



BASED ON WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S JULIUS CAESAR





PRESENTS

S'Will '24

BASED ON "JULIUS CAESAR" BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

ADAPTED & CONCEIVED BY HALEY WHITE

FEATURING PERFORMANCES BY

BROOKE AIELLO MASON T. BELTRAN JACOB GONZALEZ

COLIN HELPIO HALEY WHITE

PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER Amber Janel Smith

PRODUCTION MANAGER RYAN GILMORE SOUND DESIGNER MIGUEL A. GASTELUM

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR & FIGHT CHOREOGRAPHER

director Miguel A. Gastelum

CAST

Brooke Aiello	Brutus/Calpurnia/Lucius/Others
Mason T. Beltran Julius	Caesar/Octavius/Portia/Others
Jacob Gonzalez	Casca/Soothsayer/Others
Colin Helpio Cassius/C	inna the Poet/Soothsayer/Others
Haley White	Mark Antony/Soothsayer/Others

RUN TIME: 60 minutes – No Intermission **SETTING:** Ancient Rome...Kinda. Italy, definitely.



I ADEFICHA



MIGUEL A. GASTELUM



COLIN HELPIO



BROOKE AIELLO



RYAN GILMORE



AMBER JANEL SMITH



MASON T. BELTRAN



JACOB GONZALEZ



HALEY WHITE

Wно's **W**но

I Adeficha they/them (Asst. Director & Fight Choreographer) is a writer, performer, and the author of *Rummage* (Little A, 2017). They serve on the board of The Fools Collaborative. Some recent productions include Selma Arts Center's *Next to Normal* (Diana Goodman), *Little Shop of Horrors* (Audrey II), and *Zoot Suit* (Hoba/Pachuca Trio); and University Theatre's *RENT* (Ensemble).

Brooke Aiello *she/they* (*Brutus/Calpurnia/Lucius/Others*) is a local actress, costumer, educator, and founding member of The Fools. She loves her some Shakespeare whether mangled or meticulous and is excited to be part of *S'Will*. A proud cat mom to Prospero and Beatrice.

Mason T. Beltran they/them (Julius Caesar/Octavius/Portia/Others) was born and raised in Fresno, CA and is making their Fools Collaborative debut. Previous credits include University Theatre's The Pillowman (Ariel); Madera Theatre Project's Anna in the Tropics (Juan Julián); Selma Arts Center's Oedipus El Rey (Oedipus), Zoot Suit (Henry Reyna); UR Here's Dance Nation (Dance Teacher Pat); College of the Sequoias' Stupid F***ing Bird (Trigorin), Macbeth (Macbeth), and The Crucible (John Proctor).

Miguel A. Gastelum *he/him* (*Director*) holds his B.A. in Theatre Arts from Fresno State, where he currently works as the Communication Specialist for the Department of Theatre and Dance. Miguel serves on the board of The Fools Collaborative and is an original founding member. Selected directing credits include S'Will 3 (The Fools Collaborative), *Every Brilliant Thing* (The Fools Collaborative) *Be More Chill* (Selma Arts Center), *Peter and the Starcatcher* (Asst. Director, StageWorks Fresno), *Blood Relations* (Co-Director, The Fools Collaborative), *reasons to be pretty* (Independently Produced), and *Dog Sees God: Confessions of a Teenage Blockhead* (Independently Produced).

Ryan Gilmore *he/him* (*Production Manager*) studied film and theatre at Fresno City College and Reedley College. He recently served as the properties designer for *Every Brilliant Thing*. Professionally, Ryan is a Producer and Media Manager for The Goodstein Foundation in the Bay Area. He is the Board Treasurer of The Fools Collaborative and an original founding member. Ryan has been active in the arts for the last ten years working as a producer, director, production manager, production coordinator, actor, and singer. Previous local credits include Fresno Grand Opera, Upstage, and several Fools events. National credits include Travel Channel, National Geographic, Subaru, BuzzFeed, and Valley Children's Hospital.

Jacob Gonzalez *he/him (Casca/Soothsayer/Others)* is thrilled to be doing his first show with The Fools Collaborative. He was last seen as The Amazing Karnak in *Ride the Cyclone* at the Selma Arts Center. Jacob is a 2019 graduate of the Fresno State Theatre Department. He would like to thank his friends, family, and girlfriend Ariana for their constant support. He hopes you enjoy the show!

Colin Helpio *he/him* (*Cassius/Cinna the Poet/Soothsayer/Others*) is an actor and an electrician in training. Previous credits include *Argonautika* (Hercules), *Witch* (Scratch), *As you Like It* (Silvius) and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Nick Bottom) at College of the Sequoias, *Art* (Yvan) with The Visalia Players, and *Hamlet* (Horatio) with Fourth Wall Theater. Colin would love to thank his family and friends for their love and support.

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Amber Janel Smith she/her (Production Stage Manager) is a freelance stage manager and stagehand with IATSE Local 158. This is her third production with The Fools Collaborative, having previously stage managed *Every Brilliant Thing* and *The Variety Show*! She has also stage managed for companies including Children's Musical Theaterworks, Good Company Players, The Lively Arts Foundation, Fresno State and Fresno City College. Amber has previously worked as lead stage manager for the Devised Theatre program at Region 8 KCACTF. Amber is a three-time KCACTF Stage Management Fellowship nominee and a Stage Management Fellowship finalist.

Haley White *she/they* (*Adapter & Mark Antony/Soothsayer/Others*) is a founding member of The Fools and one of the originators of the S'Will concept. She performed in the *Twelfth Night* and *Romeo and Juliet* versions of S'Will and helped co-direct last year's production of *A Midsummer's Night's Dream*. Haley has an MFA in Interdisciplinary Arts from Goddard College. She is also a filmmaker, writer, and auntie to the coolest two-year-old in the whole damn world. Haley has been fighting breast cancer for the past eleven months and will finish radiation during this Rogue run! By day, she fights for disinvested populations at United Way Fresno and Madera Counties. "Nobody's free until everybody's free."

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We don't just call ourselves a collaborative for fun. We greatly value the social system of community and know that being interdependent helps us be more sustainable, better understand local audiences, better serve local artists, and better achieve mission-aligned goals than if we were to approach productions and projects alone.

This production was created with the assistance from, and generosity of, many of our friends and fellow Fools. With deepest gratitude, we want to thank:

Brooke Aiello Thomas Barile, Urban Moon Printing Fresno State Department of Theatre and Dance Camille Gaston J. Daniel Herring Tiana Perez and Lynda Wilkinson Aileen Rodriguez Imperatrice Debi Rudd

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

J. Daniel Herring, in honor of Haley White Donald Munro Sandra Moore United Way Fresno And Madera Counties Fresno Music Academy and Arts

BECOME A DONOR!

We depend on the kindness of strangers.

And friends. And anyone, really.

There is only so much money we can raise at our individual events or pull from our own pockets. And unlike many other non-profits, we often turn around and give a healthy portion of our earnings right back to other important charitable causes. Your contribution helps ensure we can continue creating art and keep giving back to our audiences and our community.

We truly appreciate any donation-large or small, one-time or recurring.

Donation information available online at fresnofools.com or in the lobby after the show.

ABOUT S'WILL

S'Will is The Fools' take on the popular Drunk Shakespeare concept. We condense one of Shakespeare's plays down to one hour and infuse it with improv, pop culture references, and of course, alcohol! Every night a performer is randomly selected to perform completely inibriated and hilarity (hopefully) ensues!

HEALTH WARNING: The Fools do not condone excessive drinking. Our drunk actors are monitored carefully, driven to and from rehearsals and shows, and rotated regularly. We acknowledge that drinking can be fun (especially for audiences), but we want to be clear that we only promote responsible drinking.

JULIUS CAESAR, A BRIEF SYNOPSIS

In the ancient Roman Republic, Julius Caesar returns after defeating his rival and former-ruler-of Rome, Pompey, in a civil war. Some senators, including Cassius and Casca, fear that Caesar's growing power will lead to tyranny. They plot to assassinate him to protect the republic, and convince their fellow senator Brutus, who is friends with Caesar, that it simply must be done for the good of all Rome. On the Ides (15th) of March, the conspirators, including Brutus, stab Caesar to death in the Senate. After Caesar's assassination, Rome plunges into chaos. Mark Antony, Caesar's loyal friend, delivers a powerful speech at Caesar's funeral, rousing the crowd against the conspirators. Civil war erupts. Antony partners with Julius Caesar's nephew and heir, Octavius, to fight against the remaining conspirators. Despite their initial victories, the conspirators are defeated at the Battle of Philippi. Facing defeat, both Cassius and Brutus choose to end their own lives rather than be captured. Rome falls under the rule of Antony and Octavius Caesar. The play explores themes of loyalty and betrayal, ambition and power, and the consequences of political upheaval.

THE FOOLS COLLABORATIVE

Hi, there! We're a group of artists in the Fresno area (Yokuts territory) who produce creative events for the express purpose of bringing awareness to, and raising funds for, an assortment of community, charitable, environmental, and social justice-orientated causes. We have raised thousands of dollars for many worthy organizations throughout our four+ years in operation. However, we are most proud of the communal opportunities we have created for an ever-growing number of engaged creators and atypical audiences.

OUR MISSION

We aim to bring people together through artistic events, raise money and awareness for important issues and causes, assist local organizations who are doing vital work, and build up a supportive network of engaged, considerate artists who value art as a powerful tool for positive change.

OUR COMMITMENT TO EQUITY

The Fools consciously work to ensure that the partners, volunteers, and artists we collaborate with, as well as the community members we serve, feel valued and respected by our organization. We highly regard diverse life experiences and perspectives, so we welcome hard conversations and appreciate authenticity. The 'collaborative' part of our organization name is not something we take lightly. Everyone who works with us has a voice that we consider valid and vital to the work. In all of our projects and undertakings, we strive to evolve and unlearn our own internal biases, even as we educate and serve as mentors to others.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

l Adeficha, Miguel A. Gastelum, Camille Gaston, Ryan Gilmore, Lex Martin, Dr. Gina Sandi-Diaz, and Haley White

THEATRE INFORMATION

- Face Masks are not required, but strongly encouraged in the theatre.
- Cellular phones must be turned to silent.
- Photography & Video Recording is allowed. Please do not use flash.
- No Smoking. This is a smoke-free facility.
- No Latecomers, no exceptions.
- **Restrooms** are located at the back of the lobby hallway.
- Sorry, no refunds, no exchanges.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The ViSTA Theatre sits in the midst of the San Joaquin Valley, a land rich in the traditions and representation of Indigenous peoples and cultures. We are grateful to be in the traditional homelands of the Yokuts peoples, whose diverse tribal communities share stewardship over this land. Follow eyokutsland and evalleynatives4change on Instagram to stay updated on local Indigenous news, including ways that current elections (like Measure B) impact native peoples.

THE FOOLS COLLABORATIVE

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