PLS, Naomi has appeared and/or worked on the technical crew for the Chester, Townley and the York Cycles (the second time around). Since 1979, when she began training with Fight Master K. Reid Needles, Naomi has staged duels, brawls, murder and mayhem in over 40 productions. Naomi joined the Society of American Fight Directors in 1988 (before the birth of Fight Directors Canada, whose work she enthusiastically supports).

Scott Maynard: Director - Officium Stellae

Scott Maynard recently drove from Ontario to the Yukon in two and a half days, three guys and guitars in a two door hatchback. Continuing the trend of outrageous and deviant behaviour, he is working with the PLS (again), and smiling as he does it. Examples of his songwriting can be bought in cd form for a modest fee. He thanks and congratulates the actors for taking it on and pulling it off.

Linda Phillips: Costume Designer

Linda is Artistic Director of PLS. She has worked in almost every aspect of production except acting, including directing several plays for PLS, such as Mankind, The Second Shepherds' Play, Noah's Ark, Coventry Shearmen and Tailor's Pageant and last season's opening production, The World and the Child. Linda has costumed countless PLS productions, and also works as a costumer for many other companies. Currently, she is designing costumes for Little Red Riding Hood at Theatre Collingwood where she also spent a delightful summer.

Karina Rammel: Gill

Karina was first exposure to theatre, was sitting on her father's knee, at the ripe old age of three. Needless to say, there was no looking back. Over the years Karina has performed in a number of dramatic and musical productions: "A Little Bit of Fluff", "Sherlock Holmes and the First English Gentleman", "Bell's Are Ringing and "My Fair Lady", are some examples of her past performances. This, however, is her first experience with P.L.S. and Pageant Plays in general. She is very excited to have been given this opportunity, and hopes that there may be more plays like it in her future.

Sabrina Roberts: Angel

Sabrina was born and raised in the town of New Liskeard in Northern Ontario. After High School, she chose to pursue acting and completed the intensive act-

Officium Stellae – Notes continued...

who are costumed in the likeness of the Magi, by calling 'Venite'. The Kings immediately approach Herod, who already seems to know why they have come; he questions them about the new-born king whom they seek. When they point out the star which guides them, Herod requests that they find the child and report back to him. The kings find the child attended by two midwives and present their gifts. An angel recommends a different route home, and the play ends with the singing of Te Deum.

It is quite clear that the ranting Herod familiar from later biblical plays is not present here; in fact, the only indication of Herod's evil nature is the angel's warning at the end. In its presentation as part of the liturgy, it is unlikely that the Kings would have found the Christ child in a traditional crèche; in fact, the midwives display for them the "image" suggesting that the adoration may have taken place at the high altar, and the Image may have been the altar cross, rather than the image of a child.

The play has been edited from two manuscripts, Bibliothèque Mazarine lat. 1708 and Paris, Bibliothèque Nationale nouv. acq. lat. 1235. For a short passage for which the music is missing, John Haines has supplied music in the style of the rest of the piece.

David Klausner



Two Christmas Plays: The Second Shepherds' Play



Directed by Victoria Shepherd

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Shepherd 1 | Naomi Hunter |
| Shepherd 2 | Iain Campbell |
| Shepherd 3 | Andrew Crabtree |
| Mak | Seamus Dudley |
| Gill | Karina Rammel |
| Mary | Babs Hopkinson |
| Joseph | Ozan Tekcan |
| Angel | Sabrina Roberts |

The Second Shepherds' Play - Notes

This play is the second pageant of the shepherds in the Towneley manuscript. No one knows why the 15th century author known as the Wakefield Master decided to write an alternate version, but it has become the most well-known and frequently performed of the medieval shepherd plays. The farcical story of Mak, Jill and the stolen sheep hidden in a cradle both parodies and parallels the play's serious message about the birth of Christ, the Lamb of God who will save mankind and bring a new era of peace and charity. The shepherds are the first to hear the glorious news of the nativity and to bring gifts to the "little day-star."

Perhaps they demonstrate their worthiness for this great honour by the spirit of forgiveness they show when they merely toss Mak in a blanket instead of hanging or beating him and his wife.

Two Christmas Plays

Cast & Crew

Andrew Crabtree: Production Manager (Two Christmas Plays); Set Design; 2nd King (Officium Stellae), 3rd Shepherd (Second Shepherds Play)

Andrew is a first year Doctoral student at the Centre for Medieval Studies at the University of Toronto, and a member of the PLS board of directors. His previous stage appearances include Mr. Noakes, the landscape architect in Stoppard's *Arcadia* and Spiro the Telepathic in Woody Allen's *Death*, both for the Trinity College Dramatic Society. Once upon a time, Andrew directed a production of *Love's Labour's Lost* and produced and stage managed *Endgame*, also for the TCDS. He has not, however, sung in public since middle school; and stepped into the role of Daw the Third Shepherd at the last minute. He therefore begs the audience's indulgence.

Iain Campbell: 3rd Magi, 2nd Shepherd

Iain has just come off of a successful summer run at the CanStage where he performed in *Ten Naked Men*. The Shepard's play is Iain's second play with PLS having played Pilate and Simon in the PLS's production of *Mary Magdalen*. His most challenging role to date was playing twins, one a crack addicted rapist and the other an uptight cop, in an independent feature film currently being edited and planned for a December release.

Babs Hopkinson: Mary

Babs is a Toronto based, actor/dancer who works in all mediums including theatre, film, television, and voice-over. She was last seen performing the role of "Lady Montague" in Alchemy Theatre's production of "Romeo and Juliet", selected theatre credits include appearing as 'Margo' in SPOKE for 'Ripple Effect Theatre Company.' 'Gloria' in 'The Gingham Dog' with Plus One Theatre Co/London, UK, and 'Listen Up!' with Inna Zone Theatre (Toronto). Selected film and television credits include "The Eleventh Hour" "Showtime's 'Soulfood', 'The Long Island Incident' (MOW), and an upcoming indie film titled 'Suffer with Style' in which she plays a goddess from Saturn who employs all her powers to discover the key to being a successful artist in Canada.

Naomi Priddle Hunter: 1st Shepherd

An Actor-Fight Director-Stage Manager, Naomi last appeared on stage in *Ten Lost*