

AN ODESA COMPANY PRODUCTION

SHAKESPEARE'S



THE
WORLD
PREMIERE
PRODUCTION!

WRITTEN BY **JORDAN MONSELL**

DIRECTED BY **JEREMY HEWITSON**

PRODUCED BY **SCOTT SMALLEY & LAURA WILLIAMS**

SPONSORED BY



SHAKESPEARE'S OZ IS PRESENTED UNDER LICENSE BY JORDAN MONSELL, LOS ANGELES CA

A TALE FIT FOR THE BARD, ODESA

There are many factors to consider when selecting a theatre season, and for Odesa Company, it means putting on shows that resonate with our particular brand of theatre.

So far, our brand has been characterized by a mix of history, fantasy, horror and humanity. While shows like *Dracula* and *The Elephant Man* picked away at the darker side of the human experience, *Shakespeare's Oz* promises to align itself more with our production of *StageQuest: Beyond the Veil* - a fantastical adventure for all audiences that doesn't takes itself too seriously!

Creating memorable experiences is what drives us, and there is nothing more gratifying than having a team member or patron come away from one of our shows positively impacted by the experience. Enjoy the show!

Scott Smalley
Executive Director, Odesa Company



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ON THE WORLD PREMIERE

It's become pretty commonplace in modern theatre and film to adapt Shakespeare's stories into modern retellings or modernized concepts - setting Hamlet on Mars or using the same plot to tell a new story (fun fact: the movie *Forbidden Planet* is based on *The Tempest*!). It's practically unheard of to take other stories and make them Shakespearean. And even when you do, it's for the novelty of reading it, not putting it on a stage.

Jordan Monsell, however, has found a way to take these stories and make them something that can be translated to a realistic stage production. The *Wizard of Oz* story works so well in this case. The characters draw a lot of parallels to Shakespeare's iconic roles - see how many references you can spot! By the end of the show you might think the story was written by Shakespeare in the first place!

Oz is something special and its story has had powerful impact on people for over 100 years now. It's seen many iterations that have been a beacon for many in various communities. As a proud member of the Queer community, this story holds a special place in my community's history. If this was the 50s I'd be considered a 'friend of Dorothy'. And legend in the Queer community has it that the patrons of the Stonewall Inn were singing *Somewhere Over the Rainbow* as they mourned the passing of Judy Garland on that fateful night in 1969 when they were raided and the gay rights movement officially began.

Directing this production has been a very special experience. The team, the cast, the crew have all put so much heart and passion into this show and I've enjoyed shaping it into the production you're seeing tonight. I want to thank every single person who has had a hand in bringing this show to life, and especially thank the Smalley brothers, the driving force behind Odesa Company, for trusting me with this chapter of their story.

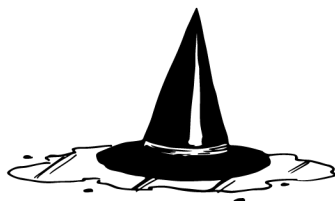
And lastly, I want to thank all of you for coming and choosing to spend your time with us while we share this version of this classic tale. I sincerely hope you enjoy the show.



JEREMY HEWITSON

Director

Shakespeare's Oz



THE ORIGINS OF *Shakespeare's OZ*



In the year 1609, roughly one year before Shakespeare would write *The Tempest*, a small ship of English colonists bound for Virginia would be wrecked off the shores of Bermuda. A survivor, one William Strachey, would describe his ordeal in a letter, circulated back home. In his book *Shakespeare A-Z*, author Charles Boyce speculates that Shakespeare may have read Strachey's letter, and exploited it's accounts for *The Tempest*; specifically the shipwreck in 1.1, and Ariel's description of St. Elmo's Fire in 1.2.

But be it Bermuda or Virginia, Shakespeare was no doubt influenced by stories emerging from this new continent across the sea, just as author L. Frank Baum was influenced by the Bard's play of a wizard and his rule over an island of magical creatures. In fact, Baum frequently memorized passages of Shakespeare and even founded a Shakespearean troupe with his father's financial backing. Every great artist has stood on the shoulders of giants. Shakespeare had Chaucer and Plutarch; Baum had Carroll and Shakespeare.

The Wizard of Oz, first printed in 1900, almost 300 years after *the Tempest*, has become as iconic a piece of literature as any Shakespeare play. Schools and theatre companies across the globe continue to stage productions of both works, enchanting audiences of children and adults alike.

It was out of this enchantment for both authors that I have attempted to combine the two. Certainly, while *The Tempest* was the main source of inspiration, I used quotes from the entire Shakespeare canon, just as I used references from several of Baum's books, and not just the 1939 musical. For example, we do not learn of the Tinman's harrowing backstory in *The Wizard of Oz* but in the 1918 book *The Tin Woodsman of Oz*. And when Dorothy first wakes upon the shores of Oz, it is Viola from *Twelfth Night* that she quotes.

I have no doubt that purists of Shakespeare and Baum will scoff at such an adaptation, but it is my hope that this world premiere production will renew your interest in these authors, and that a Caliban quoting Cowardly Lion makes you smile and forget about your troubles if only for a brief moment.

Jordan Monsell
Los Angeles, California



start.ca | koodo

L O N D O N COMIC CON



**MAGGIE
ROBERTSON**



**OLIVIA
HACK**



**CRICKET
LEIGH**



**DAVE
JONES**



**JENNIE
KWAN**



**TAMI
STRONACH**



**FALCOR
& FRIENDS**



**DAVID
FIELDING**



**JONATHAN
SADOWSKI**



**LINNEA
QUIGLEY**



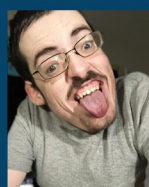
**RYAN
STEGMAN**



**SAM
MAGGS**



**YANICK
PAQUETTE**



**RICKY
BERWICK**



**SUKI
DOLL**

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Wortley Pride



..... LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This production is being performed on the traditional lands of the **Anishinaabek** (Ah-nish-in-a-bek), **Haudenosaunee** (Ho-den-no-show-nee), **Lūnaapéewak** (Len-ahpay-wuk) and **Chonnonton** (Chun-ongk-ton) Nations, on lands connected with the London Township and Sombra Treaties of 1796 and the Dish with One Spoon Covenant Wampum.

We respect the deep, ongoing connection of Indigenous Peoples to this land, which they have cared for since time immemorial. We reflect on the history of Indigenous land dispossession and cultural genocide at the hands of colonization, and the impact of generational trauma. We support the reclamation of identity and cultural practices for this and future generations, and acknowledge that our government has a responsibility to uphold the promises of the past.

We invite our patrons to explore deeper understandings of settler/Indigenous relations in Canada, Indigenous ways of knowing and being, and to reflect on their own connections to and stewardship of the land.

.....

An Odesa Company Production

Based on the Novel by

STEPHEN KING

MISERY

October 23-26

Princess Ave. Playhouse | St. Thomas



Written By

William Goldman

Produced by Laura Williams

Directed by Scott Smalley

CONTENT ADVISORY: Contains coarse language and graphic violence. **FOR MATURE AUDIENCES.**



TICKETS WWW.ODESA.COMPANY/TICKETS

Misery is presented by special arrangement with Broadway Licensing, LLC,
servicing the Dramatists Play Service collection. (www.dramatists.com)



AN ODESA COMPANY PRODUCTION

STAGEQUEST



A NEW VOYAGE



It's
A
CRITICAL
Hit!

DECEMBER 4-14

MANOR PARK MEMORIAL HALL

WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY

WILLIAM FLOOD & JESSICA PEREIRA

TICKETS WWW.ODESA.COMPANY/TICKETS



ODESA COMPANY

An **Odesa Company** Production



Written by

Jordan Monsell

Directed by

Jeremy Hewitson

Produced by

Scott Smalley & Laura Williams

Stage Managed by

Amanda Marshall

SETTING:

17th century Sussex; the open ocean; the land of Oz.

CONTENT ADVISORY:

*Contains brief stage combat, brief flashing lights, and the use of haze.
Appropriate for fans of both Shakespeare and The Wizard of Oz!*

CAST

(order of appearance)

Dorothy	Jesslyn Hodgson
Toto	Jacob Wiley
Professor / Oz	Dustin Didham
Boatswain / Guard	Dylan Borshell
Glinda	Bronwyn Powell
Witch	Sue Harrington
Scarecrow	Gabriel Sizeland
Pewter Man	Ben Kennes
Lion	Amy Rose Dickson
Nikko	Mariana Hrnjak
Aunt Em / Ensemble	Heather Heathcote
Uncle Henry / Ensemble	Mike Carriere
Ensemble	Kevin Avram
	Dustin Freeman
	Skyler Gallagher
	Hayley Kell
	Anna Lee-Diemert
	Aleesa Prendergast
	Amanda Roberts
	Kate Sepi

CREATIVE TEAM

Co-Producer	Scott Smalley
Co-Producer	Laura Williams
Director	Jeremy Hewitson
Stage Manager	Amanda Marshall
Assistant Stage Managers	Katie Addley
	Sam Stack-Couture
Head Technician	Steven Allen
Fight Captain	Mariana Hrnjak
Lighting Designer	Rob Coles
Lighting Operator	Indrani Mahadeo
Music Composer	Aidan Coutts
Sound Designer	James Sealy
Hair Designer / 3D Modeling & Animation	Kevin Smith
Makeup Designer	Lindsay Alvaro
Hair & Makeup Technicians	Cody Mann
	Bella Sebok
Costume Designer	Annette Kavelaars-Burrows
Costume Design Assistant	Becky Lenko
Sewists	Karen DeRuiter
	Heather Littler
	Kayla Manning
Props Master	Diana Barr
Construction Lead	Mike Carriere
Master Carpenter	Ian Jarvis
Paint Lead	Beverly Kimmerly
Scenic Artists	Mariana Hrnjak
	Anna Lee-Diemert
Photography	Ross Davidson
Odesa Team Baby	Gracie Williams
Special Thanks	Holy Cross CSS
	Kensal Park Public School
	Musical Theatre Productions
	Sue Brooks
	The Academy Circus

WHO'S WHO



KATIE
ADDLEY



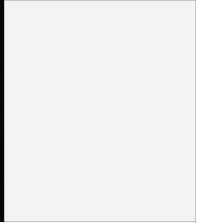
STEVEN
ALLEN



LINDSAY
ALVARO



KEVIN
AVRAM



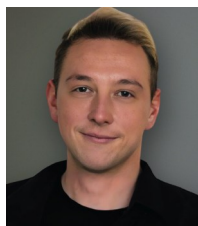
KATIE ADDLEY (Assistant Stage Manager) - After working with Odesa Company twice in the past, Katie is thrilled to return as ASM for Oz. They are so excited to be able to help facilitate the world premiere of such a witty, whimsical, wonderful reimaging of a classic tale. A lifelong Shakespeare fan, Katie is sure that audiences familiar with the Bard's works will delight in the myriad quotes and references used throughout by Jordan Monsell. There may be no place like home, but all the world's a stage! Theatre Credits (Selected): *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Mountsfield PS); *Check, Please!*, *MacBeth* (CECI); *StageQuest: Beyond the Veil* (cast), *The Elephant Man* (ASM) (Odesa Company).

STEVEN ALLEN (Head Technician) - Head Technician for the Auburn Stage Grand Theatre, with two decades of experience Steven has worked with a plethora of theatre companies, artists and events.

LINDSAY ALVARO (Makeup Designer) - Excited to be taking part in another adventure with Odesa Company! This will be my 7th production as Makeup Design, 4th with Odesa. The others include, *The Hunchback*, *Her Naked Skin*, *Damn Yankees*, *Dracula*, *StageQuest: Beyond the Veil* and *The Elephant Man*. Thank you to Odesa, cast and crew for all the support and always being so awesome!

KEVIN AVRAM (Ensemble) - This is Kevin's second Odesa production, having previously played The Necromancer in *StageQuest: Beyond The Veil* last summer. This year he played Karl The Giant in *Big Fish* (MTP) and returned to standup comedy for a few local London shows. He'd like to thank his fiancé Nicki for her constant support and love, as well as his parents for nurturing his passion for theater and being Shakespeare nerds like him!

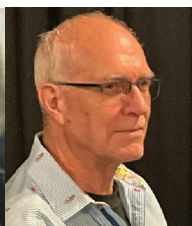
WHO'S WHO



DYLAN
BORSHELL



MIKE
CARRIERE



ROB
COLES



AIDAN
COUTTS

DYLAN BORSHELL (*Boatswain / Guard*) - Dylan is thrilled to make his Odesa debut! Select credits include Sammy in *Blood Brothers*, David in *Company* (MTP), Macbeth in *Macbeth* (Fanshawe's Theatre Arts Performance). Dylan is a theatre graduate with a passion for F1, music, community, and theatre. He would like to thank each and every one of you for supporting local artists and local theatre! ELBOWS UP!

MIKE CARRIERE (*Uncle Henry / Ensemble / Construction Coordinator*) - *Shakespeare's Oz* continues Mike's unbroken streak at 4 for 4 being involved in Odesa productions, either on or off stage.

ROB COLES (*Lighting Designer*) - Rob has been lighting productions in London and the surrounding area over the past 30 years in a multitude of venues with a diverse range of theatre companies. He has designed the lighting for over 150 productions and some of his designs have been nominated for Lighting awards – he has been honoured to be the recipient of 5 Brickenden Awards and 3 Western Ontario Drama League Awards (WODL) for his designs. Selected past credits include *Dracula*, *StageQuest: Beyond the Veil* (Odesa Company), *Kinky Boots*, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night*, *The Lion in Winter* (LCP), *The Goat - or Who Is Sylvia*, *Fun Home* (Fountain Head Theatre), *The Producers*, *P.S. Your Cat is Dead*, *The Rocky Horror Show* (Pacheco Theatre), *Urinetown*, *The Woman In Black*, *The Dining Room* (Theatre Woodstock) to name but just a few.

AIDAN COUTTS (*Music Composer*) - Aidan Coutts (he/him) is an actor, singer and composer who recently moved to London after finishing his acting degree across the pond in Ireland! Aidan has music directed for a few musical theatre camps, and he recently workshopped his fantasy musical *The Forgotten Baroness* at the Red Sandcastle Theatre in Toronto alongside his collaborator Aurora McClennan. He has written music for a few game jams here and there,

WHO'S WHO



AMY ROSE
DICKSON



DUSTIN
DIDHAM



DUSTIN
FREEMAN

as well as for an indie game titled *The Genesis Project*. As an actor, some of Aidan's credits include *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Allswell Productions), *Vampire Zombies... From Space!* (The Dot Film Company), *The Laramie Project* (Rabbits Riot TC), *Singing in the Rain* (Sligo MS), *The Only Jealousy of Emer* (ATU Sligo), and several more that would make this bio a bit too long. He is excited to begin branching out into scoring plays!

AMY ROSE DICKSON (*Lion*) - Amy is thrilled to be part of another production brought to you by this wonderful team. You may have most recently seen her in Odesa Company's last production, *The Elephant Man*, and their first production, *Dracula*. Other onstage credits include: Cinderella, in Rodgers & Hammerstein's *Cinderella* at the Palace Theatre, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat* at The Auburn Theatre, *Footloose* at The Grand Theatre, and Oliver at the Huron Country Playhouse. "I'd like to thank the cast and crew for their hard work, Odesa Company for bringing this whimsical story to life, and Ben, for stepping up to the plate and hitting a home run. Thank you for supporting community theatre!"

DUSTIN DIDHAM (*Professor / Oz*) - This is Dustin's 3rd production with the amazing Odesa Company. He recently played Treves in *The Elephant Man*, and had a HUBBA BUBBA time as Rocky in *StageQuest: Beyond the Veil*. He has acted in and out of the London Community for around a decade, and has played other roles like Bobby in *Exit Laughing*, Bingly in *Pride and Prejudice* and The Little Spoon in *Beauty and the Beast*. He is honoured to play the role of The Wizard in *Shakespeare's Oz*, and hopes everyone has a magical time!

DUSTIN FREEMAN (*Ensemble*) - Dustin is extremely excited to be a part of this show and to have the opportunity to work with all the incredibly talented folks of Odesa Company! Dustin recently celebrated his tenth anniversary as a participant in London's Theatre Community, and he truly believes that this show

WHO'S WHO



SKYLER
GALLAGHER



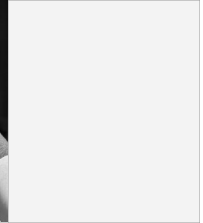
SUE
HARRINGTON



HEATHER
HEATHCOTE



JEREMY
HEWITSON



will serve as an excellent start to another fruitful decade of playing pretend!




SKYLER GALLAGHER (*Ensemble*) - Skyler is grateful to be returning to the stage with *Shakespeare's Oz*. They would like to thank Odesa Company for the opportunity and their family and friends for their support during this new chapter. They would like to give a special shout out to their roommate Harrison Kolar for his willingness to be an impromptu scene partner.

SUE HARRINGTON (*Witch*) - Sue is an Early Childhood Educator, actor, body positivity activist, and a full time hugger. Sue loves meeting new people and trying new art forms. She is thrilled be in her second Odesa show. Sue's recent acting credits include Amos Calloway in *Big Fish* (Musical Theatre Productions), Ross in *The Elephant Man* (Odesa Company), Iris in *The Gravitational Pull of Bernice Trimble* (Scooter Productions), and Plugra in *Civil Dawn* (Banished by the King). She would like to thank all of her supportive friends and family that keep coming, cheering, and encouraging her to follow her passions. Last but not least, Sue would like to thank Chris for being a wonderful partner and her favourite supporter!

HEATHER HEATHCOTE (*Aunt Em / Ensemble*) - Theatre has become my favourite pastime since getting involved in 2023. I'm delighted to be in the ensemble for this production and would like to thank my friends and family for their support.

JEREMY HEWITSON (*Director*) - Jeremy is thrilled to return to directing after a lengthy hiatus. Previous directing credits in London include *Vanya & Sonya & Masha & Spike* (London Community Players), *Night of Noir* (Musical Theatre Productions), *Macbeth* (The Voices Collective) and *Bedtime Stories* (The Voices Collective at the London Fringe Festival). Jeremy has been part of the London theatre community since they moved to London in 2012 and has

WHO'S WHO

				
JESSLYN HODGSON	MARIANA HRNJAK	IAN JARVIS		

participated in many capacities including performing and Stage Management. Performance credits include *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *Sweeney Todd* (Allswell Productions/Musical Theatre Productions), *7 Stories* (The Peanut Gallery), *Someone Who'll Watch Over Me*, *The Normal Heart* (London Community Players). Stage Management credits include *The Elephant Man* (Odesa Company), *The Wedding Singer*, [title of show], *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Musical Theatre Productions). Jeremy wants to thank the incredible cast and team of *Shakespeare's Oz* for being amazing and bringing this wonderful show to life!

JESSLYN HODGSON (*Dorothy*) - Jesslyn is delighted to click her heels into Odesa's world premiere of *Shakespeare's Oz*, alongside such a talented cast and crew! Recent productions include *Rat King* and *Finding Hyde* (Banished by the King), *The Drowsy Chaperone* (Allswell/MTP) and *Kinky Boots* (LCP). Thank you to her friends and fam for their continued courage, wisdom and heart! If 'er I go searching for my heart's desire, I shall look no further than mine own garden.

MARIANA HRNJAK (*Nikko / Scenic Artist*) - Mariana is excited to return for her third Odesa show. Previous performances include Zacky Price in *Big Fish* (Musical Theatre Productions) and Bard in *StageQuest: Beyond the Veil* (Odesa Company). She would like to thank the cast and crew for encouraging her growth as an actor.

IAN JARVIS (*Master Carpenter*) - Ian is a local carpenter who has been with Odesa Company since their inaugural production of *Dracula*. Recent Odesa build team credits include *The Magic Flute* (Opera at Western), *Big Fish* (MTP), *The Elephant Man*, *StageQuest: Beyond the Veil* (Odesa Company), and *Kinky Boots* (LCP).

WHO'S WHO



ANNETTE
KAVELAARS-BURROWS



HAYLEY
KELL



BEN
KENNES



ANNA
LEE-DIEMERT


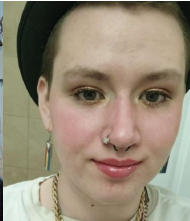

ANNETTE KAVELAARS-BURROWS (*Costume Designer*) - A retired arts teacher turned full-time costumer, Annette is thrilled to be the costume designer for *Shakespeare's Oz*. This is her fourth production with Odesa Company, and she's honored to be part of this world premiere. Blending the whimsy of *The Wizard of Oz* with an Elizabethan twist has been a delightful challenge. Deep thanks to the talented sewing team, her magnificent design assistant, and the cast and crew—whose kindness, talent, and spirit made this experience a joy. Thanks to Gary for keeping me sane and sewing!

HAYLEY KELL (*Ensemble*) - For Odesa: Debut. Other Theatre: *Big Fish* (MTP), *Newsies*, *Into the Woods*, *The Drowsy Chaperone* (TMTC), *Midnight in Paris*, *Red Riding Hood* (London Fringe) *Mary Poppins*, *West Side Story* (BMT). Hayley is thrilled to be making her Odesa debut in *Shakespeare's Oz*! Hayley has enjoyed sharing the stage with this talented cast, especially her "mother-in-love", Bronwyn. As a supply teacher by day and grad student by night, Hayley has been incredibly grateful to have *Shakespeare's Oz* as a creative outlet. Hayley would like to thank her amazing friends and family for all the love and support. Special shoutout to her parents and her sweetheart, Aidan. Enjoy the show!

BEN KENNES (*Pewter Man*) - Ben Kennes is thrilled to wander down the yellow brick road at the Pewter Man in Odesa's production of *Shakespeare's Oz*! You might have seen Ben in past Odesa shows like *Dracula*, *StageQuest* and *The Elephant Man*! He would like to thank his friends and family for their continued support. Now to quote one of my favorite songs "But Oz never did give nothing to the Tin Man That he didn't already have".

ANNA LEE-DIEMERT (*Ensemble*) - Anna is delighted to appear in her third play with Odesa! Past shows include *The Elephant Man* and *Dracula*. She has also appeared in *Blood Brothers* (MTP), *The Gravitational Pull of Bernice*

WHO'S WHO

				
INDRANI MAHADEO	CODY MANN	JORDAN MONSELL		

Trimble (Scooter Productions), *The Game's Afoot* and *The Donnelly's* (LCP). Anna would like to thank the cast & crew on their incredible hard work. Break a leg, Ozians!




INDRANI MAHADEO (*Lighting Operator*) - Indrani is an all-round nerd who enjoys wrangling kittens (aka Stage Managing), hiking, and bringing light to dark theatres. Past Lighting Design credits include *The Last 5 Years* (Allswell), *Her Naked Skin* (New Stage), and *Iphigenia In Aulis* (New Stage).

CODY MANN (*Hair & Makeup Technician*) - This is Cody's first show with Odesa. An alumni of SDCI, he completed three years of hairstyling, aesthetics, and dramatic arts. Cody is a new makeup and hair artist who is very excited to join the team on this show.

AMANDA MARSHALL (*Stage Manager*) - Amanda is happy to be Stage Managing again for Odesa. She has enjoyed working on some of their shows and is glad to be back! She began acting at age 6 at Binbrook Little Theatre, later moving into backstage roles. While in university, she stage managed various productions. In 2019, she started stage managing and helping backstage for various shows in London. She has been teaching primary French Immersion in St. Thomas and London since 2013. She would like to thank her family for inspiring her love of theatre.

JORDAN MONSELL (*Playwright*) - Jordan is a graduate of the University of Connecticut where he received his BFA in Acting in 2001. His first play, *Pulp Shakespeare: The Unauthorized Shakespearean Parody of Pulp Fiction*, co-written by Chris Adams, Ben Tallen, Aaron Greer, and Brian-Watson Jones, had successful runs in both Los Angeles (2011) and New York City (2012). Monsell's next play, *Ministers of Grace: The Unauthorized Shakespearean Parody of Ghostbusters*, has been performed in five countries,

WHO'S WHO

				
BRONWYN POWELL	ALEESA PRENDERGAST	AMANDA ROBERTS		

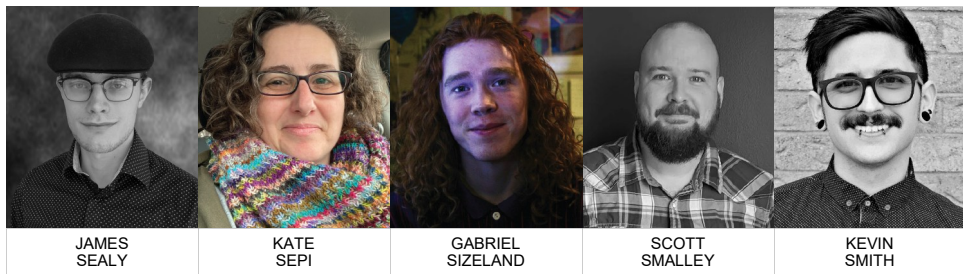
most notably at The Edinburgh Fringe Festival (2018) and Adelaide Fringe (2019). Monsell currently resides in Los Angeles where he works as a writer, performer, and illustrator. He is thrilled to have his new play, *Shakespeare's Oz*, produced by Odesa Company and would like to thank the cast and crew for their talent and dedication.

BRONWYN POWELL (*Glinda*) - Bronwyn is enchanted with this talented, delightful cast and crew, and Toto, too! She appreciates the opportunity to take a twirl as Glinda, don a beautiful “Barbiesque” gown, and wield a wand! Last year, Bronwyn played the matriarch Johannah in *The Donnellys*, and here, the boozy Joanne in *Company* - a different sort of magic indeed! It’s a wish come true to “play” with so many fabulous friends, (you know who, and dear Hayley, too!) Thanks to you, friends, and family, for joining us in Oz!

ALEESA PRENDERGAST (*Ensemble*) - Aleesa is thrilled to join Odesa Company for the 2025 season. She is currently living the performer’s dream: when not involved in community theatre, Aleesa is a school librarian who is currently incorporating puppet shows into her storytime repertoire. Previous roles include Ursula in *Much Ado About Nothing* and Abbess in *The Comedy of Errors* (Western Summer Shakespeare).

AMANDA ROBERTS (*Ensemble*) - Amanda is delighted to return to the stage after over a decade away, having traded theatre lights for camera lenses in the world of filmmaking and screen acting. Past stage roles include Sally in *Grease* and D’Artagnan in *The Three Musketeers*. Offstage, she’s a lover of all things creative—writing, drawing, DnD, and just about every craft under the sun. Sweet, silly, and quick with a laugh, she’s thrilled to be part of the Odesa community and this magical Shakespearean journey down the yellow brick road!

WHO'S WHO



JAMES SEALY (Sound Designer) - James is a recent graduate of the Broadcasting program at Niagara College. He performed in and created the Sound Design for Odesa's previous show, *The Elephant Man*, and just appeared onstage in *Murdered to Death* (LCP). This show marks James' second show of 2025 and his second with Odesa Company.

KATE SEPI (Ensemble) - Kate is happy to be back on stage again after a rather long hiatus to be a mom and get her head on straight. Big love to Nick, Emmett, and Sandra for being the best family of weirdos I could ask for. I wouldn't be here without your love. Bravo!

GABRIEL SIZELAND (Scarecrow) - Gabriel is excited to be working on his first project with Odesa. His other recent acting credits around town include *Godspell* and *Something Rotten* with King's Players and *Drink To Me Only* and *Middletown* with Theatre Western. You can see Gabriel appearing in two shows at London Fringe next month! He would like to thank Oscar Abley, Jack Meadows, and Dwight Anderson for their help in bringing the Scarecrow to life.

SCOTT SMALLEY (Co-Producer) - Scott is a co-founder of Odesa Company and serves as its Executive Director. He was nominated for a 2023-24 WODL Award for his co-direction of *Dracula* (LCP/Odesa). Recent Producing credits: *The Elephant Man* (ETG/Odesa), *StageQuest: Beyond the Veil* (Odesa), *Kinky Boots* (LCP). Scott is directing *Misery* at the Princess Ave. Playhouse in October.

KEVIN SMITH (Hair Designer / Modeling & Animation) - *Shakespeare's Oz* marks Kevin's fourth show as hair designer for Odesa Company. He looks forward to nurturing the welcoming, growth mindset, team-based, always fun and professional process that Odesa Company always hosts! Breaks legs out there, cast and crew!

WHO'S WHO



SAM STACK-COUTURE (Assistant Stage Manager) - Sam is super excited to be an assistant stage manager for *Shakespeare's Oz*. He has previously worked with Odesa on *The Elephant Man* and has been involved in other London shows including *The Game's Afoot*, *Kinky Boots* (LCP), *Company*, and *Big Fish* (MTP). He is very thankful to have another opportunity to be a part of London's theatre world!

JACOB WILEY (Toto) - Jacob Wiley is a proud LGBTQ+ director, playwright and performer, and is thrilled to be trotting down the road of yellow brick. Jacob currently sits on the board of directors for Musical Theatre Productions and works in arts administration professionally for the Grand Theatre. Selected Credits include: Angel/ Referee in *Kinky Boots*, Raccoon in *Cinderella*, Broom in *Beauty and the Beast* (PTAC), Director of *Big Fish*, Girl Scout in *The Beauty Underneath*, George in *The Drowsy Chaperone*, Shane in *The Wedding Singer* (MTP), Playwright of *How Did We Get Here?*, Sebastian in *The Tempest* (London Fringe). Jacob sends love to the guard of his dreams, Dylan, as well as his parents. Jacob would also like to send his thanks to the many volunteers that make local theatre possible. To the wizard!

GRACIE WILLIAMS (Odesa Team Baby) - This is Gracie's second show with Odesa Company; she first appeared onstage in utero (uncredited) while her mum Laura played Mrs. Kendal in *The Elephant Man*. Gracie has been helping mum with errands and production meetings. This is Gracie's first theatre credit as Odesa team baby!

LAURA WILLIAMS (Co-Producer) - Laura is so happy to be working with Odesa again - this time behind the scenes. Having spent well over a decade as an actor here in London, Laura wanted to jump to the other side while on her second maternity leave in her personal life. Co-producing with Scott has been a fabulous experience and she is excited to produce *Misery* in October. Laura is

..... **WHO'S WHO**

also a part of the hair and makeup team and couldn't be happier to be working alongside Kevin and Lindsay - Go team Odesa! Laura would like to thank Greg, Teddy and Gracie for their support at home.



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