

# Shakespeare in a Trunk

touring production of:  
**Romeo and Juliet**

Sean Higgins

Mentor: John O'Hagan  
Department of Theatre and Dance  
Honors Program  
University of Wyoming  
Oral Presentation

Shakespeare in a Trunk's  
touring production of:

# Romeo and Juliet

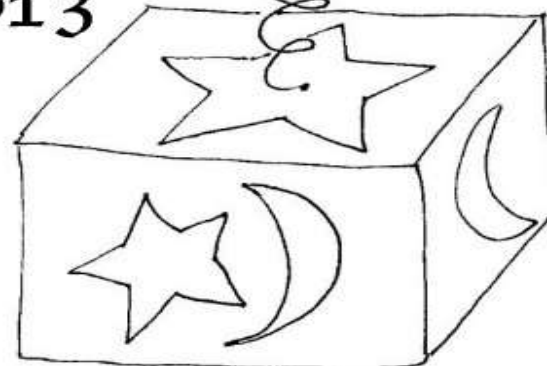
(with educational workshops)



Directed by John O'Hagan

April & May

2013



Produced by:

University of Wyoming Fine Arts Outreach Program  
University of Wyoming Department of Theatre and Dance

# What is Shakespeare in a Trunk?

- A workshop production of an abridged Shakes script (55 mins)
- A dual educational opportunity
- A low budget show
- A performance opportunity
- A chance to bring Shakespeare's language to life in Wyoming communities
- A lot of fun

# Goals:

- To expose the young peoples of Wyoming to:  
Shakespearian Language  
Shakespeare's Stories

To provide:

tools to dissect the text

a positive Shakespearian experience

To instill:

a fondness of this rich literature for those both on stage and off.

# Preliminary Process

- Set tour dates
- Set weekly meetings
- Find all the contacts needed
- Sample the interest in the communities
- Idealize a tour route
- Choices, practicality, distance, route, etc..
- Cut Script with John
  - Doubling, combining of characters

# Planning Tour

- Form Letter
  - Tailored to each community
- Contacting Communities
  - in order of our “idealized route”
  - Finding the correct person in the community
  - Sensing support and desire

# Communication , Emails Emails Emails...

- Millions of emails...
  - Almost to a point of nagging to secure our route
- When all else fails: Send Hard Copies
- Setting Dates
- Setting specifics (time, load-in, lunch etc.)
- Confirming of dates and Reminders\*

# Emails, emails... cont.

- Posters
- Venue names
- Props
- Itineraries and schedules
- Vehicle rentals and logistics
- Dean's excuses
- The many details initially overlooked
- The list goes on and on

# Finalized Tour Schedule

- Includes:
  - Departure/ Arrival times
  - Estimated Travel times
  - Hotel Names and Addresses
  - Load-in approximates
  - Lunches
  - Dinners
  - Names of University Recognized Drivers
  - Performance times
  - Workshop times
  - More performance times



# What I learned

- There is a whole lot more that goes into planning a tour than a show and an audience...
- Importance of Details
- phone call/meeting Vs. email
- Asking for help is essential
- How to plan, schedule, and successfully conduct a tour
- I enjoy the artistic principles of theatre much more

# What I would Change

- more control over the artistic principles of the production
- Length of the tour
- The originating idea more solidified
- The outreach and depth of the entire process
- Seek more extensive funding to realize a fuller production

# A Big Ol' Thank You

- Janelle Ann-Fletcher and the Cultural Outreach Program
- Duncan Harris and the Honors Program
- John O'Hagan and the Department of Theatre and Dance
- The communities of Laramie, Lander, Jackson, Cheyenne, Casper, and Wheatland
- Kim Lockhart, for stepping in as Stage Manager
- Last but not least, my wonderful cast-mates and peers

Questions, from all you Beautiful  
people?