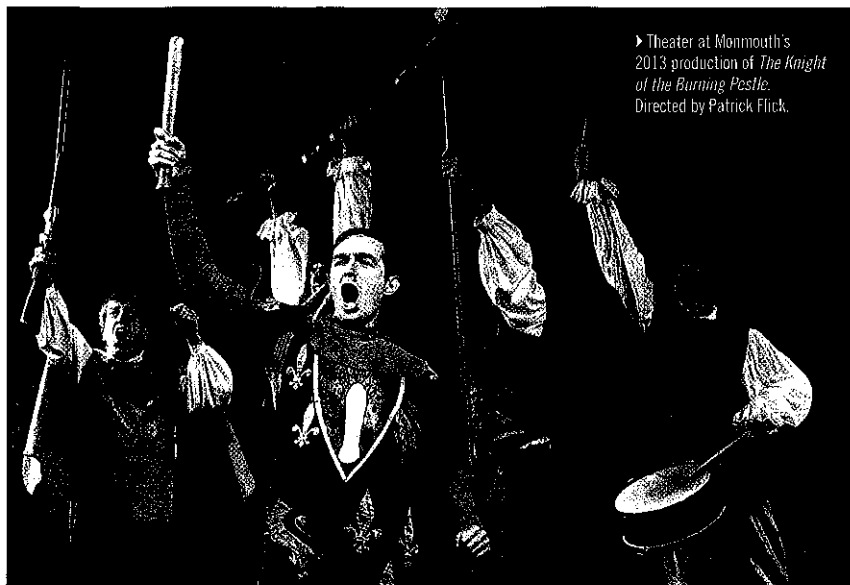


STAGES



DID YOU KNOW?

► Shakespeare wrote 37 plays, 154 sonnets, and several poems in his lifetime.



► Theater at Monmouth's 2013 production of *The Knight of the Burning Pestle*. Directed by Patrick Flick.

STOCK UP ON SHAKESPEARE

Summer stock theater goes classical

BY OLIVIA GUNN

In the modified words of William Shakespeare: All of Maine's a stage, and all Mainers are merely players. All right, maybe not so much, but this summer we can look forward to a ton of Shakespeare as summer stock theater takes center stage.

To celebrate William Shakespeare's 450th birthday (imagine *that* bar tab), two prominent playhouses—Theater at Monmouth (TAM) and MaineStage Shakespeare in Kennebunk—will be presenting Shakespeare and other English classics this season. In the early 1920s, New England began opening its stage doors to up-and-coming talent as resident theaters produced annual summer stock productions. The term “summer stock” refers to the reuse of costumes, props, sets, lighting, etc., during the warm weather, which naturally beckons outdoor performances.

As part of its summer run, “British Invasion,” Theater at Monmouth will party like it's 1594 in their 45th season as “The Shakespearean Theatre of Maine.” *As You Like It* and *Romeo and Juliet* are the chosen Shakespeare works along with Oscar Wilde's *A Woman of No Importance* and Joe Orton's farce, *What the Butler Saw*.

“Our mission is to present innovative approaches to Shakespeare and other classic literature,” says Dawn McAnderson, Artistic Director. In doing so,

SHAKESPEARE IN MAINE

THEATER AT MONMOUTH

WHERE Cumston Hall
796 Main St.
Monmouth, ME

WHEN June 28–Sept. 28

MORE INFO
theateratmonmouth.org
207.933.9999

MAINESTAGE SHAKESPEARE

WHERE The MaineStage in
Lafayette Park
Kennebunk, ME

WHEN July 3–Aug. 9

MORE INFO
mainestageshakespeare.com
207.205.3848

“Our mission is to present innovative approaches to Shakespeare and other classic literature”

DAWN MCANDERSON, TAM

TAM will take its audiences through several eras and styles.

TAM's productions provide actors the opportunity to explore every layer of a Shakespearean play from design, to costume, and setting. “(The actors) get to play in four or five different period styles in a summer,” explains McAnderson. “That really stretches their experience in terms of working with different fabrics, designers, (and) different ways of building.”

Lindsay Tornquist, an actress who hails from Chicago, will join TAM for the season and looks forward to a break from the city hustle to “fully immerse” herself in her roles as Juliet and Celia. “I have a special place in my heart for Shakespeare,” says Tornquist. “As an actor it's like doing the triathlon of acting. You have to have the stamina to perform such extravagant things like sword fighting, deaths, the extreme situations of being a prince or princess.”

MaineStage Shakespeare in Kennebunk, which will be producing *The Taming of the Shrew* and *Macbeth*, holds their shows al fresco at their stage in Lafayette Park, reminiscent of Shakespeare's Globe Theatre in London.

“You have some of the most beautiful, amazing, picturesque moments,” says MaineStage Managing Artistic Director Chiara Klein, describing the magic of outdoor Shakespeare.

It's the year of Shakespeare, so hoist up your tights, fluff your ruff, and go see some classics. ■

WILL'S BIRTHDAY BASH

MAINE 2014 STYLE

► As a Taurus with a taste for lux, our boy William Shakespeare would have spent his birthday charming Maine's elite at the swankiest restaurants, hoping for backing of his latest work. When the schmoozing got dull and the bill picked up, old Will would make his way to the nearest hall or dive for a round or two in the hopes of discovering his next muse or one-nighter.

NOVARE RES BIER CAFÉ

4 Canal Plaza
Portland, ME
novaresresbiercafe.com
207.761.2437

► Shakespeare would have had one of the long tables packed with friends and admirers waiting to buy his first round of Allagash Red Howes.

LONGFELLOW FELLOWSHIP OF KNIGHTS (LFK)

188A State St.
Portland, ME
207.899.3277

► Word Portland takes place every first Monday here and showcases local writers. Beer, poetry, writers—Will's on it.

OLD VINES WINE BAR

173 Port Rd.
Lower Village
Kennebunk, ME
oldvineswinebar.com
207.967.2310

► With perfect mood lighting and quality wine, this is the spot where history's greatest playwright would get lost in nostalgia and start his next greatest work. Or down two glasses and call his wife Anne Hathaway.

THE LIBERAL CUP

115 Water St. #1
Hallowell, ME
207.623.2739
theliberalcup.com

► The perfect pub setting for a man of the people like Will. Live Irish music and a kick-ass menu would prep him for one hell of a night.