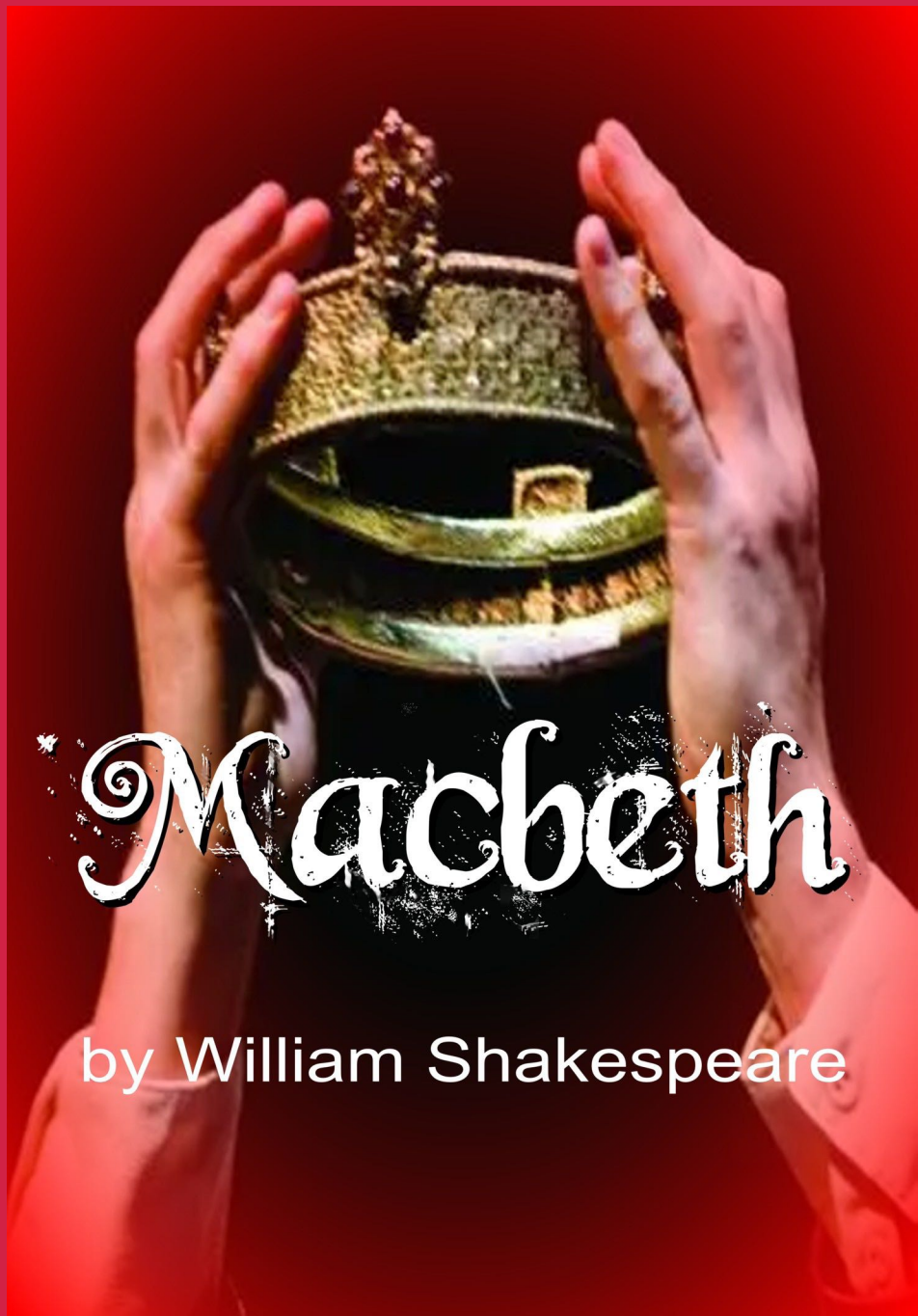


malverntheatre
company

is proud to present its 378th major production



Macbeth

by William Shakespeare

20 June – 5 July 2025

Directed by David McLean

About the Play

"Stars, hide your fires. Let not light see my black and deep desires". A valiant and trusted soldier, Macbeth is propelled down a dark and treacherous path when an encounter with supernatural beings bring to the surface secret dreams of power. Spurred on by his ruthless wife, he embarks on a terrifying quest to get the Scottish crown. But once got, it must be kept. Macbeth's determination leads him into a nightmare world of murder and madness, taking the country to the very brink of catastrophe.

Shakespeare's most thrilling story, of unchecked ambition, witches and ghosts, castles and swordfights, is a harrowing exploration of crime and guilt, power and corruption.

Director's Notes

There is over 400 years of baggage associated with just how one should perform Shakespeare. This production went back to basics looking at the actual language for clues and teased out the development in theatrical form that we can attribute to The Bard. An ensemble approach, where some cast play multiple roles, captures how things were done in the day. The tone is conversational and the presence of the witches throughout is used to insinuate Macbeth's growing psychological paranoia.

Setting

This production has a timeless and minimalist setting, evoking the starkness of the Scottish moors.

The performance runs for approximately 2 hours, including a 20 minute interval.

Complimentary tea, coffee and biscuits will be available during the interval.

Wine will also be available for purchase.

CONTENT WARNING

This production contains incidents of violence, death, strobe lighting, theatrical haze and very loud sound effects.

About the Playwright, William Shakespeare



Shakespeare is an icon of the English language and theatrical stage. His 39 plays, 154 sonnets and three long form poems saw an evolution in the use of language and dramatic form. For all that, little detail is known about his actual life; his marriage to Anne Hathaway, his three children, his financial interest in The Globe theatre and the date of his death. Uncertainty also surrounds the few pictures of him (the Chandos portrait is shown here) and bust of Shakespeare in Stratford's Holy Trinity Church. His legacy, though, is an enduring one, with an average of 410 productions of his works staged annually.

The Cast

Macbeth.....	Joshua Bruce
Lady Macbeth.....	Hannah Holmes
Malcolm	Nash Williams
Macduff.....	Huw Jennings
Ross.....	Felix Green
Banquo, Doctor.....	Declan Farr
Lennox.....	Zander Barling
Angus	Johanna Chan
Witch 1.....	Zee Baker
Witch 2	Anne Marshall
Witch 3.....	Wahyu Kapa
Ensemble: Caithness, First Murderer, Porter.....	Simon Cooper
Ensemble: Fleance, Lord Bruce, Ross Jnr.....	William Moffat
Ensemble: Gentlewoman, Lady Macduff, Sergeant.....	Penelope Peck
Ensemble: Donalbain, Macduff Jnr, Messenger	Christina Percival
Ensemble: Duncan, Menteith, Old Man, Second Murderer	Jared Scott-Mills

Production Team

Director	David McLean
Assistant Director.....	Jade Colletti
Stage Managers.....	Andrew Ferguson, Nicholas Opolski
Set Designer	Andrew Ferguson
Lighting and Sound Designer.....	Michael Birkett
Video and SFX Designer.....	Michael Birkett
Costume Designer	Sue Halls
Props Designer	Andrew Ferguson
Fight Choreographer.....	Joshua Bruce
Lighting and Sound Operators	Lauren Kemp, Caitlyn Sorensen
Rehearsal Prompts	Margaret Baxter, Jade Colletti
Technical Director	Michael Birkett
Set Construction.....	David Allen, Noel Ellis, Peter Erlanger, Graeme Munro, Max Murray
Production Coordinators.....	Simon Cooper, Andrew Ferguson
Program Designer	Janine Evans
Program Coordinator.....	Monica Greenwood
Photography	Lorraine Bell
Publicity.....	Blake Stringer
FOH Manager.....	Judy Clues
Ticketbox Manager.....	David Gordon
Ticket Secretary.....	Kerry Carr



David McLean

Director

David is an actor, broadcaster, educator, director and writer. He last appeared in Malvern Theatre Company's *The Light in the Piazza*, but has extensive performance credits which include the odd professional venture. Additionally, he writes theatre reviews in The Melbourne Observer. When not pursuing theatrical interests, David is involved in all things literature. He's had pieces published in The Age, Overland and Meanjin. His school resources for literature are available internationally and he runs workshops using creative writing as reflective practice. David can be heard each week on 3CR's Published or Not, interviewing authors.



Joshua Bruce

Macbeth

Joshua is new to both Melbourne and Malvern Theatre Company, having moved from New Zealand last year. He has been professionally acting for five years, undertaking a wide range of projects that includes screen work for Netflix, Amazon and Apple TV. Recent stage performances include the highly technical role of 'Jason'/'Tyrone' in *Hand to God* with Strathmore Theatrical Arts Group, for which he won a 2024 Victorian Drama League Award for Best Actor in a Comedy. This current role is distinctly different, but no less fun to play! Joshua is represented by RBA Management.



Hannah Holmes

Lady Macbeth

A graduate of both 16th Street Actors Studio and London's Metfilm School, Hannah has featured in a number of short films and independent theatre productions. Her onstage credits include Laura MacKenzie's *The More I Know* and *La Vie En Rouge*, which Hannah co-wrote and produced alongside two fellow graduates of 16th Street Actors Studio. Hannah is thrilled to be taking on the role of Lady Macbeth in her first ever production with Malvern Theatre Company.



Nash Williams

Malcolm

Nash is a young, aspiring actor who has studied the performing arts for most of his life, starting quite young at The Young Company in Cairns. More recently, he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts (Drama) from Deakin University where he also performed in a number of shows including *Uprooted* and *Red Tape*.



Huw Jennings

Macduff

Huw graduated from National Theatre Drama School and the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art (RADA) Acting Shakespeare Courses. He has credits in commercials, stage, webseries, short and feature films and has toured nationally for *The Gizmo* with Echelon Productions. At the Cineverse Film Festival, Huw featured in *Curtain Call*.



Felix Green

Ross

Felix made his theatre debut as the 'Fire Chief' in The 1812 Theatre's 2024 production of *The Fire Raisers*, for which he was nominated for a Lyrebird Award. More recently, he played 'Holmes One' in *Holmes and Watson* with Mordialloc Theatre Company. A lover of classic literature, he is thrilled to be taking on the Bard of Avon as 'Ross'.



Declan Farr

Banquo, Doctor

Declan is a Naarm-based performer with a background in theatre, opera, and screen. From playing 'Snug' in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* to 'Mr. Wormwood' in *Matilda*, Declan thrives on character work and comedic roles. He's also appeared in short films and extra roles, bringing a dynamic energy to every performance, both on stage or on screen.



Zander Barling

Lennox

Zander is a 25 year-old actor from Melbourne, having studied at the Victorian College of the Arts since leaving school. He then studied at the National Institute of Dramatic Arts (NIDA) in Sydney, completing his Diploma of Acting. Zander has appeared in several short films and a TV show. However, this is his first Shakespearean production.



Johanna Chan

Angus

Johanna is excited for her debut with Malvern Theatre Company. Her recent credits include playing 'Queen' in *The Raven Thief* with the University of Melbourne. She was also recently part of the ensemble in *A Fleeting Glimpse* with Four Letter Word Theatre and has voiced two characters in an audiobook about Mozart.



Zee Baker

Witch 1

Zee is a transgender actress and multidisciplinary artist. She has toured original works to the Melbourne and Adelaide Fringe Festivals with Scrambled Prince Theatre Company. Zee recently performed in *The Day We Were Not Alone* by Kitan Petkovski. She has also appeared in webseries, short films and upcoming feature films.



Anne Marshall

Witch 2

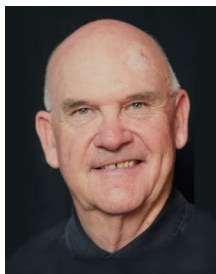
Anne is excited to be in her first production with Malvern Theatre Company. *Macbeth* is her second Shakespearean play since graduating with a Bachelor of Acting for Stage and Screen from the Ballarat Academy of Performing Arts, in 2020. She has since played 'Osric' / 'Player Queen' in *Hamlet* with The Revels in 2023.



Wahyu Kapa

Witch 3

Wahyu's last role was playing 'Ah Chan' in an original musical production called *The Best Cabinet Maker* with Small Ripples Theatre. A graduate of The Australian Film and Television Academy (TAFTA) in 2013, Wahyu has worked across a range of mediums including theatre, musicals, voiceover and film. He returns to the stage for his first Shakespeare play, *Macbeth*.



Simon Cooper

Ensemble: Caithness, First Murderer, Porter

Simon has been performing with various companies in comedies, dramas and musicals for 25 years. He has played principal roles with Gilbert and Sullivan Opera Australia, Savoynet and several Victorian theatre companies. His last role with Malvern Theatre Company was in *The Lady in the Van*. He also serves on the Malvern Theatre Company committee.



William Moffat

Ensemble: Fleance, Lord Bruce, Ross Jnr

William was active in theatre during his school years, starring in plays such as *Bugsy Malone* and *Oliver Twist* with the Victorian Youth Theatre. William remained immersed in theatre as an audience member recently, with a particular penchant for Shakespeare. William is now elated to be back on the stage in his debut with Malvern Theatre Company.



Penelope Peck

Ensemble: Gentlewoman, Lady Macduff, Sergeant

Penelope last appeared with Malvern Theatre Company as 'Anne' in *Key for Two*. With Peridot Theatre, she's played 'Kelly' in *Chaim's Love Song*, 'Lucy' in *Secret Bridesmaids' Business* and 'The Wife/Mistress' in *The Good Doctor*. Other favourite roles include 'Jenny' in *I Remember Mama*, 'Shelby' in *Steel Magnolias*, 'Jess' in *Lipstick Dreams* and 'Cassie' in *Rumors*.



Christina Percival

Ensemble: Donalbain, Macduff Jnr, Messenger

Christina is making her debut with Malvern Theatre Company and is thrilled to be plunging into the tragedy of *Macbeth*, having studied and seen several of Shakespeare's works during her training at various acting courses. Most recently, Christina was involved with Heidelberg Theatre Company in *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*.



Jared Scott-Mills

Ensemble: Duncan, Menteith, Old Man, Second Murderer

Jared makes his Malvern Theatre Company debut in *Macbeth*. He discovered his passion for Shakespeare at the Actors College of Theatre and Television in Sydney, further honing his craft at the Art of Acting Studio in Los Angeles. His previous Shakespearean production was *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, presented in a unique outdoor setting.

Acknowledgements

Malvern Theatre Company acknowledges that we are performing on the traditional land of the Boon Wurrung and Wurundjeri People and offer our respects to their elders past, present and emerging.

Malvern Theatre Company is very grateful for the support provided by the City of Stonnington.

We would like to thank the following people for their additional support of this production, without whom the show would not be what it is: Debbie Keyt of D.K. Productions at Beaumaris Theatre Company, Neil Barnett, Lizzie Opolski, Oliver Martucci, Andrew Ferguson, David Maxwell and Valeria Bonazzi.

As an organisation, we take pride in supporting the local volunteer network in the community and the charitable organisations that underpin this important work. As such, we have donated all benefits of the Charity Night performance to the following organisations:

- Ashburton Baptist Church
- Order of the Eastern Star (Box Hill Chapter)
- RSPCA
- The Compassionate Friends Victoria

If you are a member of a Volunteer group or a Charitable organisation and would like to raise funds by arranging a group to attend our Charity Night Preview Performance, please contact us at malverntheatrecompany@gmail.com.

Thanks to our Sponsors



L'Olivo is a small, family-owned restaurant located at 171 Waverley Rd in Malvern East. Visit lolivo.com.au for further details or to book. Show your ticket for a 10% discount on your total bill.



AUV Real Estate specialises in private sales and property management. Further details at auvreal estate.com.au.

Menzies Malvern

Menzies Malvern is a contemporary retirement village, providing an exceptional lifestyle in the heart of cosmopolitan Melbourne. Further details at menziesmalvern.com.au.



Via Fratelli is a traditional Italian restaurant located at 151 Waverley Rd, Malvern East. Show your ticket for a 10% discount on your total bill. Visit viafratelli.com.au.



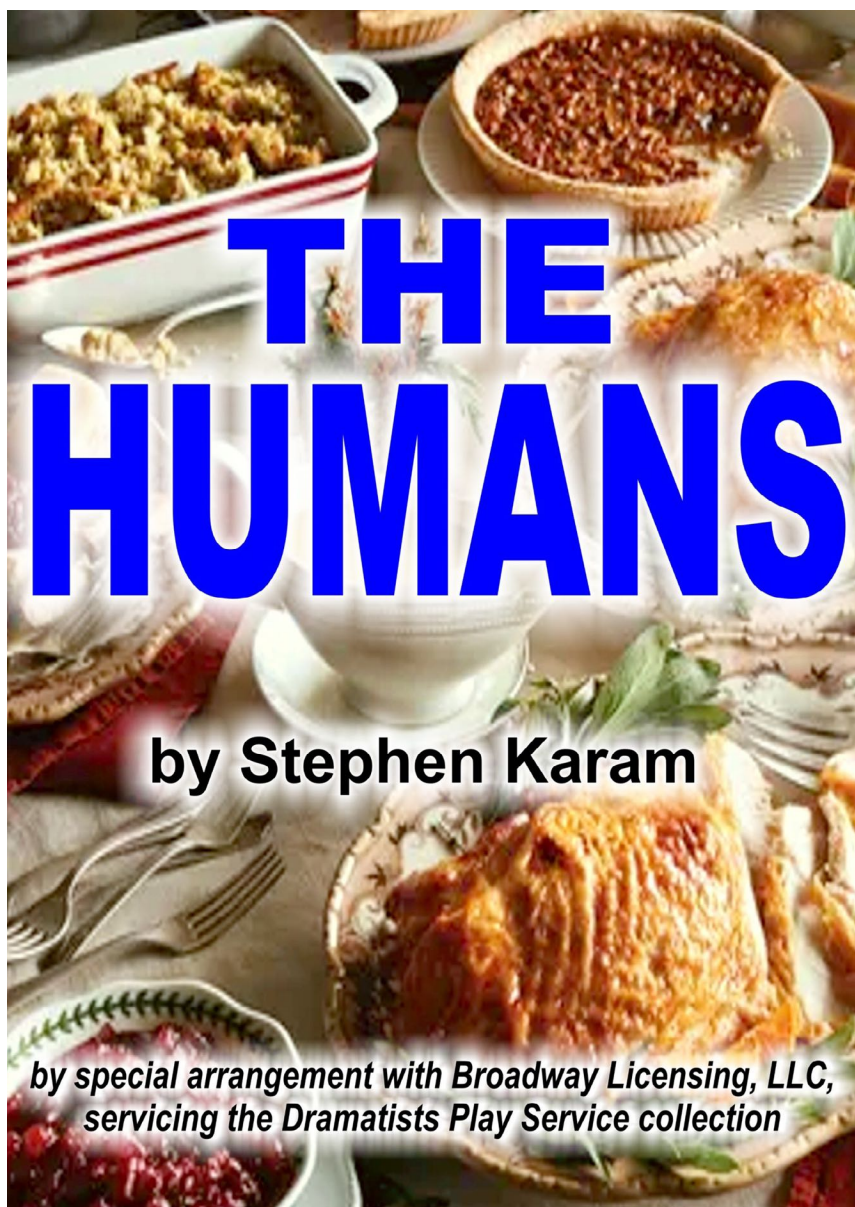
Community Bank Malvern East is a local bank with 23 years history dedicated to servicing the community. Further details at bendigobank.com.au/branch/vic/community-bank-malvern-east.



Calling All Volunteers

Would you like to volunteer at Malvern Theatre? There are many opportunities to be involved. Please visit our website and click on the 'Volunteer' tab to express your interest.

Next at Malvern Theatre Company



The Humans

By Stephen Karam

Directed by Nicky Neville-Jones

22 August to 6 September

The Humans is a poignant, award-winning drama (Tony Awards, Best Play) that, with humour and compassion explores the tensions and bonds in family life today. In Brigid's run-down New York apartment, with bad wi-fi and strange noises upstairs, the Blake family comes together to celebrate Thanksgiving, bringing with them their anxieties, fears, and hidden struggles. But as they cook and eat, bicker and joke, darkness begins to fall and long buried tensions and secrets start to emerge. Plus, the strange noises upstairs may not be as innocent as they thought!

The Humans is warm, funny, uplifting and unsettling. Malvern Theatre Company is proud to present the Victorian premiere of this modern masterpiece, dubbed "Kind, rich and beautiful" (Chicago Tribune).

To book tickets, visit our website at malvernthatre.com.au/book-tickets or phone 1300 131 552