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For Immediate Release

SARATOGA SHAKESPEARE COMPANY OPENS THE TEMPEST

This summer, Saratoga Shakespeare Company will OPEN its 19th season with *THE TEMPEST* (co-sponsored by SPAC and Radial Arts) on the SPAC grounds.



(Top, R-L) Louis Butelli*, Tracy Liz Miller*, Kent Burnham*, Maya Bhagwat Bassuk*, Dennis Schebetta*

(Bottom, R-L) Oliver Wadsworth*, LeeAnne Hutchison*, Grant Neale*, Chris Naughton, Marcus Dean Fuller* (Director)

**The Actor appears through the courtesy of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.*

Building on last year's successful collaboration, Saratoga Shakespeare begins the season joining forces with SPAC and Radial Arts to present *Poetry in the Pines*, bringing a new, innovative and music-filled production of *THE TEMPEST* on the SPAC grounds. Performances will take place at the Reflecting Pool on Friday, July 19th at 2:00pm and 5:00pm and on Saturday, July 20th at 11:00am. The production will be

directed by Marcus Dean Fuller, a writer, director and producer with twenty years of experience working in film, television and stage. Marcus is the President of Compass Entertainment. He currently teaches and directs at Union College. In addition, he serves on the Board of Directors of Yale School of Drama, the Nantucket Theater Institute, and Saratoga Shakespeare.

Admission always free of charge for *THE TEMPEST* and the SPAC grounds are entirely accessible. Both young and old, as well as family groups, are strongly encouraged to attend – with or without picnics – for what has become a beloved summer tradition in Saratoga.

As Saratoga's longest running professional theatre company, *THE TEMPEST* will feature several experienced members of Actors' Equity Association, the stage actors' professional union. These actors have extensive New York City and national stage, film and television credits. In addition, a talented group of non-union professional actors and members of Saratoga Shakespeare's Young Theatre Professional Company will round out the cast.

Since 2000, the productions of Saratoga's longest running professional theatre company have become a beloved Saratoga tradition, and many regional children have grown up watching Saratoga Shakespeare every summer. The Company takes pride in presenting Shakespeare's work with great clarity and continues to develop a visually arresting and audience immersive aesthetic.

The Saratoga Shakespeare Company is grateful to Skidmore College for their generosity, as well as continued support from Skidmore's Office of Special Programs and the Department of Theater. The Company was the recipient of a 2019 Community Arts Grant from Saratoga Arts.

The Company certainly hopes that someone can be made available to review both productions early in their runs. We have been extremely grateful for your past coverage of our productions, as well as your overall commitment to solid arts coverage. For further information, visit www.saratogashakespeare.com or Saratoga Shakespeare's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/SaratogaShakespeare. You can contact our Executive Director, Barbara Opitz, at 518-587-2166 (bopitz@skidmore.edu) or our Associate Artistic Director of PR and Audience Engagement, David Girard, at 518-528-1677 (david@davidmgirard.com).

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