



The Baron's Men
present

The
Winter's Tale

directed by Anneliese Friend

April 6-8, 13-15, 20-22 & 27-29

The Curtain Theatre

CAST

Archidamus, Jailer, Bohemian
 Camillo
 Polixenes
 Leontes
 Hermione
 Mamillius, Bohemian
 Emilia, Time, Mopsa, Bear
 Antigonus, Autolycus
 Cleomenes, Bohemian
 Paulina, Dorcas
 Shepherd, Lord
 Clown
 Florizel
 Perdita

Gene Storie
 Michael Osborn
 Aaron Niemuth
 Todd Jeffrey
 Erin Priddy
 Audrey Renkenberger
 Renee Osborn
 Michael Crugnola
 Leonard Balsera
 Stephanie Crugnola
 Julio Mella
 Rylee Ross
 Michael Pratt
 Leah Luna

CREW

Director	Anneliese Friend
Stage Manager	Rae Odom
Costume Designer	Lindsay M. Palinsky
Properties & Set Designer	Laura Trezise
Music Director	Jacquelyn Lies
Head Draper & Stitcher	Dawn Allee
Apprentice Draper & Stitcher	Renee Osborn
Properties & Set Apprentice	Kendall Duffina
Stitchers	Stephanie Crugnola, Shannon Dodson, Kim Friend, Jacquelyn Lies, Michael Osborn, Michael Pratt, Erin Priddy, Audrey Renkenberger, Rylee Ross
Choreographer	Lindsay M. Palinsky
Fight Choreographer	Tobie Minor
Fight Captain	Michael Osborn
Lighting Designer	Jimmie Bragdon
Running Crew	Ryan Odom
Front of House Manager	Dawn Allee
Executive Producer	Jacquelyn Lies

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST & CREW

Dawn Allee



Dawn is a founding member of The Baron's Men and the current President. She portrayed Emilia in TBM's original production of *Comedy of Errors*. Her first love, though, is costume design. Recent designs for TBM are *Love's Labour's Lost*, *The Curate Shakespeare As You Like It*, and TBM original show *The Dead Of Winter* (with Cherie Weed). She is a 3-time B. Iden Payne nominee with one BIP award for costume design. Dawn is excited to mentor the next generation of Elizabethan costumers. She is married to TBM founding member Steve Hemphill and in their spare time they enjoy renovating their 100+ year old haunted house.

Leonard Balsera



Leonard is a free-range, 100% organic creative living at the intersection of memory and dream, though his physical form resides in Austin, Texas. He continually aspires toward mastery of several endeavors, including singing, acting, writing, improv, and game design (both digital and analog). Astonishingly, people have even paid him for doing a few of these things on occasion – just ask Google. He last appeared in Austin-area theatre as Raven in The Hideout Theatre's production of *The Tribunal*. This is his debut show with The Baron's Men, and he is grateful for the opportunity. He dedicates this performance to his cat, Kiki, and to all the nobles among you just waiting for your moment. You know who you are, and you are seen.

Michael Crugnola



Mike Crugnola is an actor, improviser, and podcaster based in Austin. This is technically his second show with The Baron's Men and first time getting to perform onstage at The Curtain, and he couldn't be more excited. Previously, he'd been cast as Francis Flute in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* before rupturing his Achilles forgetting his age at a punk show in Chicago. Other roles have included Benedick in *Much Ado About Nothing* with Walking Shadow Shakespeare Project, Deeran with the improvised 5th Edition Dungeons & Dragons Actual Play Podcast Adventure Incorporated, a handful of improv troupes over the years, and more college theatre and Zoom pandemic performances than he can possibly remember, but certainly less than his wife. He's over the moon about this opportunity, and is also so excited for Memorial Day weekend, where he'll play Iachimo in *Cymbeline* with Walking Shadow at Ramsey Park!

Stephanie Crugnola



Stephanie is so thrilled for the opportunity to be on The Curtain stage again with The Baron's Men! Past roles with TBM include Puck (*Midsummer*), Prince Hal in *Henry IV.i*, and Witch #3 (*Macbeth*)! Stephanie is the Artistic Director of Walking Shadow Shakespeare Project (@wsshakes - instagram), a Shakespeare company that specializes in abridged, interactive shows for in-school performances and one-rehearsal PopUp productions – keep an eye out for Shakespeare's *Cymbeline* in Ramsey Park on May 28, 2023! Additionally, she hosts Protest too Much: A

Shakespeare Showdown Podcast (@p2mpod - twitter, ig, tiktok), featuring many familiar TBM voices! Thank you Mike for being her favorite husband on stage & off.

Anneliese Friend



Anneliese has been working with TBM since 2018. She has an MA in Staging Shakespeare from The University of Exeter and has been blessed to work several times at the Globe in London. This is her directing debut, as she is usually on the stage as an actor or behind a sewing machine making costumes.

Todd Jeffrey



Todd is an actor, teacher, musician, and athlete. Theater: *The Tempest*, *Macbeth*, *Henry IV part 1*, *Hamlet* (TBM), *Dear Brutus*, *Death By Natural Causes*, *Night Watch* (Sam Bass Theater), *Dearly Departed* (Georgetown Palace Theater). Film: *The Red Night* (UCLA). He thanks his amazing family, Amy, Kate, Layne, and Jack for their love and support.

Jacquelyn Lies



You have seen Jacquelyn Lies many times onstage with The Baron's Men portraying a wide range of characters. Past roles include; Celia, Ariel, Dr. Pinch, Jayne in *Dead of Winter*, *Bottom* for which she was nominated for a B. Iden Payne award and most recently *Gertrude*. She has served on the Board of Directors and is currently one of TBMs Co-Artistic Directors. She is delighted to step into the role of task master, just kidding she means Executive Producer. Many thanks to her TBM family, they are pretty awesome. Cheers to the cast, crew and Anneliese.

Leah Luna



Leah was born in San Antonio, Texas. She was a Javelina Cheerleader her freshman year of college before trading in her pom poms for footlights. She received her BA in Theatre with a Minor in Journalism from Texas A&M University-Kingsville. While in school, she was nominated multiple times for The Kennedy Center ACTF Irene Ryan Acting Scholarship and was a founding member of the University's chapter of Alpha Psi Omega, the National Theatre Honor Society. She was also named the Drama Department's Student of the Year, as well as the Overall Art Communications & Drama Department's Student of the Year during her Senior Year. She began working commercially in Austin, Texas and booked her first national commercial for Bank of America, followed by her television debut on Lifetime's *Cellmate Secrets*. She was cast in her first theatre production in Austin with The Baron's Men in the show *A Tale of Robyn Hoode*. She is an advocate for more Latino representation and body diversity in television/film/theatre, mental health, and PCOS awareness. She continues to follow her passion as a working actress, is represented by The Blanco Agency and is based out of Austin.

Julio Mella



Julio has been with The Baron's Men since it's production of *The Alchemist*, and has been involved in several TBM productions since, most recently as the Gravedigger in *Hamlet* and Antipholus of Syracuse in *Comedy of Errors*. Working with The Baron's Men is always a rewarding experience.

Aaron Niemuth



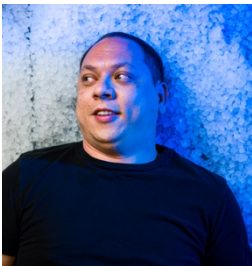
Aaron Niemuth was part of the crew for The Baron's Men's first full-length production back in 2002, and after that there was no getting rid of him. He has appeared onstage in many TBM productions, notably as one of the twinned Antipholi (Antipholuses??) in *Comedy of Errors* (the first time around), Malvolio in *Twelfth Night*, Hortensio in *Taming of the Shrew*, and Benedick in 2015's *Much Ado About Nothing*. In addition to many onstage appearances with The Baron's Men, Aaron co-wrote and co-directed 2014's *A Tale of Robyn Hoode* and 2017's *The Dead of Winter*. His third, fourth, and fifth plays are in varying stages of development, depending on how you count that thing where you have a brilliant idea but then something bright and shiny catches your eye and then you mostly forget it. Playing Polixenes in *The Winter's Tale* will be Aaron's eleventy bajillionth time onstage with The Baron's Men, but who's counting? Ok ok maybe not exactly eleventy bajillion, that's rounded up from ten point something bajillion. As Aaron's dad, renowned sage and La-Z-Boy prophet Jerry Niemuth has been known to remark - "If I said it once I've said it 100 billion times - don't exaggerate!!" #HIDAD!

Rae Odom



Rae (they/them) is an Austin native who has been involved in the theater community and reading Shakespeare since middle school. They have been working with The Baron's Men as a volunteer on and off for 10 years. When not trying to create magic onstage with their theater buddies you can find Rae curled up with a book, painting, or reffing rollerderby. *The Winter's Tale* is their debut as a stage manager.

Michael Osborn



Michael aka "Oz" has been a part of The Baron's Men for over ten years, and has literally done it all. From acting, producing, stage managing, running front of house, being on the Board of Directors, and directing, most recently last spring's production of *Comedy of Errors*, Mike was also recently featured as Horatio in *Hamlet*. He hopes you enjoy the show, and wants you to tell everyone you know about Austin's Best Kept Secret That We Don't Want To Be A Secret!

Renee Osborn



Renee was most recently seen on stage as Dromio of Ephesus in *Comedy of Errors* and Trinculo in *The Tempest*. Other past roles with The Baron's Men have included *Measure for Measure* (Servant/Prostitute /Nun), *Much Ado About Nothing* (Margaret), *The Dead of Winter* (Grace) and *Love's Labour's Lost* (Maria). Upon joining the troupe in 2015, she has been helping wherever and whenever she can, including serving as Treasurer on the Board of Directors since 2018.

Lindsay M. Palinsky



This show marks the start of Lindsay's 13th season with The Baron's Men, many of which she spent in Board service, and the two most recent as one of TBM's Co-Artistic Directors. Some favorite roles: Juliet (*Romeo & Juliet*), Beatrice (*Much Ado About Nothing*), Co-Lucifer with Jimmie Bragdon (*Doctor Faustus*), Constance (*The Dead of Winter*), Porter (*Macbeth*), and Helena (*A Midsummer Night's Dream*) with TBM, and Brodysseus in *The Brojan War*, a new musical by Bromer (Best of Week at FronteraFest 2019). Lindsay has served many roles backstage including directing *Lysistrata*, *Lysistrata Rises Again*, and *The Tempest*, and costume designing both shows last season. She is excited to be playing Imogen in *Cymbeline* with Walking Shadow Shakespeare in May. Vivat Triumviratus and so much love to Josh.

Michael Pratt



Michael has been seen on stage with TBM in *Romeo & Juliet*, *Lysistrata*, *As You Like It*, and most recently as Ferdinand in *The Tempest*. His long, luscious locks make it easy to cast him as dum dum princes who fall in love with clever, pretty lasses.

Erin Priddy



Erin is excited to take part in another TBM season! She is playing as Hermione, and her previous works with TBM includes Hermia in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, the Princess of France in *Love's Labour's Lost*, and Kate Keepdown in *Measure for Measure*. Outside of The Curtain, she's performed with Agape Theater in *Picnic* as Madge and with Way Off Broadway in *Send Me No Flowers* as Miss Mason/Floozy.

Audrey Renkenberger



Audrey loves being on stage and has been performing since she was 5 years old. She enjoys dancing (especially ballet) and singing. Audrey loves to act because it is a lot of fun and it allows her to pretend to be someone who is not shy. She especially enjoyed playing The Cheshire Cat in Cypress Elementary's *Alice in Wonderland* because the character is funny and because "We're all mad here!" This is Audrey's first appearance in a Shakespearean production and her first time working with The Baron's Men. She would like to thank her parents for encouraging her to take the risks needed to participate in *The Winter's Tale*. She also would like to

thank Ms. Lindsay for introducing her to The Baron's Men. She's made a killing with the Swear Jar at rehearsals and backstage!

Rylee Ross



Rylee is excited to be playing Clown in The Baron's Men's production of *The Winter's Tale* this season. Having previously served in tech and support roles, this will be her first show in the front of The Curtain. Rylee's favorite food is Seasonal Shaped Reese's Cups and, like a clown, is generally seen running around causing mischief and mayhem.

Gene Storie



Gene is delighted to return with TBM for *The Winter's Tale*. He has been in many TBM productions in the last several years and has also done Shakespeare plays with the Sam Bass Community Theatre in Round Rock. Gene has been honored to be included with two B. Iden Payne ensemble nominations, both in TBM's two productions of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Snout/Wall and Peter Quince). He has done numerous musicals and straight plays in the last twenty years, but will be playing guitar on stage in this production for the first time since *As You Like It*. If you are in your 60s or older and from southeast Texas, you may have seen him in venues like the Nederland skating rink, the Beaumont YWCA, or the South Texas State Fair. Gene likes the challenge of portraying multiple characters in a show and will be grateful if you pretend not to recognize him in at least one of his roles. In real life, Gene is happily married to his Beautiful Darling Tracie and is the father of two wonderful adult children, who are partly responsible for his participation in community theater. Gene is a retired lawyer and enjoys playing bridge and traveling. He would also be very happy to have you talk with him after the show. But, be warned, you may ignite a bonfire of "fascinating" anecdotes about his various experiences.

Laura Trezise



Laura has been making theatre happen with The Baron's Men for 19 years. She loves every aspect of theatre and has done it all: acting, directing, designing, sewing, painting, and playwriting. She recently appeared on stage as Queen Alonsa in *The Tempest*, directed last fall's *Hamlet*, and co-wrote and co-directed TBM original hits *A Tale of Robyn Hoode* and *The Dead of Winter*. Laura has spent many a year on the Board of Directors and is one of TBM's Co-Artistic Directors.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

When TBM asked me if I would like to direct *The Winter's Tale*, I was so excited. This show is often seen as a "Problem Play" because it starts off as a tragedy and ends as a comedy. Isn't that just like life? There is comedy and sorrow in so many aspects of our lives so I think that this play does what Shakespeare does best, "Hold a mirror up to nature". I really wanted to emphasize the magical elements of this show to bring you a mystical evening of outdoor Shakespeare. See if you can spot the "Puppet Master" who is driving the action of this play. Thank you so much for coming out to support The Baron's Men and this important, yet underrated, landmark that is The Curtain Theater. Enjoy the show!

VERY SPECIAL THANKS

Josh Baker

Shannon Dodson

Dale Flatt

The Garriott de Cayeux Estate

Steve Hemphill

Josh Kavanaugh

Liegh Toland

All of our Front of House volunteers

SING ALONG WITH THE CHORUS OF "A HEALTH TO THE COMPANY"

Here's a health to the company

And one to my lass/lad

Let us drink and be merry

All out of one glass

Let us drink and be merry

All grief to refrain

For we may and might never

All meet here again

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

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Erin Priddy
Rylee Ross
Gene Storie
Edwin Wise

TBM BOARD

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Michael Osborn
Renee Osborn
Lieg Toland

CO-ARTISTIC DIRECTORS

Jacquelyn Lies
Lindsay M. Palinsky
Laura Trezise

NEXT UP AT THE CURTAIN!

