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Much Ado About Nothing

Otterbein University Theatre and Dance Department

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Otterbein University

Department of Theatre & Dance
presents

Much Ado About Nothing

by William Shakespeare

Directed by
CHRISTINA KIRK

Scenic Design by
TESS WEBSTER

Lighting Design by
DARIN KEESING

Costume Design by
JULIA FERRERI

Sound Design by
DAVID MEAD

Stage Managed by
TARA SMITH

October 22-24, October 30 & 31 , 2015
Campus Center Theatre
100 W. Home St., Westerville

CAST

The Start-Ups

Don Pedro, Prince of Aragon.....	Steven Meeker, Jr.
Don John, illegitimate brother to Don Pedro	Peter Moses
Signor Benedick, a lord of Padua.....	Jordan Donica
Signor Claudio, a lord of Florence.....	Jeff Gise
Barbara, an attendant to Don Pedro	Lottie Prenevost
Conrade	Asel Swango
Borachio, companion to Don John.....	Jack Labrecque

The Household of Leonata

Leonata	Kayla Walsh
Antonio, brother to Leonata	Kevin Thiel
Hero, daughter to Leonata.....	Alison Schiller
Beatrice, niece to Leonata.....	Afton Welch
Margaret, Personal Assistant to Hero	Mason Smajstrla
Ursula, Personal Assistant to Hero.....	Melanie Sierra
Messenger	Madelyn Loehr
Boy.....	Ben Folts

Townspeople of Messina

Pastor Francis.....	Tori Hidalgo
Dogberry, community volunteer leader	Evan Moore-Coll
Verges, community volunteer	Jenna Miller
Hazel Oatcake, neighborhood watch	Lauren DiMario
Gertrude Seacoal, neighborhood watch	Sally Clark
Sexton.....	Daria Redus

PROGRAM NOTES

There will be one 15-minute Intermission during this production.

The video and/or audio recording of this performance by any means whatsoever are strictly prohibited.

HONORARY CAST LIST

Supporting Actor (\$50-\$99)

Harold Amspoker	Emily Gazerro Hall	Lynn & Joy Rinehart
Don & Marilyn Andersen	John & Ann Hentz	Brenda Jauchius Ritzman
Anonymous	Douglas Hoover	Anne Robinson
Bill & Judyth Barr	Norman Hosansky	Ronald & Joyce St. Pierre
Donald & Gene Bennion	Walter & Connie Kobalka	Albert & Louise Siegel
Dan & Linda Bevan	J. Thomas & Kathleen Jones	Rex & Jane Sprague
Carl & Carol Boehm	Bill LaTaille	James Tarpoff
Len & Sharon Bussard	Chuck & Connie Layne	Richard & Jeanette Robinson
Wallace & Barbara Cash	Richard & Catherine Loveland	Thomas
Ted Chaney	William Lyons	Roger & Margaret Lloyd Trent
Leonard & Roberta Clark	Barbara McKenzie	Michael Vehonsky
Mike & Debra Collins	William & Harriet Merriman	Jay & Barbara Wilcox
John & Barbara Condon	Dennis & Marjorie Munger	Sara Willson
Clay Cormany & Rebecca	Nevalyn Fritsche Nevil	Jim & Marilyn Young
Coleman Princehorn	Neil & Connie Ostrove	David & Ann Ziegel
Bob & Jocelyn Fu Curry	James E. Paxton	
Jim & Di Erickson	William Radloff	
Robert & Deborah Forsblom	Charles & Marion Rees	
Barbara George	Richard & Doris Reichert	

Extra (\$10-\$49)

Elizabeth J. Arnold	Edwin A. Geer	Jack Sheppard
Christina Baker	Mike Grayson	Paul & Alyce Sheridan
Kay Ball	Rita Gregorek	Ronald G. & Linda Simpson
Benjamin H. Bennett	Charles & Charlene Hammond	David B. & Joyce Shannon
Dick & Joyce Brown	John & Alice Heller	Warner
Elizabeth A. Burrier	Elliot B. & Ruth Hodgdon	James E. & Carol Carpenter
John & Judith Cashman	Kimberly Fippin Hoessly	Waugh
Judith E. Cashman Trust	Roger & Robin Howard	Thomas & Susan White
Larry & Margaret Cepek	Ronald & Margaret Jewett	Roger L. Wilson
Gerald & Karen Ciula	Margaret Lares Kadunc	
John & Ursula Corbett	Joseph & Elizabeth Kolmer	
Richard & Diane Demlow	Barbara Limbert	
L. Thomas & Mary Alice Dillman	Barbara Glor Martin	
Richard & Marie Dilley	Shirley Bracken McJunkin	
Barbara Donohue	Carl D. & Helen W. Miller	
Denise Edwards	Tom & Mary Ellen Miller	
Alyce Douce Elbert	Eleanor Murphy	
Leigh & Sharon Evrard	John & Ann Ressler	
Susan Fenstermaker	David & Diane Russell	
Lawrence Friedman	Allan Sager	
Alzada Gallagher	Gregory & Sharon Shannon	

HONORARY CAST LIST

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 Christine J. Lei
 Mark N. & Betty Peters

Designer (\$500-\$999)

The Columbus Foundation	Ruth Tallman Pifer Fund
Al & Louise Minor	Barbara M. Ruppel
Nationwide Foundation	

Diva (\$250-\$499)

Kay Atkinson Ball	Nancy Jo Pifer
Judy Gebhart Bear & Daniel Bear	Paul S. & Sheila Reiner
Pamela M. Erb-Melville	Douglas R. Smeltz
John & Terry Geary	Alan & Linda Smith
Sarah & Jim Hickey	Jon & Joyce Stonebraker
John T. & Eileen Fagan Huston	Norma F. Worley

Star (\$100-\$249)

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Brian Day	Michael & Nancy A. Miller	
Petie Dodrill	Jack & Peggy Moreland	
Margaret Morgan Doone	Alan E. & Carol S. Norris	

PRODUCTION STAFF

Chair, Department of Theatre & Dance	John Stefano
Audience Services Director	Elizabeth Saltzgiver
Resident Technical Director	Patrick Stone
Production Manager	Kristen Cooperkline
Costume Shop Supervisor	Julia Ferreri
Light & Sound Supervisor	Doc Davis
Administrative Assistant	Matt Wolfe
Speech Coach	Melissa Lusher
Movement Coach	Melinda Murphy
Assistant Director/Dramaturg	Emily Bubeck
Choreographer	Alison Schiller
Assistant Stage Managers	Natalie Love, Hannah Pohlman
Technical Director	Ian Hawthorne
Carpenters	Ethan Brown, Gunnar Schmidt
Charge Artist	Karen Crenshaw
Properties Master	Alli Dembicki
Properties Assistant	Melissa Schlecht
Master Electrician	Kacey Vandermolen
Assistant Master Electrician	Tori DeProspero
Light Board Operator	Kara Jobe
Wardrobe Master	Nikki Solomon
Wardrobe Assistant	Brady Irwin
Stitcher	Sydney Smith
Sound A1	Miranda Cotman
Box Office Managers	Heidi Olander, Alexx Conrad
House Manager	Annie Schroeder

SCENIC STUDIO ASSISTANTS

Phil Cunningham	Natalie Love
Alli Dembicki	Rebecca Schafer
Ian Hawthorne	Gunnar Schmidt
Megan Lohner	Ian Stillman

COSTUME SHOP ASSISTANTS

Julianne Graffeo	Ashley Sattler
Brady Irwin	Melissa Schlecht
Anna Mulhall	Emma Sicker
Hannah Pohlman	Nikki Solomon

SCENERY CREW

Grace Auls	Michaela Waickman
Grace Weir	Tristan Gillia

ELECTRICS CREW

Abigail Isom	Jessica Palagano
Alexander Smith-	Kara Jobe
Fields	Kathryn Lee
Grace Weir	Michaela Waickman
Jacob Sundlie	

WARDROBE CREW

Alissa Delork	Reuben Reese
Chris Smith	Sileyemon Ndongo
Elise Woods	

BOX OFFICE ASSISTANTS

Connor Dunn	Sydney Smith
Jeff Gise	Tara Smith
Annie Schroeder	Kevin Thiel

LIGHT & SOUND ASSISTANTS

Arri Allen	Tess Webster
Corey Farr	Ariana Woods
Rebecca Schafer	
Joaquin Silva	

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

#love. What a complicated mess we humans are! We crave love, *long* for it. We don't want to be lonely or alone. But! To be *vulnerable, exposed, found out* . . . That's frightening. The fight for and against love is at the heart of our story. Just like us, these characters find that falling prey to love threatens their sense of dignity and control. But we also see here a commentary on how quick we are to change and adopt the latest fad, trend or invention. These people can be shallow, petty and quick to draw conclusions, just like we can be. Rather than showing us the romantic hero who reveals humanity's highest potential, Shakespeare has given us a much more realistic view of human nature, one that reveals the ways that we try to avoid or bypass or sidestep the difficult steps toward intimacy and self discovery. I am struck by how our contemporary culture, with twitter, Facebook, instagram, texting, has us expecting instant gratification and gives us so many ways to avoid true intimacy. We escape into our social media devices rather than endure a moment of awkwardness that might lead to a connection. So, what was true for Shakespeare in his time remains true in ours, we remain slaves to the fashion of the day, and can be driven more by fashion than by our hearts.

In placing this play in 2015, I struggled in determining which war these soldiers have just been fighting. Our Messenger tells us the gentlemen lost have been "few of any sort, and none of name." I am unable to identify a war that matches this description. And, to make this statement ironical does not seem to fit with the play that follows. So, the soldiers in our play have been engaged in a trend warfare that places our "young startup," Claudio, as just that, the most recent victor in the latest fight for venture capitalist supremacy. Claudio is a perfect hero for our contemporary culture: quick to adapt, alter, change. These are the qualities that yield success in our times. But it is the struggle that Benedick and Beatrice undergo that forces us to question what constitutes a true hero: #love.

-Christina Kirk, Director

BIOGRAPHIES

Alison Schiller (Hero) is a senior BFA Musical Theatre major with a Dance concentration from Los Angeles, CA. Previous credits include *Sweet Charity* (Helene), *Les Misérables* (Ensemble), and *How to Succeed...* (Ensemble). Alison is so excited to be concluding her Otterbein career with Shakespeare and with this incredible cast. She would like to thank Satin, Sidestage Improv and JeffaKevinImCoolGuy for their support. Go Blue.

Melissa Schlecht (Props Assistant) is a sophomore BFA Design/Technology major and Film Studies minor from Potsdam, OH. Previous credits include Set Crew for *Middletown & Into the Woods* and Lighting Crew for Dance Concert 2014: *Tell Tale Poe*. Thank you to the amazing cast and crew of Much Ado. Break legs!

Mason Smajstrla (Margaret) is a senior BFA Acting major from Houston, TX. Previous credits include *The Full Monty* (Georgie), *Sweet Charity* (Nickie), *Rabbit Hole* (Nat), and was most recently seen on the Otterbein stage in *The Greeks: The Murders* (Clytemnestra). Shoutout to my unreal family, the class of 20sextteen, JeffaKevinImCoolGuy, my future pug Nana, Chris Kirk, and my best friend in the entire universe who'll soon be cruisin' with my favorite mouse. Please enjoy this beautiful story of life & love and my last show on the Otterbein stage!

Nikki Solomon (Assistant Costume Designer/ Wardrobe Master) is a junior Art major with a Photography concentration from Westerville, OH. Previous credits include Costume Designer for Festival 2015, Costume Designer and Wardrobe Master for the *God of Carnage*, as well as Wardrobe Master for *Middletown*, *The Nerd*, *Clybourne Park*, and *The All Night Strut*. Nikki recently worked as part of the Wardrobe Local Crew for Taylor Swift and Paul McCartney. Right now, my plan is to finish all six seasons of the show *Lost* - WHAT'S IN THE HATCH?! I also plan to continue to create surreal photography and work wardrobe as often as I can.

Asel Swango (Conrade) is a junior BFA Acting major from San Antonio, TX. Previous credits include Cassandra/ Chorus in *The Greeks: The Murders*, Titania in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and Choreographer for *Doorway* (Festival 2015). Asel would like to Thank Chris Kirk for this incredible opportunity and for her constant support! Thank you to the cast and crew! #LOVE!

Kevin Thiel (Antonio) is a senior BFA Musical Theatre major from Perrysburg, OH. Previous performances include Baker in *Into the Woods*, Malcolm in *The Full Monty*, Benjamin in *The Yellow Boat*, and Ensemble in *Les Misérables*. My deepest thanks to my parents, sister, Tori and the rest of my Otterbein family. As always, thank you to JeffaKevinImCoolGuy for enriching my college experience.

Kayla Walsh (Leonata) is a senior BFA Musical Theatre major from Bend, OR. Kayla was last seen at Weathervane Playhouse in their summer season, shows including: *RENT* (Seasons of Love Soloist/Mrs. Cohen), *One Man Two Guvnors* (Dolly), *The Pajama Game* (Mae), and *Nice Work If You Can Get It* (Eileen Evergreen). She was an Acting Apprentice at Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey, and also received a Fulbright Scholarship in 2012 to study Shakespeare at The Globe in London. Thank you to everyone who poured their blood, sweat, and tears into our silly and thought-provoking show, and special thanks to J.D., the ladies of Sigma Alpha Tau (hoot hoot!), the Three Musketeers, and her classmates of 20sextteen for their endless support. She would like to dedicate this performance to her fearless parents, Laurie and Ed.

Afton Welch (Beatrice) is a senior BFA Acting major from Dallas, TX. Previous credits include Tansy in *The Nerd*, Iphigenia in *The Greeks: The Murders* and Miss Prism in *The Importance of Being Earnest*. Afton is thrilled to be pursuing an internship in New York City come this spring semester. She would like to her Mom, Dad, Rizel, Tori Hidalgo and Courtney Dahl for all of the laughs, light and unconditional love, as well as Chris Kirk, Melissa Lusher and Dr. John Stefano for their neverending support and wisdom through these last 3 years. This performance is dedicated to Satin, the Class of 2016, and JeffaKevinImCoolGuy. Enjoy the show, y'all! Twitter.com/aftonwelch

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Brady Irwin (Wardrobe Assistant) is a junior BFA Design/Technology major from Louisville, KY. Previous credits include Wardrobe Master for *Sweet Charity* and Paint Assistant for *RENT*. I made another skirt for this production. I'll probably make more in the future.

Jack Labrecque (Borachio) is a sophomore BFA Acting major from Brunswick, ME. Previous credits include Russ/ Dan in *Clybourne Park*, George in *The Women of Lockerbie*, and Tony in *West Side Story*. In the future, Jack hopes to start an independent study on a new acting technique. Here's to Mom and Dad, who helped me get where I am, and my brothers in Pi Beta Sigma.

Madelyn Loehr (Messenger) is a junior BFA Acting major from Aurora, CO. Previous credits include Chrysothemis/ Chorus (*The Greeks: The Murders*), and Playwright for Festival 2014 and 2015. Madelyn would like to thank the cast and crew; this has been a wonderful and fun production to work on. Much love to Mom, Dad, Vassil, Sidestage, and JeffaKevin! mcoolguy, all hail Satin.

Natalie Love (Assistant Stage Manager) is a sophomore BA Theatre major with minors in Arts Administration & Literary Studies from Reynoldsburg, OH. Natalie worked as Sound Assistant for the spring production of *Into the Woods*.

Steven Meeker, Jr. (Don Pedro) is a junior BFA Acting major and Creative Writing minor from Mount Vernon, OH. Previous credits include *The Greeks: The Murders* (Old Man), *Middletown* (Freelancer/Landscaper), *The Yellow Boat* (Choreographer), Festival 2013 and 2014 (Mime/Director), as well as *The Full Monty*, Dance 2013: *Once Again!*, and *After the Fall* (Ensemble Roles). Steven is the President of Mainstage Improv, a mime of nine years, and a proud alumni of the National Theater Institute. He thanks his family, The Bells, Shawn, The Three Muskateers, the cast and crew, TM 2015, the BFA class of 2017, and Sally for all of the love and support. Enjoy the show!

Jenna Miller (Verges) is a junior BFA Musical Theatre major from Easton, PA. Jenna was last seen as the Baker's Wife in *Into the Woods*. Other Otterbein credits include *Sweet Charity* and *The Full Monty*. Off-broadway credits: *Aida*, *Suessical*. Regional Credits: *Little Women*, *Making Magic* (2013 ITS Festival), *New Voices* (Paper Mill Playhouse). Second place at Kidz Bop Sports Jamz at Madison Square Garden. Thank you, Class of 2017!

Evan Moore-Coll (Dogberry) is a junior BFA Acting major from Charlottesville, VA. Previous credits include Merriman in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, Greg (Astronaut)/Intermission Man/Janitor in *Middletown*, Menelaus/Aegisthus in *The Greeks: The Murders*, and Warnock "Ticky" Waldgrave in Otterbein Summer Theatre's production of *The Nerd*. A huge thank you to Chris Kirk, the cast and crew of *Much Ado About Nothing*, the American Shakespeare Center, and to Mom for helping to develop my love for Shakespeare at an early age. To the Class of 2017, I love you all, and I'm excited for our many more years of friendship and theatre together.

Hannah Pohlman (Assistant Stage Manager) is a sophomore BFA Design/Technology major from Delaware, OH. Previous credits include Stage Manager for Festival 2015, and ASM for the Otterbein Summer Theatre productions of *Clybourne Park* and *The All Night Strut*. Hannah would like to thank her family, friends and sisters of Epsilon Kappa Tau for their continuous love and support.

Lottie Prenevost (Barbara (Balthazar)) is a sophomore BFA Musical Theatre major from Chelsea, MI. Previous credits include Granny and Cinderella's Mother in last spring's production of *Into the Woods* and Soprano in the Otterbein Summer Theatre production of *The All Night Strut*. Thank you to the entire cast, crew and production team of *Much Ado*, and all my love to my family and friends. Enjoy!

Daria Redus (Sexton) is a sophomore BFA Acting major from Cleveland, OH. Previous credits include Hermia in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at The Academy for the Performing Arts, and Mimi in *RENT* at Chagrin Summer Stock. I'd like to send a big thank you to Chris Kirk for helping to shape beautiful production, as well as to the rest of the cast and crew. Love and hugs to my darling parents, family, friends, JeffaKevinImCoolGuy and J.T. for all of their support in my first show at Otterbein!

BIOGRAPHIES

Christina Kirk is a full professor of theatre at Otterbein University where she has taught since 1992. Her directing credits include *The Living Theatre*, *New Dramatists*, and assisting Liviu Ciulei at Arena Stage. Favorite directing projects at Otterbein include *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*, *King Richard III* and *Nine*. She has also directed and performed for Otterbein Summer Theatre. Favorite summer projects include *The 39 Steps*, *The All Night Strut*, *Barefoot in the Park*, and *The Understudy*. She has performed at the Illinois Shakespeare Festival, the Nebraska Repertory Theatre, the Illinois Repertory Theatre, CATCO, and in the Joseph Jefferson award winning *Kabuki Medea*. Favorite roles include "B" in *Three Tall Women* at CATCO, *Violet in August: Osage County* at Otterbein and, most recently, the title roles in *Cleopatra* and *Claudiel* at Columbus Dance Theatre. Both of the latter productions were nominated for Artistic Excellence Awards by the Greater Columbus Arts Council. Her one woman show, which premiered at Columbus Dance Theatre, was featured in the March 2006 Theatre Journal. She has an M.F.A. in Directing from Columbia University and a B.F.A. in acting from the University of Illinois.

Tess Webster (Scenic Designer) is a junior BFA Design/Technology major from Columbus, OH. Previous credits include Scenic Designer for *Middletown*, Charge Artist for the 2015 Otterbein Summer Theatre season, Assistant Scenic Designer for *Into the Woods*, and Charge Artist for *The Greeks: The Murders*. I plan to branch into other artistic mediums.

Julia Ferreri (Costume Designer/Costume Shop Supervisor) worked for The State University of New York at Potsdam as the Costume Shop Manager before joining the Otterbein University staff. She has also worked at Glimmerglass Opera, The Shakespeare Theatre in Washington DC, The Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival, Utah Shakespeare Festival, Heritage Theatre, and Berkshire Theatre Festival. Julia received her MFA in Costume Technology from Ohio University-Athens.

Darin Keesing (Lighting Designer) is thrilled to work with the talented students of Otterbein. Darin has designed lighting or scenery for over one hundred productions over his fifteen year career. Recent credits include *Master Class* and *The Final Table* with CATCO, *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson* and *Falsettos* with Available Light, and *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie* with CATCO is Kids. In Chicago, Darin has worked with About Face Theatre, Lifeline Theatre, Timeline Theatre, and Theater at the Center, and spent two seasons on the production crew of The Oprah Winfrey Show. Darin holds an MFA from Northwestern University, and a BFA from The Theatre School at DePaul University.

David Mead (Sound Designer) has been involved in all aspects of entertainment production for the past 40 years. Sound designs for theatre and sound system design have been specific areas of concentration. Permanent sound system installations like Columbus' Southern Theatre, the Lincoln Theatre, Columbus School for Girls Performing Arts Center and the Reece Center at Ohio State University-Newark are good examples of Mead's craft. As an audio designer for theatrical productions, Mead has worked on national touring productions of *The Fantasticks*, and The Great Radio City Music Hall Spectacular. Mead has served as a sound designer and sound consultant for the Otterbein University Theatre Department for the past twenty years and over 50 different productions. Notable Otterbein productions include *Eoita*, *Cabaret*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *1776*, *West Side Story* and *Les Misérables*. Mead has spent the past thirty-one years as a stage manager for the Country Concert festival. He is a regular lecturer at the Recording Workshop. Mead is a member of I.A.T.S.E. Local 12 in Columbus, Ohio, and a graduate of Miami University. Mead works at Live Technologies, LLC, an Ohio based company that provides production solutions for both installed and temporary needs. Clients include The Ohio State University, CAPA and the three major health providers in Central Ohio.

Tara Smith (Stage Manager) is a junior BA Theatre major with Music and Arts Administration minors from Gahanna, OH. Previous credits include Assistant Stage Manager for the Otterbein Summer Theatre production of *The Nerd* and Production Manager for Festival 2015. A big thanks to her always supportive family and TEM sisters for keeping her sane. In the future she would like to be Elizabeth Saltzgiver. Enjoy the show!

Kristen Cooperkline (Production Manager) earned her Bachelor of Arts in History/Theatre from The College of Wooster and her Master of Arts in American Culture Studies at Bowling

BIOGRAPHIES

Green University. She then received her MFA in Stage Management from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2012. Her Illinois credits include *Macbeth*, *La Calisto*, *Battle of Angels*, *February Dance*, and *Our Town*. Following her graduation, Kristen served as the Event Coordinator for the first-ever American College Dance Festival Association South Regional Conference as well as a stage manager for Bebe Miller Company. Now in her third season, Kristen is thrilled to be a part of the Otterbein Theatre family.

Doc Davis (Lighting & Sound Supervisor) was born and raised in Pearl, MS. After receiving a BA in Theatre from Belhaven University, he continued his education at the University of Illinois. While completing his MFA in Sound Design, he worked as a sound engineer at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts, assisting such music acts as Dee Dee Bridgewater, The National, Keb' Mo', Mavis Staples, and more. Since moving to Columbus, OH, Davis has been very active in the Otterbein University Theatre Department acting as Adjunct Professor, Sound Designer, and Lighting and Sound Supervisor.

Melissa Lusher (Speech Coach) is a tenured Associate Professor in the Department of Theatre and Dance at Otterbein University where she teaches speech, dialects, acting, and also serves as the resident speech/dialects coach for all productions. In addition, she regularly serves as a guest dialect coach at area universities and theatre companies. Recent guest coaching posts include *The Irish Curse* at Short North Stage, *The Scarlet Pimpernel* at Actors' Theatre, *Noises Off* at Ohio Wesleyan University, *Homebody/Kabul* at Denison University, and *Hay Fever* at the Dublin Abbey Theatre. Melissa holds an MFA in Acting from the combined program of Carnegie Mellon University and the Moscow Art Theatre in Russia, and a BFA in Acting from Carnegie Mellon. She was a founding company member of the American Studio Theatre in New York City and also served as the company's resident voice and speech coach. Favorite roles include Barbara in *August: Osage County* (Otterbein Theatre), Goneril in *King Lear* (Actors Theatre), Marina in *Volodya* (LaMaMa E.T.C.), Margaret in *King Richard III* and Emilia in *Othello* (AST), Clytemnestra in *The Greeks* (Moscow Art Theatre), and the title role in *Miss Julie* (CMU). Melissa is a member of the Voice and Speech Trainers Association (VASTA). She recently directed *Spring Awakening* at Otterbein which was named one of the Best 10 Shows of 2012 by the Columbus Dispatch, and *No Exit*, the Fall 2013 Classroom Project.

Melinda Murphy (Movement/ Voice Coach) teaches Alexander Technique and Feldenkrais Method® in the Otterbein Theatre and Dance Department, with application to movement, voice, characterization, singing, and dance. Melinda is one of the few teachers trained in both methods; she combines them in her private practice in Columbus, and in classes and seminars for performing artists at other Ohio colleges. Since coming to Otterbein, she also trained to teach Fitzmaurice Voice work for its specialized tools for improving the voice and breath. Melinda has coached Otterbein productions since the turn of the century. She has also coached equestrians, figure skaters, musicians, and competitive barbershop quartets and choruses including the two-time international gold medalist Southern Gateway Chorus.

Patrick Stone (Resident Technical Director) is in his second year here at Otterbein University having spent seven years at the University of Arkansas as the departmental Faculty Technical Director. He holds a Masters of Fine Arts from University of South Dakota in Vermillion and a Bachelors of Arts from Doane College in Crete, Nebraska. He teaches classes in stage craft, properties design and construction, metal working, technical directing, wood working and motion scenery. He also enjoys consulting with local and regional theatres ranging from professional to junior high. Lately he has been exploring the application of pneumatic actuators and cylinders in scenery and props. Patrick's favorite drywall screw is 1-5/8".

Emily Bubeck Assistant Director/ Dramaturg) is a sophomore BA Theatre major from Fairfax, VA. Previous credits include Props Assistant for *RENT*, Dramaturg for *Into the Woods*, and Director for Festival 2014. Emily is excited to be serving on the Festival Committee this year as one of the Artistic Supervisors. She will also serve as Dramaturg for both *Is He Dead* and *Fiddler on the Roof* this spring. She'd like to thank Julianne, Annie, Tara, her sisters of Tau Epsilon Mu, her parents, and Claire-- For Maw Maw.

BIOGRAPHIES

Sally Clark (Gertrude Seacoal - Neighborhood Watchman) is a sophomore BFA Acting major and this is her first mainstage production at Otterbein. She is from Memphis, TN where she has performed in *A Christmas Carol* at Theatre Memphis as Martha Cratchit/Fan and in *Native Son* at Hattiloo Theatre as Mary Dalton. She has also been in *Seussical* as Gertrude Mcfuzz at Hutchison School. She would like to thank her wonderful mom, brother and all her teachers. And thank you, Steven, for everything. Thank you, Chris Kirk, for this wonderful opportunity.

Karen Crenshaw (Charge Artist) is a junior BFA Design/Technology major from Newnan, GA. Previous credits include Otterbein Summer Theatre Company Member (2014, 2015), Assistant Stage Manager for Dance Concert 2014: *Tell Tale Poe*, and Paint Assistant for *Sweet Charity*. I dedicate this show to my mother. All my love to my fellow Class of 2017ers. Break many legs, and enjoy the show!

Alli Dembicki (Props Master) is a sophomore BFA Design/Technology from Pemberville, OH. Previous credits include Props Master for Otterbein Summer Theatre 2015, Props Assistant for *Into the Woods*, and Wardrobe Crew for *The Greeks: The Murders*. After graduation, she hopes to join a touring show and travel the U.S.

Tori DeProspero (Assistant Master Electrician) is a sophomore BFA Design/Technology major from Delaware, OH. Previous credits include Assistant Master Electrician for *RENT*, Master Electrician for Otterbein Summer Theatre 2015, and Spotlight operator for *Into the Woods*. Tori would like to thank her family for their never ending support and encouragement.

Lauren DiMario (Hazel Oatcake – Watchman) is a sophomore BFA Acting major from Dayton, OH. Previous credits include Clelia Waldgrave in the Otterbein Summer Theatre production of *The Nerd* and Company Member of Festival 2015. Many thanks to Shakespeare for being a genius and to family, friends, and ice cream for their endless support! Much Love.

Jordan Donica (Benedick) is a senior BFA Musical Theatre major from Indianapolis, IN. Previous credits include Ensemble Member in *South Pacific* and Featured Performer in *The Greenshow* (Utah Shakespeare Festival), Jesus in *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Weathervane Playhouse), and Miles in *Coda* (an Independent Film). Otterbein credits include Jean Valjean (*Les Misérables*), Algernon Moncrieff (*The Importance of Being Earnest*), Finch in (*How to Succeed In Business Without Really Trying*), Vittorio Vidal (*Sweet Charity*), and The Wolf/Cinderella's Prince (*Into the Woods*). Jordan plans to move to New York in December. Thank you to those who have helped me along over the past four years here at Otterbein, and all the love to my family for their continuous support. Much love.

Ben Folts (Boy) is a sophomore BFA Acting major from Hershey, PA. Previous credits include Rick Steadman in the Otterbein Summer Theatre production of *The Nerd* and Soldier in *The Greeks: The Murders*. Ben has had a wonderful time working on *Much Ado* and would like to thank everyone involved in the show, his family and friends, and everyone who had the patience to teach a flip phone user how to iPhone.

Jeff Gise (Claudio) is a senior BFA Acting major from San Antonio, TX. Previous credits include Willum in *The Nerd*, Agamemnon in *The Greeks: The Murders*, and Mechanic in *Middletown*. This will be Jeff's last performance here at Otterbein, and he would like to thank the faculty and students for such an amazing experience. He also thanks his family and friends for all the support over the years, and of course he wishes all the love imaginable to JeffaKevin! mcoolguy for being the best fraternity anyone in the world could ask for.

Tori Hidalgo (Pastor Francis) is a senior BFA Acting major with a Philosophy minor from San Antonio, TX. Previous credits include Electra in *The Greeks: The Murders*, Karen in *Speed-The-Plow*, and Izzy in *Rabbit Hole*. Tori is excited to begin pursuing her career in New York City this spring. She would like to thank her mother for her undying support on this journey, Sidestage Improv for all the laughs, and Afton for being everything I aspire to be in an artist.